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#### **FEATURES Around the corner**

An abundance of local holiday activities are close PAGE 1B

#### **SPORTS** Battle on the ice

North and South square off in boys hockey page 1C

# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 70, NO. 50, 40 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 71¢)

Michigan Press Association Newspaper of the Year

**DECEMBER 10, 2009** GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

**Complete news coverage of all the Pointes** 

#### Week ahead

#### THURSDAY, DEC. 10

◆ The Grosse Pointe Chapter Barbershop Harmony Society presents The Lakeshore Chorus in "Santa Gets Grilled on Larry King Live," a one-act Christmas singing play, at 7:30 p.m. at Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Advanced tickets cost \$10 and \$12 at the door. Also performing are In the Neighborhood and Singer Local No. 4.

#### FRIDAY, DEC. 11

◆ The Grosse Pointe Historical Society's A Dickens of a Christmas is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Provençal-Weir House, 376 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Holiday music is performed by the Grosse Pointe South High School Choir and Izzy Donnelly.

#### SATURDAY, DEC. 12

◆ Free parking is offered on all surface lots and municipal parking garages in the Village and on the Hill and on the street along Mack Avenue in the Farms and the Woods.

#### SUNDAY, DEC. 13

- ◆ Grosse Pointe South High School choir's winter concert is at 3 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Tickets are available at the door.
- Free parking is offered on all surface lots and municipal parking garages in the Village and on the Hill and street along Mack Avenue in the Farms and the Woods.
- **♦** The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus presents its 58th annual holiday concert, "Season of Light," at 3 p.m. at the First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. For more information, call (313) 882-2482.
- ◆ Drop off used coats, mittens. gloves, snow pants, boots or hoodies to fit kindergarten through eighth-grade students at the back gate of 1180 Bedford, Grosse Pointe Park, during daytime hours. Items are donated to O. W. Holmes School in southwest Detroit.

#### MONDAY, DEC. 14

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School choir's winter concert

See WEEK AHEAD, page 7A

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Business
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Entertainment6B
Classified ads 5C



# Library update is overdue

#### Mayors want account of funds

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

The mayor of Grosse Pointe Farms has started attending library board meetings to find out what's happening

with money raised to build a new cen- Branch in Grosse Pointe Park. tral branch.

2003, claims money residents donated for expansion of the branch isn't being used for the purpose it was solicited.

The Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch is located on Kercheval in the Farms at the base of the Hill dis-

Farquhar attended last months' library board meeting at the new Ewald work-related business and unavailable

"Farms residents voted for expansion James Farquhar, Farms mayor since and renovation of the central branch, and we're not going to get it," Farquhar said during this Monday night's city council meeting. "(The library board) said the project's on hold. They didn't give me a date when it might not be on hold."

> Library Director Vickey Bloom was out of the office Tuesday morning on

for comment by press time.

Farquhar said Farms residents pay about \$1.2 million per year in taxes for library operations.

"(The library) has roughly \$5.2 left in a bond issue for building (central branch)," he said. "They have about \$1 million in foundation money and \$1 million in matching grants. They have up to \$7.2 million they're putting on

See LIBRARY, page 7A







### Colorful trees in the Woods

At top, young Grosse Pointe Woods residents helped their mayor, Robert Novitke, flip the switch to light the city's Christmas tree. At left, Niklas Lowe detailed his Christmas list for Santa Claus.

# Woods earns positive audit

Financial condition pleases officials

By Kathy Ryan Staff Writer

"You're well-positioned to move into the future."

Those were welcoming words to the ears of Grosse Pointe Woods' city officials as they reviewed the audit of the city's finances for the fiscal year ending June 30.

"I think we have much to be proud of in this report," said Mayor Robert Novitke, "We had to look a few years into the future and make some difficult decisions, but that resulted in a healthy fund balance which will serve us well as we move into 2010 and 2011."

Though the city's fund balance, currently at \$2.3 million, is down \$700,000 from the 2008 level, it still represents 18 percent of the city's general fund.

"A fund balance of 10 to 15 percent is generally where a city should be, but in today's economy, 18 percent is a very healthy, and positions the city very well," according to Mark Hurst, a part-

See AUDIT, page 7A

# Police out to get coyote

By Brad Lindberg

Staff Writer

Randall Talerico is tired of coyotes dropping by his house for a Martini.

"We've had five coyotes on our property in the last three years," said Talerico, a Grosse Pointe Farms resident living on Barclay near the Country Club of Detroit.

.He also has a small female dog named Martini.

"This year in March, the dog started barking in the front library about 9 p.m.," Talerico said. "Sitting in our driveway staring into the window was a coyote. I hit the glass. It bolted come to the Pointes three wininto the country club.'

Talerico is getting nervous. Martini is a king Charles Cavalier, the same breed as a pet dog killed last week by a much as the next guy," said on Dodge Place in the City of Grosse Pointe.

"I grew up in Grosse Pointe," Talerico said. "It's so bizarre that I'm worried about coyotes."

Coyotes are believed to have ters ago, traveling from Anchor Bay along ice-covered shallows of Lake St. Clair.

"I'm an animal lover as coyote about two miles away Dan Jensen, Farms public

See COYOTE, page 3A

#### POINTER OF INTEREST

'They're just thankful to have another couch to sleep on.'

### Cindy Whitaker



Home: Grosse Pointe

Park

Age: 40 Family: Husband, Nick

Claim to fame: Director of

Midwest Small Breed

Rescue

See story, page 4A

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### Yesterday's headlines

Editor's note: The following excerpts appear as they were printed in the Grosse Pointe News.

1959

50 years ago this week

#### ♦1-94 EXTENSION TO

OPEN: The formal opening of a five-mile extension of the Edsel Ford Expressway, from Norcross to Vernier, opens next week.

A 1958 AAA study found it would take a driver 30 minutes to drive from Vernier and Lake Shore roads to downtown. Detroit following Jefferson. The expressway is expected to cut that time by as much as 15 minutes.

◆ FARMS REVERSES DE-CISION: At its most recent meeting, the Grosse Pointe Farms City Council approved and then rescinded permission to divide a corner property into two lots to build two separate residential dwellings.

Council approved the request, then neighbors in attendance protested. Council rescinded the order and the decision was postponed until the next meeting.

The lot at the corner of McMillan and Charlevoix had been home to a single dwelling which was destroyed by a gas explosion.

◆ POLIO CASES DECLINE:
The number of polio cases in
the Grosse Pointe-Harper
Woods Health District has taken a noticeable drop since the
Salk Vaccine program began in

1955.

The number of cases reported from Jan. 1 through Nov. 30 was seven compared to 11 last year. There have been no fatalities related to polio since the vaccine program began.

1984

25 years ago this week

◆ BOARD CHOOSES WHRITNER: Dr. John Whritner of East Lyme, Conn. schools, will be offered a threeyear contract to head the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

♦ NO DEAL: The \$5 million project planned by Bon Secours Hospital and the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology in Grosse Pointe Park has collapsed. One of the major tenants of the 45,000-square-foot medical building to be built on the corner of Nottingham and Jefferson has backed out of the deal.

◆ BANK MERGER: A merger between Colonial Federal Savings & Loan, which has been serving the Grosse Pointe community for nearly 32 years, and Central State Savings & Loan of Mount Clemens, was announced. The resulting institution is to be called Colonial Central Savings Bank, FSB.

1999
10 years ago this week

◆ NO ICE ARENA: The Grosse Pointe Neighborhood

1959. Goodfellows' good fellows

These are the members of the service organization who are working on the sale of newspapers to see that the needs of the Pointe's

PROSSEPOINTE LIONS

GOODFELLOW PAPER SALE

Club received the feasibility study on the proposed twosurface ice arena to be built on the site where Harper Woods' Salter Park now resides. It was not the news it hoped for.

unfortunate are well taken care of.

Plante & Moran spent four months investigating if a pro-

ject of this type could succeed The result: Without the commitment of a major tenant, the project would not be cost

effective.

◆ LIGHTS ON: The Grosse
Pointe Farms City Council approved spending \$18,000 for
the purchase of thermal imaging equipment for the public
safety department's fire fight-

Thermal imaging picks up heat signatures and can be used to locate fires when there is smoke but no visible flame.

◆ JEWELRY CLEANERS: A maid service has been implicated in the theft of more than \$3,200 in jewelry from a house in Grosse Pointe Woods.

2004

Five years ago this week

♦ NO LIGHT: Grosse
Pointe Woods City Council
members nixed plans to conduct a study to install a traffic
signal at the intersection of
Mack and Brys. The intersection gets an unusually heavy
amount of traffic on eastbound Brys from cars that exit from the Eight Mile/Vernier
exit from westbound I-94.

◆ BAH HUMBUG!: A resident on Moorland in Grosse Pointe Woods called the public safety department to complain of carolers in her neighborhood.

Public safety officers went out to seek the offending carolers, who could not be found.

◆ DRUG BUST: The
California man caught last
month in Grosse Pointe
Shores transporting more
than 100 pounds of marijuana
in the trunk of a car rented at
Indianapolis International
Airport has been arraigned
and is waiting prosecution in
Wayne County Circuit Court.

Compiled by K. Fontanive



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# Grosse Pointe Shores jobs on the line

#### Councilman apologizes for tax hike

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

Job cuts and labor concessions could be in the works for employees of the smallest Grosse Pointe, which is most showing pressures of the economic times.

"The (public safety and public works) union has agreed to sit down six months earlier than they have to," said Brian Vick, manager of Grosse Pointe Shores. "It's been expressed to them that it's not business at usual. The word 'concession' will come out of my mouth regularly."

Administrative jobs could be on the line.

In response to a resident asking last week why the Shores needs a full-time park director, Councilman Dr. Brian Hunt answered, "We're going to look at that and at everything that's possible to cut."

Labor negotiations scheduled to start in January will include ways to lower legacy and medical costs, Vick said.

"That doesn't necessarily mean we have carte blanche," Vick said. "We can't just change certain aspects of those contracts because of the economic climate."

"We have to address the benefit burden this little community cannot afford," said Councilman Fred Minturn.

acknowledged Minturn agreement with what Councilman Ted Kedzierski, a CPA, said during last month's city council meeting about limiting employee sick day liabilities and retirement bene-

ducing head count," said Minturn, chief financial officer of a multi-national automobile industry supplier. "You have to attack every cost you can."

He wants to benchmark Shores personnel costs and fringe benefits with the other Grosse Pointes.

"That doesn't mean we can do what the rest of the Grosse Pointes do," Minturn said. "That sets the market for what we can do to fix the problem."

This year's Shores budget included cuts of \$300,000. Still, the unreserved general fund is \$210,000 in deficit.

Shores didn't receive pay raises this year, Vick said.

"Non-union employees, clerical and department heads have received significant cuts in take-home pay," Vick said. "Further steps will be taken."

Discussion took place dur-

"You have to cut costs by re- monthly meeting of the com- week's meeting, "Let's get peomittee of the whole. The committee replaced the finance committee, is chaired by Hunt and includes the mayor and you. city council.

#### Citizens committee

The committee of the whole, which has the role of a beefedup finance committee, could be augmented by creation of an ad hoc citizens committee to advise municipal officials on financial matters. Such a committee has been established in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Although not every member Non-union employees of the of the Shores council has spoken in favor of a citizens committee, none have spoken publicly against one.

> Many residents, including Dr. Raymond Rahi, want the public's advice.

"The way to bring people together is to pull them together." ing last week's inaugural Rahi said while attending last

ple in the community with a lot of experience and background to work with you, to support

If we're going to empanel. make the decision to do that today," said Councilman Dan Schulte. "We're remiss to leave this room without being in full gear for financial decisions in January."

The matter is expected to be considered at next-month's council meeting.

#### Tax apology

Minturn called the committee of the whole session a "positive step forward." He called for teamwork.

We've got a lot of work to do," he said. "Can we do it together? We have cash in the bank. We have, according to page 8 of our financial statement. \$11 million in net assets.

That's a solvent enterprise." He apologized to residents

for increasing taxes 1 mill. "Your taxes went up \$60 on

average this year and I'm sorry for that," Minturn said. "Let's an advisory board, we need to work on not letting that happen again. Let all the negativism go away. We're all trying to solve this problem.'

Hunt acknowledged that public bodies often work too slowly

'We appreciate your being here," he told a full audience. "If we look at you with a blank stare on our faces, it doesn't not mean we do not accept your comments. It's just, unfortunately, a governmental body moves a little slower than you can sometimes in the private

'It may take us a little while. But, we'll get it solved as quickly as possible. And Grosse Pointe Shores will remain a great and wonderful place

# Shared services studied

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

The five Grosse Pointes in many ways interact more like boroughs of a single city.

They often work in concert with each other rather than duplicating time and effort to obtain supplies and provide services.

The Pointes purchase jointly to earn quality discounts. They share emergency services, even personnel.

Such partnership is expected to increase. The recession and declining property tax revenues are making it harder for the cities to maintain independent services at levels residents have funded and expect.

"The Grosse Pointes work collectively on purchasing equipment and sharing services," said Brian Vick, manager of Grosse Pointe Shores. "We just need to take the next

step.' The Shores city council, facing a \$210,000 unreserved general fund deficit, has authorized Vick to confer with sister Pointes on how greater interaction could increase efficiencies and reduce costs.

Vick said he'll look at "everything. I'm talking across the spectrum — positions to departments, (sharing) building inspectors or utilizing ice time (on skating rinks).'

Rotten economic times are expected to reveal opportunities that had never been considered.

"The other Grosse Pointes are in the same situation as us," Vick said, referring to declining revenues, not deficits. "Their numbers might not be identical, but their situations with regard to taxable values decreasing, fund balances decreasing (and) employee costs walloped with double-digit

increasing."

Councilman Ted Kedzierski suggested cross-city teamwork include a "brainstorming session" by Pointe finance committees.

#### Teamwork

Joint efforts already yield savings.

The Shores, Park and City this year saved \$95 per tree through a collective buying program arranged by Frank Schulte, City public service supervisor.

"We're saving \$4,750 for our city alone," Schulte said. Cooperation includes equip-

'We've always worked together when it comes to equipment problems," Schulte said.

Cooperation among the Pointes and Harper Woods public safety departments goes beyond mutual aid agreements for emergency police

and fire protection. "All five Grosse Pointes and Harper Wood share a radio system," said John Modzinski, Farms treasurer. "Communications are routed

through T1 lines from our location in the Farms to dispatch centers in the other Pointes and Harper Woods."

The Pointes' insurance-buying consortium saves person-

The more participants you have, the better rates you can get," Modzinski said. "A few years ago, we switched from carrying insurance via premiums to being self-insured for Blue Cross and prescription drugs. We all use the same consultant for handling other information with Blue Cross, as well as Medicare Part D subsidies. We haven't been

premium increases the past three years because we're selfinsured."

The cities also belong to state-run buying programs that save money on vehicle purchases.

"For a few hundred dollars per year membership, we have access to tens of thousands of state-wide bid prices for such products as salt and vehicles," Modzinski said.

"We just took delivery of a Ford F-150 for less than \$19,000 through the state purchasing contract. The prices are extraordinarily good. We get even better prices for police cars."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

### Welcome Santa

Grosse Pointe Park residents welcomed Santa Claus as he arrived on a fire truck during the driving rain last week. He received a key to the city from Mayor Palmer Heenan and Mary Beth Hathaway, director of the Lavins Center at the Park.

# Detroit water gets the nod from Shores

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Shores officials will seek a new contract to buy water from Detroit rather than become a customer of Grosse Pointe Farms.

At least that's the Shores' latest move in a multi-year cat-and-mouse game to boost the 1.1-square-mile suburb's negotiating muscle with Detroit's region-wide water department.

Detroit provides drinking water to 126 communities spread over more than 1,000 square miles of southeast Michigan.

"Our threat to leave has awakened Detroit and made them negotiate more," said Shores Councilman Dr. Brian Hunt. "They (Detroit) don't want any cities to leave."

tee of the whole. The commit- Shores would pay \$5,363,431 tank's location and timeliness: tee met for the first time Dec. 1 and replaces the finance committee, which Hunt chaired. The mayor and all six council members serve on the committee of the whole as an advisory board to the city council.

Negotiations with Detroit for a mandatory 30-year contract will be done on behalf of the Shores by its engineering consulting firm, Hubble, Roth

of 12 municipalities at the same time," said Brian Vick, city manager. "We received 3 percent reduction in our rates because of that."

He anticipates meeting with Detroit in time to have an update for the January city council meeting.

Detroit got the edge despite Hunt spoke last week as the engineering consultants

chairman of the new commit- predicting last month that the less for water over 30 years by switching to the Farms.

The forecast didn't include infrastructure costs of joining the Farms. Those costs consisted of laying a transmission pipe up Lakeshore and building a 500,000 water storage

The tank is a major issue for Janice Pemberton and other residents living near city hall. The city council months ago seemed to favor putting the They're working on behalf stank behind municipal headquarters.

Kin Lab Ring Volvo

ROME SALE CARREST TO OTH

Pemberton opposed the She said it's placement near houses would contribute to declining property values and drain the municipal budget during hard economic times.

"I'm delighted," Pemberton said. "It took a crisis like this for this council to come to its senses."

"At this point, the economics doesn't support putting a tower up," Hunt said.

Two other members of the former finance committee

Theres is a second See WATER, page 7A

#### **COYOTE: Animals alter** routine

Continued from page 1A

safety director, "but these coyotes are becoming more dangerous. My immediate concern is for the safety and welfare of my residents, their families and pets."

Coyotes in the Pointes have been breaking from their normal routine in the wild. Jensen takes it as a sign of increasing boldness.

'Typically, coyotes hunt at night," he said. "Here, they hunt all day. Typically, their kills weigh 15 pounds or less. Here, the dog they took on Dodge Place was closer to 30 pounds."

Efforts failed last year in neighboring Grosse Pointe Shores to trap coyotes. The animals either avoided the traps or used their noses to nudge them away.

them really bad," Jensen said. but we want him out of here."

"Last year, we did a good enough job that they moved to Grosse Pointe Shores and became their problem. This year, maybe because of the Shores' trapping efforts, the coyotes are back here." Jensen has authorized

killing an estimated 60-pound reach Provencal from those coyote nesting in woods bordering the country club polo

The woods have been cordoned off with rope. Signs ban dog walking. The intent is to keep the public from getting in the way of officers trying to flush their quarry.

"Everybody continues walking their dogs over there and causing us problems," said Lt. Jack Patterson. "We can't go out there with our shotguns because we might hit some-

Patterson returned from the hunt last Thursday with nothing to show for it except muddy shoes.

"I got within 80 feet of him," he said of the coyote. "But there were too many trees between him and me to take a "Three years ago we had shot. He's a beautiful animal,"

nothing.

When I moved, he moved," Patterson said. "He circles around." Officers must have a sure

"Double-O buckshot could woods," Patterson said.

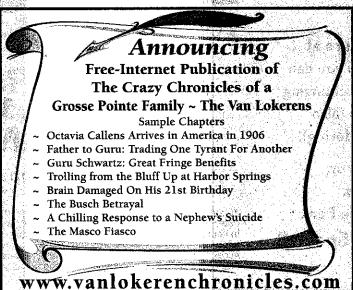
shot or no shot.

"Getting a safe shot in a residential area on a moving animal is extremely difficult," Jensen said. "Compounding me while walking my dog."

Coyotes aren't called wily for that, when we have an area where we might get a shot, some club members won't obey their own guidelines."

Talerico knows what police and Martini — are up against.

When it runs, it's amazing," he said of the coyote that stared through the library window at the dog. "It bolts almost like a jaguar. It really leaps fast. I would not want it to come at





#### **POINTER OF INTEREST**

If you're down and out and the only things you have to offer the world are a wet nose and wagging tail, then Cindy Whitaker is your savior.

# Small breed, big heart

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

There's a story Cindy Whitaker tells that always makes her cry.

It's a story about helping when you're not able to, about giving when you can't afford to, about caring more than is expected of you.

Whitaker rescues small dogs. Little 3-pound things. She finds them homes. Second chances. It takes money. More than she alone has.

A woman who wanted to donate to the cause couldn't. Understandable. Times are tough.

"A month later, I got a note the sweetest thing in the world," Whitaker said. "For her birthday, she had her friends give a donation. Six checks came to me. They weren't huge. Little things like that keep me going."

Whitaker, 40, of Grosse Pointe Park, is founder and director of Midwest Small Breed Rescue, the canine equivalent of the land of misfit toys.

Some of the dogs are rescued from puppy mills, flea-bitten and scrawny. Some come from abused households, scared and cowering.

Some are orphans of loving households where their owner

Some are injured strays handed off by animal shelters unable to shoulder veterinary

An increasing number are rècession cast-offs, pets abandoned by out-of-work owners unable to make ends meet.

"We just picked up a dog that was left in a house for two weeks," Whitaker said. "The owners just took off. I'm picking up two tomorrow, a 7-yearold Jack Russell and 7-year-old

#### Grosse Pointe News

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Ciridy Whitaker adopted three small dogs. Walter, left, a 16-year-old miniature pinscher, was 11 when his owner died. Whitaker got him from a shelter in Chicago. He has three teeth left. -Oliver, 2, a Pomeranian-Chihuahua mix, came from an Ohio puppy mill. Brooklyn, a 3-pound Chihuahua was found running stray in Elk Township near Michigan's upper west coast. He's about 8 or 9 years old.

about 350 dogs per year.

"All medical bills are paid by the rescue," Whitaker said. "All dogs are neutered or spayed, microchipped, have their teeth cleaned, are treated for fleas, given heartworm treatment and vaccines."

Some are hard cases.

"We have a dog, Eddie, a 1year-old cairn terrier mix, at the vet getting a leg amputated," Whitaker said. "He was adopted out of the Humane Society and returned with an injury. The Humane Society doesn't have funds to help every tough case, so they called me. Eddie's going to be a three-legged wonder. Those are the cases I love the most, where we're saving a dog because no one else is going to

take him." Half of the dogs for whom Whitaker finds homes are more than 8 years old. They're not puppies in the window, but they have a marketability of

their own. "Senior dogs are calmer," Whitaker said. "They're usually house trained. They're through the puppy antics."

Whitaker has a sweet spot for old dogs.

"Half of them, their owners pass away and they're lost,'

The rescue service places she said. "Yet, we take them, again. They're such a joy." get them to feel comfortable

A senior-to-senior adoption with older people.

# Whitaker Q&A

Favorite food?

salads and beets.

Favorite movie?

"Dumb and Dumber." No, not because of the car

decorated as a dog.

"It's just a good, stupid comedy that you can laugh at. There's nothing serious about

What do you like about

"Their unconditional loyalty. Every time you come home it's, 'Oh my God, you're home!' They're always happy to see you."

husband, Nick? "His laugh and sense of hu-

mor." What does your husband do that drives you crazy?

"He's not a morning per-Beets. I love beets. Greek son. He doesn't enjoy a nice, happy morning."

> If you weren't who or what you are, who or what would

you be? "I'd love to be a veterinarian, but I don't like the surgery part of it. I could work in a

shelter."

Favorite type of music? "A good classical symphony. Yet, I love Top 40 and alternative."

Favorite cartoon as a

child? "Kimba the White Lion.' It was on Channel 2 right be-Favorite thing about your fore 'Speed Racer.' I also really liked Rikki-Tikki-Tavi stories by Rudyard Kipling.'

Career?

"I sell insurance." -Brad Lindberg

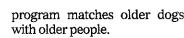








Walter



We just had an 82-year-old lady adopt a 10-year-old bichon frise," Whitaker said. "With a lot of older dogs, you can tell someone loved them a lot. They're just thankful to have another couch to sleep on."

The rescue is a volunteerbased non-profit 501(c)(3) op-

Whitaker manages the rescue organization with a network of about 30 foster homes located in the Grosse Pointes and beyond, including St. Clair

Shores, Troy and Dearborn. Funding is by donation, including adoption fees.

Fees are \$400 for puppies age 9 months an under, \$300 for adult dogs 9 months to 10 years and \$200 for a senior

"When senior citizens adopt, we just ask for whatever they want to give us as a fee,' Whitaker said. "Usually \$100."

Whitaker grew up in Grosse Pointe Park. Her parents still live there.

'We always had animals," she said. "My sister and I would bring dogs home. We had cats and bunnies and parakeets."

She and her childhood



**Brooklyn** 







Willie



friends would ride bicycles to the Village and snack at the

Kresge lunch counter. "Those french fries ...," Whitaker said. "I worked at Two's Company. It was my first job."

After graduating from Grosse Pointe South High School, she studied photography at the Center for Creative Studies. An MBA followed from Lawrence Technological University.

Whitaker met her husband, Nick, a Detroit police officer, at a party at the Detroit Athletic Club. They've been married six years.

About 10 years ago, Whitaker volunteered to walk dogs at the Humane Society.

"It resulted from my adopting a couple of dogs from the Humane Society and then working with other rescues," she said.

She founded her small breed rescue five years ago.

"The reward is when adopters find such joy in these little guys," Whitaker said.
"Getting Christmas cards and notes from people five years later saying how much their dog means to them."

Dogs have their own way of saying thanks.

"Especially when they're terrified and you can't get them out of the corner the first week," Whitaker said. "Then, the first little tail wag. They stop shaking. The first little peek around a corner. Little indications of love."

For more information about Midwest Small Breed Rescue,

midwestrescue.petfinder.com or e-mail Whitaker at cwhitaker11@comcast.net.





