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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 71, NO. 10, 92 PAGES
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Michigan Press Association's Newspaper of the Year

MARCH 11, 2010
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Week ahead

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THURSDAY, MARCH 11

◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre's production of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" is at 8 p.m. in the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. For tickets, call (313) 881-4004.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

◆ The 2010 Detroit Boat Club crew silent auction is from 6 to 10 p.m. on Belle Isle. Tickets cost \$60 and can be obtained by e-mailing Questions@bdcauction10.com.

◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre's production of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" is at 8 p.m. in the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. For tickets, call (313) 881-4004.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre's production of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" is at 8 p.m. in the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. For tickets, call (313) 881-4004.

MONDAY, MARCH 15

◆ Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen, D-Detroit, hosts a "Talk With Commish Killeen" from 9 to 10 a.m. in Grosse Pointe Park City Hall, 15115 E. Jefferson.

◆ City of Grosse Pointe Council meets at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 17147 Maumee.

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Council meets at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers, 20025 Mack Plaza.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Council meets at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 795 Lakeshore.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

St. Patrick's Day
 ◆ The Grosse Pointe Woman's Club meets for lunch at 12:30 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Sister Janet Schaeffler, associate director for Adult Faith

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PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Among the names of 3,500 World War II veterans from Grosse Pointe listed on a plaque in the Grosse Pointe War Memorial entry hall, is Robert F. Weber, father of War Memorial President Mark Weber.

From house to home

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

A book being released next week tells the story of a house that has become like a second home to many Grosse Pointe residents.

"Grosse Pointe War Memorial," is about the Alger family's century-old Lakeshore mansion that, in 1949, became the Pointes' community center.

The center, like the house, was created as a "place of permanence, beauty, dignity and usefulness," according to the late Alger Sheldon, founding president of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Association, in 1948.

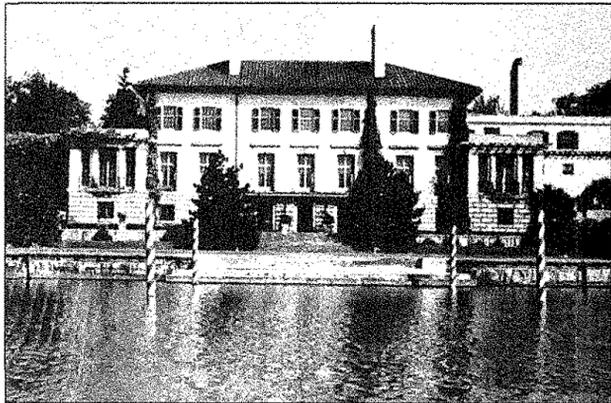
The book, co-written by Grosse Pointe Farms authors and history buffs Suzy Berschback and Ann Marie Aliotta, is due for sale Wednesday, March 17.

The pair are scheduled at 7:30 that evening for a presentation and book-signing at the War Memorial in conjunction with the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.



The Wall at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG



VINTAGE PHOTO FROM "GROSSE POINTE WAR MEMORIAL"

A view of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial from Lake St. Clair.

"The intention was to celebrate the Alger house's 100th anniversary, to tell the story of the Alger family and how the house came to be our community center," Berschback said.

Frederick Alger Jr., a co-founder of the Packard Motor Company and early investor in Wright brothers aircraft, ordered the six-bedroom Italian Renaissance-style villa built in 1910. He named it "The Moorings."

Alger and his wife, Marion, were inspired by architecture they'd seen touring Europe.

The property is the highest in the Grosse Pointes abutting Lake St. Clair. It had been the site of a summer cottage Alger rented from the Theodore Hinchman family.

"At that time, it was a summer colony," Berschback said. "The Algers fell in love with the property, bought it and put their love of Italian architecture there."

A happy home

Berschback and Aliotta's research has given them a kissing cousin's insight into the daily routine of the Algers and their children, Fay, Josephine and Russell III.

See WAR MEMORIAL, page 7A

Budget sees light

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

The foundation of next year's Grosse Pointe Shores budget is starting to rise above ground.

An in-house financial projection shows that matching next year's anticipated expenses with revenues will take more than cutting wages of unionized employees.

If union wages alone were cut next year by 5 percent, expenditures still would exceed revenues the following year by \$5,109. The gap grows to \$478,884 for 2012-2013.

If wages were cut 2.5 percent for three years straight, expenses after that period still would outweigh revenues by \$383,687.

The forecast comes as Shores officials seek more efficient ways of operating the city. Recent cost cutting included eliminating the job of full-time park director and eliminating as much overtime as possible.

"Unfortunately, government isn't designed to operate as quickly as if you own your own business," said Brian Vick, city manager and author of the projection. "But, we're working toward that."

Efforts include putting the municipal insurance contract up for bid, hoping the

See BUDGET, page 2A

Chief: Talks to consolidate under way

By Kathy Ryan
 Staff Writer

For nearly 20 years, the consolidation of government services has been the proverbial elephant in the collective Grosse Pointes' living room.

There's occasional acknowledgment it's there, but more often it's ignored.

Not anymore.

Grosse Pointe Park Police Chief David Hiller, in a presentation to the Park city council, acknowledged discussions are taking place among the public safety directors of the five Pointes with an eye toward total consolidation of police, fire and emergency medical services.

"It's time," he said. "Every community is facing fiscal challenges due to declining tax revenues and increased costs. But these are just talks, nothing has been agreed to. I'm bringing this to council tonight to let you know that these talks are occurring." He also said the five

See TALKS, page 11A

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BUDGET:

Mayor says officials are working together toward fiscal solutions

Continued from page 1A

carrier and competitors respond with better values.

