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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 70, NO. 53, 32 PAGES
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Michigan Press Association Newspaper of the Year

DECEMBER 31, 2009
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Week ahead

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THURSDAY, DEC. 31

New Year's Eve
 ♦ The offices of the Grosse Pointe News will be closed.

FRIDAY, JAN. 1

New Year's Day
 ♦ All federal, state and municipal offices are closed.
 ♦ Garbage pick-up is delayed one day.
 ♦ The offices of the Grosse Pointe News will be closed all day. The offices will reopen at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 4.

MONDAY, JAN. 4

♦ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers, 20025 Mack Plaza.
 ♦ Emerging careers in a changing economy is the topic of the 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Ecumenical Career Networking Group, which meets in The Café at Grace Community Church, 21001 Moross, Detroit. For more information, call Gina Homminga at (313) 882-3000 or e-mail gracejobseekers@yahoo.com.
 ♦ Schools reopen.

THURSDAY, JAN. 7

♦ New Year's resolution fitness open house from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Beaumont Bon Brae Center, 22300 Bon Brae, St. Clair Shores. Personal trainers and group fitness instructors answer questions and recommend correct classes. Registration for the free event may be made by calling, (800) 633-7377.
 ♦ An American Red Cross blood drive is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the conference rooms at Henry Ford Cottage Hospital, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Walk-ins are welcome. To schedule an appointment, visit givelife.org, enter HF Cottage as the sponsor code. Click on the Henry Ford Cottage location for an appointment time. Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. Donors must bring a photo ID or American Red Cross donor card.



FILE PHOTO/BRAD LINDBERG

Dancing into the evening under the Kercheval arch during September's Grosse Pointe's Greatest Block Party in the Village. Top left, the Grosse Pointe Historical Society held its June fundraiser at the Simon House. At left, pre-fireworks fun in Grosse Pointe Woods. At right, "The Nude" was back at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial after being stolen in 2001.

FILE PHOTO/BRAD LINDBERG

Looking back at 2009

GROSSE POINTE SHORES

The village is dead; long live the city

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

The smallest of the five Grosse Pointes made some of the biggest news among its sister cities during the year gone by. Early in 2009, residents voted to reorganize the village into a city form of government. The Village of Grosse Pointe Shores became the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City. The office of village president became mayor. The board of trustees became a city council. The Shores, known state-wide as an exclusive residential community, dealt with economic pressures that dominated the agendas of most Michigan municipalities during the last 12 months. A proposed 1-mill tax increase to generate revenue for road repairs and a rainy day fund triggered a recall drive against the mayor and four of six members of the council who supported it. Toward the end of the year, the three-member finance committee was replaced by a committee of the whole comprised of the mayor and full city council. Meetings are to be



FILE PHOTO/BRAD LINDBERG

A house on Lakeshore and Oxford is torn down in December. The lot will be divided in two.

held monthly, in addition to city council meetings, and provide a forum for discussion of city matters within the context of their financial impact on the city. Here is the year in review: **January** ♦ Shores Municipal Judge Lynne Pierce is sworn into her newly-elected office of judge of the Wayne

County Circuit Court. Pierce also was municipal judge of her city of residence, Grosse Pointe Woods. ♦ Gov. Jennifer Granholm approves language in a proposed municipal charter which Grosse Pointe Shores voters will have the opportunity next month to approve or turn

See SHORES, page 2A

GROSSE POINTE WOODS

City named 'Best affordable' Michigan suburb

By Kathy Ryan
 Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Woods was named the Best Affordable Suburb in Michigan by Business Week magazine, but the honor couldn't keep the city from being affected by a depressed economy. A millage increase proved unpopular with some residents, sound fiscal management brought a nod of approval from the city's auditors, and department heads worked with diligence to keep city services at high levels. The following is a glimpse at 2009:

January

♦ Several new traffic patterns went into effect in the Woods, including new left-turn regulations at Mack Avenue and Cook Road and Mack Avenue and Lochmoor Boulevard. Left turns at those intersections are now allowed only on a green light. The changes were initiated by Wayne County. ♦ Those signs weren't the only traffic issue. Several residents went before the city council to ask them to halt the removal of stop signs

See WOODS, page 2A

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

Wreck wrecks sign and fence

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

A witness to a single-vehicle crash last weekend at the corner of Ridge and Moran told police he used his car to block the cracked-up driver's attempt to flee the scene. The wreck was reported at 10:19 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26. The witness told police he and his wife were motoring eastbound on Ridge when the suspect sped past in a 2008 Volkswagen GTi. The

Volkswagen went off the road as the driver tried to turn right onto southbound Moran. The out-of-control car sheared off a stop sign at the base and shattered a section of wood fence before stopping in the front yard of 192 Moran. "The (Volkswagen driver) then attempted to back (the car) from the property and tried to leave the scene," the witness reportedly told a patrolman. The suspect, a 17-year-old

male driver from the Farms, is in solid with police. "He has a history with our department," said Detective Mike McCarthy. "(I) recognized (him) from previous runs involving alcohol-related offenses," according to a report by arresting officer Edward Wierszewski. The driver registered a .14 percent blood alcohol level and was arrested for drunken driving, according to police.

See WRECK, page 6A

POINTER OF INTEREST

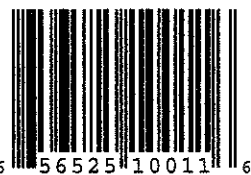
I spent my birthdays at Wimbledon. I played Martina Navratilova on center court on my 18th and Chrissy Evert on my 21st.

Susie Mascarin Keane



Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
 Age: 45
 Family: Husband, Peter; children, Matthew, Charle and Samantha
 Claim to fame: Retired professional tennis player
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Shores: New city has a busy year, issues to tackle in 2010

Continued from page 1A

down. The charter would transform the village into a city.

February

◆ A handful of lawbreakers stain an otherwise unblemished annual crime summary.

"A small crime wave increased our numbers percentage-wise," said Stephen Poloni, public safety director.

Major crime reported in the village during 2008 would have decreased from the year before if a string of car break-ins hadn't tilted the tally.

◆ Voters approve the charter, which means the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores is now The Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City. Village President Dr. James Cooper is unopposed for election as the Shores' first mayor.

Eleven candidates compete for six seats on city council, no longer called the board of trustees. Candidates are incumbent Victoria Boyce, city clerk Robert Graziani, Connie Houin, incumbent Dr. Brian Hunt, Christine Kaczanowski, Ted Kedzierski, incumbent Karl Kratz, incumbent Fred Minturn and Janice Pemberton, incumbent Glenn Peters and Dan Schulte. Incumbent Trustee Linda Walton does not seek reelection.

Winning seats were Kedzierski, Hunt, Schulte, Graziani, Minturn and Boyce.

◆ Three coyotes encamped in the community's south end outfox trappers trying to evict them.

"Coyotes were not going into the traps," Poloni said. "They actually moved the traps once or twice with their noses. They were pretty smart."

March

◆ Brett Smith, head of public works, tries to brew a salty so-

lution to spread on streets and melt snow and ice.

"Our goal is, with small snowfalls, it will melt snow as it comes down," Smith said. "It should reduce overtime needed for little snowfalls (and costs of salt usage.)"

◆ Public safety officers Tony Spina, John Jabrael, Sgt. William Nicholson and Sgt. Scott Rohr receive departmental honors for saving the life of a woman choking on a piece of food during last year's Christmas dinner.

"You sometimes wonder if all the training is worth it," said Jabrael. "Something like this makes it all worthwhile."

April

◆ A \$1.1 million bridge budget is passed to fill the three-month gap, from May through June, between the end of the former village's fiscal year and the start of the city's new one July 1.

The city council approves the budget 5-2, with newcomers Kedzierski and Schulte voting no.

◆ An ongoing study of the most cost efficient way for the Shores to buy drinking water shows no clear alternative.

Three main options include remaining an independent customer of Detroit, buying water from Detroit in partnership with Grosse Pointe Woods, or breaking away from Detroit and becoming an independent customer of Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ A \$30 per-student fee is announced to offset most costs this summer of giving two-week swimming and tennis lessons at the municipal park.

Last year, instructors at the park gave 224 swim lessons and 212 tennis lessons.

"It cost us \$16,000 to offer those lessons," said Brian Vick, city manager, hired late last year to replace retiring longtime manager Mike Kenyon.

"Historically, the Shores has absorbed those fees through the general fund."

◆ Mayor Cooper establishes monthly office hours at city hall to meet with residents.

"I've been thinking about how I can better address questions and concerns of residents besides monthly council meetings," Cooper said.

He said he'll gauge attendance during office hours and "go from there."

May

◆ Newly elected councilman Schulte, who also serves as liaison to the harbor committee, alleges safety flaws in newly-rebuilt Osius Park marina.

Schulte's concerns include the absence of a fence or guardrail along the inside portion of the harbor's main walkway, plus the presence of cracks in the north concrete breakwall.

◆ For the first time in many people's memory, someone is expelled from a Shores council meeting.

Mayor Cooper orders the resident out for disrupting the meeting and using vulgarities.

"You're out of here," Cooper orders, instructing the public safety director to escort the offender out.

"We're going to have a respectful meeting here," Cooper said.

June

◆ Municipal officials join with the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in appealing a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality denial of permission for an opening to be built in the yacht club's south breakwall.

The club marina is shared to some degree by the city. The south opening would use 2.09 acres of state-owned lake bottom and could be used by boat owners from both the city and club.

State officials denied the pro-

ject, saying the opening "will have significant adverse impacts on the public trust and natural resources associated with Lake St. Clair. Another alternative is replace the drawbridge and reconfigure the slips within the existing marina footprint."

◆ A 1-mill tax increase raises \$330,894 for the municipal rainy day fund and to pay for road repairs.

The tax increase sends the overall property tax rate to 15.89 mills, a 7 percent increase, including pension and refuse taxes.

The mayor and four of six members of the council support the increase. Kedzierski and Schulte do not.

July

◆ Dr. Robert E. Lee, an opponent of the 1-mill property tax increase passed in June, announces he'll organize a recall of the mayor and council members who supported last month's action.

"Over the next month or so, we're going to have to convene some of the more interested citizens and plan our strategy," Lee said.

◆ Recommendations contained in the updated master plan include creation of bicycle paths and a municipal recreation facility.

"Although we appreciate the uniqueness of this village, we need to encourage growth and development if we are not to become stagnant and irrelevant in years to come," said Mary Matuja, head of the Shores planning commission.

August

◆ Two candidates in this year's city council election, Dan Schulte and Janice Pemberton, reject explanations by Shores officials of how and why the city manager sent some of the candidates' campaign promotions to the city attorney.

Schulte, who won a seat on the council, and Pemberton, who did not, plan to ask the state attorney general to investigate if campaign laws were violated.

◆ Revised 30-year cost estimates show it would be less expensive that previously thought for the Shores to buy

water from Grosse Pointe Farms, not to remain a customer of Detroit or partner with Grosse Pointe Woods to buy water from Detroit.

September

◆ Rope barriers are installed on landings of floating docks in the municipal harbor to keep pedestrians from falling in the marina by jumping to and from the main dock.

◆ Members of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation plan the organization's 25th birthday celebration this month.

Civic improvements the foundation is considering for the short term include renovated basketball courts at the municipal park.

In the long run, there's talk of replacing the park swimming pool.

◆ The master plan is amended for the first time in 20 years.

Changes include, but are not limited to, a proposed new residential zoning district for smaller-than-average lots.

October

◆ Petition language to recall the mayor and four council members for supporting a 1-mill property tax increase is approved by the Wayne County Elections Commission.

◆ An aggressive coyote tried to snatch a pet beagle out of its owner's hands on Shoreham.

The week before about three blocks away on Stonehurst, an animal believed to be the same coyote stared down three adults and two 50-pound pet dogs before backing off.

November

◆ The Shores qualifies for grants to pay the bulk of construction costs to repave Vernier from Lakeshore to the Grosse Pointe Woods border; and Lakeshore from the St. Clair Shores border south to Moross in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Work is expected to take place in 2010, with some parts starting in 2012.

◆ Recorded televised meetings of the city council begin airing three times per week on Cable Channel 12.

Broadcasts are scheduled for a six-month trial basis. They will be continued or terminat-

ed based on residents' preferences.

◆ An audit for the period ending June 30 shows a negative \$210,000 unreserved fund balance.

The Shores accounting firm is required to report the deficit to the state, which will put the city on a deficit reduction plan.

◆ The three-member municipal finance committee is replaced by a committee of the whole comprised of the mayor and all six members of the city council.

The committee of the whole will meet at least monthly to discuss city business from a financial perspective.

December

◆ Municipal job cuts and labor concessions could be in the works to reduce costs in line with declining city revenues.

◆ Councilman Minturn apologizes to residents for voting to increase property taxes by 1 mill.

"Your taxes went up \$60 on average this year and I'm sorry for that," Minturn said during the first meeting of the newly-established committee of the whole. "Let's work on not letting that happen again."

◆ Elected officials authorize city manager Vick to discuss with other Grosse Pointe managers ways to share municipal services and spread out the costs of buying supplies and providing services.

◆ A new, 30-year contract to buy water from Detroit is favored as the best long-term economic option for the Shores.

Prospects are put aside to either break away from Detroit and link with the filtration plant in Grosse Pointe Farms or buy water from Detroit in partnership with Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ A large house on Lakeshore at Oxford occupying part of the subdivided lot of a mansion of a prior era is torn down to make way for two new houses.

"We'd like to keep things the way they are," said Mary Matuja, head of the Shores planning commission. "However, due to economic times, things are not always the way we'd like them to be."

Woods: City ends year financially sound

Continued from page 1A

throughout the city. State law dictates the removal of 38 signs from 28 intersections.

◆ The city council approved a bond issue to fund a \$2 million water tower project, as part of the Woods' plan to separate from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department system.

◆ Retired Circuit Judge William Giovan was sworn in as municipal court judge, replacing Lynne Pierce who won

election to the Wayne County Circuit Court. Giovan was appointed in lieu of the city holding a special election, and will serve until a replacement is elected in the municipal election in November.

◆ New park pass procedures were approved, which would require landlords to verify names and ages of tenants occupying rental properties before park passes would be issued.

February

◆ Bids for a new water tower were let, with work scheduled to be completed by July 2009.

◆ Starr Commonwealth, a provider of residential and community-based mental health services for troubled children and their families took over the 13-acre Children's Home of Detroit property on Cook Road. There has been no determination of the type of program the Albion-based nonprofit will offer at the site.

◆ The city's annual audit showed it be in good financial shape.

◆ A suspect remained at large following the armed robbery and stabbing of the manager of a gas station at Mack Avenue and Vernier. Area schools were placed on lock down. The suspect escaped with a large amount of cash.

◆ The annual report by the Department of Public Safety showed crime was down, except for thefts from cars. Residents were reminded not to leave valuables in cars and to always lock their cars.

March

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods was named the Best Affordable suburb in Michigan by

Business Week magazine.

◆ Following extensive review, city officials decided not to separate from the Detroit water system and agreed to stay with Detroit for the next 30 years. The decision was made after an in-depth cost analysis was presented on the city's two options, staying with Detroit, or leaving to connect with Grosse Pointe Farms.

April

◆ A \$2 million budget shortfall sent city officials back to square one on a proposed new budget and sent department heads scrambling to cut excess costs and personnel.

◆ Hundreds of young residents turned out on the front lawn of city hall for the annual Easter egg hunt.

◆ LocalMotionGreen hosted a fair in honor of Earth Day, raising awareness of the health consequences of environmental toxins.

◆ The city was recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City for the 31st year, one of the longest recognized cities in the country.

May

◆ The city council approved a 1.75 mill increase in property taxes to cover a \$2 million shortfall in the city's \$13 million budget.

◆ An anonymous flier was distributed throughout the city, questioning the need for a millage increase and suggesting council members who voted for it would have to answer to the voters.

◆ Beztak Co., citing a lack of funding, withdrew a proposal to buy the property known as

Continued on page 7A

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CITY OF GROSSE POINTE

Planning for a sound fiscal future

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

The municipal tax rate remained the same during 2009 in the City of Grosse Pointe.

But, due to declining property values and tax assessments, about 80 percent of its landowners received tax cuts.

Economic factors entered into almost every major story this year in the city: the closure of longtime clothing store Hickey's Walton-Pierce, approval of zoning amendments to encourage more investment in the Village and, in December, the scaling down of plans by Kroger officials to replace the store on Kercheval with a two-story building.

Toward the end of the year, a citizens ad hoc committee was formed to give municipal officials a fresh but unofficial perspective on how city services could be maintained at high levels in a new environment of declining property tax revenues and state revenue sharing.

The year in review:

January

◆ The owners of Hickey's Walton-Pierce in the Village announce the clothing store will close next month.

Bill and Mary Jo Huntington, who bought the E.J. Hickey Co. in the early 1990s and merged it with their Walton-Pierce store, have decided to retire after 34 years in the retail busi-

ness.

◆ A pig roast warms cold-weather spirits during Winterfest at Neff Park.

February

◆ A two-story Kroger grocery store with attached four-level parking deck is scheduled to replace the existing store and ground-level parking lot in the Village by late 2010.

"Typically, we don't build a two-story store and parking structure," said Chris Rogers, Kroger real estate manager. "This store is going to be very upscale."

The new Kroger will be located on the site of the current one on Kercheval and Notre Dame.

◆ Cadieux between Jefferson and Kercheval will be repaved this spring.

Nearly 80 percent of the project's \$450,000 cost will be borne by a federal grant administered through the county.

"Wayne County indicated to us that federal funds for this project must be obligated by Oct. 1 or they will be lost," according to Stephen Pangort of the city's engineering consultants, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick.

◆ Six neighboring houses owned by Sunrise Senior Living on St. Clair below the Village are torn down.

Sunrise had bought the property in hopes of building condominiums. The condo project has been canceled and

the soon-to-be-vacant property is up for sale.

◆ William Beaumont Hospital Grosse Pointe grows deeper roots in the community by having its offshoot, Beaumont Medical Transportation, take over City of Grosse Pointe ambulance service.

Municipal savings are expected to be at least \$4,000 per year.

◆ City police raid the Pony Keg party store on East Warren in Detroit. It's owner is arrested for fencing merchandise shoplifted in the Village.

March

◆ Money issued through the federal stimulus package will fund all construction costs to resurface St. Clair from Waterloo to Mack.

"Unlike typical federally-funded (resurfacing) projects, which require the municipality to pay 20 percent of the construction, this federal program will cover 100 percent of construction costs," said Paul Weitzel, City, public service director.

April

◆ Owners of the Pony Keg party store, arrested in February for fencing goods shoplifted from Grosse Pointe stores, including Kroger in the Village, waive their right to a preliminary hearing in City of Grosse Pointe Municipal Court.

"The case heads to Wayne County Circuit Court, where the defendants hope to work out a deal with prosecutors," police said.

◆ Beefed-up police patrols in the Village shopping district are credited with helping cut crime last year in the city.

During 2008, according to the annual crime report, overall criminal activity reported in the community totaled 334 cases, down 10 percent from the year before.

"I believe it is due to the hard work of our officers and formation of a directed patrol unit in the Village and around (Maire Elementary) school," said James Fox, public safety director.

May

◆ The budget for fiscal year 2009-2010, passed this month, maintains the 13-mill tax rate plus an additional .5 mills to cover the park bond that voters passed in 2001.

"This budget includes tax cuts for 80 percent of our residents due to declining assessments," said City Manager Peter Dame. "For approximately 42 percent of residents, this is the second year in a row they will be receiving a property tax reduction."

◆ Municipal officials accept a tree contractor's 6 percent rate reduction for tree trimming in exchange for a three-year contract extension.

◆ Beaumont Hospital Grosse

Pointe's minimally invasive surgical center is named in honor of City residents John and Betty Stevens.

John Stevens serves on the city council.

June

◆ Work is proceeding to amend the municipal noise ordinance with stiffer provisions against the use of lawn equipment at odd hours.

Residents have complained of noisy contractors working during early mornings and late evenings.

◆ Instead of cutting municipal recreation programs to compensate for a tight budget, some recreation fees are increased to generate an estimated \$12,525.

"Money we collect won't come close to recuperating all of the costs, but it will help and, hopefully, save our programming," said Christopher Hardenbrook, director of parks and recreation.

"Eighty to 90 percent of fees are staying the same," said Councilman John Stempfle.

July

◆ Public Safety Officer Joe Adams finishes an 18-hour shift by saving the life of an 8-year-old girl.

Adams uses the Heimlich maneuver to dislodge a piece of food caught in the girl's throat. He then goes home and is back on the job six hours later.

◆ A group of residents living on the stretch of Cadieux being resurfaced complain they weren't told by municipal officials that on-street parking will be forbidden when construction ends.

"It limits access to our property," said Greg Jakub, a City resident and organizer of about 30 homeowners from the City and Grosse Pointe Park with houses on Cadieux between Jefferson and Kercheval.

City officials said residents were notified of the new parking rules. A parking ban was required for the city to accept a government grant paying 80 percent of the resurfacing.

◆ Fallen leaves will be collected curbside this autumn by a low-tech scooper system that replaces a more expensive vacuum truck.

"This new pickup method is expected to reduce, if not eliminate, overtime for leaf collection during heavy leaf drop times," said Paul Weitzel, head of public service.

◆ Free parking is offered on Sundays in the municipal parking deck behind Kercheval Place in the heart of the Village.

The policy rebuffs a parking consultant who said three years ago the city should charge for parking seven days per week, day and night.

"Consultants aren't always

See CITY, page 6A.

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

2009: A year of finance and festivals

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

In Grosse Pointe Farms this year the tax rate remained unchanged. Water rates went up. Boaters received special deals to fill empty slips in the municipal marina.

Yet, it wasn't all economics during 2009 in the Farms.

The city either sponsored or helped facilitate events that drew large attendance from throughout the Grosse Pointe community to Winterfest on the Hill, the annual fishing rodeo at Pier Park and the Racing for Kids street festival on the Hill. In addition, the Farms Foundation again sponsored a classic car show at the park that included a mini Dream Cruise through the city.

The year ended with the ax falling on the first of an estimated four or five coyotes believed living in the Pointes.

Farms police began hunting the animals, which had been reported attacking and killing pets. Officers got their first kill in December.

The year in review:

January

◆ Twenty-degree temperatures and high winds confirm that Winterfest on the Hill was scheduled at the right time.

◆ A robber described as an old man with a cane gets away with nearly \$10,000 cash from Bank of America on the Hill. Bank tellers suspect a younger man in disguise.

◆ The Michigan Supreme Court rules that proposed construction of condominiums on residential property formerly designated as 40 and 50 Lakeshore, now owned by the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, would violate deed restrictions dating to 1941.

"We realize the court's decision restricts the use of the properties in question to single-family residences," said Mark Weber, War Memorial president. "The (War Memorial) board will stay within the parameters of that ruling and move forward. There has not been a decision made as to what our next step will be."

February

◆ Millions of federal stimulus dollars are sought to give

the city's aging, 2.7-mile break-wall a facelift.

"There are voids under the wall and other issues," said City Manager Shane Reeside.

He admits his application for \$17.5 million is a longshot.

"It never hurts to ask," Reeside said.

◆ Rather than taking down the artificial Christmas tree in the public safety department lobby, Dispatcher Andrea Seidel decides to redecorate the tree throughout the year in accord with various holidays.

She decorated the tree this month for Valentine's Day. Next comes Memorial Day.

"The lobby of a police department is not always filled with people there for happy reasons," Seidel said. "It's such a great feeling when someone enters our lobby and you see them look at our decorated tree, smile and comment, 'Nice tree.'"

March

◆ Members of Crescent Sail Yacht Club announce plans to construct a 2,000-square-foot utility building.

"This building replaces six smaller structures," said Leigh Savage, Crescent's past commodore. "We will eliminate all of the existing temporary sheds and generally improve the overall aesthetics of the grounds."

◆ Farms police achieve a 92 percent closure rate for larcenies reported during 2008, according to the public safety department annual crime report.

"We worked extra hard, especially on solving home invasions," said Lt. Richard Rosati, head of the detective division.

April

◆ Municipal officials extend Kroger grocery store's lease on municipal-owned land at Mack and Moross.

The lease is \$10,600 per month on a month-to-month basis. Terms include a 30-day termination notice.

May

◆ "The Nude," a 6-foot, roughly 500-pound bronze fountain sculpture stolen nearly eight years ago from the Grosse Pointe War Memorial garden fronting Fries Auditorium, is found in the Detroit River a few feet off-

Next week: The final wrap-up of 2009 in sports, Grosse Pointe Park, and regional issues affecting the Grosse Pointes.

shore of Mariner's Park, located below Alter Road.

Detroit police dive team members are training when they come upon the sculpture half buried in silt 18 feet below the water's surface. Visibility is less than two feet.

"The only part sticking out of the muck was the head and arms," said Sgt. Michael Carpenter, dive team member. "It was solid hard. It felt like a torso. I thought it was part of a statue."

June

◆ Farms council members keep the municipal tax rate unchanged, something they're unaccustomed to doing. During the last seven years, they've cut the millage rate five times.

In addition this year, the general fund budget is cut 3 percent.

◆ Small boat owners waiting for wells at Pier Park are offered a one-season opportunity to rent slips meant for larger craft.

"This is another attempt to increase our revenue from the harbor," said city manager Reeside.

In what is being interpreted as a sign of bad economic times, the harbor has 17 open slips built for boats 30 feet long.

◆ Water rates go up despite — or, rather, because — usage has gone down.

"The problem, in the last couple of years, is usage of our water has gone down," said Councilman Terry Davis, head of the municipal finance committee. "The water plant is a fixed cost. Those pumps have to operate 24 hours per day no matter whether cubic footage increases or decreases. Therefore, we face an increase in water and sewer rates."

A 6.03 percent price increase approved this month pumps up minimum bills to \$75.27 for 1,000 cubic feet of water processed at the filtration plant at the corner of Moross and Grosse Pointe Boulevard.

"We tried to keep it as low as we could," Davis said.

July

◆ Most sewer repairs approved for the northeast section of the Farms will be completed without digging trenches that damage lawns and roads.

Underground pipes are to be injected with a plastic liner to plug breaks and broken joints that reduce water flow.

◆ Tough economic conditions force members of St. James Lutheran Church to scale back hopes for an addition.