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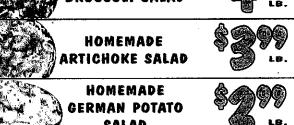
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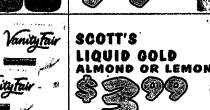
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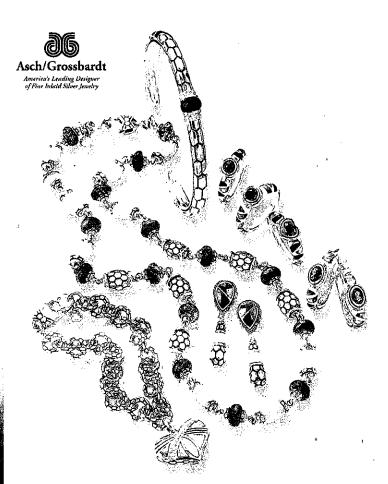


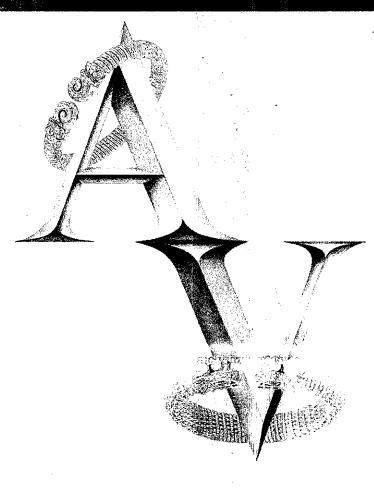
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#### **AUDIT:** Good job

Continued from page 1A

ner with Plante & Moran who conducted the audit.

Of continuing concern, said Hurst pointed out, are the declining property values and tax income.

"Since property values are the city's single largest revenue source, the continued decline in those taxable values is going to continue to be a challenge," he told the council. "But you're not alone. This is problem throughout the. state."

On a high note, Hurst said the Woods is better positioned than many municipalities because its tax base is primarily residential.

"We're going to see a huge decrease in commercial real estate values in the next few years," he said. "Cities that re-

are going to be seeing huge revenue declines. This is not going to be a problem for Grosse Pointe Woods."

It came as no surprise to anyone that the economic condition of the state is having a direct effect on cities, especially as far as revenue sharing.

"The state announced a 4 percent cut in revenue sharing in May," Hurst told the council. "This year an 11 percent reduction is projected.

"Add that to declining interest rates on investments, and the immediate outlook is rather bleak."

Another cost the city needs to be aware of is the new requirement that funds be "escrowed" for retired employees health care. The city has already met with actuaries to determine exactly how much money the city needs to designate to meet that contractual commitment for as far out as the next 30 years.

The Plante & Moran auditors also praised the work ly on commercial tax revenue done by the city, including its

financial officers.

"There were significant issues with previous reports," said Hurst. "There has been a complete transformation in the accounting practices, with a lot of changes for the better. It's hard to believe how far the city has come, and we are pleased that there has been such a strong dedication to improvement.'

The auditors issued what is opinion" on the city's financial - we made the right decisions."

standing, which means, in the opinion of the auditor, that all accounting rules have been followed and the information is given without any reservations on the part of the auditor.

"I think we should be very pleased," said Councilman Joe Sucher.

'We're getting good financial information and we are able to do a lot of forecasting. We had to make some tough referred to as an "unqualified decisions this year, but I think

#### **WATER:** Shores goes Fred Minturn. with Detroit

Continued from page 3A

agreed:

• "The break even point is 28 years down the road," said Councilman Ted Kedzierski.

◆ "I would like to negotiate

with Detroit for the best terms we can get," said Councilman

Vick anticipates Detroit will raise its water rates 8.4 per-

"Both the Farms and Detroit (rates) were going to go up," he said.

"The models were identical in regards to anticipated increases: 8 percent for the next five years and 5 percent there on out."

10 11 12

16 17 18 19

# **AHEAD:**

**MONDAY, DEC. 14** 

Continued from page 1A

is at 3 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Tickets are available at the door.

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meets at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 15115 E. Jefferson.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Board of Education meets at 8 p.m. in Grosse Pointe South High School's library.

#### TUESDAY, DEC. 15

**NEWS** 

◆ The Grosse Pointe Concert Band performs a holiday concert at 8 p.m. at the Parcells Middle School auditorium, Mack and Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. Admission is

#### **WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16**

◆ The University of Michigan Bright Nights series presents a discussion about bipolar disorder at the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Woods branch, 20680 Mack, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Presenters are Dr. Melvin McInnis and Thomas B. and Nancy Upjohn Woodworth. The event is co-sponsored by the Eastside National Alliance on Mental Illness organization. To register, call (313) 343-2074.

**SHOP HERE FOR ALL** 

#### LIBRARY: What's the money doing?

Continued from page 1A

hold for central branch." Foundation donations are in a bank earning nominal inter-

est, he said, adding that the interest is negated by bank fees charged to administer the funds.

The library's preliminary financial report lists \$1.9 million earning 1 percent at National Bank of Detroit, according to Farquhar. NBD hasn't existed since merging with First National Bank of Chicago, then Bank One which became JP Morgan Chase & Co.

"That's a lot of money we voted for sitting there doing nothing," Farquhar said.

He contrasted the library's fi-

nancial report with a municipal investment update from Farms Treasurer John Modzinksi showing the city earned an average 4.41 percent yielding \$77,583.17 on deposits and investments for August alone.

Farms Councilman Doug Roby welcomed Farquhar's library update.

"I've been asked a lot about this," Roby said. "I'd like to have some answers."

Dale Scrace, mayor of the City of Grosse Pointe, also attended the library meeting.

Scrace wants to know the future of central branch, espewere built in recent years in the Park and Grosse Pointe Woods.

"The central part of the district has not been improved," Scrace said. "There's roughly \$5.2 million allocated in the liprojects at central branch. That's from taxes."



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

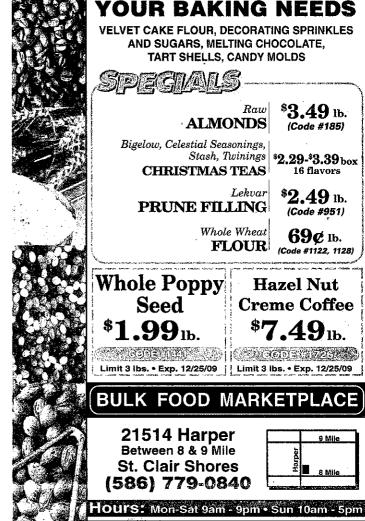
cially since two new branches The Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch was designed by modernist architect Marcel Breuer.

to earmark the money for central branch improvements, not operations.

"I will continue to go to library's general fund for capital brary meetings to make sure will begin next year to interour residents get what we paid for," Farguhar said. "I'm not let-Scrace wants library officials ting this go. I'm not saying any- The 4-year-terms start in June.

thing against anyone's integrity. I just want to make sure what's fair is fair."

The Farms and City councils view candidates to represent the cities on the library board.





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# Grosse Pointe News

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GUEST OPINION By Michael Goodell

# Come together

ast weekend I attended a funeral. It was my second in a month, both times to mourn someone who had gone too soon. Afterward, at the wake, I saw a former friend. We used to enjoy time spent in each other's company, and would spend it with our spouses at the symphony, or cooking gourmet dinners for each other. Good food, good wine,

and good conversation, though whenever we drifted near politics his wife would cry, "Stop!"

Obviously, she knew him better than I did, because once my essays began appearing in print, including some on these pages, he told me, coldly, that unless I

Life is too short to

hold grudges and

Life is meant to be

ripped apart through

mutual disdain.'

recanted my views, he wanted nothing further to do with me.

There it was, a friendship lying in tatters. Worse than the loss of a friend, I thought, was the realization that our *inflate differences*. friendship had been a lie. I have plenty of friends with whom I differ politically.

With some of them I celebrated, not to be enjoy long, often spirited debates on the issues. The arguments are based on mutual respect born of friendship. With others, we realize the shoals of dispute might

breach the hull of our craft, so we avoid it. There is so much more to life than politics.

Though I had promised myself I never would — as his was the transgression, so must reconciliation come from him — I approached my former friend at the

I told him this business of seeing friends pass too soon was growing old fast. "Is there any way we can

forget the past and enjoy each other's company again?"
"I hope so," he replied, but stifled the hug of reconciliation I offered with the qualifying inquiry, "Have

you changed your views?" I asked him if it was possible to leave politics aside, and just appreciate the things we had in common. His reply was essentially, "If you don't like my president, I can't be your friend.'

Much has been made of the partisanship which has divided our nation. A curious concern as partisanship has been the essence of our political history.

The free and frank exchange of competing outlooks is what makes this nation so strong. Rather than partisanship, it is incivility, as epitomized by my former friend, that has caused such a painful societal rift.

Whether it is a congressman calling the president a liar or the speaker of the house describing those who disagree with her view of health care as "un-American," it is the recourse to invective that wounds, that tears the fabric of human interaction.

We as Americans have so much more in common than in opposition, but somewhere along the line the idea of conciliation mutated into the concept of capit-

As we enter into the holiday season, it would do us well to remember the words from the Christmas story, "Peace on Earth, good will toward men."

Those words should apply to everyone, to men and women, to believers and unbelievers, to Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives, even to Spartans and Wolverines.

Life is too short to hold grudges and inflate differences. Life is meant to be celebrated, not to be ripped apart through mutual disdain.

Michael Goodell is a Grosse Pointe Farms writer and author of the novel, "Zenith Rising."

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#### Don't sign petitions

Robert Lee's guest editorial, promoting a recall against five duly elected officials in Grosse Pointe Shores, ignored many negative aspects of this extreme action. Additional letters by Lee and his cohorts also failed to reveal important facts about recalls and the long, combative history of some involved with this partictrumpeting his intentions by his small group of noisy sup-

A story by the Center for Michigan Steering Committee said, "Threatening to recall a lawmaker for a policy choice is pretty close to blackmail. It stymies the kind of balanced and thoughtful consideration of budget matters that have enormous consequences ..."

Recalls are costly, divisive and distracting. If successful, there will actually be two elections (first the recall vote and a second vote at some point later on to elect successors).

function as a municipality. Wayne County would appoint interim council members, pending another election, with major decisions being made by people appointed by others outside our community.

Woods residents wisely rejected a recent recall over a 1.75 mill increase by simply refusing to sign the required petitions.

The Shores recall is based Love the lights on four of six council memular effort. Lee reappeared on bers and the mayor voting for the scene a few months ago, a modest 1-mill tax increase. An average of less than \$60 a council meeting, along with tions in property values). Hardly seems worth the effort to launch a battle of this magnitude unless there are other motives or agendas involved.

It's important to recognize that some in the small group fomenting this recall were also participants in the contentious, losing campaign of the so-called "clean slate" 10 vears ago, as well as "supporters" of the costly and also ultimately futile "accretion" lawsuit filed against our community and the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club at the same time.

Unfortunately, some of Meanwhile, there would be no those same individuals still quorum left for the Shores to haven't given up on the incred-

ible claim that Shores taxpayers should be liable for potentially enormous alleged damages to shoreline property values north of the harbor. Would they find a way to resolve their own damage claims if put in charge of our city council? A successful recall might provide a path for something like that.

Now is not the time for a bitter recall campaign that splits neighborhoods, paralyzes the community and creates longterm damage. I urge my fellow Shores residents to stop the recall effort here and now by refusing to sign the petitions. Instead, let's roll up our sleeves, get to work and help move our community forward

HARRY KURTZ Grosse Pointe Shores

I just want to express my gratitude and appreciation to the family at the corner of waving a large "recall" sign at per household (given reduc- Lakeshore Drive and Moross for their beautiful Christmas display. It looks better this year than any year before.

The time they take to decorate and the details of this display make it outstanding. I believe it is the best in the area. This family also decorates for every holiday of the year in addition to Christmas. What an asset to our community.

> JAKE CROSSMAN Grosse Pointe Park

#### Thanks for your support

A big "thank you" to the

Grosse Pointe News for the tremendous coverage of the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade and the free parking and gift wrapping promotions in The Village. Your support, both editorially and pictorially, clearly demonstrates your committment to the community you serve.

These events and promotions matter to Grosse Pointers because they help give us a sense of place and at the same time, they remind people of the importance of supporting our local merchants. Now, more than ever, the Grosse Pointe News is truly our hometown newspaper and an asset to all of the Grosse Pointes.

Again, thank you for your support.

> JOHN DENOMME Manager, marketing and promotions for The Village, City of Grosse Pointe

#### Music was fantastic

My husband and I attended the 21st Annual Christmas Concert at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. We enjoyed it so much and it put us right into the Christmas mood.

The music was fantastic, as was the singing.

Thank you Ralph Miller and Mel Stander. It was superb. Thanks all of who played the instruments and Seniors Men's Club. Also "Lady Denise," you put us right in the mood with your wonderful singing.

Everyone have a blessed Christmas and a good New

GAIL AND CHARLES **ERIKSEN** St. Clair Shores

GUEST OPINION By Bill Kalmar

# 'Tis the season for temps and tip jars



s the holiday season approaches, there are several inevitable occurrences that will try

our patience.

Along with people jostling in lines — especially before dawn as bargain hunters await the opening of a store, the inevitable NASCAR-like jockeying in the parking lots, out-ofstock merchandise and interminably long lines for Santa, we also have to endure the bane of temporary help in stores and holiday-decorated

Let's start with temporary help. By and large most temporaries receive only perfunctory training. This is true not only during the holiday rush but also year-round. The theory is why spend time thoroughly training people who will only many establishments. For the be employed for a short while?

In that regard, I'm reminded of a company that won the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award several years ago - Pal's Sudden Service in Tennessee, a fast-food chain. The company spends as much time training part-time and temporary help as they do permanent employees.

When asked "Why?," the response from president/CEO Thom Crosby is straightforward:

"We train our temps and part-timers in the same manner as our permanent staff. Otherwise, if temps and parttimers remain on our payroll due to increased business, we end up with an untrained staff and customer service quickly deteriorates."

Certainly makes sense and one of the reasons their company is an award-winner. And now, those tip jars.

At first, these "courtesy canisters" were only commonjars are permanent fixtures at while I'm inside? I think not.

holidays, these canisters are festooned with bright ribbons and ornaments. The message is clear: "I've waited on you for 35 seconds so I deserve a tip."

Invariably the jar contains an abundance of singles and maybe even a 5-spot which telegraphs to us others found the service extraordinary and acted accordingly. I think it's just a matter of time before the jars make an appearance at hospital emergency rooms as a way of getting moved to the

front of the line. On a recent trip cross country we stopped at a rest area in Indiana only to find a tip jar solidly anchored down in the men's restroom. Now I've been in "hoity-toity" establishments where a restroom attendant hands you a towel, brushes down your suit, gives you a spritz of cologne and holds the door - and thus a tip may be in order.

But in a highway rest area? Come on! Is someone changplace at car washes. Now the ing my oil and rotating my tires

Frankly, my message is this: Since when did I become responsible for increasing the minimum wage in your store and what makes you think your spending a few seconds with me entitles you to a tip?

This tipping practice is only effective if the clerk sees you depositing coins and currency in the jar. And maybe it's just me, but I have encountered some of the worst service in establishments that display a tip

Tipping is a practice that is supposed to reward and single out exceptional service. I make it a habit to inscribe notes on the receipt such as "great food" and "exceptional service" when it is appropriate. I then tip accordingly.

Occasionally, if I have developed a good rapport with the waiter or waitress, I will ask them to rate their own service on a scale of 1 to 10. The feedback is usually priceless. Once I had a waiter who provided extraordinary service but

See OPINION, page 9A

I SAY By Kathy Ryan

# Really, it's not any of our affair



ould you please just shut up. No, not all you readers who are cheering wildly because it's another "I Say" column by Kathy Ryan; you may continue on with your unbridled reverie.

I'm talking about all those out there who have been caught in extramarital affairs, especially if you are a politician, a professional athlete or the numerous objects of their serial affections. You know who you are, as does the entire world.

We know about you, of course, because the media covers what used to be called affairs of the heart but are now more accurately called affairs of the pre-nuptial agreement,

ad nauseum. There is 24/7 coverage, based mostly on tips and the good authority of an ex-boyfriend's cousin's cleaning lady's daughter-in-law's hair stylist. When exactly did ne'er-do-well brothers-in-law and marriage counselors who earned credentials via matchbook covers became reliable sources and expert witnesses?

So here's some advice, especially for those objects d'affection du jour ... just because someone is chasing you down with a microphone and a camera, it doesn't mean you have to talk to them. In fact, truly sweetie, it would be better if you didn't.

We know, we know. You're feeling that your sterling reputation is being besmirched, and it's imperative that you get your side of the story out there. Your life has become a nightmare. You can barely walk down the streets of Beverly Hills with your newly acquired publicist, stylist, PR rep and bodyguards without being accosted by paparazzi

and teenage bloggers. Your social networking account has crashed and burned because everyone wanted to friend you, and your thumbs have been reduced to mere nubs just trying to keep up with all those text messages. Even the Kardashian sisters are wondering how you do it all.

We know, dear, it's exhaust-

So here is what you should

First, grow some shame. Second, go into your house, pull the drapes, turn off your cell phone, put on your old sweats, stock up on Ben & Jerry's ice cream and don't come out until we forget who you are. Trust me, it won't take long. If you need a measuring device so you know how much ice cream to load into that freezer, just remember how long it took him to turn your phone number over to his attorney. Divide that in half (you may use a calculator if numbers without a dollar sign in front of them confuse

you) and you'll have a pretty good time frame.

And please don't return calls from Hugh Hefner or Larry Flynt. Posing nude, no matter how tastefully done the photographer tells you it will be, will not increase your IQ, which is already under serious scrutiny, as you obviously believed him when he said his wife didn't understand him.

And speaking of intelligence, gentlemen (and I use the term loosely), what exactly were you thinking?

Actually, I don't care what you were thinking, but let me tell you what I'm thinking.

First, you need to ask your doctor about a little blue pill that will ensure your public humiliation lasts longer than four hours.

Second, I can't begin to tell you how even more offensive I find you when you stand in front of a microphone and camera begging the public to take into consideration the feelings of your wife and children.

Really?

Did their feelings ever cross your mind when you were crossing the line? Obviously not. So let's leave the wife and kids out of this, OK, and try not to embarrass them any further than you already have.

And for my fellow travelers in the media, you need to shut up, too. What have we become? Is it really that vitally important that we fill an entire hour with speculation about what a wandering husband and the wife he wandered on are doing to patch up their relationship? It's really none of our business, nor anyone else's. Unless, of course, that wandering husband is sitting in a Wayne County court room and public funds are involved in that patching up process. But I digress.

For those in the media who insist it is our business, because these people are heroes to many. I have a message. What a sad commentary it is when we have to resort to holding up as heroes pampered politicians and millionaire athletes. Whatever happened to finding heroes in real people, those who give selflessly of themselves and who do good deeds, not bounce a ball. The single parent holding down two jobs in order to support a family. The kid who works cleaning up the college cafeteria as a way to pay for classes because he lacks the ability to do tricks with a ball. Our military personnel serving in some god-forsaken faraway land. The sweet souls who care for the disabled. handicapped and elderly. The teacher who gives up lunch hours and after school time to help struggling students. There are heroes all around us, in all shapes and sizes.

They're easy to identify. They are fully-clothed, they are capable of speaking in coherent sentences and they are not represented by Gloria Allred.

Chances are, they have nothing to say about what they

#### STREETWISE By Renee Landuyt

#### Would you rather spend a week in the past or the future?

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



'In the future, because they would have more advanced technology and I could see how problems are solved.'

JAZMINE BERRY Harper Woods

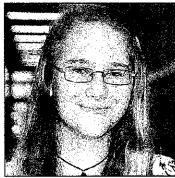


'The future, because it would be interesting to see advances in medicine and to see if people traveled on hovercrafts.

LAUREN NYOUIST Grosse Pointe Shores



'The future, because there might be flying cars and roller coasters that could travel for miles.' PAIGE ABDELLA Grosse Pointe Woods



'The future, so I could see how I look, how complex the world had become and how things turned out because of the choices I made.'

DORA JUHASZ Grosse Pointe Woods



'The future, so I can see how we've evolved, what life-forms are still around and if there are any endangered species left.' CHRISTA RAICEVICH Grosse Pointe Woods

# The reclamation of Grand Marais

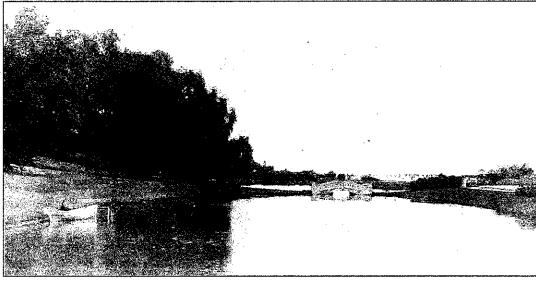


The following article is from the archives of the Grosse Pointe Historical  $Society, circa\ 1930.\ For$ more information, visit gphistorical.org.

Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series.

he officers and ladies of the post at Detroit dressed in sable lined robes with masks to protect their faces and beaver caps for the heads were well sheltered from the winds. DePeyster in one of his poems relates at length how, on occasions, dinners of venison were barbecued in the open air and served on the bank, with bear skins for seats and no sign of a table, a picnic in the winter time, with the deer and bears as lookers-on.

"There are not many old residents left now who remember the 'Grand Marais,' 'Big Marsh,' as the degenerate descendants of the early French settlers used to call it. It began at the waterworks and rolled way in a prairie-like sweep of course marsh grass, to the river on one hand and the distant purple wood on the other as far as Bishop Road, its northern boundary. To the casual glance it appeared to be a piece of waste moorland, soggy and unproductive, but woe to the unwary who ventured upon its treacherous surface. It was an unaffordable morass full of quags and sloughs and miry bogs.



Flora was abundant along the marshes, including the Milk River.

"In the spring when the blue flags blossomed, it became an azure sea shot with gold, and later in June the wild roses along the border of the road on the west side converted it into a scented garden of the orient. But in the late summer and in the cold days of autumn, when then east wind blew mournfully across its russet downs and went whispering through the withered stalks of the reeds and rushes along the muddy pools, then indeed it was a desolate spot, full of uncanny suggestions, a fit abode for the wanton feufollet and other mischievous

"Away toward the east along the waters edge a stunted growth of willows and wild poplars broke the dead level of its monotonous line, and the lighthouse, rising stiff and white above the scanty herbage, redeemed with a touch of human interest the lonely scene.

"Presque Isle, `Almost an island,' was the pretty French name for the distant sandy knoll that lay beyond the ready sea, as isolated and

nearly as inaccessible as any island. Here the lighthouse people lived in solitary seclusion, their only neighbor a hermit Frenchman who lived on Windmill Pointe, and who spent his days hunting muskrats in the swamp and his nights in getting drunk. The main approach to Presque Isle was by the waterway, but in certain seasons of the year, prior to 1877, one might reach it by the mainland driving through Poupard's Lane, now Bishop Road to La Greve Road, as the beach road was then called, and thence along

the shore below the marsh to

the old windmill. "Continuing west past the old mill, the beach road ended at the fisheries of Maglory Gouin, next to the lighthouse at the foot of (now Alter

"Fr. Gabriel Richard, parish priest of St. Anne's Church very early in the 19th century, established a school in the town near the church and another at the Grand Marais, near Water Works Park of today, where many French

Continued from page 8A

when asked to quantify his service, stated somewhat facetiously he had performed poorly and would immediately ensquatters lived in little shanties on the islands of solid ground

#### **OPINION:** ality got him a 25 percent tip! 'Tis the season for tip jars

roll in a remedial waiter service

course. His humor and person-

If some of this makes me sound like the Scrooge that stole Christmas, so be it.

On the other hand, I'm still leaving cookies for Santa to ensure he will return each year so maybe I have succumbed to the tip jar mania myself.

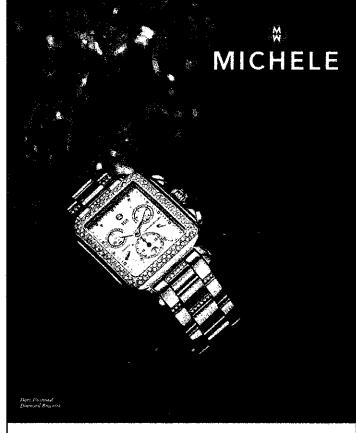
Bill Kalmar is the former director of the Michigan Quality Council and a former resident of Grosse Pointe.

which dotted the great marshy track on the river front of Grosse Pointe Township.

"In the summer months the pupils were brought to and from the school in small boats by their relatives. In the winter months when the marsh was frozen over, the pupils were able to walk. Many of the older ones enjoyed skating to school on the ice surrounding the solid islands in the marsh.

"During the winter months when the ground was frozen,

the farmers cut the marsh hay that grew to a height of 3 feet above the top of the ice in the marsh, which was hauled to Detroit and sold to the operators of breweries and ice houses for packing purposes. When the hay was disposed of, the farmers devoted their time to hauling gravel to the old toll gate, then located on Jefferson Avenue, near Maryland Avenue where the Grosse Pointe Park Municipal Building is now located."



#### **Holiday Hours**

Dec. 13, 12:00-5:00 pm Dec. 14-18, 10:00 am-8:00 pm

Dec. 19, 10:00 am-6:00 pm

Dec. 25-28, Closed

Dec. 20, 12:00-5:00 pm Dec. 21-23, 10:00 am-8:00 pm Dec. 24, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

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# 'UBLIC SAFETY REPOR

tions.

**City of Grosse Pointe** 

#### Gun found in chase

A City of Grosse Pointe patrolman last week recovered a pistol he said was thrown from a car occupied by four men accused of robbery.

The officer had joined Detroit police in chasing the men suspected of armed robbery at an ATM machine near East Warren and Three Mile in

City officers joined pursuit as the suspects' car approached the Grosse Pointe border.

The car made a U-turn on Mack near Washington, hitting an eastbound vehicle. The crash caused the hood on the suspects' car to flip up as the driver sped away, later hitting a tree near Mack and Radnor.

The gun was found near Cornwall and Radnor.