Auditing services, currently contracted to Plante & Moran, also may be put up for bid.

The same is likely for legal counsel after the May 4 recall election.

Mayor Dr. James Cooper, Councilwoman Victoria Boyce and Councilman Robert Graziani are targeted in the election for supporting a 1-mill

tax increase.

The budget discussion occurred at the March 3 meeting of the committee of the whole, essentially the finance committee, chaired by Councilman Ted Kedzierski.

"We're headed in the right

direction," Kedzierski said. "If we finish the year according to plan, we'll have a little over 6 percent in our fund balance."

"We're all working together," said Cooper. "I think the committee of the whole meetings have been very good. We're starting to see some payoff."

"I hope to have a working budget at the next committee meeting for discussion (7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 6)," Vick said.

Variables

Slightly more than 75 percent of Shores employees are unionized, according to Vick.

Projections illustrate that no matter the result of upcoming labor negotiations, big changes are needed in the Shores.

"We can't do business as usual," said Vick, hired last year.

Vick said Wayne County offi-

cial told him to anticipate the following schedule of property value reductions:

- ◆ 2010-2011, 7.5 percent,
- ◆ 2011-2012, 6 percent and
- ◆ 2012-2013, no change.

The drops will result in reduced property tax revenue.

"No one can tell right now how much value will be reduced through the board of review," Vick said. "Will it be \$25,000 in revenue or \$150,000?"

Talks will continue with representatives of the other Grosse Pointes about ways to save money by sharing services, Vick said.

"The goal is to look at the service model, whether that means sharing, consolidation, whatever that might be," he said. "There's an opportunity to save significant dollars that are larger than you can get through negotiations."

A representative of Congressman John Conyers Jr. attended the meeting as part of her rounds of the five Grosse Pointes' city council meetings.

She recommended a way for the Shores and other Pointes to save money on health care.

"If you pool your benefit packages, you can get a far better rate on health, dental, life insurance and pension packages collectively," said Olivia Broome Boykins, Conyers' special assistant on health care. "You'd get better rates, but still maintain services for your staff."

Participation

The city's four union contracts run through June.

"While I have sat down with one union and have appointments for two more meetings within the next two weeks, it's premature to say where we're going to end up," Vick said. "It would be naive of me to say you're going to get a 5 percent reduction in all areas. But, when we bring the budget for the next fiscal year, we will be making some assumptions

about what we're looking for."

In addition to wage reductions, employees across the board face the prospect of:

- ◆ paying more for health care,
- ◆ higher requirements to obtain full retirement benefits and
- ◆ reduced sick bank benefits, where employees accrue pay for not taking allotted sick days off from work.

"We all know we're looking to change that policy," Vick said of the bank.

"We all know we're looking to change that policy," Vick said of the bank.

More variables

"You're going to see some of the numbers change when I bring the final proposed budget," Vick said. "There are significant numbers I'm waiting for from the actuary, from health care negotiating members (and) whether we can settle the contracts before the budget is adopted."

The forecast anticipates higher court revenue (\$63,000) than last year.

Interest income is forecast to go down from a projected \$13,000.

On the expenditures side, the cost of health and dental care coverage is anticipated to go up 8 percent.

Anticipated legal expenses are being raised due to the prospect of labor contracts ending up in arbitration.

Vick has budgeted a total of \$7,000 for two elections.

Purchases of new police cars have been put off at least one year. Maintenance on the existing fleet was increased.

"By deferring purchases, we expect greater maintenance costs," Vick said.

Lochmoor won't be repaved until additional funds are obtained.

"It's a ballpark \$500,000 project," Vick said.

Plans are to keep rental rates for boat slips in the municipal marina flat for three years.

"This is the first step," Vick said. "The next step is the detailed budget."

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Hey borers, get a dose of this

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Southeast Michigan is the hole in the doughnut of ash tree decline.

Nearly all forest ash in the area have succumbed to emerald ash borer.

Living ash ring the region. In the core, where the invasive insect arrived 10 years ago from Southeast Asia, the battle is over.

The few surviving ash in the core amount to little more than crumbs.

Not so with ash that are part of municipal and residential landscapes. Ash subject to care and maintenance have better prospects than counterparts left to themselves in the wild.

A new chemical that kills emerald ash borers is giving treated trees new life.

"We have almost two years of really strong data showing almost 100 percent control,"

said Deborah McCullough, a Michigan State University forest entomologist. "You can hardly find a single live larvae on a tree, even two years after we injected it. If you're willing to invest the money, you can pretty much protect the tree from emerald ash borer."

McCullough has been studying emerald ash borers since their 2002 discovery in western Wayne County. She was part of the team that identified the bug, which hadn't been seen before in North America and wasn't well researched in China.

Her recent findings are good news to people who want to preserve ash trees.

The popular shade tree was planted, in many cases overplanted, to fill voids in the ornamental landscape caused by loss of American elms due to Dutch elm disease.

Ash losses in Southeast Michigan number in the tens

of millions.

"But, in the rest of lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula, there's a whole lot of ash trees," McCullough said. "Most forest ash trees are not in Southeast Michigan. They're in northern lower and upper Michigan."

McCullough's up-tempo outlook for landscape ash comes from studying the effectiveness of emamectin benzoate, a new insecticide made by Arborjet and sold as TREE-age. Application is restricted to certified professionals.

Infested trees injected with the chemical regain their health.

