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Vol. 65 • No. 53 • 32 pages

Grosse Pointe, Michigan

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December 30, 2004

Bugs bug the Pointes during 2004



8 weeks until Feb. 22 School Millage Vote

INSIDE

■ Grosse Pointe Park detectives are asking for help in locating a man who they believe has robbed a Park bank twice since Oct. 15. Page 3A

■ A 12-year-old City of Grosse Pointe boy cooking chicken nuggets in a pan of vegetable oil at home in the 800 block of Washington suffered second- and third-degree burns when the oil caught fire. Page 19A

■ Grosse Pointe South's basketball team heads into the New Year with a 4-1 record. The Blue Devils have won four straight after dropping their season opener. Page 2C

WEEK AHEAD

Thursday, Dec. 30

Municipal offices in Grosse Pointe Farms, Park and Woods are closed until Monday, Jan. 3. Rubbish pickup is on schedule.

Friday, Dec. 31

Municipal offices in Grosse Pointe Park and Grosse Pointe Shores are closed until Monday, Jan. 3. Rubbish pickup in Grosse Pointe Farms will be completed by 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 1

Happy new year!

Monday, Jan. 3

The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meets at city hall at 7:30 p.m.

The Grosse Pointe Board of Education meets in the Wicking Library of Grosse Pointe South High School at 8 p.m.

Monday's rubbish pickup in Grosse Pointe Shores will be picked up on Tuesday, Jan. 4

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Photos by Robert McKean

Let's go sledding!

While mom was home preparing Christmas Eve dinner, dad, Dave Babcock, above, and kids Brandon, 4, Julia, 7, and Ryan, 8, went sledding on the Vernier hill in Grosse Pointe Shores.

Below, Brian Watkins of Orlando pulls his cousin Brittany Carron on sled up the hill. This was the first snow the Floridian had experienced since he was 5 years old.



During 2004, Pointers battled the weather, car thieves and little green bugs that kill trees.

January

■ It isn't so much the six inches of snowfall as the entire day it takes to fall.

An almost constant curtain of snow Jan. 14 prevents public works crews from keeping roads and sidewalks clear.

"It never quit," said Tim Vandenberg, City of Grosse Pointe public works supervisor.

■ State officials declare the emerald ash borer a nuisance.

The ruling by Agriculture Director Dan Wyant isn't meant to conjure images of leather-clad biker bugs terrorizing small-town America.

Wyant's declaration signals the state's stepped up fight against an invading insect from Southeast Asia that has killed 6 million ash trees in southeast Michigan and is spreading out for more.

February

■ Responding to a recent rash of car thefts on the east side, public safety departments in the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park and Grosse Pointe Woods joined law enforcement agencies from Harper Woods, Eastpointe, St. Clair Shores, the Fifth and Ninth precincts in Detroit and Macomb County in creating an auto theft task force.

Between Feb. 16 and 29, members of the task force recovered 41 automobiles and arrested 59 suspects.

According to Park Public Safety Chief David Hiller, most of the suspects were juveniles accused of targeting Chrysler products because they had a reputation for being easy to steal. Often, the cars were driven

around by the teens until they ran out of gas and then abandoned at sites where replacement vehicles were apparently stolen.

■ "Fry cop killers," said Rep. Edward Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms.

Gaffney supports a recent legislative effort to impose the death penalty on people convicted of murdering law enforcement officers.

"If a police officer is murdered in the streets, and if the perpetrator is not properly dealt with, you have a breakdown in society," said Gaffney.

March

■ The Grosse Pointes are on their own in the fight to save the community's ash trees.

A shortage of state and federal dollars means cities won't receive state financial support to intercept the tree-killing emerald ash borer.

Rep. Gaffney had requested state funds last week from Dan Wyant, head of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

■ It's not easy being green.

Rep. Gaffney disputes his so-so rating on environmental legislation by the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, based in Ann Arbor.

"Gaffney scored 50 percent, which in the grand scheme of things in the House of Representatives is not terrible," said Jeff Irwin, League executive director.

"Unless you're 100 percent with them, you're against them," Gaffney said of the 1,500-member League. "I think I'm one of the top two environmentalists in the state Republican

See REVIEW, page 2A

POINTER OF INTEREST

Alan Lichtenstein

Home: Grosse Pointe Park

Age: 54

Family: Wife, Susan; son, Max; daughter, Katherine

Occupation: Executive director of the Nederlander Co.

Quote: "This is a risky business. If your accountant or lawyer advises you to invest in the theater, fire them."

See story, page 4A



Alan Lichtenstein

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New brooms sweep clean in G.P. Woods during 2004

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

It is said a new broom sweeps clean, and that's exactly what three new council members in Grosse Pointe Woods have been credited with doing in 2004.

The first such sweep was made at the council's first January meeting in which new council members Lisa Pinkos Howle, Dona DeSantis Reynolds and Darryl Spicher along with veteran Councilwoman Patricia Chylinski challenged five of the council's 15



Chylinski



Howle



Reynolds

recommended appointments to eight commissions, including the Planning Commission Chairman Joseph Sucher. Sucher was replaced by Ahmed Ismail.

Also not reappointed to the Construction Board of Appeals was former City Administrator Peter Thomas, who had moved to Port Sanilac.

The foursome also managed to trim the menu and the guest list of a commissioners' appreciation party held on Feb. 6. The move cut the party's budget by just about half from \$11,387 to \$6,222.

A move considered to be as powerful as one of the Woods' leaf sweepers occurred on March 11 when the foursome voted to fire Ted Bidigare from the post of city administrator.

Bidigare had received much criticism from the foursome by transferring through attrition the job of



Spicher



Bidigare

Third Circuit Court in May asking the Woods consider paying him severance pay until May, a measure that would have made him to be eligible to receive retirement benefits. The matter was settled out of court in July.

In February, the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety revealed that crime statistics had gone up in 2003, but that the statistics were still the second lowest in a 10-year period.

Public Safety Director Michael Makowski attributed some of the increased numbers to a rash of auto thefts that hit the Woods and other communities in late 2003, more aggressive drunken driving enforcement, and more narcotic-

related offenses, many of which were discovered during traffic stops.

After 13 months of debate and discussion, the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council voted to close its gun range to residents on Feb. 23. Mayor Robert Novitke and council members Allen Dickinson, Vicki Granger and Patricia Chylinski acted to heed the advice of city attorney Don Berschback, Public Safety Director Michael Makowski and the Woods' risk control manager who all stated potential liability risks the Woods could incur.

For the first time in eight years, Grosse Pointe Woods increased its water and sewerage rates. Increases went up anywhere from 0.70 percent to 11.79 percent.

"It all depends on how much water you use," Finance Director Clifford Maisson said. The new rates went into effect on March 1.

The Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League opened its season with a 50-year anniversary celebration.

Highlights of the celebration included a family fun day and a \$50,000 gift to the league by former player and Woods resident John Matouk, who also played on the Woods-Shores Nationals team that played in the Little League World Series in 1979.

The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council took quick action in "rat"-ifying a new ordinance concerning rodent control on June 27.

While building official Gene Tutag and assistant city attorney Chip Berschback did not claim the city had a rodent problem, Berschback warned that a drier than expected summer could lead to a rat infestation.

The new ordinance primarily focuses on the proper storage of firewood, coal, pipes, building materials and restrictions on feeding birds.

Later in the summer, the council took swift action in commissioning a draft and adopting a new ordinance regarding rental properties in the Woods. Council members Patricia

2004
in review

Chylinski, Lisa Pinkos Howle, Dona DeSantis Reynolds and Darryl Spicher heeded to a call for a new ordinance by former state Sen. John Kelly, who acted as spokesperson for residents in the area of the Country Club Woods Progressive Association, many of whom expressed concerns about a tenant in their neighborhood.

While the ordinance that was passed did not call for measures such as publicly-led arbitration in settling disputes with landlords

See GPW 2004, page 15A

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yesterday's headlines

50 years ago this week

■ Parking facilities throughout the Grosse Pointes are taxed to overflowing capacity during the Christmas shopping season, demonstrating the vital need for more off-street parking space.

Farms city engineer Murray Smith says additional parking on the Hill could be provided by acquiring a portion of the Gabriel Richard Elementary School playground.

■ Construction of two additional water filtration beds at the Grosse Pointe Farms pumping station, needed to meet water demand during high-volume summer months, can't begin until both Grosse Pointe Farms and City officials meet after the first of the year.

City councils of both committees will meet to discuss impending contracts and water rates.

■ Once again a reception will be held at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial this Sunday to welcome every family that moved into the Grosse Pointes during 1954.

The Senior Club of the Center has sent invitations to all new residents. There will be a babysitter on hand. Parents are encouraged to bring their children.

25 years ago this week

■ Grosse Pointe Farms officials approve remodeling plans for Perry Drug Store on the Hill, but not before tacking on a list of conditions, one of which forbids an illuminated sign.

Store officials announce they will replace all windows along the Kercheval facade with decorative panels, which has Farms officials worried the building will look like a warehouse.

■ Grosse Pointe Woods officials continue trying to get a grip on traffic problems in the northwest section of their city, namely

Brys Drive and neighboring streets running between Mack toward Harper.

Woods officials hope a step can be made to resolving the problem by meeting with counterparts from St. Clair Shores and Harper Woods.

■ Grosse Pointe public school administrators want to know what happens to the district's students once they leave high school.

During the winter break a survey of approximately 2,000 Pointe graduates from 1974 through 1978 will determine how many students went on to additional education or directly to work.

10 years ago this week

■ Gov. John Engler names Grosse Pointe Park resident Kirsten Frank and Farms resident Brian Zahara to the Wayne County Circuit Court.

"This is about the best Christmas present I could ask for," says Zahara.

Frank's appointment means she has to resign as municipal judge in the Park.

■ The Grosse Pointe Bruins Bantam AA hockey team advances to the championship round of a tournament in Chicago.

■ A snowstorm sweeps through the area, bringing heavy winds strong enough to topple a large tree in the first block of Moorland in Grosse Pointe Shores.

5 years ago this week

■ A generous donation by a City of Grosse Pointe resident decks the halls of Richard Elementary School with 330 brand new student lockers.

"I did it because the school has been very good to us over the years," says Pete Hueber, owner and president of Kayhaven Equipment Co. Hueber donates half the materials and all labor to the project.

■ Michigan State Police rush to a Grosse Pointe Park home on Christmas Eve to investigate what they are told might be a terrorist bomb wrapped like a Yuletide package.

Unable to determine contents of the suspicious package, officers play it safe and blow it up. Instead of a mail bomb, it turns out to be a box of old-world Christmas candy mailed from Frankfurt, Germany.

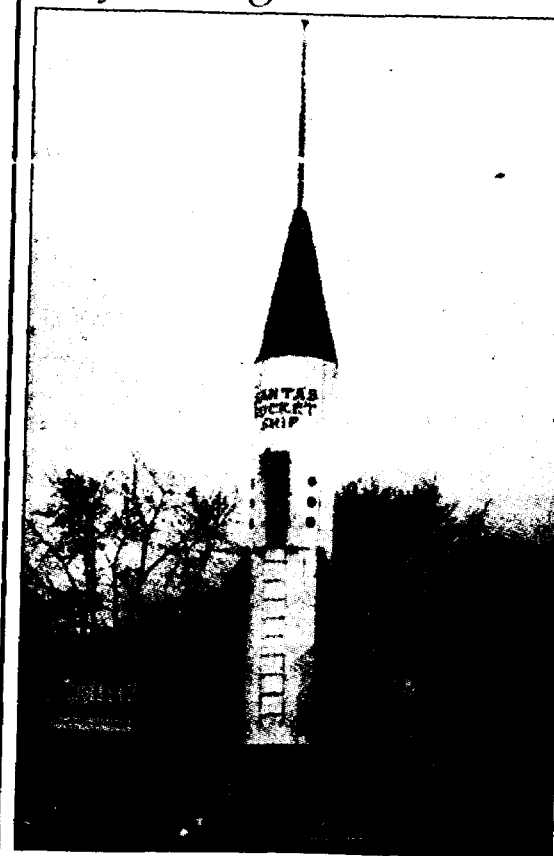
The package arrived one day after an FBI warning that the public should be cautious with parcels originating from Frankfurt.

■ A new state law eliminating residency requirement for city employees has little impact on the Grosse Pointes.

Unlike Detroit, which will lose a projected \$25 million in tax revenue as municipal employees are now allowed to live outside city boundaries, the Pointes don't have sweeping residency requirements.

— Brad Lindberg

50 years ago this week



Santa goes ultra-modern

Santa Claus and his rocket ship have caused much comment and admiration among the Pointe's Christmas decorations. This modern treatment of the yule theme is located in the vacant lot between 1034 and 1038 Whittier in Grosse Pointe Park. (Photo by Fred Runnells. From the Dec. 30, 1954 Grosse Pointe News.)

Review

From page 1A

April

■ Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano made two visits to the area — one in April and one in October — to talk about what the county is doing for its constituents and to field questions from Grosse Pointers.

Ficano's visits encouraged discussion of creating a bike trail along Lakeshore and Jefferson, an installation of a handicapped-accessible crosswalk at Beaconsfield and Jefferson in Grosse Pointe Park, and the availability of rationed flu vaccines to licensed and certified first responders in the Grosse Pointe Farms and Woods public safety departments.



Ficano

May

■ Brian Colter, the Grosse Pointe Park city forester who two years ago first diagnosed emerald ash borer infestation on the eastside, wins a \$20,000 federal grant to replace ash trees killed by the invasive insect.

State agricultural officials distribute grants drawn from \$1.2 million appropriated by Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow. Grant applications are sent to every community within a six-county core infestation zone in and around Wayne County.



Photo by Brad Lindberg

This squirrel will have to find a new place to hang out because the ash tree he's in is being killed by emerald ash borers.

June

■ Rep. Gaffney introduces legislation requiring handwritten prescriptions to be printed clearly so they can be read easily.

"I got the wrong prescription once because the pharmacist couldn't read the writing," Gaffney said. "It's ridiculous that doctors scribble out a prescription when dealing with something that could be life-threatening."

July

■ Rep. Gaffney introduces legislation to begin the school year after Labor Day. If the measure passes, the current K-12 academic calendar, which begins this year on a Tuesday on the last week of August then breaks on Friday for a four-day Labor Day weekend, would be relegated to the history books.

Teacher union representatives oppose Gaffney's effort, saying the academic calendar, including days off from school, are bargaining issues.

August

■ Municipal leaders reflect on infrastructure investments and the installation of backup power systems in the year since the big blackout of August 2003.

September

■ Grosse Pointe public safety officers team with Detroit police to nab car thieves plaguing the area. Suburban members of the Joint Operation Investigative Effort make arrests and recover stolen vehicles while patrolling Detroit's eastside.

■ Lansing lawmakers want to give \$100 tax credits to southeast Michigan residents who remove and replace ash trees infested

with or killed by emerald ash borers.

State treasury officials estimate credits could total \$19 million to \$190 million depending on participation.

"We don't want to see ash trees leave altogether, but it's a question of our budget," said a wary Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

■ As if a dwindling population of American elms and threatened ash trees aren't enough, the Midwest has another tree-related problem to deal with.

"There is a new strain of powdery mildew fungi in Michigan that is very detrimental to dogwood," said Dave Roberts, a plant pathologist at Michigan State University. "The strain is potentially lethal to the tree."



Photo by Brad Lindberg

A new strain of mildew in the Midwest threatens dogwood trees.

October

■ Rep. Gaffney opposes changing state tax policy during the post-election lame duck session. There's been talk of adding a tax on services.

"The governor said we should look at restructuring taxes," Gaffney said. "There's talk of taxing services — lawyers, doctors, barbers. I can't see that passing."

November

■ Grosse Pointe voters support President George W. Bush over Democrat challenger John Kerry.

■ Rep. Edward Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms, wins a second term in the state House of Representatives.

■ Four Grosse Pointers joined the rush to fill the sole open seat in the Third Circuit Court. Participating in the primary election were City of Grosse Pointe attorney James A. Callahan, Grosse Pointe Park attorney

Mary Catherine Kedzior and Margaret Mary Tobin and Grosse Pointe Woods Municipal Judge Lynne Pierce. Former Grosse Pointe Woods resident Audrey Monaghan, now an attorney residing in Plymouth; Detroit attorney Ronald Giles and Stephen Korn, an attorney from Northville Township also ran for the six-year-term seat.

In the end, it was Callahan who led a narrow margin — 274,905 to 270,035 — over Pierce to assume a seat on the bench in the November general election.

■ Harper Woods Councilwoman Cheryl Costantino gave Wayne County District 1 Commissioner Christopher Cavanagh a run for his money in the Pointes, but it wasn't enough to sweep Cavanagh out of his fifth two-year term in office.



Cavanagh



Costantino

Cavanagh easily obtained the Democratic nomination after beating Detroit resident Tim Killen in the August primary election.

■ Even though some forms of wildlife begin to go dormant in the Grosse Pointes in November, city officials started hopping on the chance to be involved with an outdoor art exhibition next summer called Frogs Fur Friends (Frogs For Friends).

Fiberglass frogs procured by local benefactors will be decorated by area artists and will then be displayed in key public spots around the five Grosse Pointes. The frogs will be auctioned in the fall.

The project will benefit the Children's Home of Detroit and the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society.

December

■ Old Man Winter is generous and provides a white Christmas.

Road crews are on the job well before sunup to begin clearing streets of about a half-foot of snow.

— Brad Lindberg and Bonnie Caprara

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Callahan

Pierce

Money wise, are you better off than one year ago?

It was two out in the ninth inning last Thursday, Dec. 24, so we can't give you the final score for 2004. But all the signs look OK. Mutual funds and some hedge funds use the S&P 500 Index as their marker, so we will, too, for once.

Most individual investors relate more to the Dow Jones Industrials because, odds on, they own one or more of these well known stocks. After all, 500 is quite a number to keep track of. Besides, the DJI is reported on twice every hour at 0:25 and 0:55 by WWJ, the all news station at 950 on the AM dial.

Last Friday, with one week to go, the S&P 500 was up 8.83 percent for the 51 weeks to date, a very respectable return, much better than the measly 3.57 percent gain for the DJI, which has been suffering from a bad overdose of pre-

scription pills.

The Nasdaq composite is barely trailing the S&P 500, with the tech index up 7.85 percent and most traders betting that mutual fund managers will do more than a little buying going into the final bell on New Year's Eve!

Social Security

Thanks to The New York Times (Dec. 26) and its writer, Daniel Altman, for describing some of the investment assumptions used by President Bush's Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

The commission recently recommended that workers be permitted to set up "private accounts" and divest a portion of their present Social Security withholding. The amount diverted varies from proposal to proposal, but an earlier commission set a maximum diversion of

Let's talk... STOCKS

By Joseph Mengden



4 percent of your present 6.2 percent payroll tax deduction, up to \$1,000 maximum per year.

Under that proposal, the remaining 2.2 percent, plus your employer's 6.2 percent tax on your wages up to \$89,700, would continue to be deposited to your present SS account.

The commission's mathematical models assumed that the investments in these "private accounts" would always be split 50-50 between stocks and bonds, which, unfortunately, not many individuals presently do with much regularity. The commission also

assumed that the stocks should average a 6.5 percent "annual return" and bonds 3 percent, both after adjusting for annual inflation.

Before inflation of (take a guess) 2.5 percent, this would require a gross return of 9 percent for stocks and 5.5 percent for bonds. Such "returns" include all distributed income, plus market price appreciation but excludes all income taxes, if any.

Measured by price/earnings ratios over the past 50 years, market prices have doubled. Many market strategists believe that cur-

rent P/E levels can be maintained but seriously doubt that these P/E levels will again double.

Since the concept of "personal accounts" would involve personal control and responsibility, it would significantly differ from 401(k) programs that require all investments to be managed and controlled by others (much to the delight of fund managers).

However, personal management of IRA accounts has generally been considered disastrous. Remember 2001 and 2002! "My IRA was cut in half!"

Bill Miller, is he another winner?

Money magazine (January) featured Bill Miller, the Legg Mason mutual fund manager who has beaten the S&P 500 Index for the past 13 years in a row.

But as of Nov. 19, the press deadline for the monthly magazine, Miller was underwater by 2.4 percentage points as he has been behind most of the year. Pundits said Miller had met his Waterloo.

Miller swings a big bat; his Legg Mason Value Fund has over \$10.5 billion in assets but only holds 35 stock positions. That's an average of \$300 million per stock! Since other large cap funds hold an average of 160 stocks, there's not much room for Miller to be wrong.

So what has he been up to this year? In August, he bought 4.2 million shares of Google on its IPO (GOOG, about 187.90 last Thursday) and, as of the press deadline of the article, was still in the stock, even though it had doubled!

Earlier this year, he jumped into the video-game maker, Electronic Arts (ERTS, about 62.46, a new high for 2004) and later bought Countrywide Financial (CFC, about

Stock Market at a Glance

Thursday Close, 12/23/04	
Dow Jones Ind.	10,827
Nasdaq Comp.	2,161
S&P 500 Index	1,210
Euro	1.3513
Crude Oil (Bbl.)	44.18
Gold (Oz.)	441.90
3-Mo. T-Bills	2.18%
30-Yr. T-Bonds	4.84%

36.93).

So you asked how the value fund has been doing since November? As of Christmas Eve, the fund was up 10.1 percent versus the S&P 500 up 8.8 percent! LTS does not recommend individual stocks or mutual funds. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

From the Editor:

This is LTS's final weekly column after eight years and 417 submissions. But, loyal LTS readers, don't be dismayed. LTS will continue writing on a monthly basis.

His next column will appear Jan. 13 and will continue to run on the second Thursday of each month thereafter — Lord willing.

During LTS's "off weeks," we will attempt to provide local business and investment information from other sources. We want to thank LTS for his eight years of informative, reliable columns and look forward to his installments each month.

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.

From deep in the garbage bag

This column is dedicated to the minutia.

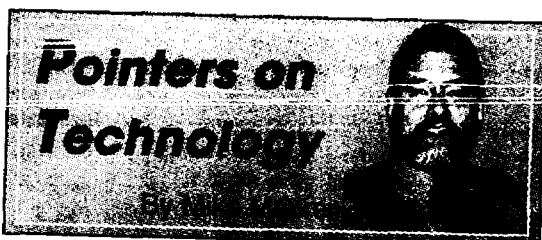
No, the minutia are not midget minutemen from the Revolutionary War, though someone somewhere probably wrote a book about them... the minutemen that is, not the midgets.

As I reached into my bag of column ideas at the end of the year, I found a dozen or so items that didn't warrant a whole column but were interesting. Besides, it gives me a chance to clean up the old hard drive.

Have you ever headed for surgery and suddenly panicked, wondering if the good doctors will fix the correct problem? Relax and enjoy the anesthetic.

A radio frequency tag that patients can affix like a bandage to ensure doctors perform the right surgery on the right person won government approval last month. The tag, manufactured by SurgiChip Inc. of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., aims to prevent wrongful surgeries that records show kill thousands of patients a year. SurgiChip is the first surgical marking device approved by the Food and Drug Administration to use radio frequency identification. The FDA endorsed the same technology this week to track drugs on their journey from manufacturing plants to pharmacists' shelves. Next item? Cell phone bombs.

Curtis Sathre said it was like a bomb going off. His



Pointers on Technology

13-year-old son Michael stood stunned, ears ringing, hand gushing blood after his cell phone exploded.

Safety officials have received 83 reports of cell phones exploding or catching fire in the past two years, usually because of bad batteries or chargers. Burns to the face, neck, leg and hip are among the dozens of injury reports the Consumer Product Safety Commission has received.

The agency is providing tips for cell phone users to avoid such accidents and has stepped up oversight of the wireless industry. There have been three voluntary battery recalls, and the CPSC is working with companies to create better battery standards.

The good news is that with 65 million cell phones out there, the odds are in your favor. However, you should not wish it would happen to someone driving in front of you at 25 mph in the fast lane while talking on the cell phone, eating a donut and smoking a cigarette.

OK, now start the organ music; it's soap opera time!

When the manager of a coin-operated laundry seduces a mother and daughter and convinces them to skip town, there's bound to be trouble. Or maybe it's a movie plot. Or maybe, these days, the story is part of an intricate set of short Internet films improbably designed to attract viewers to a new model of Mercury cars (www.meettheluckyones.com).

Advertisers are devoting larger budgets to these Web hybrids of entertainment and marketing, hoping to convince consumers they offer not just a product, but also the elusive element of cool. The financial payoff of Internet films, sometimes called Webisodes, may be just as hard to pin down, even as marketers recruit top celebrities and moviemaking talent for the job.

And you've probably guessed by now that since they have the organ music, they've decided to add a donkey. Move on quickly. Think you are clever? Think again.

Password crackers, those who make a criminal living breaking passwords, can often break sophisticated business passwords in less than a second. So using the dog's name (Fluffy?) isn't going to cut it.

Don't worry; no one is going to steal Aunt Martha's fruitcake recipe, as hard as you might wish. You may not have important documents on your computer, but I'll bet there is a lot of important minutia (not again!) you would hate to lose.

So let's skip talking about the problem and hit the solution button. Here are some hints.

Any word in any dictionary or list of names or common terms is deadly, including foreign languages. (What is the French word for surrender?) The crackers have all that already loaded and ready to go. Soooo how about...

Reverse a word.
Duplicate a word.
Rotate a word either left or right; i.e., move the first letter to the end or the last letter to the front. That makes Fluffy into luffly.

First, last or any specific character may be deleted.
Reverse a word.
Duplicate a word.
Mirror a word, i.e., append the reversed word (ing).

Replace all of one character with another, e.g., all uses of the letter "a" become "#."

Play the license plate game. Don't use a vanity plate, and don't use your own plate. Pick one while you're on the road.
How about MadMike? Works for me... oops.

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 mtmaur@comcast.net.

Business people

Grosse Pointe Park resident Jay A. Kennedy, a shareholder with the Detroit law firm of Abbott Nicholson, PC, was recently elected secretary of the taxation Section of the State Bar of Michigan. Mr. Kennedy is a University of Michigan Law School graduate who has practiced in the areas of corporate and individual taxation and estate planning for almost 25 years. He is a former Chairperson of the Business Entities Committee of the Taxation Section, and most recently served as editor of the Section 57's Michigan Tax Lawyer publication.

Fifteen Clark Hill attorneys were named "Best Lawyers in America." Among them include Fred W. Batten, Daniel J. Scully and Martin C. Oetting of Grosse Pointe Farms; Douglas J. Rasmussen of the City of Grosse Pointe and D. Kerry Crenshaw of Grosse Pointe Park, all of whom work in the firm's Detroit office.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has announced an executive order creating the Council for Labor and Economic Growth, which is intended to focus on developing strategies to prepare Michigan's workers for the 21st century.

The order creates the business-led council and replaces the current Michigan Workforce Investment Board. The council's members include key leaders from business, labor, community colleges, universities, community-based organizations, local workforce boards, the K-12 education community and government. The council will recommend strategies to encourage and stimulate innovative responses to Michigan's workforce challenges.

The new council has been reorganized to comply with federal workforce law which requires a 73-member board. Grosse Pointe Shores resident Mary Thornton, general director of GM University, was one of those members appointed to the board.

Farms

From page 6A

"You can't pick 'em up," Beaupre said.

The 1979 killer of Farms resident Jeanne Carol Clyne, 44, will spend the rest of his life in prison.

Confessed serial murderer Coral Eugene Watts had been about to benefit from a legal loophole and be up for parole.

Instead, due to his conviction this month of another killing in Ferndale, Watts will remain behind bars.

Standard & Poors increases the Farms' bond rating from AA- to AA+.

The change yields quick benefits when \$4 million in bonds are issued at a half-percent lower than otherwise. Bond money will be used to pay for a community building at Pier Park and improvements to the water filtration plant.

Members of the Grosse Pointe Farms Historic District Commission recommend a 102-year-old house at 60 Lakeshore be designated for inclusion in a proposed historic district.

The decision means a demolition permit requested for the 5,100-square-foot structure can't be issued until a ruling by the city council occurs.

Developers want to replace 60 Lakeshore and a neighboring house with condominiums.

Council members designate neighboring properties at 50 and 60 Lakeshore a planned unit development, or PUD.

"(A PUD) is a mechanism simply to allow the council more flexibility in restricting and working with the developer to make sure whatever goes there is in the best interests of the community," said Councilman Louis Theros.