One of the suspects was trapped in the crashed car. Medics took him to a hospital. Police caught the other sus-

#### Bounced checks

The owner of a grocery store on Fisher told police last week he intends to pursue legal action against a 33-year-old Farms man for bouncing

The suspect had presented the store with at least four bad checks, police said.

— Brad Lindberg If you have any information about these or other crimes, call the City of Grosse Pointe public safety department at (313) 886-3200.

**Grosse Pointe Farms** 

Doesn't know name

The first man, a 30-year-old Detroit resident, was arrested on an outstanding traffic warrant from Harper Woods.

Police investigating a burglar

alarm at a house in the first

block of Kenwood found two

men on the property who said

they were conducting renova-

"(He was) very nervous," said an officer.

The second man, a 28-yearold Grosse Pointe Park resident, wasn't taken into custody.

"(He was) unable to provide his middle name, saying he was not sure how to spell (it)," said an officer.

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A Farms man is being investigated for throats he allegedly made during telephone conversations with an out-of-state representative of an insurance company that canceled his pol-

icy in error, believing incorrectly he had not paid his premi-

The resident last month supposedly threatened to "get my shotgun and blow you away."

When the man learned this month his policy had been reinstated, he again became upset. He had already purchased insurance from a different according to a company, Farms officer.

Police were told that the man called the insurance company Dec. 2 and said, "I don't care if you get the FBI, the CIA, or the (expletive deleted) in the White House, I'm going to blow someone away."

#### Bank job

Someone sometime during Nov. 27-30 stole \$50 in petty cash and three deposits totaling \$280 from a bank in the 100 block of Kercheval.

Switched plates

A 43-year-old Detroit man was cited at about 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, for having open intoxicants in his motor vehicle.

A patrolman had spotted the man at Mack and Kerby operating a 1995 Dodge Neon outfitted with a license plate registered to a 1989 GMC pickup truck.

The man's driver's license has been "revoked numerous times for alcohol violations," said the officer.

Brad Lindberg If you have any information about these or other crimes, call the Grosse Pointe Farms public safety department at (313) 885-2100.

#### **Grosse Pointe Park**

#### Be suspicious

A resident of Barrington was in her yard at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, when she was approached by two men who asked if she needed any home repairs done.

They eventually ended up in her house, and after they left, she noticed her wallet missing.

The first suspect is described as a white male in his late 20s with dark hair and a heavy Italian accent. The second is described as a white male in his late 30s with several teeth missing and a heavy Italian accent. They were driving a white truck.

#### Radio taken

A radio was taken from a 2008 Chrysler parked in a driveway on Balfour overnight Tuesday, Dec. 1.

#### Watch your purse

A bold thief opened the passenger door of an occupied car stopped at Kercheval and Wayburn at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, and took a purse that was on the front seat. The suspect, a black female in her 20s wearing a gray coat, fled in a white Chevrolet.

#### Anniversaries

Congratulations to PSO Leo DeRaedt on 22 years of service and to PSO Anthony Blain and Ryan Willmer on eight years of service.

— Kathy Ryan If you have information on these or any other crimes, contact Grosse Pointe Park police, (313) 822-7400.

#### **Grosse Pointe Shores**

#### Wither wanderer

A 37-year-old Detroit man was arrested at 12:55 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, for drunken driving.

A patrolman noticed the man weaving a 2002 Cadillac Seville on southbound Lakeshore to westbound Vernier, where the officer said the car was "wandering in its lane."

The driver registered a .122 percent blood alcohol level, police said.

#### Protecting his turf

Shores police at 10:50 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, gave mutual aid to Grosse Pointe Woods officers and disarmed a 65-year old Woods man reportedly trying to grab a couple of teenagers in the area of Wedgewood and Hampton.

Four Shores officers responded to the report.

"(The Woods man) flagged (me) down and stated he was in the process of calling the police," said one of the officers. "He stated he had a gun and was trying to capture youths breaking into motor homes."

Officers found a silver-plated Ruger pistol in the man's pants pocket.

#### Hit and run

Investigators are trying to find a motorists who hit and ran from an AT&T truck parked on Shoreham between 1:45 and 2:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3.

Based on broken glass left at the scene, police think the driver was operating an SUV with black-tinted windows.

#### Blight busters

The first steps toward legal action are being taken against owners of allegedly blighted property in the 900 block of Lakeshore.

The owners have been accused by another resident of not keeping the house and yard up to code.

A public safety officer investigated the complaint during the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. The officer noted broken

tree limbs throughout the yard, leaves, weeds and trash. On the house there was rotted wood, chipped paint and weeds growing in gutters. Brad Lindberg

If you have any information about these or other crimes, call the Grosse Pointe Shores public safety department at (313) 881-5500.

#### **Grosse Pointe Woods**

Possible charges

A 65-year-old Hampton Road resident may face felonious assault charges follow-

ing an incident at 11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4. Armed with a pistol later confiscated by police, the resident decided he would investi-

gate what he believed to be suspicious behavior by two youths at the corner of Wedgewood and Hampton. He confronted the two 16year-old males and grabbed one of them. One youth broke free and ran to his house on

was also able to escape. Police have forwarded the

Hampton. The other youth was

grabbed by the shirt, but he

information to the prosecutor's office for possible charges.

#### Grinch alert

Police have responded to two reports of damaged or stolen Christmas decorations. They were called to a house on Aline at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 4 where the homeowner reported that a 5-foot-tall wooden snowman had been taken sometime overnight.

At 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3. a homeowner on Anita reported to police that someone had cut the wires on her Christmas lights.

#### Who needs enemies?

On Saturday, Dec. 5, a Hampton Road resident reported to police his friend admitted stealing his \$700 bike and selling it to a bike store in Detroit.

— Kathy Ryan If you have information on these or any other crimes, contact Grosse Pointe Woods police, (313) 343-2400.

### GPF foundation projects

The Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation, established in 1980, has raised more than \$2 million to support the following projects

2006 — Grosse Pointe Farms water campus 2004 — Pier Park community building

2002 — Children's splash pad at Pier Park 2000 — Ornamental street signs

1998 — Gazebo and landscaping at Pier Park 1997 — Renovation and reforestation at Pier Park

1996 — Renovation of the bath house at Pier Park

1995 — Enhancement of brick sidewalks on the Hill 1993 — Lakeshore Road Adopt-An-Island Project

1991 — Renovation of Joy Bells Park 1990 - Renovation of Old Gate House at Pier Park

1989 — Beautification of the Hill municipal parking lot

1988 — Welcome signs to Grosse Pointe Farms 1986 — New Pier Park entrance and gate house 1984 — Richard Place on Kercheval on the Hill.

– Source: Grosse Pointe Farms

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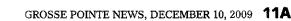
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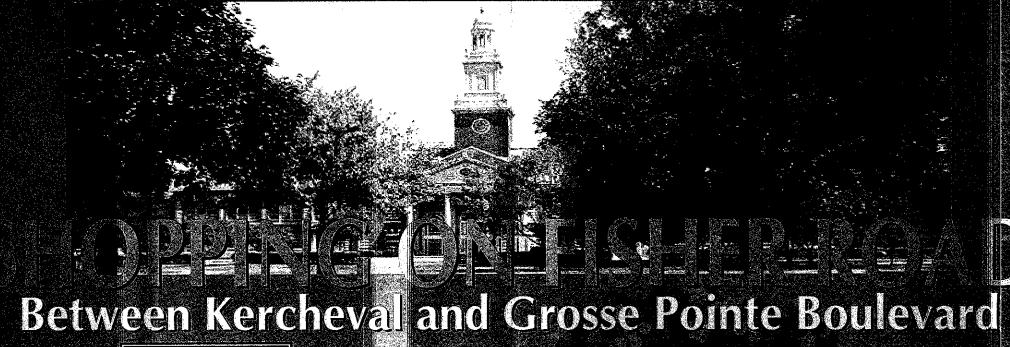
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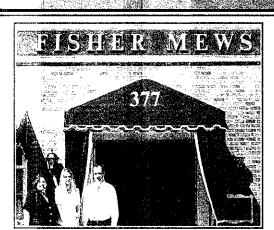
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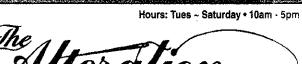
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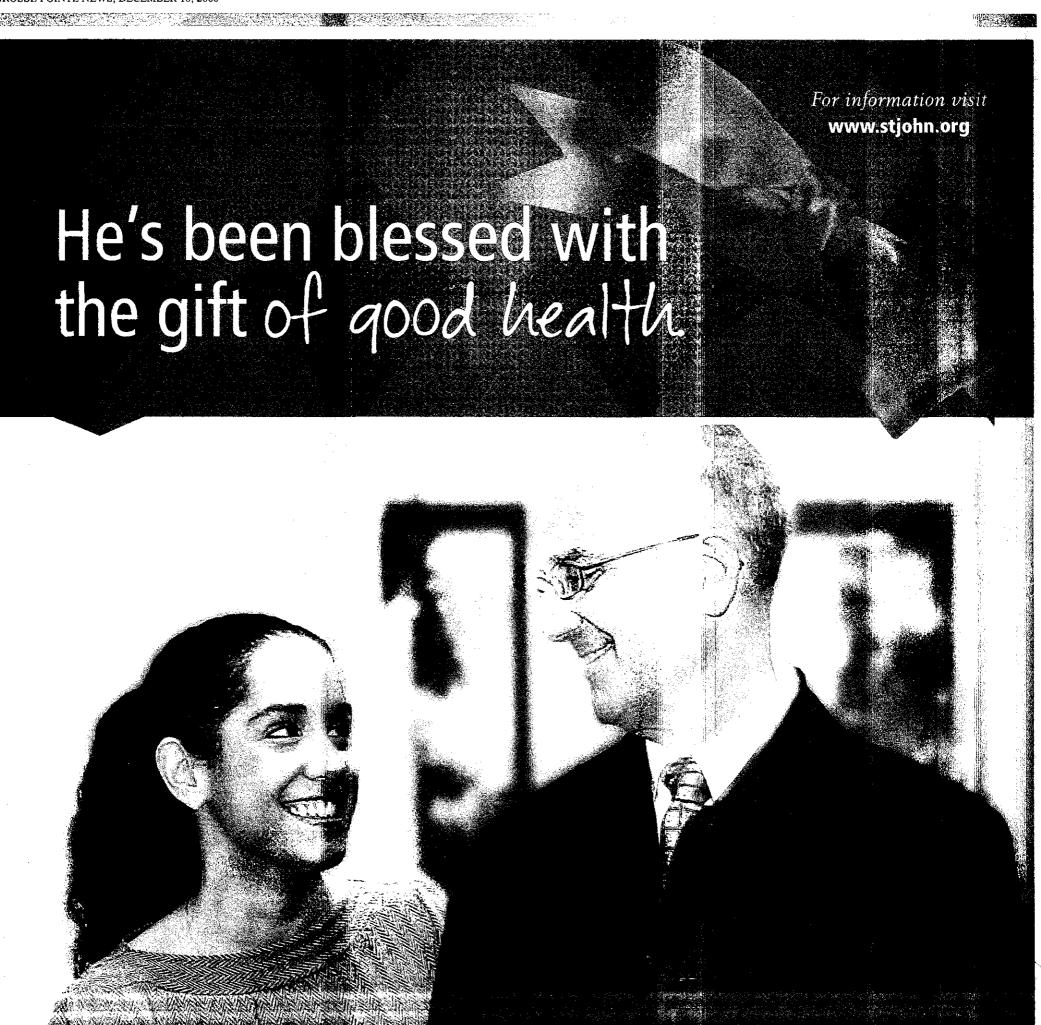
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When the Russo family gathers on Christmas morning, their most precious gift won't be under the tree.

It's the gift of good health.

John Russo miraculously recovered from a heart attack just six months ago under the expert care of the doctors, nurses and caregivers at St. John Hospital. His wife of 22 years, Marie, and daughter, Maria, can't imagine a better present than to have John with them, happy and healthy.

The associates of St. John Hospital and Medical Center were honored to participate in John's recovery, and thousands of others like him in 2009. It is our privilege to share our passion for healing body, mind and spirit with all those who need us.

This Christmas, and into 2010, we wish you health and peace. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from our family to yours.



# ST. JOHN HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

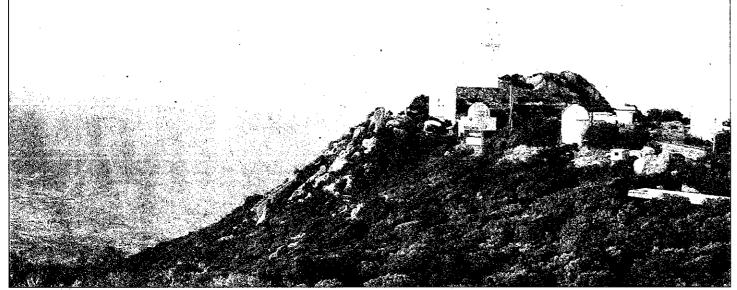
A PASSION for HEALING

#### **AUTOMOTIVE** Concept designs

Retired designers look down the road PAGE 5A II

**SA II OBITUARIES** 1-3A II SCHOOLS | 4-7A II AUTOMOTIVE

# Students granted unique view of universe



By Amy Salvagno Staff Writer

They spent two nights gazing

Not from the backyard with binoculars or a rooftop with a telescope, but from an instrument that has long helped astronomers study the universe.

Grosse Pointe North High School senior Laree Gardner and junior Stephen Morrison and Grosse Pointe South High School senior Genevieve Wang spent Nov. 4-7 at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory on Kitt Peak, 56 miles southwest of Tucson, Ariz.

The competitive opportunity was open to students across the

Gardner, Morrison and Wang submitted a research proposal that posed finding planetary

nebulae — shells of gas blown who is involved in the Radio off of dying stars — and the Astronomy Team at North. tools they would use during the experience.

After a preliminary vetting of the proposal, the students participated in a teleconference interview with astronomer Katy Garmany, director of the Teacher Observing Program. The group was one of only two from throughout the U.S. awarded time at NRAO this year, according to North astronomy teacher Ardis Herrold.

The National Optical Observatories Astronomy funded the research costs at Kitt Peak. North Principal Tim Bearden and South Principal Al Diver obtained funding to cover travel.

"The scope of it is wide — to observe the universe, it's a universe. It takes detailed picdaunting task," said Morrison, tures, has enabled brightness them insight into the lifestyle of

"We're pretty much looking back on our creation, so it's kind of interesting," said Gardner, one of Herrold's stu-

Wang is also a student in Herrold's class, commuting from South for the district's only astronomy course.

The students' first "work day" was 23 hours long — they flew out to Phoenix in the morning, drove to Tucson and reached the observatory to examine the sky throughout the

For their research, the trio used the 0.9-meter WIYN telescope, which has been used for photographic, spectroscopic and photometric studies of the

maps of large galaxies and has helped astronomers search for rare types of stars.

Scientifically, the 0.9-meter telescope is known for providing a wide field-of-view that can furnish images of one square-degree on the sky. Its many scientific accomplishments include observations showing that jets from stars under formation can stretch a parsec (3.26 light-years) or more beyond the local star-forming region.

The students spent both nights preparing the telescope for observations: giving the CCD camera regular feedings of liquid nitrogen, using computers to command and align the telescope and collect data, Herrold noted.

The experience also gave scope.



Left: Several telescopes sit atop Kitt Peak, Ariz., where, above from left, Genevieve Wang, Stephen Morrison and Laree Gardner spent two nights studying the sky. The students from Grosse Pointe North and South high schools were selected to research their proposal at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, and took time out to step inside the dish of an 85foot radio telescope with one of the full-time scientists.

They toured some of the other telescopes on Kitt Peak, including a behind-the-scenes look at the largest telescope on the mountain as guests of observing astronomer John Bally.

McMath solar telescope and two radio telescopes. They even climbed up into the NRAO's 85-foot radio tele-

"It was definitely breathtak-

professional astronomers. ing - the views of all this advanced instrumentation," said Morrison. "It was definitely a change of landscape from Grosse Pointe."

"When we got there, my ears were popping," said Gardner The trio also toured the about their height above sea level. "But I was already thinking, 'I'm ready to work.'

> She and Morrison say their proposal most caught the inter-

> > See STARS, page 3A II



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#### **SCHOOLS**

### Teacher of the Week

This week, it's Parcells English teacher Dan Bens.

Bens was nominated by eighth-grader Jordyn Parent, who was a student last year:

"Even though I am an eighth-grader, he was one of the best teachers I had last year. Mr. Bens is an incomparable teacher. I had a lot of fun in his class.

"Mr. Bens has changed my life for the better. First off, Mr. Bens taught me a lot about writing and the English language. Since then, I have been excited to learn more in English class and have been elated to write essays and short stories for my class this year.

"Also, Mr. Bens made it fun to learn new things, like how we would watch "YouTube" videos to help us with the parts of speech and how we watched "The Outsiders" after we read the book.

write, as well. My favorite part about writing we did in his class was Writer's Notebook.

ask him. He made me feel smart when I asked him ques-

"Overall, Mr. Bens is one of the best English teachers Parcells has ever seen."

Years at the Grosse Pointe Woods school: 23.

classes at Wayne State University and Henry Ford Community College. As a teenager, he stocked shelves and gathered carts at K-Mart and worked at a "great" ham-Shores, Yum Yum Hamburgers, which is no longer in business.

#### Why did you become a ing nominated? teacher?

starting shortstop for the the work I do. (Detroit) Tigers, but in late 1977 they brought up a rookie "Mr. Bens made it fun to named Alan Trammell and my plans had to be altered.

"Lastly, Mr. Bens can an- student in school, I always Middle School seventh-grade swer any question you have to gravitated toward helping other students with their work. Teaching was something I did naturally before I ever thought of becoming a teacher, so it was an easy decision for me to

#### What do you enjoy about teaching?

Not to be too predictable Previous work: Bens taught here, but it's the students. Middle school students are awesome. They have a lot of energy that can be channeled positively into the classroom experience and their work.

As an English teacher I also burger joint in St. Clair love having the opportunity to read some incredible student writing.

#### How do you feel about be-

I think it's nice that some-I would have become the body appreciates my class and

#### Favorite book to share with students:

Just one? I really love to because it is about the power Confessions of Charlotte Yoko Kawashima Watkins. Truly, I became a teacher start the school year reading of words and language, but I Doyle," by Avi and "My

because from the time I was a "Nightjohn" by Gary Paulsen also enjoy teaching, "The True Brother, My Sister, and I," by

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

-Amy Salvagno



280 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe tures crafts for children, dinner Tickets for a raffle are \$1 or six Farms, hosts its Holiday with Santa, a children's shop- for \$5. Entrants need not be

Boutique from 5 to 9 p.m ping area and more than 30 present to win.

Kerby Elementary School, Friday, Dec. 11. The event fea-vendors. Admission is free.

# Kerby presents boutique Liggett students perform

University Liggett School Temple Theatre in Detroit. Dec 12., at the Masonic day favorites.

holds its All School Holiday Student singers and musi- freewill donations are accept-Concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, cians in grades 1-12 play holi- ed. For more information, call (313) 884-4444.

stpaulonthelake.maestroweb.

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Anchor!" auction Friday, Feb. 5, School hosts an online auction at the Grosse Pointe Yacht through Sunday, Dec. 13, at Club. To make a donation or for more information, call (313)

# Auction online | North choirs perform

Grosse Pointe North Thursday, Dec. 17, and High School choirs, under Friday, Dec. 18, at First the direction of Ben English Henri, present two holi-

Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Woods.

Pointe Choir, CounterPointe, School choir and stu- (313) 882-7774.

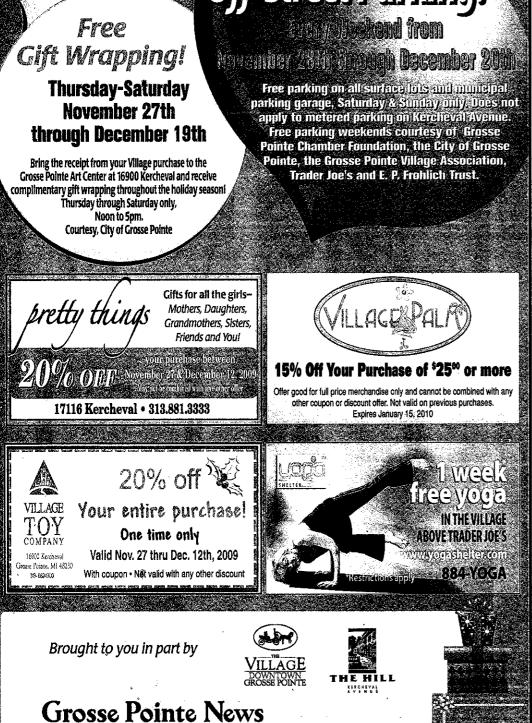
Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Children unday concerts at 7 p.m. Vernier, Grosse Pointe der age 5 attend for free. Gold Cards are accepted. The event features Tickets are available at Chorale. Wild Birds Unlimited. Choraliers, Concert 20485 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods, and at the the Parcells Middle door. For questions, call

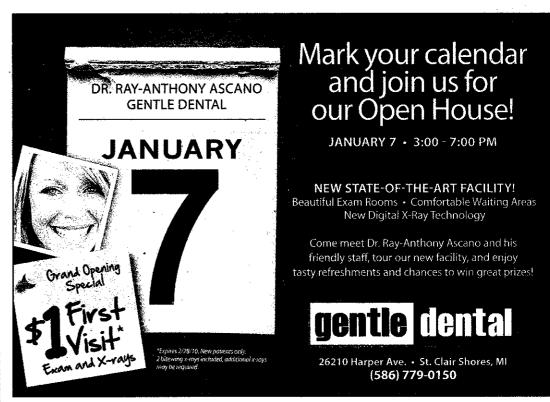
### **South choirs** share songs

The Grosse Pointe South High School choir presents its 2009 Holiday Concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, and at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14.

The event takes place in the student commons at South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms. Tickets are available at Posterity: A Gallery, 17005 Kercheval in the Village of Grosse Pointe, or at gpsouthchoir.org.







**Grosse Pointe South Choirs** 

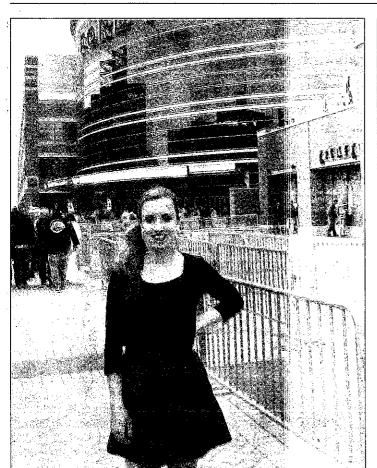
"Sounds of the Season" **HOLIDAY CONCERT** 2009



POINTE SINGERS—SOUTH SINGERS CHAMBER CHOIR—SOUTH CONNECTION— AND CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Sunday, December 13 @ 3:00pm Monday, December 14 @ 7:30pm

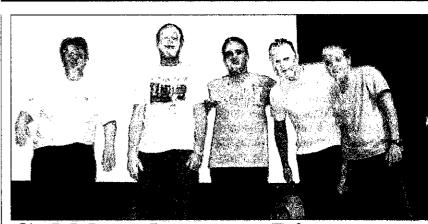
The new Multi Purpose Room at South HS Tickets available at Posterity: A Gallery 17005 Kercheval—in the Village Or On-line at www.gpsouthchoir.org All Tickets are \$15.00 Gold Cards Accepted





## A dancer's dream

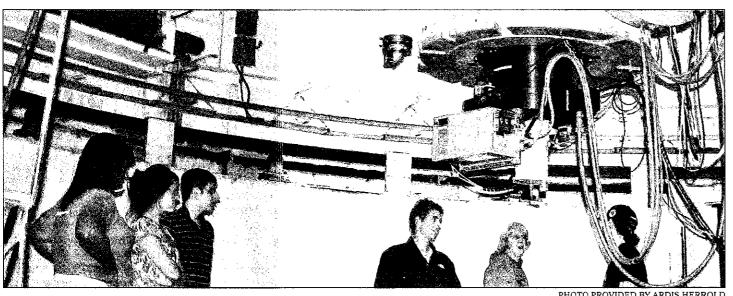
Grosse Pointe North High School seniors Alexandra Hysick, left, and Lexi Toutant danced together during the United Way-sponsored halftime show at the Detroit Lions Thanksgiving Day game. The students joined dancers from across the Metro Detroit area in a tribute to Motown's 50th anniversary.



# Gobblepalooza at Liggett

University Liggett Middle School raised more than \$500 during the annual Gobblepalooza event to purchase gift cards to grocery stores. The cards were given Monday, Nov. 30, to Crossroads of Michigan, a social service outreach agency. The student senate raised the money by selling 25-cent raffle

tickets for donated prizes, such as T-shirts, iTunes gift cards and the chance to throw a pie in a teacher's face. Five educators volunteered. They are, from left, Barb King, David Hartigan, Tim Howard, Adam Ellenstein and Ashley Alles.



Laree Gardner, Genevieve Wang and Stephen Morrison see for the first time the 0.9-meter telescope they will be working with.

**STARS:** Students visit **NRAO** 

Continued from page 1A II

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est of the National Optical don't always have to have an Astronomy Observatories. Their research is still coming together — and may conclude nothing.

"It's all about trial and error and knowing what you did wrong," said Gardner. "You

answer."

Still, they'll show the work put into the proposal at an upcoming science fair. And share an experience they'll likely not

"What I most enjoyed is the

fact we got to work with people who've done this for years and get to do this every day," Gardner said.

"It was a great atmosphere. We got to look at a lot of projects," said Morrison. "It was very stimulating."