Researchers are writing the results of a TREE-age study done in 2007 through 2008. Of 175 ash trees injected, nearly all started with borer larvae in them.

Some of the trees were cut down in fall 2007, others the following year, and analyzed.

"On trees injected with TREE-age, there's basically no live larvae on them to speak of," McCullough said. "Trees treated with some other products did have larvae, but the canopy still looked pretty good on nearly all of the trees."

A paper by scientists at five Big Ten universities summarized anti-borer research conducted over the last seven years. Emamectin benzoate came out on top:

"A single injection of emamectin benzoate in mid-May or early June provided excellent control of emerald ash borer for at least two years, even under high pest pressure. One study suggests that a single injection may even control EAB for three years. To date, this is the only product that controls EAB for more than one year with a single application."

New economics

Anti-borer treatments that last more than one year are

changing the economics of tending ash trees, especially in cities where tight budgets don't allow yearly applications of ash trees with chemicals that aren't sure bets.

In the City of Grosse Pointe, an annual program to inject ash trees with Imidacloprid, the one-time best insecticide against ash borers, has been cut from the budget.

"Everything comes down to cost nowadays," said Frank Schulte, City public service supervisor in charge of trees. "We were seeing continuous decline in our trees because the borer had been in them for quite some time before we started injecting."

In neighboring Grosse Pointe Farms, about 600 city-owned ash trees have received anti-borer treatments every year since the bug was discovered in the community in late 2002.

This year, Public Service Director Terry Brennan had planned to test TREE-age on about 50 ash trees.

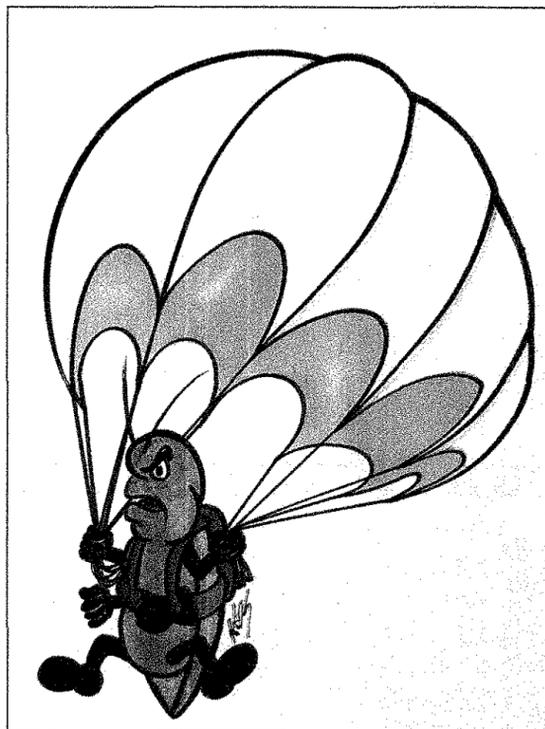
Based on reports of TREE-age's multi-year effectiveness, Brennan may widen his experiment.

"I might do 100 trees or one-third of them on a three-year rotation," Brennan said. "The price (of TREE-age) per inch is about 2/3 more (than Imidacloprid). Our initial cost is going to be a little more to buy the product and equipment, but we have somebody on staff to do the injections. So, it's going to cost me about the same to do TREE-age injections as it is the Imidacloprid injections."

That's not to say Imidacloprid is a failure.

The five-university paper alludes to an MSU study in which "larval density in trees treated with (Imidacloprid) injections were reduced by 60 percent to 96 percent compared to untreated controls."

Yet, studies also showed



Imidacloprid to be more of a stop-gap than an end-all.

The paper continues:

"In a discouraging study in Michigan, ash trees continued to decline from one year to the next despite being treated in both years with either Imidacloprid or Bidrin. Larval density increased in treated and untreated trees from one year to the next. Canopy dieback increased by at least 67 percent in all treated trees."

"These results," the report continues, "indicate that even consecutive years of treatment with these trunk-injection treatments may only slow or delay ash decline when pest pressure is severe."

Stoners

Both chemicals disrupt the insect's nervous system. Both cause the bug to stop eating. They don't eat, yet feel full and

starve.

"Larvae of ash borer can go for a long time without feeding," McCullough said. "They spend most of the winter not feeding."

Experiments show high doses of Imidacloprid are needed to kill larvae.

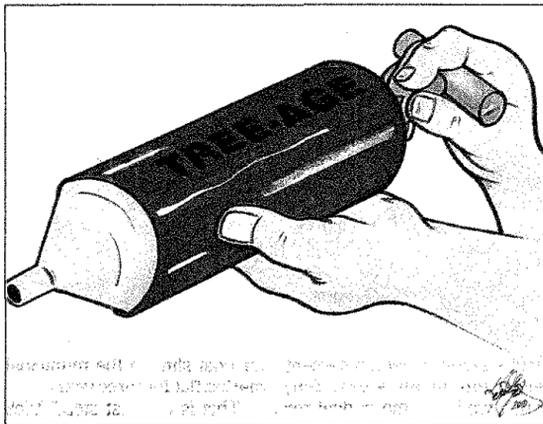
"In middle-level doses, larvae don't want to feed, but they don't die," McCullough said. "They'll just keep molting, but not growing. It's really weird behavior."

Borers exposed to Imidacloprid become lethargic and listless.

"We call them stoners," McCullough said, "because they just lay on their backs with their legs in the air."