Instead, a portion of the building that was scheduled to be razed and replaced will now be renovated and reused.

◆ Speeders are caught off-guard by traffic enforcement officers patrolling the Farms in a new, barely-marked Ford Mustang GT.

August

◆ A rain garden planted near the new warming building at Pier Park is intended to show residents how small investments by individual property owners can help protect water quality in Lake St. Clair.

The garden, designed by resident Lev Wood, catches and filters runoff for use by native plants.

◆ Heavy rains lure a large number of anglers to the 61st annual Grosse Pointe Farms-City Family Fishing Rodeo at Pier Park.

"It poured rain — I mean poured rain — and we still had 818 people," said Dick Graves, rodeo organizer.

The rodeo is for Farms and City of Grosse Pointe youngsters ages 17 and under.

September

◆ Thousands of people attend the Racing For Kids street festival on the Hill.

Attractions include burnouts by Indy Car driver Mike Conway in the same No. 24 Dreyer & Reinbold Racing Transystems race car he drove to third place last month at Infineon Raceway in California.

Dreyer & Reinbold is co-owned by Farms native Robbie Buhl, Racing For Kids' national spokesman since its founding 20 years ago.



FILE PHOTO/BRAD LINDBERG

Classic cars of various eras are driven into Pier Park for the second annual Concours d'Elegance held in September by the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation.


The charity uses the popularity of motorsports to raise money for children's hospitals.

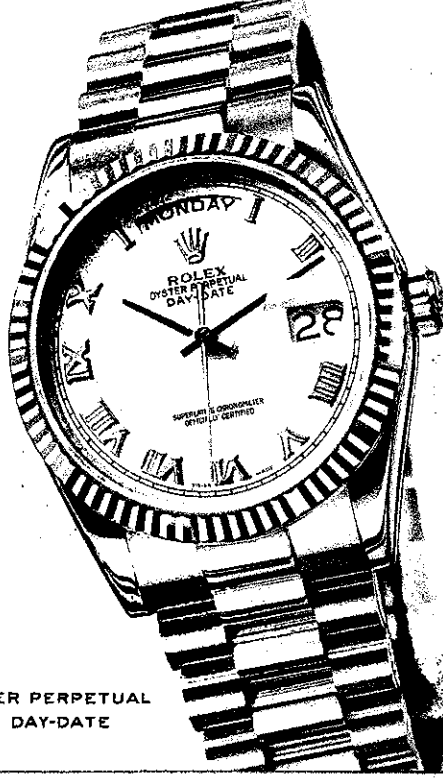
◆ A Racing For Kids charity auction on the Hill raises more than \$50,000.

Beneficiaries are Henry Ford

Cottage Hospital in the Farms, William Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital in the City of Grosse Pointe and Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit.

Continued on page 7A





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POINTER OF INTEREST

At 16, **Susie Mascarin Keane** was the No. 1 ranked junior female tennis player in the world and turned professional. Nearly 30 years later, she is recognized for her on-court accomplishments and commitment to tennis.

Teen sensation to Hall of Famer

By Karen Fontanive
Staff writer

It all started trying to keep up with older siblings.

"My parents were just trying to keep my sisters busy," Susie Mascarin Keane said. "They were doing a tennis camp on Belle Isle. I just wanted to do what they were doing, but was too young to participate. They had a wall over there, so I started hitting against it."

That inauspicious start hitting against a wall turned into a lifetime appreciation of tennis, a successful tennis career and induction earlier this month into the United States Tennis Association Midwest Tennis Hall of Fame.

The Grosse Pointe Farms resident described her selection to the hall of fame as a "huge surprise. I rarely think about those days. It seems like a hundred years ago. I know I had a great junior career, but it's not something I ever thought about. I don't know the selection process, but it's a tremendous honor and it's great to revisit those days."

Keane is modest about her successes and credits the circumstances.

"My timing was right — unbelievable," she said. "There wasn't the competition there is today."

However, even she admits to her accomplishments and her drive to succeed.

"I got very good, very young. I won my first tournament — a 10 and under tournament — at age 7. I was traveling and play-

ing national tournaments by age 9 and winning them by 12."

With that success came motivation.

Tennis professional Joe Fodell, one of Keane's primary coaches during her junior and professional career, enjoys telling the story of the first time he worked with her. He said he had just started working at Wimbledon Racquet Club and wasn't sure what to do. So he decided to just "run her to death. We were doing running drills and working so hard we had to take a break. One of the other pros told me that when she gets in that groove, just keep pushing. I told him it wasn't Susie who needed a break."

Keane won her first professional tournament when she was 14 and in high school. Balancing high school with amateur and professional tennis tournaments took a lot of work and even more understanding. "My teachers were fabulous. I did all of the coursework, but they accommodated my schedule," said Keane.



Keane, second from right, with contemporaries, from left, Andrea Yeager, Bettina Bunge, Tracy Austin and Kathy Rinaldi, attended a Women's Tennis Association reunion at the U.S. Open last summer. "When I walked away from tennis there were no cell phones or e-mails, so I lost touch," Keane said. She is reconnecting with former players through Facebook and e-mail.

As a sophomore at University Liggett School, she played No. 3 singles on the boys tennis team — her brother, Drew, played No. 1 — while also playing in both junior and professional tennis tournaments. Her playing progressed quickly.

"I remember that I'd just won the 18 and under Easter Bowl and was invited to the Italian Open to compete as a junior (player), so I didn't play in the high school regionals that year. After winning the Italian Open — I didn't play the French Open because of final exams — I went to Wimbledon as the No. 1 seed junior, but lost in the quarters," she said, adding quickly, "Grass is not my best surface."

"But then I won the junior U.S. Open and Orange Bowl.

When I returned home, I had three sports management companies at the door. I was the No. 1 junior in the world and had a Women's Tennis Association ranking in the 40s, so we had a pretty good idea that I could compete with the pros."

Keane turned pro in January 1981 at 16. She looks through the memorabilia and photos fondly, but with a sense of being removed from it all. It takes her some time to recall the specifics of her career and accomplishments.

"I remember my rookie year," said Keane. "The physical part was easier because I wasn't juggling playing in junior tournaments along with the pros, but there was the pressure to succeed as a pro. I wanted to justify what the sponsors were paying me. There was more pressure to live up to expectations."

She had a clothing sponsorship with Cerruti — her male counterpart was Jimmy Connors — Wilson racquets and Nike shoes. Yet, she still had high school. "I would be on the circuit for two weeks and back to school for one. It kept me grounded."

"It was a big shift once I graduated high school," she said. "There was nothing to offer relief from the tour. The life of a professional athlete is incredibly selfish. It's all about how you feel, what you're going to eat, what your workout will be. You have to have a burning desire, determination and discipline," said Keane.

She competed on the Women's Tennis Association Tour for eight years. At 18, she beat Billie Jean King in the opening round of the U.S. Open. She reached at least the quarterfinals in more than 20 professional singles and doubles tournaments including the French Open, Italian Open, Swiss Open and U.S. Clay Courts. She also played on two World Team Tennis teams, the Miami Beach Breakers in 1986 and South Florida Breakers in 1988.

"She had great hand-eye coordination and a tremendous ability to concentrate," said Fodell. "Things didn't bother her. She played through adversity."

That adversity included two major injuries. In 1985, she tore all of the ligaments in her ankle and was out six months.

"I did rehab and came back pretty good and then tore my rotator cuff and was out another nine months," said Keane. "Being out back to back that long made me lose my tunnel vision."

"I wanted to go to school. My sisters were getting married and starting families. As a pro, I couldn't break into the top 20. I was making a living, but not really breaking through. There was lots of frustration," said Keane. "I was used to winning



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUSIE MASCARIN KEANE

Keane at the hall of fame induction ceremony with her family: husband, Peter; sons, Matt, left, and Charlie and daughter, Samantha. Keane chose her former coach and Grosse Pointe Shores resident Joe Fodell to introduce her for induction into the hall of fame. In his introductory speech, Fodell mentioned Keane's accomplishments and her sportsmanship and conduct on the court. "I coached many players after her and parents, coaches and players mentioned how they admired how she handled herself on the court."

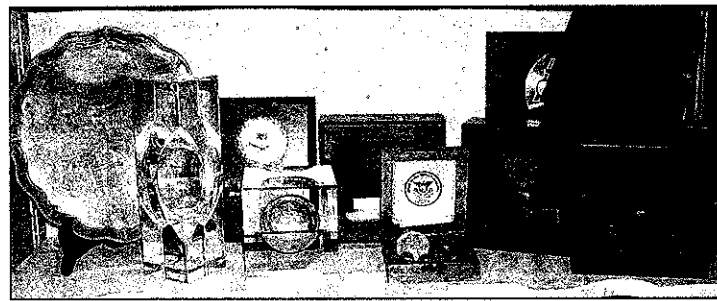
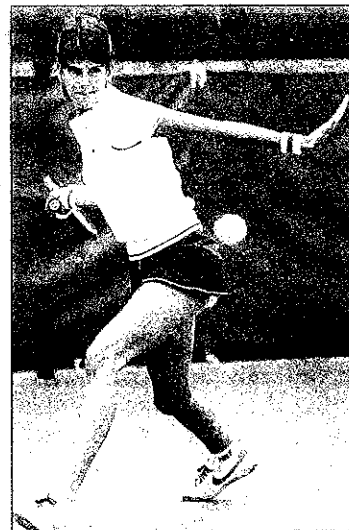


PHOTO BY KAREN FONTANIVE

Some of the many trophies and medals Keane received, including the World No. 1 junior tennis ball trophy.



Keane, early in her tennis career.

tournaments as a junior then I was playing against the likes of Martina (Navratilova) and Chris (Evert) every week and I didn't handle losing as well as I could have. My confidence took a big hit."

In 1988, at age 24, Keane retired. "The world no longer revolved around my fitness routine and my forehand. I came back to being a normal person."

She moved to California to attend UCLA and was assistant coach for the women's tennis team. "I finished school in three years. I went because I wanted to," she said.

That same year she met Peter Keane, whom she married two years later. They lived in California and Chicago before returning to Grosse Pointe.

By that time, they had started a family. And just as her parents tried to keep her sisters busy, Keane wanted her children to have a sport. She started the tennis program at St. Paul Catholic School in the Farms for fifth-through eighth-grade boys and girls.

"I have a range of kids from those who've never picked up a racquet to those competing in tournaments. My goal was I didn't want kids to show up in ninth grade without knowing anything about high school tennis," she said. "I'm proud of the program. There are lots of kids playing for area high schools that have come through the program."

As her sons have graduated through the program, Keane has limited her time on St. Paul's courts to her daughter's

Keane's Tennis Highlights

- ◆ Competed in 10 U.S. Open Championships.
- ◆ 1980 International Tennis Federation World Junior Champion
- ◆ 1980 recipient of the Maureen Connolly Brinker Outstanding Junior Sportsmanship Award
- ◆ Winner of five national junior singles championships and four national junior doubles championships
- ◆ Winner of three national doubles tennis titles in the 40 and over age division
- ◆ Winner of five national platform tennis titles
- ◆ Established the tennis program at St. Paul Catholic School

season. While her middle child has chosen hockey as his sport of choice, her eldest plays tennis for Grosse Pointe South. And though not an official coach for the team, she is often asked for counsel and runs off-season drills at Wimbledon Racquet Club for interested South players.

"I am lucky to still be involved at a level I want to be — working with kids, being with my own kids. I am very fortunate."

Keane is still on the courts. She can be seen doing cardio tennis with her girlfriends at Wimbledon Racquet Club and has competed in doubles tournaments for a number of years, winning three national doubles tennis titles in the 40 and over age division. But lately she has focused on platform tennis and golf.

Her eyes visibly brighten when she mentions golf. "I wish I had started playing earlier," said Keane. "I feel like I'm trying to make up for lost time and can't get enough — especially with our limited season in Michigan."

"As much as I am forever grateful for the travel, the people, the experiences, I appreciate my tennis career more looking back from this view. I feel so fortunate to be back and in Grosse Pointe, close to my family and raising our kids here."

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WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOIN	\$5 ⁹⁹ LB.
USDA CHOICE STANDING RIB ROAST	\$6 ⁹⁹ LB.
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BONE-IN RIB EYE STEAK	\$7 ⁹⁹ LB.
BONELESS ENGLISH ROAST	\$3 ⁴⁹ LB.
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BABY BACK PORK RIBS	\$3 ⁹⁹ LB.
MEATLOAF	\$2 ⁹⁹ LB.
BONELESS SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST SOLD IN 4 LB. BAGS	\$1 ⁹⁹ LB.
ALASKAN KING CRAB LEGS	\$7 ⁹⁹ LB.
PEELED & DEVEINED COOKED SHRIMP SOLD IN 2 LB. BAG 26-30 CT.	\$6 ⁹⁹ LB.
1/2 LB. AVG. LOBSTER TAILS	\$9 ⁹⁹ EA.
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FRESH PINEAPPLE	\$2 ⁹⁹ EA.	FRESH AVOCADOS	5/\$5
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CUCUMBERS OR GREEN ONIONS	2/\$1	FRESH CLEMENTINES	\$4 ⁹⁹ 5 LB. BOX
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VERNORS GINGER ALE	99¢	2 LITER BTL. (PLUS DEP.)
MICHELOB ULTRA VARIETY PACK	\$9 ⁹⁹	3 FLAVORS - 4 OF EACH 12 PACK BOTTLES (PLUS TAX & DEP.)
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DOM PERIGNON	\$119 ⁹⁹	750 ML.
VEUVE CLICQUOT	\$39 ⁹⁹	YELLOW LABEL BRUT 750 ML.
TAITTINGER	\$39 ⁹⁹	BRUT LA FRANCAISE 750 ML.
MOET & CHANDON	\$34 ⁹⁹	IMPERIAL (WHITE STAR) 750 ML.
FRENCH CHAMPAGNE	\$34 ⁹⁹	GORDON ROUGE OR CARTON CLASSIQUE 750 ML.
BLANC DE BLANCS	\$29 ⁹⁹	BRUT ROSE 750 ML.
ROSA REGALE	\$19 ⁹⁹	750 ML.
PIPER SONOMA	\$17 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES 750 ML.
DOMAIN CHANDON	\$15 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES 750 ML.
ST. MICHELLE	\$10 ⁹⁹	BRUT OR EXTRA DRY 750 ML.
KORBEL	\$9 ⁹⁹	BRUT, EXTRA DRY, ROSE & SWEET ROSE 750 ML.
FREEMANET	\$8 ⁹⁹	GORDON NEGRO 750 ML.
CRISTALINO	\$7 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES 750 ML.
COON'S CHAMPAGNE	\$5 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES 750 ML.
BUTTER NONE FEE	\$5 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES
JARLSBERG SWISS	\$5 ⁹⁹	CHUNK CHEESE
PARMIGIANO REGGIANO	\$9 ⁹⁹	CHEESE AGED 24-27 MONTHS

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HONEY MAPLE HAM	\$5 ⁹⁹ LB.
LONDONPORT BEEF	\$7 ⁹⁹ LB.
BLAZING BUFFALO CHICKEN	\$5 ⁹⁹ LB.
HONEY SMOKED TURKEY	\$6 ⁹⁹ LB.
MILD & CREAMY ASIAGO	\$5 ⁹⁹ LB.
WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOIN PLATTER	\$49 ⁹⁵
HOMEMADE BAKED BEANS	\$3 ⁹⁹ LB.
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HOMEMADE SPINACH, DILL & ONION OR MEXICALI DIP	\$5 ⁹⁹ LB.
HOMEMADE SLOW COOKED CHILI	\$2 ⁹⁹ LB.
HOMEMADE BLUE CHEESE WITH WALNUTS	\$6 ⁹⁹ LB.
WING DING PARTY TRAY	\$45 ⁹⁹
WING DINGS	\$5 ⁹⁹ LB.
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FRESH BAKED PARISAN BAGUETTE	2/\$5
FRESH BAKED PUMPKIN, PEACH OR APPLE PIE	\$5 ⁹⁹ EA.

COUNTRY FRESH MILK (EXCLUDES CHOCOLATE)	2/\$3	1/2 GALLON
BOURISIN SPREAD ALL VARIETIES	2/\$5	4.5 OZ.
MORNING STAR VEGAN MEATS	\$3 ²⁹	8-10.5 OZ.
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DEI FRATELLI TOMATOES OR SAUCE	\$1 ²⁷	28 OZ. CAN
HELLMANN'S MAYONNAISE	\$2 ⁹⁹	REGULAR OR LIGHT 22 OZ. SQUEEZE
BONNE MAMAN PRESERVES	\$2 ⁹⁹	ALL VARIETIES
BETTER THAN BOUILLON BASE	\$2 ⁹⁹	REGULAR, CHICKEN, VEGETABLE OR BEEF ONLY!
PALMOLIVE DISH LIQUID DETERGENT	2/\$4	25 OZ. BOTTLE
KRAFT CHUNK CHEESE ALL VARIETIES	\$1 ⁶⁹	7-8 OZ.
NEWMAN'S LEMONADE	\$1 ⁶⁹	64 OZ.
STOUFFER'S FRENCH BREAD PIZZA	2/\$5	11.25-12.5 OZ.
EDY'S ICE CREAM	\$2 ⁹⁹	48 OZ.
BARILLA PASTA (EXCLUDES SOUP CUTS OR LASAGNA)	\$1 ⁰⁹	16 OZ.
HERITAGE SELECT BASMATI RICE	2/\$4	ASSORTED VARIETIES
GARLIC EXPRESSIONS DRESSINGS & MARINADES	\$2 ⁹⁷	12 OZ. BTL.
COFFEE-MATE COFFEE CREAMER	\$1 ⁹⁹	16 OZ.
GLAD TALL KITCHEN DRAWSTRING TRASH BAGS	\$7 ⁹⁹	65 CT. BOX

BLANC DE BLANCS	\$29 ⁹⁹	BRUT ROSE 750 ML.
ROSA REGALE	\$19 ⁹⁹	750 ML.
PIPER SONOMA	\$17 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES 750 ML.
DOMAIN CHANDON	\$15 ⁹⁹	ALL TYPES 750 ML.
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CHEESE		
RENY PICOT GOUDA	\$5 ⁹⁹	OR FONTINA CHEESE
JARLSBERG SWISS	\$5 ⁹⁹	CHUNK CHEESE
PARMIGIANO REGGIANO	\$9 ⁹⁹	CHEESE AGED 24-27 MONTHS

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Christmas shopping

A 53-year-old Royal Oak man was arrested on Christmas Day shoplifting in the Village.

Police said they caught the man walking near the intersection of Mack and Kensington. He had \$52 worth of unpaid merchandise from CVS Pharmacy hidden under his jacket, according to the arresting officer.

A CVS employee reported the man shoplifting at 12:05 p.m. Friday, Dec. 25.

The officer who found the suspect asked him if he had any weapons.

"No, just the stuff I took from CVS," the man reportedly answered.

He possessed a Gillette Mach 3 razor, a package of Keebler cookies, a container of pecan halves and a hair cutting kit.

"It looks like he was doing Christmas shopping in the Village," said Detective Ron Wiczorek.

Police said the man was on parole for shoplifting in Sterling Heights and also has a shoplifting history in Taylor.

Five finger discount

A patrolman was doing a walk-through of CVS Pharmacy in the Village at 9:10 p.m. Christmas Eve Thursday, Dec. 24, when he was told that a female customer was suspected of stealing merchandise.

A security alarm sounded when the woman exited the back door.

"I approached the suspect in the rear parking lot and escorted (her) back into the

store," said the patrolman.

The woman, a 49-year-old Detroit resident, was arrested for possessing 48 unpaid cosmetic and perfume items with a combined price of \$631.22.

Police said the woman is a repeat offender, has "numerous" aliases and is wanted on "several" warrants.

Xmas Eve clatter

A husband and wife living in the 600 block of Rivard said they'd retired for the night when about 10 minutes later at 5:18 a.m. Christmas Eve Thursday, Dec. 24, they heard glass breaking downstairs.

The noise made such a clatter that the husband rose from the bed to see what was the matter. He found a \$500 front window shattered and large rock in the living room.

Size 10 or 12 shoe prints were found leading from the property northbound.

"(The) print is of a tennis shoe with a square pattern for tread," said an officer.

— 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

eBay fraud

A Farms woman trying to buy a car on eBay appears to have been swindled.

The woman thought she'd purchased a 2009 Volkswagen Passat for \$11,303 Dec. 8 from a man in Miami. He reportedly told her to bypass eBay's PayPal payment method and wire the money to a bank.

The woman complied, but

never received the car as promised.

"Miami PD (told her) the address (the man) gave her did not exist," said a Farms officer.

She tried to stop the wire transfer, but was too late.

"The money was already cashed," said an officer.

The man is suspected of similar eBay frauds.

— 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

Grinch alert

Between Tuesday, Dec. 22 and Wednesday, Dec. 23, an inflatable Santa and snowman were taken from the front lawn of a house on Wayburn.

Assisting Detroit

Public safety officers assisted Detroit police and fire personnel in rescuing a woman that had fallen into the Detroit River at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 24 at the foot of Alter Road.

— Kathy Ryan

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Sparkling line

Numerous 911 callers reported shortly before 8:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 25, a power line burning behind houses on Willison.

"Officers confirmed that the

T-bar was on fire," said an officer.

A DTE Energy repair crew was notified.

Officers had been called to the neighborhood nearly two hours earlier about a sparking wire, but didn't find any problem.

Lights fantastic

A suspected drunken driver reported on Vernier near Morningside at 6:34 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24 turned out to be an innocent sightseer.

"Officers stopped the vehicle and found the driver (a 62-year-old St. Clair Shores woman) to be distracted by Christmas lights," said a patrolman.

Rear-ender

A traffic crash in the 900 block of northbound Lakeshore at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22, resulted in two adults and one infant being taken to a hospital.

The patients were passengers in a 2009 Lincoln four-door driven by a 53-year-old Grosse Pointe Park woman.

Police said the woman ran into the back of another car, setting off the Lincoln's air bags.

One of the passengers taken to the hospital was an 11-month-old girl from Grosse Pointe Woods.

Car B&E

Sometime during the night of Thursday, Dec. 17-18, someone entered the vehicle of a Hawthorne homeowner and stole a portable DVD player,

case and cords worth nearly \$120, according to police.

Coyote tracks

Coyote tracks were reported the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 22 behind a house on Woodland Shores.

"(The homeowner) was concerned because he has a 3-pound dog and is aware of coyote sightings in the area," said a public safety officer.

Non drinking drunk

A 911 caller at 4:26 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21, reported a driver weaving a 2009 Chevrolet pickup truck on northbound Lakeshore.

An investigating officer stopped the driver, a 39-year-old Clinton Township man, near Stonehurst.

The man denied drinking, police said, but was arrested for registering a .103 percent blood alcohol level.

— 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

Wheels up

The owner of a Cadillac Escalade found his truck on blocks and the wheels missing the morning of Saturday, Dec. 26. A second car parked in the driveway of his Blossom Lane residence had also been tampered with.

Cleaned out

A 79-year-old Glen Arbor Lane resident reported to police Saturday, Dec. 26, that several pieces of jewelry were missing from her house.

She said a friend who employed the same cleaning lady told her several pieces of her jewelry were missing shortly after the cleaning lady had been to her house. Detectives continue to investigate.

Thanks, mom

A Stanhope resident came into the public safety department at 1:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, to report her former son-in-law made threats toward her, her children and her former husband.

She is concerned because his mother bought him an "AK-47 assault rifle" and her former son-in-law, a 33-year-old Westland resident, also told her daughter he didn't care if he spent the rest of his life in prison.

The report said the family was fighting about benefits being paid to a relative. Woods public safety officers notified Westland police and continue to investigate.

Eight-of-nine

A 30-year-old St. Clair Shores resident was arrested on a second drunk driving charge at 9:25 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23.

Police stopped her at Mack Avenue and Anita after witnessing erratic driving. When police approached, they detected the strong smell of alcohol. A search of the car revealed nine small bottles of vodka, eight of which were empty.

The woman declined to take a blood alcohol test. An order for a blood draw was issued and the driver was transported to a hospital. Once there, she became extremely belligerent and was handcuffed to a stretcher.

— Kathy Ryan

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

CITY: A steady year with plans for the future

Continued from page 3A

right," said Peter Dame, city manager.

August

◆ Nearly half of more than \$800,000 borrowed to upgrade the Neff Road pumping station won't have to be repaid.

"We have to pay back only 60 percent of it," Dame said. "Thanks to the federal stimulus package, only 40 percent will not have to be repaid. The remainder is a 2.5 percent low-interest loan."

September

◆ Developers of a 50-to-60-room hotel proposed for the Village are granted an additional six months to fine-tune plans and arrange financing for construction.

"In light of the economy, we think we are making terrific progress," said Tom Welling, director of Lamar Development on behalf of the hotel group, Village Inn of Grosse Pointe. "We believe it amazing that we have made any progress and we believe our future very optimistic in light of the total shutdown of the credit markets and Detroit economy in the past 10 months."

◆ An estimated 2,000 people attended this month's Grosse Pointe's Greatest Block Party and Taste of Grosse Pointe in the Village.

"It's a great weekend," said Ellen Durand, Village merchant and president of the Grosse Pointe Village Association, producer of the party. "Our association and

businesses want to grow these events. It's only going to make our community stronger and hopefully bring people into our community. Maybe they'll want to move here and open a business."

October

◆ Development-friendly zoning changes for the Village could prime the downtown commercial district for boom times when the economy blasts back.

Zoning amendments approved this month allow taller buildings plus a wider array of retail, residential and office uses in areas currently limited to office use only.

"As one of the key goals the city council established this year, a review of the Village zoning code was conducted to ensure the downtown maintains its competitiveness," said John Jackson, the city's planning consultant and a resident of the City.

November

◆ No surprise, Mayor Dale Scrace, two city council incumbents and one newcomer win their respective elections — all uncontested.

Renewing seats on the council are Chris Walsh and Jean Weipert. Joining the council is Christopher Boettcher. He takes the seat made available when Councilman Kris Pfaehler, citing business commitments, decided to not seek a second term.

◆ An ad hoc committee of residents is formed to advise municipal officials on how to handle the recession. The group of volunteers will meet for about two months.

◆ City manager Dame voluntarily cut his salary 5 percent.