HAV IS

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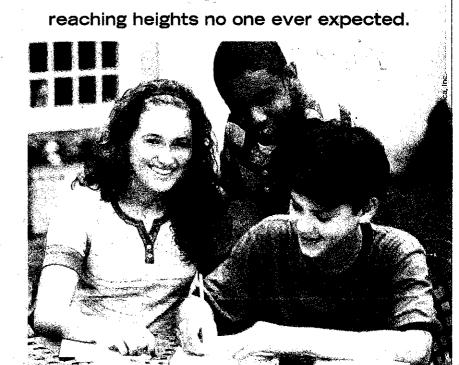
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AUTOS By Jenny King

The 2010 Lexus RX 350 brings math and science labs into the drawing room, where the driver can communicate with the world while sitting in the lap of luxury.

# Lexus RX 350 is elegant tech lab

Lexus is proud of the latest technology available in the five-passenger 2010 RX 350 sport utility.

When equipped with an expansive entertainment and navigation system, priced at \$4,950, the RX 350 can alert the owner to traffic and weather conditions en route to a selected destination while the rear-seat passengers enjoy DVD movies and/or the vehicle's sound system.

In many instances, the driver can use voice commands — to make phone calls or adjust the temperature. Hands-on control freaks can use a joy stick mounted on the center console, complete with cursor for roaming each screen.

RX vehicles equipped with the navigation system can connect with phones capable of Phone Book Access Protocol, and can wirelessly transmit up to a total of 1,000 contacts to the vehicle, for up to four phones.

An upgraded 12-speaker audio system is available with the navigation package. It includes extra speakers and a subwoofer in the luggage compartment for additional bass. A new rear-area six-disc DVD changer and available 330-watt 15-speaker Mark system allow users to enjoy surround Ind. sound on select CDs as well as DVDs.

On a more practical note, an available XM NavWeather in addition to XM NavTraffic — subscriptions required — bows for the Lexus brand on the RX.

XM NavWeather provides near real-time weather conditions plus a forecast of the days to come, both based on official National Weather Service data. It overlays a map of weather conditions on the current chosen route. On the way to your chosen destination, XM NavTraffic lets you know of current traffic conditions route can be adjusted to avoid them.

We could not figure out intuitively how to use the voice-activation feature, and retrieving the 400-plus-page

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Levinson premium surround sound The 2010 Lexus RX 350 pays homage to the century-old Hudson name at the Hostetler Museum in Shipshewana,

from the glove box didn't help because it was accidentally left at home.

As for the navigation system, we didn't want to take the suggested route along the Indiana Turnpike, preferring the delights of old U.S. 20 through La Grange and over to Shipshewana. But we really liked that basic feature of satellite navigation systems that involves a road map on the car's information and a traveling arrow showing us "you are here."

The 2010 RX 350 has fuel economy with real-time traffic displays, and the ratings of 18 miles per gallon average in the city and 24 mpg average in straight highway driving. With that, the navigation system could keep up from the unnecessary red lights. City

hopes for decent fuel economy.

But it doesn't take a math wizard to note one's daily driving habits and routes have a significant effect on gasoline consumption. The 2010 RX 350 has a 3.5-liter V-6 engine under the hood and a six-speed automatic transmission with (shudder) "snow mode" full-time all-wheel drive with torque control.

Directly in front of the driver is a real-time read-out of your fuel economy. Watch what happens to those numbers when you take a freeway curve at 80 mph versus scaling back to a more modest 65 mph. When the vehicle arrived for our test, it said it was getting a city/highway average of

navigation system owner's manual driving really hammers down one's 22 mpg. Those high speeds sent it immediately into the 21 mpg range. Easing up on the throttle pushed the average into the 23 mpg range — and we weren't done yet!

Several miles of stop-and-go city driving in Ann Arbor blew our mileage increase. It dropped into the 21 mpg range and we didn't push back to 23 mpg until the end of the 50plus-mile trip via highway back to the Detroit area. A day of urban driving further tarnished our prideful num-

The base price on a 2010 Lexus RX 350 is listed as \$38,200. That includes a long list of performance, safety, luxury and convenience features. The

with some \$15,000 in options.

A pre-collision system with dynamic radar cruise control at \$1,500 might be something to seriously consider, while adding a \$1,600 audio upgrade could be bypassed.

The two-screen DVD entertainment system with wireless headphones was packaged with the navigation system, and a backup monitor and the weather and traffic service at a cost of \$4,980.

A separate \$4,800 luxury package comprised a power moonroof, leather interior trim, wide angle sideview mirrors, headlight cleaners, an illuminated scuff plate and 19-inch wheels and tires — too big in our humble opinion.

The darkened windows for secondrow seating and the storage area may be dandy for keeping those areas cooler as well as discouraging anyone looking for a reason to break into your vehicle.

But they impair driver visibility to some extent during daylight hours and are next to useless for checking traffic at night.

You will have to rely heavily on the optional backup camera, which presents a nice, bright view of much of the rear area — or put your window down and stick your head out. How last-century is that!

The "movie" screens mounted on the backs of the front seats added a couple of inches of thickness that blocks the view as does the wide B-pillar. One mustn't let the quiet luxury of the RX replace careful driving.

Feeling sheepish about not using all the technology at hand, we especially enjoyed a recent story in Automotive News by its West Coast editor Mark Rechtin. Titled "The tech Hall of Shame: Who needs this stuff?" the piece pokes fun at everything from cassette players still available in new vehicles to keyless ignition, lane departure warnings and paddle shifters. The last ones have long been on our "who needs 'em" roster.

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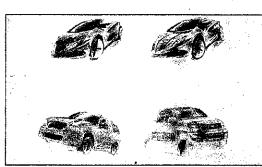
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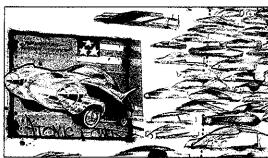
**AUTOS** By Jenny King

# Retired designers imagine future cars

versity.

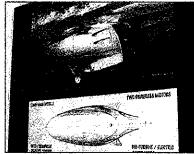
Richard Nesbitt. illustrator, author and a Ford designer, submitted these four future vehicles ideas.

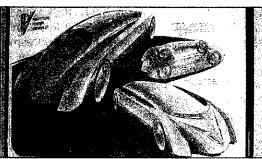




Concept 2020 is the imaginative work of retired Ford designer Howard (Buck) Mook.

Spaceship or land vehicle? Here is one of Richard Beck's ideas now on display at the **National Automotive** History Collection in the Skillman Branch of the **Detroit Public Library.** 





Robert Barnes' ideas for tomorrow.

A futuristic look by William Porter.



Thirty-two veteran automotive designers show their ideas of what domestic cars someday may look like through a new display at the National Automotive History Collection.

The exhibit, "Recapturing the Magic: Visions of Future American Automotive Design,' opened in mid-November and is slated to run to April of 2010 at the Skillman Branch of the Detroit Public Library. There is no admission charge.

Several of the designers were on hand Nov. 21 when authors of automotive books autographed their works for enthusiasts. The book sale was set amid the sketches — done by hand without computer assistance — of members of the League of Retired Automotive Designers.

All the participating designers submitted their visual ideas of how future cars may appear. and in some cases, how they may be powered. Many also dug out their "futuristic" drawings from past decades. The designers represented studio artists and designers employed by auto makers Ford, Chrysler, AMC and General Motors.

"The League of Retired Automotive Designers was founded about three and onehalf years ago," said participant Bill Michalak, a GM alum as well as an independent automotive artist from Rochester. "Members were asked to provide drawings of what they think cars will look like in the years to come."

Books on various automotive topics were signed in the display area. At the far end of the reading room, writers had an opportunity to talk about their research and publications.

John Heitmann was one of three authors invited to give brief lectures that day. PHOTOS BY JENNY KING Heitmann, a chemist by training, an automotive history specialist and professor at the University of Dayton in Ohio, recently published "The Automobile and American Life," a work based in part on his classroom talks at the uni-

"The course started as a business history class but overthe years has evolved into a larger story including the place of the automobile in American life, its effects on life on the farm and in the city, 'governmentality,' labor history, the

arts and leisure time," said Heitmann.

The author said he sees many car cultures, from "young owner" with their "tuners" to old guys with clas-

"There's a pluralism related to car cultures," Heitmann said.

"There was a kind of religion of the automobile in the 1950s an obsession, a great desire for automobiles," he said.

Heitmann related stories of his own favorite wheels: The

1971 Porsche he found used and paid too much for and in which he has invested untold hours of attention.

"I named it Lazarus," he said. "After I bought it, I took it all

"It helps to have a good friend who is a mechanic." Heitmann added. "I drive the Porsche every day."

Among concerns for the future are the outlook for the former domestic industry and the

See FUTURE, page 7A II

#### City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

#### **SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES December 7, 2009**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present on Roll Call: Mayor Farquhar; Councilmembers, Joseph, Roby, Davis, III, Theros, Leonard and Waldmeir. Absent Were:

Messrs. Burgess, City Attorney; Reeside, City Manager; Tepper, Assistant City Also Present: Manager; Jensen, Director Public Safety; Hutchins, Deputy Director of Public Safety; Pamela J. Baker, Exec. Assistant/Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor Farquhar Presided at the Meeting.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 9, 2009, were approved as submitted. The Minutes of the Closed Session held on November 9, 2009, were approved as submitted.

The following items were approved from the Consent Agenda:

The re-appointment of Katherine McDonald to the City's Board of Canvassers and the appointment of Donald A. Lindow to replace Jane Dow upon her retirement from the Board; each member to serve a 4-year term.

The 2010 City Council Schedule of Meetings.

Approval of the sale of City's property located at 163 McKinley. Approval of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

The following Reports were received by the Council and ordered placed on file:

• Quarterly Financial Report

Investment Report - July 2009

Investment Report - August 2009

Upon proper motion made, supported and carried, the Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 90 KERBY ROAD, GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MICHIGAN 48236. THE MEETING IS PUBLIC, INTERESTED PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITY ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. YOU MAY ALSO MEN THE CENTRAL AND MINISTERS ON THE CITY'S WERSITE. MAY ALSO VIEW THE AGENDA AND MINUTES ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE: www.ci.grosse-pointe-farms.mi.us/

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AUTOWIRE. NET By Steve Schaefer

# The Dodge Challenger is back

With the Ford Mustang still going strong and the Chevy Camaro back on the road, it's inevitable Chrysler's pony car entry would return as well.

Looking incredibly similar to the historical car of four decades ago, but significantly larger and completely up-to-date, the Dodge Challenger is back.

"Our all-new Dodge Challenger is a modern-day muscle machine representing the best from the past and present," said Mike Accavitti, director of the Dodge Brand and SRT Global Marketing, Chrysler LLC: "Nearly 40 years following the debut of the original, we are bringing Dodge Challenger back and loading it with essential hardware, styling and technology desired by today's buyer."

Based on the tried-and-true platform from the successful Chrysler 300 and stable mate Dodge Charger, the new Challenger is a substantial ride. Despite being considered a compact by the EPA, it's a solid cruiser, and a fine one at that. I was surprised at its poise as it rolled down city streets and shot down the freeway.

Like a good pony car, this two-door coupe comes with a choice of mild or wild engines, including two brawny HEMI powerplants. My SE tester had the base 3.5-liter V6, which puts out 250 horsepower and an equal 250 pound-feet of torque, and despite hauling 3,819 pounds, it is pretty quick off the line. This rear-wheel-drive car comes only with an automatic four-speed in V6 configuration.

Next step up is the R/T model, which boasts a 5.7-liter HEMI V8 with a big jump to 372 horsepower and 400 pound-feet of torque through a five-speed automatic or a six-speed manual transmission. This is the first application of self-service clutch shifting in a modern HEMI engine. It can run zero to 60 in under six seconds.

The mightiest Challenger in town is the hulking SRT8, with its exclusive 6.1-liter HEMI V8 cranking out a sizzling 425 horsepower and 420 pound-feet of torque through your choice of automatic or 6 speed manual. It does the zero-to-60 in under five seconds—whew.

The SE with the V6 earns a reasonable 17 city, 25 highway EPA fuel economy estimate, with EPA green vehicle scores of 7 for air pollution and 5 for greenhouse gas. The HEMIs do less well, with the SRT8 with automatic getting 13 city, 19 highway



Dodge Challenger R/T

and a decent 6 for air pollution, but only a 2 in the greenhouse gas score.

To get some perspective, I visited a 1970 Challenger at Kassabian Motors in Dublin, Calif. In historically appropriate purple, the old Challenger reminded me of just how far cars have progressed in four decades. The old car sat low, much like a period Mustang or Camaro would have, and was significantly smaller all around than the newer model.

Inside, the dash seemed delicate and slim. Of course, it had much less behind it than today's air bag and computer equipped vehicles. However, Chrysler's design wizards have conjured up a surprisingly big dose of the old design in the new car, from the four-gauge instrument panel to the trapezoidal door panels and black headliner.

Outside, the character line along the sides of the new car is dead-on with the original, so much so that it's a shock how differently sized and proportioned are the two cars:

The 2010 wears the same face, a recessed simple grille with 1960s style quad sealed beam headlights, and a Challenger badge to the side. The tail is one long taillight from end to end, again like the original. Dual rectangular exhaust outlets complete the picture.

If teenage boys were buying cars, the

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Challenger would be a hit. My son's pals loved it, even in its mildest SE form in subtle Dark Titanium Metallic clearcoat paint. I had teenagers hanging out of cars shooting images on their cell phones.

The Challenger felt smaller than its nearly two tons with its front short- and long-arm suspension and five-link independent rear suspension system from the Charger, and it was completely dialed-in and ready to roll.

Prices start at \$22,545, including shipping for the SE and go up from there. My SE tester came to \$27,690 after adding the Customer Preferred Package 25G, which includes a batch of goodies ranging from 18-inch alloy wheels to satellite radio, four-wheel disc brakes with traction control, leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob and more.

The Sound Group matches a 276-watt amplifier with six Boston Acoustics speakers. The leather Interior Group provides beautiful heated leather chairs, which were remarkably better bolstered than their 1970's counterparts.

Built in Brampton, Ontario, Canada, this very (North) American car delivers the goods buyers of traditional sporty cars want. Let's just hope it helps in rising Chrysler's pentastar again.

Steve Schaefer is an automotive reporter for AutoWire.Net. TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

The 2010 Mazda 3 i Touring features a new, aerodynamic exterior based on its new concept car called Nagare that debuted at this year's L.A. Auto Show.

# Mazda loaded with standard features

This week, we're driving the 2010 Mazda 3 "i" Touring 4-door sedan — base price: \$17,500; price as tested: \$18,600

Its new exterior design features a slippery front-end, noticeable rake and a grille area that has a "smile to it" in a pleasing manner. The "tuner" generation, too, loves Mazda, and with the looks of the concept cars and current offerings, will continue to for a long time to come.

Now in its seventh year of success, front drive Mazda 3 delivers in every manner for those looking for sporty looks and impressive fuel economy. As for daily driving, Mazda 3 is nimble in highway manners and easy to park. Available in Sport, **Touring and Grand Touring** versions, all come with a 4cylinder engine, with "i" prefix models offering a 148 horsepower 2.0-liter powerplant while "s" versions come with a 167 horsepower, 2.5 liter design. The exterior improvement emphasizes Mazda 3's great compact car heritage, and answers well to its in-house marketing call of style and sensibility.

Still an inexpensive way to appreciate Mazda's "always the soul of a sports car" experience, the 3 i Touring starts at \$17,500 and comes with a bevy of standard features that usually cost extra on

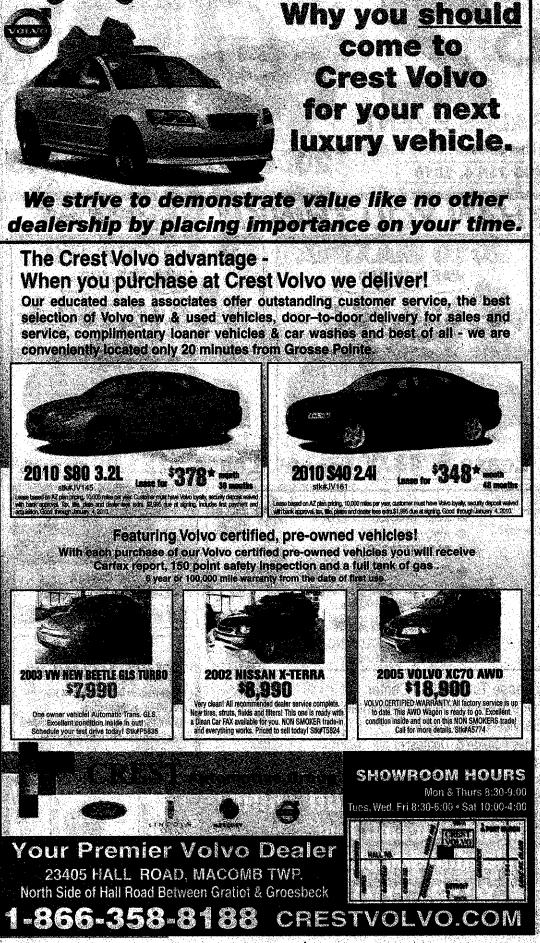
competing compacts. For those working on a limited budget, an entry model dubbled "i SV" starts at \$15,375 and comes with the identical 4-cylinder engine that delivers 25 city and 33 highway fuel mileage numbers with a manual transmission.

Available in four-door sedan or five-door hatchback designs, and as I pointed out in 2008 when I last drove a "3," do not confuse Mazda 3 models with the turbocharged MazdaSpeed 3, which starts at \$24,055 and is a performance based vehicle.

Our tester's 2.0 engine develops enough torque at 135 to please those who need a bit of Mazda's "zoom zoom" genealogy. I feel the acceleration is adequate; thanks to the car's lightweight and its standard 5-speed manual transmission, although automatic versions are available for non-shifters. Underneath, an independent front and rear suspension with stabilizer bars mate with beautiful 16-inch alloy wheels and tires, making for good handling.

Inside, Mazda 3's new interior features standard items such as air, digital clock, tire monitor system, cruise control, cloth seating, 6-speaker stereo AM/FM/CDMP3 sys-

" See LOADED, page 7A II





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2010 Mazda 3 Touring

#### LOADED: Options plus good gas mileage

Continued from page 6A II

tem, all the powers, tilt and telescopic collapsible steering wheel, carpeted floor mats, collapsible pedals, 60-40 split folddown rear seats, rear window defogger, leather-wrapped steering wheel and electroluminescent gauges with colorful illumination. Seating is comfortable front and rear, although the middle seat is tight for a full size adult.

Safety features include standard four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes, advanced dual front air bags, side-impact air bags and curtains, triple-H construction,

anti-theft engine immobilizer and remote keyless entry with panic mode. Added since 2008 as standard fare are two important safety features, namely traction control and dynamic stability control.

Sirius Satellite radio was the only option our tester featured at a cost of \$430, while the remaining \$670 for destination pushed the final tally to a very affordable \$18,500 retail.

Important numbers include a 14.5-gallon fuel tank that offers a 406-mile cruising range, 2,868-pound curb weight, 12 cubic-foot trunk space, and 103.9-inch wheelbase. As for government crash tests, 5-star

and 4-star ratings make this car even more attractive to a consumer.

In this day and age of not really knowing what's around the corner economically, consumers can take solace knowing Mazda 3 is not only a great car to drive and own, it is economically feasible and offers better resale value than some less expensive models.

Likes: Great miles per gallon numbers, lots of standard features, looks, quiet ride.

Dislikes: Back seat somewhat cramped, a little noisy when pushed.

Greg Zyla is a syndicated auto columnist.

### **FUTURE: Designers look down the road**

Continued from page 5A II

place of cars in our culture. he said. Are today's cars devoid of emotional appeal? Are they nothing more than appliances?

Some guests attending Heitmann's talk thought so. But anyone taking a close look at

the retired designers' exciting, creative, individual ideas for succeeding generations of vehicles, as well as student work at places such as Detroit's College for Creative Studies, would dismiss that fear. Their renderings, sculptures, sketches and artwork prove the dream is alive

and well.

The Skillman Branch Library is located at 121 Gratiot Avenue in downtown Detroit. For more information, call (313) 628-

Jenny King is an automotive writer who lives in the City of Grosse Pointe.





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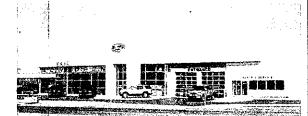
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# **OBITUARIES**

Obituary notices are purchased and often prewritten by family or friends. While we try to run obituaries as submitted, we nevertheless reserve the right to edit for accuracy, style and length.

#### Ronald J. Bieke

Ronald J. Bieke, 77, passed away Monday, Nov. 30, 2009, at his home.

He was born May 9, 1932, in Detroit to Alois and Mary (nee Murphy) Bieke and graduated from DeLaSalle High School in Detroit. He attended Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan. He subsequently graduated from the University of Michigan Law School and practiced law in Detroit for five years before entering the banking profession with the Bank of the Commonwealth.

He and his family moved to Kalamazoo in 1971 from Grand Blanc when he became Bank. He served as president of regional banking for Comerica Bank for several vears and was founder and chairman of the boards of Arcadia Bank and Arcadia BIDCO. He served on a total of 17 boards of directors of banks in and around Michigan and was a member of the Michigan Bankers Association, as well as the American Bar Association.

Mr. Bieke was an avid sailor and a life-long member of Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit. He was an active horseman and ran quarter-horses and thoroughbreds across the midwest. He was a member of the Cowhill Yacht Club in Saugatuck, as well as the Kalamazoo Country Club.

Mr. Bieke is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sheila (Diann) Bieke of Chicago, and Co. in Toledo, Ohio. James Bieke of Saugatuck;

daughter, Sheila (Bradley) Cutshall of Galesburg; grandchildren, Claire, Elizabeth, Kevin, Mary, Michael and Michelle; son-in-law, Jeffrey T. Neilson of Grosse Pointe Farms; sisters, Nancy Neat of Grosse Pointe and Mary Lou Hirsch of Tampa, Fla. and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his daughter, The Honorable Susan Bieke Neilson in 2006 and his brother, Thomas P. Bieke.

According to his wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial Mass was celebrated Dec. 9 at St. Monica Catholic Church in Kalamazoo.

Donations may be sent to the University of Michigan Bone Marrow Transplant Fund at the chairman and chief executive Bone Marrow Transplant officer of the Industrial State Program, University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center Development Office at 301 E. Liberty, Suite 130, Ann Arbor, MI 49104-2251 or to the charity of the donor's

> Funeral arrangements were handled by Redmond Funeral Home in Kalamazoo.

#### John Daniel Boyle

City of Grosse Pointe resident John Daniel Boyle, 87, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009, at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital.

Known as Jack to family and friends, he was born in Detroit to John Leo and Blanche (nee Berg) Boyle and graduated from Annunciation High School in 1939. He was a long-(Quinn) Bieke; sons, Thomas time employee of Toledo Scale

Mr. Boyle was a first lieu- her sister-in-law, Marilyn

tenant in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He enjoyed sailing and was a member of Bayview Yacht Club and the Detroit Yacht Club.

Mr. Boyle is survived by his daughter, Kathy (Douglas) Boyer; grandchildren, Alison (Fritz) Hubbard, Scott Boyer and Kami (Greg) Kris; greatgrandchildren, Ole and Paig Hubbard and sister, Blanche Newhall.

He was predeceased by his wife, Beatrice Katherine (nee Weekes) Boyle and brothers, Joseph and Frederick.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial donations may be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207 or Junior Sailors of Bayview Yacht Club, 100 Clairpointe, Detroit, MI 48215-3042.

#### Laura DeWees Wallace

Laura DeWees Wallace, 99, died Thursday, Nov. 26, 2009, at the Woodridge Nursing Home in Berlin, Vt. She had been living in Stowe, Vt.

Mrs. Wallace was born May 20, 1910, in Philadelphia to William and Laura (nee Barrett) DeWees. She received an associate degree from Palmer Business School and worked as a secretary for Budd Co. in Philadelphia. Later she worked for Grosse Pointe Florist.

Mrs. Wallace is survived by



Thomas C. DuFour

DeWees of Stowe, Vt. and toddlers and their families. nephew, Rusty DeWees of Elmore, Vt.

She was predeceased by her husband Carson Wallace; sisters, Violet Mulligan and Ethel Meyer and her brothers, William and George DeWees.

Interment was at West Laurel Hills Cemetery in Philadelphia.

Arrangements were handled by White-Fiess Funeral Home in Morrisville, Vt.

#### Thomas C. DuFour

Grosse Pointe resident Thomas C. DuFour, 56, died Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2009, in Detroit.

He was born Jan, 5, 1953, in Bay City to George A. and C. Maureen DuFour and graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 1971.

Mr. DuFour worked in management for Total Armored Car in Detroit for more than 20

He was an avid sports fan and frequently attended Detroit Tigers, Lions and Red Wings games. He also played baseball, hockey, and football in his younger years and, more recently, golfed and bowled weekly.

At his funeral service, Mr. DuFour's golfing friends gave him a "21-ball Salute" by simultaneously hitting golf balls into Lake St. Clair.

Mr. DuFour is survived by his daughter, Jacqueline Rose DuFour; father, George A. (Terry Navarro) and siblings, Penny (Martin) Bergeson, Mary (Brian) Morrow, Renee (Robert) Greening, Richard, Randy, Patrick, James and George. He also is survived by numerous nieces nephews.

He was predeceased by his mother, C. Maureen DuFour and brothers, Mark DuFour and Michael DuFour.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Nov. 28 at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

#### Patricia Barnard Muliett

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Patricia "Tricia" Barnard Muliett, 67, died Friday, Dec. 4, 2009, at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

She was one of 11 children born to George and Rita McDermott Barnard and graduated from St. John College of Cleveland in 1965. She began to pursue her passion for teaching as an elementary teacher in the Solon Public School System in Ohio. She received a fellowship to Ohio University where she received her master's degree in education. In 1973 she earned her Ph.D. from Ohio University on full academic scholarship.