They just don't care. "If you poke them, they'll move and kind of stagger

See BORERS, page 11A



ILLUSTRATIONS BY KEN SCHOP/GROSSE POINTE NEWS

Park council weighs in on potential Asian carp invasion

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe Park City Council made it perfectly clear how they feel about governmental efforts to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes.

A resolution asking for the immediate closure of the O'Brien and Chicago Canal locks in Illinois was unanimously approved by the council and will be forwarded to all officials who have anything to do with the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River.

"We need to notify anyone who is involved," said councilman Greg Theokis. "Once Asian carp get in, they will decimate the lake."

They take out all other

species. We won't even see the swans anymore."

Mayor Palmer Heenan asked for the resolution after learning federal officials did not approve of closing the O'Brien and Chicago Canal locks, which essentially link the Mississippi River, where the fish are thriving, to Lake Michigan.

What the federal government is proposing involves nearly a dozen steps, at a proposed cost of \$78 million, ranging from strengthening an electric barrier that would shock the fish to poisoning those fish that do enter Lake Michigan. Of concern to the federal government and state officials in Illinois and Michigan is the impact closing the locks would have on the

economy, as it would essentially shut down all commercial shipping traffic.

However, it is the impact that Asian carp would have on Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River that has Park officials worried.

"The Asian carp is ruining sport fishing in the Mississippi and would ruin fishing in Lake St. Clair," Heenan told the council. "We have to start at the source of the problem and stop them there. The only solution is closing the O'Brien and Chicago locks."

"If those fish are allowed to enter the Great Lakes, the barn door will be open and will be impossible to fix," Theokis noted. "We're sorry if this would be an inconvenience to Chicago, but they need to take

their turn in protecting the lakes. We did our part a few years ago by redoing our sewer system. Now it is their turn.

"As a lakeside community, we have real concerns. It goes beyond any partisan politics."

The city agreed to forward the resolution to officials in Illinois, Michigan and at the federal level, agreeing that it should go to all levels of government involved in making the final decisions.

"We also need to urge other communities to get the message to these officials," Theokis added. "We can't sit here five years from now, when you can't even go out on the lake because of the Asian carp, and wish that we had done something about it when we had the chance."

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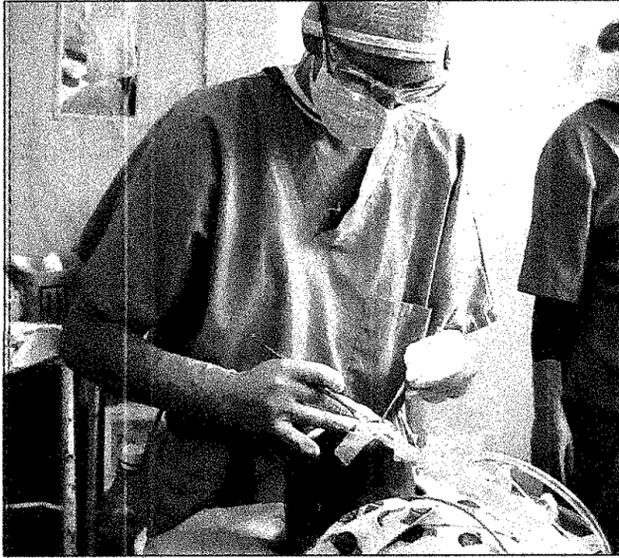
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4A | NEWS

POINTER OF INTEREST

Dr. Jennifer Mertz says it's important to give back to her hometown, and not just through her work as an orthodontist.



Dentists, surgeons and orthodontists travel with Operation Smile to more than 50 countries to give free surgeries to thousands of children every year. Dr. Jennifer Mertz of Pointe Orthodontics in Grosse Pointe Farms, has been on trips to Kenya and the Philippines.

Right where she belongs

By JOE WARNER
Editor

Dr. Jennifer Mertz smiles a lot at the office, which is exactly what her patients want to see.

The South graduate grew up in the Grosse Pointe Park. She completed her undergrad at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and her residency at University of Detroit-Mercy.

Her marriage to Jeff Mertz and her career at Pointe Orthodontics brought her back to Grosse Pointe, and it's right where she belongs.

"I can't imagine being anywhere else," Mertz said. "This office is great. It's smaller, so we get to spend time talking to patients and getting to know them. I like to explain every step of what we do."

Pointe Orthodontics, which shares offices with four dentists at Pointe Family Dentistry, offers full service options for "that million dollar smile," Mertz said. "It's a team effort here. The best part of my job is working with this staff and finding new solutions for patients. Every day is different and that makes it fun."

That's right, a fun career. Mertz said it's a changing business. Gone are the days of heavy metal mouths with crazy headgear and painful brace tightening.

"It's painless and doesn't look nearly as bad as it used to," Mertz said. "But the greatest part is taking the braces off and seeing them glow when they look in the mirror. You really have given them confi-



A patient whose life was changed forever thanks to the volunteer work of Dr. Mertz.

dence. They're different kids." And while the children are excited, braces aren't just for the young anymore.

"I get to see babies to patients who are 70 years old, which is kind of cool," Mertz said. "You're with people as they go through an important change in their life. It really is a fun job."

While Mertz said she knew she wanted to be a dentist, she said orthodontics wasn't necessarily in the career path picture originally.

"My dad was a pilot and I grew up learning about physics and movements," she said. "That's a natural move to orthodontics. I didn't know if I could go the 10 years after high school though."

She did, and it worked out. She ended up with a job back in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"I'm not going anywhere," Mertz said. "I love it here and I plan to stay here."

Away from work, Mertz enjoys boating with her husband and "getting away from it all" with time at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, where she serves on the board.