"I wanted to show that everybody's going to have to pitch in to make this work, given our financial condition," said Dame, referring to impending budget cuts due to declining property tax revenue.

◆ Village Grille on Kercheval will expand into a neighboring storefront at the corner of Notre Dame. When construction is finished next month, the new restaurant will be roughly two-thirds larger than at present.

◆ Curb-side parking on St. Clair between Kercheval and St. Paul near the Village is reserved for residents of the block and their guests.

December

◆ A coyote kills a pet dog on Dodge Place.

Police are put under orders to kill the wild animals if a clean shot can be had.

◆ The survival of a family on Lincoln is testimony to the life-saving worth of residential smoke alarms.

An alarm before sunup awakened the family of three to a basement fire believed caused by an electrical problem.

◆ Kroger representatives scale back plans announced in February to replace their store in the Village with a two-story facility and attached four-level parking garage.

Revised construction plans include tearing down the existing store in April 2010. A new ground-level store would open on the same site in December.

City approval is needed before construction can begin.

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WRECK: Damage everywhere after crash

Continued from page 1A

"A large amount of marijuana residue was found inside the vehicle as well as a scale," Wierszewski reported.

A 17-year-old male passenger from Grosse Pointe Park tested positive for a .102 percent blood alcohol level, police said. The teenager was cited

for being a minor in possession of alcohol. Police released him to his father.

A second passenger, reportedly an 18-year-old Park male, fled before police arrived.

"There are no charges pending against that individual at this point" McCarthy said.

The Volkswagen had "heavy" front-end damage,

was towed away and impounded. The broken street sign is of the decorative variety put up a few years ago as part of civic improvements funded by the Farms Foundation.

"Restitution will be requested for the damage caused to both the city property and homeowner's property," McCarthy said.

WOODS: City is 'well positioned'

Continued from page 2A

Vernier Terrace and abandoned its plan to build an upscale senior citizen apartment complex on the property.

◆ James DaDeppo, a public safety officer, was arrested in the city of Warren on charges of domestic assault and obstructing a police officer.

◆ Two Grosse Pointe residents were named to the board of Starr Commonwealth. William Rands and Bruce Vandevusse had previously served on the board of the Children's Home of Detroit.

June

◆ A routine audit of at Our Lady Star of the Sea uncovered \$93,000 in missing funds. Archdiocese of Detroit officials have asked the Woods police to investigate.

◆ A recall campaign was launched by Nancy Hames against two council members, Art Bryant and Joe Sucher, because of their vote in favor of increasing property taxes.

July

◆ Wording on a recall petition was approved by the Wayne County Board of Elections, allowing the recall campaign to go forward against two members of the city council. Organizers have 30 days to collect 2,400 signatures.

◆ The Lipizzaner Stallions performed at a benefit for the Restore the Horse Foundation at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club. Restore the Horse works to return and maintain mounted divisions a local law enforcement agencies.

◆ Wayne County was at it again, painting stripes on Mack Avenue which prohibit right turns from the curb lane at Cook Road and Lochmoor Boulevard. Motorists were warned to check before turning right from the center lane, just in case another motorist doesn't understand the meaning of the stripes in the curb lane.

◆ Rumors began to fly about the fate of the property that once housed the Children's

Home of Detroit after its new owner, Starr Commonwealth opened an addiction treatment program at a CHD satellite property in Warren. Board members declined to comment.

◆ Vandals struck the University Liggett campus, breaking out windows on a school bus and breaking into an athletic equipment storage area.

August

◆ The recall effort against two city council members failed when organizers were not able to collect the required 2,400 signatures.

The council rejected a request by Mack Avenue Diner for a liquor license.

◆ Frederick Petz was arraigned on embezzlement charges stemming from an investigation of \$93,000 missing from Our Lady Star of the Sea parish and the Renaissance Vicariate.

September

◆ Eleanor "Hedy" Hedman announced that she would be closing her store, Hedy's, which specialized in religious books and supplies and had operated in the Woods for 40 years.

◆ Councilmen Al Dickinson and Pete Waldmeir didn't file for re-election for in the November election. Incumbent Vicki Granger and newcomers Todd McConaghy and Gabriela Boddy will run for the three seats. Five candidates filed for the municipal judge seat.

◆ More than 50 residents showed up a city council meeting to protest cuts in EMS services, much to the surprise of council members. It seems they were responding to a flier circulated through the city by union members who feared cuts in the EMS staff due to budget cuts. The mayor assured residents that no decisions had been made to cut emergency services in the city.

October

◆ The council voted to keep the city's dog park open at Lake Front park, in spite of

complaints that it was too small and underutilized.

◆ Vernier Terrace owner Matt Kornmeier unveiled several remodeled townhouses at the development, which had been scheduled to close when a developer sought to buy the property and build a senior citizen apartment complex. When funding was not available, Kornmeier began rehabbing the property and has several new tenants.

◆ Several residents of Fairway Lane urged the city council to investigate a group home that began operating on their street under the name Serenity Way.

◆ A letter of intent has been filed with the state by a group called Senior Community of Grosse Pointe as an initial step in a project that, according to the letter, will include a 68,000 square foot assisted living facility on property that housed the Children's Home of Detroit, but is now owned by Starr Commonwealth.

November

◆ Ted Metry was elected municipal court judge, taking first

in a field of five candidates.

◆ The city received recognition for financial reporting from the Michigan Government Finance Officers Association.

◆ The city was forced to rescind winning bids on the water tank project and rebid the entire project.

Zoning changes would keep the Children's Home of Detroit property restricted to a community facilities designation.

December

◆ Plante and Moran, the city's auditors, determined that the city was "well positioned" to move into the new year.

◆ Frederick Petz pleaded guilty to four counts of embezzlement and agreed to five years probation and has been ordered to repay the \$93,000 he is accused of embezzling from Our Lady Star of the Sea and the Renaissance Vicariate.

◆ The city council approved an increase in the water rate of approximately 7 percent.

◆ Public Safety Director Michael Makowski announced he will retire on Dec. 31 after 34 years of service to the city.

FARMS: A festive year

Continued from page 3A

"We're all about children," said Buhl, former Indy Car driver and current Indy Car team co-owner.

◆ Nearly 50 owners of classic automobiles strut their stuff at Concours d'Elegance at Pier Park.

This is the second year the show is organized and hosted by the Farms Foundation to draw people to the park, where in recent years the private fundraising organization has paid for numerous improvements.

New this year is a parade of cars through the Farms.

October

◆ Next spring's Junior League of Detroit designer show house will be located at 78 Lakeshore.

Because the house lacks parking space to handle an average 400 visitors per day, league members arrange to have guests shuttled to and from the house from nearby parking lots.

November

◆ Mayor James Farquhar, Councilmen Charles Davis, Louis Theros and Peter Waldmeir and Municipal Judge Matthew Rumora win reelection to their respective offices.

All were uncontested.

◆ The master plan is reaffirmed without changes.

"There have been no departures by approved development proposals since the last city land use plan," said Brandon Rogers, the Farms planning consultant. "The current plan has been constantly followed."

State law requires municipalities to reevaluate their master plans every 10 years.

December

◆ Farms police undertake regular patrols of the Country Club of Detroit, where at least one coyote is believed living in woods near the polo field.

Officers armed with shotguns hunt and kill one of the animals, believed to be among those reported attacking pets with increased frequency.

Police think four or five coyotes are living in the Grosse Pointes.

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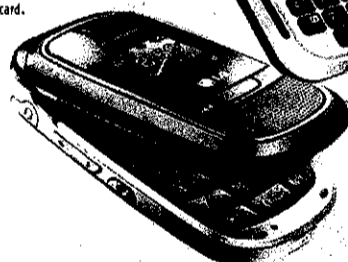
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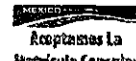
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GUEST OPINION By Greg Zyla

Young Joe

It's time for my yearly column about the dangers of drinking and driving. It's the story of young Joe, a fun loving 20-year-old who is full of life, has lots of friends and is a good person. Joe could be your neighbor, schoolmate, fellow worker, sibling, parent or even your husband. He's been having a great time at a holiday party, joining in on all the fun. He's overdone the eating and drinking, something many of us do each year.

Now it's 1 a.m., and time to head home. Joe knows he's had one too many alcoholic beverages, but it doesn't stop him from driving. Thank goodness he's alone.

Joe isn't aware that on this night, he'll become one of the near 12,000 drivers between the ages of 16 and 21 who die in car accidents each year. Most, 45-percent, die from calamities involving speeding; while 35 percent die from accidents involving other violations. The other 20 percent are killed in mishaps that involve turning signal violations or right of way mistakes.

According to the National Highway Safety Administration, in 2008 some 11,773 of a total 41,501 people that died in car wrecks were alcohol related. Although declining a bit, it's been this way for the last 15 years.

Of course, Joe's age group is more than twice as likely to be involved in a fatal crash. NHTSA studies found that in 2008, 5,864 15- to 20-year-olds were killed, and the "under 25-year-old" group is still the leading violator of speeding citations. And, in addition to the 5,864 fatalities, another 228,000 young drivers were injured in vehicle crashes.

Back to Joe. Joe is speeding at 65 mph, and approaching a curve in the highway that should be taken at 35 mph. His reactions are slow, and he misses the curve by quite a bit and he is not wearing his seat belt. Before he even knows what is happening, his car is off the dark country road and headed directly toward a huge tree.

There is no correcting. Joe's car hits the tree with a resounding crunch.

At 1/10th of a second, the car's front bumper and grillwork collapse.

At 2/10ths of a second, the hood crumbles, rises and smashes into the windshield. The grillwork now disintegrates.

At 3/10ths of a second Joe is sprung upright from his seat. His legs are immediately broken, and his knees crash against the dashboard. The steering wheel bends under his grip.

At 4/10ths of a second, the front of the car is completely destroyed and is now dead still. However, the rear end of the car is still traveling at 55 mph, and the 850-pound engine and accessories are crunched into the tree.

At 5/10ths of a second, the impact rips Joe's shoes clean off his feet. The chassis bends in the middle, and Joe's head is slammed into the windshield. The car's rear-end begins its downward fall as its spinning wheels churn into the ground.

At 6/10ths of a second, the entire body of the car is twisted out of shape. The front seat continues to ram forward.

At 7/10ths of a second, Joe's chest is pinned against the steering wheel shaft. His internal organs crash against his rib cage as his older vehicle is not equipped with air bags.

At 8/10ths of a second, Joe is dead. He's now a statistic.

Remember, it's not just young drivers like Joe who die on our nation's highways. Many experienced adult drivers will also become statistics. They, too, will make mistakes behind the wheel, many alcohol related. They'll come from every walk of life, from laborer to politician.

Plan your travel carefully this New Year's. Don't be in a hurry. And if the roads turn nasty, pull off at a roadside rest or stop and have a coffee at a restaurant.

If you pull off the road, don't just pull off on the side of a road — it's dangerous sitting there as the percentage of being struck by an oncoming vehicle rises greatly. If you are late, and miss the big "gathering," so be it.

Greg Zyla is an automotive columnist.

GUEST OPINION By Bill Kalmar

Wishes for 2010

It was a year to be relegated quickly into obscurity. Nothing seemed to go right.

Automotive sales were in the dumper, home foreclosures continued to reek havoc on millions of people, the health care debate divided the country into vociferous groups in a verbal war, fires destroyed much of California's forests, there was the usual amount of tornadoes and floods, unemployment reached record levels, two wars continued to be fought on foreign soil, long lines for swine flu inoculations tried our patience and the Detroit Lions renewed their losing record.

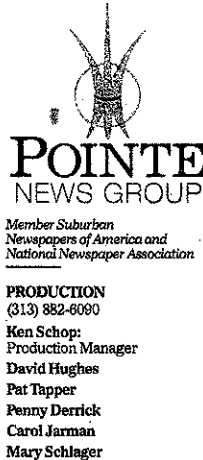
Regular readers of my column know I am usually upbeat and like to add humor, but there wasn't a lot to laugh about in 2009.

Sorry for being the Grinch who stole 2010, but laughter and

See 2010, page 9A

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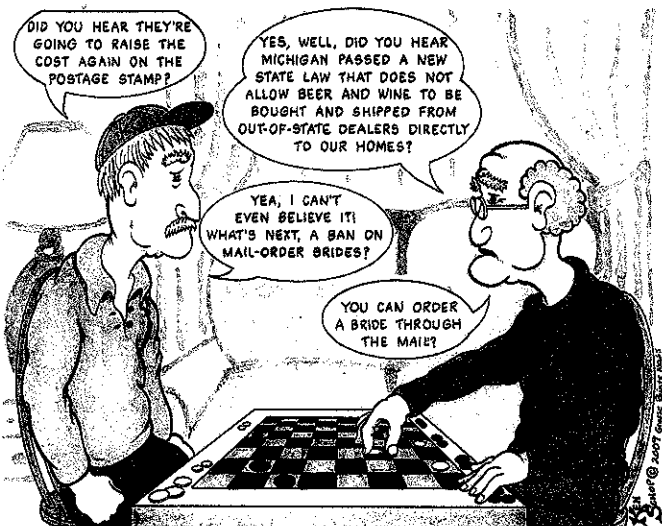


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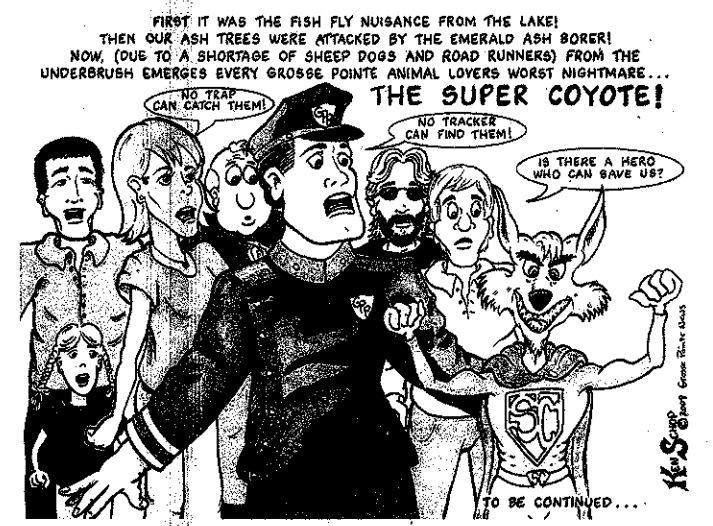
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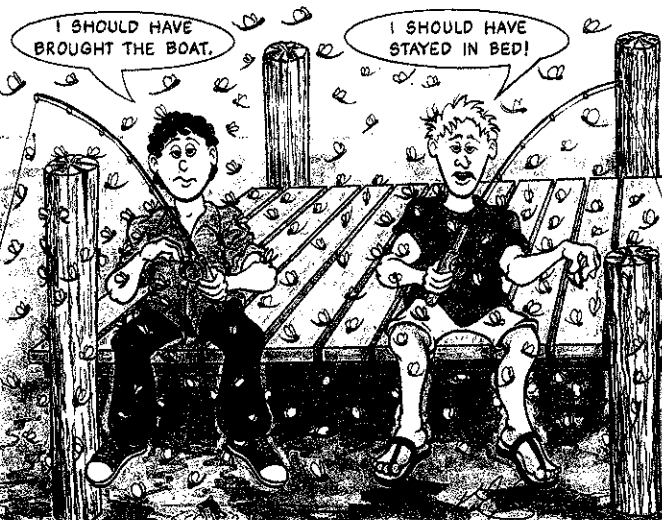
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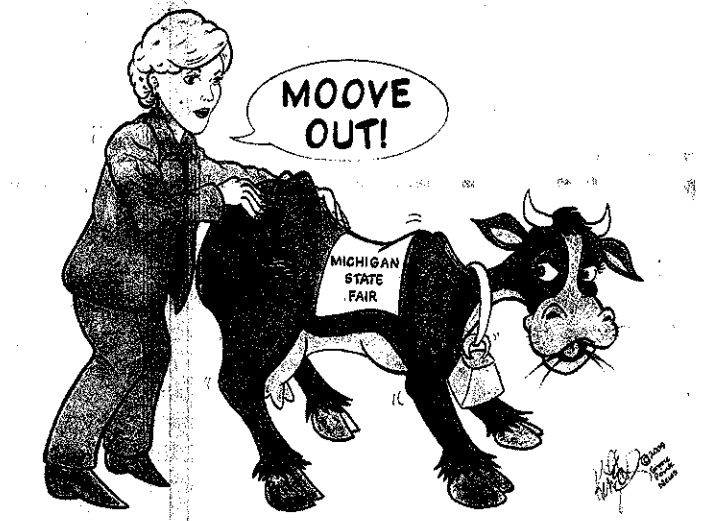
There have been times when my only source of some new current events came from reading about it in a cartoon. Editorial cartoons should inform readers as well as make them laugh.
— Ken Schop



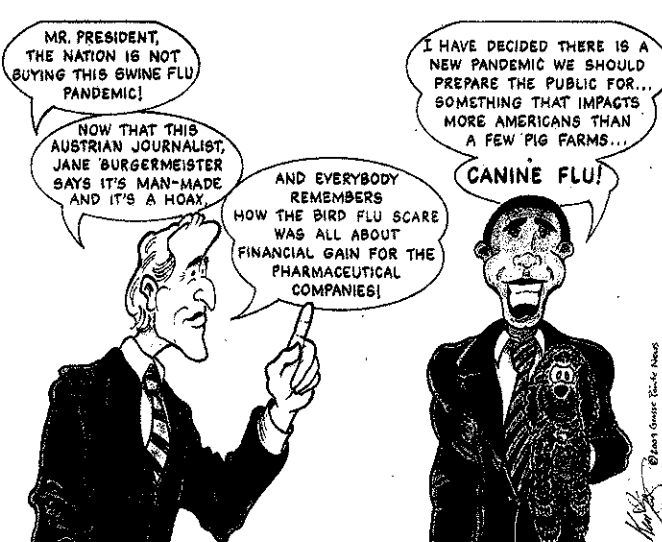
This is the second cartoon I did about the coyotes in Grosse Pointe. I considered doing another one, but didn't see the humor in local pets becoming dinner for these critters.
— Ken Schop



I think my funniest cartoons have been the ones I've done about the annual nuisance of the fishfly season.
— Ken Schop



Over the years, staff writer Brad Lindberg wrote stories about the Michigan State Fair and gave me the idea for this joke. Gov. Jennifer Granholm cut state aid for the fair, and now it looks like a longtime tradition has come to an end.
— Ken Schop



Swine flu did not end up being the pandemic our federal government told us it would. I made up the part about canine flu, and was stunned when a few weeks later our local media reported on canine flu. I'm not making this up.
— Ken Schop



This cartoon became my most controversial this year. I was puzzled when I received several letters from readers complaining I was being unfair about the president's speech to students returning to school. Actually, I was commenting on the attitude of some parents on this event.
— Ken Schop

LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. Longer letters may be edited for length and all letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include a daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday.

Not welcome

To the Editor:
A pretrial conference is scheduled for Jan. 20 in the Municipal Court of Grosse Pointe Woods to consider the request of Serenity Way LLC to operate a business on Fairway Lane in Grosse Pointe Woods. This business recently advertised it would provide accommodations for elderly persons

the same as assisted living facilities including 24-hour nurse aides, RN supervision, assistance with bathing and dressing, medication management, home-cooked meals, salon services, etc.
If licensed by the state to operate, regardless of what type of facility it is called, it would be operated as a for-profit business in the strictest sense of the word.

Serenity Way LLC started operation in September as an unlicensed facility in violation of the Grosse Pointe Woods zoning code, but was ordered by the court to discontinue operation until after the pretrial conference.

Fairway Lane is zoned as a single-family residential district. To the best of our knowledge, there has never been a business of any description — with or without a license — allowed to operate on Fairway Lane since the 11 houses were originally built on this street more than 55 years ago.

Grosse Pointe Woods ordinance 50-207 states, in part, that for this single-family residential district, the specific intent is to:
(1) Encourage the construction of and the continued use of this land for single-family dwellings and (2) Prohibit busi-

ness, commercial or industrial use of this land, and prohibit other uses which would substantially interfere with development or maintenance of single-family dwellings in the district."

With all due respect to the owner's efforts to provide accommodations for elderly persons who seek the services as advertised, Serenity Way LLC would not be a welcome addition to our neighborhood.

We therefore request the owners cancel the pretrial conference since it's our desire they no longer operate this business on Fairway Lane.

If licensed by the state to operate on Fairway Lane, could your street be the next to have a similar business in the middle of your neighborhood?
CHAPMAN CUNNINGHAM
PATRICIA MULLANEY
Grosse Pointe Woods

I SAY By Renee Landuyt

A new year, resolution and start



Ah yes, Jan. 1 is tomorrow; the day we all fool ourselves by declaring one or more resolutions for the New Year made with good intentions because everyone likes a fresh start.

How smart is it to add unrealistic expectations to our already busy lives in the form of a resolution that usually goes by the wayside within weeks? How about a compromise. For instance, instead of saying we'll go to the gym four or five days a week when we're used to spending lots of time on the

couch, why not start with something more realistic like walking in place in front of the TV for a half hour or maybe just during the commercial breaks?

What about dancing around the house to music for two or three really fun songs?

Perhaps a better idea for a resolution is to stick to things we know we can do, like being kinder, becoming a better listener, being a better friend, taking responsibility for our lives, eating only organic chocolate, not buying products tested on animals, volunteering or donating to charity not just at the holidays, being environmentally conscious on a daily basis — that sort of thing.

Everything doesn't have to be black or white; there's a large area in between where compromise lives. Don't over-

whelm yourself by starting out with something too big. Start small and grow. Work toward your goal realistically and you will find success that could inspire someone else.

Being a ripple in the pond is a good beginning. You might sink if you try to be the whole body of water all at once.

A good example is my brother-in-law, Michael. He did what he had to economically and made the difficult decision to close his business. He is starting the New Year with a new beginning by being a ripple in the pond of his own possibilities. He is being realistic about the change by being open to it instead of fearful.

Michael says his morning routine will remain the same. He will get up, have a cup of coffee and read the paper. After that, he isn't sure yet. He

is courageously going beyond his previous profession by opening his mind and his life to the possibility that something different will be a welcome change.

Michael is a strong, smart and generous man and this new chapter in his life is his resolution. Even though it wasn't what he might have chosen, he understands sometimes things choose us and we grow from being forced out of the box. He will succeed wildly. I am sure of it, because he is that kind of person.

Being open to possibilities is a good way to make a new start as long as your new start is going forward not backward. We have a choice in which direction we move and the free will to make that choice. And that includes choosing between right and wrong, love and fear.

Unfortunately fear drives the actions of many people. We are afraid to get up, afraid to go to bed; afraid to trust ourselves or afraid to try something new. We are afraid to think for ourselves and afraid to go beyond the surface because we're afraid we might not like what we find.

How about making a resolution to start believing in ourselves instead of being afraid and to become so filled with our own enthusiasm that by beginning to believe in ourselves, we start down the road to becoming who we were meant to be? Doesn't that sound better than being afraid?

Michael sure thinks so and I agree. We're all works in progress, we all make mistakes; it's how we learn and if we want to be strong, we try again.

Be kind to yourself and it will extend outward, resolve to build yourself up instead of putting yourself down; give yourself a break, stop criticizing and dwelling on the negative, it's exhausting. Don't compare yourself to others, we are all unique. If everyone made a few positive resolutions to change something in their own lives, think of how that would affect the world, like a ripple in the pond.

Dostoevsky said lying to ourselves is more deeply ingrained than lying to others and Aristotle said honesty is the portal to all wisdom. Let's be honest with ourselves and make a resolution this year to become wiser in the way we live. The bottom line is you matter and you make a difference. This is a new chance and a new year.

Get to it. I believe in you.

STREETWISE By Renee Landuyt

What is your New Year's resolution?

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



'To learn to run cross country so I can bond with my sister who runs because it would be fun to do that together.'

CAROLINE FORSTER
City of Grosse Pointe



'To keep my room clean so my mom stops nagging me.'

MARGAUX FORSTER
City of Grosse Pointe



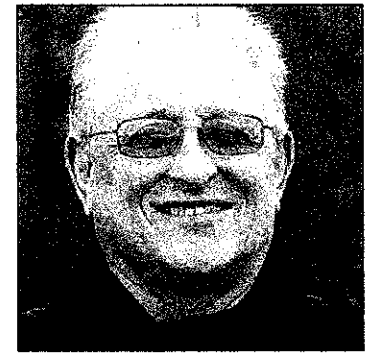
'To find a job I enjoy. I'm studying to become an oceanographer/marine biologist and herpetologist with a minor in engineering.'

MATTHEW DAILEY
Harper Woods



'My resolution is to be out of debt by the end of 2010.'

HEIDI ZOOK
Roseville



'To enjoy life without the stress that is all around us and to focus on the positive.'

BOB BOWEN
Roseville

FROM THE ARCHIVES Compiled by Suzy Berschback

The reclamation of The 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 third of a three-part series.

"The gravel pit was located at the foot of now Lakepointe Avenue, on the site of the old windmill and was known as the graveyard of the Fox Nation, as in May 1712, over 1,000 Indians were massacred there. When digging the gravel, the farmers unearthed many skulls with which they decorated their wagons. They were paid 25 cents per load to haul the gravel used for supporting the plank road maintained by the George Hendrie Toll Gate Company.

"In the year of 1876, Charles Moran who owned private

claim No. 120, just west of now Alter Road, and his cousin, William B. Moran, on the East Road, (Private Claim 696) each donated 33 feet to the government who then cut through Light House Road by digging a channel from Lake St. Clair north alongside of the present Alter Road, throwing the dirt up to form dykes, thus creating the new Fox Creek Channel and the building of a road in one operation. The dredge used was of the old wood burning type and operated by Moran who is now 78 years of age.

About this period, Moran, interested the state legislature in the reclaiming of this marsh, the county drain commissioners then built a canal about 100 feet north of and parallel to the lake from Alter Road to the Grand Marais Boulevard. At the foot of Trombly Road was erected a pumping station about 20 feet square, housing an old wood burning steam suction pump to empty the canal into the lake through a long wooden trough over the

dyke. The neighboring farmers cut their own ditches draining the water into the canal, this draining operation covered a period of several years. The farmers who benefited from this improvement were taxed proportionate to their holdings.