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New Year's resolution: A Taxpayer Bill of Rights

By Michael D. LaFaive

The recent passing of Michigan business executive and taxpayers' champion Richard H. Headlee has brought a flood of reflections on the state Constitution's "Headlee Amendment," which prohibits the state from imposing unfunded mandates on local units of government, restrains property tax rates and assessments, and limits the state's total nonfederal revenues to 9.49 percent of personal income. As a 1993 state commission concluded, Michigan has reaped lasting benefits from Headlee's 1978 fight to enshrine the amendment.

In the spirit of the amendment, Michigan's citizens should embrace further measures to discipline state spending and protect taxpayers from relentless growth in government — especially when there is evidence they work. One such tool is the Colorado-style "Taxpayer Bill of Rights"

In the spirit of the Headlee Amendment, Michigan's citizens should embrace further measures to discipline state spending and protect taxpayers from relentless growth in government — especially when there is evidence they work. One such tool is the Colorado-style "Taxpayer Bill of Rights."

(commonly referred to as "TABOR").

Colorado amended its constitution with TABOR in 1992. From one state budget to the next, it limits the growth of spending and taxation in the state to the combined population and inflation rate. It requires legislators to ask taxpayers to approve tax hikes and increases in state debt levels at the ballot box. Any surplus in the budget must be returned to taxpayers, a provision that has been invoked on several occasions since 1992.

What's even more impressive about Colorado's TABOR is that if there is a recession, and legislators must cut the budget to balance it, the new level at which legislators are allowed to spend "rebases" to the level of the new, lower budget.

In the decade prior to TABOR's passage, Colorado saw a combined population and inflation rate increase of 40 percent, while state spending grew by 90 percent — more than twice as fast. In the decade after the amendment's passage, popu-

lation and inflation combined increased 63 percent, while state spending increased by 64 percent. From 1997 to 2001, Colorado's rebate mechanism for budget surpluses returned \$3.25 billion to state taxpayers.

Such a rebate mechanism would have prevented spending sprees such as the one that occurred in Michigan during the summer of 2000. At the end of the fiscal year, budget officials informed lawmakers that the treasury had received \$600 million more

than had been budgeted. Rather than return it to taxpayers, legislators in Lansing went on a spending spree that included a new polar bear exhibit for the Detroit Zoo.

According to the nonpartisan state Senate Fiscal Agency, between 1990 and 2000, Michigan's state government debt per capita increased relative to other states, with its rank rising from a respectable 36th to an above-the-median 22nd. During the same period, Colorado's rank was unchanged at 42nd. It's doubtful that Michigan's voters would have approved this dubious state debt strategy if they had been given the choice.

Jon Caldara, president of the Independence Institute of Colorado, notes that state economic development officials use the state's TABOR amendment as a recruiting tool when persuading businesses to move there. Entrepreneurs place great

value on the certainty of projecting their cost of doing business, and one variable in that cost is taxes.

While TABOR is only part of the economic equation, it has no doubt contributed to Colorado's comparative economic success. Between 1992 and the end of 2001, Colorado went from 15th to 9th among the 50 states in gross state product per capita, a standard measure used by economists to determine a state's overall economic health. By contrast, Michigan's rank was unchanged at 30th.

To strengthen the existing Headlee Amendment provisions, state Rep. Jacob Hoogendyk Jr. introduced a Michigan House Joint Resolution in September 2004 to create a TABOR amendment. If it becomes part of the state Constitution, it will curtail growth in state government by imposing new fiscal discipline on legislators.

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights may very well become this decade's top economic story in states across the nation. Michigan legislators would show real leadership by putting a TABOR amendment before the voters of Michigan.

Michael D. LaFaive is director of fiscal policy for the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a research and educational institute based in Midland.

Letters

From page 8A

against that had been the study done by St. John Hospital to put a hotel at the site that is now Walgreen's, and that was turned down.

Well, that is a completely different location (in Detroit), and that was also six years ago (when there was a Jacobson's). Things have changed since then.

Another argument against it was that there would not be the demand for it and that we are located near the lake and border Detroit. That is simply not the case.

People who go to weddings in the Pointes and/or are visiting would stay at a hotel. I understand that people in town for the event over the summer at the Country Club of Detroit had to stay at members' houses. (How embarrassing is that?)

How about visiting doctors for the hospitals, celebrities, dignitaries, politicians to stay at a secure hotel in the Pointes? And then these people staying in the hotel would need to dine and shop (thus more shops and restaurants would open). How about sporting events (Super Bowl) or concerts/events in the area, where people can stay in a nice hotel, not have to drive out to Gratiot? In addition, imagine the amount of people a hotel would employ and what it could do for the property values?

Rochester has a new hotel; Birmingham has a hotel; the Grosse Pointes need a hotel. This can be the catalyst for the change that is needed.

People, we need to wake up and demand change before it is too late.

Eric Goosen
Grosse Pointe Park

Flu vaccine available

To the Editor:

The flu vaccine shortage has been getting a lot of publicity. Some people even tried to portray our Grosse Pointe Farms safety officials in a poor light for receiving the vaccine.

The truth is, any senior in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods who needed the vaccine was able to get it through our agency.

Every fall we give out 600 vaccines to local seniors. We

received our first supply of 600 and vaccinated the first 600 seniors who called our agency. Word spread and we collected a waiting list of 500 seniors. Again, we worked with the Visiting Nurses Association to provide 600 more vaccines.

After that clinic, we accumulated another waiting list of 400 seniors and once again we worked with the Visiting Nurses Association to provide 400 seniors with the vaccine.

As the state lifted regulations, we were able to help some of our seniors who weren't over 65 — we gave 100 flu shots on Dec. 17.

Our agency takes its responsibility to the seniors of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods very seriously and that is why we made sure every senior who needed a shot received one.

If we have missed any seniors, please call our office at (313) 882-9600 and we will start another waiting list that we will find the vaccines to fill.

I commend the Grosse Pointe Farms police for taking the health of their first-response officers seriously and providing them with the flu vaccine and assure the community that no vaccine was kept away from a senior because of the Grosse Pointe Farms police receiving the vaccine.

Sharon Maier
Executive Director
Services for Older Citizens

Letters welcome

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your Letters to the Editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. Longer letters will be edited for length and all letters are subject to editing for content. Include a daytime phone number for verification or questions.

The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday.

Send letters to Editor, Grosse Pointe News, 96 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich. 48236; or fax them to (313) 882-1585. Letters may also be sent e-mail to: jminnis@grossepointenews.com

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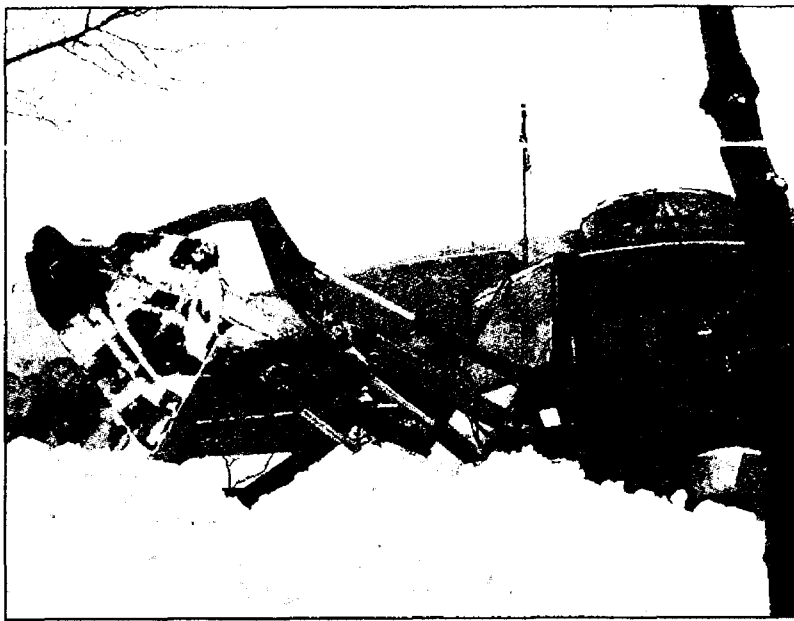
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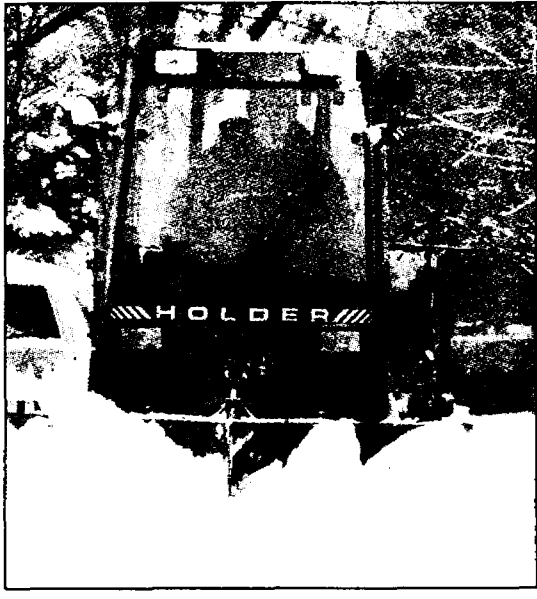
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First snow

From front-end loaders to individual snowblowers, Grosse Pointe road crews and residents used whatever mechanical advantage they could to clear away about six inches of snow that fell overnight Wednesday, Dec. 22. Jim Schehr, a Farms public works employee, scoops up snow on the Hill while coworker Thomas Baker clears a sidewalk. "We came to work at about 4 a.m.," Baker said. "The snow came heavy, but with these vehicles, heavy or light, snow moves out of the way." Martha Cox enjoyed clearing snow from her Farms driveway. "I love the snow," she said. "It's very, very pretty. It's Christmasy."



Photos by Brad Lindberg



Park cops seek help nabbing bank robber

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Park detectives are asking for help in locating a man who they believe has robbed a Park bank twice since Oct. 15.

The last occurrence happened at about 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 23, at the Standard Federal Bank on Jefferson and Barrington.

"In each incident, the subject placed an index card against the teller window demanding money," Lt. Jim Smith said. "He asked for 50s and 100s and no dye packs. In both cases a gun was implied, but never seen. No words were exchanged. The subject took the money and fled the building."

Smith said he was unaware of any vehicle used in any of the robberies. Also, in both cases, no one other than the tellers involved were aware the bank was being robbed.

The unknown suspect made off with \$1,000 in the Oct. 15 robbery and \$480 in the Dec. 23 robbery.

The unknown suspect is also to have been involved in two other bank robberies in the area; one at the Comerica Bank at Mack and Hillcrest in Detroit on Oct. 25, and another at the National City Bank at Mack and Cadieux in Detroit on Dec. 1.

The unknown suspect is



Grosse Pointe Park public safety detectives are looking for this man who they believe robbed the Standard Federal Bank at Jefferson and Barrington on Oct. 15 and Dec. 23.

identified as a black male between 30 and 40 years old, about 5-foot-7 to 5-foot-10, with a medium build, dark complexion and moustache. He has worn a baseball cap and sunglasses in each incident.

The Park public safety department is offering a \$2,000 reward for information leading to the identification and arrest of the suspect. Smith added that the department is working with the banks to increase the reward amount.

Shores homeowners can tap into village sewer repairs

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

A technology that cities use to double the life of sewer networks is being offered at discount rates to homeowners in Grosse Pointe Shores.

"It's the up and coming thing to do rather than have your yard torn up," said Mike Kenyon, Shores village manager. "If your house was built before 1970, it probably has old crock pipe. The chances of that living past 30 years are not good."

Shores officials are offering residents a chance to piggyback on a \$1.123 million municipal sewer lining contract at a reduced rate of \$50 per foot.

"Fifty dollars per foot is dirt cheap," Kenyon said.

"The next price we had was \$213 per foot," said Brett Smith, head of public works.

Contracts will be coordinated through the village.

"We'd pay the bill and residents would reimburse us," Kenyon said.

A contract with Lanzo Lining Services of Roseville specifies inspecting leads with a remote-control video camera, cleaning and lining pipes with fiberglass.

Shores officials retained Lanzo to line 31,310 feet of pipes ranging in diameter from 10 to 36 inches.

"Maybe some of this work will start in winter, but probably in spring," Kenyon said. He expects the job to be finished next fall.

"This is the backbone of

the (recent \$3.4 million) bond issue, one of the largest items we've been looking at," Smith said. "Maintenance on our rear yard sewers have been taking a lot of our attention, time and effort. Engineers spent a lot of time analyzing the sewers. They are in need of rehabilitation."

He cited a pipe that broke last week in an area of unstable soil near the intersection of Lakeshore Lane and Shoreham.

"That section of pipe is scheduled for pipe lining," Smith said. "That should button up things nicely."

Lanzo's agreement includes relining a total of 500 feet of residential leads six or eight inches in diameter.

This will be the first time

Shores officials have retained Lanzo. The company has done work for Clinton Township, Port Huron and Eastpointe.

"We spent a lot of time speaking with Lanzo (and) checking their references," Smith said. "All questions were addressed, all with satisfactory results."

The overall contract would have cost \$50,000 less without the residential option.

"We thought the (total) estimate would be about \$1.5 million," Kenyon said. Smith thinks there's room to reduce costs.

"A case in point — manhole rehabilitation," said Smith, whom Kenyon nicknamed "Bulldog" for biting fat out of contractor estimates. "We have costs for


replacing manholes, which is a \$5,000 or \$6,000 item. We can go in here for \$500 or \$600 and repair it, if it's going to give us the life expectancy or close to it."

Other projects funded through the bond issue

include recently completed resurfacing of Oxford, Renaud and Hawthorn, and upcoming renovations to the pumping station on Cook Road.

Kenyon said \$1.3 million remains from the issue.

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Woods mayor, council fill commission posts

Twenty-three individuals were appointed by Mayor Robert Novitke and the city council to nine commissions in Grosse Pointe Woods on Monday, Dec. 20.

Mayoral appointees include:

- Carol Sauter, Mary Beth Nicholson, Bonnie Fleming and Heather Simmet to three-year terms on the Beautification Commission
- Dr. Michael Skaff, George Martin and George Gray to three-year terms

on the Community Tree Commission.

- Delmar Harkenrider, Bruce Bockstanz and Suzanne Kent to three-year terms on the Historical Commission.

- Mary Lou Solomon, Russell Nahat and Walter Lawlis to three-year terms; and Debra Mittlebach, Sharon Maier and Frederick Petz to one-year terms on the Senior Citizen Commission.

- Joseph Ahee and Joseph

Shock to three-year terms on the Downspout Board of Appeals.

Council appointees include:

- Bill Babcock and Kenneth Gutow to three-year terms on the Citizens' Recreation Advisory Commission.

- Mark Kent to a five-year term on the Local Officers' Compensation Commission.

- Grant Gilezan and Michael Zolik to three-year terms on the Planning

Commission.

Four two-year term vacancies remain on the Community Enhancement Fund Advisory Board; one three-year vacancy remains on the Beautification, Historical and Planning commissions; and one one-year term vacancy remains on the Senior Citizens' Commission. The mayor and the council are accepting applications from interested individuals.

— Bonnie Caprara

Shores man burned up over leaf policy

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Every autumn for the last decade George Hendrie Sr. raked leaves from his lawn on Willison and piled the red and yellow harvest curbside.

Every year for the last decade Hendrie knew that a portion of his property taxes in Grosse Pointe Shores paid for public works crews to haul away the leaves.

It was the natural order of things.

Except this year nature caught up with Hendrie, a senior citizen. He couldn't do his own raking. He hired a lawn crew to do it for him.

Same leaves. Same pile curbside. But no city pick

"It's discrimination against people who can't do their leaves."

George Hendrie Sr.
Willison Road

up. Shores employees won't collect leaves raked by a contractor.

"Why can't the city pick up a contractor's leaves along with those a resident rakes?" Hendrie wants to know.

Leaves raked by residents are picked up curbside by village employees, paid for by local property taxes. Homeowners who hire lawn crews pay the same tax rate

but aren't afforded an equal level of municipal service.

"It's discrimination against people who can't do their leaves," Hendrie told trustees at the end of their last meeting of 2004. "They have to hire a contractor, and the contractor charges them for it."

He said fees range from \$50 to \$80.

"I'm wondering why that's on the books?" Hendrie said of the no-pick-up ordinance.

"It seems ridiculous."

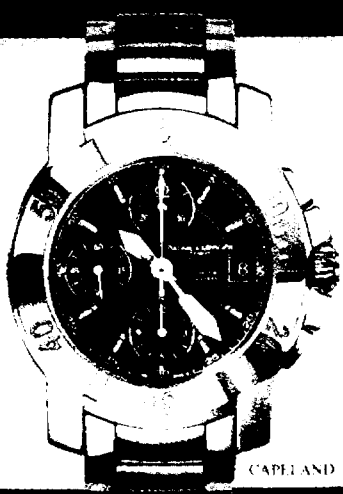
"It's done in summer with grass clippings," said Brett Smith, head of public works. "The same with contractors remodeling a house. We don't pick up debris a contractor has made."

Hendrie said, "Who cares who puts the leaves in the street?"

"We do because it costs the village more money," said Dr. Brian Hunt, trustee. "If you allow the smaller contractor to put the leaves out, who's to say he won't pick them up from my house and go to your house and dump his truck?"

"It's something we can review," said Mike Kenyon, village manager.

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Producer has theatrical flair

By Beth Quinn
Staff Writer

Memo to the Nederlander Producing Company: If you are looking for a comedy that will have your audience doubling over with laughter, produce a play about your executive director, Lichtenstein.

With self-effacing humor, Lichtenstein, 54, tells hilarious and enthralling stories about his life and career in the entertainment business.

"I can't act, sing or dance; so I decided to become a producer," said Alan Lichtenstein.

For the past 27 years, Lichtenstein has been responsible for bringing a wide range of plays from mega-hit musicals and critically acclaimed dramas to Detroit.

As executive director, he oversees the day-to-day operations of the Masonic Temple and Fisher Theaters. He is in charge of booking the plays, marketing, advertising and sales.

It is with years of experience, a gambler's instinct, an insider's knowledge and an eye on the financial bottom line that Lichtenstein decides which plays Detroit audiences will be seeing.

"When considering whether to bring a production here, the first question I answer is, 'Can I sell tickets?'" Lichtenstein said.

Producing plays is a risky and expensive business. The Actors' Equity contracts and other operation costs are very high. Potential investors in a limited partnership must have at least \$250,000 and a net worth of over \$1 million.

"If your accountant or lawyer tells you to invest in the theater, fire them," he said. "In order for a play to be a hit, you need a little luck, a little marketing and a good review in the New York Times."

Since many plays are booked two years in advance, it is hard to predict the mood of the public and what will strike audiences' fancy.

"During the past few months, attendance has been down because of the economy and the national elections," Lichtenstein said.

Good timing is also an important factor in a production's success.

"In the 1980s, the production, 'Beatlemania,' was struggling; then John Lennon was killed and it took off," Lichtenstein said.

As one of the perks of his job, Lichtenstein frequently travels all over the world to spend a week going to the theater. Every year, he travels to New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago and London. He also makes an effort to frequently visit smaller cities to discover an unknown gem.

"While in Seattle once, I saw 'Hairspray' as a smaller version before it went to Broadway," Lichtenstein said.

No matter where he goes and what he sees, the theatrical preferences of his Detroit audience are foremost in his mind.

"I don't let my personal taste interfere with my decision to book something," he said. "There are certain plays, like 'Take Me Out,' which is interesting but has graphic nudity, that you just can't bring to Detroit."

Lichtenstein knows his target audience well.

"Detroiters love musicals," Lichtenstein said.

Over the years, he has successfully produced mega-hit musicals such as "The Lion King," "Mama Mia," and "Martin Guerre" to Detroit.

However, every season he will diverge from the box office hits to bring in plays that are serious dramas or that have social significance.

"There are certain plays like 'Angels in America' that might not make a lot of money but need to be seen," Lichtenstein said.

During the first week in February, the Fisher

POINTER OF INTEREST



Alan Lichtenstein

Theater will present "Trumbo" in which Brian Dennehy stars as legendary screenwriter Dalton Trumbo ("Spartacus," "Roman Holiday," "Exodus") who in 1947, at the top of his career, stood up to the House Un-American Activities Committee and was thrown into prison as one of the infamous Hollywood Ten.

Lichtenstein caught the bug for the theater as a teenager growing up in New Haven, Conn. During the summer while he was in high school, he worked for one of the many beach clubs that line the shores of the Long Island Sound. In addition to parking cars and setting up cabanas and beach chairs, he was responsible for organizing small musicals which the younger children performed for members.

"I got to park the cars, serve the snacks and lay out beach towels; then I would build the scenery," Lichtenstein said. "I really enjoyed putting on the plays."

In a twist of fate, a fire in his family's house forced him and his family to live for a few months in an apartment above New Haven's Schubert Theater which is on the pre-Broadway circuit.

"A lot of the actors stayed in the other apartments so I got to know them," he said. "I started hanging out at the theater and became a runner — I would run errands like getting corn beef sandwiches."

He got a full scholarship to Stetson College in Florida where he eventually became director of student activities while still a student. He used his entrepreneurial instinct to form a coalition with three other colleges to "block book" acts for substantially less money than if the four booked entertainers individually.

Lichtenstein also saw the opportunity to set up a business, Sunshine Sound and Lights, from which other colleges would rent stage equipment.

"I wrote up a business plan to get a loan from a bank for \$1,500; I bought all the equipment and then rented it out for half the price of what my competitor did," he said.

After college, he stayed in Florida, producing rock shows until his wealthier partner decided to quit.

"My friend found Jesus and decided to get out of the business; so I was out of a job," Lichtenstein said.

He landed a job back home in New Haven running a sports arena. A few years later, he enrolled in

the Yale Drama School from which he graduated in 1976. While he got to rub elbows with Yale acting students such as Meryl Streep and Sigourney Weaver, Lichtenstein concentrated his efforts learning about all the behind-the-scenes aspects of the theater.

After graduation, he spent a short amount of time in New York City working on various productions such as "The Fantasticks." In 1977, he arrived in Detroit, booking productions into the Music Hall. In 1979, he started working at the Masonic Temple Theater.

A short while later, he met his wife, Susan, who was an accountant executive at WNIC and who had the Masonic Temple as one of her accounts.

"She was the only person in the media, who wouldn't give me credit; she wanted cash up front before she would air my commercials," he said. "She also wouldn't go out with me."

After much persistence, the couple started dating; they got married and settled down in Grosse Pointe Park. They have two children Max, a student at the University of Michigan and Katherine, a freshman at Grosse Pointe South High School.

When asked if either one of his children has any interest in the theater, Lichtenstein quickly replies, "No. They're too smart."

Academy students buddy up for soldiers

Once a month, Grosse Pointe Academy students get together with their school buddies to do a project or participate in a special activity. Eighth graders are matched with first graders with the older students serving as role models to the younger students as leaders of the school. Then each grade, from seventh through second, is matched with an Early School classroom. These occasions are known as "Buddy Days" and present an opportunity for the school community to gather.

For December's Buddy Day, the focus was on the holiday season. Buddy groups assembled for a variety of projects. Fourth graders got together with their Early School buddies to decorate cards and make flags for U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

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Weighty issues for New Year

For me, the New Year is a great time of optimism. The stress of Christmas is past, but the warm, fuzzy feelings linger. I even look forward to a little self-improvement. Of course, my No. 1 resolution every year is to lose weight. One year, I lost 30 pounds over a three-month span. It was a doctor-supervised diet, except that I couldn't take the diet pills. They made me edgy, and I couldn't sleep. That was 25 years ago. Dieting has gotten exponen-

tially harder since. As with anything else, getting started is the hard part. Just saying "no" ain't that easy. I have to get past having that second pork chop. I have to order baked or broiled chicken and fish instead of steak or fried seafood. There is a new wrinkle in my diet plans for the New Year. I am now part of the L-1 generation. I was appalled when Dr. Steven Wood prescribed Lipitor. My cholesterol is 299. I was depressed for weeks. It took me a while to start taking the pills. I'm too young for "old people's" medicine, I told myself. My god, I thought, I'll have to take this for the rest of my life! I pictured myself becom-



I Say

John Minnis

ing a pharmacist, like my father in law. He's not really a pharmacist, but one look at his huge Tupperware medicine container, complete with pill cutter, and you would think otherwise. It seems as if every half hour he's looking at his watch and saying, "I have to take my pill." God help us if it's the water pill! He takes drugs for his blood pressure and his

sugar and everything else except his heart and cholesterol. Those are OK. Go figure. Now that I've been prescribed Lipitor, I see myself on that slippery slope toward chemo-dependency. Now I have to watch my diet, not just a few months out of the year, but every day. I have to limit my fat intake and shun all cholesterol sources. I have to look longingly at those around

me devour shrimp, lobster, crab and egg products. I've never been a breakfast eater, but that has to change. I now have to start my day with oatmeal or Cheerios and toast (dry). Fruit has to become a regular part of my diet. A medicinal glass of merlot has to replace my recreational glasses of chardonnay. I have found that much of my occasional success in dieting comes in avoiding caloric drinks (wine, beer, Pepsi), eating as low-fat as the circumstances allow and, most importantly, pushing half the food away. Of course, the last recommendation is only necessary when presented with a full meal. Pushing away half an apple or bowl of Cheerios in non-fat milk would not be necessary.

I believe that in our super-sized culture, our appetites have become too big. Our stomachs have stretched to accommodate ever larger portions. I remember hitchhiking cross-country one summer as an 18-year-old. I survived on one hotdog or hamburger a day. I don't remember being all that discomforted by hunger. At the end of the summer when I returned home, I found I could not eat even half of the food on my plate. I was full. I long for the same problem today! For the next three months, I must resign myself to eat and drink for necessity, not recreation. Oh, and I have to exercise. Suddenly, the New Year doesn't sound all that appealing.

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The Op-Ed Page



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

Streetwise

Question of the Week:

Have you made a New Year's resolution, and if so, what is it?



A.J. Vaughn

"It's to exercise five times a week instead of three."
A.J. Vaughn
Benton, Ark.
(formerly of Grosse Pointe Woods)



Bobbie Youngblood

"No, I didn't make one yet, and I know there are a lot of possibilities."
Bobbie Youngblood
Grosse Pointe Farms



Kristen Berman

"We are going to slow down and enjoy our lives this year."
Kristen Berman
with son, Michael, and daughter, Mallory
St. Clair Shores



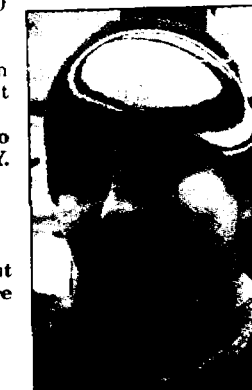
Mike Thomas

"I didn't make a new year's resolution, but I did make a set of objectives. I am supporting an Olympic athlete, and to do that, I have to pay attention to my work; stay in shape by running, going to the gym and through yoga; I'm going to improve my (horse) riding skills. For fun, I am going to learn how to cook."
Mike Thomas
Dryden
(formerly of Grosse Pointe Park)



Alex Tzetzto

"My new year's resolution is to practice on my right and left feet for skating."
Alex Tzetzto
Amherst, N.Y.



Alex Drost

"Nope."
Alex Drost
Clare

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

fyi

by Ben Burns

Blessed chaos

Having my granddaughters — Emma, 4, Rachel, 2, and Grace Meyers, 1 — in residence over the holidays meant dealing with children galloping through the house on stick reindeer, the philosophical question of why dolls quickly lose their underduds, Kodak moments such as when the youngest chose for her favorite resting place a trash can painted to be grandpa's bird seed container and washing dishes four or five times a day.

Did you know that reindeer whinny when they gallop? I didn't either. I think it was improv by a 4-year-old more familiar with horses. It was a blast, and it will only take several weeks to recuperate.

I also learned from another source during the holidays that only lady reindeer retain their antlers throughout the winter; so Santa's couriers had to be female. My source then claimed that only eight strong women would be willing to pull an old fat man in a red suit around the globe in a single night stopping hither and yon.

Vino veritas

I learned about the Park Winery when I characterized the new Red Hat Micro Winery on Jefferson in St. Clair Shores as the only



Sandra Harville opened the Park Winery in June on Charlevoix, just blocks from where she grew up in Grosse Pointe Park.

micro-winery on the east side. Not so, a reader called to inform me. Check out the Park Winery at Beaconsfield and Charlevoix.