In 1973, while teaching at Merrill Palmer Institute in Detroit, she met John Gregory Muliett. They married in 1977.

Tricia worked at Wayne County Intermediate School District developing a program for handicapped infants and Red Cross in San Antonio



Patricia Barnard Muliett

This program was then implemented in the Woodhaven School District and Tricia served as its program director.

She later became principle and Title I coordinator in the Mount Clemens Community School District and then director of special education within the same school district.

In 1989 Tricia became director of a program providing services to newborn to 3-year-old handicapped children and their families in the Macomb Intermediate School District from which she retired in 1999.

Shortly thereafter, another opportunity presented itself as Head Start director of Macomb County.

She and her husband both retired in 2007 and enjoyed this time together with their family and friends.

Tricia enjoyed sailing and dancing. She was a member of the Metro Detroit Quilters Guild, American Association of University Women and the sewing and quilting group of St. Paul Altar Society.

She is survived by her husband, John Gregory Muliett; daughter, Mary Catherine Muliett; parents, George and Rita Barnard of Chagrin Falls, Ohio; siblings, Margaret (Lyle) Saraney, Robert (Gayle) Barnard, Nancy Hastings, Kathleen (Norman) Skala, Elizabeth Redder, Donald (Linda) Barnard, Thomas (Barbara) Barnard and David Barnard and 61 nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her brother: James Barnard (Mary Cay); sister, Rita Lesesky (Alan) and niece, Deana Saraney.

A funeral Mass will be cele-12, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial donations may be made to Autism Society at autism-society.org; American Cancer Society at cancer.org; Little Sisters of The Poor at littlesistersofthepoor.org or the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at ihmsisters.org.

#### Jeanne Evans Whittaker-Hines

Former Grosse Pointe resident Jeanne Evans Whittaker-Hines, 75, succumbed to inoperable lung cancer in Mission Viejo, Calif., Thursday, Nov. 17, 2009.

She was born New Year's Day, 1934, to Margaret Evans and Alfred Heacock Whittaker, M.D. of Detroit and Grosse Pointe. She graduated from Grosse Pointe Country Day School and the University of Michigan.

Following graduation she served Korea and in France with the American Red Cross-sponsored Supplemental Recreational Activities Overseas programs. After she returned from Europe, she was appointed youth director Southeastern Texas American



Jeanne Whittaker-Hines

where she met her husband, Charles Martin Hines, Later, she returned to Michigan as assistant director of youth activities with the American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Chapter.

Mrs. Whittaker-Hines subsequently turned to journalism, writing the "John Detroit" column for the Detroit Free Press in which she chronicled the activities of social, civic, local and national political and entertainment figures. She edited the Michigan Social Register for several years and then edited the Suburban Life section of the Birmingham Eccentric for which she won the University of Missouri Penney-Missouri Award and several Michigan Press Association awards. She concluded her writing career as a columnist and staff writer with the Detroit News.

Later she returned to the Red Cross and directed fundraising galas for the Detroit chapter of the American Red Cross.

Family and friends recall that when asked about her favorite experiences, Mrs. Whittaker-Hines often remarked that the American troops amazed her with lively antics during Korea's freezing winters and blazing summers, or that many of the name figures she interviewed were interesting not only for their accomplishments, but, in most cases, their generosity and approachability. A poignant night she sometime described was helping opera star Maria Callas depart after her last appearance at Masonic Temple.

She was a member of the Sigma Gamma Association and served on area boards including the Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the brated at noon Saturday, Dec. American Red Cross, the Grosse Pointe Public Library, the Detroit Historical Society, the Wayne State University Press Advisory Board, the University Liggett Alumnae Association, Detroit Institute of Arts and Art Train.

> She attributed her civic interests to the example set by herfather, a prominent orthopedic surgeon who co-founded the Detroit Historical Museum. and her mother, an accomplished pianist, who was active in Detroit area musical and civic affairs.

She is survived by her children, Charles Martin Hines III and Margaret Helen Whittaker (Tobias E. Zimmerman); grandsons, Samuel and Joseph Zimmerman: sisters. Hilary and Joyce; brothers, Alfred E. Whittaker and James Whittaker of Las Vegas and Grosse Pointe; nieces, Linda Bugaiski of St. Clair Shores and Victoria Valice and goddaughter, Dana Standish Seixas, formerly of Grosse

Memorial donations may be made to Sigma Gamma Foundation, P.O. Box 36373, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross, 100 Mack Ave., Detroit MI 48201, or University Liggett School, 1045 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI

#### **GROSSE POINTE FARMS**

### Three arrested in check case

By Brad Lindberg

Staff Writer

Two paperhangers sat in the detective bureau spilling more beans than during a food fight

at Taco Bell. It was Wednesday, Dec. 2. The case against a trio of counterfeit check-writers in Grosse Pointe Farms was rounding

A woman arraigned in the case, and a man due for arraignment, were at police headquarters telling on themselves, each other and another man who had already confessed to police a week before.

The all-for-none trinity from Detroit is accused of passing and trying to pass fake payroll checks Sept. 10 and 25 at Fifth Third Bank on the Hill.

The woman, Kimberly Williams, 50, was arraigned in Farms Municipal Court Dec. 2 for uttering and publishing. One of the men, Richard Parham, 57, was arraigned

'(Parham) stated the checks are provided by a man known as 'Black," according to a detective's report. "Parham stated if he cashes the check, he gets \$300 and Black gets the (balance)."

Due for arraignment is another man, age 54. He's the person detectives questioned last Wednesday with Williams.

He's named in an arrest warrant but, as thanks for cooperating with police, he won't be put in custody until the day of his arraignment.

"The day is coming when we're going to tell him to come mid-afternoon to court or we're going to go get him," said Lt. Richard Rosati, head of the Farms de-

tective unit. The two-month investigation was stalled until a couple of weeks ago when bank officials gave police checks the suspects had cashed.

"That was important for two reasons," Rosati said. "One check had the fingerprint of Williams,"

Officers identified Williams by matching prints on the check with those of her in a computerized database of lawbreakers. Williams is a convicted felon.

'Second, the Michigan State Police crime lab identified Parham's print on that check," Rosati said.

The bank also turned over security photos of the sus-

"We have the fingerprint, which gives us the name, and a picture to go along with it," Rosati said.

Parham was arrested Nov. up to 28 years in prison if 23 on Detroit's westside, found guilty of the check Rosati and fellow Detective scheme. Mike McCarthy were looking for him at a house on Stout week on bond. Street.

Rebuffed at the front door and without a warrant to bust in, the detectives started walking back to their car. They saw Parham approaching on the sidewalk.

"From the photo we obtained from the bank. Mike and I looked at each other and said that looks like Parham," Rosati said. "I called his name. He said, 'Yeah?' I said, 'You're under arrest.' He confessed and gave us information on the others."

Williams and the second man turned themselves in last Wednesday.

Uttering and publishing carries a maximum penalty of 14 years in prison.

Parham's 35-year criminal history, beginning in 1974 with a burglary arrest in Warren, qualifies him as a repeat offender. His repeat status boosts his maximum sentence to life. He is free on a \$7,500 bond, of which he had to post only \$750.

Williams also is an habitual offender. In 2002, she was convicted of assaulting her husband with a knife.

"She pleaded no contest," McCarthy said. Her record means she faces

Williams was released last

# Finance whizzes get to work

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

A citizens task force to help City of Grosse Pointe officials overcome economic challenges has already assigned itself to work overtime.

The group met once last week and agreed to meet ing the Christmas period.

They want to keep things moving," said Mayor Dale Scrace. "They are a very engaging and professional committee.'

group consists of residents cials thereafter will be on their who volunteered for what twice this week to make up for Scrace warned would be two

time off later this month dur- months of intense work.

"The more we get the community involved, the better we will be," said Councilman John Stevens.

Meetings are expected to continue through January or The nine-member ad hoc into February Municipal offi-

See FINANCE, page 9A II

### PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Matthew Triano was named Dean's List for the spring spring 2009 semester at Institute College of Art. Purdue University.

Pointe South High School, he School is the daughter of Jim is the son of Jim and Rosi and Rosi Triano of Grosse Triano of Grosse Pointe Park. ...

Alexandra "Cinnamon"

to the Dean's List for the 2009 semester at Maryland

urdue University. The 2008 graduate of A 2006 graduate of Grosse Grosse Pointe South High Pointe Park.

Army National Guard Triano was named to the Spec. Matthew L. Magreta

graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia S.C. He is the son of Sandy Magreta of the City of Grosse Pointe.

A 2000 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, he received a bachelor's degree in 2003 from Western Michigan University.



Michael Neme, owner of Lochmoor Village Ace, stands next to the board in his office with dozens of photos of local families and children who have visited the store over the 30-plus years they've been in business. "I will miss every single one of them," Neme said. "That's the worst part of retiring. They are like family."

PHOTO BY JOE WARNER

# A neighborhood will lose a friend

Lochmoor Ace Hardware owner Michael talks about closing his store.

After 31 years, the neighborhood fixture, where the neighborhood ran to get Las Vegas," he said. "We'll be in Europe fixtures, will say goodbye Feb. 1.

"I restored this building back in 1978 after the city condemned it," Neme, 77, said. "We put a lot into it, and then built our inventory for the hardware store. My son Anthony helped me over the years. It kept going because of him."

Another mainstay was Rich Colletti, who served as a manager for more than 20

"I offered the store to them, but they said 'no," Neme said. "They were integral to the success."

He also had offers for the store, but three were turned down for funding.

In a tough economy, Neme said it's just

Retirement should be a happy time, but time to retire. He has travel plans with his wife, Julie, but mostly they plan to spend Neme gets a little choked up when he more time with their children and grand-

> "We'll visit Florida, and I want to go to and then back home."

Home has been Grosse Pointe Shores for 27 years. Their children, Suzanne. Michelle and Anthony, live with their families in the Grosse Pointes and West Bloomfield.

'We have 7 1/2 grandchildren, meaning there is one on the way," Neme said. "My family has been so supportive, we can't wait to spend time together."

He admits, as he chokes up and looks away, many customers have been family over the years. A wall of his office is dedicated to photos of his customers and their families. Taking the photos down will be as tough as locking the door one last time.

"Some of them I've seen from birth to college," said Neme, who worked in a Big Three research lab after he graduated from college.

"I feel sad when I think about leaving them. I feel like I'm letting the community down, but I'm getting old. I need to enjoy some time with my family."

Neme, who will clear his inventory with a progressive sale, had some advice for his customers.

"Remember the kind of service you can get with a local business," he said. "Support the Grosse Pointe hardware stores and other businesses. It will help them survive. You can only get hometown service at a hometown store."

Lochmoor Ace Hardware, located at 20799 Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods, is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. the rest of week.

- Joe Warner

### **Orthodontist** enjoys giving her time

thodontist, Dr. Jennifer Mertz can already boast of something that a majority of her colleagues may never achieve: a practice that extends beyond national boundaries.

That's because Dr. Mertz will serve as a volunteer with Operation Smile, a charity that devotes itself to treating children born with cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities.

A Grosse Pointe native, Dr. Mertz is on staff at Pointe Orthodontics in Grosse Pointe Farms, where she practices alongside fellow Pointers Dr. Patrick Latcham and Dr. Paul Van Walleghem. She joined them after completing her residency in orthodontics at the University of Detroit Mercy in 2006.

"It was the opportunity for personal interaction with my patients that made me gravitate toward orthodontics," Dr. Mertz said. "The idea of building relationships that start in childhood and endure into adulthood drew me in."

It was also during her resi-

In just three years as an or- dency that her interest in treating patients afflicted with cleft palates took root and began to

> Operation Smile serves more than 51 nations through a corps of volunteers who use medical knowledge to repair the damage wrought by childhood facial deformities. Dr. Mertz spent two weeks in Nukuru, Kenya in 2006 and Cebu, the Phillipines in February as part of a 50-person

> Αt home, Pointe Orthodontics and Pointe Dentistry serve approximately 3,000 families. A second office . opened in Macomb last sum-

> She donates time and services on a monthly basis to Providence Hospital's Craniofacial and Cleft Palate Diagnostic Clinic.

For relaxation, she enjoys photography, travel and as a member of the Grosse Pointe Club, horseback riding. She and her husband, Jeff, another Grosse Pointe native, share their home with a dog and two

# SOC gets block grant from Farms

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

Christmas came early to Services for Older Citizens this week when the non-profit organization received almost half of \$90,000 in block grant funds allocated annually by Grosse Pointe Farms.

Farms officials awarded a total of \$41,400 for SOC's minor home repair program and other senior services.

lone accounted for \$30,000. the maximum permitted per community.

"Each community is allowed to request up to \$30,000 for a pool of funds set aside for housing rehabilitation services," said Matthew Tepper,

Farms assistant city manager. The bulk of block grants is-

sued during Monday nights' city council meeting consisted of \$42,600 to retrofit sidewalk curb ramps with tactile surfaces in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities

"A variety of these surfaces have been appearing as various repairs have been done," Tepper said. "(The) Farms has begun a systematic program of The home repair program installing a uniform tactile surface." Allocations for the 2010

Community Development Block Grant Program totaled \$84,000. Farms officials retained the \$6,000 balance to cover administration costs.

Block grants are federal

counties.

programming "Final amounts are subject to the approval of Wayne County CDBG program and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development," Tepper

SOC is a perennial block grant beneficiary of all the Grosse Pointes.

"Block grants are a program to give one-time assistance to individuals or neighborhoods that need help," Tepper said.

Tepper said.

"The best alternative is to concentrate on people who qualify for assistance," he said. "That general classification

monies funneled through consists of the disabled and the elderly. That's where SOC comes in. SOC can offer individual assistance to incomequalified individuals."

SOC's minor home repair program is for qualified homeowners in the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

Participants pay as little as \$15 per service call, not counting materials. Work is contracted to companies SOC has screened.

"An elderly person on a limitincome can find it harder Farms neighborhoods don't and harder to make home requalify directly for grants, pairs," Tepper said. "Those repairs start compounding themselves. SOC steps up to try to make sure that person can spend their golden years in their home."

### New associate joins HMA

Higbie Maxon Agney Barbara Ann Karmanos Realtors announce the addisales associate.

"I am so proud to welcome Kay Agney, owner of Higbie Maxon Agney. "She brings a ed Art wealth of creativity, knowledge Children's Rae has a tremendous ability to and The sell lifestyle, which fits perfectly with the HMA philosophy that Grosse Pointe is not a place, it's a way of life."

eight years experience in the luxury real estate market serving as vice president of sales & marketing for International, Turnbull was the ship with the Creative Studies and the Council of Realtors.

Cancer Institute as develoption of Jaime Rae Turnbull as ment director. Currently, she is President of JR Turnbull Communications, a full-service Jaime Rae to our team," said marketing and event planning company. Clients have includ-Van Furniture, Leukemia and experience that will great- Foundation or Michigan, ly benefit our agency. Jaime Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Garden Party Foundation. In 2008, Turnbull was

named Business Woman of the Year by Women's Council of Turnbull has more than Realtors. She has held leadership positions on numerous nonprofit boards and professional organizations including: ChildHelpUSA, On My Own of International Corporation, a Michigan, Suite Dreams luxury residential and resort Project, Women's Committee real estate developer, where for Hospice Care and she produced more than \$150 Yatooma's For the Kids million in sales. Prior to Victor Foundation as well as member-National public relations manager at Association of Realtors, the Neiman Marcus following po- Grosse Pointe Board of sitions at the College for Realtors and the Women's

# Park residents injured during home invasion

By Kathy Ryan Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Park police continue to investigate a Thanksgiving weekend home invasion and attack that resulted in a husband and wife being admitted to a hospital.

According to Chief David Hiller, a 72-year old Grayton Road resident was taking out the trash at 7:45 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, when he was shoved to the ground by a male suspect. At the same time, a second suspect was entering the house, but was surprised by the man's 69-year-old wife. She was shoved to the floor.

A neighbor heard the com-

to assistance of the victims, resulting in both suspects fleeing. Nothing was taken in the at-

Police responded quickly

and set up a perimeter. A tracking dog was brought in from the St. Clair Shores Police Department, but lost the scent a few blocks from the scene. The Detective Bureau continues to investigate.

"This is very unusual in our community," Hiller said. "But we had a quick response and we were able to collect some evidence at the scene. We've had it analyzed and have the results back already. We're in contact with neighboring com-

similar cases.'

Hiller said neither resident was seriously injured, but were hospitalized overnight as a precautionary measure due to their ages.

Police have issued descriptions of the suspects, but, according to Hiller, the information is limited because it was dark in the backyard and the homeowner was not able to Park police, (313) 822-7400.

motion, called 911, and came munities to see if they've had see very much. That first suspect is described as a black male, 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall, 200 pounds.

> The suspect that entered the house is described as a black male, age 20-30, 6 feet 2 inches tall, 220 pounds, with a goatee and moustache. He was wearing a gray shirt and gray shoes.

> Anyone with information is asked to call the Grosse Pointe

Breckels Massage

Therapy

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**Grosse Pointe Park** 

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Seafood

Fish



December 25, 2009 and New Years Day, January 1, 2010 There will be no rubbish collection on Friday, Dec. 25, 2009 and Friday,

Jan. 1, 2010. Collection schedule will be:

> All rubbish routes collected by 11:00 a.m. All rubbish routes collected by 11:00 a.m. Please have trash out by 7:00 a.m.

Friday, December 25, 2009 Friday, January 1, 2010

Saturday, December 26, 2009

Friday's Rubbish Routes Friday's Rubbish Routes

Thank You

### FINANCE: Residents to help

Continued from page 8A II

own to start formulating the next fiscal year's budget. Residents on the committee

and their backgrounds are: ◆ Bill Beach, municipal attorney with Miller Canfield,

◆ Gary Bresnehan, Wayne County assistant prosecutor, ◆ Don Day, president of AE Equities,

◆ John Doerer, private equity executive, ◆ Jay Kaiser CPA and re-

tired partner of Plante & Moran. ◆ Steven Johnson, retired sergeant with the Grosse Pointe Park public safety de-

partment, Bill Rands, retired manager of financial institutions and foundations,

◆ Frances Twiddy, CFP (certified financial planner) with Raymond James, Financial Service and

◆ Glenn Watson, municipal bond and financial consultant.

The call for citizen involvement went out in October, when City Manager Peter Dame released his five-year financial forecast.

Dame's projection of declining revenues and increasing expenses showed that unless the city changed the way it operates, it would languish in a structural deficit brought on by the recession and declining property values.

"We need to get on this right

Thursday, December 24, 2009 Thursday, December 31, 2009

> No rubbish collection No rubbish collection

Saturday, January 2, 2010 G.P.N.: 12/10/09 12/17/09 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



NO DOWN PAYMENT & NO INTEREST FOR

6 MONTHS

with NO Monthly Payments son a qualifying appliance purchase.
Nov. 27 – Dec. 24, 2009.
See store for details

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#### GREAT SELECTION

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#### EXPERT ADVICE

Our knowledgeable sales staff is nationally certified and trained to help you make the right buying decision every time.









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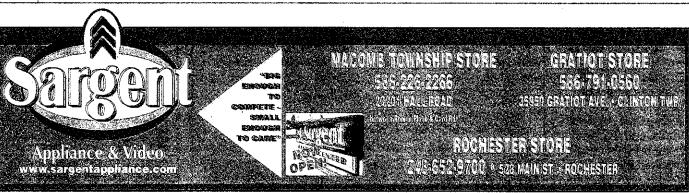




Replacing your old appliances with models that have earned the ENERGY STAR® is the smart choice. ENERGY STAR qualified appliances save energy, save you money on utility and water costs, and help fight global warming.







Subject to approved credit. Winimum payments may be required. Not all purchases will qualify for lowest financing terms. See store for complete details. The merchandise in this advertisement was selected far in advance of publication. Therefore, if an item is out of stock, and a replacement is unavailable, we will offer a comparable value to you. We appreciate your understanding and your business. Any typographic, photographic, or production errors are subject to correction in pricing and description. All models shown may not be on display in all stores but are available from our warehouse stock.



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# HANRS

#### **CHURCH** Hanukkah

A home observance of a military victory PAGE 4B

多B CHURCHES

58 HEALTH

6-78 ENTERTAINMENT



The Edsel and Eleanor Ford House Christmas tree sparkles for vistiors who take holiday tours of the historic residence.

# Slow down for the season

#### Enjoy festivities with outings around town

By Amy Salvagno Staff Writer

up in the commercial hustle and bustle of the holidays.

twice: Stocking stuffers; hostess gift; ingredients for Christmas Eve appetizers; sweets for your office cookie exchange; gift cards for the hair stylist, mail carrier and babysitter; angel outfit for your daughter's school pageant; and the stringing up of outdoor twinkle lights.

The often rushed-through season, intended for wonder and reflection, shouldn't just be about finding the perfect present, whipping up the most elaborate meal or decorating until your budget is drained.

Instead, plan the time to enjoy an abundance of holiday activities around town.

#### Edsel and Eleanor Ford

The locally-rooted family first settled into the lakefront residence at Christmastime 80 years ago, and the now-public house celebrates past memories - and those yet to come at the stately property in Grosse Pointe Shores.

The season's sights and sounds are made special with unique attractions, from original 1950s pink and purple teardrop-shaped glass orna-

ments to a player piano equipped with holiday tunes.

"For a lot of people, it really It's ever so easy to get caught has become part of their holiday tradition," said Ann Fitzpatrick. "People come year You make a list and check it after year for whatever their favorite event is. For Grosse Pointers, it's coming on a general holiday tour and bringing out of town guests. People in the area are just really proud of the Ford House and enjoy sharing a piece of their local histo-

> In the Ford House gallery stands a 15-foot Christmas tree visitors can see during one of several holiday tours, available either following dinner, an afternoon tea or by candlelight.

"It's in the largest room of the house, where the Fords would throw grand parties," noted Fitzpatrick.

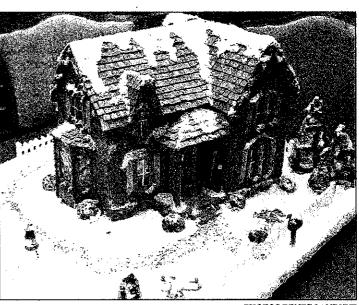
Last year, the estate hosted a reading of, "The Night Before Christmas," held this season Tuesday, Dec. 15, and Wednesday, Dec. 16.

"It's really special because we don't use the house in the way other historic homes are used. Kids can gather around that huge tree, there are candles in the window ... then Santa appears (as if) from out of the fireplace."

Another attraction for children is the Nutcracker Tea, held Monday, Dec. 14, through



Gretchen Wilber, 7, attends the Nutcracker Tea with her American Girl doll, Kit. The event serves up hot chocolate with marshmallows, scones and a visit from Santa.



Several gingerbread houses are on display at the Ford House, including "Making Snow Angels at Grandma's." The house containes 1,006 individually-cut gingerbread shingles, a child making a snow angel, a decorated tree in the side window and See SEASON, page 2B a welcome mat and snow shovels on the front porch.



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# by Sally

for where to go for this weeks hottest specials, products & service.



Victorian Tea Parlor Open Houses! December 14th from 6-9pm in Berkley and December 17th &18th from 10am-6pm at the Grosse Pointe Park location. Join Lillian for hors d'ouevres, tea tasting, raffles and fun! Gifts and jewelry are available for purchasing from the gift and antique shop so you can get a little Christmas shopping done while you're there. Call 248-542-5253 for information on the Berkley location; Call 313-821-8060 for the Grosse Pointe Park location.

Receive a 20% discount on all purchases at this event, PLUS 20% of all proceeds from the open houses will be donated to support the 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk.



Everything you need for your holiday table setting is at LaBelle Antiques, Etc. This is a must-shop store for antique lovers to ring in the holidays. Meander for hours through the festive vignettes of furniture, china, jewelry, glassware, linens, sports memorabilia, ephemera and more. New holiday items are unwrapped every day, so you'll want to come

early for the best selection and shop often so you don't miss a thing! Whether you're looking for holiday decor, a unique gift for the antique lover in your life or something just for you you're going to find the most beautiful and affordable selection of antiques in the area. Holidays at LaBelle's are a true celebration!! Come and find out for yourself! Open 11am-6pm Tuesday through Friday and 10am until 3pm Saturday. Located at 24861 Harper Road, south of 10 Mile in St. Clair Shores. Call 586-445-3144 or visit the website at www.labelleantiques.com. This is my favorite store! Trust me, you're going to love it too!!



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... Also, join them for American Girl Holiday Teas December 12th & 19th, with seatings at 12:30 and 3:30. \$16.95 per person, bring your favorite doll and share American Girl stories while you enjoy your tea party! Special gift for the children too!!!

To advertise your specials, products or services in Shopping Reviews call Sally Schuman @ 313-343-5586 • sschuman@grossepointenews.com

### SEASON: Holiday events aglow locally

Continued from page 1B

Thursday, Dec. 17. Girls and boys get dressed up in holiday attire and enjoy treats in the tea room, served on a tiered tray, before visiting the Playhouse to see Santa.

For adults, there is the Holiday Tea and Tour Saturdays, Dec. 12 and Dec.

"It tends to be ladies mothers and daughters or friends. Everyone gets a commemorative 80th anniversary ornament. It's just a really nice afternoon for friends and family to get together for the holidays," Fitzpatrick said.

The Holiday Dinner and Tour is from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20. Both evenings include a grand meal and time to take in the sights and sounds of the Fords' Christmases past.

"There is something for everyone because there are so many opportunities to experience the Ford House in different ways at the holidays," said Fitzpatrick. "There is so much tradition here and so much history and people are really creating their own memories here. Whether it's a dinner and tour with your husband or a tea and tour with your girlfriend or a Nutcracker tea with your granddaughter, it's really multi-generational. Or you can just come in and shop.