"It's a different kind of club," she said. "It's a little piece of

heaven. I can get away for a while."

Mertz's desire to stay busy shows in the other work she does in Metro Detroit and around the world.

She is a volunteer for Operation Smile, an organization that helps children worldwide overcome cleft lip and palate deformities.

Since 1982, Operation Smile has provided free surgeries to 140,000 boys and girls in 50 countries.

Mertz has been on two, two-week missions with Operation Smile, one to Nakuru, Kenya and the other in Cebu, Philippines.

"Last year's trip to Cebu, we screened more than 300, performed 220 operations and hardly slept," she said. "The coolest part is you're working with other dentists and plastic surgeons and there are no egos. It's all for the kids. It's one of the coolest experiences I've ever been a part of."

Mertz said she would like to travel with Operation Smile every other year.

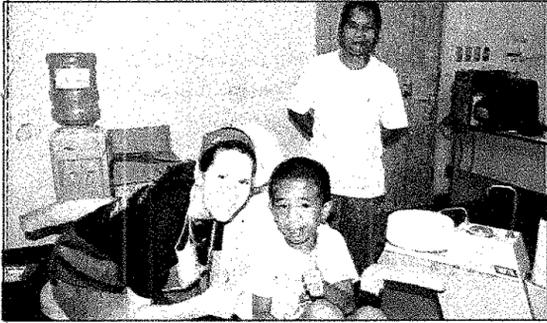
"It's very intense and it's a rush," she said. "It's also such a humbling experience. Some of the kids, some of the poverty you see, it's just amazing."

Mertz is also a member of Providence Hospital's craniofacial team.

"I just want to give back where I can," Mertz said. "I feel it's important to be part of the community."

Pointe Family Dentistry and Pointe Orthodontics are located at 18342 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms.

For more information, call (313) 881-2480 or visit pointefamilydental.com.



Dr. Mertz loves being back in Grosse Pointe for her career, but also enjoys volunteer work with Operation Smile throughout the world. She has been on two trips and plans to do more.

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Park council honors civilians for assisting police

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

"They helped us do our job." That's how Grosse Pointe Park's Chief of Police David Hiller described several citizens who were recently recognized for assisting other citizens and the police at the scene of a crime.

"They are my new army," Hiller, albeit tongue in cheek, told the council as he and Mayor Palmer Heenan presented civilian commendations to Bill Gaetz, Nathan Oakes, Nicholas Oakes, the father and son team of Lawrence and Scott Carmack and Michael Bamford.

Gaetz and the Oakes brothers were recognized for their actions Oct. 31. According to the citation, the trio "were eating lunch at the Harvard Grill when they observed a subject

stealing property from the storage shed across Harvard. The three men exited the restaurant and chased the suspect into Detroit where they held the man for the police.

The man was arrested and all of the property was received."

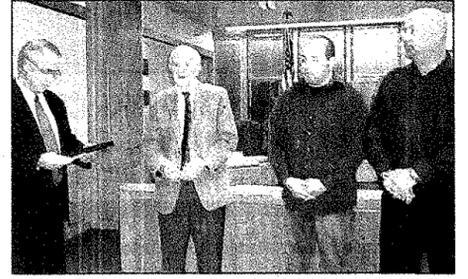
The Carmacks were recognized for their actions Nov. 12. According to the citation, "Officers had arrested three suspects for home invasion when one of the suspects broke free from the officers and fled on foot. Lawrence and Scott Carmack were working in a back yard on Devonshire when they observed the police chasing the subject. The Carmacks joined in the apprehension and helped detain him."

Bamford was cited for his quick action following a home invasion on Grayton.

According to the citation, "On Nov. 27, 2009 residents on Grayton were attacked by an unknown assailant. Mr. Michael Bamford heard the perpetrators and came to the assistance of the victim and one of the perpetrators fled on foot.

Mr. Bamford then entered the house to assist another victim, and although he could not hold the subject for police, he ended the assault. Michael Bamford immediately came to the rescue of the victims without regard for his personal safety and prevented what could have been a far more serious assault."

"We wouldn't be making the progress we are against crime without the help of our citizens," Hiller told the council. "We are extremely grateful for their actions and their support."



PHOTOS BY KATHY RYAN



Top left, from left, Chief David Hiller, Mayor Palmer Heenan and Michael Bamford. Above, from left, Chief Hiller, Mayor Heenan and Scott and Lawrence Carmack. At left, Mayor Heenan, Nathan Oakes, Bill Gaetz and Nicholas Oakes.

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WAR MEMORIAL: Lakeshore mansion is Grosse Pointe's historical jewel

Continued from page 1A

"Josephine was quite the rambunctious little girl who would climb the fireplace mantle and jump into her father's arms," Berschback said. "She would climb out her mother's bedroom window onto the roof and colonnade."

The colonnade still stands. It fronts 450-seat Fries Auditorium and the Crystal Ballroom, added to the center in 1962. They were built into the side-yard hill and replaced a stone staircase descending from a garden to a terrace overlooking the lake.

In 1911, a 12-year-old Josephine reportedly became the youngest person in the United States to fly in an airplane.

Her father arranged the ride in a Wright aircraft piloted by Frank Coffyn, an original member of the Wright brothers exhibition flying team based in Dayton, Ohio.

They took off and landed on the Country Club of Detroit polo grounds, now the athletic field of Grosse Pointe South High School.

A chapter of the book focuses on Alger's connection with the Wright brothers.

Aliotta would like to have met Marion.