Owner Sandra Harville grew up a couple blocks from the location at 15230 Charlevoix and actually got the first micro-brewery, micro-winery license in the state at her previous location in Eastpointe, called the Detroit Brew Factory. She had started in the wine

making business eight years ago in Canada. She moved the operation home in June and dropped the beer production, and now the winery produces 1,500 to 2,000 gallons a month and could do more.

Ben Burns of the City of Grosse Pointe is a professor in the journalism program at Wayne State University. He can be reached at burnsben@comcast.net or by phone at (313) 882-2810.

Tree City or bust

Grosse Pointe Shores is expected to obtain Tree City USA status next spring. "The application was submitted last month in the proper time and fashion," said Brett Marshall, certi-

fied arborist and head of the Shores new tree board.

Marshall has consulted with the state forester regarding the Shores chances.

Points about the Pointes

Kids developing a logical thought process... should it happen at home, work or at school?



One of our best customers ordered an enlargement of a negative they had, and it was due on the 23rd. When I enlarged the negative to the poster size requested, a lot of scratches in the negative that weren't visible to the human eye or in the 4 X 6 print became obvious. I called the customer and asked that we be able to keep it an extra day to repair the scratches and would deliver the order on the 24th, all at no additional charge. The customer, as always, was very understanding, and thanked me for taking the time to fix and deliver it at no extra charge. She said no one would be home and to just put the package at the side door. So far, so good. Before we closed, I asked if any staff member could drop off the package, as I wanted to stay a little later to get some other orders done. Two of our best staff members volunteered for the mission. I carefully wrapped the order, gave them directions and told them to put the order at the side door. I went home Christmas Eve thinking "mission accomplished", and that they had helped me keep a very special customer happy. On Sunday, I asked one of the delivery team if everything went OK. She told me that she had

the enlargement in her car. When I asked why it wasn't delivered as promised, she told me that there was a gate that they would have had to go through to get to the back door, and they didn't want to trespass! I was VERY upset, not so much about the gate issue, but that they didn't bring the enlargement back to me, call me at the store or home, drop it off at my house, or call Jeanie, our store manager. Their answer was "I didn't think of that". After I calmed down, I had to ask myself, "Where do our kids learn the ability to logically think through problems? Is it the responsibility of our schools, their parents, or their employers?" The answer is "all of the above". A top priority for all of us has to be to make sure our kids go out in the world with the process of logical decision making being second nature. In a few days, we'll all be making New Year's resolutions. Let's all keep one. Make it a resolution to work together to make sure our kids leave our schools with this skill. Let's drop the ball in Times Square, not with teaching our kids logical decision making. Have a great New Year! ... Ahmed Ismail (ahmed.ismail@comcast.net)

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Unfinished business marks 2004

The year of 2004 comes to an end with a plethora of unfinished business.

First, there is the disposition of the former Jacobson's building in the Village shopping district in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Second, there is the proposed condominium development on Lakeshore by the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Third, there is the perennial Mack and Moross property that the city of Grosse Pointe Farms bought a decade ago and has yet to decide what to do with it.

Fourth, there is the residents' efforts in Grosse Pointe Shores to get an activities center built at their municipal park.

Fifth, there is the new activities building under construction at the Farms Pier Park.

Sixth, there is the school funding shortfall from the state that plagues Grosse Pointe and other public school districts statewide.

Seventh, there is the lagging Michigan economy that continues to dampen businesses in the Grosse Pointes and environs.

Cullan Meathe is the reigning

Opinion

knight in shining armor who is purportedly to be the one to save the Village and develop the old Jacobson's block.

Meathe, a Farms resident and one of the owners of the Metro Car airport limousine service, originally planned to use the existing Jacobson's building as is. Then he offered to tear it down and replace it with a six-story structure, with retail on the ground level, then offices above and luxury condominiums on the top floors with a view of Lake St. Clair.

The city council rejected that plan as too tall and has told Meathe to come back with a four-story, all new construction proposal.

Meathe has said he has a purchase agreement for the property, which is owned by Woonsocket, R.I.-based CVS Pharmacy. (CVS stands for Consumer Value Stores.)

There is one sticking point in the Meathe plan, though. He wants the city's parking structure deeded over to him to make the project financially viable since CVS paid too much for it in the first place, he said. The parking

structure is worth \$5 million.

Some nearby residents and historical preservationists continue to object to 12 luxury condominiums proposed by the Grosse Pointe War Memorial for property it owns at 50 and 60 Lakeshore. The veterans center is located at 32 Lakeshore in the Farms. It also owns abutting 40 Lakeshore to the north.

While many agree luxury condos are needed for aging, well-to-do empty-nesters in Grosse Pointe, the Farms City Council and residents have yet to be convinced that local builder Mike Monahan's plan is the right one in the right location.

Mack-Moross is an ongoing question mark. Kroger's current lease keeps the property tied up. Many uses have been proposed for the site, including an activities center, senior housing and a new municipal complex, complete with city hall, police and fire and the court.

Since a new activities building is being built at Pier Park, we doubt a recreation center will be considered for Mack and Moross. Currently, the

back of the property is being used as a soccer field.

Many elegant plans have been drawn up over the years for an activities center in the Shores' Osius Park. For various reasons they have been shot down in the past. Perhaps with residents leading the way for reconsideration of the plans, a new multi-purpose facility could come to fruition in the Shores.

School funding continues to be a problem for the Grosse Pointe Public School System. On Feb. 22, a quarter of the school district's funding is up for renewal by voters. But even with renewal of the three millage proposals on the ballot, the school district faces a \$3 million to \$5 million shortfall for the 2005-06 school year.

Linked to the shortage in school funding is Michigan's lagging economy.

In 1995, when state Constitution Proposal A was passed by voters, school property taxes were slashed, taxable assessed property values were capped until property changed hands, and the sales tax was raised by 50 percent from 4 percent to the current 6 percent.

But with state school funding riding largely on the sales tax, the post-9/11 economic downturn in Michigan has played havoc with the funding, as well as all state spending.

We believe a resurging state economy is the fastest way to grow out of our current budget woes. So let's all pray for a strong 2005!

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Conservative conservation

By Michael Goodell
Grosse Pointe Farms

Petroleum markets gave the American economy a Christmas gift last week when oil prices plummeted off their recent highs. However, anyone who thinks this is a sign of things to come probably still believes in Santa Claus. The fact is energy consumption, led by the nascent industrial powerhouses China and India, is burgeoning. Demand for petroleum will increase, not diminish, over the coming years.

Add to this the fact that most oil reserves, lying in areas subject to or currently riven by political turmoil, if not outright warfare, are increasingly subject to disruption.

Further, experts are starting to question current estimates of petroleum reserves. In the past year, the Royal Dutch Shell Oil Co. twice reduced the size of its estimates, and rumblings continue concerning other companies' reserves.

Recently Matthew Simmons, chairman of Simmons and Co. International, a Houston-based investment bank specializing in the energy industry, asserted that Saudi Arabia's oil reserves are smaller than claimed, and production there could start to decline in the near future.

All these factors argue for steadily increasing demands on a steadily diminishing supply of a crucial product. By the end of the decade, the time when oil sold for \$55 a barrel might be regarded as the era of cheap oil.

All the news isn't bad, however. There remains the likelihood of discovering new oil reserves. At the time of the first energy crisis, in the early Seventies, alarmists took to the air waves with the dire news that the world would run out of oil in 20 years. If we didn't launch a "Manhattan Project" to wean our economy from petroleum dependency, economic disaster was a certainty before the end of the century.

Today, the world still has enough oil to last 20 years. In fact, over the past 30 years, the world has retained a 20-year supply, despite increased consumption. Thus, if history is to be our guide, we will continue to discover new reserves to replenish those exhausted.

There is some merit to that view. Consider the oil currently off limits in the Alaskan National Wildlife Reserve. Consider the untold billions of barrels contained in oil shale deposits in the Rocky Mountains, or the additional billions available to deep sea drilling. Also, new technology makes it possible to draw new supplies from existing wells currently considered tapped out.

As oil prices rise, these resources become affordable.

However, in addition to financial costs, tapping these reserves will carry a greater risk to the environment. The latter is one of the arguments used by the usual suspects in their campaign to obstruct expanded drilling in Alaska. Environmentalists and Democratic congressmen and women speak as one in bewailing the threat to fragile habitats, despite all evidence to the contrary.

Their other argument is it won't produce enough to eliminate America's dependence on foreign oil. This, of course, is a canard. If we applied that attitude to every issue, nothing would be done. When it comes to oil production, every little bit helps meet needs, and every little bit produced domestically reduces the balance of payment deficit and reduces the money we pay to nations harboring terrorists.

Unfortunately, Vice President Dick Cheney uses the same flawed reasoning when he denigrates the idea of conservation. Clearly, conservation alone won't generate sufficient savings to reduce our dependency on foreign oil, or to substantially lower oil prices; yet conservation remains a worthwhile goal.

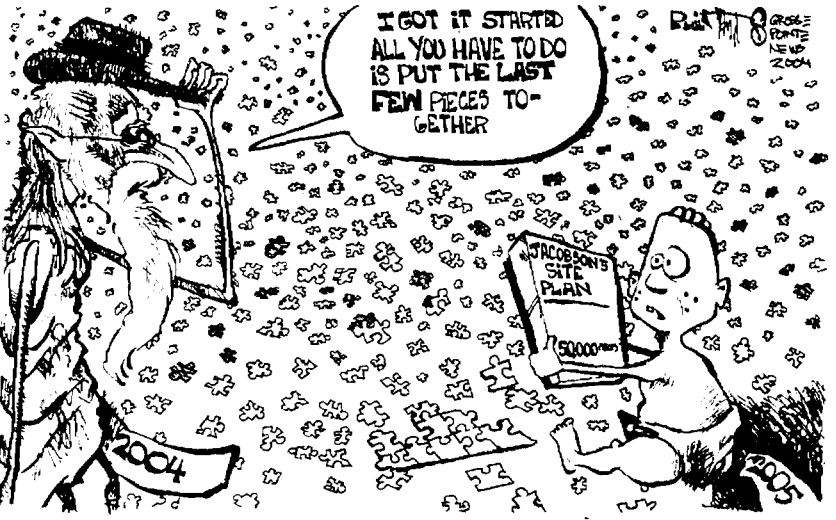
More than worthwhile, energy conservation should be at the heart of the administration's energy policy because conservation should be at the heart of the conservative world view. Conservatism and conservation spring from the same roots.

The main reason for conservative reluctance to embrace conservation is it is viewed as the purview of the left. This is wrong and unnecessary. Conservatives need to get out in front on conservation and on the environment.

Conservatives should lead, not just because it represents sound stewardship of natural resources, but because the left wields environmental issues as a weapon with which to attack capitalism. They use Big Oil as an epithet for the same reason they attack Big Auto and Big Pharmaceuticals, because they are big.

But by being "Big," they provide jobs, sustain the economy and generate wealth.

By taking the lead on conservation, the Bush administration can bring sustainable economics to sustaining our environment, along with defending capitalism from those who would see it destroyed. Also, at a time when our soldiers are daily making the ultimate sacrifice to defend our nation in Iraq, conserving energy at home will provide every American with the opportunity to help shoulder the load in the war on terror.



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

Letters

Holiday greetings

To the Editor:
Get over it. Move on. There are plenty of other things more worthy of your editorial comment ("Unto you a holiday is born," Dec. 23, Grosse Pointe News) than whether to say Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays.

Stuart B. Smith
Grosse Pointe Woods

Social Security benefits

To the Editor:
Michael Goodell is being alarmist about the future of Social Security ("Saving Social Security II," Dec. 16). In the year 2042, Social Security will be bringing in over a trillion dollars a year to pay benefits — without raising payroll tax rates. Because Social Security runs on a pay-as-you-go basis, the exhaustion of the trust fund doesn't mean Social Security checks will stop.

Given middling assumptions about the economy in the next four decades (2.8 percent inflation, wages growing 3.9 percent a year, and 5.8 percent interest rates), Social Security can pay about 75 percent of benefits under the current formula.

Given more optimistic assumptions — 1.8 percent inflation, 3.4 percent annual

wage increases, and 5 percent interest rates, the trust fund will be overfunded by \$19 trillion in 2080, and our unborn great-grandchildren can have a big party.

FDR's Social Security has been improved under both Democratic and Republican administrations, but its foundations are threatened by George Bush.

The best way to make sure it's working in the future is to encourage ever-increasing productivity by investing in education and infrastructure, by encouraging entrepreneurs — and by maintaining a healthy federal balance sheet as Clinton did.

Rather than raising taxes or means testing benefits right now — as Goodell proposes — let's wait until 2035. If there is a shortfall, we can raise the payroll cap on wages as Goodell suggests. And if that isn't enough, in 2042 the country can begin to use a formula that bases benefits more on inflation and less on wages.

Dick Olson
Grosse Pointe Park

A sign of things to come?

I couldn't help but notice a boarded up business along Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods. Is this a sign of things to come? If the city council does not rethink its ways, I am afraid it might be.

What's next? Should we

board up all the vacant businesses along Mack and Kercheval? What kind of image is this? What does this do for our property values?

The Grosse Pointes need to attract young professionals to live here, shop here and dine out here in our cities (not elderly people who bed down at 5 p.m. and do not spend money here). It is the young people who will eventually send kids to the schools and replace the owners of the homes who are here now. We are having an exodus of young people. If this continues, everything will fold up.

We do not need more housing (condos) until there are places to go and something to do in the Pointes. There is no demand for more housing now.

Further, I do not think we need another bank in the Grosse Pointes either. (It seems the ones we do have are getting held up at gunpoint.)

The Grosse Pointes need to reinvent themselves, and I think it should start with city councils (before it is too late). I understand the Woods City Council turned down a restaurant for a bank on Mack. Why not have a bank on every corner with no place to spend all that money?

I had suggested a five-star hotel for the old Jacobson's building in a previous letter to the editor. An argument

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Condos and park improvements major Farms issues in 2004

2004 SOON in review

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

As construction takes place on a new community center at Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park, discussion continues about tearing down a 102-year-old house at 60 Lakeshore to make room for condominiums.

Other stories in the Farms during 2004 include the following:

January

■ Staff members at 17-acre Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park are outfitted with new radios tied into the public safety department.

Direct communications with emergency responders should save time when calling an ambulance in case a park patron has an accident and requires medical treatment.

■ Intruders of Grosse Pointe Farms' most vital public asset could end up as witnesses for both the defense and prosecution.

A new \$24,000 security system approved for the municipal water filtration plant will provide police with video evidence to put trespassers on ice.

■ A two-story branch bank might replace the last gasoline station serving



Photos by Brad Lindberg

Construction continues on the community building at Pier Park.

neighborhoods along the lower border of the Farms and City.

Tom Onofrey, owner of Standard of the Hill on Kercheval at McMillan on the Hill, wants to sell his property to Fifth Third Bank.

February

■ Farms police arrest a 34-year-old Detroit crackhead for a string of home invasions in the Pointes and elsewhere.

"He's wanted in so many cities we have to take turns," said Mike McCarthy, detective.

"We believe (he) was responsible for 53 home invasions from Grosse Pointe to Lake Angelus north of Pontiac," said Rick Good, also a detective.

■ The splash pad and new wading pool at Pier Park

soak up praise from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association.

The group gives the city a Facility Design Award. Winning criteria include innovation, functionality and aesthetics.

■ John Walko receives a standing ovation from fellow Farms public safety officers upon receipt of his department's Medal of Valor.

In March 2003 Walko saved the life of a Grosse Pointe Woods man threatening suicide with a handgun.

■ Former Farms Councilmember Fran Schonenberg returns to her old stomping grounds all smiles, blushing and a little teary-eyed.

Schonenberg, who served six years on the city council, is invited back to council chambers for receipt of a proclamation from current city leaders.

"It was a good six years," Schonenberg said. "My family was brought up to serve the community."

March

■ The Grosse Pointe War Memorial accepts conditions of a challenge grant from the Nonprofit Facilities Center, and receives \$150,000 to help fund installation of a barrier-free elevator.

The community organization needs another \$150,000 to pay for the \$650,000 project. Ground breaking is expected this fall.

April

■ Local designer Robert Woods revises Fifth Third Bank's proposed branch on the Hill to evoke the community's French and English past.

Topping the two-story throwback to the Old Country is a gesture to the lakeside community in which Fifth Third officials are eager to make a splash: a copper sailboat weather vane.

Mayor James Farquhar calls Woods' design "excellent."

■ The Farms is rated one of the nation's top 100 places

to relocate.

Capping qualifications for inclusion in the Internet survey by Relocate-American.com, the Farms is chosen for having great people, beauty, safety, quality schools, activities, and being an affordable community in which to buy a house.

May

■ High-end condominiums are proposed to replace two houses at 50 and 60 Lakeshore owned by the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Memorial representatives and Monahan Co. developers said three structures each containing four condos would provide much-needed housing for Pointers wishing to downsize, remain in the community but not sacrifice creature comfort.

■ A week after plans for Lakeshore condominiums are announced, about 40 residents living near the proposed development sign a petition opposing the idea.

■ Plans move forward to construct a new community building at Pier Park.

City leaders want to replace the current 4,800-square-foot boat house with a larger facility that could handle more than one function at a time.

■ Members of the Grosse Pointe South High School Booster Club want to increase the number and broaden the scope of nighttime events held under the lights on the football field.

When the lights were approved six years ago, school officials agreed to a maximum six events per year.

Now, citing increased athletic participation by a greater number of students vying for limited facilities, the request for night events is increased to at least 30 or 40 events, including award ceremonies.

June

■ Critics of a lakeside condominium development aren't against the idea as long as the 102-year-old

house at 60 Lakeshore is preserved.

"If it's done in a way that preserves 60 Lakeshore, it could bring regional or even national acclaim to the city," said Michael Farley, chairman of the Grosse Pointe Farms Historic District Commission.

The commission was established five years ago by ordinance to safeguard the community's heritage.

■ Kathy Leikert, the Pointes' first female public safety officer, retires after a 28-year career with the Farms.

"It was a great time working here," Leikert said. "Twenty-eight years went by in a blink."

■ Council members grant school system administrators more than seven times more usage of lights ringing the Grosse Pointe South High School athletic field.

When the lights were installed during the mid-1990s, city officials limited their use to six times per year. This month the number is bumped up to 45 events to be held during the course of a school year.

July

■ Farms officials rescind an announced Aug. 1 deadline to charge evening parking in the municipal lot behind the Hill.

As things stand, parking will remain free for drivers entering the lot after 6 p.m. Drivers parking before 6 p.m. must pay a charge until 7 p.m.

■ The city council holds a special meeting to examine four designs for a community center at Pier Park.

The nod goes to Christopher Blake, Farms resident and owner of the hometown Blake Co. He expects to begin construction this fall.

Some \$250,000 of the building's estimated \$2.25 million cost has already been raised by the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation.

■ A 3.19 percent water rate increase will be used to fund system improvements, including rehabilitating 100-year-old fire hydrants and lining underground pipes to extend their service life.

August

■ Robert Kudla's coworkers have been offering him hero sandwiches ever since he saved an elderly married couple from drowning when their car was knocked 30 feet into Lake St. Clair near the foot of Moran.

"Anybody would have done the same thing," said Kudla, a 23-year employee of the public works department.

■ Roland Street will remain open at Mack Ave.

Members of the city council deny a request by some residents to close the street as a way to reduce traffic and speeding.

Instead, the police department becomes a temporary fixture in the area to make sure drivers understand the consequences of violating traffic laws.

September

■ A homeowner whose house is on the landlocked side of Lakeshore wants to fence in her property extending across the road to the Lake St. Clair shoreline.

Farms officials deny her request. They don't want to set a precedent that could transform a section of the area's most scenic street into a canyon of brick walls and wrought iron fences.

■ The existing community building at Pier Park is demolished to make way for a larger, more versatile facility.

Many components of the old facility are donated to Habitat for Humanity.

October

■ Farms Mayor James Farquhar opposes plans to locate condominiums at 50 and 60 Lakeshore.

"I'm not for it," Farquhar said. "I'll tell you flat out. We're a single-family owned community. There's no doubt a need for condos, but is that where you want to have them?"

Developers want to replace houses at 50 and 60 Lakeshore with three stand-alone structures each containing four luxury condominiums.

"As the plan stands now, I don't think I'd vote for it," Farquhar said.

■ Rep Edward Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms, presents a \$25,000 state grant to the city council to help fight emerald ash borer infestation.

Gaffney, the Farms' former mayor, requested the grant from the agriculture department.

Shortly after the invasive insect was discovered on the eastside two years ago, the Farms began injecting city-owned ash trees with insecticide. The program has worked exceptionally well and could become a model for other cities in the bug's expanding path.

November

■ The public works department won't collect oversized household rubbish bins starting next year.

"We've had quite a few injuries," said Ken Beaupre, supervisor.

Crews have been encountering an increasing number of mega-sized bins, many of the 52-gallon variety.

See FARMS, page 11A

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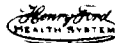
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Shores prompts regional water plant study during 2004

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Shores residents during 2004 approved more than \$3 million in bonds to fund improvements to village infrastructure.

Other projects for which study took place this year include renovating the harbor at Osius Park.

Of regional interest, Trustee Dr. Brian Hunt recommended exploring the practicality of constructing a separate suburban water treatment plant.

The Shores year in review:

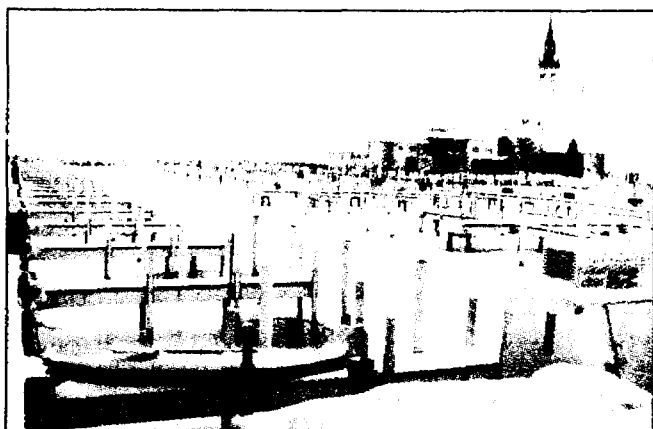


Photo by Brad Lindberg

There's not much activity these days around the ice machine at Osius Park, but Grosse Pointe Shores officials are preparing to renovate the municipal harbor shared with the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

January

■ At least one Grosse Pointe municipal customer of the Detroit Water Department isn't going with the flow.

Shores officials vote to join a consortium of eastside suburbs considering construction of its own water treatment plant.

"If we develop our own treatment facility, we will be able to determine our own destiny in the purchase of water," said, Dr. Brian Hunt, Shores trustee.

Hunt broached the idea of constructing a regional water plant a few months ago during casual conversation with Curt Dumas, mayor of St. Clair Shores.

■ Shores public safety officers are outfitted with Tasers. The battery operated stun guns manufactured by Taser International shoot bolts of electricity to shock uncooperative offenders into doing the right thing.

February

■ At 1.2 square miles, there's little room for crime in the Shores.

According to a 2003 crime summary released this month, part-two crimes, including but not limited to vandalism, drunken driving and assault, dropped 15 per-

cent from the year before.

■ Gary Mitchell, Shores chief of public safety, retires.

Mitchell began his law enforcement career 40 years ago as a policeman in Grosse Pointe Park. He joined the Shores 34 years ago.

■ Stephen Poloni is promoted to chief of public safety.

Poloni has been with the department 17 years.

March

■ Fluctuating temperatures from sub-freezing to mild means pot holes are having a field day. In response, road crews with the department of public works are busy applying about a yard of cold patch per day to village streets.

■ A trickle of interest becomes a wave of support for weighing the practicality of building a separate water filtration plant for eastside suburbs.

Backing from communities on the shores of Lake St. Clair to northern Oakland County opens the floodgates on an idea that would drain customers from the Detroit water department.

April

■ To finance next year's budget without a property tax rate increase, trustees might opt to issue general obligation bonds to finance big-ticket infrastructure improvements.

Special projects within the \$5.52 million budget include a \$200,000 resurfacing of Renaud and \$450,000 to replace old sewer lines under Lakeshore Lane and Shoreham.

■ Boaters are allowed to stay over night on their boats moored at Osius Park.

To accommodate the new privilege, a graveyard shift will be added to the park staff.

■ Consultants line up to evaluate the idea of building a suburban water filtration plant.

The Shores and 16 other representatives of the newly-formed Water System review Committee receive profiles from five engineering firms eager to perform a feasibility study.

May

■ Voters in August will be asked to approve approxi-

mately \$3.4 million in general obligation bonds to pay for infrastructure improvements, including street resurfacing and sewer line repairs.

■ Glen Peters is sworn in as a trustee of the Shores.

Peters takes a seat that became available when Trustee Jimmie Bloink Jr. decided not to seek reelection.

Also reelected are President Dr. James Cooper, trustees Dr. Brian Hunt and Fred Minturn, and City Clerk Victoria Boyce.

June

■ Ash trees growing on the Lakeshore median in the Shores are injected with Imidacloprid, a chemical Michigan State University studies say defeats emerald ash borers.

■ Household Hazardous Waste Day is a success at Osius Park.

Organizers praise Shores officials and employees for their efficient handling of the annual event, which is held on a rotating basis in different cities.

■ Trustees enact a proposal introduced in February to limit houses to three forward-facing garage doors.

July

■ Almost 750,000 people have tapped into Trustee Dr. Brian Hunt's idea of building a suburban water system.

"In my wildest dreams I never thought it would take off this well," said Hunt.

Twenty-three southern Michigan suburbs and com-

munities have joined a water system review committee to study the feasibility of breaking ties with the Detroit Water and Sewer Department and its steady stream of water price increases.

August

■ Paul Wendling, an employee of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, is awarded a civilian commendation by the Shores public safety department for actions the night of June 17.

Wendling, an Eastpointe resident, is responsible for alerting emergency responders to a fire in the club's basement laundry room. Firefighters credit Wendling's quick and proper action as the main reason officers were able to extinguish flames before spreading.

■ Residents revive the idea of constructing an activities building at Osius Park.

A similar recommendation five years ago raised a stir in the normally laid-back community and thrust council meetings from quiet to contentious.

"All the other parks (in the Grosse Pointes) are improving, but ours hasn't come up to the same level," said resident Tina Seely.

September

■ Some \$3.5 million in bonds are put on the market.

Voters approved the bonds last month to fund street resurfacing, sewer pipe lining and other improvements to the municipal infrastructure.

■ Injections are thwarting emerald ash borers from harming most ash trees being treated on village property in the Shores.

"Trees on the right-of-way that have been treated are looking quite healthy," said

2004 SOON in review

Brett Smith, head of public works.

October

■ Money from the \$3.5 million bond sale is put to use when resurfacing begins on Oxford, Renaud and Hawthorne.

November

■ A small but growing group of Shores residents continues marshaling support for improved recreational facilities at Osius Park, namely a year-round activities building.

"We don't have the new enhancements other parks have," said Dr. David Wu, a physician and father of two young children.

December

■ Some Shores elected office holders will serve extended terms due to changes in Michigan election laws.

"The next election for the village will now be September of 2007," said Mike Kenyon, village manager.

Changes result from a state law requiring cities to schedule elections in either September or November. The Shores had held municipal elections in May.

■ Three firms are asked to submit bids to renovate the marina at Osius Park.

Proposed changes include larger wells to accommodate wider boats. The end product would remain within the existing marina's current footprint. Bids are due for review in February 2005.