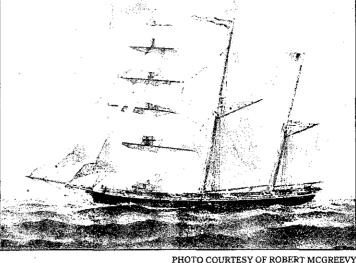
"It's a fun year for celebrating 80 years of memories."

For times and reservations for Ford House events, call (313) 884-4222.

Grosse Pointe Historical Society

Searching for an old-fashioned Christmas?

Head over to historic from its original location at



Artist Robert McGreevy is one of 40 vendors at the Marine Mart, held at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. His painting of the American Union, which sunk in 1894 near Alpena, will be on display.

Provencal-Weir House for a Dickens of a Christmas from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11.

The yuletide evening features carolers from the Grosse Pointe South High School choir, a piano performance by Schoolhouse One-Room teacher Izzy Donnelly, a taste of wassail, homemade cookies and other tasty holiday fare. An exclusive historical gift goes to the first 20 guests to ar-

While you're there - or from 1 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday visit the new La Belle's Country Store for stocking stuffers and unique gifts.

"We're just trying to fill it with things that seem appropriate for the Grosse Pointe Historical Society and relates to early Grosse Pointe," said Executive Director Maureen Devine.

Old-fashioned French jams - apple pear and clementine and chestnut, for example and a soy candle of cedar/moss are a throwback to the area's French ribbon farm days.

The store is named after the man who moved the house

Provencal and Lakeshore Drive to its current spot, then turned it into a general store.

Grain mustards and vinegars, locally-produced honey, handmade scented soaps of frankincense and myrrh, handcrafted art by Michigan artists and Victorian toys are just a few items for sale.

The shop also features GPHS coffee mugs and mouse pads, an ornament with cherry almond-flavored tea, bags and ornaments with Grosse Pointe landmarks, and plush black squirrels — the shop mascot.

"It's just so charming. You walk into the room and the kinds of things we have out for people are unique gifts, different and not really anything you could find nearby," Devine added.

Call (313) 884-7010 for more information orvisit gphistorical.org.

War Memorial

Along the now wintry waters of Lake St. Clair, maritime enthusiasts can shop to their hearts' content.

The Detroit Historical Society's Dossin Maritime Group presents its Marine Mart from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse

Pointe Farms. Early birds can get in at 9 a.m.

The annual flea market for Great Lakes buffs falls in time for holiday shopping with more than 40 exhibitors and shiploads of nautical items and treasures.

"Vendors come from all over Michigan and a handful come from out of state. It's definitely geared toward Great Lakes enthusiasts," said Bob Sadler, director of public and external relations for the Detroit Historical Society. "This is the kind of event that you'll find all kinds of interesting items that would make great gifts and certainly is a unique opportunity to find a pretty wide variety of Great Lakes-themed items, all in one place."

The event features lighthouse prints, nautical stipple ink prints, hand-painted Christmas ornaments with Michigan lighthouses, china, clocks, navy hats, nautical artifacts and photographs, books, woodworking, lithographs and more.

Artist and former Gresse Pointe Woods resident Robert McGreevy has been part of the Marine Mart since its beginnings on Belle Isle in the early 80's. The event quickly outgrew the area and has been held at the War Memorial for three years.

"It's growing every year we get a better following of the show. People interested in this all have specialized niches to look for," said McGreevy, who now lives in Harbor Beach. "Some collect novels, some pictures. There is a lot of it in one place.

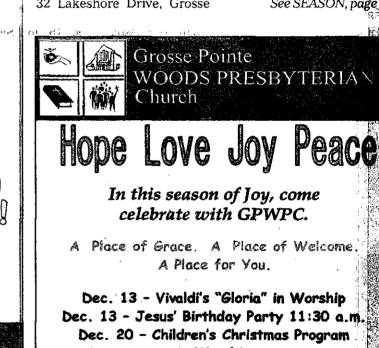
"It can be real busy in there and all of a sudden, everything will turn stone cold — a ship is going by. It's really a lot of tun to see that." McGreevy specializes in

painting shipwrecks of the Great Lakes — those that there is little information about.

"I'm as much of a historian as I am an artist," he said. "I

See SEASON, page 3B





in Worship Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM Christian Education at 9:15 AM

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# REAACTIVITES

des Jardinieres

The La Societe des Grosse Pointe Woods. IsJardinieres meet for a erChristmas party at noon and -rKolp's house. A white elephant -@Christmas exchange follows alunch.

ti. A donation to the Belle Isle siBotanical Society will be given Tickets are available from cho-[[during the meeting. 1...

#### **Grosse Pointe** Questers

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The Grosse Pointe Questers - meet at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 9J11, for its Christmas party and bannual fundraiser auction at githe Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, .£788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe - Shores.

.z The hostess is Carol 5:Stephenson and co-hostesses are Alyssa Mertz and Marney 2. Ramsey. φw.

#### Relay for Life

Members of the planning recommittee for the American WCancer Society Relay for Life of Grosse Pointe wrap gifts at SyBorders Books Music Moves & 91Café in the Village from 10 aia.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec.

or. Donations benefit the com-.cmittee's fundraising efforts for 9the 24-hour relay May 22 and

For more information about oforming a relay team, talk to gamembers Dec. 12 or e-mail volgiunteer chairman Mark Cohn at amscohn54@att.net.

#### Ski club

The Grosse Pointe Ski Club nameets at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1-13, for a Christmas party.

For more information, visit Egpskiclub or call John Byne at (586) 293-6779.

#### Detroit Chamber

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings Grosse Pointe performs a holiday brass concert Pointe Farms.

festive selections arranged for different combinations of brass instruments and the world premiere of Stille Drums by composer Scott Boerma, University of Michigan associate director of bands.

A holiday sing-a-long begins at 6:45 p.m.

Adult advanced tickets cost \$35, \$30 for seniors and \$10 for students. For more information, call (248) 559-2095 or visit detroitchamberwinds.org.

#### **Community chorus**

Grosse ommunity Chorus' 58th anof Light," is at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at First Evangelical

Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier,

Director Joseph Palazzolo accompanist Thursday, Dec. 10, at Karen Pietrantoin have compiled a program featuring carols and seasonal music.

> Adult tickets cost \$10 and children, 12 and under, \$3. rus members, at the church office and at Moehring-Woods Flowers, 20923 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

For more information, call (313) 882-2482.

#### Nutcracker

The third annual "Nutcracker Experience," presented by the Turning Pointe School of Performing Arts is Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Auditorium. Schaublin Lakeview High School, 21100 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores. Doors open at 4 p.m. for face painting and pictures with the Nutcracker prince and the Sugar Plum Fairy.

Adult tickets cost \$15 and \$8 for children 11 and under. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at Turning Pointe. Proceeds benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

For more information, call (586) 445-6753.

#### Grosse Pointe Rotary

Grosse Pointe North High School students perform a Christmas program for Rotary Club members at 12:10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

#### Woman's Club

The Grosse Pointe Woman's Club meets from lunch at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, in the Crystal Ballroom at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The Sweet Adelines perform after lunch.

The Salvation Army's runmichigan.com. at\_k:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Evangeline Center is the recipithe Grosse Pointe Memorial ent of the Woman's Club's Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse members' gift donations. Members are to bring gifts for The performance includes a mother or child and specifiy age and gender.

> Guest reservations must be made by Saturday, Dec. 12, by calling Susan Plath at (313) 884-5081.

> For more information, call Janice McManus at (313) 886-9098 or Pamela Zimmer at (313) 882-9087.

#### Women's Connection

Grosse Pointe hosts musician Robin Beck Thursday, Dec. 17, at a Lochmoor Club.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m.

Pointe and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. For reservations, call Nancy ual holiday concert, "Season Neat at (313) 882-1855 or for more information, call Marcia Pikielek at (313) 884-4201.

#### Pointer Bridge Club

The Pointer Bridge Club observes Christmas with a lunch and bridge at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Alger House, 32 Lakeshore. Grosse Pointe Farms.

To make a reservation or cancel no later than Friday, Dec. 11, call (313) 886-7595 or (313) 881-8566.

#### **War Memorial**

A Country Christmas Dance is from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Helen Azelio, leader of Dance Line — Steps and Moves at the War Memorial, will be on hand help both inexperienced and experienced participants.

The cost is \$15. Lemonade and wine glasses are available. Attendees can bring their own

To register, call (313) 881-7511.

#### **Encore Players**

Grosse Pointe Theatre's Encore Players are available for holiday gatherings. For more information, call Barb Elliott at (313) 881-4004.

#### Belle Isle Runners/Walkers

The 40th annual New Year's Eve Family Fun Run/Walk on Belle Isle is a one mile or four mile run or walk at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, on Belle

All children 12 and under receive trophies.

Register from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, at the Belle Isle Casino. Late registration is the day of the race. Entry blanks can be found at belleislefunrun.com, michiganrunner.com/belleisle and

#### Edsel & Eleanor Ford House

Homes for the holidays gingerbread house display can be seen through Sunday, Dec. 20.



Women's Connection of Grosse Pointe Lions members Dick Dossin, left, and Judge Ben Stanczyk, right, received the Chevron Monarch awards from Rotary past international director Larry Young. The award recognizes the longevity of Dossin's and Stanczyk's membership and service to the Lions club.

#### SEASON: Local events galore

Continued from page 2B

work on several paintings a year and usually show them at the Marine Mart, so I have a following that likes to see what I've been working

McGreevy says it takes longer to research the sunken ships — there are around 10,000 — than to paint them.

"There really is no central archive, so you almost have to find out a little bit about the ship before you start looking. If it was built in Marine City, for example, you go through their historical society archives," he said. "It's a lot of detective work, especially if you find something on the bottom that hasn't been identified. But once you find out what ship it was and its background and history, then you figure out what it looked like."

McGreevy followed this practice with his painting of the American Union, built during the Civil War. At the time, it was the largest ship on The Great Lakes. It sank in 1894 off Alpena.

The artist drove down to Cleveland to get opies of the ship's enrollment papers that describes what it looked like. He then pieced details. The painting will be on display at the

Marine Mart.
Tickets are available by calling (313) 833-1980.

Early admission at 9 a.m. is \$10 for adults. General admission is \$7 for adults. Children under 12 attend for free. For more information, visit detroithistorical.org and click on "Upcoming Events and Programs."

**Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra** 

In the mood for a little light music? Find a seat at the community ensemble's holiday concert, Holiday Pops, at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Parcells Middle School auditorium, 20600 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods.

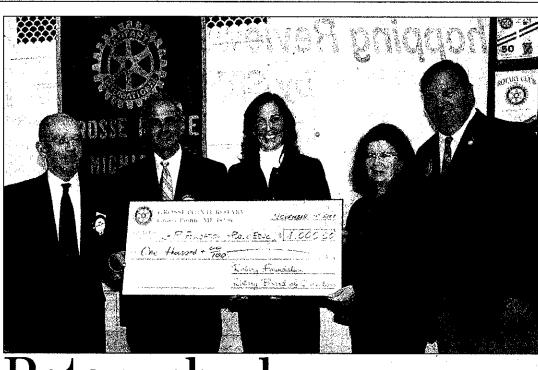
The festive evening, showcasing local professionals and accomplished amateurs, features favorite seasonal tunes: Leroy Anderson's "Christmas Festival Overture" and Sleigh Ride;" Johann Sebastian Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring;" Alexander Glazounov's "Saxophone Concerto" with soloist and Grosse Pointe South High School senior Jon Gibson; and Peter Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite: "Russian Dance," "Arabian Dance," "Chinese Dance," "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" and "Waltz of the Flowers.'

Following intermission, the concert concludes with a performance by the Grosse Pointe North High School choir and the choir and orchestra in "Hallelujah Chorus."

The symphony orchestra is led by music director Joe Striplin.

Admission is \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors. Students age 18 and under attend for free. For more information, call (313) 882-0077 or

visit gpsymphony.org.



Rotary check

The Grosse Pointe Rotary donated \$1,000 to the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education. At the presentation, from left, were Paul Rentenbach, Bob Burry, Lisa Vreede, Grosse Pointe Public Schools Superintendent Suzanne Klein, and Rotary President Bob Bashara.

Admission is free.

A holiday tea and tour is at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 19. The cost is \$35. The event includes a house tour, a meal of tea, sandwiches and pastries. A limited edition 80th anniversary ornament will be given to participants.

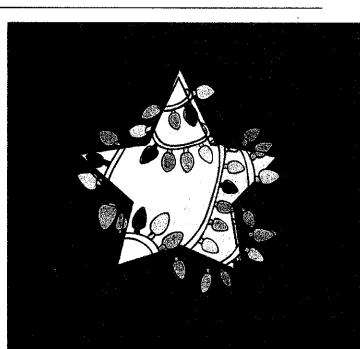
Holiday dinner and tour begins at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 and 20. The cost is \$40.

Candlelit Christmas evening tours are from 5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 18, 19 and 20. The cost is \$15. Listen to holiday music and stories of the Ford family in the house's gallery room.

Nutcracker teas are at 4 p.m. Dec. 14, 15 and 16; and at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. The cost is \$15. Santa awaits visitors in the Playhouse.

Christmas story time begins at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15. The cost is \$5.

For reservations, call (313) 884-4222.



Special Kids card

Grosse Pointe's Special Kids red Christmas cards cost \$10 for 15 and may be purchased by visiting specialkids.us. The organization is a 501 (c) (3). All profits benefit the local organization.

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9:30 am Pointes of Horticulture

10:00 am Who's in the Kitchen?

11:00 am Out of the Ordinary

11:30 am Senior Men's Club

1:00 pm The SOC Show

1:30 pm Great Lakes Log

2:30 pm The Legal Insider

4:00 pm Vitality Plus (Tone)

4:30 pm Musical Storytime

3:30 pm Art & Design

5:00 pm In a Heartbeat

5:30 pm The SOC Show

8:00 pm In a Heartbeat

9:00 pm Art & Design

8:30 pm Senior Men's Club

10:30 pm Great Lakes Log

9:30 pm Pointes of Horticulture

10:00 pm The John Prost Show

11:00 pm Out of the Ordinary

11:30 pm Senior Men's Club

1:00 am The SOC Show

1:30 am Great Lakes Log

2:00 am The John Prost Show

3:30 am Pointes of Horticulture

4:00 am The John Prost Show

5:00 am Out of the Ordinary

7:00 am Vitality Plus (Tone)

7:30 am Musical Storytime

6:00 am Things to Do at the War Memorial

4:30 am Great Lakes Log

5:30 am The Legal Insider

6:30 am Art & Design

8:00 am In a Heartbeat

2:30 am Senior Men's Club

3:00 am Art & Design

Midnight Economic Club of Detroit

6:00 pm The Legal Insider

6:30 pm Who's in the Kitchen

7:00 pm Vitality Plus (Step/Kick Boxing)

7:30 pm Things to Do at the War Memorial

2:00 pm The John Prost Show

12:00 pm Economic Club of Detroit

10:30 am Things to Do at the War Memorial

3:00 pm Things to Do at the War Memorial

9:00 am Musical Storytime

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Senior Men's Club Grosse Pointe South Choir

**Economic Club of Detroit** Jeffrey Immelt, Chairman & CEO General Electric Company

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Schedule subject to change without notice. For further information call, 313-881-7511

# Hanukkah notes military victory

e holiday of Hanukkah is coming up on the evening of Dec: 11. The Jewish holiday commemorates a military victory. The story is told in the Book of the Maccabees, which is found in the Apocrypha, a collection of books that did not make it into the official Canon, but it is contained in the Catholic version of the Bible. It was an outgrowth of the need by one of Alexander the Great's successors, Antiochus IV who ascended the throne of Syria about 176 B.C.E. He felt unifying his empire with Hellenistic culture would help protect him from the upcoming power of Rome. He decided to introduce Hellenism to the Jews, desecrating the Temple, introducing the sacrifice of pigs (which are contrary to the Jewish laws of Kosher) and taking control and politicizing the office of High Priest. In essence, this would have spelled the end of Judaism and its replacement with Greek culture. Human effort busyed by faith in the God of Israel, prevailed

It began in the small town of Modein. As a Jew approached the heathen altar, ready to prostrate himself before an idol, the aged priest, Mattathias of the house of Hasmon, in righteous wrath struck him down and killed him and the royal commissioner. Mattathias fled into the desert where he was joined by his five sons and they began a guerrilla war. The leaders were called Hasmoneans, the house from which Matathias came.

The old man died and the leadership went to his son, Judah, called the Maccabee or hammerer because of his stunning defeats of the Syrians. Another explanation is that it is an acronym for "who is like you, O Lord, among the mighty." (Exodus 15:11)

In the year 164 BCE, Antiochus offered an amnesty. The desecrations in the temple continued. Judas stormed Jerusalem and the temple was cleansed and rededicated it over a period of eight days.

Hellenism actually introduced elements which helped preserve the Jewish faith. It inspired the rabbis to institute new authority and "build fences" around the Torah (the five books of Moses). Had Judaism rejected all outside influences, it might not have survived. Incidentally, if it were not for the rededication of the temple and the ascendance of the rabbis over the temple itself, Jesus and Christianity could not have been born.

Hanukkah is largely a home celebration, in which one candle is lit each night for eight days in a candleholder called a menorah, which contains eight candles and a ninth, called the shamash, the server that brings the others to light.

We wish you all a happy holiday season, since this is the time of the winter solstice, celebrated by all as we move from darkness to light in the world.

Roger Skully is cantor at Beth Tephilath Moses.

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES

#### Ecumenical breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Ecumenical Men's Breakfast meets from 7:15 to 8:15 a.m. Friday, Dec. 11, in the Fellowship Hall of the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Holiday music is provided by The Bill Giovan Ouartet.

For more information, call (313) 882-5330.

#### Christ the King

Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts The Judelaires at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11. The repertoire includes traditional carols and popular favorites with piano, flute, trumpet and percussion accompaniment. A punch and cookie reception follows the

The Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross,

available. For more information, call (313) 886-2363.

Grosse Pointe Farms, holds its annual Christmas Cookie Mart

can be purchased for \$8 per pound. Breads and candies are also

from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Dec. 12. Homemade cookies

concert.

Freewill donations are accepted. The Living Nativity can be seen in four performances between noon and 3:30

p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, on the church's

Children of the church play the roles of the holy family, shepherds, angels and wise men.

Food and beverages are available in the

Advent services are at 11:15 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16.

For more information, call the church at (313) 884-5090.

#### Congregational Church

A contemporary worship service begins at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms.

> This is a nondemoninational service and is open to all. Dress is casual. Live music is performed by local middle and high school students. Light refreshments are available.

> For more information, call Alison Scarfone at (313) 884-3075.

#### First English

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. hosts seasonal music at 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. The Good News Singers and instrumentalists perform several sacred classics from the Christmas and Advent sea-

A freewill offering is accepted. Refreshments are available.

#### Career networking

The Ecumenical Career Networking Group meets at 7:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe, Farms. The day's topic is "Tune-up Your." Job Search Plan."

For more information, call Steve Wulfekuhle at (313) 885-8855.

#### **Capuchin Soup** Kitchen

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen has suggestions of how the organization can be helped this holiday season.

◆ Caps, Coaysand Kids' program provides new caps, coats and gloves for atrisk children. Also needed are new coats, mittens and hats for newborns to children 10 years of age. For men, new underwear, socks and gloves are needed. Drop off items at Capuchin Services, 6333 Medbury, Detroit.

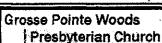
◆ The children's program needs hardcover books, paperbacks and dictionaries for primary and middle school students; warm socks for all ages; and 200 pieces or less jigsaw puzzles. Drop them off at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 4390 Conner, Detroit.

◆ Donations for tickets to be used on Detroit Department of Transportation buses to help people get to medical ap pointments, job interviews and work. For more information, call (313) 579-2100, ext. 215.

#### **Deadlines**

Turn in information for the Grosse Pointe News issues of Dec. 24 and 31 by noon Friday, Dec. 18. Information can be faxed to (313) 882-1585 or e-mailed to afouty@grossepointenews.com.

# WORSHIP



place of grace, a place of velcome, a place for you. unday Worship 10:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. \*Nursery Available\* Rev. James Rizer, Pastor

Rev. Elizabeth Arakelian, Assoc. Pastor 19950 Mack at Torrey





SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH 170 McMillan Road Grosse Pointe Farms

313-884-0511 www.stjamesgpf.org

Holy Eucharist Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

#### **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 Supervised Nursery Provided www.christthekinggp.org

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor Matthew T. Dent, Assistant Pastor



#### **Grosse Pointe Baptist Church** Helping people make Christ

the center of their lives Sunday Worship - 11:00 am

Sunday School - 9:30 am for Age 2 - Adult Check out our complete

 ${f www.gpbc.org}$ 21336 Mack Avenue

list of ministries at

**Grosse Pointe Woods** Phone: (313) 881-3343



#### Sunday, December 13, 2009 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship Service Sermon: "Advent Promises-Imagining What Life Can Be" Scriptures: Luke 3:1-18 Peter C. Smith. Preaching

Church School: Crib - 8th Grad-Join Us at 4:00 p.m. for the Music Series

Christmas Concert "A Homegrown Holiday" JAPC Chancel Choir/Carol Sing-a-long

8625 E. Jefferson at Burns, Detroit Visit our website: www.japc.org.

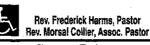
313-822-3456



#### St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church 375 Lothrop at Chalfonte 881-6670

9:00 a.m. Worship 10:10 a.m. Education Hour 11:15 a.m. Worship

Nursery Available



#### **Grosse Pointe** UNITED METHODIST **CHURCH**

A Friendly Church for All Ages 211 Moross Rd. Grosse Pointe Farms

886-2363 **SUNDAY WORSHIP** 

9:30 a.m. Worship

**CHURCH SCHOOL** 

9:45 am. Church School -4 yrs. - 5th Grade 10:45 am Church School - Middle School 11:00 am Adult Church School

Rev. Judith A. May

Grosse Pointe

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www.gpmchurch.org

Nursery & Toddler Care Provided



#### **Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church**

**December 13, 2009** 10:30 a.m. Service

Festival of Light

Student Holiday Program Childcare will be provided

**17150 MAUMEE** 881-0420 Visit us at www.gpuc.us

#### First English Evangelical LUTHERAN CHURCH

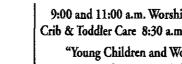
800 Vernier Road (Corner of Wedgewood (313) 884-5040

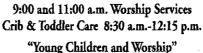
**Sunday Mornings** 

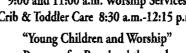
8:15 am - Traditional Worship 9:30 am - Contemporary Worship

Sunday School - All Ages 9:30 am 11:00 am - Traditional Worship Nursery Available

Rev. Walter A. Schmidt, Pastor Rev. Gerald Elsholz, Associate Pastor "Go Make Disciples" ~ www.feelc.org







7:30 a.m: Friday Ecumenical Men's Breakfast

Dec. 24- Christmas Eve Worship Services 11:30 a.m. Worship - lunch following 5:00 p.m. Family Service with Nativity Tableaux 7:30 & 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Lessons & Carols Communion at all Christmas Eve Services



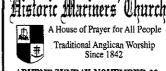
Grosse Pointe Congregational Church 240 CHALFONTE AT LOTHROP 884-3075

#### **CONTEMPORARY SERVICE** DEC. 13th, 5:30pm

10:00 a.m. FAMILY WORSHIP 10:15 a.m. Church School

Come and See

www.gpcong.org



ADVENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 8:30 a.m.- Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. - The Festival Service of Lessons and Music for Advent, with Holy Communion

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

12:10 p.m. - The Holy Communion 2:35 p.m. - Recital of Classical Music 170 E. Jefferson Avenue On Hart Plaza at the Tunnel

Free Secured Parking in Ford Auditorium Underground Garage with entrance in the median strip of Jefferson at Woodward (313)-259-2206

marinerschurchofdetroit.org

nistering to Detroit's eastside since 1864 Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.

Bethel Baptist

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 Beaman, Youth Pastor www.betheibaptistscs.org

#### St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Welcomes you and your family

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST 10:15 A.M.

Church School Pre-school through High School

IO:30 A.M. CHORAL EUCHARIST Nursery care provided

> 20475 Sunningdale Park Grosse Pointe Woods (Mack and Vernier) (313) 884-4820

www.stmichaelsgpw.org office@stmichaelsgpw.org

# Greektown-Detroit



Visit and worship with us when you're downtown

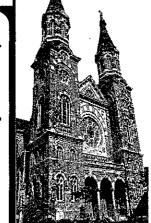
#### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. (Latin - Choir) 12:00 p.m.

#### Daily Mass:

Monday - Saturday at 12:15 p.m. Confessions 20 minutes before every Mass

Program for Preschool through 2nd grade at 9:00 a.m. Service Dec. 13- Worship services, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Detroit Chamber Winds concert, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 20- Children's Christmas program 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.



ASK THE EXPERTS By Leigh Ann Van Dyke

# The lowdown on low energy neurofeedback



What is Low Energy Neurofeedback? The LENS, or Low • Energy Neurofeedback System helps to "rebalance" a person's whole way of thinking, feeling and well-being.

Neurofeedback is a noninvasive procedure that monitors and analyzes the brain's electrical activity, also known as the electroencephalogram or EEG

It uses this information to formulate the feedback. which is delivered through the same sensors used to monitor brainwaves.

Although the feedback signal is low in energy, it produces measurable changes in brain activity.

The EEG signals recorded through the sensors influence the feedback stimulation, which may normalize the brain's electrical activity.

Can Neurofeedback be • used as an alternative to medication for adults, teenagers and children?

What are the benefits of • Lens?

◆ Increased clarity (de-A. creased mental "fog") ◆ Decreased feelings of irritability, anger, fatigue, anxiety

and depression ◆ Improved sleep at night ◆ More energy during the

◆ Improved concentration

and attention

Improved memory

◆ Improved vision and speech (due to cortical prob-

◆ Increased sense of ease due to the absence of the need to control intense feelings

What has the LENS • shown clinically positive results in?