"Following is an obituary from the Detroit News on Moran who had just died.

"Wm. B. Moran was a descendant of the old pioneer family of Detroit, which settled here during the early French regime. The old Moran homestead built about the year of 1760, stood on the line of Woodbridge Street, until about the year of 1880, when it was torn down. Wm. B. Moran was born in Detroit in 1846, at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and Hastings St. He graduated from the old Carston School and St. Johns College at Fordham, New York."

"From the time Detroit was founded down to about 1880, a large portion of Grosse Pointe Township, between Jefferson Avenue and Lake St. Clair was

boggy ground known to the early inhabitants as 'Le Grand Marais.' There were islands of solid ground in it where a few squatters had built shanties, but most of the area was filled with bull rushes, sedge grass, cattail flags and other marine plants, and it was the finest place about Detroit for spearing frogs. Moran took the notion that this apparently worthless area might be redeemed from its marsh condition and converted into solid ground, which would become valuable in later years.

"In 1874, he began wading

about the Grand Marais with a long slender pole sounding the depth of the various bogs. He was gratified to discover that only a few feet down the whole area was under laid with a fairly level expanse of hard clay which would make reclamation by ditching and filling in easily possible.

"Then he set about buying areas of the marsh, and when he had a large area of it in his possession, he got a bill through the legislature that would empower the county drain commissioners to build dykes and ditches. His father's

death in 1876 gave him an inheritance of about \$25,000, which enabled him to make certain improvements and add to his holdings.

"In the course of time he became the owner of the nearly 12,000 acres of cheap land and this, when reclaimed made him a man of wealth.

"It is much of his holdings that were subdivided and called Windmill Pointe Subdivision. Many beautiful homes on finely paved streets with all improvements now occupy this once marshy wasteland."

2010: New year wishes

Continued from page 8A

happiness for the coming year looks limited too. Reminds me of the song "The Way We Were."

Here's hoping we can add some laughter to our lives in 2010. Here are some wishes I hope will materialize in 2010:

◆ I wish automotive companies and other organizations that received money from the government bailout program will pay back the funds quickly so Uncle Sam can be removed from their daily lives. Having the government intervene in the management of our American companies spells disaster.

◆ I wish anyone who gets lost and needs rescuing after em-

barking on a quest for recognition by climbing mountains, soaring to heights in a lawn chair bedecked with helium balloons or participating in some other dangerous, risky activity should be charged for being rescued. Placing the lives of rescuers in jeopardy in an attempt to rescue these idiots should have consequences. If it were my decision, I would let these people languish for several hours before rescue attempts are started — but that's just my sensitive side speaking.

◆ I wish anyone who is jailed should have no right to publish memoirs or write a book for profit. And convicted pedophiles should remain in jail forever. The recidivism rate is alarming for these perverts.

◆ I wish reality TV shows would come to an end. Give me reruns of "Seinfeld" or Peter Falk as Detective Columbo anytime.

As much as my rants this week sound ominous, there

may be some reason for optimism in 2010. But that optimism has to come from us as individuals because the world around us seems to be in a bit of disrepair and confusion.

Our job is to get up every morning and approach the day with a positive attitude and a smile. Create your own world of enthusiasm and upbeat attitudes.

If that sounds as if I am becoming a Pollyanna, so be it. Perhaps if each of us spreads a bit of cheer in our everyday activities, it will become infectious and hopefully spread to others. I see no other way of conquering the malaise we have been in.

So if you bump into me during 2010, be prepared to be jocular and exuberant. Because as the song says: "It's the laughter we will remember."

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

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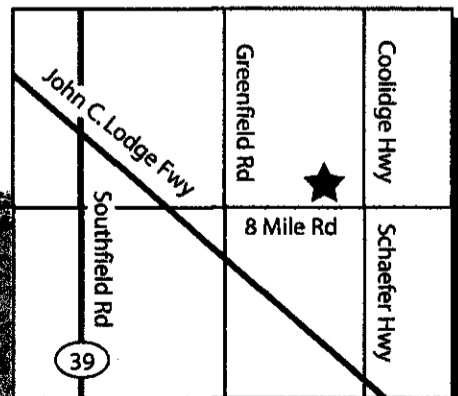
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NEWS II

AUTOMOTIVE

Final farewell

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1-2A II, 8A II SCHOOLS | 3A II OBITUARIES | 4-7A II AUTOMOTIVE

A year's worth of memorable moments

By Amy Salvagno
Staff Writer

Students throughout Grosse Pointe stole the spotlight this year, providing a welcome distraction from budget woes and the economic troubles that trickled down from Lansing.

They embraced service projects and community outreach opportunities; excelled in the classroom, on standardized tests and with after-school clubs; treated audiences with performances brimming with harmonious voices, melodic instruments and talented acting; and celebrated milestones and annual traditions.

Here's a look back at 2009 — through the school districts' eyes.

JANUARY

The 50-member staff of The Tower, Grosse Pointe South High School's weekly newspaper, took home the award for Best of Show at the Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association National High School Journalism Convention in St. Louis. The award signifies overall excellence. It is the first time the Tower has earned the award since the paper was launched 80 years ago.

New Grosse Pointe Board of Education trustee Judy Gafa was sworn in to her four-year position Jan. 26. At the annual



FILE PHOTO

Representatives from the Grosse Pointe school district, board of education and construction and architect firms were joined in early June by Brownell Middle School eighth-graders Madison Detflinger and Max Roeskie, third and fourth from left, during a ceremonial ground-breaking for the new multipurpose room, set to be complete in 2010.

organizational meeting, Alice Kosinski was nominated to serve as board president, while Brendan Walsh took the position of vice president. Fred Minturn was chosen to again serve as treasurer, while Joan Dindoffer was selected to be secretary.

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education kicked off the new year with a contribution of \$2,825 to the school district: \$825 for the Chinese Artist Visitation Program and \$2,000 for Full Circle Upscale Resale.

FEBRUARY

Bids from 13 trade groups were approved by the board for construction of the multi-purpose room, student commons area and practice gym at Grosse Pointe South. The projects were completed for the 2009-10 school year.

The practice gym replaced what was the girls gym, where workers added new flooring and a new coat of paint. The boys gym was remodeled into a multi-purpose room, in which flooring was replaced and new paint put up. Two dressing

rooms — one for boys and one for girls — replaced what was the boys locker room.

The new student commons area took over what used to be the school's old pool. Original glazed brick remains on the walls, along with black and white photographs of one-time, long-ago swimmers. The new floor was tiled to create a mirage of the old pool and its lanes. The space includes more than 200 chairs for seating at tables, along with carpeted space where spectators once sat. The Mother's Club of



FILE PHOTO


Grosse Pointe South High School students Ellie Harness and Eliane Kussurelis pose with the Norsemen mascot at the annual tailgate party before the rival North-South football game.

Grosse Pointe South Preservation Committee contributed several of the nostalgic details, including the photos and 14 original sconces.

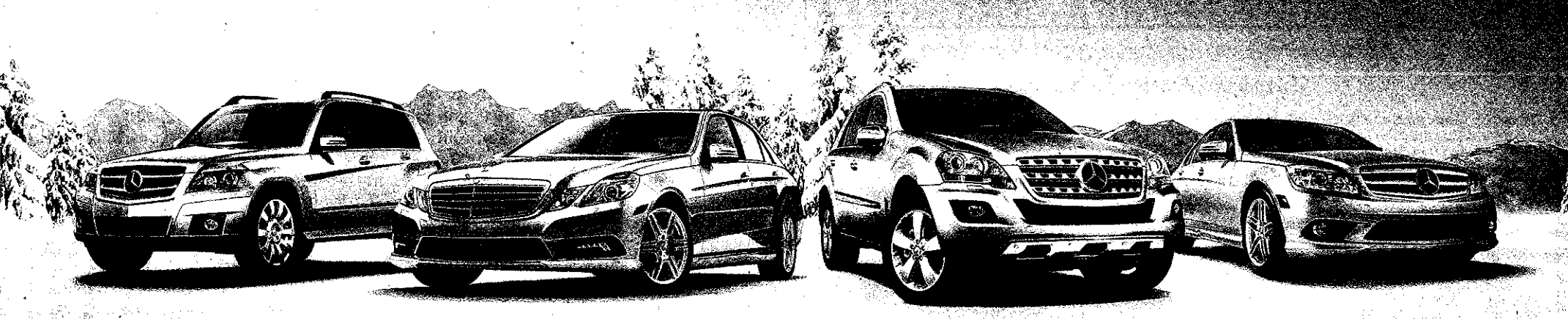
Finances from the bond fund provided for the metal window replacement project at North. A bid of \$314,475 was


awarded to Designers Mirror and Structural Glass, who removed 158 existing metal siding windows and canopies on the first, second and third floors that were 41 years old and in disrepair, replacing them with

See REVIEW, page 2A II



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REVIEW: A look back on 2009

Continued from page 1A II

those that are single hung, can pull open from the bottom and are energy efficient.

• Two North teachers were nudged into the state spotlight and recognized for fostering commitment, curiosity and comprehension in students. Ardis Herrold was selected as the 2009 High School Science Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Science Teachers Association, and Terri Steimer was chosen as Daughters of the American Revolution Outstanding Teacher[®] for American History.

• The board voted down 5-2 a proposal to allow children of non-resident staff to be enrolled in the district. The option — heatedly discussed by trustees and district parents — was presented to help bring down the 2009-10 budget shortfall of \$6 million. The proposed policy would have allowed the enrollment of children — including step-children, adopted children and wards — of full-time employees who would be charged tuition and assigned to particular schools. District officials estimated it could bring in around \$100,000 to \$150,000 in additional revenue in the first year.

• The board approved Feb. 23 a resolution proposed to tighten up residency standards. The resolution called for administration to create a means for students to provide proof of eligibility at regularly sched-

uled intervals throughout the school year.

Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent for business and support services, said officials averaged 133 investigations of students illegally attending school since the district-wide residency drive in summer 2005. Of those investigations, 41 students have been removed.

In April, officials developed a plan that would involve a random sample of K-11 households during the summer.

A month later, discussion was dissolved when the proposal was voted down.

• Students, staff and a few administrators gathered to mark the almost official 80th birthday of Mason Elementary School, which opened to 99 students Feb. 29, 1929 — the same year the Academy Awards debuted, teddy bears were introduced, Crayola crayons released and the stock market crashed.

The Grosse Pointe Woods campus stepped back in time throughout the day, from learning the Charleston to hearing the history of the school's simple beginnings. And between bouquets of balloons and shirts and sweaters donned by pupils and teachers, the gymnasium was a sea of green — a tribute to Mason's original school color.

MARCH

• The Mothers' Club of Grosse Pointe South employed the latest technology to fund enhancements in the classroom.

The fundraising organization hosted the first-of-its-kind Online Auction the week leading up to the 80th Anniversary Gala Celebration March 14. Online bids were accepted on

items donated to a special website.

The goal of the event was to support the latest technological advancements in classroom instruction; fund technology-related college scholarships; and promote the purchase of advanced materials and techniques to preserve and enhance the historic high school building.

• Students, staff and parents of the Grosse Pointe Academy raised \$2,429.57 — in pennies — for the Central Asia Institute. Through the organization's Pennies for Peace program, 100 schools have been built in rural, often volatile regions of the Middle East, providing education to more than 28,000 students, half of whom are girls.

• The board approved the new K-7 science curriculum, revised and updated for the 2009-10 school year in response to the state's new Grade Level Content Expectations.

The guidelines align what is taught with what is tested in the classroom.

Susan Allan, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, said significant changes included one new unit at almost every grade level. In addition, several units were moved to an earlier grade because the Michigan Educational Assessment Program testing window for fifth- and eighth-grade science was switched from January to October.

Now, all elementary-level content must be taught by the end of fourth-grade and all middle school content by the end of seventh-grade. In grades K-4, units have been reduced to three per year.

• Out of more than 15,000 semi-finalists across the country, six seniors from North and South high schools and four seniors from University Liggett School were named finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

North students were Maxwell Hunt, Jamie Ding and Matheus Simoes. From South, the students were Emma Brush, Elizabeth Olson and John Sullivan. The Liggett students were Christopher Brownell, Tori Jovanovski, Michael McLaughlin and Claire Peracchio.

With the honor, the students were part of a nationwide pool of finalists that represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors.

• North's commercial foods class won the first place prize of \$2,000 in the Meijer My Mealbox Moment video recipe contest, beating out other school entrants from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and across the state.

Students were asked to create a video demonstrating their skills in the kitchen — with the



use of Meijer-brand products. They cooked up a recipe of ground beef and cubed pork short ribs, kidney beans, diced tomatoes, minced garlic, chopped onions and cumin that after simmering for just over an hour was served up as an accompaniment to a Norsemen football tailgate party.

The video, submitted in the fall, was judged 50 percent on presentation, 40 percent on creativity and 10 percent on public appeal — residents and the North community were asked to vote online.

• From mid-January to early March, Defer Elementary School students cut and tied together fleece blankets, learned to stitch together and fringe fleece hats and turned homemade pillowcases into colorful dresses for orphan girls in Africa.

As part of the school's Lunchtime Enrichment Program — it replaces recess for six weeks when it's too chilly to play outside — first-through fifth-graders signed up to serve.

The hats were donated to a less fortunate school and the dresses to remote villages of Malawi through the nonprofit, Little Dresses for Africa. The blankets were dropped off at Turning Point, a shelter in Mount Clemens for women and children.

APRIL

• MEAP results in the district came in overall high and mostly stable. Third-through eighth-grade scores in both math and science increased or remained stable, and in some cases, English scores increased.

Fourth-grade averages increased across all content areas, particularly in reading and English language arts, from 89 percent to 94 percent and from 86 to 91 percent, respectively.

Seventh- and eighth-graders improved their scores in English language arts, as well. Fifth-grade students increased their average scores slightly in math, reading and English language arts.

The greatest improvement was among seventh-graders, where 83 percent scored proficient or above, compared to 73 percent the year before.

• Grosse Pointe Academy seventh- and eighth-graders headed to Madonna University in Livonia to participate in the first Michigan China Quiz Bowl. The academy is one of a few middle schools in the area to offer Chinese. Students competed with second- and third-year high school students from Cranbrook, the University of Detroit Jesuit and Troy High School.

The quiz bowl consisted of three regulation rounds and a championship round.

• Pink slips went out to district teachers as one way to remedy the district's \$5.4 million budget shortfall. The layoffs involved the elimination of about 36 jobs and the reduction of another 37.5 full-time equivalent positions to part time. Board trustees reluctantly approved the action April 27.

The layoffs, based on seniority, were blamed on rising health care and retirement costs and shrinking enrollment. Since the 2006-07 school year, the district has seen a decline of 400 students; enrollment represents 70 percent of the district's funding stream, said Tom Harwood, assistant superintendent of human resources and labor relations.

In the fall, some teachers were called back to full-time status, while others got their positions back on a part-time basis, including North choir teacher, Ben Henri.



Top: Annie Gough and Savannah Melcher tape up a box filled with bags of casserole mix for Kids Against Hunger. Above: Grosse Pointe middle and high school students were set up assembly-line style in late April to package 10,000 meals.

Harwood said the recalls were possible because of some retirements and resignations; one-third were due to additional federal stimulus money.

MAY

• Brownell Middle School was the first building in the district to close from a probable case of the H1N1 flu.

Wayne County health officials soon after advised the district that schools will not close for individual suspected or confirmed cases of H1N1, as spelled out by the Centers for Disease Control and the Michigan Department of Community Health.

Rather, students and staff with flu-like symptoms were asked to stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever.

• The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education announced it raised more than \$1 million in support of the district's schools since its inception three years ago. The nonprofit has provided funding to support everything from an accelerated reading program to teacher training to trips for the district's Destination Imagination teams.

• Several hundred students from North and South high schools and Parcels, Pierce and Brownell middle schools worked together to package 1,700 bags of a casserole mix — enough to provide 10,200 meals to children locally and abroad.

Staff from the Kids Against Hunger Great Lakes Coalition set up teams of students, assembly-line style, to fill bags with rice, ground soy, fortified chicken broth and dried vegetables, staple them shut and box them up. Each bag feeds six adults or 12 children.

The event organizers — three volunteer moms, one of whom is also a teacher — hoped the students would make the project their own in the months and years to come through after-school clubs, sports groups or student councils.

A second KAH event was held in November with 50 students from each of the district's middle schools participating.

• With barbecued burgers, pasta salad with made-from-scratch noodles, freshly squeezed lemonade and homemade banana cream pie, seventh- and eighth-grade stu-

dents in Dona Reynolds' Brownell Middle School life skills class dished out a spread cooked, blended and served with love for the ones they cherish most.

The young chefs treated moms and dads to an appreciation lunch served on the school lawn.

• Maire Elementary performed an original play by school mom Sara Fischer Hodges, which was professionally recorded to air at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

"How Jackson Saved the Sea," an adventure with talking animals, birds and sea life who share a universal language and communicate with children, was acted out by 30 students to bring smiles to little ones with illness weighing on their minds.

• For the second year, the student-run publication at North was rewarded the Spartan Award from the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association at Michigan State University, the state's highest honor for student publications.

The 35-member North Pointe earned the accolade by covering topics that run the gamut: fashion, politics, movie reviews, community awareness and teenage trends and trials.

• IMPACT Club at North hosted the inaugural Senior-to-Senior prom, the community service group's biggest venture of the year. The event included some 120 senior citizens who enjoyed dancing, refreshments and new memories with 50 members of the club.

JUNE

• Officials from the Grosse Pointe Public School System, along with representatives from construction manager Barton Malow, Ehresman Associates and the board of education, gathered in the empty field next to Brownell Middle School for a ceremonial groundbreaking on the new multipurpose room.

Construction of the 18,000 square foot project, which will be used for a multitude of activities, including choir concerts, social studies debates and grade-wide activities, is expected to take 10 to 12 months to complete. The groundbreaking included the 2008-09 sixth-



Mason Elementary student Kayla Steinberg enjoys a cupcake after celebrating her school's 80th birthday Feb. 27.

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*bitewing x-rays included, additional x-rays may be required.

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.

Myrtle Dougherty

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Myrtle Dougherty, 97, died Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009, at St. John Hospital and Medical Center in Detroit. She lived in Grosse Pointe Woods for 67 years.

She was born Nov. 18, 1912, in Detroit to William L. and Myrtle Cooper. She attended Albion College and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1934 and her teaching degree from Wayne State University.

She taught at Maxine Elementary School in St. Clair Shores.

Mrs. Dougherty was a member and past president of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority at U of M as well as a past president of the Panhellenic Council at the university, past president and 60-year member of Chapter AO, P.E.O., Grosse Pointe and a 60-year member of Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church. She also was a member of the Detroit Boat Club and Grosse Pointe Rose Society.

Mrs. Dougherty is survived by her daughters, Lynne Millies and Jean Smith; grandchildren, Wendy Sheffield, Sandra Millies, Laura Millies and Gregory Smith and three great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Franklin D. Dougherty and sister, Thelma Blaine.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, Jan. 8, at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Memorial donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church at the above address.

Mary Margaret Kelly

Former Grosse Pointe resident Mary Margaret "Margie" Kelly, 72, of St. Petersburg, Fla., died Monday, Dec. 21, 2009. She had been living in St. Petersburg since 1973.

She was born in Detroit and graduated from Manhattanville College in 1959. She was a member of Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, St. Petersburg Country Club and was active in the Society of the Sacred Heart.

She is survived by her loving husband of 50 years, Jerry; son, Jerry (Catherine) Kelly III; daughters, Kathy (Ed) Anthony and Karen (Brian) Brenneman; grandchildren, Elizabeth, John and Tom Kelly and Trevor Brenneman and brother, John M. Murphy of St. Paul, Minn.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 30 at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in St. Petersburg.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Society of the Sacred Heart at RSCJ.org.

Mrs. Kelly will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Anne R. Hudson

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Anne R. Hudson, 74, passed away peacefully in her home with family by her side Sunday, Dec. 27, 2009.

Anne was the devoted wife of Gilbert Hudson, her life's love of 52 years of marriage. She was the loving and caring mother of Jennifer (Joseph) Parke, Elizabeth (Thomas) Griffith and Susan (Bradley) Laffrey; the proud and delighted grandmother, "Gram," of Joseph, Alison and Melanie Parke, Timothy and Libby Griffith and William and Anna Laffrey.

Anne was a special friend to many who enjoyed her positive attitude, compassion, humor, courage and joyful spirit. She will be remembered for making the world a better place through the loving and caring way she touched the lives of those who knew her. Her strength, devotion and faith were inspiring.

Anne's great joys in life were her family and friends, who will miss her dearly.

A memorial service was held Dec. 30 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Endowment Fund of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education, c/o Northern Trust Bank, 120 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Patricia Anne Rauss

Patricia Anne Rauss, a lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe, died peacefully Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009, at St. John Senior Community.

She was born May 23, 1923, to Lou and Thomas O'Keefe. She is survived by her brother, Robert O'Keefe of Falls Church, Va.; sister, Katie Littmann of North Port, Fla., and sisters-in-law, Mary O'Keefe of St. Clair Shores and Rose Ann O'Keefe of Grand Blanc. She also is survived by her children Dennis Rauss of Troy, Kevin Rauss of St. Clair Shores, and Shelley Rauss Barone of Chestnut Ridge, N.Y. and grandchildren, Brendan, Allison, Devin, Chelsey and Shane Rauss and Arthur and Elizabeth Barone.

In her final years, her several nieces and nephews, Kathleen McClanaghan, Jeffrey and Cindy Littmann and others from the Littmann and O'Keefe families lovingly cared for her, ensuring a peaceful transition.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 4 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Clara Odell

Grosse Pointe Park resident Clara Odell, 87, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009.

She was born and raised in Jacksonville, Ill. and received a bachelor's degree in music from MacMurray College in Jacksonville and a library of science degree from the University of Denver.

She moved to Detroit in 1946 to become a librarian at the Monteith branch of the Detroit Public Library. She rented a room in a house next to James Odell whom she married Christmas Day 1946.

Mrs. Odell was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and played cello for the Grosse Pointe Symphony in the 1950s. In addition to raising her family, she was the bookkeeper for many years for the family business, Pointe Printing.

Mrs. Odell is survived by her children, James (Nancy), Margaret (Thomas), Thomas and Paul; grandchildren Viktoria, David, Daniel and Richard; sisters, Margaret Machlan and Rochelle Schuster; brother-in-law, Wayne Moor and sister-in-law, Rena Hansen.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, James and sister, Elizabeth Moore.

A funeral service was held Dec. 29 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. Memorial donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Martha Jane Slone

Former Grosse Pointe Park resident Martha "Marty" J. Slone, 89, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009. She had been living in Ypsilanti.

She was born May 12, 1920, in Mansfield, Ohio, to Charles and Ida (Mills) Moore. She graduated from Mansfield High School and was educated at Otterbein College and Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Mrs. Slone was a substitute teacher in Rochester, a Girl Scout leader, president of the Philanthropic Education Scholarship Organization Chapter C.D. in Lake Wales, Fla. and PEO member of the Detroit Chapter.

Mrs. Slone was a life member and deacon of the Presbyterian Church in Lake Wales, an active member of the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in Detroit and life member and circle leader in the Grosse Pointe Methodist Church. In addition she was a member of the Elk Rapids Golf Club and Lake Wales Country Club and an avid tennis player who won several championships at Saddle Bag Resort.

Mrs. Slone is survived by her beloved husband, Robert



Myrtle Dougherty



Mary Margaret Kelly



Anne R. Hudson



Patricia Anne Rauss



Clara Odell



Martha Jane Slone



Dorothy E. Sterner

Dorothy E. Sterner

Former Grosse Pointe resident Dorothy E. Sterner, 90, passed away Sunday, Dec. 27, 2009.

She was born June 9, 1919, in Aurora, Ill., to Anthony and Ella Shuster and graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1933. She then received a degree from the Business School of Writing.

On Aug. 2, 1946, she married Paul W. Sterner also of Aurora. They lived in Henderson, Nev. for 10 years, then moved to Marshall, Wis.

Mrs. Sterner worked for the University of Wisconsin as a supervisor. She enjoyed crocheting, reading and watching game shows as well as a glass of wine each night. In her later years she enjoyed traveling.

Mrs. Sterner is survived by four daughters and a stepdaughter: Kathy (Les) Paulson of McFarland Wis., Karen (Roger) Juve of Cottage Grove, Wis., Sandra (Ronald) Kuhl Eisenbeis of Grosse Pointe and Laurrie (Budd) Rudd of New London, Wis. and a sister-in-law, Barbara (Leo) Schuster. She also is survived by 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Paul; parents, Anthony and Ella; brothers, Ray and Leo Schuster; sisters, Irene Glover and Bernice Reir.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2 at Chas. Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Park. The funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Marie Jones

officiating. Interment will be in Marshall, Wis. beside her husband.

Mrs. Sterner made many friends throughout her lifetime from her time spent in Henderson, Nev., Marshall, Wis., New London, Wis. and Grosse Pointe. She will be missed by all.

Lenore A. Marshall

Longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident Lenore A. Marshall, 95, died Sunday, Dec. 27, 2009, at the Hiland Cottage of Hospice of Little Traverse Bay in Petoskey.

She was born May 21, 1914, in Harrow, Ontario, the daughter of James and Gertrude (nee Skellet) Collins and moved to Detroit at age 9. She graduated from Holy Redeemer High School in Detroit in 1930 then attended Marygrove College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1934.

On June 20, 1941, she married Joseph Marshall in Detroit, and he preceded her in death in 1975.

Mrs. Marshall worked as a radio actress, appearing on the Lone Ranger and in advertising for Kern's department store and the J.L. Hudson Co.

She enjoyed reading, playing bridge, studying and speaking foreign languages and providing public relations services for groups with whom she volunteered: the League of Women Voters, the Detroit Symphony, and the Alliance Francaise.

She is survived by a daughter, Kate Marshall and her husband, Justin Rashid of Petoskey and three grandchildren, Noah, Brendan, and Zoë Marshall-Rashid.

She was preceded in death

by her parents; her husband, Joseph; brother, James; and sister, Jacqueline.

A graveside service was held Dec. 30 at the White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery in Troy.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Sunnyside Retirement Community in Petoskey for their kindness and the quality of care they gave Mrs. Marshall in the few months prior to her passing.