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French Custom	3 Styles	4 x 6	\$1175	\$297	\$147
Albaida	Natural Jute, Blue/Beige	7.10 x 10.9	\$725	\$499	\$177
Damask	French Lattice, Eggplant	5.3 x 7.7	\$675	\$399	\$197
Sherborne	Handtufted, Navy	5 x 8	\$1000	\$599	\$227
Ralph Lauren	Handtufted, Houndstooth-Loden	5.3 x 8.3	\$998	\$499	\$247
Meadow	Arts & Crafts	2.9 x 9.9	\$1325	\$799	\$247
Common Threads	Casual, All Wool, 2 Styles	5.7 x 7.11	\$1398	\$699	\$277
Sausillo	Joseph Abboud, Sage	5.6 x 8	\$1000	\$599	\$277
Belgium Masters	Wool, 3 Styles	8 x 8 rd.	\$1175	\$699	\$297
Kalahari	Handmade, Contemporary	5.6 x 8.6	\$1500	\$895	\$297
Patina	French, Aubousson, All Wool	6.7 x 9.9	\$1700	\$849	\$347
Milan	Handtufted, Contemporary, Jewel tones	8.6 x 11.6	\$1350	\$799	\$397
Khyber Pass	Traditional, 100% Wool	8 x 11	\$1350	\$799	\$397
River's Edge	3 Styles	9 x 9 rd.	\$1000	\$599	\$397
Nepalese Blocks	Handspun, 2 Colors	4 x 6	\$1350	\$799	\$397
Illusions	Transitional, Wool	8 x 11.3	\$2100	\$1249	\$497
Egyptian Bessarabian	Fine	2.6 x 10.1	\$2450	\$1339	\$647
Needlepoint	Francois, Black	8 x 10	\$4000	\$2299	\$687
Classic Persian	Handmade, 100% Wool, Black	7.9 x 9.9	\$2500	\$1495	\$797
Bessarabian Kilim	Semi-Antique	8 x 10	\$3550	\$2129	\$847
Egyptian Perpedil	Tribal, Handknotted	6.1 x 8.6	\$3150	\$1799	\$877
Egyptian Oushak	Dark Raspberry/Beige	8.4 x 10.10	\$6750	\$3995	\$997
Egyptian Tabriz	Subtle Cream	9.5 x 13	\$4400	\$2699	\$997
Egyptian Lavar	Fine, Ivory/Red	6 x 9	\$5125	\$2699	\$997
Indo Nomad	Traditional, Handknotted, Black/Gold	8 x 10	\$6475	\$3899	\$1167
Indo Basketweave	Knotted, Tibetan Weave, Charcoal	9 x 12	\$4850	\$2699	\$1197
Sino Ottoman	Push, Tea Washed	9.6 x 13.6	\$4675	\$2799	\$1297
Persian Heriz	Classic Heriz	9.6 x 13.4	\$7675	\$4599	\$1397
Indo Madrid	Ivory/Gold	8 x 10	\$3850	\$2499	\$1497
Egyptian Ghourm	Sage/Ivory	7.8 x 9.9	\$7325	\$3799	\$1697
Indus	Vegetable Dye, Navy/Rust	9.1 x 11.3	\$6350	\$3599	\$1797
Egyptian Sutanabad	Tribal, Earth Washed	11 x 15.3	\$13500	\$8395	\$1997
Viceroy II	Herbal Washed	9 x 12	\$11875	\$6999	\$2797
Egyptian Sarouk	Fine, Black/Ivory	9.10 x 13.7	\$12700	\$6899	\$2997

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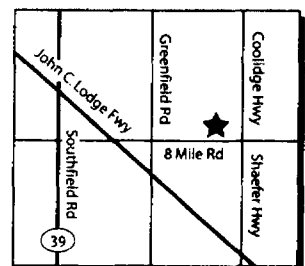
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G.P. South musicians named to Tri M national honor society

Tri M is a National Honorary Association and an affiliate of the Music Educational National Association which represents music students in kindergarten through college. Grosse Pointe South High School became a member in 2002-03 and completed its second full year as a chapter of Tri M.

Twenty-two Grosse Pointe South students were named to the honor society for 2004. Band students initiated were Lee Brooks, John Konen, Foster Chamberlin, Jennifer Paone and Cory Stanton.

Orchestra students were Julia Anderle, Betsy Lynch and George Tecos.

Choir students were Rob Brownell, Sarah Chavey, Kristen Dupuis, Sean

Grabowski, Natalie Humphry, Christopher Muhich, Tim Pawlowski, David Richardson-Rossbach, Kristen Saelens, Isabella Scofield, M. Davis Smith, Pete Stevens, Alicia Templeton, Christopher Vella.

Three members of South's band and orchestra program performed in the GPSHS Tri-M Chapter Winter concert on Nov. 17 in Clemenson Hall. Chris Peplin performed an original work on guitar. George Tecos performed the Max Bruch Violin Concerto and Suzanne Wrobel performed Italian Concerto Movement No. 3 by JS Bach on piano.

Tri M music honor society provides a means of national recognition and rewards for students based on their achievements and

service activities. One of its mission is to strengthen its member school's music program by increasing its visibility and prestige on a national level.

Another goal is to build awareness of the importance of music in schools and community through service and outreach. It provides leadership opportunities for music students and faculty.

Tri-M affiliate schools strive to increase teamwork among all members of music programs, including instrumental and vocal students and faculty.

Tri-M offers composition and performance opportunities for those students studying privately or interested in having their music compositions performed by peers in concert.

— Beth Quinn



Three Grosse Pointe South High School students performed solos in the Nov. 17 Tri M chapter concert. From left are guitarist Chris Peplin, violinist George Tecos and pianist Suzanne Wrobel.

G.P. South Interactors landscape Habitat houses

Grosse Pointe South High School's Interact Club wanted to make a donation to Habitat for Humanity for the cost of landscaping one house. The Interactors decided to raise funds by washing cars on Oct. 9. They pre-sold coupons to automobile owners in the area.

successful and the students raised more money than they originally pledged to Habitat. They donated enough money to purchase landscaping for several Habitat houses.

On Oct. 30, they presented the donation and helped with the landscaping. The students took part in

the home dedication with the Habitat staff and new homeowners who were elated and touched by the students' generosity.

Interact is sponsored by Grosse Pointe Rotary Club and does charitable work for local, state and international organizations.



Members of Grosse Pointe South's Interact club helping to landscape new Habitat for Humanity houses from left are Ana Moustardas, Courtney Graham and Carly MacInerney.

Local students in national Christmas show



Two Grosse Pointe Park residents, Joe Opperwall and Mark Grignon, both of whom attend Hoosac School in Hoosick, N.Y., participated in the school's 112th production of "Boar's Head and Yule Log," a nationally recognized pageant.

The play depicts how Elizabethan gentry and country folk celebrated the birth of Christ.

Opperwall is the son of Ted Opperwall and Kristine Gallen.

Grignon is the son of Dr. and Mrs. David Grignon.



Photo by Beth Quinn

Santa elves bring gifts to seniors

During the week of Dec. 20, young Santa's helpers made and delivered over 200 gift baskets to homebound seniors.

Services for Older Citizens held a workshop at the Neighborhood Club on Dec. 15 from 3 to 7 p.m. for children to fill and wrap the baskets with small gifts, toiletries and other goodies. The children fill their baskets by selecting items from boxes that were laid out throughout a meeting room at the club. The children are very particular about the items they put into their baskets.

"Some of the boys say that they only want things that a man would like," SOC's development director Suzanne Mondalek said.

When the baskets were completed, the children were given names of seniors to visit before Christmas.

"We don't want any senior to be alone during the holidays," Mondalek said. This was the fourth consecutive year that SOC has conducted the gift-giving programs.

Above, Carolina Blohm and her brother, Daniel, of Grosse Pointe Woods are getting ready to bring holiday cheer and their baskets filled with 'goodies to homebound seniors.

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North singers named to honors choir

Six Grosse Pointe High School North Choir students recently participated as members of the 2004-05 Michigan School Vocal Music Association Regional Honors Choir. They rehearsed and performed with over 100 singers from throughout Southeast Michigan on Dec. 4, 2004.

At that time, they also auditioned for MSVMA State Honors Choir. Ruvani Fonseka '06, Ben Gardner '06 and Alaina Whitney '07 were selected and will perform at the University of Michigan in January, 2005.

In the above picture, clockwise from top are, Ben Gardner '06, Ruvani Fonseka '06, Alaina Whitney '07, Courtney Wrubel '05, Jim Stano '07, Ben Lupo '05.

Beatrice's Goat inspires 5th-graders to help others

Maire Elementary School's fifth graders have been involved in a service project this fall that integrates many aspects of the social studies curriculum with their study of immigration and countries of ancestry.

The fifth grade teachers read the book "Beatrice's Goat" to the students. The book told the true story of a young African girl named Beatrice and her family who received a goat from Heifer International, a non-profit organization that works to end world hunger.

Beatrice's goat improved her family's life. This story connected with their study of different countries and cultures in the social studies

unit on Immigration and Countries of Ancestry.

While at Camp Howell for the annual fifth grade retreat, the students watched a video about Beatrice and learned more about various cultures around the world through the Global Village experience. The teachers related reading of Beatrice's Goat to the Global Village activities.

Upon returning from camp, the students began a community service project for Freedom House in Detroit. Freedom House helps to give new immigrants to the United States a place to stay, food to eat, and clothing to wear while they are beginning their new lives in America.

The 5th graders collected canned foods, toiletries, and clothing for the new immigrants at Freedom House. David Koelsch, a lawyer for Freedom House and Maire parent, took his friend, Mr. Iwando, who had benefited from the services of Freedom House a few years earlier when he first arrived from the Congo.

Iwando shared his many experiences of immigration and his native culture with the students. He studied law in the Congo but had to leave the country when the political situation became dangerous for him. Iwando currently teaches French at the University of Detroit.

— Beth Quinn

Students named semifinalists

Approximately 1,600 scholastically talented Black American high school seniors have been named Semifinalists in the 41st annual National Achievement Scholarship Program, including Maria Saliccioli of Grosse Pointe North High School and Barrett Young of University Liggett School.

These young men and women now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 800 Achievement Scholarship awards, worth some \$2.7 million, that will be offered next spring for

college undergraduate study.

The National Achievement Program, conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), is a privately financed activity that operates without government assistance. The program was initiated in 1964 to honor academically able black youth throughout the nation and provide scholarships to a substantial number of the most outstanding participants in each annual program.

In the 40 annual competitions completed to date, more than 25,000 Black American students have received Achievement Scholarship awards worth more than \$80 million.

Achievement Scholarship awards offered in 2005 will be supported by corporate organizations, professional associations, and NMSC's own funds. To be considered for a scholarship, semifinalists now must advance to the Finalist level of the competition by fulfilling several additional requirements.

All Achievement Scholarship winners will be selected from the Finalist group on the basis of their abilities, accomplishments, and potential for academic success in college.

More than 120,000 high school juniors from all parts of the U.S. entered the 2005 National Achievement Program by requesting consideration in the program when they took the 2003 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT). Semifinalists were desig-

nated within geographic regions and are the highest scoring program entrants in the states that make up each region.

Requirements to attain Finalist standing include having a record of high academic performance throughout high school, being endorsed and recommended by the school principal, earning SAT scores that confirm PSAT/NMSQT performance, and writing a self-descriptive essay.

The Semifinalist and a school official also must complete a scholarship application in which they provide information about the student's participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, and educational goals.

Approximately 1,300 Semifinalists are expected to advance to the Finalist level in the 2005 National Achievement Program, and some 800 will become Achievement Scholar designees.

Two types of Achievement Scholarship awards will be offered in 2005.

Every Finalist will be considered for one of 700 National Achievement \$2500 Scholarships that will be offered on a regional representation basis.

In addition, about 100 corporate-sponsored Achievement Scholarship awards will be financed by corporations, foundations, and professional associations for Finalists who meet criteria set by the grantor organization. NMSC will release winners' names to news media in late March.

IRS to teachers: save receipts

The Internal Revenue Service has advised teachers and other educators to save receipts for books and other classroom supplies. They will be able to deduct up to \$250 of such expenses again this year, following recently enacted legislation.

"The Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004 reinstated the educator expense deduction, which had expired at the end of last year, for both 2004 and 2005," said IRS Michigan spokesperson Sarah Wreford. "Expenses incurred any time this year may qualify for the deduction, not just those since the Act was signed on October 4."

Wreford said the deduction is available to eligible educators in public or private elementary or secondary schools. To be eligible, a person must work at least 900 hours during a school year as a teacher,

instructor, counselor, principal or aide.

"An educator may subtract up to \$250 of qualified out-of-pocket expenses when figuring adjusted gross income," Wreford said. "And the good news is that this deduction is available whether or not the taxpayer itemizes deductions on Schedule A."

"I suggest that educators keep records of qualifying expenses in a folder or envelope with a label such as 'Educator Expense Deduction,' noting the date, amount and purpose of each purchase," Wreford added. "This will help prevent a missed deduction at tax time."

For more information, call the IRS Tele-Tax system toll-free at (800) 829-4477 and select Topic 458; or go to the IRS Web site at irs.gov and use its search engine to find Tax Topic 458.

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ST. CLAIR SHORES

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Kitchen Cafe
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G. Willis Pizza Pub

31230 Harper

Gilbert's Lodge

22335 Harper

Jack's Waterfront

21214 Jefferson

Pat O'Brien's Bar

22365 E. 10 Mile Rd.

ST. CLAIR SHORES

Shore Crest Lanes
23117 Harper

Shores Inn

23410 Greater Mack Ave.

St. Clair Shores

Country Club

22185 Masonic Blvd.

WARREN

Hot Rock Cafe

24300 Hoover Rd.



www.michigan.gov/lottery

The deadline for the Schools pages is 3 p.m. Monday

Stolen checks

A Grosse Pointe Park man last week said checks stolen from his house during late November were cashed fraudulently at a bank in the City of Grosse Pointe.

"(He) stated he never signed the checks, and the signatures on (them are) forged," said City police. Losses totaled \$480.

Lost & found

A Village store employee on Monday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m., turned into City of Grosse Pointe police six \$20 bills, an inhaler and other items found on the 17000 block of a Kercheval sidewalk.

Credit fraud I

A City of Grosse Pointe woman thinks a thief obtained her credit card number on the Internet and charged two fraudulent transactions Friday, Dec. 17. She's been billed for a \$24.42 purchase at a Detroit service station at Gratiot and Eight Mile. A \$281.10 charge also was made at a store in Sterling Heights.

Credit fraud II

On Tuesday, Dec. 21, a woman from the City of Grosse Pointe reported nine recent instances of unknown thieves using her credit card fraudulently. Charges totaled \$1,206.

Retribution

A Southgate man is suspected of vandalizing a car parked in the upper lot of a City of Grosse Pointe hospital on Tuesday, Dec. 21, at about 3 p.m.

The man was reportedly upset that access to his 2004 Chevrolet Malibu was impeded by another driver. A witness heard the man complaining on a cellular telephone about another car parked "three inches" from his vehicle.

The man reportedly said on the phone, "Watch this," and proceeded to bang the driver-side door of his car three times against the left rear panel of the other vehicle, saying "oops" each time. Police traced the damaged vehicle to a woman from Fair Haven.

Tipsy kayaker

Three men, including a Grosse Pointe Farms police lieutenant, hauled a waterlogged and hypothermic female kayaker out of icy Lake St. Clair off Pier Park on Sunday, Dec. 19, at about 2:30 p.m.

"Alcohol was apparently involved in the incident," police said.

Police said they discovered the rescue subject, a 61-year-old Grosse Pointe Park woman, clutching the municipal marina's south breakwall. An empty kayak floated about 200 yards to the south.

Police said landing the woman was complicated by numbing temperatures that sapped hand strength. Also, her wet suit was heavy with water.

Medics took her to an eastside hospital where her body temperature reportedly measured 93 degrees.

Farms officers are investigating how the woman and five friends were admitted to the residents-only park as guests of a Harper Woods woman.

Police said only three of the six park-goers launched kayaks. A male kayaker from White Lake supported the woman at water level while the lieutenant and a male kayaker from Belleville used a rope to raise her over the breakwall.

Jewels taken from GPF home

On Monday, Dec. 20, a woman told Grosse Pointe Farms police unknown thieves sometime between August and October stole \$21,100 worth of jewelry from her house in the first block of Vendome.

Missing items consisted of a woman's gold Rolex watch,

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

diamond ring and earrings.

Bad break

On Wednesday, Dec. 22, at 1:45 p.m., a 31-year-old City of Grosse Pointe woman was sitting in the back seat of a 2001 Dodge van parked behind stores in the 10000 block of Mack near Moross when someone smashed a side tinted window.

"She believed the person who broke the window may have not known anyone was in the vehicle," police said. She described the suspect as someone wearing a navy blue jacket.

Where are the parents?

An 18-year-old Grosse Pointe Farms female with a record of alcohol abuse was arrested Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 1:46 a.m., for drunken driving in Grosse Pointe Woods.

A patrolman stopped her driving a Ford Taurus traveling 15 mph in the parking lane of eastbound Mack near Kerby.

The teen denied drinking. "I can't get in trouble," she reportedly told the officer. "I have three MIPs (minor in possession citations) on my record. Drive me home."

Officers measured her blood alcohol level at .162 percent. Records showed previous offenses occurred on May 30 in St. Clair Shores and July 17 in Grosse Pointe Park.

Police cited a 17-year-old female passenger from Grosse Pointe Woods for refusing to take a Breathalyzer test and being a minor in possession of alcohol. An 18-year-old male passenger from the Woods was released at the scene.

Gifts stolen

Sometime between 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24, and 1 p.m. the following day, someone stole \$850 worth of Christmas presents from a 2003 Dodge pickup parked on the street in the 400 block of McKinley in Grosse Pointe Farms. Thieves entered the vehicle by breaking a side window.

Flames were out when officers arrived. Damage was limited to the fireplace area and ceiling. Sgt. Bill Nicholson, acting fire marshal, said smoke damage extended throughout the dwelling.

Loud mouth

Grosse Pointe Farms police returned to familiar territory when responding to a noise complaint Friday, Dec. 24, at 2:34 a.m., in the 420 block of Colonial Court.

"Since (the 27-year-old male resident) moved into (the house) in June 2004, police have been called to his residence on noise complaints three prior times," police said.

In the latest case, officers described hearing loud noises and profanity ascribed to the "highly intoxicated" resident yelling at party guests for making noise.

Police cited the man for violating a noise ordinance.

Snowman vandalized

Two unknown young males are suspected of vandalizing Christmas decorations displayed outside a house on Lochmoor in Grosse Pointe Shores.

On Thursday, Dec. 23, at about 11 p.m., a resident investigating suspicious noises saw the pair trespass on his front lawn before driving away in a dark sports utility vehicle.

The resident discovered his large inflatable snowman had been damaged, with two of four tie-downs released. In addition, an illuminated candy cane bordering the driveway was broken in half.

Gas on tap

On Friday, Dec. 24, at about 5 p.m., Grosse Pointe Shores police said a DTE employee investigating a report of natural gas at a house in the 700 block of Lakeshore determined the problem was methane gas coming from a wet bar.

Won't evict

Grosse Pointe Shores police will let the courts decide what to do with a man living on Fontana who refused to accept an eviction notice on Thursday, Dec. 23, at 11 a.m.

A public safety officer assigned to deliver the notice said the man refused to handle the papers. When the officer deposited the notice inside a storm door, the resident reportedly threw it back.

Civic clobbered

Someone smashed out a back window and damaged the roof of a blue 2003 Honda Civic parked at the corner of Charlevoix and Blairmoor in Grosse Pointe Woods sometime between 11 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 20, and 1:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 21.

Cards, cash stolen

A Harrison Township man believes two women took two credit cards and about \$15 in cash from his wallet in a store in the 20600 block of Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods on Tuesday, Dec. 21.

The man said the women were the only people in the store at about 6:45 p.m. He said his wallet was originally on a counter top and was later found with its contents empty in the bathroom after the women left.

Reindeer sacked

Two decorative reindeer with lights and moving heads were reported missing from a house in the 600 block of Fairford in Grosse Pointe Woods at 9:13 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 21.

Cops catch suspected decor thieves

On Tuesday, Dec. 21, Grosse Pointe Woods public safety officers arrested four teens believed to be involved in a two-day spree of Christmas decoration thefts. During a search of a gray 2002 Chevrolet station wagon of which officers had been told to be on the lookout, officers found six baby Jesus statues and nine candy cane ornaments.

Arrested were the driver, a 17-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods male and a 15-year-old Royal Oak boy and two 16-year-old Harper Woods boys. They were charged with possession of stolen property and returned to their parents.

Sponge Bob squashed

After hearing a loud bang outside of his house at 9:55 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22, a resident in the 700 block of Hidden Lane in Grosse Pointe Woods looked outside to see his family's Sponge Bob Square Pants holiday decoration deflated and two juveniles fleeing on

Drunk on ice

A 41-year-old Fraser man was arrested for drunken driving Sunday, Dec. 19, at 2:51 a.m., in Grosse Pointe Shores.

Police said the man was speeding a red 1998 Mercury four-door 12 mph over the limit during icy conditions on northbound Lakeshore near Vernier.

The man reportedly had a blood alcohol level of .19 percent.

Tires slashed

A Grosse Pointe Farms resident said the two front tires of her 2003 Mini Cooper were slashed while the car was parked in a lot in the 20300 block of Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods sometime between 7 and 8:20 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Drunken driving arrest

A 48-year-old Detroit man was arrested for drunken driving after Grosse Pointe Woods public safety officers spotted his damaged gray 2003 Jeep on the grass median on Vernier and

Mack at 1:14 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 20.

The driver, who appeared disoriented and confused, told officers his car was hit while parked in a parking lot on the southwest corner of Mack and Vernier. He also claimed to be coming home from a friend's house but did not know what road he was on.

Because the driver had a hard time keeping his balance, field sobriety tests could not be conducted. Also, because of errors reported on a PBT, the driver was taken to a nearby hospital to have blood drawn for a drug and alcohol screening.

The man's Jeep was also believed to have been involved in three car crashes in the 16000 block of Seven Mile in Detroit where a piece of the Jeep was believed to have been found.

Flaming oil burns 12-year-old boy

The children were outside when the first officer arrived with a hand-held fire extinguisher.

"While removing the pin from the fire extinguisher, the handle fell off and (I) was not able to discharge any dry chemical into the fire," said the officer. He removed the burning pot from the house.

"After the pot was removed, fire was observed on the walls and ceiling of (the) landing," said the officer. "Heavy black smoke was (in) the rear of the kitchen."

Other officers arrived to put out the flames. Medics took the boy to the emergency room at Bon Secours Hospital before transfer to the burn unit at Detroit Children's Hospital. He was released on Christmas Eve.

Ron Wieczorek, City fire inspector, ruled the fire accidental. Wieczorek said the boy had become distracted playing video games while heating the oil.

neighbors clearing the season's first big snowfall off their sidewalks and driveways.

An ordinance in Grosse Pointe Woods prohibits the use of snowblowers before 7:30 a.m.

Two 14-year-old juveniles from Detroit were arrested for stealing mail from a mail slot from a house in the 1400 block of Devonshire in Grosse Pointe Park on Thursday, Dec. 23.

A mail carrier saw the boys take the mail from the slot at about 2 p.m. Park officers apprehended the boys and the mail. The boys were then turned over to their parents.

Two unknown individuals made off with \$20 in donations to a charity on Friday, Dec. 24.

The individuals came into a restaurant in the 1200 block of Beaconsfield in Grosse Pointe Park at about 9 p.m. to place a carry-out order.

It is believed the two individuals left with a canister mostly filled with quarters that was left on a counter. They did not return to pick up their orders.

A silver 2003 Dodge four-door truck was taken from a driveway of a house in the 20000 block of Balfree in Grosse Pointe Woods sometime between midnight and 6 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 26.

Living room fire

A resident managed to put out a small fire in the living room of a house in the 1100 block of Berkshire in Grosse Pointe Park at 9:28 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 26.

Firefighters responded anyway to make sure the fire hadn't extended into the walls or other parts of the house.

— Bonnie Caprara

City of **Grosse Pointe Farms**, Michigan
SPECIAL NOTICE
Rubbish Schedule for New Years 2005
 There will be no interruptions of residential or commercial rubbish pick up during the New Years week.
 However:
All Rubbish Routes regularly scheduled for Friday, December 31, 2004 will be collected before 11:00 a.m. Please have trash ready by 7:00 a.m.
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The forceful 2004 Durango 4x4 SLT Hemi

By Greg Zyla

"Can you say Hemi?" Sure, because we're test-driving the 2004 Dodge Durango SLT 4x4 with the powerful Hemi engine — base price: \$30,945; price as tested: \$35,680.

The Hemi is Chrysler's performance statement that dates back to the '50s, when powerful Hemi Red Ram engines of all sizes powered hot rods and dragsters across the United States.

Today, the 5.7-liter 2004 version of the famed engine is quite a bit different, yet still produces the spirited performance its legacy dictates.

Durango has been cleverly redesigned for 2004, resulting in a more forceful look. The new Durango is 7 inches longer and 3 inches wider than the preceding model, and also boasts bigger interior numbers in head, leg, hip and shoulder room for driver and passengers.

There continues to be seating for seven with the added third-row seat and plenty of cargo room with various folding seat arrangements.

It's under the hood, however, where we find the most interesting item: the Hemi engine. The 5.7-liter (345-inch) Magnum Hemi V-8 churns out 345 horsepower and 375 pound-feet of torque. Featured are electronic throttle control, aluminum cylinder heads, hemispherical combustion chambers, 9.6-1 compression ratio and two spark plugs per cylinder to burn fuel more efficiently. It costs another \$895, but if towing a boat or hauling seven passengers is in your future, it's your best choice.

Our 4x4 mid-level SLT Durango came with the \$1,515 Customer Preferred

Package, which mated beautiful 8-inch cast aluminum wheels to 17-inch standard tires. Other package items include a great-sounding eight-speaker, six-disc, 288-watt stereo system; overhead console; cargo net; security features; and lighted vanity mirrors, to name a few.

The cabin has also been redesigned. The dashboard is new, and better designed seats provide more support to the left and right and also for the back and thighs. The view of the road for driver and passenger is excellent, and all safety items expected nowadays are included in the base price. As for the air conditioning system, don't fret. You won't have to pay extra for the rear passenger air ducts and controls — it's all standard.

Durango comes standard with dual-stage front air bags with occupant-sensing system. Durango also offers a side-curtain air bag option that covers all three rows, but our tester did not include this feature. We recommend it, however, as air bags do save lives. As for traction control, you'll have to shell out another \$300, but we also recommend it as part of a great standard four-wheel disc-brake ABS system.

The on-road experience is very good, with comfort and power readily available. Our tester had a 3.92 ratio rear end for better towing and acceleration, although don't expect this Hemi to put you back in your seat like a muscle car. Durango is too heavy, but rest assured this Hemi will get you there with

authority.

Important numbers include a 119.2-inch wheelbase, 5,117-pound curb weight, 27-gallon fuel tank, 8,700-pound towing capacity with the \$525 towing group, and 13 mpg city and 18 mpg highway EPA numbers.

The final tally came in at \$35,680 with all options and destination charge, but Dodge is offering \$3,500 cash back, so check it out. It's worth a drive.

Can we say Hemi? Sure, and we'll rate this Durango an eight on a scale of one to 10, with 10 the highest. It's sweet.

Likes: Hemi engine, comfort, build quality, looks.

Dislikes: Traction control not standard, fuel mileage, a bit too heavy.

— King Features Syndicate



You Auto Know
by Tom Fraser & Keith Baer
Sales Managers

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HINT: A fuse is simply an intentional "weak spot" in the electrical circuit, which affords protection against overheating or damaging other electrical components.

'04 Mazda MPV: a large sport wagon

By Greg Zyla

We test drove Mazda's redesigned 2004 MPV ES minivan — base price: \$28,230; price as tested: \$31,645. According to the Mazda press kit, the MPV "would be more accurately called a large sport wagon with seating for seven than a run-of-the-mill, grocery-carting minivan." We tend to agree after a week-long test drive.

Outwardly, the MPV has been nicely redone for 2004. The standard 17-inch all-season tires on alloy wheels are especially noteworthy, giving the MPV more of a "sports" feel than a minivan cruiser.

Inside, driver and passenger comfort are enhanced thanks to new seat and trim upholstery, as well as new headrest designs for the four captain's chairs. Rear air conditioning is also standard, along with a new



2004 Mazda MPV

"spring-assist" that is added to the third-row seat for easier operation. There is adjustable lumbar support on the driver's seat, nice three-spoke steering wheel, driver- and passenger-side sun-visor extensions, a standard in-dash six-disc CD changer and front-door storage pockets with bottle holders.

Other interior notables include Mazda's exclusive Side-by-Slide seating arrangement that allows seats to not only move fore and aft, but also together to form a bench seat when necessary.

Additionally, ES models receive a standard nine-speaker, 180-watt audio system with subwoofer. Our MPV also featured the "home theater" ceiling-mounted DVD entertainment system for \$1,200 more, a welcome addition, especially on those longer trips. It plays DVD, MP3 and other audio files and features two infrared headphones, a 7-inch-wide screen, handheld remote control and outputs for video games and camcorders.