◆ Traumatic physical • head or spinal cord injury symptoms from mild to se◆Stroke

◆ Clinical depression

◆ Anxiety disorders ◆ Trauma from childhood,

work and stress ◆ Attention deficit disorders

with and without hyperactivity

◆ Learning disabilities

◆ Sleep disorders ◆ Autism/childhood schizophrenia (Asperger's

Syndrome) ♦ Fibromyalgia/Chronic

Fatigue Syndrome ◆ Excessive anger and ex-

plosiveness

◆ Substance abuse ◆ Bipolar disorder

Headaches

How does the Lens produce these positive re-

The above-mentioned A. problems exist concurrently with EEG slowing. which consists of high amplitude, high variability, low frequency brainwave activity. Reductions of excessive slow brainwaves will often be noted within the first few minutes of the first session. Generally speaking, regardless of the diagnosis, if a condition is accompanied by brainwave imbalances, LENS can potentially be helpful in alleviating its symptoms.

How long does it take to J. see results? Clinical improvements A. may be noted within three to five sessions in simple cases, but in more complex cases more courses of treatment may be required before improvements begin to become noticeable.

For more information, contact Leigh Ann Van Dyke M.S. LLPC at (586) 469-6955, by email at neurowellnesscenter@gmail.com, or neurowellnesscenter.vpweb.com.

The Family Center, a 501(c) 3, non-profit organization, serves as the community's centralized hub for information, resources and referral for families and professionals.

To view more Ask The Experts articles, visit familycenterweb.org.

E-mail questions to info@familycenterweb.org. To volunteer or contribute, visit familycenterweb.org or call (313) 432-3832.



The Christmas tree lighting at Henry Ford Cottage Hospital last week is a long-standing tradition with the Fink family. From left emcee Bill Rands and Reese and Jake Jones flipped the switch on the tree dedicated to the Jones' great-grandmother, Elise Fink. A long-time supporter of the hospital, Fink died in 1991. More than 20 relatives joined the festivities, which included a performance by the University Liggett Lower School choir. "This event is a continuation of honoring grandmother," said Lynn Carpenter of Grosse Pointe Farms. "Every time I drive down Kercheval and see the Christmas tree, it chokes me up. My grandmother was an incredible lady."

# Outpatient clinic wins state award

Breastfeeding Clinic of St. John Hospital and Medical Center and Dr. Paula Schreck are the recipients of the 2009 Statewide Health Care Community Award. It is given by the Breastfeeding Network of Michigan Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies.

The St. John Breastfeeding

Outpatient Clinic was established by mothers with a breastfeeding Grosse Pointe Shores resident Schreck, a graduate of the University of Michigan. She completed her residency in California.

address the needs of the breastfeeding mother and infant breastfeeding. Term and

difficulty of any kind have hour-long visits with board certified lactation consultants and physicians who assist with such issues as insuffi-The clinic was created to cient milk supply, poor weight gain, cleft palate, Down syndrome and tongue-tie.

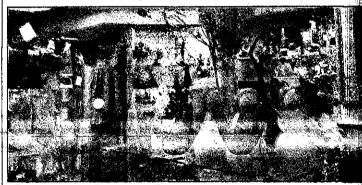
Plans are under way to expreterm babies and their pand the outpatient support.

clinic to other hospitals in the St. John system.

Schreck's clinic is adjacent to the St. John Hospital Birthing Center. For more information about the program, call (313) 343-3146.

Women's Issues Committee of the Louisa St. Clair Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution of Grosse Pointe, an organizational member of Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, made the nomination.

Award recipients must demonstrate a commitment to the promotion, protection or support of breastfeeding and denote a person who has made a difference in breastfeeding outcomes by the support or education of families and/or staff in the health care community.

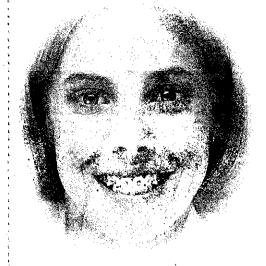


Slept in Black Friday? Those who visit the Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe Gift Shop from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday Dec. 14, receive 20 percent off a selection of infant and children's wear, holiday decorations, framed pictures, clothing and jewelry, Managed and operated by Beaumont Assistance League volunteers, the shop's proceeds benefit the Grosse Pointe hospital. The shop is in the hospital's main lobby, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe.



Seated, from left, Jacqueline Jones, RN, BSN, MSN and manager Clinical Operations for St. John Hospital - Birthing Center, Dr. Paula Schreck; standing from left, Carol Pokladek, LSC-DAR, RN, BSPA, IBCLC; Blair Mallan, RN, BSN, IBCLC; Cheryl Short, RN, BSN, IBCLC; Mary Maher, RN, BSN, IBCLC; and Colleen Schulte, RN, BSN, IBCLC; Jeannene Sulewski, RN, BSN, IBCLC; Joedi Mailloux, RN, BSN, IBCLC; and Susie Scheiwe, LSCDAR.





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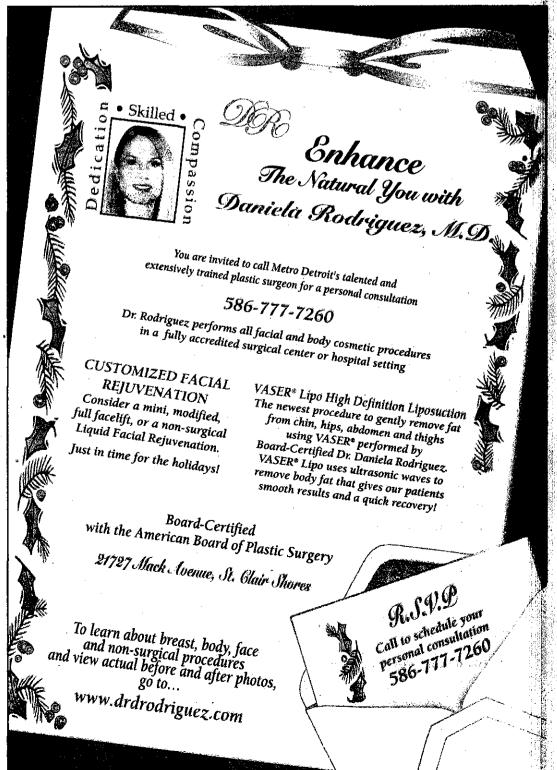
Jennifer K. Mertz DDS, MS

specializes in family orthodontic services including appliance therapy. Invisalign and accelerated orthodontics for children and adults.

We are conveniently located between Cadieux and Moross, two doors from Village Market.

(313) 881-2480

18342 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Farms



#### **ENTERTAINMENT**



### Starring role

Grosse Pointe Park's Nina White, right, plays Susan Walker in "Miracle on 34th Street" this weekend at the Farmington Players Barn Theater, 32332 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and Saturday, Dec. 12, or at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. The 11-year-old plays a cynical girl who doesn't believe in Santa Claus. Adult tickets cost \$14 and are available at farmingtonplayers.org or by calling (248) 553-2955. Left, Sue Rogers plays Doris Walker.

A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

# A gift of food makes more sense



his holiday season I have decided to turn to my inner baker (for comfort). With the economic situation at hand, a gift of food makes more sense than

This week I'm baking up my sister-in-law Jessie's version of Amish friendship bread.

Jesse cuts out all the starter nonsense and cuts to the

Cinnamon, vanilla and walnuts bring a rich flavor that's not too sweet.

This quick bread from scratch makes a regular size loaf, plus a bit more for another smaller loaf or some muffins.

Jessie's Girifriend **Bread** 

1 cup salad oil 1/2 cup milk

3 eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

2 cups flour 1 cup sugar

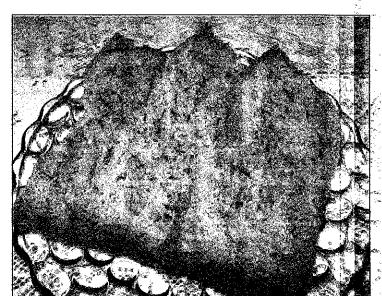
15.1 oz. box instant vanilla pudding

2 teaspoons cinnamon 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder

1/2 teaspoon salt 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large bowl, whisk together oil, milk, eggs and vanilla. Sift flour into a medium bowl and combine with sugar, pudding, cinnamon, baking powder, salt and nuts. Stir the flour mixture into the wet mixture and stir just until combined. Turn the batter into greased loaf or muffin pans.

Bake at 325 for 1 hour or longer, depending the size of



Nothing says holiday love like a homemade gift from the oven:

the loaf pan. Use the clean knife test. Muffins will take about 40 minutes. (My small loaf took 1 hour to bake, regular loaf 1 hour, 10 minutes.)

Your house will smell deli-

cious as the loaves bake in the oven. Your family will appreciate your labor of love.

My nephew, Sam, loves his id as mom's homemade bread. It's 34 15 yummy.

# Holiday celebrations in DIA line-up

Holiday cheer is in the air dia.org. For Detroit Film Jan. 3 and the Detroit Institute of Arts is celebrating with a variety of fun activities for Kwanzaa,

Hanukkah and Christmas. Programs are free with museum admission unless other-

Theatre movie listings call (313) 833-4686, or visit Installations, through Jan. 3 dia.org/dft/schedule.asp.

#### **Exhibitions**

◆ Photography — The First wise noted. For more informa- 100 Years: A Survey from tion call (313) 833-7900 or visit- the DIA's Collection, through

◆ Action/Reaction: Video

Avedon Photographs 1944-2000, through Jan. 17

♦ Government Support for the Arts: WPA Prints from the 1930s, through March 21

Guided Tours: 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1, 6 and 7:30 p.m. Fridays; and 1 Fashion and 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Chess Practice: Detroit City Chess Club: 5 to 9 p.m. Fridays. The club's mission is to teach area students the

game of chess and life lessons. Members have won state, regional, and national competitions. Those wanting to learn to play can come between 5 and 7 p.m. There will be no teaching between 7 and 9 p.m.,

but visitors can play chess. Drawing in the Galleries (for all ages): 6 to 9 p.m. Fridays and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

#### **Drop-In Workshops**

♦ Winter Counts: 6 to 9 p.m.

Fridays, Dec. 11 and 18. Winter Counts were used by Native American communities of the northern Great Plains to record history and keep track of the passage of years. Learn. more about this tradition and create a Winter Count.

◆ Snow Snakes: noonsto:45 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 12 and 1 19. Snow snakes are part of a Native American game played: during the winter, usually afterthe return from the annual hunt. Use wood and other mas. terials to create one.

◆ Luminaries: noon to 4·p.m.! → Sundays, Dec. 13 and 20co Explore infinite patterns and colors using tissue paper on and simple glass jar to illuminate: with a small candle.

#### Special workshops

◆ Puppets: noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 26–31. Create a different type of puppet each day.

#### Dec. 11

Music: Cluster: 7 and 8/80 b. p.m. German musicians Dieter Moebius and Hans-Joachim Roedelius have been creating consistently surprising, excits ing and influential music since they teamed up as Clustersing 1971. Their influence has been a felt in many areas and can be glimpsed in Detroit's Techno movement, Brian Eno's ambiexplorations, and Industrial rock bands: like: Throbbing Grissle and Cabaret Voltaire. This performancesism part of a tour supporting Qua,

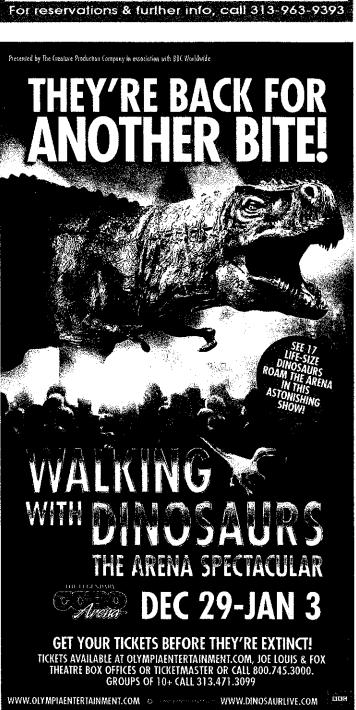
the band's first CD releasesing

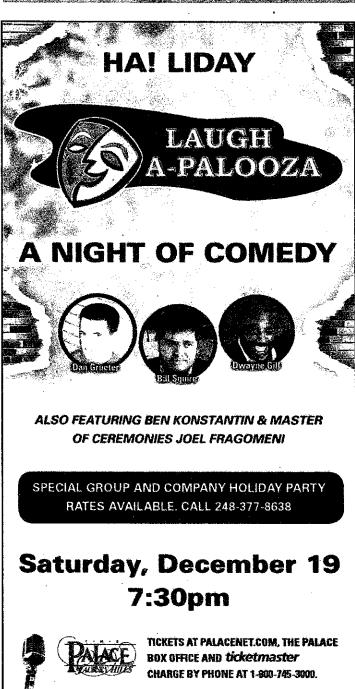
more than 10 years.

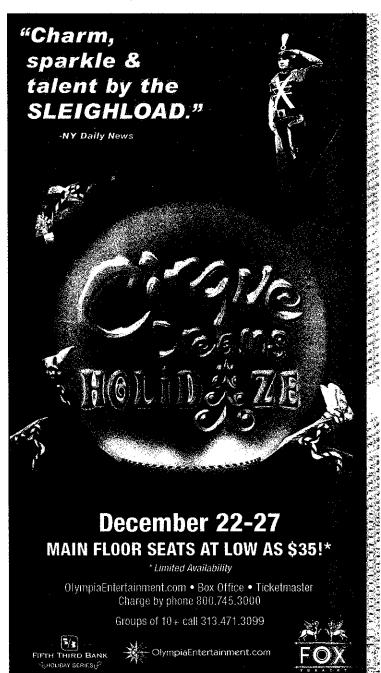












STATE OF THE ARTS By Alex Suczek

# Movie portrays dream of shaking off abuse



great film can be a work of art. Its entertainment value lies in stopping the viewer in his

tracks with the realization it reveals a truth about life and insights into humanity.

It can be uplifting even when set in the most degraded circumstances yet its impact is not degrading. It can't be Pollyanna but should be inspiring. Such is the film "Precious."

The movie's basic plot

seems so grim that producerdirector Lee Daniels was turned down for funding by a long line of investors. No one believed the public would want to see a film about a 300-pound black teenager, exploited by her welfare mother, raped and impregnanted by her father and persuaded by everyone she is worthless. Precious is suffocated by abuse.

Daniels and a few of his collaborators have experienced abuse. He also knows firsthand the power of the human spirit to fight for self respect and value of unexpected support and encouragement. Given a tragic situation that is routine and largely hidden in the bottom rungs of society,

attention to its existence and possibility, however slim, of redemption.

The film is superbly cast and directed with highly creative sensitivity. The actors must have shared their director's sense of mission, taking on roles in a film that could be seen as degrading the image of their race in America. Yet, their portrayals of teachers, welfare workers, nurses, family and acquaintances reflect real struggles of frustrations and prejudices. In the film, their moments of success, warmth and love brighten a darkly troubling scene and bring glimmers of encouragement even to Precious.

However, casting the title Daniels was determined to call role is most amazing. Daniels interviewed at least 500 candidates before finding Gabourev Sibide who had never acted, though her mother is a performer.

Sibide is 26, comfortable with and confident in herself with powerful recollections of her teenage years as an out-

As Precious first appears, she mutely accepts the crude limitations imposed on her life. Initial audience reaction is negative. The only hints of the urge for liberation reside in fantasy sequences appearing like flashbacks in moments of the worst abuse. These reveal the fulfillment for which she longs. The moments are brilliant use of film's capacity for creating a visual soliloquy.

Their effect is that each time she takes a step, however tiny. toward self determination, a happy reality is like a sunburst. In between grisly moments, Precious blossoms gradually into a sympathetic character.

Another great characterization is performed by Mo'Nique as the devious and corrupted monster of a mother. Switching from abusive manipulator of her daughter to accommodating and concerned - even smarmy - parent before the social worker inspires wonderful audience outrage. And Precious' repeated failure to expose her mother (is it filial respect?) generates frustration bordering on hopeless disgust.

Mo'Nique's scene in which the mother overplays her hand with unexpected results is masterful.

The sordid facts of Precious' life earn the film an R rating. However, the sensitivity of their presentation in the film and the realistic sense of humanity, fairly and honestly portrayed raise it above that tawdry standard.

The essence of the story is not all the sordid details. It is a girl's struggle to wrest a decent, fulfilling life from serfdom and abuse. It is inspiring as well as informative for those unfamiliar with the reality of that life. Nonetheless, it is a facet of life in America and in the way it is handled in this film it is a work of art.

### The Nutcracker's Nuts' at Broadway Onstage

Back by popular demand for the ninth consecutive season is Broadway Onstage Live Theatre's "The Nutcracker's Nuts.'

The play, written by Dennis Wickline, tells the story of a retirement community's efforts to present a new holiday production.

The show runs at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Dec. 26 with no performance Dec. 25.

Every year the residents of Simon's Rest, a retirement community in Frankfort, MI., perform their traditional, boring, and harder and harder to produce version of "A Christmas Carol." Every Christmas, that is, except this

Minnie Winchester, an elderly piano teacher, suggests residents do something new, something like Nutcracker" and everyone agrees. Tickets are quickly sold out. Just as rehearsals begin, however, the retirees discover one important and overlooked Elizabeth Rager as Alberta. detail. "The Nutcracker" is a ballet, and Winchester, a rather the president of the Resident's Nutcracker" at Simon's Rest. rotund lady who always want- Council. ed to play Clara, the lead, doesn't know how to dance.

Elvira, the cranky former bait plays Winchester; Elizabeth store owner. Joe Urkshus re-Scrooge who kept forgetting his lines and is now cast as The Dickinson appears as Dorothy, Nutcracker. Michael Kowalski the former librarian who bereturns to the role of Malcolm,



From left, front row: Mike Kowalski as Malcolm, Donna DiSante as Minnie, Shirley Biggs-Urkshus as Elvira and upper row, Beverly Dickinson as Dorothy, Joe Urkshus as Hector and

Shirley Urkshus appears as President Donna DiSante the dance captain. teacher; and Beverly

Wickline directs; Arlene Attic Theatre veteran and Marie Schoenherr is choreogformer Grosse Pointe Theatre rapher; and Shirley Urkshus is

Tickets for Opening Night Rager takes on the role of are \$14 and \$16 thereafter. turns as Hector, the former Alberta, a former school Broadway Onstage is located at 21517 Kelly Road at Toepfer, Eastpointe.

Reservations may be made comes the director of "The by calling (586) 771-6333.

#### Marine Mart at War Memorial

Society's Dossin Maritime Group holds its Marine Mart from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec.12, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Early bird admission is at 9

The annual Marine Mart is a flea market for Great Lakes enthusiasts and features more than 40 exhibitors and shiploads of nautical items in- Purchase tickets in advance by cluding lighthouse prints, nau-calling (313) 833-1980.

The Detroit Historical tical stipple ink prints, original and acrylic prints, nautical gifts. Christmas ornaments hand painted with Michigan lighthouses, postcards, magazines, china, souvenirs, clocks, marine art, nautical charts, navy hats, maritime artifacts. boat items, souvenirs and ship models.

> Tickets are \$10 for early admission at 9 a.m.; \$7 for general admission at the door; and free for children 12 and under

#### **Grosse Pointe's Premier Entertainment** Providing the finest disc jockey services for all your entertainment needs: weddings ◆ parties ◆ dances ◆ events "We Don't Just Play Music, We Entertain" www.pdjsinc.com

# Detroit Zoo sees red over panda

with the birth of a male red panda born July 7.

November from another zoo as a mate for the Detroit Zoo's house cat with soft, rust-collone male. The pairing was recommended by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Red Panda Species Survival Plan, a cooperative management plan to ensure genetically healthy, diverse and self-sustaining populations of threatened and endangered species.

"We are very pleased with the AZA recommendation which allowed us to have our first cub in several years," said Scott Carter, director of conservation and animal welfare.

Contrary to popular belief, the red panda is not a bear, but

Museum.

The Detroit Zoo is seeing red belongs to its own family. for "adoption" through the Found in the Himalayas and mountainous regions of The mother arrived in Myanmar and China, the red ored fur and a long, ringed tail.

> Red pandas are listed as "vulnerable" the on International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species. They are skillful and agile climbers, spending most of their time in trees and most active during the early morning and evening hours.

from branches or lounging on habitat across from the tigers.

The red panda is available to 5 p.m. daily.

Film documents history of J. L. Hudson's

Detroit Zoological Society's "Adopt" an Animal program. The gift package includes a panda is about the size of a plush red panda in a gift box with a personalized adoption certificate and a fact sheet about the animal. The cost is \$45 and includes shipping and handling.

Proceeds from the "Adopt" an Animal program support the animals at the Detroit Zoo through habitat renovation and veterinary treatment and also the SSP program.

To "adopt" a red panda, visit The Detroit Zoo's red pan- detroitzoo.org, call the das can be spotted hanging Customer Service line at (248) 541-5717 ext. 3750, or visit the tree limbs in their wooded membership office at the front of the Detroit Zoo from 10 a.m.



### The Holiday Event That's "Too Hot To Miss"!



**New This Year!** Take the "Too Hot" Express from **Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe on Kercheval** to the Opera House, Just \$15 Round Trip. Call 313.404.0222 for details.

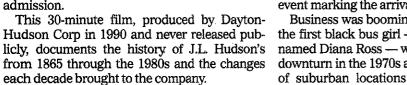
**Presented by the Detroit Opera House** and the Rackham Symphony Choir

With tenor Rodrick Dixon, Soprano Alfreda Burke, Alto Karen Marie Richardson. Joined by Alvin Waddles, piano, Dave Taylor, drums, Marion Hayden, bass and the Too Hot Orchestra.

**Conducted by Suzanne Mallare Acton** 

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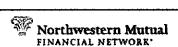
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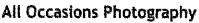
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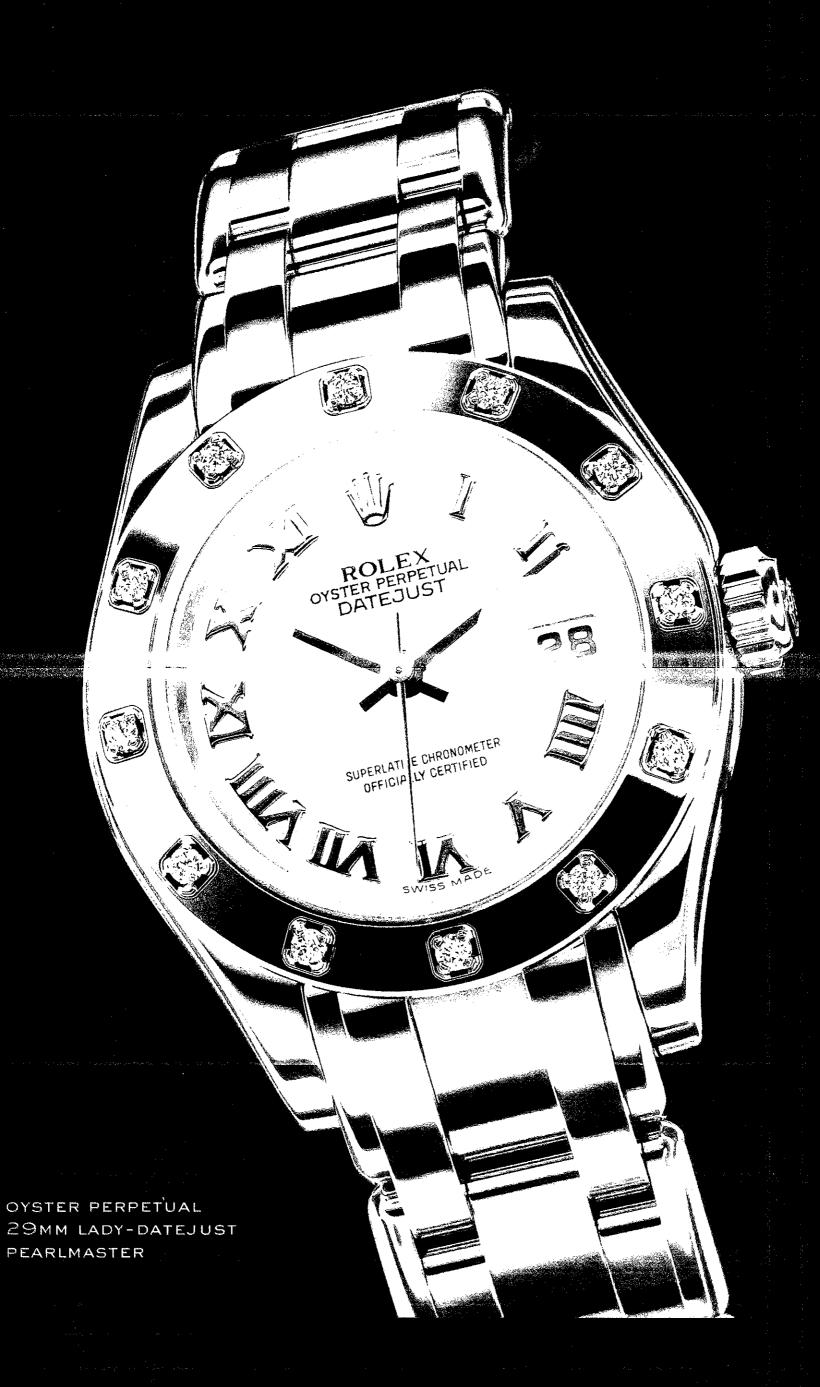
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**BOYS HOCKEY** 

# North swarms South in lopsided game

By Bob St. John Sports Editor

Stars shine on the biggest stage and last weekend Grosse Pointe North senior captain Matt Lucchese shone the brightest in the Norsemen's 8-1 win over city rival Grosse Pointe South.