"She made me think of my own grandmothers," said Aliotta.

Among the book's many unposed black and white photographs of life among one of Michigan's leading families, Marion is seen in the estate's backyard bowling with her tow-headed namesake grandchild.

"She had a big role entertaining Russell's business colleagues," Aliotta said. "Yet, it seemed she loved having her family around her."

Another chapter

The 128-page book is part of the Images of America series by Arcadia Publishing.

Its photo-and-caption format is the same as Berschback and Aliotta's 2007 book, "Grosse Pointe Then and Now," and one Berschback wrote in 2001 with former Pointer Madeleine Socia, "Grosse Pointe: 1880-1930."

Chapters include but are not limited to family life, the 225-foot family yacht and gardens, designed by Ellen Shipman, the "dean of American woman landscape architects," according to the book.

The authors obtained source material from the War Memorial, Grosse Pointe Historical Society and Country Club of Detroit.

Berschback worked at the memorial from 1990 to 2000 as public relations coordinator.

"My love of local history started with digging for Alger family anecdotes that brought the War Memorial's history to life," she said. "I spent years contacting as many Alger family members as I could, asking them for pictures and stories they'd be willing to share."

She also rifled through boxes of documents stored in the War Memorial attic.

"I'm an attic person," Berschback said. "I like to go through old papers and see what I can find."

The authors had a lot to draw from.

Alger's father, an orphan, rose from private to general in the Union Army during the Civil War. He became a Michigan timber baron, the state's 20th governor (1885-1887), secretary of war for President William McKinley and a U.S. senator from 1902 until his death in 1907.

"It was nice to find that the house was a family home," Aliotta said. "There's tons of pictures of children and grandchildren, nieces and nephews and friends' kids. We could imagine kids running around the house."

The building isn't far removed from its domestic days when children's laughter filled its rooms.

"I love going upstairs and imagining those rooms being bedrooms," Aliotta said. "It doesn't seem cold or museum-



Actress Debbie Reynolds at the center of it all.

like. It's as warm and cozy as a big mansion can be."

Roots transplanted

Alger Jr. died in 1930, relegated to a wheelchair from being thrown from a horse chasing hounds at the country club in 1921.

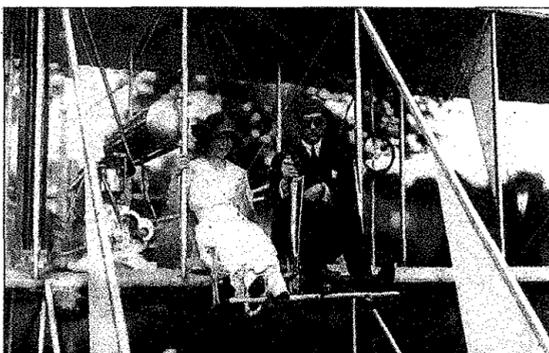
His children grew up and moved away.

"Nor were his grandchildren ever here, either," said Hudson Mead, a family relation from the City of Grosse Pointe. "They took off in the 1940s."

Mead's late first wife, Francis Alger Boyer, was granddaughter of Russell Alger's brother, Frederick. Mead helped fact-check the book.

Mead said he contacted

Russell Alger IV last month in Arizona asking if he'd come back to the Pointes for an April



VINTAGE PHOTOS FROM "GROSSE POINTE WAR MEMORIAL"

Society girl, Beth Loomis, 18, on board a Wright brothers airplane with pilot Frank Coffyn.

17 anniversary gala of the house's centennial.

"He won't," Mead said. "There are no roots in Grosse Pointe."

Alger IV is pictured in the book as an infant.

Family descendant David Alger and all 35 employees of Fred Alger Management, housed in the north tower of World Trade Center, were killed in the 9/11 terrorist attack.

In 1936, the Alger family donated the estate to the Detroit Institute of Arts. Twelve years later, the institute gave it back.

But the house as the family's home was no more.

Tour through time

If the Algers hadn't donated

the estate to the community in 1949 as a memorial to Grosse Pointe veterans of World War II, the names of the soldiers it commemorates may have faded away.

The house might have been razed and its grounds divided into separate parcels, as were

two Dodge estates it neighbored until they were torn down in 1976 and 1981, respectively.

Instead, the Alger house survives as a state and national historic site.

See MEMORIAL, page 10A

ROY O'BRIEN



Welcomes

Scott Campbell

Born and raised in St. Clair Shores MI.
Graduate of Lakeview High School.

Scott has resided in Grosse Pointe Park MI. for past 16 years.
Proud Father of three sons who have attended
Maire Elementary, Pierce Middle School
and Grosse Pointe South.

Has spent last 21 years working at Bruce Campbell Dodge.
While at Campbell Dodge..Scott worked in Sales, Service
and Finance departments throughout the years.

He has been brought up in the business to
prioritize fair business and excellent customer service,
making him a great fit for Roy O'Brien Ford.

Special interests include hiking, camping and fishing
with his sons when time permits.

Scott loves ice skating and is a avid sports fan...
particularly Tiger baseball.

Looking forward to Grosse Pointe Park Little League baseball
where his boys have played ball for many seasons.

Also looking forward to a long career at
Roy O'Brien Ford where he now has the
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OUR VIEW

It's time to work together in the Pointes

In a story in this issue, an insurance representative told a group of Grosse Pointe Woods retirees "it's a new world."

He was referring to changes in prescription drug costs among other things, a reality business owners and government officials have to address every month in their budgets.

The retirees are upset the city switched up what they were originally offered, moving to a Blue Cross PPO to save the city close to \$70,000 this year.