In the safety category, the Mazda MPV scores high, with a five-star rating in the

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's New Car Assessment Program in frontal and side-impact collisions. Other safety-related features include advanced dual-stage air bags, front passenger-side centralized door lock switch and large B-pillar assist grips (ES models). All MPVs come with four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes as standard. A traction control system is available at extra cost.

Under the hood sits a reliable, albeit just adequate, Ford-designed 3.0-liter 24-valve V-6 delivering 200 horsepower. The transmission is a five-speed automatic that supplies smooth shifts in daily driving, or full-throttle redline upshifts when needed. Most competing minivans utilize four-speed automatics.

Underneath, MPV's suspension features four, not two, MacPherson struts with a large stabilizer bar in the rear to minimize roll tendency (lean) when heavily loaded. We applaud Mazda engineers for the four struts, which give excellent cornering results while lessening road noise.

On the road, get ready for

a "non-minivan" experience. MPV hugs the corners very well, accelerates adequately and has that certain "sporty" feel built in. The driver receives good feedback from the road, thanks to MPV's shorter and narrower dimensions. The disc brakes stop this mini better than any we've tested, and although the four struts make the ride a bit stiffer, we like it that way.

Important numbers include a wheelbase of 111.8 inches, cargo volume of 17.2 to 151.9 cubic feet (depending on seating arrangement), a 19.8-gallon fuel tank (regular fuel), 3,000-pound towing capacity with the four-seasons towing package for \$425 extra, 3,772-pound curb weight and EPA numbers of 18 mpg city and 25 mpg highway.

We recommend the Mazda MPV in the minivan class, especially for those who like driving excitement. We rate it a strong eight on a scale of one to 10.

Likes: Handling, excellent brakes, safety factor, looks, cargo space.

Dislikes: V-6 is underpowered when fully loaded, optional traction control should be standard.

Prius

From page 17

with an EPA preliminary mileage estimate of 60 miles per gallon city and 51 mpg highway. The "reversed" EPA numbers result from the gas/electric powertrain combining for maximum efficiency in stop-and-go driving.

The electronic continuously variable transmission does not have fixed gear ratios, providing infinitely variable ratios for all driving conditions. When Prius is coasting or the brakes are applied, the electric motor functions as a generator, capturing kinetic energy normally lost as heat and converting it into usable electricity for battery recharge. The driver does not feel the vehicle changing operational modes it blends power from the gasoline engine, the electric drive motor and the generator.

Built on a new assembly platform with an extended wheelbase of 106.3 inches, the Prius offers a smoother ride and better interior dimensions. The increased passenger and cargo space move the Prius from the

EPA "compact" to the "mid-size" class. Rear cargo room comes in at 16.1 cubic feet, nearly as much as sibling Camry's trunk capacity. The curb weight is 2,980 pounds.

Also new is a modern five-door lift-back design. Prius is one of the most aerodynamic production vehicles with a super-low 0.26 drag coefficient that helps minimize interior noise and boost fuel mileage. Overall, we like its contemporary look very much.

As for safety, features include three-point seat belts for all rear-seating positions and two-step dual front air bags, with optional driver and passenger side and curtain air bags available. The brakes are standard anti-lock with discs up front and drums in the rear.

The steering wheel features finger controls for air conditioning and a fine-sounding deluxe AM/FM/CD audio system with six speakers. Also standard are cruise control, heated side mirrors, power windows and door locks, and remote keyless entry. A new by-wire shift control replaces the traditional gearshift lever and

allows tap-of-the-finger shifting using a small joystick mounted on the dash. The seats are comfortable, thus we give the interior an "A" all around.

Our tester came with the \$1,100 "Package 4" option that includes Homelink security, intermittent rear wiper and a unique smart entry and start system that senses when you're coming toward the car with the keys in your pocket.

We're giving the Prius a perfect 10 on a scale of one to 10, with 10 highest. We took it on several longer trips, and never once encountered any road situation that it couldn't handle. It deserves the rating, and is only the second car this year to receive perfection. Well done, Toyota.

Likes: Price, looks, room, power, 90-percent fewer smog emissions than internal combustion cars, mpg ratings.

Dislikes: Waiting list is long, so order today.

— King Features Syndicate

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GPW 2004

From page 12A

and tenants as Kelly proposed, the ordinance does call for biannual inspections and issuances of certificates of approval.

However, there was some criticism in the process of events that led to the new ordinance. A questionable agenda had been distributed the weekend of July 17-18 to council members calling for a special meeting to discuss the ordinance on Wednesday, July 21. City Clerk Louise Warnke issued a statement on Monday, July 19, that she did not issue a special meeting notice. However, paperwork submitted by council members Patricia Chylinski and Lisa Pinkos Howle on July 19 did allow for a special meeting to take place on July 21.

On July 1, Sunrise Development announced plans to construct a second senior assisted living center in Grosse Pointe Woods.

The second center, located on Vernier just east of Mack, will house about 38 residents with early-onset dementia-related problems. Construction has not yet started.

Meanwhile, construction is nearly complete on Sunrise's first senior assisted living center on the corner of Mack and Brys. It is expected the first of its 58 residents will move in by the first part of 2005.

Grosse Pointe Woods had its share of welcoming of VIPs to the community during 2004.

On Aug. 2, Alfred Aramouni, one of 12 mayors of Beirut, Lebanon, paid a visit to the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council. He is the father of Woods resident Tania Ghanem.

Detroit Red Wings right wing Darren McCarty paid a visit to the Woods in October to accept a \$1,742 donation made by Woods lifeguards to the McCarty Cancer Center. The money was raised by the life guards in August through a lifeguard-a-thon, a dunk tank at the city pool and a donation collection.

After winning an Olympic gold medal for her performance in the United States 800-meter freestyle relay team, Grosse Pointe Woods resident Carly Piper was welcomed by at least 120

people at a homecoming celebration on Dec. 20 at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center. She also received proclamations from the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council and the state House of Representatives.

While this year's primary election was considered lackluster by many voters, it was a watershed moment for Grosse Pointe Woods in which its residents decided to overturn a city charter provision that had previously restricted the number of Class C liquor licenses that could be issued.

The state allows the Woods to issue 11 Class C licenses, a number based on population. However a city charter provision previously limited that number to seven. Request for additional available licenses would have to be approved by a majority of the voters.

This was the first time a referendum had been placed on the ballot by the city council. The last time voters chose to increase the number of Class C licenses was in 1986. A later attempt to place a referendum on the ballot failed in 2002 when a citizen initiative led by Councilwoman Patricia Chylinski and then city council candidate Dona DeSantis Reynolds did not properly obtain enough signatures.

To deal with a potential flood of requests for Class C licenses, the city council decided to pass an ordinance that would outline what the its process would be in considering applicants. A first reading of such an ordinance was heard on Dec. 20. If adopted at its Jan. 5 meeting, the council could begin to receive applications from at least five known interested parties by the end of January.

A lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of a Grosse Pointe Woods resident proved successful in repealing a section of an ordinance governing the timing of placement of political lawn signs.

Third Circuit Judge John O'Meara imposed a temporary restraining order against the Woods on Sept. 27, which allowed residents to post election signs in front of their houses more than 30 days before an election.



Detroit Red Wings right wing Darren McCarty visited Grosse Pointe Woods in October to accept a check from the Woods lifeguards for the McCarty Cancer Foundation. He is pictured with Parks and Recreation Supervisor Melissa Sharp and Mayor Robert Novitke.



While on break from studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Grosse Pointe Woods resident and Olympic gold medalist Carly Piper was treated to a homecoming at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center on Dec. 20. She is pictured with Mayor Robert Novitke and state Rep. Edward Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms.



A portion of an 800-foot-long section of high-density polyethylene pipe is prepared to be bored under a section of the Mack median at Oxford in May.

The suit was later settled agreement to strike a provision of court upon the Woods' sion banning such signs

until 30 days prior to an election.

After two years, work finally ended in early October on replacing a water main that runs along Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Now about 2.2 miles of 12- to 20-inch high-density polyethylene pipe runs under the median on Mack.

"The old pipe was 75 years old and was made of cast iron and was prone to breakage," Director of Public Works Joseph Ahee said. "We now have better pressure and better flow for residents, businesses and fire fighters."

Businesses, drivers and nearby residents commended the city for construction plans that limited disruption to vehicle traffic, parking and access to businesses on Mack, and few and short interruptions of water service.

The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council appointed two new additions to its city administration staff.

Former St. Clair Shores City Manager Mark Wollenweber was chosen to serve as city administrator.

Wollenweber, who had 13 years experience with St. Clair Shores, also served as city manager for Huntington Woods from 1978 to 1990.

Wollenweber was selected by the council by a 6-1 vote on Sept. 23 and started work about a month later.

A few weeks after selecting Wollenweber, the council selected Kathleen Paul to serve as city assessor.

Paul had come to the Woods earlier in the year to serve as an assistant city assessor. In April, she was named acting city assessor upon the retirement of William Knapp, who served as city assessor for 13 years.



Mark Wollenweber

DTE Energy has begun to shed some light on problems with power outages in the north central section of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Residents and businesses of a one square-mile area bordered by Mack, Aline, Marter and Vernier have complained of more frequent and longer than usual power outages in that section of the city. There were two such outages reported on Aug. 3 and a 25-hour outage that occurred the weekend of Oct. 24-25.

On Dec. 20, DTE Energy told city officials that faulty cables, which have either been fixed or in the process of being fixed, were to blame.

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Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Robert Novitke, center right, and the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council gave a VIP welcome to Alfred Aramouni, one of 12 mayors of Beirut, Lebanon, in August. Aramouni was in the Woods visiting his daughter, Tania Ghanem, right of Novitke.

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Clara E. Bothe

Clara E. Bothe, 77, of Grosse Pointe Farms died on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004, after a long illness.

Mrs. Bothe was born on June 14, 1927, in Detroit to Theodore and Herta (Daehn) Kreig.

On Sept. 3, 1949, she married Carlheinz Bothe. She worked in the Grosse Pointe area as a secretary until the age of 75.

Mrs. Bothe is survived by her children, Erik (Donna) Bothe of Harper Woods and Lisa (Marvin) Wittig of Northport; her seven grandchildren, Kelly, Karl, Gretchen, Heidi, Erik, Maximilian and Emmaline; and her four great-grandchildren, Jerry, Kody, Zachery and Ryder.

She was predeceased by her husband, Carlheinz Bothe.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 8, at Grosse Pointe United Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospices of Henry Ford, Bon Secours Cottage Health Services, P.O. Box 02220, Detroit, MI 48202-0220.



Marjorie Osborne Brink

Marjorie Osborne Brink

Marjorie Osborne Brink, 86, of Grosse Pointe died on Friday, Dec. 17, 2004.

Though her family home was in the small east Texas town of Bethany, she was born May 22, 1918 in Shreveport, La., where she attended elementary and high schools.

Mrs. Brink graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Science degree in education. During her college years, she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. She made friends easily, and was admired and loved by many. The student body elected her as one of the 10 most popular and beautiful "Blue Bonnet Belles" on campus. After graduation, she taught admiring and devoted third graders in a little country school in Greenwood, La.

She and her college sweetheart, Bill O. Brink, were married in Shreveport on Feb. 8, 1941. Later, they made their home in Grosse Pointe; and were happily married for almost 64 years.

During her lifetime, Mrs. Brink was active with the Women's Association of Goodwill Industries and served on many committees. Her favorite was the annual Goodwill Industries Antiques show for which she served one year as co-chairman. She was an active member of the Village Garden Club of Grosse Pointe and the Libri Club. She enjoyed gardening,

flower arranging for friends, golf and bowling in her younger years. She was an avid bridge player and enjoyed playing in charitable tournaments with friends.

She is survived by her husband, Bill O. Brink; her son, Barrett O. (Ann) Brink of Grosse Pointe Farms; her daughter, Dianne Brink (Donald) Flanigan of Santa Barbara, Calif.; her grandchildren, Nicole (Guthrie) Paterson of New York, N.Y., Kirby Sanders Brink, Barrett O. Brink II, Hadley Brink, Emery Brink and Shaw MacAdam Talley of Santa Barbara, Calif., who recently returned from Paraguay as a Peace Corps volunteer; her brothers-in-law, Glenn H. Brink of Heritage Village, Southbury, Conn. and John Earl (Suzanne) Brink of St. Petersburg, Fla.; her sister-in-law, D'Arlene Brink Llewellyn of Sarasota, Fla., and 13 nieces and nephews.

A private memorial for family was conducted at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. Mrs. Carol B. Marks, Director of Pastoral Ministries, a longtime personal friend of the family, conducted the ceremony and spreading of the ashes in the columbarium garden at the church.

A memorial service for her many dear and loving friends will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 1 p.m. in the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, a hospice or a charity of one's choice.



Karen Zita Burt

Karen Zita Burt

Karen Zita Burt, 66, died on Saturday, Dec. 25, 2004, in her home in Harper Woods.

Mrs. Burt was born on May 11, 1938, in Detroit to Henry C. and Rhoda (Lenz) Giessler. She graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1955.

Her last employed position was as a private in-home care nurse in the Grosse Pointe area. She was a creator and artist of miniatures at Dreams Come True in St. Clair Shores. She was previously employed at Johnstone and Johnstone Realty, and as a secretary for Latrobe Steel Corp.

She was a local artist who painted and worked on art and craft projects. She also worked on miniature doll houses. She was actively involved in the restoration of doll houses at the Detroit Historical Museum, and a member of the National Association Miniature Enthusiasts and the Detroit Association Miniature Enthusiasts.

Her interests also included skating, dancing and

hydroplane races. She had a passion for all animals, especially her dogs. She was an avid collector of teddy bears.

She is survived by her daughters, Thayer C. Cueter and Jenna L. Carroll; her sons, Richard Burt, Charles Burt and Darren Burt; her grandchildren, Courtney Carroll, Katelyn Carroll and Ashley Carroll; and her former husband, Richard Burt.

She is predeceased by her parents, Henry and Rhoda Giessler.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, Dec. 30, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods. Visitation will start at 3 p.m., followed by the service at 4 p.m. Interment will be in Woodmere Cemetery, 9400 Fort St., Detroit.

Memorial contributions may be made to the "Frog Fur Friends" Fundraiser for the Grosse Pointe Woods Animal Adoption Society, 900 Cook Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 and to the Humane Society of Macomb County, 11350 22 Mile, Utica, MI 48317.



Wayne L. DeFour

Wayne L. DeFour

Wayne L. DeFour, 49, of the City of Grosse Pointe died on Monday, Dec. 20, 2004, at the Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit.

Mr. DeFour was born on June 28, 1955, to Morris and Margaret DeFour in Detroit.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Georgetown University in 1977 and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Detroit in 1983.

As both an attorney and certified public accountant, he built and operated a successful joint practice in Grosse Pointe Woods for over 20 years. He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, Michigan Bar Association and American Association of Attorney C.P.A.s.

Being of Belgian heritage, he had a passion for all things Belgian. He was an active member of the Belgian American Association and the Belgian American Century Club.

One of Mr. DeFour's top priorities was serving the community of Grosse Pointe that had provided him with so many opportunities. He had been active in a wide number of groups, including the Grosse Pointe Jaycees, Grosse Pointe Exchange Club, treasurer of the Gabriel Richard Elementary School P.T.O. and member of Our Lady Star of the Sea School Board.

After graduating from Austin Catholic Preparatory High School in 1973, he remained active in alumni activities, including serving as chairman of the class reunion committee.

He loved the game of baseball, serving as a coach for the Grosse Pointe Farms/City Little League and leading the DeFour Insurance Agency softball team. Bowling was a lifetime passion. As a member of the Detroit Athletic Club, he actively participated in its bowling leagues. He was also an avid golfer and sailor.

His natural storytelling abilities, strong sense of humor and engaging personality enabled him to bring together diverse groups, and

was a primary factor in his significant professional and personal achievements.

He is survived by his wife, Debra A. Simon DeFour; his children, Renee C., Anne C. and Daniel H. DeFour; his brothers, Brian (Sandra) DeFour of Grosse Pointe Woods and Ralph (Jan) DeFour of Grosse Pointe Woods; and his sister, Maureen (Frank) Neuhaus of Bradenton, Fla.

He was predeceased by his parents, Morris and Margaret DeFour.

A memorial Mass was celebrated on Dec. 23, at St. Paul Catholic Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Foundation, 18831 West 12 Mile Road, Lathrup Village, MI 48076-9806.



Marissa DiStefano

Marissa DiStefano

Marissa DiStefano, 15, of Grosse Pointe Woods died suddenly on Sunday, Dec. 26, 2004.

Miss DiStefano was born on April 10, 1989, in Grosse Pointe to Frank and Marianne DiStefano. She was a sophomore at Grosse Pointe North High School.

She is survived by her parents, Frank and Marianne DiStefano; her brothers, Jimmy DiStefano and Joey DiStefano; her grandparents, Catherine DiStefano, and Joe and Angie Bartoletti; and her great-grandmother, Maria Vivona.

She was predeceased by her grandfather, Jimmy DiStefano.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, Dec. 30, at noon, preceded by an in-state visitation at 11 a.m. at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. Interment will be at White Chapel Cemetery in Southfield.



Jane Decker Kohring

Jane Decker Kohring

Jane Decker Kohring, 91, of Grosse Pointe Farms died on Friday, Dec. 24, 2004.

Mrs. Kohring was born on April 16, 1913, in Bay City. She was the daughter of John Rocky and Norma (Lieberman) Decker. Her stepmother was Charlotte (Henze) Decker.

She was a graduate of the Liggett School in Indian Village, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from Wellesley College in 1936.

She was married to Henry Kohring in 1936. They were married for 51 years before his death in 1987. They had four children.

An avid nature photographer and bird watcher, she enjoyed sharing her knowledge with others through field trips and slide shows. She was an active member

of the Grosse Pointe Garden Club, Junior League of Detroit, and Tau Beta Association. She also enjoyed art, music, literature and flower arranging. She spent her summers in Pinewoods Association on the north shore of Higgins Lake.

Mrs. Kohring lived a long, full life of grace, dignity and kindness. A devoted mother and thoughtful member of her community, she will be missed dearly by her family and friends.

She is survived by three of her children, Jane Hoey of St. Clair Shores, Mary (Sam) Highberger of Hendersonville, N.C., and John (Kathy Halbreich) Kohring of Minneapolis, Minn.; her grandchildren, Anne (Robert) Cass, John Hoey, and Henry Kohring; three great-grandchildren; and her sister, Mary Flintermann of Grosse Pointe Farms.

She is predeceased by her husband, Henry Kohring and her daughter, Anne Kohring.

A memorial service to celebrate her life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 10:30 a.m., at the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, Grosse Pointe City, MI 48230.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church or the Michigan Nature Association, 326 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston, MI 48895.

Gertrude S. Kress

Gertrude S. Kress, 90, died on Sunday, Dec. 26, 2004, at her home in Riverview.

Mrs. Kress was born on March 17, 1914, in Detroit. She was a member of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Park.

She was a past member of the Grosse Pointe Seniors Club and the Polish Century Club.

She enjoyed playing the cello, and she loved music and art.

Mrs. Kress is survived by her son, Larry (Sherry) Kress; her grandchildren, Kathy (Matt) Lorenz and Cindy Kress; and her sister, Irene Kallan.

She was predeceased by her husband, Alfred Kress.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church on Thursday, Dec. 30, at 10 a.m. Instate at 9:30 a.m. until time of Mass. Interment will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Detroit.

Clarence A. "Bo" Norris

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Clarence A. "Bo" Norris, 83, died on Saturday, Dec. 25, 2004, in Bon Secours Hospital.

Mr. Norris was born on March 7, 1921, to Clarence A. and Elsie O. Norris in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated in 1939 from Cass Technical High School in Detroit. During World War II, he served in the United States Coast Guard.

He was a construction superintendent for Barton-Malow Co. in Detroit. His interests included playing golf, woodworking and spending time with his grandchildren.

Mr. Norris is survived by his wife, Carolyn Norris; his

daughter, Linda (Doug) McNutt; his son, Scot (Christine) Norris; his grandchildren, Katie Norris, Leah Norris and Carly McNutt; and his sisters, Edith Rucker and Lois Luchtman.

He was predeceased by his sister, Myrtle Mayer.

Funeral arrangements were handled by A.H. Peters Funeral Home. Interment is at Cadillac Memorial Gardens East in Clinton Township.

Elsa M. Schumacher

Elsa M. Schumacher, 92, of Aiken, S.C., died on Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004, in Aiken Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Schumacher was born in Detroit on Aug. 26, 1912, to Valentine and Frieda Kneisel. She lived in Detroit for 87 years.

She was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Farms for 63 years.

She is survived by her daughters, Paula (Robert) Snyder and Carolleen (Larry) Scott; her grandchildren, Carol Wells, Paul Snyder and Andrea Biela; and her great-grandchildren, Andrew, Matthew, Jonathan and Daniel.

She was predeceased by her husband, William A. Schumacher.

A memorial service was held on Monday, Dec. 27, at Chas. Verheyden, Inc. Interment is in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillan, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Mary-Jane Wilk

Mary-Jane Wilk, 83, of Grosse Pointe Woods died Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004, after a long illness.

Mrs. Wilk was born in Detroit on Oct. 6, 1921, to Chipman Lee and Helen (Able) Day. She married John B. Wilk in 1947.

Mrs. Wilk and her husband were known as world travelers; having traveled to the four corners of the world to see what was around the next corner. Her last trip was in 1999 to see the ruins of Machu Picchu in Peru and to see the fantastic wildlife in the Galapagos Islands off the coast of Ecuador. She was one of the pioneers in the travel agency business having operated Day Travel in the Village of Grosse Pointe for many years.

During the Wilk family many travels, Mrs. Wilk would collect interesting items of interest and local art to use in decorating of her homes. There were always interesting stories to go along with each piece that was brought back home.

She is survived by her sons, John Mark (Kathleen) Wilk of Grosse Pointe Park, Daniel (Marcia) Wilk of Grosse Pointe Park, and Christopher (June) Wilk of St. Clair Shores; her daughter, Lisa Wilk of Harrison Township; seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, John B. Wilk; her brothers, Jerome Day and Jackie Day.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at Chas. Verheyden Inc. in Grosse Pointe.

Nonalcoholic drinks to party safely

"The Great Pretenders Party Guide," published by The Auto Club Group, offers alcohol-free recipes for party drinks such as Cranberry Burst, served at Duba's restaurant in Grand Rapids; and Endless Summer, a favorite of patrons at The Grill at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn.

The 20-page booklet includes 13 nonalcoholic recipes provided by hospitality managers at some of the

AAA Diamond-rated hotels and restaurants in the eight states served by the six AAA Clubs in The Auto Club Group: AAA Chicago, AAA Michigan, AAA Minnesota/Iowa, AAA Nebraska, AAA North Dakota and AAA Wisconsin.

To obtain free copies of the guide, visit any AAA Michigan branch office or call toll-free at (800) 222-6424.

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S-Type tones down Ford influence

By Derek Price

When the Jaguar S-Type was introduced a few years ago, it was criticized for being too much like a Ford and too little like a "real" Jag. It looked great on the outside — like every Jaguar should — but showed far too much of its Taurus DNA in the cabin.

Jaguar rectifies some of this Fordness, though thankfully not all of it, with a heavily revised S-Type. It retains its gorgeous body and chic style, but its interior, ride, handling, and horsepower are made more appropriate for a car with such a rich pedigree.

Most notable is a sumptuously redesigned cabin, which now includes massive swathes of wood trim and rivers of supple leather covering the doors and seats. It's a major improvement over the tacky Ford-like styling used starting in the 2000 model year and finally makes the S-Type feel like a blue-blooded Jag from behind the wheel.

And oh, is that a fantastic feeling. Even before the engine roars to life it's clear that this is a special car, one that pays extraordinary attention to detail and has an innate sense of style. The warmth of its wood trim and calming comfort of its soft seats are beckoning, almost seductive, as they surround its lucky passengers with pure and simple luxury.

The S-Type drives like a typical Jaguar with a soft ride, refined handling, and almost eerie silence at highway speed. Its acceleration can range from competent to exhilarating, depending on which engine you choose: a

3.0-liter 235-horsepower V6 (\$43,895), a 4.2-liter 294-horsepower V8 (\$49,995), or the screaming S-Type R with a supercharged 4.2-liter V8 that makes 390 horsepower (\$63,120).

Our test vehicle, equipped with the non-supercharged V8, accelerated with authority from stoplights and on highways. Moving around town felt almost effortless as the engine silently tugged the Jaguar through traffic and onto freeways, only belting out a throaty roar under hard acceleration.

Its ride is soft and supple, though a little bouncy, as it smoothes out imperfections in the road with grace. Handling is improved with an all new front suspension introduced in the 2003 model year that makes the S-Type feel fairly agile in corners but not as exciting as a true sports sedan.

Of course, driving a Jaguar is as much about style as it is comfort, and the S-Type doesn't disappoint, at least from the front. Its nose features the gorgeous, classic lines of Jaguars from the 1960s with charming curves that give it an artistic — if not snobbish — appeal. The rear end, however, is dull and Ford-like with a high decklid and boring profile, unlike Jaguars of the past with their sleek, low-slung trunk that added a sense of elegance.

While the S-Type is exceptionally refined and lavish, it seems to benefit from Ford's blue-collar heritage. Jaguars historically have not had a great reputation for quality, as their V-12 engines seemed to start leaking oil almost as soon as

they left the factory, their electrical systems were notoriously buggy, and their reliability — or lack thereof — was legendary.

When Ford bought Jaguar a few years ago, the gurus from Detroit evidently implemented strict quality control measures that finally brought Jaguar up to modern standards of reliability and build quality. The S-Type benefits from Ford's guidance with rattle-free construction and an improving reputation for engineering quality.

Overall, the S-Type is a worthy car to carry the Jaguar name, one that has



Photo courtesy of Jaguar Internet Media

2004 Jaguar S-Type

the performance, luxury and style to live up to its historic reputation. It still has a little Ford DNA showing through its gorgeous curves,

but is that so bad? Not anymore. Why buy it? It finally has an interior befitting of a Jaguar, its ride is soft and

quiet, and its body is prettier than Jennifer Aniston in a swimsuit.

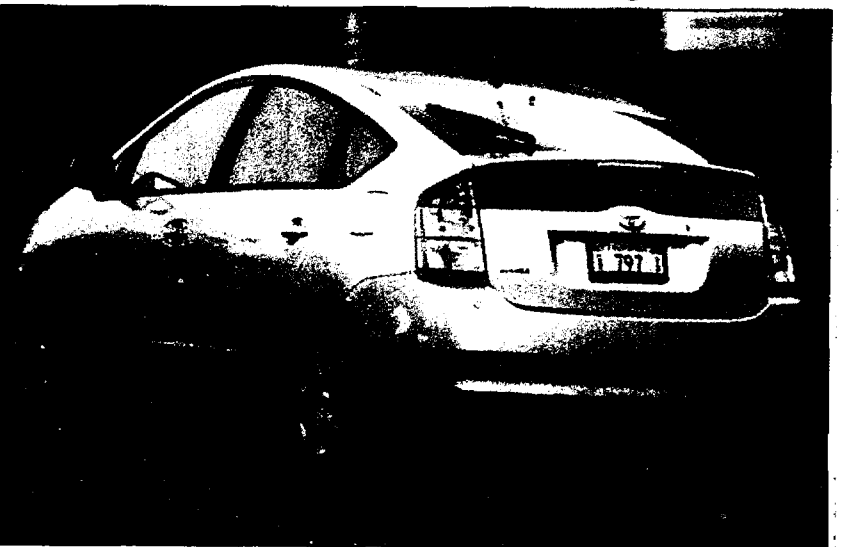
— AutoWire

Award winning '04 Prius Hybrid

By Greg Zyla

This week, we're driving Toyota's popular 2004 Prius Hybrid Gas/Electric four-door sedan — base price: \$19,995; price as tested: \$21,794. The car has already received Motor Trend magazine's prestigious "Car of the Year" award and was named one of Car & Driver's "10 Best" overall. After driving this vehicle for a week, we're not surprised: Toyota has solved any consumer concerns about electric-powered vehicles.