Lucchese scored two goals, including one in the third peri-

and buried the puck in a space just six inches between sophomore C.J. Schebil and the top of the net. He also had an assist on a power play goal.

"Matt's been playing very well and is averaging nearly two goals a game," North head coach Scott Lock said.

The host Blue Devils actual-

od when he stole a pass from a ly scored first on a harmless point blasted over Schebil's Blue Devil defensive player, shot by junior Eric Marshall that found a way past senior goaltender Mike Held and into the back of the net. Junior Max Corbett assisted on the tally early in the opening period.

After that, it was all Norsemen as sophomore Scott Dornbrock, assisted by sophomore Joe Giordono, tied it 1-1 when his slap shot from the

right shoulder.

The backbreaker came late in the first period when the Norsemen scored twice in the final minute, increasing the lead to 3-1.

Sophomore Joe Aluia, assisted by Lucchese, had the first goal and sophomore Anthony Saleh, assisted by sophomore Julian Quinlan and junior Shawn Miele, tallied the second goal with 43.0 seconds

"The guys were pumped up and seemed to have not been effected by any rivalry," South head coach Jamie Bufalino said. "But was soon after, we began taking penalties, which continued through the duration of the game.'

The Norsemen dominated the shot on net, 10-1, but penalties by both sides, four for North and three for South. created an erratic flow to the game.

"The emotions got the best of the players in this rivalry game and it was sloppy, but how can you argue after scoring eight goals," Lock said.

In the second period, Lucchese scored a power play goal assisted by freshman Brad Werenski and senior captain Steve Herron added another power play tally with Aluia and Giordono netting as-



Grosse Pointe South head coach Jamie Bufalino, left, didn't have much fun in his first go-around with Grosse Pointe North. The schools meet again in early February.

PHOTOS BY RENATO JAMETT

Senior Matt Lucchese had two goals and an assist to help Grosse Pointe North crush city rival Grosse Pointe South 8-1 last weekend.

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#### **Girls hockey**

RIVALS

# North's 'D' smothers Liggett in semis

By Bob St. John Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's girls' hockey team smothered city rival Liggett, 5-1, in the semifinals of the University Liggett School Holiday Tournament last week.

The Norsemen split their first two games of the season, giving up 10 goals. However, they shut the door on the Knights, winning 5-1.

"We have practiced hard on our defense during the past week and it paid off tonight with a nice effort," North head coach Scott Dockett said. "Outside of a couple of mistakes, the girls played very well in our own end."

'We played a good period and a half, then the roof caved in on us," Liggett head coach Laura Owczarski said. "We didn't play very well in that third period when the game got away from us."

It was scoreless after the first period before the Norsemen got on the board of the 12:49 mark of the second stanza with a goal by junior Kailey Sickmiller, assisted by freshman Julia Henderson.

Freshman Jaccelynn Sherry pushed the lead to 2-0 with a goal at the 4:59 mark. Sophomore Jennifer Cusmano drew the lone assist.

The host Knights got right back in the game when sophomore Haleigh Bolton scored at the 12:28 mark.

The air was taken out of the Knights' balloon just 20 seconds later when Sickmiller scored her second goal of the game with freshman Natalie Skorupski getting the assist.

From that point on, the Norsemen dominated the game with sophomore goalie Emma Huellmantel coming up with key saves against the Knights' top forwards -Bolton and senior Paige

Counsman. Cusmano also scored in the final period to round out the Catherine McCarthy had an assist on the final goal.

The Norsemen outshot the Knights 26-17 to win and advance to the title game against Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook



Grosse Pointe North junior Kailey Sickmiller, left, and freshman Julia Henderson celebrate the Norsemen's first of five goals in a 5-1 win over Liggett.

Kingswood and the Knights played Northville in the conso- Northville in the consolation lation contest.

In the tournament title game, lead before the Mustangs North lost 3-2 to Cranbrook erupted for four third-period Kingswood, which won its second straight championship.

The Norsemen led 1-0 after the first period when sophomore Jennifer Cusmano scored with junior Megan Bergeron netting the assist.

The Cranes came back with two power play goals to take 2-1 lead, but Sickmiller scored another goal, knotting the game 2-2. Skorupski and freshman Sara Villani drew assists.

All-state forward Caley Chelios scored what turned out to be the winning goal on the power play with 3:41 left in the second period.

In the final period, the Norsemen had several solid scoring chances, but Cranes goalie Colleen Jacoby was up to the challenge. Her counter- in the final moments, but it Junior Megan Bergeron and part, Huellmantel, also played well in net.

"The girls played as a team scoring. Skorupski assisted the and it didn't nurt to have one of knights hosted bloomfield in a first tally and freshman the best goalies in the league in Michigan Metro Girls High thanks to a very light worknet," Cranbrook Kingswood School Hockey League game, load. head coach Terry Brooks said. "We have played some very close games with North and we still have to see them two more times this season."

The host Knights lost 6-5 to game. They had a 3-0 and 4-2 goals to win.

"It's our biggest comeback in a few years," Northville head coach Bill Holden said.

Senior Morgan Ellis and Counsman scored for the Knights in the opening period and freshman Aria Ganz-Waple tallied early in the second period as the home team had the 3-0 advantage.

The Mustangs scored twice to make it a 3-2 game, but Counsman scored again to help the Knights take a 4-2 lead into the third period.

Led by junior Lauren Grigg, the Mustangs scored four unanswered goals, including two in a span of 30 seconds, to take a 6-4 lead.

Counsman scored a hat trick wasn't enough to prevent the

defeat. Earlier in the week, the

winning 8-0.

eight goal lead after two periods of play.

Twelve of the 16 forwards and defensemen earned at least one point against the Knighthawks, which have been winless the past several years.

Freshman Julia Kaiser and sophomore Haley Smith had two goals apiece to lead the offensive explosion, while Ellis had the most points, five, with one goal and four assists.

Senior Liz Smith and Ganz-Waple had one goal and one assist, while junior Medea Shanidze had the other goal for the host Knights.

Counsman had three assists, followed by freshman Hannah Mason with two, junior Natalie Peracchio, Bolton, freshman Chandler Warren and freshman Emma Bandos with one assist apiece.

The Knights led 1-0 just 54 seconds into the game and by the 10:22 mark, it was 3-0. They scored seven goals in the opening period and the eighth tally came at the 11:00 mark of the second stanza.

Passalacqua earned her secong straight shutout in net,

Liggett improved to 2-0 in the The game was stopped by MMGHSHL and is 2-2 overall; the mercy rule, which is an Grosse Pointe North is also 2-2



Liggett seniors Paige Counsman, front, and Liz Smith, background, couldn't get their offense in second gear, thanks to a tough Norsemen defense.

**GROSSE POINTE SOUTH** 

# Harris nets two in lopsided victory

Ana Harris' two goals helped eight-goal mercy rule. Grosse Pointe South's girls'

"It was a good, balanced Gabby Hartman. scoring attack," head coach Bill Fox said. "I played the younger kids who did a nice job. The girls played hard."

The game was called early in the third period due to the

Fox also pointed out the solid hockey team beat Walled Lake efforts given by Dana Davenport, Chantal

With the win, the Blue Devils improved to 2-0 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League and

- Bob St. John

#### **Boys hockey**

#### **RIVALS: North flies** around foe

Continued from page 1C

sists.

In the second stanza, North had only one penalty, while South had five, and in the final period, the Norsemen had six penalties to three for the Blue Devils. For the game, each team was whistled for 11 penalties.

Aluia scored the Norsemen's sixth goal on the power play with Herron and senior Alex Tomovski drawing assists.

In a span of 10 seconds, the Norsemen scored goals seven and eight with Lucchese netting the first, unassisted, and Herron tallying the second, assisted by Dornbrock and senior captain Mitchelle Capp.

"North dominated the game, playing strong defense and winning the one-on-one battles," Bufalino said.

With round one in the books, the rivals meet again Saturday, Feb. 6, at Great Lakes Sports Arena in Fraser.

Earlier in the week, North lost 4-2 to Trenton. Lucchese and Aluia scored as the Norsemen were tied 2-2 with state-ranked Trenton heading into the third period.

"This was a great game," Lock said. "Our guys skated hard and played a good game. We were right there with a talented Trenton team."

South won its Michigan



PHOTO BY RENATO JAMETT

Grosse Pointe North junior defenseman Dustin Baker, left, tries to clear the puck with Grosse Pointe South junior Eric Marshall giving chase during the Norsemen's 8-1 win last weekend.

Metro Hockey League opener, stopping 14 shots, while the 3-0, over visiting Ann Arbor Blue Devils fired 34 shots on Huron.

Senior Jimmy Morris scored shorthanded goal, assisted by juniors John Wendzinski and Russ Muniga, just 70 seconds into the game.

Muniga scored his first high school goal with 4:21 left in the boys hockey alumni game is 6 first period with juniors Jess to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Martinelli and Jake Murphy drawing assists.

Sophomore winger Wes Cimmarusti scored in the third hbrookes@arboroakland.com. period with senior Nick

Monforton getting the assist. Schebil earned the shutout,

Huron goalie Luke Dwyer. South is 1-0 in the division and 2-3 overall; North is 2-1

#### overall. Alumni game

The Grosse Pointe South at City Sports Arena. For more information, contact Tom Klick at (586) 218-7381 or

Food will be served after the game, so call Klick for a player

# Knights win own tourney

By Bob St. John Sports Editor

For the first time in several years, Liggett's boys' hockey team won its own tournament.

"We had a good weekend and I think it's first time the team won its own tournament in years," head coach Robb McIntyre said. "The guys stepped up both nights and

played some good hockey. "However, we still have things to work on to get better. We're not satisfied."

Senior goalkeeper David McIntyre was flawless in net, pitching back-to-back shutouts, beating Dearborn Heights Crestwood 4-0 in the championship game and West Bloomfield 4-0 in the semifi-

"David played well both nights and our defense was solid," McIntyre said.

Joining McIntyre in the defensive effort were sophomore Jeff Mott, senior James Palmer, senior Mac Decker, sophomore Jake Hodges and senior Tripp Damman.

Senior Jake Goldberg scored twice, while senior Dan Zukas and freshman Jacob Soyka tallied a goal apiece.

In the victory over West Bloomfield, Zukas and Sovka scored, as did senior Rory Deane and freshman Manny Counsman. Goldberg and



Liggett senior Rory Deane, center, shown here against Port Huron, scored a goal in the Knights' 4-0 win over West Bloomfield in the tournament semifinals.

freshman Mark Auk missed I wish we didn't have such a the first win.

"We're getting contributions from everyone," McIntyre said. "I want us to head into the holiday break undefeated.

long layoff between games, but once we come back our schedule gets busy."

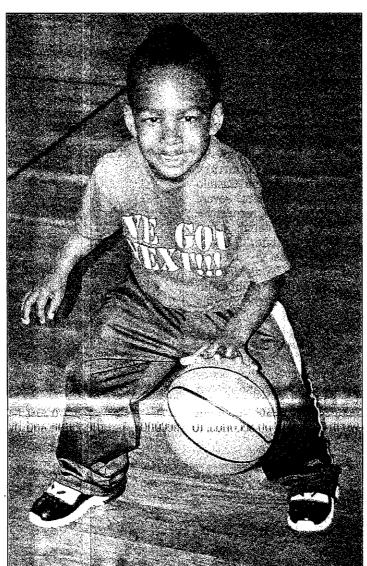
Liggett improved to 4-0-1 overall with the two victories.

#### YOUTH BASKETBALL

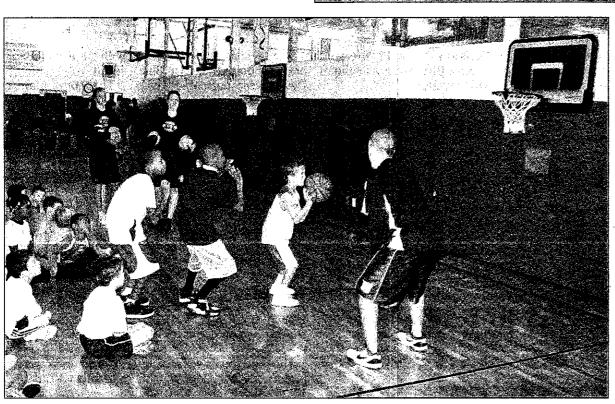


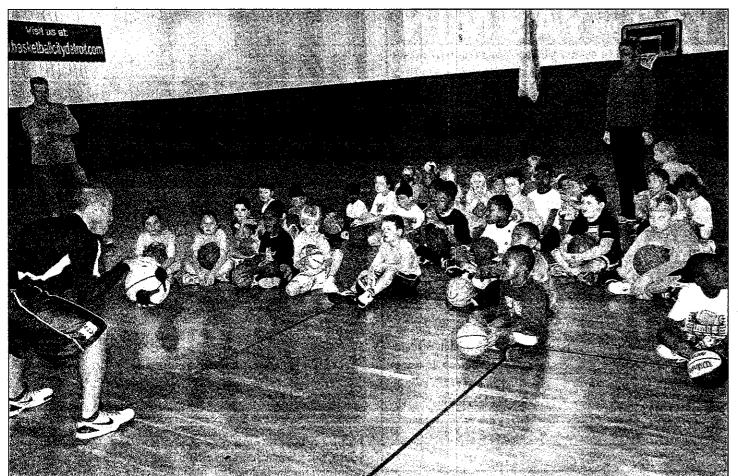
# They got game

Grosse Pointe South girls varsity basketball head coach Kevin Richards directed the Junior Hoops Program that took place Saturday mornings. Above, Richards, participants and fellow coaches put a hand into a circle in a gesture of team unity, which was emphasized. Campers also learned how to dribble, pass, play defense and shoot, providing a solid background. Directly below, campers practice shooting the basketball, just like 3-yearold Sharod Barnes, pictured right. Pictured bottom, Richards demonstrates dribbling techniques to everyone.



#### PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT





#### **Swimming**

# Knights open with easy win

Liggett's co-ed swim team week, beating host Clawson 107-63.

"The kids swam very well and we were able to win most of the events, but I told them and second-place finish in the we still have a long way to go," head coach Mike Mullinger

The Knights won eight second at 1:14.90. events, including the 200-yard medley relay as Connor Borrego, Brian Gutermuth, Mallory Jamett and Kara Zmyflowski posted a time of 2:07.84.

They also swept the 100-yard won its season opener last breaststroke as Gutermuth won with a time of 1:18.05, followed by Borrego at 1:20.41 and Nick Valice at 1:24.46.

> The Knights also had a first-100-yard butterfly as Jamett earned the top spot with a 1:13.44 and Zmyflowski was

> The only events the Knights didn't win were the 200-yard freestyle, 500-yard freestyle and 400-vard freestyle relay.

Liggett is 1-0 overall.

- Bob St. John

**CLUB NEWS** 

## Gators program alive and well

The Grosse Pointe Gators Special Olympics. swimming program was founded in 2004 by six families, who, for various reasons, were looking for an alterna-

the club would be comprised of 15 to 20 swimmers, but it quickly grew.

The Gators is now made up of 165 families and 212 competitive swimmers. Head coach Liz Nelson and their staff have solid credentials and are well represented in the swimming community.

"We have become an extremely competitive club across the state of Michigan, sending swimmers to the Junior Olympics, districts, state meets and Junior Nationals," said club repreletes range in age from 5 to 17.

Master's Swimming program for interested participants who are "slightly" older."

Initially, the club used pools at Parcells Middle School and Grosse Pointe South's old pool and expanded to Brownell Middle School.

Mandel, led the fundraising to expand to the new pool facility at South and its 12 lanes.

Gator swimmers have also held an annual swim-a-thon to raise money to support the pool and the Grosse Pointe-Harper Woods chapter of the Special Olympics.

The Gators pledged support for two lanes, \$20,000, a pledge that should be paid off in the next year or two. The than \$10,000 to the GPHW Dec. 14, at Brownell.

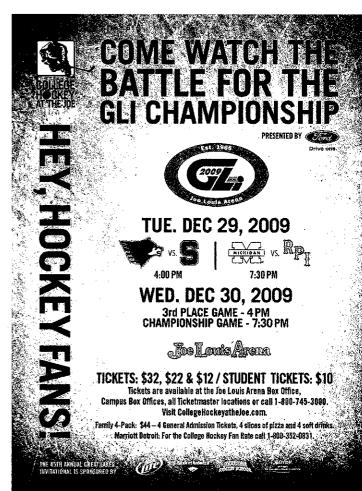
"Probably, what we are most proud of is our athletes' work to give back to the community," Nugent said. "They suptive to clubs available at the ported the founding of the GPHW Special Olympics Originally, it was believed swim team. Along with support from Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, and Brandon Slone, South's assistant principal and athletic director, the Gators coach John Fodell, assistant were able to share some pool time and most importantly, coaches, this new team."

The team's website, gpgatorsswim.org lists the mission of the club.

The club's philosophy is all children should have access to swimming opportunities that reflect their level of interest and ability while developing strong friendships and having sentative Kevin Nugent. "We fun. The club strives for swimhave five levels of competitive mers to reach their full potenswimming and with our high tial not only by teaching the school swimmers. Our ath- skills specific to competitive swimming, but also through "Last year, we also started a reinforcing strong values that apply to all facets of life. It is the club's hope that members of the club will develop self respect, set personal goals, understand the importance of teamwork, camaraderie and good sportsmanship.

The club's purpose is to pro-Two members of the club, vide a program of aquatics de-Bob Weiland and Dutch velopment for individuals interested in amateur competitive swimming at all ability levels. The club will provide quality coaching and a physiologically appropriate workout program to all swimmers in an atmosphere of encouragement and instruction that builds pride in themselves, their teammates, coaches and the sport of competitive swim-

Registration for the winter Gators also donated more session is at 4 p.m. Monday,



#### **GROSSE POINTE SOUTH**



### Fast start

Grosse Pointe South senior Chloe Srebernak takes off up court during the Blue Devils' season-opening 62-28 home victory over Detroit Northwestern. Head coach Kevin Richards had his squad running right through the PSL squad in easy fashion. The schedule gets tougher with Henry Ford II of the Macomb Area Conference Red Division and Catholic League power Dearborn Divine Child on the road after the holiday break.

**GROSSE POINTE NORTH** 

# Norsemen fall short vs. Marian

By Bob St. John Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's young and enthusiastic girls basketball team learned a lesson from a seasoned Birmingham Marian squad last week.

The host Norsemen played well at times, but not well enough to prevent a 45-36 defeat on opening night.

"We didn't play as well as Marian did tonight," head coach Gary Bennett said. "Marian is a good basketball team and we will get better with time."

find a rhythm early, trailing

Their first points came on a senior Kamille Hamzey basket midway through the open-

ing period. Seniors Ariel Braker and Kayla Womack, as well as junior Micaela Liddane, helped the Norsemen pick up the pace in the latter moments of

the first period and throughout the second quarter.

The trio helped the home team outscore the Mustangs 16-2 during a stretch between the first and second quarters to build an 18-12 advantage.

During the run, Braker and Womack each scored six

The Mustangs rallied to tie the game at 20 at the intermission and outscored the Norsemen 14-8 in the third quarter and 11-8 in the fourth

"Marian made more plays than we did." Bennett said. Every time North would hit

The Norsemen struggled to a hoop to inch closer, Marian would drill a three-pointer and score in the paint to keep the lead near double digits.

Womack led the Norsemen with 19 points, followed by Braker with 10.

Hamzey, Liddane and senior Christine Bedway each had two points.

Grosse Pointe North dipped to 0-1 overall.

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Girls basketball

# Knights pummel Shorians

By Bob St. John Sports Editor

Despite a major roster overhaul, Liggett's girls' basketball team won its season opener last week, dismantling St. Clair Shores Lake Shore 69-20.

"The girls came out aggressive and played with a lot of poise for the opener," said Wayne Gigante, making his head-coaching debut. "I was happy with our execution on both ends of the court."

The host Knights jumped out to a 10-0 lead two minutes into the game. They built the lead by forcing the Shorians into turnovers on their first six possessions.

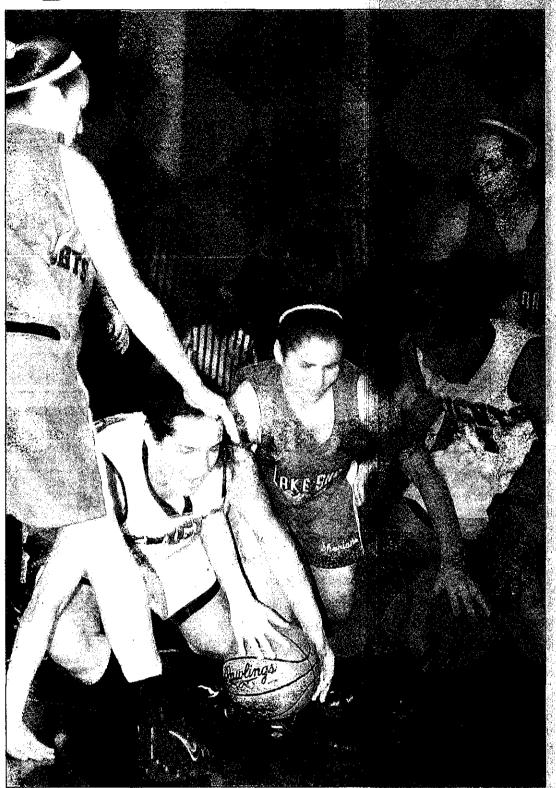
Behind sophomore Madison Ristovski's 11 points, the Knights led 21-0 after the opening period and blitzed the Shorians in the second stanza, outscoring them 19-5 to take a 39-5 lead into the intermission. It was 67-11 after three quar-

For Gigante's several freshmen, it was their first taste of varsity basketball.

Ristovski led the way with 32 points, followed by senior Hannah Baird with 10. Freshmen Haleigh Ristovski, Julia DeRoo, Courtney Slabaugh and Ariana Castillo chipped in with eight, seven, six and four points, respectively, in their Liggett debut.

Two nights later, Liggett blasted host Detroit Community, 57-25, as Madison Ristovski had 25 points and Baird added 16 as the Knights improved to 2-0 overall.

"We didn't play a very good first half, missing too many opportunities," Gigante said "The girls played much better in the second half and scored 40 points by being more aggressive at both ends of the court."



Freshmen Julia DeRoo, second from right, and Ariana Castillo battle for a rebound in the Knights' win over St. Clair Shores Lake Shore.

good first half, but settled too

second half and got away

at

International University next

Shawn Conway had 15, in-

cluding two on dunks, to lead

The Blue Devils were led by

juniors Corbet Conroy with

18 points, Victor Mattison

Florida

from what we wanted to do."

#### Boys basketball

defeat.

Thomas

the Maples.

# Poor second half leads to defeat

close and personal look at Monday night.

Grosse Pointe South's boys' Division 1-bound Richaud basketball team got an up Pack of Birmingham Seaholm

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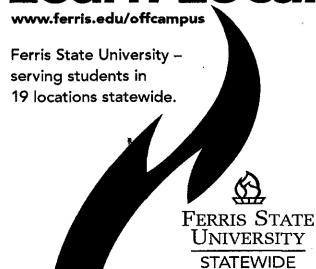
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In the season opener for with nine and Ben Fry with both schools, the host Blue seven. Devils were outscored 31-12 The home team outscored

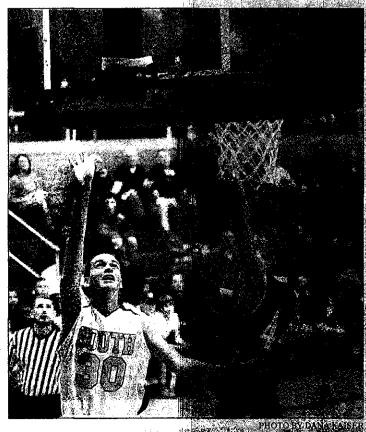
in the second half of a 57-38 the Maples 15-11 in the openng quarter, thanks to longange shooting from Conroy. "Pack took over the game and tied 26-26 at the half. and they killed us on the Seaholm went to Pack in boards," head coach Jim Twigg said. "We played a the second half and he deliv-

ered his "A" game as he outremuch for jump shots in the bounded the Blue Devils. "We wanted to press, but we couldn't score to get into our press package," Twigg Pack, who will play for

Detroit Piston legend Isiah "We have to get the ball in the paint a little more and not year, scored 28 points, while

settle on jump shots." The Blue Devils were outscored 14-7 in the third quarter and 17-5 in the fourth to drop their season opener and fall to 0-1.

-Bob St. John



Junior Corbet Conroy scored 18 points to lead Grosse Pointe South, but it wasn't enough as the Blue Devils lost to Birmingham Seaholm.

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36 Ballroom

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bedroom upper flat, bedroom upper. Fire- tion- 2 bedroom upper, sharp, larger 2 bed- side- 3 bedroom, 2 apartments- St. Clair an: 3 bedroom, 2 bath of Jefferson moval, ces, laundry. off street age. Garage. \$850, wa- New stainless steel ap- good storage. No pets, and clean. Many amen- maintained, air condi- 313-310-9860 beautiful ter included. (313)824- pliances. Hardwood smoking. \$900/ lease. ities including garage. tioning, coin laundry floors. Off street park- 313-510-8835 ing. Laundry. 810-229-0079

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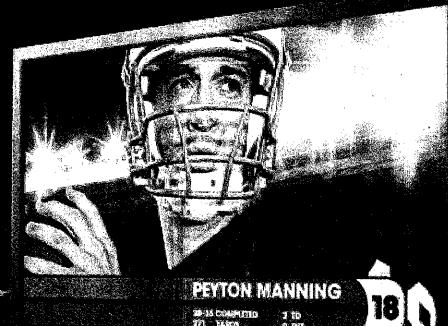
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