"It's a new world" may be the understatement of the last couple years. All communities have faced tough choices.

While officials in the Woods are trying to cut where they can, those affected by the cuts would rather they look elsewhere. During the meeting, unhappy with the direction of the cuts, officials were threatened with a lawsuit.

Where is the solution there?

More cuts in benefits and services to cover attorney costs for a lawsuit over cuts in benefits and services?

Obviously it's not just Grosse Pointe Woods. Thanks to a sharp drop in state revenue sharing, coupled with double-digit percentage dives in house values, all five Pointes are looking at cuts.

In the Woods and Shores, groups of residents have challenged the officials who voted to raise millage rates with recall petitions. Efforts failed in the Woods. A May recall election is set in the Shores, where two officials have since resigned after years of service.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Brian Hunt was one, councilman Fred Minturn was the other.

Minturn, who also serves the Grosse Pointe Public School System on its board of education, shared some parting thoughts at his last council meeting, including: Grosse Pointe Shores has about \$2.5 million in the bank

The total fund balance of all the city funds is more than \$1 million

The general fund balance is positive, not negative.

The general fund balance in March 2002 was only \$296,000 compared to about \$1.2 million in March 2009.

"In fact, the only negative balance in the entire (January 2010) audit report as of the last audit period is the unallocated general fund balance which is only a sliver of the story, but that is all we read about in the newspaper or in the recall group's political material," Minturn wrote in a prepared statement.

"This recall isn't how we move forward," he would later say.

Those targeted by the recall admit changes were needed.

While the recall effort may serve as a wake-up call, the goal should be coming together and finding solutions to the problems. Officials say they are moving in that direction. Some residents say it's not fast enough.

All concerned citizens have a chance to attend council meetings and ask questions of their elected officials. And you should. Then, do what you can to be part of the solution. It's easy to complain and much tougher to do something about it.

Don't sit back and think things will stay the same. Services will have to change. Pay and benefits will have to change. Status quo is out the door and efficiencies are needed.

Long-term solutions have to be discussed and everything needs to be on the table during the process. Important negotiations will take place with the unions, and concessions will be key. There will have to be compromises on both sides.

A recent survey in the City of Grosse Pointe, with 23 percent participation, told officials that exploring service consolidation with other Pointes makes sense in this economy. Grosse Pointe Shores is also conducting a survey.

Residents have to look at how they can help their cities not only thrive, but survive. Officials have to continue to find cuts where they can. None of their decisions will be popular, but they certainly will be necessary.

The question — for residents and officials in all five of our communities — is can we work together?

In the end, there won't be a choice.

The answer won't be found in recalls and lawsuits.

It's a new world.

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. Letters to the Editor can be e-mailed to jwarner@grossepointenews.com.

Terrorism

To the Editor:

Do you know we almost became the next Lockerbie Scotland? I was entertaining 24 people in Grosse Pointe Farms on Christmas Day, directly under the path of the "panty bomber," Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab.

When I wrote our esteemed representative, Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, D-Highland Park, asking if she was aware citizens in her district almost had flaming plane parts and mangled bodies raining down on us from the sky, do you know what I got as an answer? Nothing.

We sure are lucky "the system worked," according to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, who earlier had warned Homeland Security to be on the lookout for evil people who attend tea parties and object to wild government spending.

As officials hustled bomber Abdulmutallab off the plane while he was blabbing about his connections with al-Qaida, and more bombs aboard, the American Civil Liberties Union took him under its wing. They got him to shut up and Michiganders are now footing the bill for his advanced medical treatment at University of Michigan Hospital, his incarceration and trial. I'm so relieved the bomber's rights were protected! Thank goodness he can receive free medical treatment and skin grafts that might go otherwise to a Michigander.

He'll be tried in court here and no doubt be released so he can sue us and go on another bombing spree.

We know we will be hit in Detroit — the only question is when. Do you think if his millionaire father is asked, he might pony up money for his defense?

I was recently in Florida where Janet Napolitano visited, throwing millions into radiation detectors, bomb-sniffing dogs, and men swarming all over the Miami stadium. Meanwhile in Detroit, where are the bomb-sniffing dogs — the only thing that could save us from this guy's 24 comrades in arms, who will succeed in blowing Grosse Pointe off the map next time.

Washington has shoved Detroit, and especially Grosse Pointe, to the back of the bus.

Remember on election day your representative, Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, did nothing; Sen. Carl Levin, D-Michigan, who spearheaded

the drive to bring the monsters from Gitmo to the United States, did nothing and Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, did nothing to prevent this man and his friends from striking us.

Who did Obama put in charge of protecting us? John Brennan, assistant to the president for Homeland Security and deputy national security advisor for counterterrorism — the guy who decided to let Osama Bin Laden go when the CIA had him in its crosshairs before 9/11, and Michael Leitner, director of the National Counterterrorism Center, the guy who "didn't let a little terrorism ruin his ski vacation" after the Christmas bomb attempt.

According to Paul Welday, Bloomfield Hills, 9th congressional district congressional candidate:

"Shockingly, it turns out that several key Obama political appointees now in charge of terrorist detainee issues at the justice department were lawyers and activists working on behalf of these same detainees before joining the administration.

"The principal deputy solicitor general, Neal Katyal — the official responsible for leading the prosecution team against these terrorists — was himself the attorney for Osama bin Laden's driver and bodyguard, Salim Hamdan, before joining the Obama Justice Department.