Introduced as the all-new, second-generation Prius, the 2004 model features considerably more power than the previous one, as well as best-in-class fuel economy and emissions performance. The Hybrid Synergy Drive is capable of operating in either gas or electric modes, as well as combining the power of the gas engine and electric motor. Other hybrid



2004 Toyota Prius Hybrid

systems do not offer this union of power. The result is 0-60 mph in

10 seconds, compared with 12.7 seconds for the old model. The new Prius, what

delivers better fuel economy

See PRIUS, page 18

Don Gooley Cadillac

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Shoreline Sound Chorus plans guest night Jan. 13

The Shoreline Sound Chorus invites women who love to sing to a special guest night from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at Roseville Junior High School, 16250 Martin in Roseville.

Chartered in 1978 with just 27 inspired, hopeful singers, Shoreline Sound now boasts a membership of 100-plus, including many of its charter members.

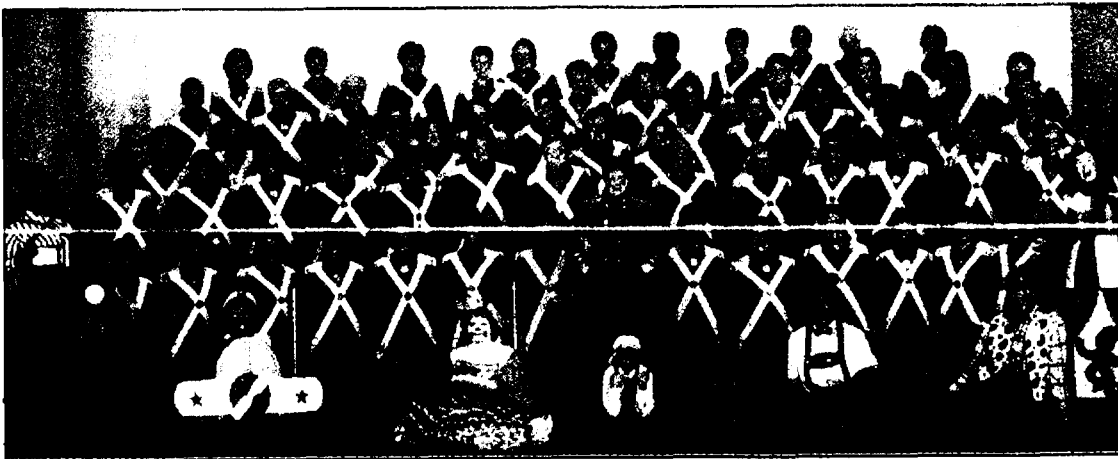
The six-time Regional Championship Chorus takes pride in its ability to perform and entertain in its

own four-part harmony style.

The focus is on vocal production and showmanship. The group has performed in Detroit, Kansas City, Honolulu, San Antonio, New Orleans and Atlanta.

Singers come from the ranks of doctors, nurses, teachers, accountants, clerks, writers, stay-at-home moms, bus drivers, engineers and others.

The group represents some 52 different communities in southeastern Michigan.



The Shoreline Sound Chorus is shown at its most recent competition.

G.P. Power Squadron plans boating safety classes

The Grosse Pointe Power Squadron will offer its 10-week Boating Safety course from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Mondays at Grosse Pointe North High School, 707 Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Classes begin on Monday, Jan. 3. Registration will begin at 7 p.m. outside Room No. 312.

Topics to be covered include rules of the road, navigation, VHF radio, trailering, Marine Law enforcement, charting on Lake St. Clair, anchoring, weather

for Lake St. Clair and personal watercraft operation.

Students who successfully complete the course will be issued a USPS certificate. The cost for the course is \$55, which includes a USPS student manual, a folder, Lake St. Clair chart No. 14850 and the exam fee. Plotting instruments for chart work are available at an additional cost or may be supplied by the students.

For more information, call (313) 418-5911 or go to www.usps.org/localusps/grossepointe.

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by kathleen stevenson

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Out of touch

Have you noticed that it isn't getting better? The cell phones are getting smaller, but the conversations are getting bigger. No matter how much you glare or stare, people are still talking more loudly in public places.

It seems to me that nowadays a person can't venture anywhere without hearing half of a private conversation. And, mind you, it's not just conversations. People are doing all sorts of shocking things in public like making business deals, discussing custody arrangements, gossiping and making tawdry weekend plans.

Oh, relax, it's not as if I'm trying to listen, but how can you ignore a man standing behind you at the gas station who is loudly describing all of the details of his office romance? Or a woman in the produce section of the grocery store clutching a cell phone to her ear and quietly sob-

bing into the portobello mushrooms?

This just seems wrong. But the real reason I resent people taking up my peaceful air space with their lively, animated conversations, is that they, somehow, look more important than the rest of us. It might be because of the way they disregard society's rules by laughing and talking in normally quiet places. Perhaps it's because of the way they inadvertently let the rest of the world know they have a life.

Or maybe, just maybe, it's because they can say things like "Hey, baby, I just wanted to tell you how much I love your sexy smile" in the middle of the frozen food aisle and get away with it.

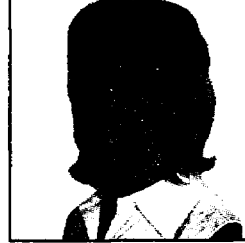
So, I decided to recently do something I vowed I would never do: I took my cell phone out of the glove compartment (where I kept it only for emergencies), upped my monthly service plan, and handed out my cell phone number to everyone I knew.

Soon I, too, would be vivaciously tossing my head back, making plans out loud in public and broadcasting to the world that I am both important and mysterious.

However, I had to wait longer than I thought since the first time the phone rang I was trying on a bathing suit in a dressing room at the local

Family Daze

By Debbie Farmer



department store, and by the time I had covered myself up sufficiently to answer the phone, it had stopped.

Fortunately, the second time it rang, my luck changed, and I was in line at a crowded, upscale boutique.

I held the phone to my ear at a jaunty angle, threw my head back, and said "Hello" in a sultry voice.

"Mom?" my 9-year-old son said. "Where are my soccer cleats?"

"What? I can't hear you."

"I can't find my soccer cleats!"

"Oh, why didn't you say so," I laughed loudly. "Hors d'oeuvres at eight sounds great."

"Mom?"

I quickly looked around and cupped my hand over the receiver. "They're in the upstairs bathroom on the hamper," I whispered. "Thanks, Mom."

"See you then," I said, and hung up. Just as I was paying for my purchases it rang again.

"Excuse me for a

moment," I said to the clerk as I whipped open my phone. "Hello?"

"Can I have a Pepsi?" "I'm sorry I can't today. I'm simply booked," I said loudly. Then I turned sideways and hissed "No!" into the phone and threw it back into my purse.

I made it all the way to the parking lot before it rang again.

"What!" I snapped. "They're not on the hamper."

"Where's your father?" "He's busy, but he said it was OK to call you now since you have a phone."

All in all, I received 16 calls in two days, and none of them from anyone who can drive, let alone anyone who has hit puberty. I know what you are thinking. You are thinking that any fool with children should have seen this coming. And you're right. I bet that they would have seen my bill coming, too: \$234.57. This is the trouble with cell phones.

I did the only reasonable thing I could think of. I turned the phone off and tossed it back into the glove compartment. After all, call me crazy, but why should I pay for the convenience of solving problems and breaking up fights long distance when I could stay home and do it all for free?

Debbie Farmer is a humorist and a mother holding down the fort in California. She can be reached by writing familydaze@oasisnewsfeature.com.

Grosse Pointe War Memorial's WMTV5

January 3 to January 9

Time	Program	Featured Guest
8:30 am	The S.O.C. Show	Heidi Kalinowski, Nurse Practitioner - Hip & Knee Surgery
9:00 am	Vitality Plus (Aerobics)	
9:30 am	Pointes of Horticulture	
10:00 am	Who's in the Kitchen?	Joe Arcand - Poached Salmon
10:30 am	Things to do at the War Memorial	
11:00 am	Musical Story Time Jamboree	
11:30 am	Out of the Ordinary	Kathy Garbe - Spiritual Medium
12:00 pm	Economic Club of Detroit	
1:00 pm	Watercolor Workshop / Senior Men's Club	
1:30 pm	Inside Art	
2:00 pm	The Legal Insider / Consumers Corner	
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 (Step/Kick Boxing)	
4:30 pm	Young View Pointes	
5:00 pm	Positively Positive	
5:30 pm	Watercolor Workshop / Senior Men's Club	
6:00 pm	The Legal Insider / Consumers Corner	
6:30 pm	Who's in the Kitchen?	
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 (Step/Kick Boxing)	
9:30 pm	Pointes of Horticulture	
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	
Midnight	Vitality Plus (Aerobics)	
12:30 am	Pointes of Horticulture	
1:00 am	Who's in the Kitchen?	
1:30 am	Things to do at the War Memorial	
2:00 am	Musical Story Time Jamboree	
2:30 am	Out of the Ordinary	
3:00 am	Economic Club of Detroit	
4:00 am	Watercolor Workshop / Senior Men's Club	
4:30 am	Inside Art	
5:00 am	The Legal Insider / Consumers Corner	
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7:30 am	Young View Pointes	
8:00 am	Positively Positive	

The S.O.C. Show
Heidi Kalinowski, Nurse Practitioner - Hip & Knee Surgery

Who's in the Kitchen?
Joe Arcand - Poached Salmon

Things to do at the War Memorial
Tera & Jeff Vitale - West Coast Swing Dance
Beginning & Shelley Wagner - Stage Your House to Sell Faster

Out of the Ordinary
Kathy Garbe - Spiritual Medium

Economic Club of Detroit
William H. Timbers, President & C.E.O., USEC Inc. "Energy: How Are We Going to Fuel the Future?"

Senior Men's Club
G.P. South High Singers

Inside Art
Mark Wolak - Abstract

Legal Insider
Carrie Fuca - Selling & Buying a House

The John Prost Show
Magda Latif - Sterioff & Beth Chappell - Medicare & Detroit Economic Club

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December 30, 2004

Bring in the new year with nonalcoholic drinks

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

The first moment of the new year is typically signified with a glass of a bubbly alcoholic beverage, but many will opt for bubbly drinks without the alcohol this New Year's Eve.

Mark Szymanski, a bartender at a private club in Grosse Pointe Farms, claims the cocktail culture remains predominant in the area, but he also deals with those who abstain because of health conditions or have taken on designated driver status.

"We get quite a few people who ask for nonalcoholic beers since the taste has been getting better," Szymanski said. "But I'm seeing more of a trend of designated drivers who want something other than a cola."

Szymanski said his club's house nonalcoholic drink has been a planter's punch, which he said he'll sometimes throw in a splash of cola or a lemon-lime drink just for color.

Milkshakes have also been a popular substitute for drinks such as hummers. Other drinks, of which Szymanski has provided recipes of, are more popular at home parties, he said.

"Fancy glasses are another important touch," Szymanski said.

Szymanski said he's noticed others cut back on their drinks to one or two during the course of an evening.

"I see a lot of people playing it cool by having one or two beers or just nurse one beer through the night," Szymanski said.

However, there may not

be any such thing as a "safe drink" or a "safe limit."

Amy Ellison, a public safety officer in Grosse Pointe Shores, should know. During a typical year, she makes between 15 and 20 drunken driving arrests. Her diligence has earned her a Mothers Against Drunk Driving 2003 Life Saver Award.

"It's hard to say what is a 'safe amount,' especially with the new law," Ellison said.

The new law Ellison referred to is the state's enhanced drunken driving law that went into effect in October 2003. A driver may now be charged with Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) if he or she has a blood alcohol content (BAC) of 0.08 percent or higher (the previous BAC limit was 0.10 percent).

"While one or two regular-sized drinks is typically considered 'safe,' I've pulled



Great fakes: Drinks such as the planter's love tap, the salty sham and the cracked-up colada look and taste great without the alcohol.

Photos by Bonnie Caprara

over some elderly women in the middle of the afternoon who have had only one or two glasses of wine at a luncheon or their bridge club who really blew up there," Ellison said.

Also, Ellison said some drivers are visibly intoxicated at a relatively low BAC while other more "practiced" drivers may not show

signs of being intoxicated until they are two or more times above the legal limit.

"It's possible for a person driving erratically to fail their field sobriety tests yet fall below 0.08 percent,"

Ellison said. "You could still have a hard time driving at 0.05 percent." As an officer with a keen eye for drunken driving, Ellison said the typical signs are cars that drift in the lanes, straddle the middle lane of two-way traffic, brush or hit curbs or make wide, sweeping turns.

"Most of us will take a video of how they're driving," Ellison said.

Even if a drunken driver has not become a threat to him or herself or others while driving on the road, sometimes alcohol can make a traffic stop hazardous duty for a police officer.

"Alcohol can make some nice people very rude," Ellison said. "Some people get angry, or they start crying, or some of them get physically abusive, especially when they

think they're going to jail." Personality isn't the only thing that is affected by alcohol.

"I've seen people from the west side take a wrong turn and end up on Lakeshore," Ellison said. Altered egos aside, the drunken driver can be anyone.

"I've pulled over 80-year-old gentlemen to teenagers out with their parents' cars," Ellison said.

If convicted of OWI, the state's new drunken driving law states the penalties imposed may call for:

- up to 93 days in jail;
- up to a \$500 fine, plus a new \$1,000 penalty for two consecutive years for a total of \$2,000 in additional fines;
- up to 360 hours of community service;
- up to six points on a driver's record and
- up to 180 days' license suspension.

In addition, the penalty for refusing to submit to a breath test for the first time has increased from a six-month driver's license suspension to a one-year driver's license suspension. A second refusal within a seven-year time period could result in a two-year driver's license suspension.

Ellison said she and her colleagues will be keeping an extra vigilant eye on the roads as part of the state's "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" campaign, which runs through Sunday, Jan. 2.

"To play it safe, get a designated driver. The level is low," Ellison said.

Indulge, don't intoxicate, with these drinks

These recipes were provided by Mark Szymanski, a bartender at a private club in Grosse Pointe Farms.



Cracked-up colada

- 2 ounces pineapple juice
- 1 ounce coconut cream
- 1 ounce whipping cream
- 2 tbsp. coconut

Put all ingredients in a blender and blend well.

Salty sham

- 5 ounces grapefruit juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Rim margarita glasses with salt. Pour juice on the rocks and trim with a lime garnish.



Sol slamma

- 3 ounces pineapple juice
- 3 ounces orange juice
- 2 ounces lemon-lime soda
- 1 ounce sour mix
- 1/2 ounce grenadine

Stir with ice, serve with pineapple slice.

Clam digger

- 1 cup of Clamato juice
- 1 ounce lime juice, fresh
- 4 dashes of Tabasco sauce
- 4 dashes of Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 teaspoon horseradish
- Pepper (to taste)
- Celery salt (to taste)

Shake with ice and strain over ice cubes into a Collins glass. Garnish with a celery stalk and a lime wedge.



Planters love tap

- 1/2 ounce grenadine
- 1 ounce lemon-lime soda
- 2 ounces orange juice
- 2 ounces pineapple juice
- 2 ounces cola (floating on top)

Pour grenadine, then juices, then cola over ice. Garnish with cherry and orange slice.



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DIA construction will take one year longer

Museum remains open with full schedule

The renovation and expansion project (Master Plan Project) at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) will continue into 2007, an addition of about one year to the original construction schedule. The museum remains open with a full schedule of exhibitions and programs in the coming months, including a completely new installation featuring many of the masterworks from the DIA's extraordinary collection.

Construction delays are attributable to an extensive asbestos abatement program and major reconstruction in the South and North wings.

"We were aware of significant infrastructure problems present in both wings, but it was impossible to know the full extent of some of those problems until recently," said Graham W.J. Beal, DIA director. "During preliminary demolition in the South wing we learned that the building contained extensive amounts of asbestos. We now know that the cost of undertaking complete abatement and reconstruction to resolve the issue permanently is approximately \$40 million and have determined to proceed despite the substantial additional financial cost and unexpected delay."

The Master Plan Project will provide significant improvement in the museum's conservation environment by replacing infrastructure and outdated building systems in the original 1927 building and both wings, which were built in the late 1960s. The museum improvements will include better traffic patterns throughout the museum, increased gallery and program space and upgraded amenities for visitors.

Construction costs were initially estimated at \$91 million. Reinstallation of the museum's collection adds approximately \$10 million. The changing scope of the project and the additional demolition, abatement and reconstruction attributable to the asbestos removal (\$57 million) bring the total project cost to \$158 million.

At its Sept. 15 meeting, the DIA Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the museum's Building and Finance Committees to work to secure the additional funding and continue the Master Plan Project as planned. The board, staff and volunteers are focused on achieving that goal.

"Like other cultural organizations, the DIA is challenged to provide services and raise funds, facing the

reality of reduced government support and an uncertain economy," said Eugene A. Gargaro Jr., chairman of the DIA Board of Directors. "We intend to work with the city of Detroit, the state of Michigan and our many devoted supporters to find a way to meet this new challenge as we continue the museum's mission to enrich, enlighten and educate the public."

Major construction and renovation in the original Paul Cret building have been completed. Contractors are currently completing the abatement of the South wing, which is presently closed to the public. Within the next few months, the

North wing will be closed to the public and abatement will begin in that area. The asbestos abatement is confined to areas completely contained from the public, museum staff and volunteers.

The DIA is strictly adhering to federal and state regulations regarding asbestos abatement. In addition, ongoing testing is conducted to ensure a safe environment. Special exhibitions and museum programs will continue to take place in the original building throughout the project.

"While some major museums have closed during construction, we decided to remain open through con-

struction because we believe deeply in the importance of this institution to our community," Beal said. "That conviction remains with us as we welcome school groups, open new exhibitions and provide programs that engage and inform our visitors. We understand fully the challenge that we face, but we are prepared to work tirelessly to ensure that the DIA maintains its position as one of the leading fine arts museums in the country."

Located in the heart of Detroit's Cultural Center, the DIA is owned by the city of Detroit and is recognized as one of the country's premier art museums. From

the first van Gogh to enter a United States museum ("Self Portrait," 1887), to Diego Rivera's world-renowned Detroit Industry murals, the DIA's collection reveals the scope and depth of human experience, imagination and emotion. Visit online at www.dia.org.

Museum hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Admission is a donation. The museum recommends \$4 for adults and \$1 for children. DIA members are admitted free. For membership information call (313) 833-7971.

Bon Secours Cottage's 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? Or do you know an elderly individual who needs help with meals for a few weeks until other arrangements are made?

Celebrating its 28th year of providing "good help to those in need," the Bon Secours Cottage Meals for the Homebound Program is a community service project that assists recently dis-

charged patients and elderly 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 individuals 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 are eligible.

Are you or someone you know interested in brightening the day of a shut-in? As a

Bon Secours volunteer delivering meals to the homebound, you can make a difference in people's lives by reaching out through food and friendship. Volunteer drivers are needed for approximately 1 1/2 hours at a time during the noon hour. 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.

WORSHIP SERVICES

First English Ev. Lutheran Church
Vernier Rd. at Wedgwood Dr.
Grosse Pointe Woods
884-5040

8:15 a.m. Traditional Service
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Dr. Walter A. Schmidt, Pastor
Rev. Barton L. Beebe, Associate Pastor
Robert Foster, Music Coordinator

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

24600 Little Mack Ave., St. Clair Shores
(586) 772-2520

Ministering to Detroit's eastside since 1864
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday AWANA Clubs 6:30 p.m.
and adult Bible Study 7 p.m.

Dr. J. Robert Cosand, Pastor
Scott Baaman, Youth Pastor
www.bethelbc.org

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

20475 Sunningdale Park
near Lochmoor Club
Grosse Pointe Woods
313-884-4820
www.stmichaelsgpw.org

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Story Hour (during Summer)
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist
(Nursery Available)

e-mail: office@stmichaelsgpw.org

Eastside Community Church

A Caring Community of Many Cultures

Worship Service:
10:00 a.m. in the Harper Woods
High School Auditorium
Rev. Samuel D. Jackson, Pastor

(313) 647-0000
www.eastsidecommunitychurch.com

"To Know Him and Make Him Known"

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1175 Lakepoint at Kercheval
Grosse Pointe Park 822-3823

Sunday - Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday - Thrift Shop 10:30 - 3:30

Wednesday - Amazing Grace Seniors
every second Wednesday at
The Tompkins Center at
Windmill Pointe Park 11:00 - 3:00

COME JOIN US
Pastor: Rev. Henry L. Reinewald

Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church

December 24th
5:30pm Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

December 26th
10:30am After Christmas
After Glow

17150 MAUMEE 881-0420
Rev. John Corrado, Minister

GROSSE POINTE UNITED CHURCH

AFFILIATED WITH THE UCC AND ABC
240 CHALFONTE AT LOTHROP
884-3075

10:00 A.M. FAMILY WORSHIP
(CRIB ROOM AVAILABLE)
10:00 A.M. CHURCH SCHOOL

Rev. E.A. Bray, Pastor
www.gpunited.org

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

First Church of Christ, Scientist
282 Chalfonte Ave.

Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday Testimony Meeting
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

All are warmly welcome at both services
Free childcare provided
Questions? 884-2426

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Mack at Lochmoor
884-5090

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship
Service

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
& Bible Classes

Advent Worship Wednesday,
December 15th, 11:15 am & 7:30 pm

Supervised Nursery Provided
www.christthekinggp.org
Randy S. Boeller, Pastor
Timothy A. Holzerland, Assc. Pastor

Historic Mariners' Church

Traditional Anglican Worship
Since 1842

Epiphanytide Schedule
January 2, 2005 - Christmas II
January 9, 2005 - Epiphany
One service only: 10:00 a.m.

170 E. Jefferson Avenue

On Hart Plaza at the Tunnel
Free Secured Parking in Ford Garage
with entrance in the median strip
of Jefferson at Woodward

(313)-259-2206
marinerschurchofdetroit.org

Grosse Pointe Baptist Church

Christ Centered and Caring - Committed to Youth and Community

Sunday Worship - 11:00 AM
Sunday School - 9:30 AM for Age 2 - Adult

Awana Clubs Wednesday @ 6:15 p.m.
Middle School Youth meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Senior High Youth meet Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

21336 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Woods
Phone: (313) 881-3343 Web Page: www.gpbc.org

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

Serving Christ in Detroit for 150 years

Sunday, January 2, 2005
New Year's Sunday

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Meditation: "Breaking Out of Your Rut!"
Scripture: Joshua 9:1-9
Peter C. Smith, Preaching
Church School: Crib - 2nd Grade

Save the Dates
Sunday, January 10th - 11:45 a.m.
Sunday Forum: The Dodge Family
Professor Charles Hyde

Sunday, January 18th - 10:30 a.m.
Martin Luther King, Jr. Jazz Worship Service

8625 E. Jefferson at Burns, Detroit
Visit our website: www.japc.org 313-822-3456

Grosse Pointe Woods PRESBYTERIAN Church

19950 Mack (between Moross & Vernier)

Jan. 2, 2005 One Service 10 a.m.

E-mail: gpwchurch@aol.com • Web site: www.gpwpcc.org

THE GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

Established 1865 The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

REV. WILLIAM C. YEAGER, preaching

"A Better Tomorrow"

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services in the Sanctuary

8:45 a.m. - 12:15 a.m. Crib/Toddler Care

7:30 a.m. Ecumenical Men's Friday Breakfast

A STEPHEN MINISTRY and LOGOS Congregation
16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms • 882-5330
www.gpcchurch.org

The Christmas Season Continues at St. Ambrose Catholic Church

NEW YEAR'S EVE
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2004
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.

NEW YEAR'S DAY
SOLEMNITY OF MARY
THE MOTHER OF GOD
SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2005
MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2005
MASS AT 8:30 A.M.
MASS AT 11:15 A.M.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2005
MASS AT 4:00 P.M. - CONFIRMATION
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2005
MASS AT 8:30 A.M.
MASS AT 11:15 A.M.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at
15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn
and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson,
just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall.
Telephone: (313) 822-2814.

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
375 Lothrop at Chalfonte * 881-6670

New Years Eve

6:00 p.m. Potluck Supper

7:00 p.m. Worship

Sunday, January 2nd

10 a.m. Worship with Communion

Rev. Frederick Harms Rev. Morsal Collier

St. James Lutheran Church

170 McMillan Road
Grosse Pointe Farms • 884-0511

New Years Eve

Friday, December 31, 2004

7:00 p.m. New Years Eve Service
of Holy Eucharist

Sunday

January 2, 2005

10:15 a.m. Worship and Holy Eucharist

Familiar faces return to Edsel & Eleanor Ford House

Original paintings on view after more than 25 years

Some familiar faces have returned to Edsel & Eleanor Ford House after a more than 25-year absence: Four original portrait paintings are again on view in their original settings in this Grosse Pointe Shores historic home.

The works include a 16th century Italian Renaissance portrait, two portraits by society painters working in Great Britain in the 1700s and a contemporary portrait of Edsel Ford by ground-breaking Mexican artist Diego Rivera. The paintings, which were a gift to the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) from Eleanor Ford as part of her generous bequest to the museum in 1976, are on loan to Ford House from the museum.

The paintings join other

significant original works of art on display at Ford House, including paintings by Cezanne, Matisse and Redon.

"Edsel and Eleanor Ford collected widely," explained Ford House President John F. Miller. "These portraits not only represent over four hundred years in painted portraiture, but when viewed in the broader context of their entire collection, they also show the Fords' broad and sophisticated tastes."

Four portraits span 400 years

Mexican artist Diego Rivera created the portrait of Edsel Ford — which again hangs in the second floor hallway — in 1932,

the same year he painted the then-controversial Detroit Industry murals at the DIA. Rivera depicted Edsel as an automotive designer, standing in front of a table with drafting tools in a design studio.

The "true portrait" shows Edsel in his little-known but critical role as a designer at Ford Motor Company and speaks to Rivera's respect for Edsel as an artist-craftsman rather than an industrialist. Edsel underwrote the now famous murals at the DIA, an occasion which is documented in a corner of the court, with a portrait of Edsel standing next to the museum's director, William Valentiner.

Along with Eleanor's cousin, Robert Tannahill, Valentiner was a source of

inspiration and guidance as the Fords created their collection.

The earliest of the paintings is a 16th century Italian portrait of a stylish gentleman that once greeted guests as they entered the Fords' home. Attributed to the school of Titian (1488-1576), a bearded gentleman in a black, fur-trimmed coat once again gazes across the Main Hall. In the wood-paneled Dining Room above the fireplace, guests can once again see the portrait of Mrs. Irvine J. Boswell, which the Fords enjoyed viewing as they dined. It is said to be among Edsel's favorite paintings.

Created by the Scottish-born English society painter Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823), the painting is an example of the flourishing trade of portraiture in the Georgian era. Loose brushwork depicts a woman in fashionable dress, her brown hair in loose curls, looking at the viewer with a gentle smile on her face.

More haunting is the sadly sweet portrait of Master John Granville, once again seen in the hallway outside the Dining Room. The portrait was painted by Raeburn's contemporary and fellow society painter, John Hoppner (1758-1810). Painted around 1790, a youthful John is seen against a moody sky, perhaps foreshadowing his early death at 21.

Among the English portrait painters, Hoppner, a father of five, is credited with particular skill in capturing the attributes of his younger sitters.

"Although these paintings were replaced with photographic reproductions, nothing compares to seeing the original oil paintings," Miller said. "It is an extraordinary opportunity to see them in the rooms where the Ford family and their guests once enjoyed them."

"We are excited to see the paintings return," said Edsel B. Ford II, president of the Ford House board of

trustees. "Instead of going into storage during the DIA renovations, they will remain on view at Edsel & Eleanor Ford House."

The paintings can be viewed during regular tour hours. Holiday tours continue through January 5, 2005: Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m., except for New Year's Eve when the final tour begins at 3 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for senior citizens (60 and older), and \$5 for children (ages 6-12). Children age five and under are admitted free.

The Tea Room, serving lunch daily, will be open throughout the holiday season Tuesdays through Sundays, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Ford House will be closed on New Year's Day.

Since 1978, Edsel & Eleanor 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 or call (313) 884-4222. Ford House is located at 1100 Lakeshore in Grosse Pointe Shores.

Brother-in-law's clam dip comes from the Big Apple

Greetings from the Big Apple. There's nothing like Christmas in New York, especially when I can return to Michigan with yet another great recipe. This year the credit goes to my (favorite) brother-in-law, Tom Scheriff, who turned me on to a terrific clam dip that will help you ring in the new year.