Memorial donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; Hospice of Little Traverse Bay, 1 Hiland Drive, Petoskey, MI 49770 or Marygrove College, Office of Funds Development, 8425 West. McNichols, Detroit, MI 48221-2599.

Arrangements were handled by the Stone Funeral Home of Petoskey.

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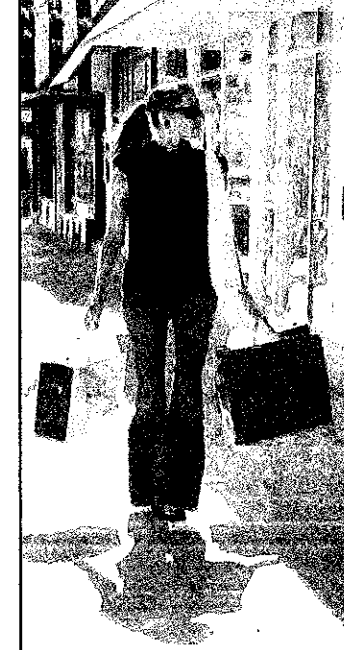
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Alex and Pauline McNeill visiting the St. Petersburg (Florida) Yacht Club.



Marla Ruhana, formerly of Grosse Pointe Woods, JB Shumaker of Grosse Pointe Farms, and Jessica Brachel of St. Clair Shores, in Myrtle Beach, S.C.



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PHOTO BY SAM VARNHAGEN/FORD MOTOR CO.

2011 Ford Fiesta

The fun-to-drive 2011 Ford Fiesta goes on sale in North America this summer with 15 class-exclusive technologies and a fuel economy of 40 miles per gallon.



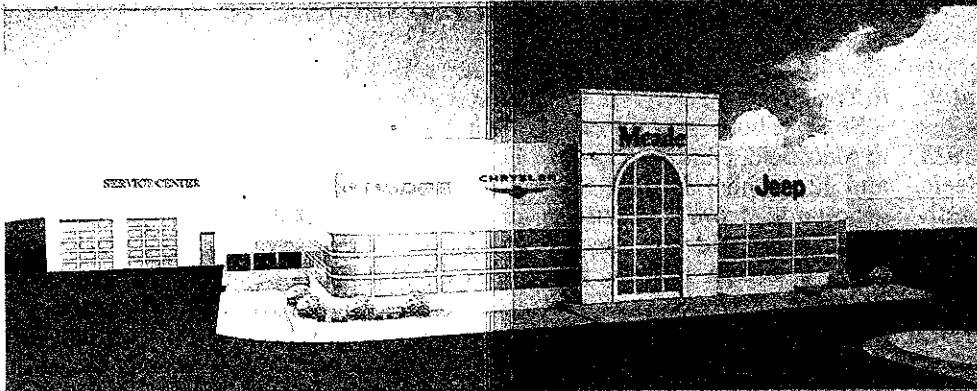
PHOTO COURTESY OF WIECK MEDIA

2010 Ford Mustang

The 2010 Mustang's lower, more-aggressive stance makes it seem ready to charge from the starting gate. The dropping fender line running into the belt-line kick-up and rear haunch give the impression the car squats down slightly in an aggressive stance.

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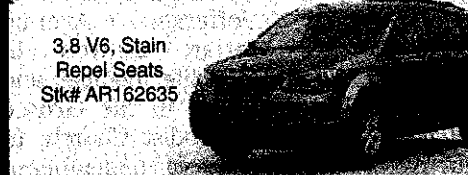
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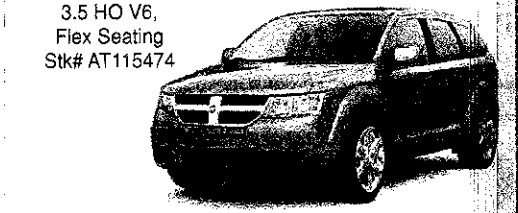
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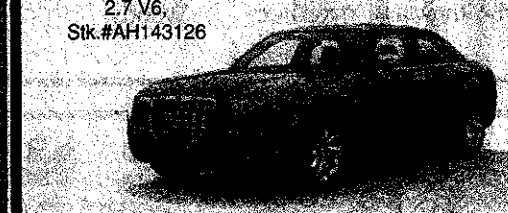
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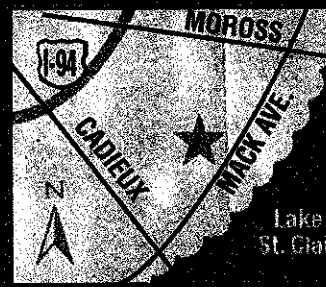


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AUTOS By Jenny King

The 2010 GMC Terrain is said to be crucial to GM's comeback. It is one of several new vehicles that move the company into the future.

New Terrain matches glowing reviews



When the 2010 Chevrolet Equinox and GMC Terrain mid-size crossover sport utility vehicles bowed a couple of months back, they garnered rave reviews.

Critics were pleased with almost every aspect of the redesigned SUVs — especially, given their sizes, their fuel economy ratings.

When the test vehicle, a 2010 GMC Terrain SLE-1 with front-wheel drive, arrived, we were skeptical. Could it really be that much better than earlier mid-size SUVs from GM?

We weren't in a position to test old and new side-by-side, but several days behind the wheel of the Terrain had us convinced this was a carefully thought-out entry in a crowded market segment.

We expected antilock brakes, Stabilitrak and traction control, head curtain side air bags and the obligatory tire pressure monitoring system. What we did not anticipate was the stylish interior, the pick up of the 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine, in excess of 26 miles per gallon in combined city/highway driving and a rearview camera system that was included — not as part of an option package.

The biggest surprise was the oft-feared bottom line, that is, the price. Including deliv-



The 2010 GMC Terrain reflects its SUV heritage with rugged lines and a muscular appearance. The interior is stylish and user-friendly. Welcome to one of the best rear seats on the market.



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

ery, that amounted to \$24,995. The increased application of 6-speed automatic transmissions, plus improved fuel injection, appear to be making a significant difference in the fuel economy of today's vehicles. GMC says the Terrain with the smaller 2.4-liter engine earned high fuel economy numbers as high as 32 mpg with the front-drive system and 29 mpg with the heavier all-wheel-drive system.

An optional 3.0-liter V-6 increases the horsepower to 264 from 172 horsepower for the 4-cylinder engine, but it beats up on those economy figures: up to 25 mpg highway with front drive and 24 mpg with all-wheel drive.

Even the reviewers who were generous with their praise of the 2010 Terrain and

the Chevy Equinox found fault with rear storage space.

As far as passenger room goes, we think the Terrain may be the best yet. Rear-seat passengers will enjoy extraordinary leg and foot room — head room, too.

GM also has often been berated for uninteresting or substandard interiors. The instrument panel in the GMC Terrain is concisely put together and even though the silvery accents are plastic, not brushed aluminum, the overall look is stylish and pleasing.

Our concern, rather than criticism, is the thickness of the roof pillars at the edge of the windshield and the outside mirrors beside them. Together they create huge blind spots. Drivers need to double- and triple-check to be certain there is not a pedestrian or cy-



clist temporarily behind the pillar and mirror.

The crossover SUV Terrain competes with vehicles such as the Ford Edge, Hyundai Santa Fe, Nissan Murano and Honda CR-V.

While its retro looks might hurt it in this sleeker compa-

ny, its other features should serve it well in the marketplace.

Terrain prices start at just above \$24,000 and run into the low \$30,000 range.

Features on upgraded models include steering wheel audio controls, heated leather seats,

18-inch aluminum wheels, power liftgate and sunroof. A rear-seat DVD entertainment system, a navigation system, a V-6 engine and all-wheel drive are options.

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

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6A II | AUTOMOTIVE

TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

The 2010 Pontiac Vibe is a carryover from 2009 as a 4-door, 5-passenger wagon style SUV big on room and easy to drive.

A final farewell: 2010 Pontiac Vibe AWD



In '89, after driving used cars most of my driving days, I bought a dealer demo '89 Bonneville, followed by the first car I ever ordered in my life, a beautiful '94 Trans Am LT1 6-speed that I still own.

This week, I'm writing my final Pontiac new-car test drive as I center on the only 2010 Pontiac model available to the public, notably the Pontiac Vibe — base price: \$20,275; price as tested: \$21,805.

The only other 2010 with a Pontiac badge is the G6, which is available only as a fleet sale and not to the buying public.

There's a good bit of melancholy driving the 2010 Vibe, as the General Motors' decree Pontiac would cease operation came before its bankruptcy reorganization and government intervention. Thus, even had GM not undergone change, Pontiac was still on the "out list" just as the Oldsmobile brand ceased production in 2004.

The Pontiac automobile, with a history that dates back to 1926, spurs numerous good memories in my life. It started in the 1950s with my uncle John's two-tone blue and silver 1951 Pontiac fastback, which featured a straight-8 engine.

My uncle Joe became one of the first owners on our block of the new 4-cylinder, rear transmission mounted, Pontiac Tempest in the early 1960s, while my first ownership came in 1968, when I owned for 60 days — thanks to a call from Uncle Sam — a '65 GTO convertible with a 389 Tri Power

As for my neighbors, they always drove Pontiacs, from Ventura to Star Chief to Bonneville. Two doors over, one of my best friends had a '61 Catalina 389 bubble top with a 333 horse engine.

On the nation's raceways, Pontiac was in the middle of many big wins, from the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing to the National Hot Rod Association to the more recent Rolex Grand Am.

Back to the Vibe, which is a great vehicle. Available in four distinct trims, the entry level front-drive 1.8L Vibe starts at \$16,100 and comes equipped with a standard 1.8-liter inline 4-cylinder that produces 132 horsepower and delivers 26 miles per gallon city and 32 mpg highway. A 5-speed manual transmission is standard, while a 4-speed automatic transmission with overdrive is optional.

The 2.4, AWD and GT models are equipped with a standard 2.4-liter inline-4 that develops 158 horsepower and achieves 21 mpg city and 28 mpg highway. Our AWD tester came with the automatic overdrive, the only transmission available in this model.

Vibe AWD is loaded with standard features, including all the amenities and powers, traction control, 4-Wheel Anti-Lock Brakes, four wheel disc brakes, StabiliTrak vehicle stability control, AM/FM/CD

stereo, air conditioning and much more.

On the safety side, driver and passenger two stage air bags, side head curtain air bags, seat mounted second row side air bags, seat mounted front side air bags with head protection, and OnStar with 12 months free all comes standard.

Our tester had two options, a \$150 stereo upgrade to include MP3 capabilities and 17-inch tires and machined bright aluminum wheels for \$545 more. The final tally came in at \$21,805 with \$635 destination, but there are many GM incentives currently in effect.

On the highway, Vibe will take you anywhere in comfort and security, as the more pow-



2010 Pontiac Vibe AWD

erful 2.4 engine is recommended for all types of driving.

Important numbers include a wheelbase of 102.4-inches, 3,284 pound curb weight, 13 gallon fuel tank, 20 cubic-feet of expandable cargo space and 5-Star government crash ratings.

If you want a Pontiac Vibe,

stop by your area GM dealer and they'll find you what is left. I found a top line GT that was sitting at dealer for only \$18,978 delivered. This is a great buy for a car with a 100,000 mile powertrain warranty.

You, too, might find a sweetheart of a deal, but hurry as

they'll be gone for good very soon.

Likes: Price, fuel economy, interior roominess, Toyota build quality.

Dislikes: The irony that Pontiac's final 2010 vehicle is made by Toyota.

Greg Zyla is a syndicated auto columnist.

TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

The 7-passenger 2009 Rondo EX

We recently drove Kia's 2009 Rondo EX, a vehicle we drove last year and were impressed, overall, with its versatility — base price: \$21,295; price as tested: \$24,390.

Rondo's exterior, although not one of the more impressive, modern styles on the road, is still pleasing and effi-

cient, while its 7-passenger interior scores high on the aforementioned versatility scale. Additionally, all Kia models offer affordable pricing and the



The last time we drove an EX, it came with a 2.7-liter V6 engine under the hood that delivered 182 horses on regular grade fuel with EPA numbers of 20 city and 26 highway. For 2009, the V6 puts out 192 horses, a nice jump considering highway miles per gallon stays the same at 26 while the city

now famous 10 year/100,000-mile powertrain warranty.

See '09 RONDO, page 7A II

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2009 Kia Rondo EX

'09 RONDO: Three rows of comfort

Continued from page 6A II

number drops by two, from 20 to 18.

Our 2009 Rondo, however, had the smaller and more fuel efficient 2.4-liter inline 4-cylinder under the hood, producing 175 horses. The mpg numbers are identical to 2008, with 20 city and 27 highway listed on the sheet. Noteworthy are Kia's technicians increasing the 4-cylinder's power by 13 horses versus 2008, yet keeping fuel mileage exactly the same as last year.

Since I've driven both models, I recommend testing the 4-cylinder first, and then deciding if the additional horses of the V6 are worth the additional price and less mpg averages. If you haul more people and cargo, than perhaps the V6 is the better choice.

Rondo's marketing department still wants consumers to study alternatives and comparisons, especially the fact its entry level "Base Rondo" starts at \$17,495. A mid-level LX is available and starts at \$18,495 for the 4-cylinder, while \$20,712 will put you in a 6-cylinder. As for transmissions,

4-cylinder models come with a 4-speed automatic while the 6-cylinder relies on a 5-speed automatic. I also wonder why the 5-speed automatic is not hooked to the 4-cylinder, as the gain in highway mpg would be substantial.

Front-drive Rondo features four wheel disc ABS electronic brake distribution, standard 17-inch tires on alloy wheels, electronic stability control and class-leading standard safety items including six air bags. Thus, it's no surprise Kia ends up with a five-star crash safety ratings in front driver and passenger crash tests from the National Highway Safety Administration. Underneath, a MacPherson front setup and multi-link rear suspension delivers a decent ride and surprising handling.

Our tester featured the standard third-row seat, and it is not of the "crunch and straddle" type so many of the smaller to mid-size crossovers and wagons offer. A generous cargo area, numerous cupholders and storage areas throughout allow for more enjoyable longer drives, although I will admit a third row "reservation" for a full-size adult may be overstating the vehicle's roominess on a longer drive. Cargo dimensions, meanwhile, drop to less than 7 cubic-feet of space with the third seat in the up position, yet ex-

pand to 31.7 when folded. Consumers will experience how well Kia addresses the word "standard equipment." The EX comes with all the powers, cruise, air, tilt steering, 6-speaker stereo CD system, 6-way power driver seat, second row 60/40 seat, keyless entry and numerous other features.

Our Rondo's option list included a \$2,400 premium package that adds power sunroof, Sirius satellite, MP3, 6-disc CD, Navigation and an upgraded Infinity Audio 315 watt stereo system. With a destination of \$695, our final tally came to \$24,390.

Important numbers include a wheelbase of 106.3-inches, curb weight of 3,399 pounds, 6.1-inch ground clearance, 15.8-gallon fuel tank and a turning circle of 35.4-feet.

Kia's Rondo EX receives an 8.0 on a scale of one to 10 as it's a great little wagon that is ready to transport you and your passengers in safety.

Check on dealer incentives as leftover 2009's will surely save you money at this time of the year.

Likes: Price, warranty, interior, build quality, easy to drive.

Dislikes: No AWD or manual transmission available, 5-speed automatic should be available with 4-cylinder.

Greg Zyla is a syndicated auto columnist.

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MSRP \$24,000	LEASE 36 MO. \$1999 DOWN	BUY 72 MO. \$1999 DOWN	SALE PRICE
CHRYSLER EMPLOYEE	\$178**	\$274	\$17,693*
GENERAL PUBLIC	\$217**	\$298**	\$19,188*

2010 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING

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CHRYSLER EMPLOYEE	\$269**	\$288	\$19,993*
GENERAL PUBLIC	\$324**	\$308**	\$21,948*

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MSRP \$23,036	LEASE 36 MO. \$1999 DOWN	BUY 72 MO. \$1999 DOWN	SALE PRICE
CHRYSLER EMPLOYEE	\$189**	\$292	\$18,342*
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Bucket Seats w/Adj Head Restraints, 5-Speed Auto W5A590 Transmission, 3.7 Liter V6 Engine, Customer Preferred Package 26E

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GENERAL PUBLIC	\$396**	\$369**	\$22,816*

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8A II | SCHOOLS

REVIEW:
A look back
on 2009

Continued from page 2A II

grade class, who will be first to use the space when it opens in fall 2010.

• Monteith Elementary School fourth-graders welcomed teachers, parents and even a few siblings to The Golden Fish — teacher James Fisher's classroom transformed into a Chinese restaurant, complete with authentic decor, festive table settings and homemade recipes. The fifth annual luncheon turned students into waiters and waitresses, cashiers and hosts and cooks and salad makers, all while serving up a spoonful of knowledge that integrated Grosse Pointe schools' learning benchmarks.

The restaurant experience incorporates math, economics and social skills.

• Helen Lengel's fifth-grade class at Trombly Elementary School reenacted the historic Boston Tea Party at Windmill Pointe Park. Dressed as figures from the past, such as John and Abigail Adams, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, they unloaded grass clippings from several pillowcases into the lake in quiet protest. Lengel said the activity helped bring history to life.

• TV production programs at North and South were recognized by several state contests for individual and group projects: the Michigan Student Film and Video competition, sponsored by the Digital Arts Film and Television organization; the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association; and the Meijer Healthy Choices Public Service Announcement contest.

• St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School began a \$4.5 million renovation project.

The first phase of the transformation at the pre-K through 8 campus, which was completed in the fall, focused on school-wide security: fire alarms, fire suppression and control entryways.

The lobby and offices were updated to create a reception



FILE PHOTOS

Left: South JV football player Matt Barnes calls out to fans arriving at the rival North-South game to purchase programs.

seat open on the November ballot, next to the four-year terms occupied by Alice Kosinski and Joan Dindoffer.

Following a six-candidate forum, the board appointed Karl Kratz as Ismail's successor to serve until Dec. 31, 2009. The balance of Ismail's three-year term begins Jan. 1, 2010. Cindy Pangborn was elected in November to that role, narrowly defeating Kratz.

• The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education paid yet another visit to the district, bringing with it a check to fund three school programs. At the middle school level, \$16,650 was donated to purchase specialized lab equipment for a new conceptual physics class.

At the request of middle schools, the homework clubs at all three buildings were funded.

The grant of \$6,300 — \$2,100 for each school — allows for the activity to run after school twice a week from September through May. The program, staffed by middle school teachers and high school student volunteers, helps increase homework completion and academic

niors met or exceeded state standards in math, up from 68 percent last year. Students garnered a score of 76.9 percent in reading, 70 percent in science, 91.9 percent in social studies and 62.1 percent in writing, all which dipped slightly from 2008.

AUGUST

• The board extended its relationship with food service company, Sodexo, Inc., by voting to renew the company's contract for one year with a four additional year option.

The contract includes food cost, labor, benefits, an on-site manager, administrative costs, management fee and non-food costs. The company is guaranteeing a \$60,196 return to the district next year. Last year, it was able to return \$100,000 because of higher student enrollment.

• GPPSS officials put the finishing touches on the classroom at Barnes Early Childhood Center that will house the district's first-ever preschool. Director Jill Flaherty prepped the play-based program for 2-and-a-half- to 5-year-olds with assistant direc-

conference at Clarkston High School. She was joined by 10 of the district's elementary and middle school teachers, who provided panel discussions, hands-on sessions and the opportunity for one-on-one dialogues on the practices of Differentiated Instruction.

The approach of meeting each student where they are has long been a looked-to standard in the district.

SEPTEMBER

• Along with new teachers, textbooks and trivia, Liggett middle and high schoolers greeted the first full week of class with a switched-up schedule.

The innovative routine puts students at their desks 15 minutes earlier each morning, but never for the same subject. Students begin the school day with core classes first, followed by a morning break designed not only to grow community, but give students a break from academics. At the upper school, it's an assembly or class meeting. At the middle school, it may be for snacks.

In the afternoon, the break at the middle school is an advisory period that differs daily from social sessions across all grades to class discussions. At the upper school, it's lunch.

Officials say the benefits include a rotation of classes so students aren't in the same class at the same time each day.

• The district implemented Delayed Start Mondays, a new tool staff will use throughout the year to share lesson plans and ideas, work together on new instructional methods and review learning data.

For the current school year, teachers arrive early each Monday morning for a 45-minute collaboration period, pushing the start of class time back by 15 minutes. The professional meetings — held across grade levels — give staff the opportunity to discuss effective teaching methods. Both the high schools and the middle schools have already adopted the model.

OCTOBER

• The Grosse Pointe Academy celebrated 40 years. As a special surprise, academy students in grades 1-8 participated in a Congé, a tradition dating back to Academy of the Sacred Heart days, when the ringing of a bell signaled a surprise dismissal from classes.

Head of School Phil Demartini rang a bell up and down the hallways and students, faculty and staff congregated in the Tracy Fieldhouse for a special "Then and Now" presentation, which concluded with a traditional song, "Donne, Donne-Nous un Beau Jour" ("Give Us a Beautiful Day") and a special recognition of music teacher Marion Chrisner for 40 years at the academy.

Chrisner, now in her 41st year, is the only teacher still on staff since the beginning.

Alumni, parents, teachers, administrators and trustees from the school's past and present gathered Oct. 2, for an evening reception to celebrate the milestone.

• Inklings, a collection of student poetry, essays and artwork from Pierce Middle School, was awarded the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's Gold Medalist Award for its

2009 issue.

The annual literary publication was put together with the theme "Life's Play List." Each section was organized under a song title, such as "Imagine" and "I LOVE."

• The state legislature's decision to cut public school funding by \$165 per student meant a loss of nearly \$1.4 million for Grosse Pointe schools.

District officials are still struggling to make amendments to the 2009-10 fiscal year budget to offset the unanticipated shortfall from Lansing Gov. Jennifer Granholm, in approving the state's K-12 budget, used a line-item veto to cut \$54 million of 20J funding from Michigan's hold harmless districts, which includes GPPSS. The district may have to rely on its fund equity for the current fiscal year's efforts.

NOVEMBER

• Voters elected to renew two operating millages, which together make up 25 percent of the district's funding.

One proposal called for the continuation of the operating millage, which encompasses the hold harmless millage and the non-homestead millage.

tor would most likely dress up for Halloween — to comments, Twitter updates and game scores.

• Parcels Middle School put on a musical parody of the age-old Shakespearean love story with "Jitterbug Juliet."

The production, which included 57 cast members and another 30 involved with lighting, sound and stage management, had the audience chuckling and tapping a foot to the upbeat swing dancing.

• More than 300 sewn-together fabric squares, decorated by kindergarten through fifth-grade students from Maire Elementary School, joined parallel patches from children across the globe in a thousands-wide Climate Quilt.

The international project, aimed at raising environmental awareness among Earth's youngest dwellers, was presented to world leaders in Copenhagen at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in December.

Maire students designed pledge patches made from colorful recycled fabric on which they promised to plant a tree and protect endangered ani-



FILE PHOTO

Trombly Elementary School students Krystal Sablowski and Caitlin Kyle — Abigail Adams and Betsy Ross — take part in the reenactment of the Boston Tea Party at Windmill Pointe.

The other was for the continuation of the sinking fund millage, which generates approximately \$3 million per year, depending on the rise and fall of total taxable value in the district. The fund is solely for building improvements and repairs.

According to school officials, the five-year operating millage accounts for 23 percent of the school system's general fund operating budget — or about \$22 million.

• In the school board election, incumbent Joan Dindoffer and newcomer Tom Jakubiec took the two, four-year seats on the board, while Cindy Pangborn beat out challenger Karl Kratz for the three-year term, which ends Dec. 31, 2012.

Dindoffer begins her 12th year on the school board.

• North launched an innovative website — courtesy of its student-run newspaper, North Pointe — designed to not only feature an online version of the biweekly publication, but also spotlight what doesn't make it onto the pages.

Online exclusives at myGPN.org range from packed photo galleries and polls — the latest asking which administra-

tionals. With their pledge, children incorporated a drawing or picture with fabric markers and cloth scraps, from polar bears and pandas to fields of flowers and birds in a tree.

• Pierce Middle School students had audience members smiling and wiping away tears as they performed the beloved children's tale, "The Velveteen Rabbit."

The 10-member crew and 24-member cast wove together the story of the small stuffed rabbit, found Christmas morning tucked inside a little boy's stocking, and his journey from the passed-over toy cupboard to daily adventures and nighttime chats with the child.

DECEMBER

• The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education donated a gift of \$25,000 from the Dryer Foundation in support of the F.A.S.T. Reading Program.

F.A.S.T. — Foundations of Analysis Synthesis Translations — teaches students with learning differences to read through intensive phonics, fluency and comprehension instruction.

On average, a student gains more than two grade levels in reading in as little as eight weeks of program participation.



FILE PHOTO

Students stayed busy in the summer with camps, such as Camp Invention. Here, inside the Viking Treasure Room, children demonstrate how the wind was another way other than oars to help the Viking ships sail across the Atlantic Ocean — in this case, a blow up pool.

area. An elevator was added and the heating system upgraded. Also part of the first phase was the creation of a soccer field on the current playground.

Next summer, work begins on the 29 classrooms, nine of which are located in the building added on in 1963. Each will receive new windows and blinds, upgraded heating and ventilation, new carpet and chalkboards and SMART Board interactive white boards.

• After a tumultuous year of cutbacks, community clamor, layoffs and late-into-the-night meetings, the 2009-10 budget for the Grosse Pointe Public School System is approved.

Board trustees approved the \$123 million financial plan June 22, acknowledging, though, the work is not over as planning begins right away on the 2010-11 school year budget.

Officials struggled for months with a \$5.5 million shortfall, due to declining enrollment and the growing cost of employee health care and retirement costs.

JULY

• Trustee Ahmed Ismail announced his resignation from the board, citing medical issues. His departure left a third

success, particularly in math.

The final gift was put toward a struggling learner summer transition camp for high school students.

The transition experience, held in August for incoming ninth graders, is an extension of the Freshman Academic Success Team developed at North in the 2007-08 school year. The camp focuses on academic preparation, study and organizational skills and relationship building.

• Grosse Pointe high school students soared well above state averages in all academic areas on three-year-old Michigan Merit Exam. The MME replaced the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and was administered to 11th-graders this past spring.