Tom's Clam Dip

- 1 stick butter
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 large garlic clove, minced
- 2 6.5-oz. canned chopped clams (drain one, leave the juice with the other one)
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 cup Italian bread crumbs
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Melt the butter in a medium saute pan and add the chopped onion. Cook and stir over medium heat for 8 to 10 minutes, until the onion becomes soft. Add the garlic and cook for another few minutes. Stir in the clams (and juice) along with the lemon juice. Remove from heat and stir in the bread crumbs. Spread the mixture into a pie dish that has been coated with nonstick spray. Sprinkle the shredded mozzarella over the

mixture and bake in a 325- to 350-degree oven until the cheese is melted. This will take anywhere from 15 to 25 minutes, depending on the temperature in the oven.

Or you can prepare the dip ahead of time and heat it just before serving.

If you do prepare the dip in advance and it becomes completely cooled, it may take longer in the oven for it to be heated throughout. A sprinkle of dried parsley over the mozzarella gives this warm party dip a festive presentation.

Tom suggests that you serve his tasty dip with none other than Ritz crackers. It complements the clams, he claims.

You don't have to be in New York on New Year's Eve to savor the flavor of the East Coast. You just have to make some of Tom's clam dip. Enjoy it with your friends. Sip on champagne.

Be safe. Happy New Year from A la Annie.

A LA ANNIE



His easy to make clamped creation was a hit on Christmas Eve and I'm sure it will dazzle your friends as we say hello to 2005.

Music League presents soprano



Anamaria Ylitalurri

The Grosse Pointe Classical Music League will present Anamaria Ylitalurri, an operatic soprano, at its general membership meeting which begins with a luncheon at noon, Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Little Club.

Ylitalurri has been performing with the Detroit Opera Theatre since 1993. The public is invited to the meeting. For reservations, call Louise at (313) 881-9701.

Community Chorus begins rehearsals for spring concert

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus will begin rehearsing for its 53rd annual spring concert to be held May 22. The group rehearses in the choral room of Grosse Pointe North High School, 707 Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods. No

auditions are held. The chorus' 80 members come from Wayne, Macomb and Oakland counties.

The first meeting of the new year will be Tuesday, Jan. 11.

For more information, call (313) 882-2482

Shores Theatre

NOW PLAYING

THE LIFE AQUATIC
WITH STEVE ZISSOU
Rated R
(1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15)

LEMONY SNICKETS
A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS
Rated PG
(1:00, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15)

9 Mile & Mack • St. Clair Shores
586.775.6800

Meetings

Alliance Francaise

The Alliance Francaise de Grosse Pointe will host a French language total immersion day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Only French will be spoken, but people with all levels of French competency are welcome.

The day includes a continental breakfast, lunch and a day of games, mental exercises and lots of conversation.

The cost is \$30 for members; \$35 for nonmembers. For reservations, call (313) 881-8844.

For more about the Alliance Francaise de Grosse Pointe, go to www.afusa.org/af/grosse-pointe.

DKG International

The Beta Xi chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society held its annual Christmas luncheon and auction on Dec. 4, at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club.

As it has for the last 25 years, the group of Grosse Pointe teachers has used the proceeds of the Christmas auction to fund a scholarship for a local high school student who is planning to go into teaching.

The president is Patricia Meek.

Anne Speicher was in charge of arrangements, and Lillian Kachadourian was the auctioneer.

Willy Loman struggles between the American dream and HIS American reality.

Death of a Salesman

by Arthur Miller

HILBERRY H. THEATRE WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

January 7, 2005 through
March 24, 2005

Call (313) 577-2972

Stefanie Powers
The Rodgers & Hammerstein's
King and I

"The most RAVISHING SPECTACLE this side of Siam! The King and I is perfect."
—Columnist Liz Smith

"In a word, MAGNIFICENT!"
—The New Yorker

Fisher Theatre • January 11-30

Tickets on sale at the Fisher Theatre box office, all outlets inc. Marshall Field's, change-by-phone 248-645-6666, & ticketmaster.com

Info 313-822-1000 • Nederlander Detroit.com
Groups (12 or more) weekdays 313-871-1132

New Year's Eve 2004

The Complete Package Includes a Room in St. Clair Plaza

Get the Complete Package:
River Room Party Begins at 7:00pm
Complimentary Cocktail and Hors D'Oeuvres (served till 8pm)
Cash Bar Begins at 8:00pm. Table Settings: 8 or 10 people per table

Buffet Dinner (Starts at 8:00pm)

Live Entertainment (from 9:00pm thru 1:00am)
Champagne Toast at Midnight
Breakfast Buffet New Year's Day

All Inclusive Total Package \$375.00 Black Tie Optional Party Only \$145.00 per couple or \$85.00 per person

Sunday Brunch
Served from 9am to 2pm featuring...
Carving Station
Egg Station
Fresh Seafood
Pasta Station
Salads Galore & More

Adults \$17.95 (twelve and above)
Senior 10-16 years \$8.95
Four to Six \$4.50
Three and Under are FREE

Purchase One Entrée at Regular Price
The Second Entrée is...
Half Price

50% OFF

Kids Eat FREE
Monday thru Thursday
Between 4:00pm - 7:00pm only
With the purchase of one adult entrée

ST. CLAIR PLAZA

Serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
500 North Riverside Ave.
Located inside the St. Clair Plaza
St. Clair, Michigan 48079
810.329.2222
We Accept MasterCard, VISA & AMEX

Spend the Holidays With Us at the... *River Watch RESTAURANT*

Chronic morning headache may signal other problems

Waking up with a headache in the morning may be more than just a minor nuisance. Chances are, if a headache occurs daily, is present when a person awakens, remains for most of the day and has been occurring for an extended period of time, this may be an indicator of a depressive disorder or another medical condition.

Dr. Seymour Diamond, founder and executive chairman of the National Headache Foundation said, "It should be noted that too little attention is given to the depressive aspects of chronic pain and its treatment."

"The physical complaints dominate the situation so that the underlying depression tends to be overlooked," he said.

According to the NHF, certain details about the headache may indicate an underlying depression. In a recent online survey conducted by the NHF, 40 percent of respondents reported that the majority of their headaches occur between 4 a.m. and 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. These headaches usually appear at regular intervals in relation to daily life, occurring on weekends, Sundays and holidays, or on the first days of vacation. These may be the periods of the greatest family crises.

Though headaches may be a symptom of depression, there is a chance that conversely, people with chronic pain may also suffer from depression as a symptom of their condition. Because of the myriad of possible underlying causes of headache and depression, the NHF stresses the importance of understanding both and learning what can be done to treat them.

The availability of effective treatment options for depression and headache has increased dramatically. The tricyclic antidepressants, the selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors, and the monoamine oxidase inhibitors are agents of choice in the treatment of headaches associated with depression.

Biofeedback also has been demonstrated as useful. The NHF urges headache sufferers to work with their healthcare providers to enjoy a better quality of life.

The National Headache Foundation (NHF), founded in 1970, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving headache sufferers, their families and the healthcare providers who treat them; promoting research into headache causes and treatments; and educating the public to the fact that headaches are a legitimate biological disease, and sufferers should receive understanding and continuity of care.

To learn more about headache causes and treatments visit the NHF Web site at www.headaches.org or call (888) NHF-5552 during business hours on weekdays.

for those recovering from emotional difficulties. Individuals suffering the effects of depression, anger, grief, low self-esteem and other emotional issues are encouraged to attend. The group's purpose is to help members become well emotionally. Registration is not necessary. Call Rosemary at (586) 776-3886.

Alzheimer's/dementia — Bon Secours Nursing Care Center

Community caregivers are invited to attend monthly sessions that focus on coping with these debilitating conditions and place emphasis on caregivers "caring for themselves." Meetings are held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. the second Monday of each month in the In-Service Room. For information, call (586) 779-7032.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings take place at 1 p.m. Sundays in Connelly Auditorium at Bon Secours Hospital. Call (313) 885-1888.

Al Anon

Meetings take place at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays in Conference Rooms 1-4, first floor, at Cottage Hospital. For information call (313) 242-0300 or (248) 706-1020.

Community support groups available at BSC

Families Anonymous

The public is welcome to attend this 12-step, anonymous, family support program for parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who are concerned about and affected by substance abuse or behavioral problems of a loved one. Meetings are held from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Thursday at Cottage Hospital, Grosse Pointe Farms, lower level Boardroom B. Pre-registration is not necessary. Call (313) 882-1921.

Emotions Anonymous

Emotions Anonymous meetings take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at Cottage Hospital, Boardroom B. Emotions Anonymous follows a 12-step program similar to Alcoholics Anonymous but is intended

and a Master of Science degree, both in industrial and operations engineering from the University of Michigan. He is vice president of Latin American operations at MRTI in Washington, D.C.

He is a quality engineer with General Motors.

Bon Secours Cottage Health Services offers to the local community a variety of support groups. Meetings take place at Cottage Hospital, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms; Bon Secours Hospital, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe; or the Bon Secours Nursing Care Center, 26001 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

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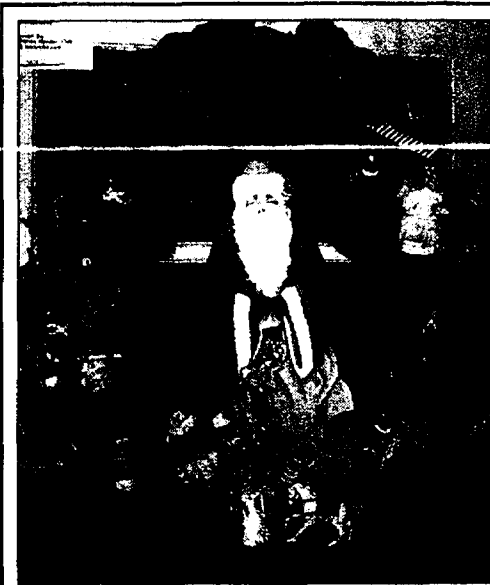
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Emotions Anonymous meetings take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at Cottage Hospital, Boardroom B. Emotions Anonymous follows a 12-step program similar to Alcoholics Anonymous but is intended



Win-win wreaths

Grosse Pointe resident Lynn Lutomski-Kiley, vice president of the Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club, won both first and second place for her Christmas wreath entries at "Festival of Trees," the annual fundraiser for Children's Hospital of Michigan. Wreaths "Child's Dream," shown at the left, and "Angel Baby's Christmas" were based on the Festival's theme, "A Child's Fantasy."

Credit Card Services.com purchased both winning wreaths and will donate them back to the emergency wing at Children's Hospital and to The Children's Home of Detroit in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Engagements



Anne K. Thomas and Jeffrey M. Insero

Thomas-Insero

Charles and Marsha Thomas of Grosse Pointe Park have announced the engagement of their daughter, Anne K. Thomas, to Jeffrey M. Insero, son of Sharon Insero of Pittsford, N.Y. and Frank Insero of Victor, N.Y. A June wedding is planned.

Thomas earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature from the University of Michigan. She is a senior account manager with Text 100 Public Relations.

Insero earned a Bachelor

of Science degree in communications from Syracuse University and a master's degree in business administration from Boston University. He is a business banking account associate with M. and T. Bank.

Burnham-McPartlin

Barbara and William Burnham of Grosse Pointe Shores have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Cooke Burnham, to Gregory Lawrence McPartlin, son of Kathleen and Lawrence McPartlin of

Allen Park. A July wedding is planned.

Burnham earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in engineering from the University of Michigan. She is working on a master's degree in business administration at George Washington University. She is a patent examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark office.

McPartlin earned a bachelor's degree in industrial marketing from Western Michigan University and a master's degree in business administration from Bond University in Australia.

He is vice president of Latin American operations at MRTI in Washington, D.C.



Rebecca Ann Kramer and Matthew Ejay Rudnick

and a Master of Science degree, both in industrial and operations engineering from the University of Michigan.

He is a quality engineer with General Motors.

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Sarah Cooke Burnham and Gregory Lawrence McPartlin

Kramer-Rudnick

Dennis and Diane Kramer of Troy have announced the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Ann Kramer, to Matthew Ejay Rudnick of Grosse Pointe Farms. A June wedding is planned.

Kramer earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan. She is a product development engineer with Visteon Corp.

Rudnick earned a Bachelor of Science degree

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A new year: Time to create lasting changes in beliefs, behaviors

As we begin the New Year — the season of resolutions — many of us take on the challenge of personal change. We set goals to exercise more and eat less, to read more and stare at television less, or to shed a habit such as smoking or gambling.

The challenge, however, is how to act on our intentions after the first few days of January. Creating lasting change in beliefs and behavior is one of the knottiest problems that human beings face.

People who are in recovery from alcoholism and other forms of addiction face this problem each day. Their sanity — and their lives — may depend on how they solve it.

The topic of personal change has occupied Earnie Larsen for 40 years, first as a Catholic priest and now as an author, speaker and workshop leader.

In 55 books and recordings, Larsen explains that recovery from addiction happens in two major stages and that long-term sobriety hinges on three keys to habit change.

Stage I recovery focuses on abstinence from alcohol and other drugs. For many people, this stage includes treatment for chemical dependency and membership in a support group such as Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yet there's more to recovery than getting sober. "If you start by defining yourself as your disease — I'm an addict — then once you've arrested the disease, there's really nowhere else to go," Larsen says.

"But if you define yourself first as a person who happens to have an addiction, then you can still continue to grow and move on as a human being. That's what I call Stage II recovery."

Defined in this way, Stage II applies to anyone who

wants to experience lasting personal change, including people who are not in recovery from addiction.

Change in Stage II depends on readiness, insight and practice. Lacking any of these, says Larsen, can sabotage our efforts.

Readiness comes in its own time, Larsen says. It cannot be forced or predicted. In fact, some people experience traumatic consequences before they're truly ready to change. A cocaine addict, for example, might go through treatment but then relapse to drug use, thus losing his job and family, before finally deciding to get clean and sober for good.

Insight begins with a distinction between the past and the present. In the past, we learned to deal with pain by adopting certain beliefs and behaviors. Eventually these become self-defeating habits that take on a life of their own. Change hinges on bringing those habits to full awareness.

Practice means using that awareness to consciously choose and practice new habits in the present. For example, Larsen says that he spent years as a workaholic, a habit that he traces to a childhood belief that "you're only as good as your work."

Decades later, he woke up with a "driving impulse" to get up at 4 a.m. and write books on relaxation, the most bizarre thing in the world, because "I was exhausting myself."

Now he practices alternatives, limiting his work hours and taking a scheduled amount of time each day to relax and do nothing.

The key is responding to events with an intensity that's appropriate to events in the present, not with the automatic and destructive reactions that we learned in the past.

"When someone cuts you off on the highway, don't look for a flame thrower to turn the driver into a cinder," Larsen writes in his latest book, "Destination Joy: Moving Beyond Fear, Loss, and Trauma in Recovery" (Hazelden, 2003). "That's old stuff. It's no big deal. Let it go. Get in the now."

In short, the fruit of readiness and insight is seeing each day as a fresh opportunity to practice. Then we can experience the miracle of

personal change for the rest of our lives.

This health column offers information to help prevent and address addiction and substance abuse problems. It is provided by Hazelden, a nonprofit agency based in Center City, Minn., that offers a wide range of information and services on addiction and recovery. For more resources, call Hazelden at (800) 257-7800 or check its Web site at www.hazelden.org.

St. John named one of top heart hospitals

St. John Hospital and Medical Center is ranked as one of the country's top 100 hospitals for heart care, according to an independent national study. St. John Hospital and Medical Center was among a national list of only 25 teaching hospitals with cardiovascular residency programs chosen, and has been recognized by Solucient three out of the last four years.

The Solucient 100 Top Hospitals: Cardiovascular Benchmarks for Success study identifies those hospitals that have achieved excellence in care, efficiency of operations and sustainability of cardiovascular performance.

The study focused on hospitals that treat high volumes of heart attack patients and perform large numbers of specific heart-related procedures.

The study found that top-performing facilities consistently outperform their peers, especially in terms of survival rates of congestive heart failure, bypass surgery and angioplasty. The Solucient top cardiovascular hospitals are leading the way in improving survival rates of coronary

bypass patients.

"St. John Hospital and Medical Center is committed to keeping the bar high for quality care," said Mark Taylor, president of St. John Hospital and Medical Center. "This independent study recognizes the excellent and efficient patient care provided daily by our physicians, nurses and staff."

"The Solucient recognition is a tribute to the excellent organization and skills, as well as the dedicated effort of the entire St. John Hospital team in providing leading edge cardiovascular care to our patients," said Dr. Julius Gardin, chief, division of cardiology.

"We are very pleased to once again be ranked by Solucient as one of the top 100 hospitals in the nation for heart care," said Dr. Steven Harrington, chief, division of cardiovascular surgery.

"We feel we have one of the finest cardiac programs in southeast Michigan, with excellent service and patient care," he said.

The study represents more than 6,000 U.S. hospitals and more than 12 million patient discharges.

According to the study, if all the hospitals in the study group provided the same quality of care as the Solucient top hospitals, an estimated 4,200 more cardiovascular patients would survive each year.

Now in its sixth year, the Solucient 100 Top Hospitals study identifies hospitals that are setting benchmark levels of performance for cardiovascular services throughout the nation.

Solucient is an Evanston, Ill.-based company that provides strategic information to the healthcare industry. More information about the results of this study is available at www.100tophospitals.com.

Down with super-sizing

By Susanne Consiglio
Special Writer

While the holidays can pack on the traditional five to seven pounds from Thanksgiving Day to New Year's Day, the truth is people are steadily gaining weight all year-round.

Get to the root of the problem

The greatest challenge that Americans face is learning how to decrease portions or serving sizes. Holiday meals do not cause obesity. It's the super-sized meals, snacks and desserts throughout the year that produce the damage to our bodies.

When you consider how portions have grown, it's no wonder that obesity is now part of a major health crisis. Super-sizing is everywhere: gas stations, convenience stores, fast-food drive-throughs and, of course, movie theaters.

Super-sized popcorn can generate 1,700 calories, enough calories for an average woman to consume in one whole day. In years past, an average soft drink weighed in at 12 ounces or 160 calories. Today 20 ounces is on the low side for soft drinks. The big gulp beverages (44 ounces!) have become very popular, but who needs 34 teaspoons of sugar and 550 calories in a beverage?

Fast-food meals have tripled in size and calories. Super-sized french fries, hamburgers, cookies, muffins, ice cream, mocha lattes and beer all taste great, but a calorie is still a calorie.

None of the super-sized foods belong to the fruit and vegetable group, which are our leading sources of vitamins and minerals.

Thanks to a super-sized mentality, we are facing a diabetes epidemic related to obesity. You might think you are getting your money's worth at an "all you can eat" restaurant, but in the end it's contributing to your health problems.

When we consume large quantities, more than we can burn off in one day, the most likely result is weight gain to the hips, thighs, and belly.

What about food labels?

In 1994, product labels went through a reorganization with standardized food servings or portion sizes. In reality, how many of us read the nutrition facts food label that states six crackers make up one serving? We're used to eating the entire "sleeve" of crackers.

Who puts one serving of potato chips into a small bowl? That 11-ounce bag, which yields 11 servings, can easily be consumed as one or two servings or 1,600 calories — just like that.

Visual measurements

Palm of a woman's hand = 4 ounces
Palm of a man's hand = 6 - 8 ounces
Tennis ball = 1/2 cup
Closed fist = 1 cup
Golf ball = 1 ounce

Breaking away

If you're gaining weight and tired of joining the diet of the month club, take a look at what you are eating. Write down everything you eat in one day. Read the labels on packaged items, and follow the serving size. Add fruits, vegetables, salads and low-fat dairy or soy beverages along with your meals and snacks for added filler.

Resist taking second helpings of the entree and starchy side dishes. Doggie bag that large restaurant portion or share your order with others.

Don't become a member of the "for a few cents more you can have a larger size" club. Just say "No" to super-sized beverages, and start ordering flavored noncaloric water or plain water.

The choice is yours

It's more than just the rich high calorie holiday foods. Think about your daily habits throughout the year that really need attention. A few minutes on the lips can add up to a lifetime on the hips.

Susanne Consiglio is a registered dietitian in private practice in St. Clair Shores. For more information call (586) 778-4877.

BSC offers nutrition counseling

Bon Secours Cottage at Cottage Hospital, 159 Health Services offers an individualized nutrition counseling session by a registered dietitian. It covers a variety of diets, including low weight reduction, low cholesterol, diabetes and cardiac. The sessions takes place at the parking deck on Muir. Bring your parking ticket into the program for validation. Call (313) 640-2650 for more information or to make an appointment.

Know Your Skin

by Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, MD



Need some resolutions for your New Year's skin? Here are three to consider: protect, detect and restore.

Protect: Beyond protecting from obvious traumas of cuts, scrapes and abrasions, take steps to protect your skin from the three most common causes of damage — the sun, smoking and contact with items such as harsh chemicals and cleansers. How? Make it part of your routine every day, summer and winter. If you smoke, quit. And wear gloves and protective clothing when exposed to harsh substances.

Detect: How well do you know your skin? Everyone should complete a monthly skin exam using a mirror for help. If you have lots of moles or a history of skin cancer or changing lesions, don't forget to schedule the

annual skin exam to be done by your dermatologist. We all need to keep a watchful eye out for any changes, whether for existing moles or for new spots with may appear.

Restore: In addition to using sunscreen to protect from harmful sun damage, our skin is well rewarded by the use of moisturizers and cleansers which match our skin type. Also, there are numerous skin products available over-the-counter or through your physician which can help to slow or reverse existing damage. And for extreme damage, there are options involving injectables, lasers and other surgical techniques to repair and improve our skin.

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year from all of the associates at Eastside Dermatology, Eastside Dermatology has offices in Grosse Pointe and New Baltimore. You can reach them at (313) 884-3380.

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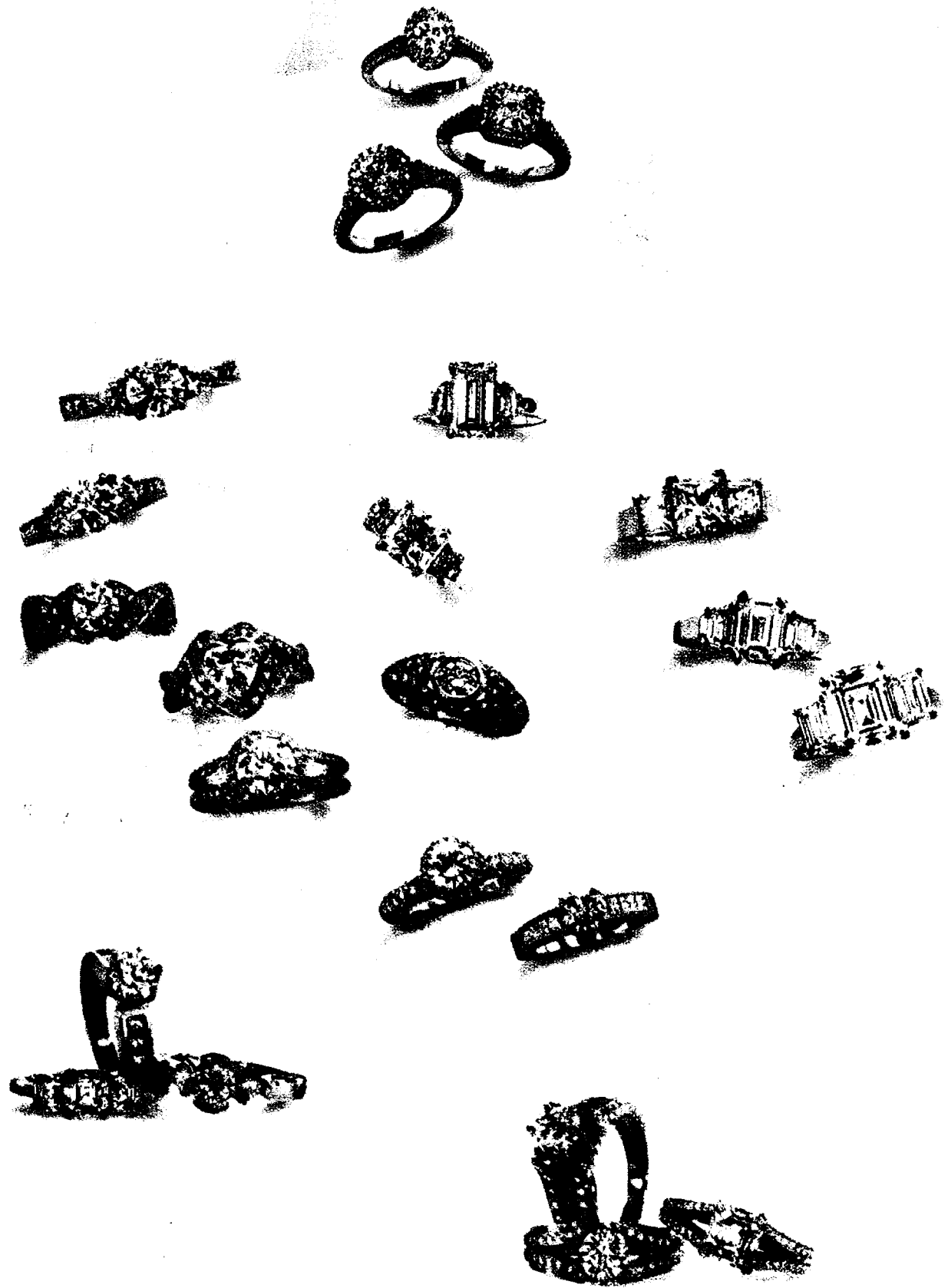
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ULS girls hockey team keeps improving with each game

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

The old year has been a good one for University Liggett School's girls hockey team, and coach Laura Owczarski hopes that 2005 will be even better.

"We just continue to get better," Owczarski said of her team, which is 5-2. "Once our goalie gets more experienced we're going to be a team that could give people some problems in the state playoffs."

ULS is already giving people problems.

In a recent game with

Cranbrook Kingswood, a perennial power in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League, the Knights trailed 5-4 with three minutes to play in the third period.

Cranbrook then scored a power-play goal and added another goal to skate away with a hard-earned 7-4 victory.

That game showed how much ULS has been improving during the last month because the Cranes beat the Knights 9-2 in the championship game of the ULS Invitational a couple weeks

earlier.

This year was only the second time that the Knights have played in the championship game of the annual tournament that they host. ULS beat Northville 4-2 in the semifinal.

ULS also played a solid game against defending league and state champion Grosse Pointe South, although the Knights lost 9-5.

"We were down 7-2 but scored three goals in the third period," Owczarski said. "We never gave up."

Two of the highlights of the first part of the season for ULS were league victories against Regina (4-3) and Ladywood (6-3).

The Knights trailed Regina 2-0 and 3-1 before tying the game with a pair of goals late in the second period. Alexis Bohlinger then got the winner with about 11 minutes left in the game.

"She was getting so frustrated because she had three or four shots earlier in the game that hit the posts," Owczarski said.

Sarah Hughes, Kim Dickinson and Jordan

McIlroy had the other ULS goals.

Dickinson and Hughes each scored twice against Ladywood, while Elizabeth Palmer had a goal and three assists. McIlroy had the other goal for the Knights.

ULS has an experienced team except for freshman goalie Tori Ellithorpe.

"This is the first time she has ever played in goal. Maybe it's the first time she's even been on skates," Owczarski said with a laugh.

"We've been able to take some of the pressure off of

her with our outstanding defense. They're all excellent shot blockers."

Bohlinger, Erin Deane, Alex Houghtalin and Monique Squiers make up the Knights' solid corps of defensemen.

Dickinson leads ULS in scoring with 17 points.

"She has a point in every game, and if you count our scrimmages and tournaments, she has an 11-game point streak," Owczarski said. "She has really stepped up her play this year."

Bohlinger is second in scoring with 13 points.

South swimmers are third in Brother Rice Warrior Relays

Grosse Pointe South's boys swimming team showed that it belongs among the elite high school squads in the state with its third-place finish in the Warrior Relays, hosted by Brother Rice.

Top-ranked Ann Arbor Pioneer dominated the meet, finishing first in eight of the 11 events, and compiling a final score of 312 points.

Brother Rice was second with 268, and the Blue Devils were third with 248. University of Detroit Jesuit was fourth with 190 points.

The meet's unique format enabled the 12 competing teams to showcase their depth as each event featured four competitors swimming the same stroke.

Pioneer barely touched out South's 400-yard individual medley team of Casey Browning, David Richardson-Rossbach, Pete Stevens and Jon Sax. The South team's second-place time was 3:52.77.

South took another second

with the crescendo relay team of Alex Bordyukov, Sax, Danny Basile and Browning. The crescendo relay consists of a 50-, 100-, 200- and 500-yard freestyle swim by each team.

The Blue Devils took third in three events.

Robby Browning, Stevens, Luke Richard and Ryan Gunderson finished the 400 medley relay with a time of 3:49.47.

Richardson-Rossbach, Basile, Jeff Tompkins and Casey Browning posted a 7:32.41 in the 800 freestyle relay.

The 200 backstroke team of Robby Browning, Gunderson, Wilson Holm and Richardson-Rossbach finished just two-tenths of a second behind Brother Rice in a 1:43.43.

Strong finishes were recorded by South's 200 medley team of Holm, Michael Manos, Richard and Gunderson and the 200 butterfly foursome of Robby Browning, Stevens, Andrew Graham and Richard. Both

of those teams took fourth place.

South's divers also finished fourth, led by senior Justin Linne, whose fine form and superior difficulty earned him second-place individually.

Coach Bill Thompson was pleased with his team's performance.

"The team was excited to compete against a strong field," he said. "When you swim against the top teams, it allows you to see where you stand and what more you need to do in order to reach their level."

"Most of our relays had much better times this year than they had last year at this meet, so we are hopeful it will translate into more success later in the year."

"The only way this is possible, though, is through more hard work, and the team showed that it is ready for the challenge."

South's next meet is a Macomb Area Conference Red Division clash at Fraser on Thursday, Jan. 6.



Photo by Bob Rossbach
Senior Luke Richard has been a key performer for Grosse Pointe South's swimming team in the freestyle and butterfly events.



Photo by Bob Rossbach
Grosse Pointe South has already qualified eight swimmers for the state Division I swimming championships. In front, from left, are Casey Browning, David Richardson-Rossbach, Jon Sax and Pete Stevens. In back, from left, are Jeff Tompkins, Ryan Gunderson, Luke Richard and Robby Browning.

Extra practice helps North forward score a hat trick

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Practice might not always make perfect, but it sure does help.

Just ask Grosse Pointe North forward Eddie Tropp.

Tropp scored three goals last week to lead North's hockey team to a 5-2 victory over University of Detroit Jesuit in a Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League game.

"Eddie was spending some extra time at practice working on his shooting," said coach Scott Lock.

Tropp's first shot of the game hit a crossbar, but after that he was right on.

Tropp's first goal was a thing of beauty. He took a pass from behind the net from Julien Horrie and one-timed a shot that beat the Cubs' goalie.

The second goal was impressive, too. He waited patiently, then beat the goalie with a shot to the short side of the net from the faceoff circle.

Last week's practices, which came after a disappointing loss to Port Huron Northern, also paid some other dividends for the Norsemen.

"We changed our lines this week, and tonight every line scored," Lock said.

"We played a great first period, but we couldn't buy a goal. Then we made one mistake and they scored."

North outshot U-D 18-2 in the first period, but the 15 minutes ended with the teams tied at 1-1.

Doug Rahaim scored his first varsity goal at 4:36 of the opening period to give the Norsemen a 1-0 lead,

but less than a minute later the Cubs' Brian Burke tied the game.

"It was good to see Rahaim score his first goal," Lock said. "He's been playing well for us. He's only a sophomore but he gives us somebody big and strong in front of the net."

Rahaim's goal came on a play that North had worked on in practice the day before.

"It was a play we set up Tuesday and we didn't think the kids were getting it, but then we scored on it, and they were saying, 'that looks familiar,'" Lock said.

North continued to play well in the second period. Although the Norsemen didn't put as many shots on net as they did in the first, more of them found their way into

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See HOCKEY, page 2C



Medal winners

Grosse Pointe North wrestling coach Rick Pesta, far left, is shown with the members of his team who won medals at the recent Macomb County Invitational. From left are Ryan Stephens, Spencer Channel, Mike Kurdziel, and Scott Gawel.

North writes a happy ending to a familiar basketball script

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's basketball team followed the same script against University of Detroit Jesuit as it did against Detroit Country Day a week earlier, only this time the Norsemen wrote a different ending.

North got off to a fast start, let a double-digit halftime slip away, but against U-D, the Norsemen recovered and came away with a 55-49 victory.

"It was almost like Country Day," said North coach Matt Trombley. "We were playing really well in the first half, then we had a bad third quarter."

North led 31-18 at halftime, but the Cubs outscored the Norsemen 14-7 in the third quarter to cut the lead to four points.

Midway through the fourth quarter, U-D got within a point. North's Michael Bramos then blocked a shot, got the loose ball, went in for a layup and was fouled. He hit the free throw to complete the three-point play.

"When we needed a basket, Michael answered," Trombley said. "He's so assertive this year."

Bramos finished with a game-high 29 points, including 12-for-15 from the free throw line.

"He was dominant in the post," Trombley said. "U-D played man-to-man at the start and they couldn't handle us, so they switched to a zone. We had some trouble because our posts weren't real active, so we put Michael in there and he scored quite a few points."

One of the big differences between the Country Day

game — a 55-50 defeat — and the U-D contest was the Norsemen's ability to hit free throws. North finished 22-for-27 from the line against the Cubs after an off-night the week before.

The Norsemen, who have played well defensively all season, came up big down the stretch.

"We had two critical stops," Trombley said. "We had Michael's block, and with less than a minute to go and a three-point lead we put pressure on (U-D's) point guard and got a turnover without them getting a shot."

"We're playing well defensively, but we can still get better."

Trombley singled out Alex Sultan and Marcell Maxwell for their work on defense.

"Alex came off the bench and gave us some good defense, and Marcell did a good job guarding U-D's best perimeter player," Trombley said. "Marcell is our warrior on the boards and defensively, and he still managed to score 11 points."

Henry McCain helped get North off to a good start with seven points in the first quarter, and David Klein finished with six points.

North, 3-1, has an excellent test today, Dec. 30, when the Norsemen play Detroit King at 4 p.m. as part of the Coca-Cola Classic at Denby High School.

The Norsemen's next home game is Tuesday, Jan. 4 against Fitzgerald.

DBC rowers do well at Schuylkill Regatta

Most high school students wouldn't jump at the chance to travel 28 hours in a crowded bus, endure unpleasant weather conditions and sleep on a gymnasium floor.

Members of the Detroit Boat Club Junior rowers didn't mind, however, because the trip to the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta in Philadelphia, Pa., gave them a chance to race some of the most competitive crews in the country.

The regatta was in the "head race" format, which differs from the sprint season — held in the spring — in course length and start sequence.

Head race courses typically include anything from a slight meander to a drastic curve, so coxswains must be able to maneuver the 60-foot shells gracefully while maintaining a competitive course.

Although head racing does not always entail the head-to-head adrenaline rush that accompanies the sprints, it does require a large amount of stamina and skill.

The DBC placed well among the stiff competition.

The girls varsity team raced in the women's scholastic eight division and placed fourth (15:24.75), 16th (16:20.71) and 50th (17:31.28).

The boys varsity team competed in the men's scholastic eight and placed 30th in 14:24.62. It also finished fifth in the men's scholastic four race with a time of 15:49.60.

Rob Heide was seventh in the men's scholastic singles race in 17:39.59, while Steve Lambers finished 17th in 18:13.17.

The novice team also placed well in the women's scholastic four, women's scholastic eight and men's

scholastic eight.

In addition to racing, the team took advantage of sightseeing in the historically-rich city, visiting the Liberty Bell and the United States Mint, along with the home where MTV cast members lived during the show, Real World Philadelphia.

The DBC rowers come from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South, University Liggett, Regina and De La Salle high schools.

Nine local athletes get MIAA honors

Nine athletes from area high schools earned recognition as scholar-athletes for the 2003-04 school year in the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Association.

In order to qualify as a scholar-athlete, a student must achieve at least a 3.5 grade-point average for the full school year.

Grosse Pointe South graduates on the list were Matthew Bernbeck, Albion, senior, swimming; Darren Mantyla, Albion, sophomore, swimming; Adam Novak, Adrian, senior, basketball and baseball; and Colleen Trybus, Alma, senior, softball.

Grosse Pointe North graduates honored were Ryan Fried, Olivet, senior, football; and Frederic Moore, Albion, sophomore, swimming.

University Liggett School graduates on the scholar-athlete list were Mark Brammer, Adrian, sophomore, football; and Anthony Legree, Adrian, junior, football.

Regina grad Michelle Cybulski, a sophomore softball player from Adrian, was also honored.

Blue Devils look sharp in victory over Notre Dame

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

It's a long way from mid-season, but Grosse Pointe South's basketball team looked in midseason form against Notre Dame last week.

"That second quarter was almost a perfect quarter for us," coach Jay Ritchie said after the Blue Devils rolled past the Irish 52-37 in their final game before the New Year.

"We only gave up four points in the quarter. Our guards did a good job of pressuring their guards. We didn't give them any open shots on the perimeter, which is what Notre Dame does best."

The win was South's fourth straight after losing its opener against Highland Park.

"We're playing better defense, good team defense," Ritchie said. "Guys are doing a good job of helping out defensively."

"If we can play great defense, and slightly above average offense, we'll be OK."

The offense seems to be

coming along, too.

In the Notre Dame game, the Blue Devils had 18 assists and only 11 turnovers.

"We're showing more composure," Ritchie said. "We're developing our own tempo. A lot of teams try to play at warp speed and we're not a warp speed team."

A perfect example of the way South is running its offense came at the end of the first quarter when the Blue Devils worked the clock for the final shot, and J.C. Cruse hit a jumper at the buzzer to give South an 11-8 lead.

The second quarter was all Blue Devils. South outscored Notre Dame 22-4 in the period, and during one stretch had a 14-0 run.

Brendan Howe had three baskets during the spurt and Cruse and Christian Conroy each had two.

Cruse finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds, but Ritchie seemed to be the happiest with Cruse's defense.

"He's only a sophomore, but he has become our defensive stopper, and it's a

role that he takes pride in," Ritchie said.

"We have him guard the other team's best shooter. Tonight he was on (Devon) Guinane, and he didn't score a point."

Conroy finished with 10 points and five rebounds, while Dave Baldwin grabbed six boards for the Blue Devils.

Aaron Mellucci led Notre Dame with 10 points, Vince Mazzocco had nine and Bobby Gibson finished with eight points and a team-high five rebounds.

Earlier, South beat Utica Eisenhower 46-42 and Clintondale 68-55 in Macomb Area Conference crossover games.

In the Eisenhower game, the Blue Devils fell behind 9-2 early in the game, but at halftime South had taken a 20-19 lead.

The game stayed close throughout the second half, and the Blue Devils couldn't relax until David DeBoer made a free throw with 12 seconds left to put South ahead by four points.

"That was a great win for us," Ritchie said. "Eisenhower was ranked No. 3 in the Metro East, and they had a lot of kids back from the team that won the regional last year."

Conroy led South with 17 points, while Cruse added eight and did another fine defensive job, holding the Eagles' Josh Pandy to only three points.

In the Clintondale game, South used a 21-point second quarter to pull away from the Dragons.

The Blue Devils' guards provided much of the offense as Conroy scored 19 points and Eric Berschback added 14.

"Eric is playing very well," Ritchie said. "He's doing a good job of pushing the ball down the floor."

Derrick Hacias, Andy Wolking and Cruse each added eight points to South's balanced attack against Clintondale.

"Andy is just rounding into shape after several injuries," Ritchie said. "He's going to be a huge factor for us when he's completely healthy."

South's next game is Tuesday, Jan. 4 at L'Anse Creuse.



Photo by Dr. J. Richard Dunlap
J.C. Cruse (44) and Brendan Howe (50) of Grosse Pointe South play tight defense against Notre Dame's Bryan Dick.

GPHA house highlights

PEE WEE DIVISION
Knights 5, Chill 2

Goals: Nick Shultz, Michael Teolis, Evan Connors, Nick Frontczak, Cameron Ciaciuch (Knights); Isaac Piepszowski, Greg Griffin (Chill).

Assists: Nick Catoni, Will Houser, Alex Carnaghi (Knights); Alex Dane, Clark Wells, Alex Krebs (Chill).

Comments: Bobby Mitchell and Erik Roche played well for the Chill. The Knights scored a pair of power play goals.

Huskies 6, Chill 2

Goals: Tucker Shield, Brad Remillet, Brad Herron, T.J. Livingston 2, Jeff Graves (Huskies); Alex Dane, Isaac Piepszowski (Chill).

Assists: Thomas Shield 2, Tyler Magk, Karl Brecht 3, Remillet, Spencer Firluk (Huskies); Greg Griffin, Albert Ford, Bobby Mitchell (Chill).

Comments: The Huskies broke the game open by outscoring the Chill 3-1 in the second period. The game was marred by several penalties against each team. James Palmer and Mac Decker played well on defense for the Chill.

Chill 6, Bruins 6

Goals: James Shepard, Jacob Swindell 2, Clark Wells, Isaac Piepszowski, Alex Krebs (Chill); Jeffery Blazoff 2, Paul Keller 2, Michael Crowley, Joshua Johnston (Bruins).

Assists: Shepard, Alex Dane, Swindell, Erik Roche, Jordan Teets, Piepszowski (Chill); Blazoff 2, Keller, Zach Martinelli, Jeffrey LaTour, James Eisey, Tayler Leamon (Bruins).

Comments: Krebs tied the game with a slap shot from the blue line with less than a minute remaining in the third period. Each team took advantage of the power play to score goals. The defensive pairing of Dane and Krebs played well for the Chill, as did goalie Patrick Thomas.

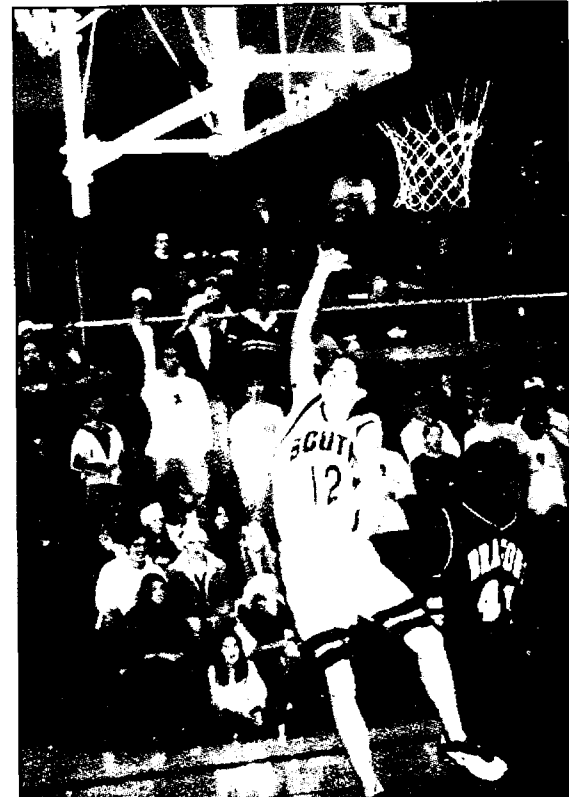


Photo by Dr. J. Richard Dunlap
Grosse Pointe South's Eric Berschback drives to the basket against Clintondale.

Fitness Firm classes start Jan. 3

The Fitness Firm will begin an eight-week series of low-impact aerobics classes on Monday, Jan. 3 in Grosse Pointe Woods and Harper Woods.

Classes will be Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 at First English Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Woods, and

Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:45 to 7:45 at Trinity Catholic School in Harper Woods.

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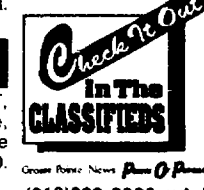
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Table listing various classified categories such as Announcements, Real Estate, Automotive, and Services, with corresponding ad numbers.

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cleaning. Weekly or
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EXCELLENT pay for the
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child care in my
home. Monday thru
Wednesday, after
school. Must have
transportation, be out-
going, self-starter, re-
sponsible. 313-418-
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201 HELP WANTED
BABYSITTER
EXCELLENT pay for the
right applicant for
child care in my
home. Monday thru
Wednesday, after
school. Must have
transportation, be out-
going, self-starter, re-
sponsible. 313-418-
3336

201 HELP WANTED
BABYSITTER
EXPERIENCED, loving
and motivated nanny
with references re-
quired, for full time
position. (313)282-6937

313-882-6900 ext 3

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING REAL ESTATE FOR RENT INDEX

FAX: 313-343-5569
http://grossepointenews.com

DEADLINES
HOMES FOR SALE
 Photos: Fri. Logos: FRI-DAYS 12 PM
 Word Ads: MON-DAYS 11 AM
 Open Sunday: MON-DAYS 4 PM
 (Call for holiday date dates)
RENTALS & LAND FOR SALE
 TUESDAY 12 NOON
CLASSIFIEDS AND OTHER CLASSIFICATIONS
 (Call for holiday date dates)
PAYMENTS
 Prepayment is required.
 We accept Visa, MasterCard, Cash, Check
 Please note: \$2 fee for delayed credit cards.
AD STYLES & PRICES:
 Word Ads: 12 words - \$18.00;
 additional words: \$16 each.
 Abbreviations: " " accepted.
 Measured Ads: \$38.00 per column inch.
 Border Ads: \$34.00 per column inch.
 Photo Scans: \$5.00 each (includes web send)
 (Email: OFFICE@GPN.COM)

FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS: given for multi-week scheduled advertising with prepayment or credit approval. Call for rates or for more information.
CLASSIFYING & CENSORSHIP: We reserve the right to classify each ad under its appropriate heading. The publisher reserves the right to add or reject ad copy submitted for publication. Please call us.
CORRECTIONS & ADJUSTMENTS: Responsibility for classified advertising error is limited to either a cancellation of the charge or a return of the portion in error. Refundations will be given in writing for correction in the following issue. We assume no responsibility for the same after the first insertion.

HOMES FOR SALE
 See our Magazine Section "Homes" for all Classified Real Estate ads.



CALL FOR COLOR

HOLIDAY DEADLINES
 Real Estate for Sale - "YOUR HOME"
 December 30 Issue
 Deadline: Wednesday, December 22, 4pm
 January 6, 2005 Issue
 Deadline: Wednesday, December 29, 4pm
General Classifieds - Rentals, All Other Sections
 Tuesdays, Noon
 December 28 & January 4, 2005
 * Office closed December 23, Noon thru December 27, 8am
 December 30, Noon thru January 3, 2005, 8am

700 APTS./FLATS/DUPLX POINTES/HARPER WOODS
1008 Lakepointe, 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper. \$1150/ month. Includes all appliances, air, garage, snow removal, water. No smoking/pets. Security deposit. Available January 15th. (248)363-9771

1067 Lakeside, Newly decorated 2 bedroom. Beautiful oak woodwork. Hardwood floors. Appliances. Off street parking. Non-smoking. No pets. \$750. 313-886-1821

1131 Maryland, bright, attractive, newly decorated 2 bedroom upper, new appliances, laundry, garage, front & rear sun decks, quiet building. No pets. \$650. (313)885-9468

1323 & 1325 Somerset, Upper & Lower, attractive, carefully maintained. 2 bedrooms, laundry, garage. No smoking, no pets. \$695. (248)703-5048

137 Muir Road, 2 bedroom duplex. Air, 1 car garage. Immediate occupancy. \$950/ month plus 1/2 months security deposit. No pets. 586-596-2084

1429 Somerset, 2 bedroom upper, family remodeled kitchen, appliances, off street parking, separate storage. No pets/ smoking. \$700/ month plus security. (248)539-8975

2 bedroom upper, new kitchen, all appliances. 451 1/2 St. Clair. \$850. (313)506-5340

60 Mapleton/ Kercheval 3 bedroom, basement, garage, appliances, \$1,100. (313)410-4339

852 Beaconsfield, beautifully renovated 2 bedroom upper in well maintained, quiet 4 unit building. Laundry, basement, parking, sun deck. Close to new library. No pets. Includes heat and all utilities. \$675. (313)885-9468

700 APTS./FLATS/DUPLX POINTES/HARPER WOODS
GROSSE Pointe Park, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, huge storage. Includes heat/ water/ laundry facilities. \$675/ month. By appointment, (248)543-4566

GROSSE Pointe Woods lease, 2062 Vermier, 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, full basement, shared garage, central air, newly decorated, new appliances. \$950/ month plus utilities & security deposit. Smoke free, no pets. (586)405-6588

HARCOURT 910 upper, 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, air conditioning, same floor laundry, family room, full dining room, enclosed porch. \$1,200/ month. (313)821-5857

HARPER Woods. Start the New Year in a new apartment, 1 bedroom. (586)772-4134

IN THE VILLAGE. 17201 Kercheval, Beautifully renovated large lower 3 bedroom with family room. New kitchen, appliances, 2 car garage. \$1,350. 313-824-3228

951 Nottingham, 3 bedroom lower. Dining/living room, appliances, 1/2 basement, water, parking. \$710/ month. References required plus \$1,065 deposit. (313)821-1453

BEACONSFIELD 2 bedroom upper in the Park. Carpeted, basement with washer & dryer, off street parking. No pets. \$650/ month plus utilities. (313)822-3009

BEACONSFIELD South of Jefferson. Renovated 2 bedroom loft apartment. On site parking. Heat/ water included. \$695/ month. 586-940-4341 (313)886-1924

BEACONSFIELD/ Jefferson. 2 bedroom upper. Appliances, parking, laundry. \$600. Available now. 313-885-0031.

CARRIAGE House. No pets/ smoking. Ideal for 1 person. \$800. (313)886-8546

DUPLEX. Vermier. Nice, 5 rooms, appliances, separate basement/ garage, water. \$850. (313)885-2909

701 APTS./FLATS/DUPLX DETROIT/WAYNE COUNTY
1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Cadieux/ Warren. Spacious living room, dining room, separate kitchen, stove, refrigerator, heat/ water included. Coin laundry in storage room, private parking. Starting at \$495/ month. (313)872-8215 days only.

2 bedroom, remodeled flat, Chatsworth/ Warren area. \$625- \$650. month. (734)487-0722

ALTER/ Charlevoix, 1 bedroom, \$390 includes heat, appliances, parking. Available now (313)885-0031

CADIEUX/ Warren, 17214 Ontario. Very nice 2 bedroom duplex. \$650/ month. Section 8 okay! (313)881-1811

LARGE 2 bedroom upper, 733 Tennessee, new wood floors. \$550/ month. (313)410-1899

MOROSS, near St. John hospital, 1/2 duplex, 1 bedroom, den. \$525. month. (313)300-4921

MUST see 1 br 3/4 bedroom flats in Alter/ Jefferson area. Hardwood floors, off street parking. Starting at \$500/ month. 313-331-6180

SPACIOUS 3 bedroom lower, fireplace, appliances, dishwasher, basement- half bath, garage. \$880 includes heat. (313)886-1924

702 APTS./FLATS/DUPLX S.C.S./MACOMB COUNTY
CLEAN, large 1 bedroom. New carpet/ appliances. Free heat. \$535/ month. Leave message. (586)725-1683

FIRST month free. Lower 1 bedroom with new carpet & appliances. \$535 monthly. Credit check required. Leave message. (313)884-2141

LAKEPOINTE Towers, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. In-door parking. Laundry, pool, exercise room. On golf course. \$1,195. Available February. (313)886-1440

704 HOUSES FOR RENT ST. CLAIR COUNTY
EASTSIDE several 2-4 bedroom. Near St. John Hospital. Section 8, ok. Call (313)492-0703

20650 Vermier Circle, Grosse Pointe Woods. 3 bedroom bungalow. \$1,195. Updates throughout. 810-499-4444

20878 Hunt Club, \$1,195/ month, 1 year lease. 1300 sq. ft. Appliances included, 3 bedrooms with den. Grosse Pointe Schools. New carpet and paint. Fireplace, basement, garage. Available 01-01-05. Call (313)587-0555

3 bedroom, Grosse Pointe Park, appliances, central air, newly remodeled, \$695. (586)778-5648

395 Mt. Vernon, 3 bedrooms, corner lot, basement, garage. \$1,600. 313-824-9174

4 bedroom newly remodeled home, Harper Woods, Grosse Pointe Schools. Air, garage, \$1,175. 313-884-1409

GROSSE Pointe 3 bedroom colonial, fenced backyard, 1 year lease, nonsmoking. \$1,450/ month. Call Vicki, Max Brook Realtors (248)625-9300 (SSSTC)

GROSSE Pointe Farms 3 bedroom ranch, 1/2 bath, finished basement with wet bar and 1/2 bath, central air, fireplace, newer appliances, patio, garage, privacy fence, \$1,400/ month with option to buy, also available furnished. (313)885-5136

GROSSE Pointe Woods-3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 1,400 sq. ft. Basement, 2 car, air, \$1,400/ month. D & H Properties. (248)737-4002

HARPER Woods, 3 bedrooms, Grosse Pointe Schools. \$950/ month plus utilities. (586)739-7283

HARPER Woods, Grosse Pointe Schools. 20418 Hollywood, 3 bedrooms, appliances. Section 8 okay. \$925. 586-447-2214

705 HOUSES FOR RENT POINTES/HARPER WOODS
RENOVATED Colonial. Roslyn, East of Mack. New kitchen/ granite/ appliances. Hardwood, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Central washer/ dryer. \$1150/ month. 313-886-3504, cell, 630-803-9025

SMALL house, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, large fenced backyard on St. Clair. \$900/ month. (313)884-6359

706 HOUSES FOR RENT POINTES/HARPER WOODS
2 & 3 bedrooms, \$575-\$625. Moross/ Kelly area. Redecorated, ready. (313)882-4132

EASTPOINTE. 3 bedroom ranch, oak floors, basement, central air, deep lot, 2 car garage. \$850. With major appliances, \$950. (586)778-7978

1 bedroom condo 1st floor, near St. John Hospital. Appliances. Basement. (586)566-9436

3 bedroom, Village area. 1 1/2 baths, 2 car garage, air, \$995/ month. \$1,450 security. Credit check. (313)640-7788 Southeastern Management.

HARRISON Twp. 3 bedroom, maintenance free, furnished condo on the lake. Includes heat & water. Sauna inside. Call (313)475-0079

LAKESHORE Village, 2 bedroom condo, hardwood floors, finished basement. New appliances. \$795/ month. (586)484-4424

ST. Clair Shores, 2 bedroom condo located on The Nautical Mile. \$725/ month, heat included. (586)415-0035

716 OFFICE/COMMERCIAL FOR RENT
93 Kercheval- office suites, 2nd floor, various sizes, easy parking. First month Free. (313)268-7862

A Truck & a truck. \$1 for 1st month (\$200 after) moves you into an executive office with parking, lobby, kitchen. 20490 Harper. (313)81-4929

LEASE. 1,780 sq. ft. Next to Blockbuster in strip mall. 13/ Gratiot. 810-225-1177. 810-229-9411

PROFESSIONAL office space, 15224 Kercheval. 350 per office or up to 2,500 sq. ft. (313)824-1177

RECENTLY renovated for professional offices. On Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Farms. On site parking for 3 vehicles. 313-343-5588

719 RENT WITH OPTION TO BUY
THREE bedroom for rent, appliances included. \$900/ Call (248)882-6398

721 VACATION RENTALS FLORIDA
BRADENTON. Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath island condo. Heated pool, tennis court, shuffle board, security. 2 minutes to gulf beaches. www.papacococondo.com. \$2,800/ month. 313-595-4740

FLORIDA sunshine and golf. Beautiful, new, tennis, large pool, all the amenities. Close to Ft. Myers and Sanibel beaches. Weekly \$800 or monthly \$2,900. Book your escape today. Call 248-608-9908, or visit http://www.greatbluehorizonrentals.com

722 VACATION RENTALS OUT OF STATE
PROVENCE St. Remy: 18C. Farmhouse, recently restored, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, sleeps 6-10, gourmet's kitchen, pool, poolhouse, garden. From \$1050/ week. 303-438-9570. MasCapon@msn.com

723 VACATION RENTALS MICHIGAN
CASEVILLE. private lakefront homes. Winter, spring specials. Booking now for summer 2005! 989-874-5181. DLFC102@avc.net

SKIERS/ snowmobilers- downtown Harbor Springs, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nightly/ weekly. (231)547-6567 www.cyberrentals.com/MI/thisMI.html

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 Great Pointe News - P.O.

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLVED

P	A	P	A	S	I	T	E	B	O	N
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ACROSS

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Be Classy
 USE THE CLASSIFIEDS
 Grosse Pointe News **POINTE OF PURCHASE**
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