At Grosse Pointe South, 74.4 percent of juniors met or exceeded state standards in writing, up from 71 percent in 2008, while 83.8 percent did so in reading and another 83 percent in science, both down slightly from last year.

Seventy-six percent proved proficient in math, as did 95 percent in social studies; scores that also decreased slightly.

At North, 70.6 percent of ju-

tor Lindsay Poole.

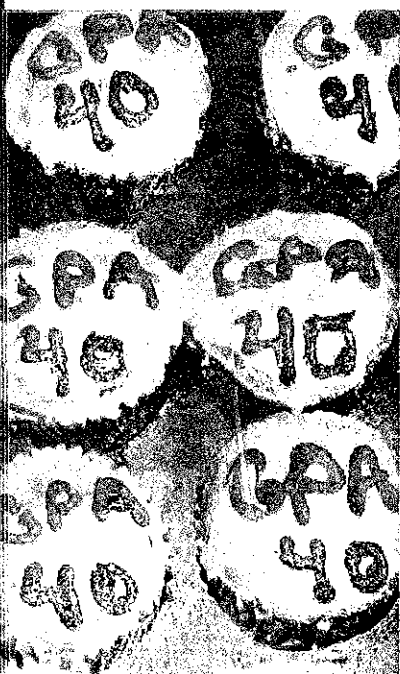
Several hands-on "centers" keep children engaged throughout the day and include concentration on listening, fine and gross motor skills, math, science, art, housekeeping, books, computers and a sand and water center for sensory skills. Music is also incorporated throughout the day.

The staff of six provides structured games and dramatic play, as well as time inside the gym and outdoors on the playground.

• Liggett partnered with the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, using the historic grounds for classwork and hands-on geological learning.

Students visited the property last spring to help clean up litter washed up along the shoreline, and picked garlic mustard, an invasive species they learned can be troublesome to the property and, if not caught, throughout the Pointes. Classes will sample water and measure erosion to the lake.

• Susan Allan, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, was keynote speaker at the Michigan Association for the Supervision and Curriculum Development



FILE PHOTOS

Two- and a half-year-old Sam Craparotta enjoys a cupcake at the Grosse Pointe Academy's 40th anniversary celebration.

FEATURES

ENTERTAINMENT

New Year's Eve fare
Annie's recipe complements
the champagne toast **PAGE 6B**

2B HEALTH | 3B FACES & PLACES | 4B SENIORS | 6B ENTERTAINMENT

When Michigan snowbirds fly south this winter, a visit to **J & R. Vintage Auto Museum** in New Mexico is well worth a stopover. Filled with 70 Fords, Reos and Packards, it feel just like home.

A desert jewel



By Jenny King
Special Writer

Attention snowbirds — especially those who travel to the sunny southwest to escape Michigan's gray, cold winter months.

New Mexicans' Evonna and Gab Joiner have a delightful automotive surprise awaiting you about 10 minutes north of Albuquerque, and a few miles west of I-25.

The couple has collected, restored to perfection, driven everywhere and put on display an amazing variety of special cars and trucks.

Their 80-some vehicles are in or around the J & R Vintage Auto Museum in Rio Rancho's former ranching country that's now being developed for casino fanciers and shoppers.

The Joiners' passion has been vehicles. Their automotive family includes the ratty 1918 Ford Model T pickup that Gab Joiner bought for \$45 in 1959. The "truck" was originally a touring car, the owners say.

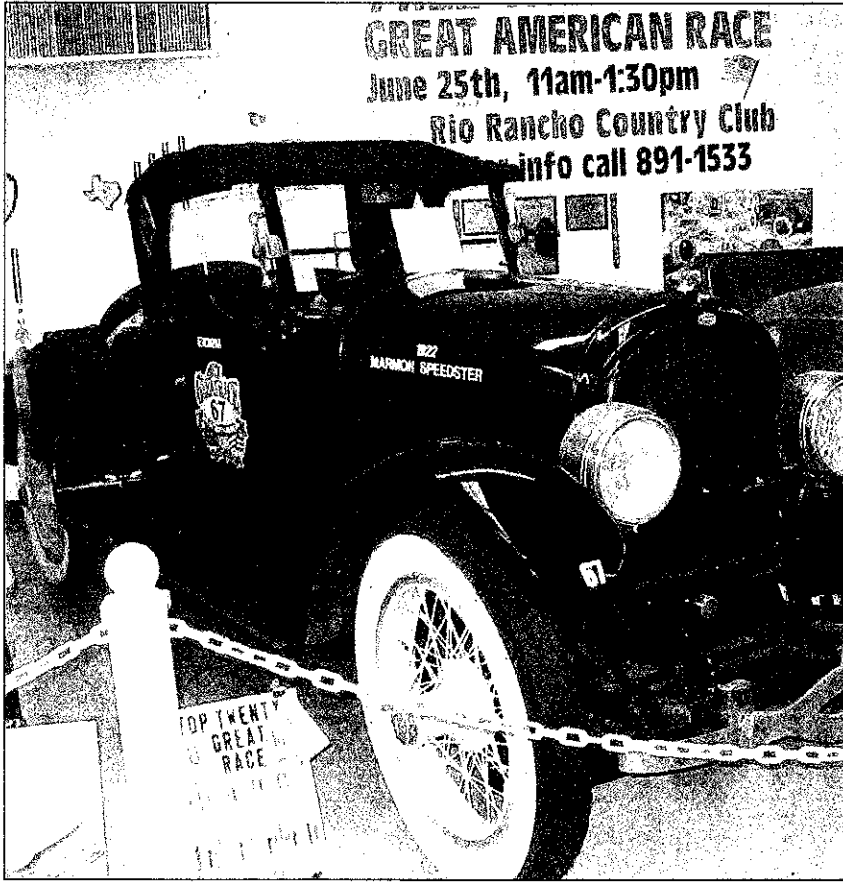
It is surrounded in the museum by the likes of four Marmons, some very unusual light and medium-duty trucks, a two-tone 1931 Reo Royale, a Rickenbacker and a Peerless from the 1920s. They also have what they say is the only surviving 1948 Ford convertible custom-built for work in the Sleeping Bear Dunes Scenic Rides 10-vehicle fleet near Glen Lake, Mich.

The Joiners were deeply involved in collectible cars for 30 years when Evonna and her friend, Melba Anderson, signed up to drive in their first cross-country, west-to-east rally. While they had to drop out, they completed a second attempt in 1988, making the "Golden Girls" the first female team to finish the Great Race. They polished off the two-week, 4,700-mile course from Disneyland to Boston in a 1931 Ford Model A cabriolet.

Their husbands, who had manned the required support vehicle, switched roles and drove a 1931 Reo Speedwagon in 1989, while Melba and Evonna followed them in a modern car, Evonna says. Typically race vehicles are trailered to the starting point, and often trailered home after the race.

"We did better than the guys in our first race," said Evonna. The Ford and Reo are among 12 vehicles in the collection that have competed in races. The 1917 Marmon was the top winner in the 1995 Great American Race. It, and other athletic competitors such as the 1932 Hupmobile and the 1931 Packard with rumble seat and lime-green wheels, look new and could almost be mistaken for trailer princesses.

Gab, with experienced assistants in a large shop attached to the museum, continues to restore vehicles. He is especially fond of trucks, Evonna says, and managed to add an unusual Buffalo, New York-built 1935 Buddy Stewart half-ton and a 1923 chain-driven Mack to his automotive family.



There are two fold-down outside jumpseats available to courageous passengers of this 1922 aluminum bodied Marmon Speedster with its 80 horsepower six with three-speed transmission. Marmons moved to extensive use of aluminum by 1916.

The Joiners like to put their vehicles on the road. That was true 50 years ago, when they began using the 1918 Model T pickup. Beginning in 1990, the husband-wife team has driven together in Great Races in a 1931 Ford Model A roadster; 1932 Packard cabriolet; 1932 Hupmobile, for two years; 1917 Marmon, for four years; and a 1934 Ford roadster.

They took the 1932 Packard in the 2009 Great Race from Tacoma, Wash., to Haverhill, Mass.

The Great Race is a street-legally on public highways.

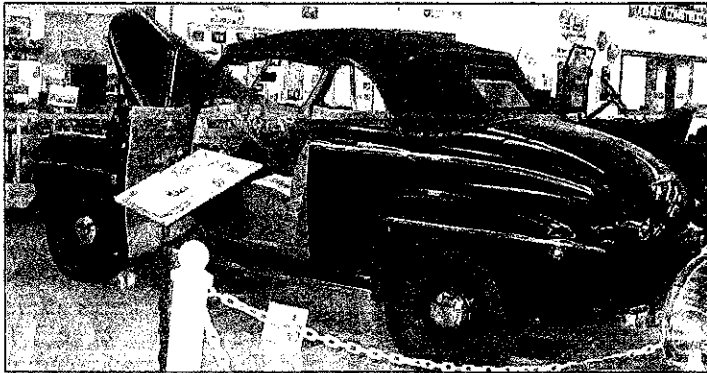
Vehicles must attain highway speeds and have 12-volt electrical systems, turn signals, modern brakes and overdrive, Evonna says.

"The speedometer and clock are all you have."

In addition to the precision that rallying demands and the fun of driving antique vehicles long distances, the Joiners enjoy the camaraderie of touring.

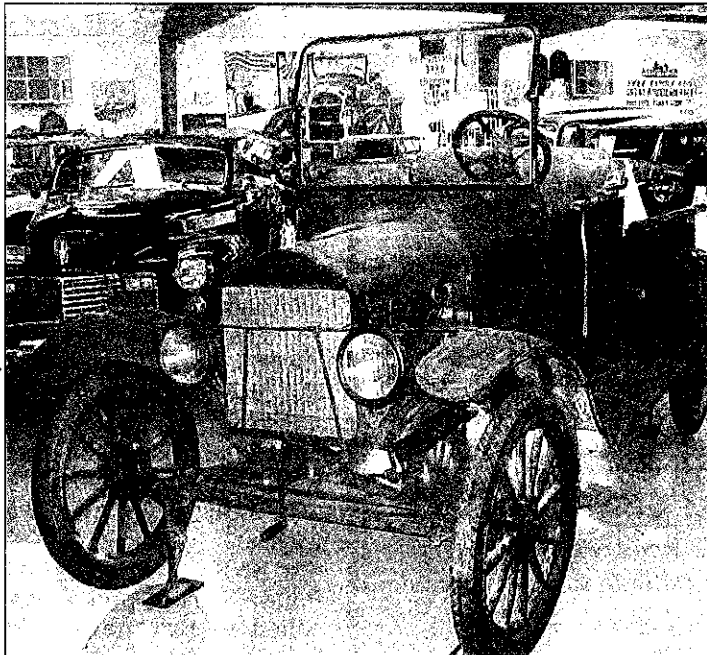
"We've made everlasting friends on tours and in races," Evonna said.

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

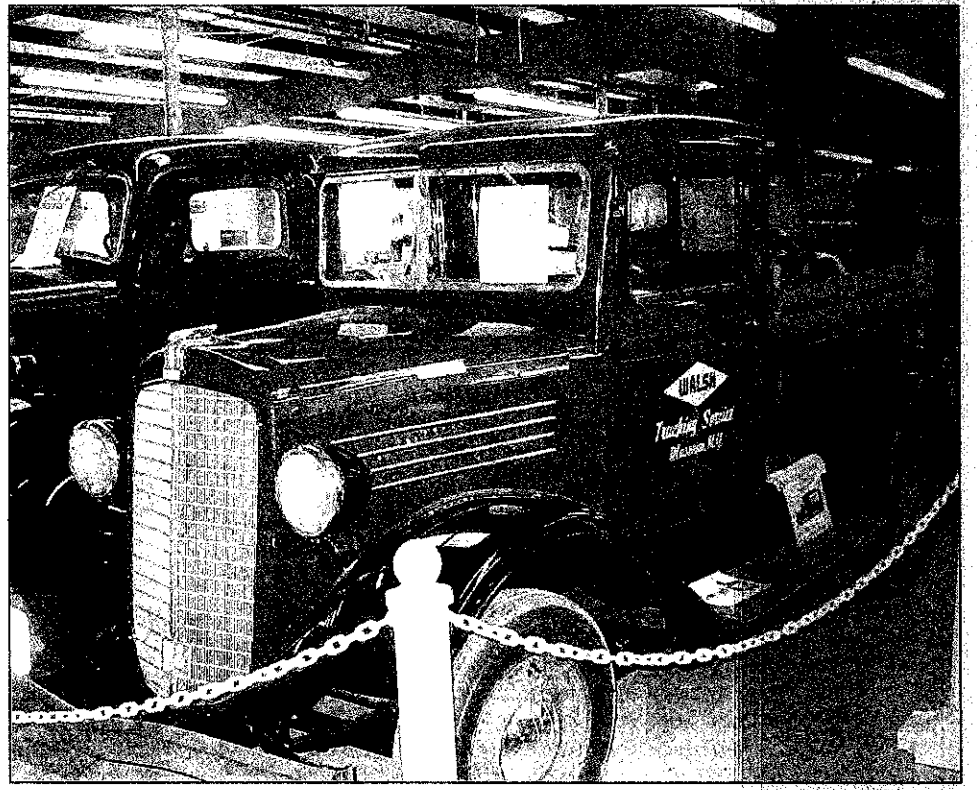
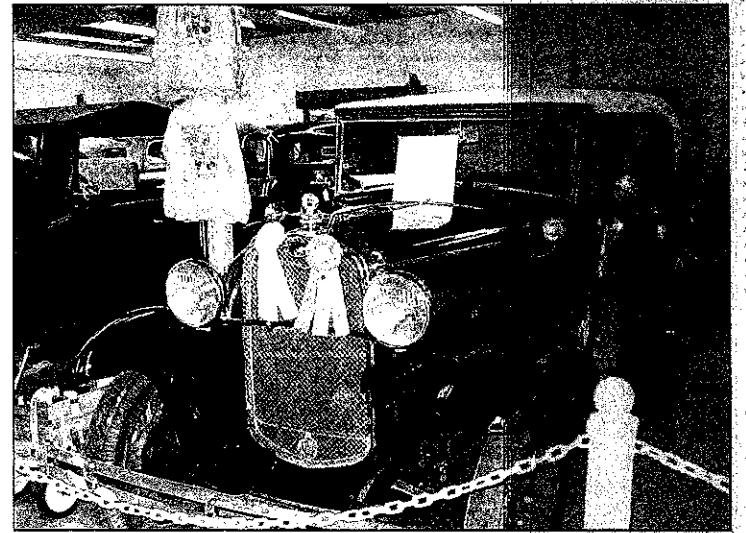


PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

This 1948 Ford convertible was one of 10 built for the Sleeping Bear Dunes Scenic Rides near Glen Lake, Mich. The V-8 Super Deluxe has special springs. The Joiners did a body-off restoration of this last remaining early dune buggy from the Ford fleet.



Gab Joiner put out \$45 for this 1918 Ford Model T pickup which, though it doesn't look like it, still runs. It was his second collectible vehicle.



Buffalo, N.Y., was the birthplace of this 1935 Buddy Stewart half-ton pickup with its modest 40 horsepower four under the hood. The unusual truck may be worth \$125,000 today.

Top, Evonna Joiner and Melba Anderson drove this 1931 Ford Model A 4,700 miles in 1988 and were the first female team to complete a Great Race event. Joiner says as novices they were lax in keeping track of important information on the speedometer and clock.

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Shopping Reviews

Puts you in the know...
for where to go for this week's
hottest specials, products & service.

by Sally

It's the time of year to reflect back on what has been and look forward to what is to come. My wish for each of you, my readers and advertisers, is that your hearts would find joy, rest and fulfillment as you ponder those things in stillness. I am grateful for each of you. The fullest blessings to you this holiday season and into the New Year.

Sally A. Schuman

DALEO'S

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Christmas and ring you right into the New Year with these specials!!

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- Women's haircuts \$10 off (normally \$45, now only \$35!)
- Bikini wax \$10 off regular price of \$35, now only \$25!!

You'll be looking great for the holidays and be merrier than Santa with these savings!

Call 313-882-2828 to make an appointment, but walk-ins are always welcomed. 1929 Vernier at the SW corner of Mack in the Woods.

* * *

La Belle

Antiques Etc.

Merry Christmas from Dawn LaBelle-Kaake and all her vendors! LaBelle's will be closed on Christmas day and will reopen Tuesday, January 5th, while the gang is roasting chestnuts on an open fire and Jack Frost is nipping at their noses. But they'll be back to ring in a new year of beautiful antiques and collectibles ... all at affordable prices! Have a happy New Year! www.labelleantiques.com.

* * *

Just for the holidays, give the gift of Ahhhh and get some for yourself. Jennifer O'Shea, massage therapist, has put together the perfect holiday gift package. Purchase a gift-pack of 3 One-Hour Massages for someone you love (or just like a lot!) at her regular price

of \$55 per hour and receive the 4th one FREE for yourself. Ho, Ho, How perfect!! Also, mention this Shopping Review and receive \$10 off a 90-minute massage (regularly \$75, you'll get it for only \$65!) You've been reading about Jennifer's experience and results oriented massage - now is the time for you to experience it. Call 313-506-4019 for your gift card, gift package or just for yourself!

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ASK THE EXPERTS By Marcus DeGrew, M.D.

Must have items for every parents' medicine cabinet



Many parents know the frustration of having a sick or injured child and not knowing what treatment to give to alleviate the child's symptoms. Adding to their frustration is a frightening array of choices filling the shelves at any drugstore or grocery store.

According to Marcus DeGrew, MD, a board certified pediatrician at the St. John Children's Center, each family should have a well-stocked first-aid supply that doesn't include unnecessary supplies.

Q. What medications should I have on hand?
A. You should always have the following readily available in your medicine cabinet:

- ◆ Pain relievers — acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Motrin or Advil). Ibuprofen should only be used if the child is more than six

months old.

- ◆ Skin creams including one percent hydrocortisone for itchy rashes and antibiotic ointments for cuts and scrapes.

- ◆ Rehydration fluids for illnesses with vomiting or diarrhea (Pedialyte).

- ◆ Extra prescription medicines (especially if your child has a chronic disease like asthma).

- ◆ Cold medicines — most children need only a decongestant and a cough suppressant.

- ◆ Benadryl — use for allergic reactions or nasal allergies, but only for children one year and older, unless directed by a doctor.

- ◆ Teething gel for infants — use in small amounts.

Q. What about supplies like Q. gauze or plastic gloves? Do I need to have those?

A. I recommend having sterile gauze, medical tape and bandages of all sizes on hand for common cuts and scrapes. You should also have alcohol wipes, hydrogen peroxide and basic soap for basic cleaning of cuts and wounds — as well as plastic gloves for attending to wounds with blood.

Other items that come in handy include:

- ◆ Thermometer for fevers (preferably one that can be used orally and is digital).

- ◆ Sharp scissors to cut dressings for wounds.

- ◆ Tweezers to remove splinters or foreign objects from skin.

- ◆ Instant cold packs for bumps and bruises and sprained ankles.

- ◆ Emergency contact numbers and the number for poison control (800) 222-1222.

- ◆ Physician's phone number and directions to nearest emergency room.

If you are vacationing within the state or country this summer, you may also want to pack a first aid bag with these supplies and medications to have on hand.

Q. Are there any common medications that I should avoid giving my children?

A. First is laxatives — not to be used in children unless directed by a physician.

Likewise, anti-diarrhea medicines — ask a doctor first.

Lastly, syrup of Ipecac — once universally recommended for accidental poisonings, now avoid and call poison control instead.

Dr. DeGrew is one of the pediatricians at St. John Children's Center and medical director of Pediatric Subspecialty Services at St. John Hospital and Medical Center. More information is available at stjohn.org/StJohnHospital/Specialties/Pediatrics/. Call Health Connect at 866-501-DOCS to find a family doctor in your area.

In addition to general pediatricians, the St. John Children's Center has specialists in the areas of infectious disease, endocrinology, cardiology, pediatric surgery, gastroenterology, neurology, nephrology, behavioral medicine, and pediatric hematology/oncology.

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, or write 20090 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

X-TRA SPECIAL ADVICE By Mary Beth Langan and Theodore G. Coutlisch

Special auctions benefit special people



If you are looking for ways to help those with special needs, look no further than Southeastern Michigan in 2010.

Eastern Michigan University's Department of Special Education in the College of Education hosts an "Everyone is Extraordinary" auction from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at EMU's student center.

Event proceeds help create an endowed scholarship to

provide future special needs students the opportunity to enroll at EMU. More than 300 community members are expected to attend. WXYZ-TV Channel 7 weekend news anchor Vic Faust is master of ceremonies.

The cost is \$30 or \$50 per couple. It includes a live and silent auction, heavy appetizers, soft drinks, cash bar for beer and wine, vendors and one-of-a-kind auction items, such as a Detroit Public Television Kids Club package.

Visit emich.edu/specialneed to RSVP or for more information.

On Saturday, July 24, the Fragile X Association of Michigan is hosting an auction as part of The National Fragile

X Foundation's 12th International Fragile X Conference at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn. This conference takes place every two years, bringing together families affected by Fragile X-associated disorders with the world's leading researchers, educators, therapists and other professionals involved in the world of Fragile X and autism. Nearly 1,000 people from around the globe, including many from Michigan, are expected to listen to 150 speakers presenting in 120 sessions.

Since both organizations are encouraging auction participants to spend locally, they are relying on local businesses to support both auctions. A donated item or gift certificate

may create a new regular customer for your organization and new happy customers generate enthusiastic referrals.

If interested in an event sponsorship or donating to the event, call Ted Coutlisch at (734) 487-6981 or e-mail tcoutlisch@emich.edu.

Giving or attending are great ways to show you care.

Indeed, everyone is extraordinary.

Grosse Pointe residents Theodore G. Coutlisch and Mary Beth Langan created this column to share experiences from their journey as parents of a child with Fragile X syndrome [fragilex.org]. Send your questions or comments to mblangan@hotmail.com.

Yesterday's Heads

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

1984

25 years ago this week

- ◆ CITY PREPARES FOR BIDS: Grosse Pointe City

Council got the ball rolling at a recent meeting for merchants who want to sell liquor by the glass by adopting licensing criteria and licensing fee schedules.

Under state law, the City is entitled to issue a total of four licenses, either Tavern (beer and wine) or Class C (liquor). Adopting these resolutions comes on the heels of last month's election when 1,877 of 4,829 registered voters decided to end a 50-year ban on liquor.

students were boasting about a knife they had.

2004

Five years ago this week

- ◆ OFFICER HURT IN SCUFFLE: A Grosse Pointe City public safety lieutenant was injured during a scuffle early in the morning after responding to a complaint of a loud party at a Rivard Road home.

The officer suffered broken ribs in the incident. A 20-year-old City resident was scheduled for preliminary examination in Municipal Court on charges of resisting or obstructing a police officer while preserving the peace. The charge is a felony.

- ◆ DISPUTE SETTLED: A second lawsuit by Grosse Pointe Woods over a proposed office building at the Milk River pumping station was averted last week when the parties involved agreed to take another look at the plans.

What galled city officials was the skyrocketing construction costs for an office building first estimated at \$14,000 and rose to between \$120,000 and \$187,000 in two years.

The Wayne County drainage board accepted the \$120,000 bid, but decided to meet with Woods engineers in an attempt to revise the building plans.

— Compiled by K. Fontanive

1999

10 years ago this week

- ◆ HOLIDAY BOMB SCARE: State police rushed to a Grosse Pointe Park home on Christmas Eve to check out what they thought might be a terrorist bomb dressed up like a Yuletide gift.

Unable to determine the contents of the suspicious package mailed from Europe, the officers played it safe and blew it up.

Instead of a mail bomb, it turned out to be a box of old-world Christmas candy sent to a local family by a well-wisher.

- ◆ KNIFE FOUND: Grosse Pointe Farms police were called to Brownell Middle School by school officials after a knife was found in one of the students' lockers. The incident began when a student anonymously informed the school staff that a couple of



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AREA ACTIVITIES

Detroit Historical Museum

"Catch the Wind: The Epic Story of the Wolverine Sports Club" is shown at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 9 and 10, at the Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward, Detroit.

The sports club began as the Wolverine Wheelmen in 1888 and was based in Detroit before becoming a casualty of the Great Depression.

The film is 98 minutes long. Visitors get in free from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Sunday, Jan. 3. The museum is closed Friday, Dec. 25 and Friday, Jan. 1.

The museum is open 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays; and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays.

For more information, call (313) 833-7979. Adult admission is \$6; seniors, college students with a valid ID and youth, 5 to 18 pay \$4.

Beaumont

◆ Eight-week sessions of the Better Bones workout are from 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 4 to 5:30 p.m. Fridays; and 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays beginning Monday, Jan. 4, at Beaumont Bon Brae Center, 22300 Bon Brae, St. Clair Shores.

The workout begins with a five minute fitness assessment. Each workout is a step toward strengthening muscles and improving bone density using Nautilus machines and cardio equipment. At the end of the session, another five minute assessment documents overall improvements. Personal trainers lead the flexible schedule sessions.

◆ An eight week zumba gold class is from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. Mondays, beginning Jan. 4, at The Beaumont Bon Brae Center.

Instructor Linda Caul guides the workout that combines exercise with dance.

To register for either class, call Beaumont Physician Referral at (800) 637-7377.

Grosse Pointe Rotary

Grosse Pointe Rotary Club meets from noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. District 9550 governor Allan Church is the speaker.

Auto show

Tickets are available for the 18th annual AutoGlow for the 2010 North American International Auto Show Charity Preview Friday, Jan. 15. The event benefits The Children's Center.

The Westin Book Cadillac Hotel is the setting for the after-glow event and the Ford Motor Company, Caesars Windsor, Team Detroit, DENSO and the Dow Chemical Company are presenting sponsors. Event co-chairmen and women are Lisa and Bill Ford and Nicki and Alan Mulally.

The pre-reception is from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., with continuous private shuttles to Cobo Center for the charity preview and back to the Book Cadillac where AutoGlow continues from 8 p.m. to midnight. Guests receive valet service, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and entertainment before departing, followed by a strolling dinner, desserts, open bar, dancing and entertainment. The mistress of ceremonies is WDIV anchor Carmen Harlan.

Tickets are \$225 per person. Only charity preview ticket holders can attend.

For sponsorship information, call (313) 262-1170. For AutoGlow tickets, visit auto glow.org or call (313) 262-1220. Charity preview tickets are



The film, "Catch the Wind: The Epic Story of the Wolverine Sports Club" is shown at the Detroit Historical Museum Jan. 9 and 10. The 98-minute film discusses the sports club which began as the Wolverine Wheelmen in 1888.

available by calling 888-838-2010 or visiting charity preview.com.

Grosse Pointe Art Center

The Grosse Pointe Art Center hosts its third annual Urban Edge Exhibit Jan. 22 through March 6 in the gallery, 16900 Kerchervall, City of Grosse Pointe.

This exhibit allows artists to showcase their personal expressions of the complexities of urban life in the medium of their choice.

Artists from the tri-county area, as selected by juror Taurus Burns, are featured.

Burns moved to Detroit in 1998 to study painting at the College for Creative Studies. Since graduating with high honors in 2002, he has exhibited regularly and has been an active figure in the Detroit art scene. Burns has been involved in several public art projects, including Tiger Town and the Detroit Festival of the Arts "Street Painting" Exhibitions. He was listed as one of the "Best Local Artists to Collect" in the 2007 Best of Detroit issue of Hour Magazine. In September

2009, Burns curated a show of local urban landscape paintings at the Cass Café.

Artists may submit entries Jan. 13 through 16. Call for entry information can be found on the center's website, grossepointeartcenter.org, or by visiting the gallery.

For more information, call (313) 821-1848 or e-mail gpaa@grossepointeartcenter.org.

Woodwind Quintet with flutist Laurie Strachan, oboist Michelle Kauffold, clarinetist Darren Rich, bassoonist Bill Hulsker and Doug Water on the French horn.

Tickets cost \$12 and are available at the door; those 18 and under are admitted free.

For more information, call (586) 771-4387 or visit gpchambermusic@yahoo.com.

Chamber music

Grosse Pointe Chamber Music Concert begins at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, in the Crystal Ballroom at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Selections are presented by the Grosse Pointe Symphony

Arts & Scraps

Scrap Junction is a new program at Arts & Scraps, 16326 Harper, Detroit, for adults and children to play and learn from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. The cost is \$3 per person.

For more information, call (313) 881-9522.

Theatre offers acting, playwriting classes

Grosse Pointe Theatre offers three adult theater classes in January.

Two acting classes and one class on playwriting are at the theater's rehearsal facility, 315 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe. Call (313) 881-4004 to register.

The playwriting class begins at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 18. Playwright Kim Carney instructs and mentors students on the fundamentals of dramatic structure, character creation and plot development and assists them in writing their own short plays. Each student's piece will be read aloud and discussed as it progresses.

Fees are \$75 for GPT members and \$100 for non-members. This class is limited to the first 10 registrants.

A 10-week class in the second level of the GPT Actors Studio concept begins at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 19. The class features advanced duo scene development, resulting in a final performance for an audience on the last night of class.

Members pay \$75 and non-members pay \$100. This class is limited to the first 12 registrants.

The theater offers three theater classes in January, two acting classes and a class on playwriting.

A six-week class for both beginners and experienced actors entitled, "See, You can Act! An Actors Studio Intro" are from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Mondays, beginning Jan. 25.

The fee is \$60 for theater members and \$85 for non-members. The class is limited to the first 12 registrants and features video feedback with each student receiving a DVD of their exercises and a private one hour one-on-one analysis.

Acting classes are taught by Harry Burkey, who has experience both on stage and before the camera. He will demonstrate everyone is capable of acting and the benefits of continuing education for established actors.

Highlights of the classes include:

- ◆ Proof anyone can act
- ◆ Character and scene study
- ◆ Video feedback
- ◆ Stage and film adaptation
- ◆ Actors Studio techniques
- ◆ Some technical aspects of performance.

Theatre membership is open to those more than 18 years old. Dues are \$30 annually. Class capacity is limited. Call the GPT ticket line at (313) 881-4004 to register.

For more information, call Burkey at (313) 885-1393, (313) 407-6225, or via e-mail at GPTEducation@aol.com.

NEW ARRIVALS

Lorelei Llyn Myers

Elizabeth Weyhing Myers and Jason William Myers of Pittsburgh, Pa., are the parents of a daughter, Lorelei Llyn Myers, born Nov. 12, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Dr. Burt Thomas Weyhing III and Andrea Egan Weyhing of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Drs. William and Barbara Myers of Pittsburgh are the paternal grandparents.

Winnifred Marsh Weyhing of the City of Grosse Pointe is the great-grandmother.

Preston Joseph Simmons

Tim and Jen Simmons of Grosse Pointe Park are the parents of a son, Preston Joseph Simmons, born Oct. 16, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Linda Bonanno of Eastpointe and the late Bobby Bonanno.

Cliff and Judy Simmons of Grosse Pointe Woods are the paternal grandparents.

Don and Bunny Bonanno of Grosse Pointe Woods are the great-grandparents.

Tallulah Tanya Petkov

Kathryn Gracey and Plamen Petkov of New York City are the parents of a daughter, Tallulah Tanya Petkov, born Nov. 14, 2009.

Judge and Mrs. Paul C. Gracey of Grosse Pointe Farms are the maternal grandparents.

Petko and Stanka Petkov of Bourgas, Bulgaria, are the paternal grandparents.

Cassidy Marie Cleland

Sean and Elizabeth Cleland of Grosse Pointe Farms are the parents of a daughter, Cassidy Marie Cleland, born Oct. 17, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Chris and Sharyn Mannino of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Margaret McNamee of the City of Grosse Pointe and Michael Cleland of Ann Arbor are the paternal grandparents.

Kathleen McNamee of Fort Gratiot is the great-grandmother.

Henry David Hart

Matthew and Carrie Hart of Larchmont, N.Y., are the parents of a son, Henry David Hart, born Sept. 14, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Dave and Judy Abrahamson of Grand Junction, Colo.

Jim and Kris Hart of the City of Grosse Pointe are paternal grandparents.

Brady Donnelly Bond

Patrick and Stephanie Egan Bond of the City of Grosse Pointe are the parents of a son, Brady Donnelly Bond, born Nov. 17, 2009.

The maternal grandmother is Lisette Egan of Grosse Pointe Woods and the late Dennis Egan.

James Bond of Grosse Pointe Woods and Jane and Patrick Ryan of Grosse Pointe Woods are the paternal grandparents.

Charlie Russell Dobrowsky

Josh and Katy Thompson Dobrowsky of Birmingham are the parents of a son, Charlie Russell Dobrowsky, born Nov. 22, 2009.

John and Susan Thompson of Grosse Pointe Park are the maternal grandparents.

Paternal grandparents are Marc and Cathy Dobrowsky of Huntington Woods.

Dr. and Mrs. Herman Lifton of Southfield are the great-grandparents.

Anna Rose Trautman

Stephanie LaGrasso Trautman and Philip Trautman of Royal Oak are the parents of a daughter, Anna Rose Trautman, born Sept. 28, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Cheri and Joe LaGrasso of Grosse Pointe Shores.

Carole and Mike Trautman of Bloomfield Hills are the paternal grandparents.

Ethel Trautman is the great-grandmother.

Lucas Edward Antoniello

Ashley Brooke (Reno) and Vincent Antoniello Jr. of Ledgewood, N.J., are the parents of a son, Lucas Edward Antoniello, born Oct. 12, 2009.

Maternal grandparents are Michael and Carol Reno of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Vincent and Celeste Antoniello of Ledgewood are paternal grandparents.

Mrs. Edward Kassab of Boca Raton, Fla. is the maternal great-grandmother.

Paternal great-grandmother is Mrs. W. Quenby Reno Jr. of Roseville.

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9:00 am Musical Storytime
9:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 am Who's in the Kitchen?
10:30 am Things to Do at the War Memorial
11:00 am Out of the Ordinary
11:30 am Senior Men's Club
12:00 pm Economic Club of Detroit
1:00 pm The SOC Show
1:30 pm Great Lakes Log
2:00 pm The John Prost Show
2:30 pm The Legal Insider
3:00 pm Things to Do at the War Memorial
3:30 pm Art & Design
4:00 pm Vitality Plus (Tone)
4:30 pm Musical Storytime
5:00 pm In a Heartbeat
5:30 pm The SOC Show
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
8:00 pm In a Heartbeat
8:30 pm Senior Men's Club
9:00 pm Art & Design
9:30 pm Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 pm The John Prost Show
10:30 pm Great Lakes Log
11:00 pm Out of the Ordinary
11:30 pm Senior Men's Club

Midnight Economic Club of Detroit
1:00 am The SOC Show
1:30 am Great Lakes Log
2:00 am The John Prost Show
2:30 am Senior Men's Club
3:00 am Art & Design
3:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
4:00 am The John Prost Show
4:30 am Great Lakes Log
5:00 am Out of the Ordinary
5:30 am The Legal Insider
6:00 am Things to Do at the War Memorial
6:30 am Art & Design
7:00 am Vitality Plus (Tone)
7:30 am Musical Storytime
8:00 am In a Heartbeat

Who's in the Kitchen?

Roasted Sweet Potatoes

Things to Do at the War Memorial

Water Media, Yoga, Cardiacore & Dancing

Out of the Ordinary

Bob Bedard & Anna Russo
Be Happy and Success Strategies

Senior Men's Club

Mary Huebner
Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce

Economic Club of Detroit

Philip Howard
Life Without Lawyers

The SOC Show

Robert Ramsey
Estate Planning

Great Lakes Log

Saulius Mikalnis
The Great Lakes Compact

The John Prost Show

Maura Corrigan
Justice Michigan Supreme Court

The Legal Insider

Chip Berschback
Private Practice

Art & Design

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4B | FEATURES

ENGAGEMENTS

Behler-Linabury

Christopher and Sheila Behler of Grosse Pointe Park have announced the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Behler, to David Linabury, son of Kathleen and Douglas Johansen of Bloomfield Hills. A May wedding is planned.

Behler earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College for Creative Studies in Detroit. She is a multi-media art director for Campbell-Ewald.

Linabury earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from CCS in Detroit. He is senior vice president, director of social media for Campbell-Ewald.



David Linabury and Elizabeth Behler

Corbin-Philpot

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel F. Stott of Longmont, Colo., and Mr. and Mrs. Gary E. Corbin of Grosse Pointe Park, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kiera Lynn Corbin, to Alan Joseph Philpot, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth M.



Alan Joseph Philpot and Kiera Lynn Corbin

Philpot of Versailles, Ohio. A May wedding is planned.

Corbin graduated from University Liggett School in 2005 and is to earn a degree from the University of Findlay in English equestrian studies in May.

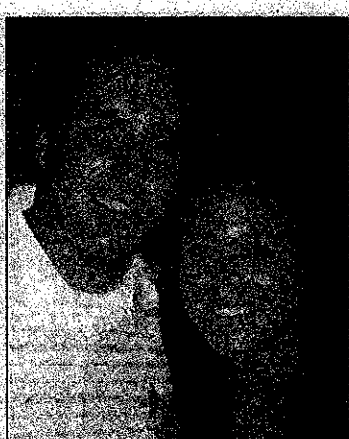
Philpot earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting in 2008 from the University of Findlay. He is an internal auditor for Citizens National Bank of Bluffton, Ohio.

Klick-Verespie

Thomas and Nancy Klick of St. Clair Shores have announced the engagement of their daughter, Katelin Klick, to Matthew Verespie, son of John and Carrie Verespie of Oxford. A July wedding is planned.

Klick graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 2001 and earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Western Michigan University. She is a second grade teacher.

Verespie graduated from Oakland University with a



Matthew Verespie and Katelin Klick

Bachelor of Science degree in business economics. He is in sales.

Loffreda-Wideen

Dennis and Brigid Loffreda of Macomb Township have announced the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Loffreda, to Kirk Wideen, son of Paul and Cecilia Wideen of Redford. An August wedding is planned.

Loffreda graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 1997 and the University of Detroit Mercy in 2002. She is a preschool teacher in Ann Arbor.

Wideen graduated from



Jessica Loffreda and Kirk Wideen

Detroit Catholic Central High School in 1999 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from the University of Detroit Mercy in 2003. He is an accountant in Plymouth.

Reid-Knuppe

Hugh and Sally Reid of Grosse Pointe Park have announced the engagement of their daughter, Amy Reid, to Austin Knuppe, son of Martin and Susan Knuppe of Pleasanton, Calif. A May wedding is planned.



Austin Knuppe and Amy Reid

Reid graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 2003. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science from Taylor University. She is to earn a doctorate of physical therapy from Grand Valley State University in July 2010.

Knuppe earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and history from Calvin College. He is a research assistant at the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley. He plans to begin an international affairs graduate program in fall 2010.

WEDDINGS

Breedlove-Nianouris

Heather Rene Breedlove, daughter of Terry and Nancy Breedlove of Northville, formerly of Grosse Pointe Woods, married Christopher David Nianouris, son of David and Susan Nianouris of Dayton, Ohio, on July 10, 2009, at Old St. Mary's Catholic Church in Detroit.

The Rev. Edward Vilkauskas officiated at the ceremony, which was followed by a reception at the Colony Club of Detroit.

The bride wore a strapless silk trumpet gown with a sweetheart neckline and a sash at the waist. She carried a bouquet of magenta garden roses and light pink calla lilies.

Jacklyn Keating of St. Clair Shores and Julia Schreiber of Chicago, Ill., were their friend's maids of honor.

Bridesmaids were Andrea Szabo of Grosse Pointe Woods, Emily Koterba of Dayton, Ohio, Jamie Schaefer of Chicago, Jennifer Passage of St. Clair Shores and Jamie Walker of Dayton, the bride's friends; and the groom's sisters, Sarah Sollar of Dayton and Andrea Nianouris of Miami, Fla.

Attendants wore tea-length champagne silk taffeta wrap dresses with a waist sash. Each carried a bouquet of magenta and light pink garden roses.

Joseph Walker of Dayton



Mr. and Mrs. Christopher David Nianouris

was his friend's best man. Ushers were the groom's friends, Adam Taylor of Dayton, Matt Jones of Alexandria, Va., B.J. Reed of Dayton, David Meyers of New York, N.Y., Ben Brady of Chicago, Tom Trainer of

Columbus, Ohio, and Tyson Swartz of Mason, Ohio; and the bride's brother, Scott Breedlove of St. Clair Shores.

The bride's mother wore a black floor-length gown with a ruched bodice and square neckline.

The groom's mother chose a floor-length navy blue sleeveless gown with embellished details on the bodice.

Readers were the bride's cousin, Rebecca Fike; the groom's aunt, Nancy Carberry; the bride's friend, Lindsay Figurski and the bride's godmother, Marissa Maes.

Kelly Osten and Mary Lee were the greeters.

The bride earned a Bachelor of Science degree in middle childhood education from the University of Dayton in 2004. She is working on her master's degree in educational leadership. She is a seventh-grade

history and English teacher in Miamisburg, Ohio.

The groom earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the Ohio University in 2001. He is in real estate development and manages a web-based sign company.

The couple honeymooned in Playa Mujeres, Mexico. They live in Miamisburg.

Colett-Drury

Christy Lorne Colett of Boulder, Colo., daughter of Gary and Tish Colett of Grosse Pointe Farms, married Daniel Drury of Boulder, son of Jack and Doris Drury of Manasquan, N.J., on Oct. 9, 2009, in Boulder.

The Rev. Beverly Fest officiated at the ceremony, which



Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Drury

was followed by a reception at Gold Hill Inn, Gold Hill, Colo.

The bride wore a silk ottoman strapless gown. She carried a multi-colored seasonal wildflower bouquet.

The couple reside in Boulder.

ANNIVERSARY

Gove

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert English Gove of the City of Grosse Pointe observe the couple's 40th wedding anniversary this month.

Gove and Carol (nee) Rodgers were married Dec. 5, 1969, in Birmingham.

The couple has four children, Brian Gove of Harper Woods; Alex (Connie) Gove of San Francisco, Calif.; Steve (Aubrey Sternal) Gove of Vernon Hills, Ill.; and Martha (Josh Cohen) Gove of Ann Arbor; and six grandchildren, Theodore and Nathaniel Gove, Ainsley and Gwenyth Gove and Esther and Sebastian Cohen.



Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert English Gove

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

An eight-week low impact dance aerobics class begins Monday, Jan. 4, in the fellowship hall of the First English Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. Classes are from 9:30 to

10:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Classes incorporate kick boxing, yoga, free weights, flexibility and toning.

The cost is \$68. For more information, call Judy at (313) 886-7534.



PHOTO COURTESY SAM CUCCINELLA

Ushers club

The Ushers Club of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church of Grosse Pointe Farms annual membership meeting and Christmas party at the Bayview Yacht Club reaffirmed its 2010 officers, who are Paul Boehmer as president, Mark Surmont as treasurer and Michelle Kozak as secretary. The Rev. John Wynnycky, the Rev. Sama Muma and Deacon Richard Shubik attended the Dec. 9 event.

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NEW YEAR'S DAY
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Thursday, December 31, 2009
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Friday, January 1, 2010
MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
OF OUR LORD**
Saturday, January 2, 2010
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, January 3, 2010
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

**FEAST OF THE BAPTISM
OF OUR LORD**
Saturday, January 9, 2010
MASS AT 4:00 P.M. - Confirmation
Sunday, January 10, 2010
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at
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New Year's Eve
Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
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New Year's Day
Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
Friday, January 1, 2010 - 11:00 a.m.

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9:30 a.m. Worship

CHURCH SCHOOL
9:45 am Church School - 4 yrs. - 5th Grade
10:45 am Church School - Middle & Senior High
11:00 am Adult Church School

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Unitarian Church**

January 3, 2010
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Reverend Mitra Rahnama

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December 31, 2009
(New Years Eve)
6pm-Potluck
7pm-Worship with Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:20 a.m. Education Hour
11:15 a.m. Worship

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January 3 - Worship Services at 9 & 11 am
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January 10 - Guest Preacher, Dr. Steve Eason
Preaching at 9 & 11 am

January 17 - Worship Services at 9 & 11 am

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Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12 and John 1:1-18
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Sandra Smith, Minister of Family Life
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6B | SENIORS/ENTERTAINMENT

SENIOR SCENE By Ruth Cain

Wishing for a simpler New Year



I read a quote recently from Albert Einstein, which really struck home. It said, "As I get older, I understand how important it is that things are made simpler."

If Einstein came back to Earth, I think even this mathematical genius would be shocked by the technological age, especially in the communications field, and the burden it places on us lesser technologically-endowed humans.

There is an Intel ad that particularly infuriates me. An employee changes one symbol on a page full of mathematical symbols into an "x" and waits for a fellow employee. When he comes and sees the change, the employee giggles hysterically. Intel's catch phrase, "Our ideas are not like your ideas." They sure aren't.

It seems if you are brilliant enough to come up with an idea to make life easier, you ought to be able to refine it so it works easily and, most of the time, reliably.

I've had my own radio since I was a teenager. Over time they became better, but using one remained simple; off and on buttons, a dial for volume and one for tuning.

Same was with early TVs; an off and on button, one button for channel changing and one for volume.

But technology began to take over. VCRs were fine for showing movies, but taping a program was not simple. Few of us could be sure a program was actually being taped. And when we tried to play it back, most often it hadn't recorded.

Even simple computerized billing programs can have a hiccup and cause havoc. This week when I visited my doctor, I asked if I owed anything so I could greet the New Year with no unpaid doctor bills. I was told I owed \$10 for an earlier office call, plus \$10 for the current visit. I started to write a check for \$20, but the office worker said I had to pay it in two checks. They were switching to a new system and one check might cause a problem. Before the technology age, any office clerk could have handled that transaction easily.

Have you tried to use a credit card and told the system was down? And who knew when it

would be back up? People can get sick and be replaced so there is no great inconvenience for the customer. Not technological systems.

I can imagine Einstein trying to play music through an iPod. He'd have to learn because you can no longer buy a simple CD player that plays multiple CDs. The entire electronic world is convinced its customers prefer to listen to CDs playing in an entertainment center or through an iPod.

I read a listing of things that are about to become extinct in America and wasn't surprised. They include phone land lines, movie rental stores, VCRs, an-

swering machines and cameras that use film.

A list of things being replaced by the Internet included: polite disagreement, letter writing, manners, daydreaming, footnotes, concentration, socializing and trips to the library. Can you imagine how that will change our society and the pleasures we once enjoyed?

Learning is good for you, but let me learn something more important than understanding technological gadgets.

There is one good thing about technology — it's moving so fast that if something comes out you don't under-

stand, don't worry, it will quickly become obsolete and something else you don't understand will replace it.

I will admit that there is one technological wonder that has saved me hours of labor and made the end product much better: desktop publishing. I did manage to turn out articles and newsletters before its advent, but how did I do it? I can't conceive having to retype an entire page today because of an error, or wanting to change one sentence for one I think is better. Even retyping three sheets because I wanted to change the order of my ideas seems absurd.

When word processing first came into the newspaper offices, I asked an editor if people were writing differently. "Yes," she said, "Much longer." That was because with a typewriter you had to insert clean sheets as you wrote. The first word processing programs just kept accepting your input. You'd frequently be horrified when after printing, there were three pages and you still hadn't come to the point. That eventually was changed and today these programs let you see when you've finished a page.

Contact Cain at ruthcain@comcast.com.

A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

Super simple recipe for New Year's Eve



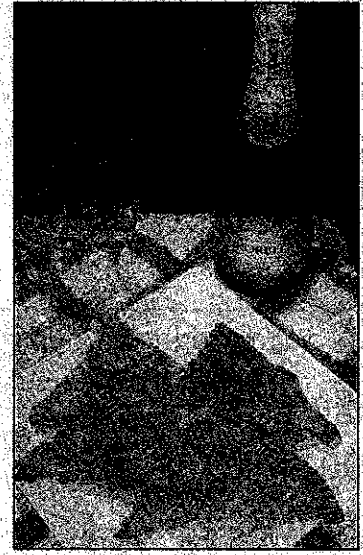
In my book, New Year's and champagne go hand in hand. Whether on the eve of or the first day of the New Year (or both), I enjoy a glass or two of the bubbly.

This year I'm serving a super simple nibble to pair with my champagne. Granny Smith apples, dried cherries, brie cheese and nuts tucked into puff pastry. Finished with a touch of brown sugar, these tasty triangles will bring a smile to your party.

Apple Turnovers with Brie and Dried Cherries

- 1 package frozen puff pastry (2 sheets), thawed
- 2 Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced
- 8 teaspoons brown sugar
- 10 oz. brie cheese
- 1/2 cup broken pecan pieces
- 1/2 cup dried cherries
- 1 egg, lightly beaten

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Working with one sheet of pastry dough at a time, unfold onto a lightly floured surface. Cut the dough into four squares. Layer apple slices near the center of the square and top with 1 teaspoon brown sugar and 2 tablespoons of brie. Sprinkle with a bit of nuts and cherries. Carefully fold the dough



Seal the edges well for the perfect brie, a perfect New Year's Eve appetizer.

over the filling to make a triangle. Use a fork to seal the dough around the edges. Place on a greased baking sheet. Repeat using the remaining dough and filling ingredients. (You'll have eight turnovers.) Brush each with beaten egg. Use a small sharp knife to cut a few vents in the turnovers. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 to 18 minutes, until golden brown. Cool for a few minutes and serve warm or at room temperature.

The trick is getting all the ingredients inside the dough. Have patience. Make sure the folded edges are sealed well so the cheese doesn't leak out. The ingredient combination speaks for itself. Happy New Year.



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Neighborhood Club offers classes for every age

The Neighborhood Club offers classes to exercise both the mind and body.

Aerobics

Low-impact aerobics class includes stretching for flexibility, floor work to target and tone the core and trouble spots and cardio to strengthen the heart, joints and muscles. A mat and supportive shoes are recommended.

Classes are — 9:15 to 10:15 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Jan. 4 - March 26 in the club's gym.

The cost is \$70 for once a week classes:

\$103 twice a week; and \$115 for three times a week.

Learn To Be Assertive At Work And In Life

Two classes are being offered. Business experiential assertiveness training covers assertive communication, handling criticism and conflict, improving relations with coworkers and networking and selling techniques. The class is from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 4, 11, 25, Feb. 1 and 8. The cost is \$63. Personal experiential assertiveness

training covers family issues, partner confrontations and new dating situations. It is held from 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 4, 11, 25, Feb. 1 and 8. The cost is \$63.

In both classes, each student reacts to a hypothetical challenge or everyday situation and receives feedback from the class.

Registration for any of the aforementioned classes can be done online at neighborhoodclub.org or in person at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe, between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call (313) 885-4600.

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2C NORTH YEAR IN REVIEW | 3C LIGGETT YEAR IN REVIEW | 4C NORTH HOCKEY | 5-7C CLASSIFIEDS

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Blue Devils can't stop Renaissance



PHOTO BY DANA KAISER

Senior Chloe Srebernak, shown here in an earlier game this season, had a great game, scoring 22 points against one of the best teams in the state in any class, Detroit Renaissance.

By Bob St. John
 Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South's girls' basketball team took on one of the top teams in the state Monday afternoon, Detroit Renaissance.

Head coach Kevin Richards and his Blue Devils faced the Phoenix in the Detroit Public Schools Holiday Hoops Classic at Cass Tech High School.

The tournament included nine games Monday, Dec. 28, and seven more Tuesday, Dec. 29, with some of the best teams competing during the two-week downtime in the season.

The undermanned Blue Devils struggled early before losing 62-29 to the Phoenix, ranked No. 1. They played without starting junior forward Aisha Rodney, who is nursing an injury.

"We weren't intimidated at all, but it didn't start well when we missed some easy looks at the hoop early in the game," Richards said. "Renaissance is big, which posed some problems for us, but overall I thought our girls played hard and gave it their best shot."

"The girls now know what they have to do to get to that level."

The Blue Devils couldn't put the ball in the ocean in the

opening quarter, missing all of their field goal attempts and turning the ball over 10 times while falling behind 19-0.

They tried to battle back, but trailed 31-10 at the half and 47-23 at the end of the third quarter before struggling to score only six fourth-quarter points.

"Aisha would have helped, but Renaissance is very talented and they are tough to beat," Richards said. "Our girls went right at them and handled their pressure defense pretty well, but falling behind by that much to such a talented team was too much for us."

Senior Chloe Srebernak led the Blue Devils with 22 points and five rebounds, while senior Katie Hamm had 10 rebounds and freshman Claire DeBoer added nine rebounds.

The Blue Devils' offense was off track the entire game. They made only eight field goals and 10 free throws.

The Phoenix were able to score most of their points in the paint, thanks to a lineup consisting of several six-footers who hit the boards with offensive rebounds.

Grosse Pointe South dropped to 4-1 overall and will now have a week to prepare for a nonleague tilt Tuesday, Jan. 5, at Utica Ford.

The Blue Devils open division play Thursday, Jan. 7, at home against Anchor Bay.



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For more information, call 1-800-FOR-MERCEDES, or visit MBUSA.com/WinterEvent.

Grosse Pointe North Year in Review

Hockey programs highlight school's '09

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

A lot of positives happened for Grosse Pointe North's athletic teams in 2009.

Several advanced deep into the state playoffs and dozens of student-athletes earned spots on All-State lists, which Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Carmen Kennedy viewed with a big smile at the end of the day.

Below is a recap of the year that was, 2009, and the highlights.

The two teams that went the farthest in the state playoffs were the boys and girls ice hockey squads.

Both made the state semifinals before getting ousted as the boys lost 6-2 to Howell and the girls dropped a tough 2-1 decision to Ann Arbor.

Boys head coach Scott Lock and the Norsemen made their third straight appearance in the state semifinals. It was also

their third straight defeat in the Frozen Four. However, under Lock's tutelage, the Norsemen's program has won two state championships and is considered one of the best in the state, thanks to his passion for the sport and dedication to his players.

Despite the semifinal loss, the Norsemen could hang their hats on a 4-1 quarterfinal win over defending state champion Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Last year's squad finished 19-9-1 and were led by graduating seniors Justin Kovacs, Ben Scarfone, Eric Rohrkemper, Craig Henderson, John Neveux, Scott Brown, Brandon Davenport, Nick Hartman, Michael Rahaim, Tom Walworth and Jimmy Tocco.

The girls, led by Scott Dockett, lost several one-goal games to Ann Arbor. Senior Alexa Quinlan, now playing women's lacrosse at St. Mary's College in California, scored the Norsemen's lone goal in the

semifinal loss.

In the quarterfinals, North defeated city rival Liggett 3-1 as goalkeeper Emma Huellmantel stepped up and played one of her best games of the season.

Quinlan and fellow graduates Lauren Walsh and Angela Giorgio scored the Norsemen's goals. North finished its season 14-8 overall.

Head coach Gary Bennett and the girls' basketball squad had another solid run in the state playoffs, reaching a second consecutive quarterfinal after beating Fraser 50-34 in a regional championship game at L'Anse Creuse North.

The Norsemen's season ended with a 60-50 loss to Detroit Renaissance. With the loss came a 21-5 overall record.

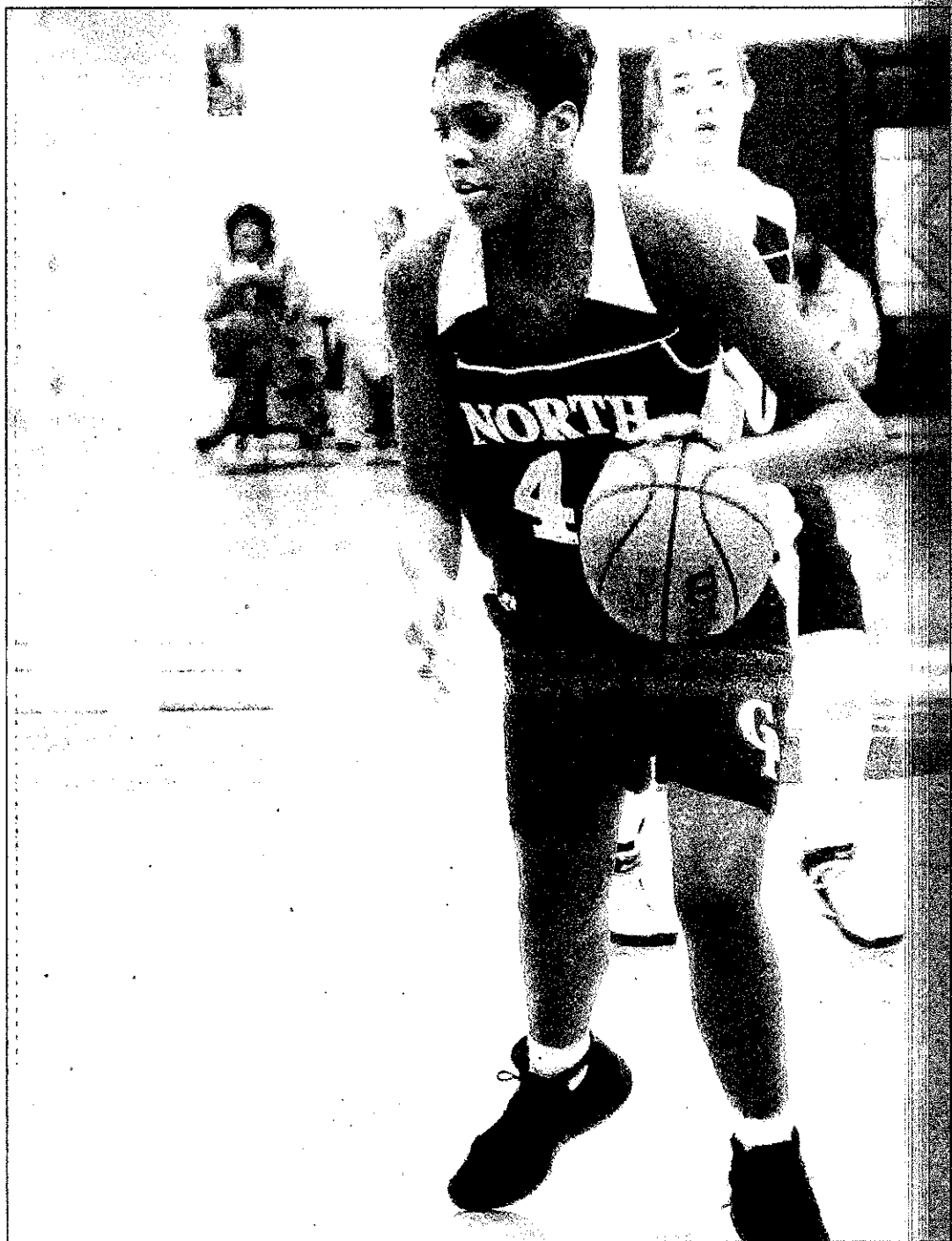
The boys' basketball and wrestling squads captured district titles, but were eliminated from the playoffs with regional defeats.

It ended a fruitful winter for



FILE PHOTOS

2009 graduate Justin Kovacs made first team all-state in ice hockey and is now playing in the juniors in Iowa, eyeing a chance to earn a college scholarship.



Ariel Braker made her mark in the basketball world last winter after coming back from ACL surgery. She made all-state, is playing well this winter, and is a leading candidate to be voted Miss Basketball.



Alexa Quinlan, a 2009 graduate, made all-state in both sports she played her senior season and earned a scholarship to play women's lacrosse at St. Mary's College in California.

North athletics:

In the spring, the boys' track and field team won another regional championship and the boys' golf team won a Macomb Area Conference Red Division dual meet championship.

The track team, under first-year head coach Frank Tymrack, scored 124.5 points in the regional, compared to 103 for runner-up U-D Jesuit.

The golf squad, under head coach Brian Stackpoole, beat rival Grosse Pointe South twice during a four-win week that led to the division crown.

It was the sixth straight crown for the Norsemen, led by seniors Matt Jankowski and Robert Okonowski. During the next two weeks, the Norsemen won the Red Division Tournament and earned a spot in the regionals with a top-three finish at the district tournament.

The boys' lacrosse team finished its season 13-3 overall, one of the best in program history. The senior trio of Tocco, Davenport and Ian LaValley provided dozens of highlights.

Unfortunately, their season ended with a playoff loss to Warren DeLaSalle.

This fall was not as fruitful for Norsemen athletic teams.

The boys' tennis team, under head coach Drew Mascarin, tied with U-D Jesuit to win a Division 2 regional championship and finished strong in the state finals the following weekend.

Junior Doug Zade and senior Dean Butts were singles champions at the regionals, while seniors Kevin Zak and Kevin Irving won a title at No. 1 doubles. Freshman Bryan Butts and sophomore Dan Amato also won a doubles title.

The football team, under long-time head coach Frank Sumner, had to win its final two games to make another trip to the state playoffs.

The Norsemen beat Anchor Bay 21-0 and Uica Ford 32-13 to finish 6-3 and get that magical victory total to get the automatic berth.

They won the playoff opener over Port Huron, but lost to Warren DeLaSalle in the district finals for a second straight year.

Senior running back Tommie Watkins scored more than a dozen touchdowns to lead the team.

The girls' volleyball team struggled to mix veterans and newcomers to the lineup, but in the end, head coach Kim Lockhart guided the Norsemen to another district

More success was posted by the girls' softball and soccer teams, both defeating city rival Grosse Pointe South to capture district championships.

Head coach Bill Taylor and the softball team crushed the Blue Devils in the title tilt, while head coach Jen Nadeau and the soccer crew edged the Blue Devils 2-1 in a shootout in the championship match.

Both ended their playoff runs with regional losses.

Can't forget about North's girls' tennis team as head coach Matt Eszes watched his squad crush the field en route to a regional title. It finished in the top 15 at the state finals the following weekend.

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title with an easy 25-13, 25-20, 25-9 win over St. Clair Shores Lake Shore in the title match.

The Norsemen's season ended with a four-set loss to Uica Eisenhower in a regional semifinal at Warren Cousino.

The boys' swim team had a winning regular dual meet season, finishing 5-4, plus took second at the MAC Red Division swimming and diving championship meet. Several swimmers competed in the Division 2 state finals — junior Emily Turnbull, senior Jackie Shea, senior Hannah Everett, freshman Emma Mathews, senior Gianna Marx and senior Maresa Leto.

Individuals

Grosse Pointe North had numerous student-athletes make first team all-state in their respective sports.

Starting with the winter, Quinlan and Walsh made first team in ice hockey, while Kovacs and Rohrkemper also earned the award in ice hockey.

Lauren Krieger made the gymnastics all-state squad and Josh Franklin took the honor for his silver-medal winning performance at the 2009 wrestling individual tournament in the 215-pound division.

Ariel Braker made the all-state first team for a second straight season for girls' basketball. She missed the first few games while recovering from knee surgery performed in the spring of 2008.

Last spring, Quinlan once again was named to the first team all-state girls lacrosse team, while Olivia Stander made the all-state team for girls' soccer and was once again voted to be a Dream Team member.

This fall, the Norsemen didn't have an all-state performer, but did have some individuals who shone on the field, including Watkins in football, Kailey Sickmiller in cross country, Braker in volleyball, the girls swimmers who made the state finals and the boys who earned regional crowns in tennis.

Next week

Grosse Pointe South's year in review will be in next week's sports section.

Liggett Year in Review

2009 a good year for Liggett athletics

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Liggett's athletic programs enjoyed a solid 2009 with several teams earning district or regional championships.

Athletic director Michelle Hicks watched the programs finish up their membership in the Metro Conference and move to the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

The move helps the Knights compete against schools their size. However, the road trips are just as arduous with Ann Arbor Greenhills on the slate.

Below is a look at the Knights' success on the field, starting with the 2008-09 winter campaign.

The girls' hockey team, under head coach Laura Owczarski, won a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League Division 2 Tournament championship, beating Walled Lake 5-0.

Graduate Janaya Gripper turned in a MVP performance in the tournament, posting back-to-back shutouts. She had plenty of help by defensemen Alex Boll, Haleigh Bolton, Morgan Ellis, Natalie Peracchio and Megha Patel.

In that game, Boll, Ellis, Bolton, Paige Counsman and Medea Shanidze scored goals. Counsman led the league in total points, but did not earn Miss Hockey, which went to Ann Arbor's Angie Chronis.

The Knights ended their season with a 3-1 loss to city rival Grosse Pointe North in a Division 1 Tournament quarterfinal. Counsman scored the lone goal as the team finished with one of its best records in a decade, 15-7 overall.

The boys' hockey and basketball teams had glimpses of success, but in the end, both fell short in the first round of state playoffs.

The girls' basketball team, under Adam Beck, had one heck of a turnaround after winning only one game the previous season.

In stepped freshman phenom Madison Ristovski, who averaged more than 30 points per game and had 38 points in the district title game, but that wasn't enough to prevent a 68-48 loss to Detroit Allen Academy.

Despite the loss, Ristovski helped spark optimism for the basketball program, which finished 12-10 overall.

A majority of the squad were seniors, who all elevated their games as Ristovski drew double and even triple teams

throughout the season.

The co-ed swim team also finished with a winning record with 2009 graduate Chris Brownell earning a spot in the Division 3 state championship meet.

Last spring, first-year head coach John Bartoy continued the success achieved by previous coach, Chris Hartley.

Bartoy continued to breath enthusiasm into the program that finished 9-3 overall with graduate Jack Fisher finishing his high school career with huge offensive numbers.

The girls' tennis team out-muscled a group of top-notch foes to win a Division IV regional championship at Almont. Included in the tournament were ranked teams Almont, Bloomfield Hills Sacred Heart Academy and Flint Powers.

Regional champions were the No. 1 doubles team of Shanidze and Sophie Mair; the No. 2 doubles squad of Sarah Pollick and Jasmine Pollicherla and the No. 3 doubles team of Emily Broder and Madeline Mair.

Other regional gold medalists were singles players Catherine Vatsis, Claire Peracchio and Kate Shannon.

The team went on to place in the top 10 in the state finals and finished 6-3-2 overall under head coach Cathy Hackenberger.

Head coach Dan Sullivan and the Knights' golf team had a solid season that resulted in earning a spot in the regional tournament and just missing an opportunity to make the state finals.

Graduates Marc Hames and Clarke Dirksen led the way in both tournaments for the upstart Knights.

The boys' baseball team had a fine season end with a tough 6-2 loss to rival Sterling Heights Parkway Christian in a Division IV district championship game.

Head coach Dan Cimini and the Knights finished 28-5 overall and ranked in the top 10, once again.

The girls' soccer team also had a nice season, but it ended with a shootout loss in the district semifinals. They finished 9-4-2 overall.

This fall, the Knights once again enjoyed success on the field with the volleyball team improving from a year ago and the girls' field hockey program finishing .500.

The team that stood the tallest at Liggett in 2009 was the boys' soccer team under long-time head coach David



The boys' soccer team cruised to district and regional championships this fall. It had the most success of any Liggett athletic team in 2009.

Backhurst.

After ending the regular season with two lackluster performances in MIAC play, they turned up the heat in the playoffs.

The Knights beat Novi Franklin Road Christian 8-0 in the district semifinals and Royal Oak Shrine 6-0 in the district title match on their home field.

Senior Dan Zukas had the hat trick with fellow seniors Jake Goldberg, Noah Saganski and Joey Shannon also scoring.

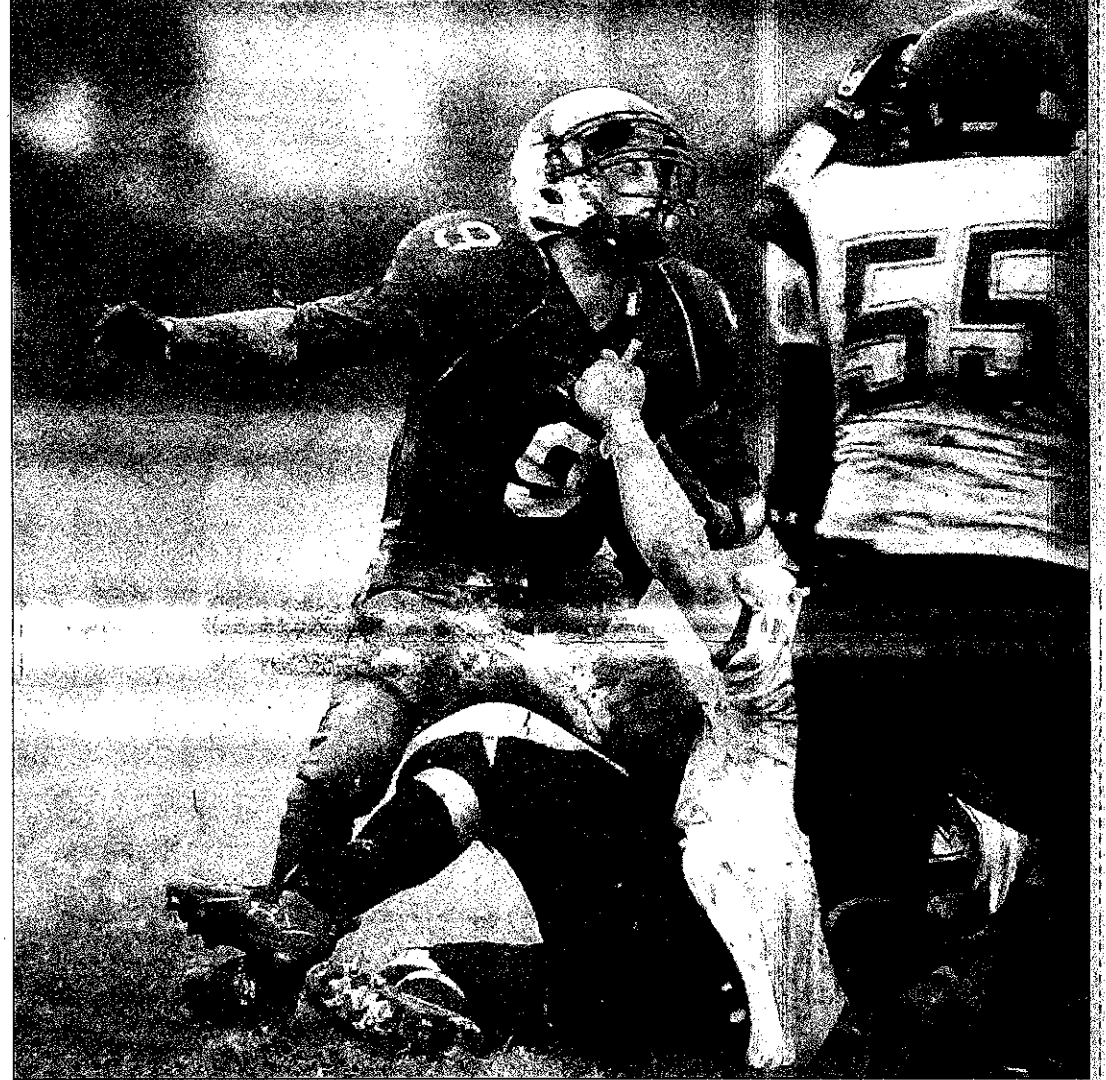
In the regionals, the Knights beat Genesee Christian 2-0 and defending state champ Auburn Hills Oakland Christian 2-1 in the title match, advancing to the state semifinal.

The magic run ended with a loss to Ann Arbor Greenhills in the semifinals. But despite the setback, the Knights still finished the season 14-8-1 overall.

Head coach Chuck Wright and the boys' tennis team had a solid season, winning most of its dual matches before stunning the field to capture a Division IV regional championship.

Junior Alejandro Blake and sophomore Austin Petipren won singles titles, while Ian Quinlan and Garrett Redding won the No. 1 doubles flight.

In addition, sophomore Robert Stanley and freshman



Senior Jake Goldberg was a workhorse for the Liggett football team this fall and also doubled up by playing on the soccer team.

Garrett Mallires won the No. 3 doubles title to help the Knights take the top spot.

They finished in the top 10

in the state finals to put another feather in the program's cap.

Another highlight was the

rebirth of the cross country program, as well as the football program.

Cimini was the head coach of the Knights. Excitement was felt throughout the school from the first practice in August to the final game at the end of October.

Football fever is back at Liggett and it was a 2-7 season, with Goldberg being the heart and soul of this team.

He played quarterback, running back and linebacker, earning respect from every opponent on the schedule.

The highlight of the season was a 26-12 victory over Morrice on homecoming. A standing-room only crowd of parents, students and alumni enjoyed the festivities and most of all, the win.

Individuals

Liggett's success on the playing fields was a result of team work and performances resulting in first team all-state honors by a dozen of those athletes.

Last winter, Ristovski was the lone all-state performer for her basketball efforts, but in the spring, 2009 graduate Tommy Graves, Vatsis, Sophie Mair and Shanidze earned the first team all-state accolade.

Counsman completed the hat trick for earning all-state first team honors.

She made it last winter in ice hockey, last spring in soccer and this fall in field hockey.

In the fall, Zukas made the first-team honor on the soccer field, while Redding and Quinlan, as well as senior Skippy Faber, made it on the tennis court.



The 2008-09 girls' hockey team won a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League Division 2 Tournament title with a win over Walled Lake.

4C | SPORTS

PARCELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE WALWORTH

Perfection

The Parcels Middle School eighth-grade girls basketball team finished the season with a perfect 12-0 mark this season. Members of the Lady Panthers pictured above, from left, Katelyn Kohler, Lindsay Ireland, Lexi Sandubrae, Brooke Ford, Christy Tech, Brigitte Smith, Lindsay Carlisle, Maria Tomovski, Stephanie Walworth and Caroline Schulte.

BASEBALL CAMP

Register for winter camp

Dan Griesbaum presents the Dan Griesbaum Baseball School Indoor Camp, held Saturday, Jan. 16, and Sunday, Jan. 17, at the high school gymnasiums.

The camp is for students in second through sixth grade, which coincides with Michigan High School Athletic Association rules. Everyone should meet in the main gymnasium.

The specialty camp focuses on pitching, hitting and catcher

position. It runs from 9 a.m. to noon Jan. 16 and 2 to 5 p.m. Jan. 17. It is \$50 for one day or \$90 for both sessions.

Contact camp directors Griesbaum at (313) 884-7834 or Matt Reno at (313) 886-5537 to register or for more questions.

Brochures are available at the main office at South, at the Neighborhood Club or on the Grosse Pointe South baseball website, gpsouthbaseball.com.

DETROIT RED WINGS



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUTT

Giving back

A shopper at Kroger puts money in the Red Kettle for the Salvation Army while Detroit Red Wing Darren Helm rings the bell. Red Wings players compete with each other and their coach in a friendly competition to see who can raise the most during a two-hour time period at various locations around the Metro Detroit area. The winners were head coach Mike Babcock and General Manager Ken Holland, who rang the bell in Northville. The Salvation Army and the Red Wings teamed up to ring the bell to help the nonprofit reach its fundraising goals this holiday season. For the fourth consecutive year, the Red Wings and the Salvation Army joined together in "Red Wings for Red Kettles." Red Wing players served as bell ringers from 5 to 7 p.m. last week.

TUTORING OPPORTUNITY

FILE PHOTO

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Grosse Pointers can utilize Batterup Sports Academy's tutor program taught by certified teachers Jessica Diskin and Rachel Wiedyk. Call Diskin at (248) 722-1738 or the facility at (586) 465-4421. Batter Up Sports Academy is located at 40801 Production Dr., next to Total Sports off North River Road and I-94 in Harrison Township.

Boys hockey

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Norsemen fall in MIHL play

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

A new calendar year and a couple of weeks of practice might be the medicine needed to get Grosse Pointe North's boys' hockey team back on track.

Last week the Norsemen dropped their fifth straight game, 4-0, to visiting U-D Jesuit.

It was the first meeting between the league foes since the Norsemen beat the Cubs in last year's first-round of the state playoffs.

That game went the Norsemen's way, but this time the Cubs got the upper hand as senior assistant captain Patrick Riedy scored a hat trick and senior goalie Justin Evans stopped 24 shots to record the shutout.

North head coach Scott Lock wasn't too pleased after his Norsemen were outshot 11-4 in the opening period.

His pep talk between periods gave his club new life as they displayed the talents that helped them play tough against Trenton and Birmingham Brother Rice.

However, despite playing a solid second period, it was the Cubs who extended a 1-0 lead to 3-0 with goals at the 10:19 and 5:26 mark.

The Norsemen's top guns, senior Matt Lucchese and sophomores Joe Aluia and Scott Dornbrock, had their chances to score, but Evans made the saves when he need-

ed to, especially in the second period when the game was still a one-goal difference.

For the game, the Norsemen finished 0-for-4 on the power play and the Cubs 0-for-5 as both penalty kill units were outstanding.

The Norsemen made their annual trek to Marquette the weekend of Dec. 18, losing 6-3 and 4-2 to the host Redmen of the Great Northern UP Conference.

They fell behind the first game 6-0 before mounting a furious rally, started by a Lucchese unassisted goal midway through the second period.

Junior Dustin Baker, unassisted, and sophomore Anthony Saleh, from Lucchese and freshman Brendon Keelan, also tallied to round out the scoring.

In the second game, the Redmen scored first, but Dornbrock, from Lucchese, scored to tie it in the opening period.

Marquette scored two more goals to grab a 3-1 lead before Lucchese tallied to make it close. Senior Alex Tomovski drew the lone assist.

The home team scored an insurance goal to thwart any Norsemen comeback.

North dropped to 0-3 in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League and 2-6 overall.

Lock will have two weeks of practice since the Norsemen don't return to play until Wednesday, Jan. 6, against St. Clair Shores Unified at Civic Arena.

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706 HOUSES FOR RENT/ DETROIT/WAYNE COUNTY
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	8			1				
5				6				7
	7	1	3		2	6	5	
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	1		4	5	7			8
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E-49 Thursday 12-31-09

DIRECTIONS:
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

VE-49 SOLUTION 12-24-09

3	2	9	4	7	6	1	8	5
6	5	1	9	2	8	4	7	3
8	4	7	1	3	5	2	6	9
4	7	2	8	5	1	3	9	6
5	8	6	2	9	3	7	1	4
9	1	3	7	6	4	5	2	8
7	9	8	5	4	2	6	3	1
1	3	4	6	8	7	9	5	2
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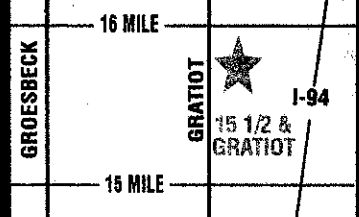
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