"Another Justice Department official who works on detainee issues, Jennifer Daskal, advocated for Guantanamo detainees before joining the Obama Administration. While an official at the organization, Human Rights Watch, Ms. Daskal protested that Guantanamo inmates were allowed only one book in their cell at a time and complained that a 'self-styled poet' was only given a pencil for short periods of time. How unfortunate."

Let's get together and demand real representation in Congress before another terrorist incident hits its mark — us!

JANE FIGUEIREDO
Grosse Pointe Farms

Recall benefits

To the Editor:

To the Grosse Pointe Shores' residents and to those in other cities who criticize and demean the democratic process of a recall, I will delin-

eate the benefits and advantages that residents of the city of Grosse Pointe Shores have reaped since its inception:

Because of the recall

1) The residents now know about the "golden" Kenyon pensions.

2) The residents now know about the use of banked sick days in pensions.

3) The residents now have the duly elected mayor pro tem in his proper position.

4) The residents now know about employee contracts that are unsustainable.

5) The residents now know about employee health plans that have greatly added to the taxpayers' burdens.

6) The residents now know that Grosse Pointe Shores has only been paying interest on the bonds for the marina renovation.

7) The residents are now aware of the poor financial decisions that have placed Grosse Pointe Shores on State Fiscal Watch.

8) The residents are demanding better communication and more transparency in city government.

9) The residents are now aware of why 20 mills had to be written in the city charter.

10) The residents have a source for accurate and substantiated facts regarding the state of affairs in Grosse Pointe Shores.

11) The residents are openly communicating with each other and members of the council.

12) The residents are expecting the council to utilize the intellectual resources we have in this community to help problem-solve the financial dilemma that exists.

13) The residents are aware of blocks to suitable actions by recall members of the council.

14) The residents now know the costly mistake of a lack of long-term planning by the recall members of the council.

To pretend the city of Grosse Pointe Shores is somehow going to "magically" become solvent and financially viable again without a clean-up and a clean-out of the city and its council is not only unrealistic, but immature. This recall is a wake-up call to all residents who live here and hope to, once again, have a city government that respects the citizenry and works to protect their property investment by being financially responsible with their tax dollars!

DR. JANICE PEMBERTON
Grosse Pointe Shores

2010 Census

To the Editor:

Did you know the schools, cities, and even the governor can't access your census questionnaire?

Title 13 of the United States code protects the confidentiality of ALL your information. Violating this law is a crime with severe penalties — yes even for the president of the U.S.! The U.S. Census Bureau is legally and morally obligat-

ed to protect your privacy and confidentiality.

The 2010 census is the shortest questionnaire ever used. There are 10 questions and will take 10 minutes. Only questions about who lives in the house, their race and gender will be asked.

Why should you fill out the questionnaire? It is critically important to fund your schools, all levels of government, distribution of more than \$300 billion in federal funds and even more in state funds, planning for hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, the location of other health services, designing public safety strategies, designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, or children, developing adult education programs, to name a few.

It has been documented each individual counted is worth approximately \$1,000 per year for 10 years adding up to \$10,000 per person. Could you imagine if we had even one family NOT submit their questionnaire?

If you lose your questionnaire (mailed to residents March 15) and need a new one, visit the Grosse Pointe Public Library Ewald Branch in Grosse Pointe Park.

For assistance with the questionnaire, visit the Census Information Center, 90 Kerby, Grosse Pointe Farms from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 19, 24, 26 and 31; 1 to 4 p.m. March 22, 23, 29 and 30; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 1, 7, 9, 14, 15 and 19; and 1 to 4 p.m. April 5, 6, 12 and 13.

MARY HUEBNER
KELLEY VREEKEN
Grosse Pointe
Census representatives

Student safety

To the Editor:

The safety of our students is questioned with the outsourcing of school jobs.

Last week, a member of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education proposed a school budget that would eliminate 16 hall monitors, locker room attendants and parking lot attendants. Eleven of these positions would then be contracted to an outside company.

As a Grosse Pointe resident, and the parent of two Grosse Pointe Public School System students, I feel the safety of our students would be in question with this change.

Outside companies have no greater responsibility than keeping their clients and the people they serve safe. But rather than maintaining low turnover and adequate staffing levels, these companies rely on temporary, low-paid staff. This has the potential to put children at risk. Many examples of this can be found by searching online.

Hall monitors and locker room attendants are loyal Grosse Pointe schools staff members, such as teachers, who are with our children all day long. They supervise them

See LETTERS, page 9A

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I SAY By Karen Fontanive

Sacrifices make the world go 'round



"I will listen to your opinion of my friends."
"I will be civil to your mother."

And it ends with him stating for all of this, he will drive the car he wants.

This commercial did not offend me. Perhaps it's because I am married to a "car guy," so I understand the desire to have a fun, powerful, impressive, expensive, exotic, you-fill-in-the-blank, car. But mostly it was because I knew for every statement that man made, I could one-up him.

Well, so did a group of women sitting around an apartment in New York. They created a female version of the ad on YouTube.

It gets a little off-color in spots, but some of the comments include:

"I will eat half a grapefruit for breakfast."
"I will put my career on

This commercial did not offend me. Perhaps it's because I am married to a "car guy," so I understand the desire to have a fun, powerful, impressive, expensive, exotic, you-fill-in-the-blank, car.

hold to raise your children."

"I will turn a blind eye to your ever-encroaching baldness."

"I will see 'Paul Blart: Mall Cop' twice."

While I see the humor in the YouTube version, I find it unnecessary. (Of course, what on YouTube is necessary?)

Does anyone really believe men make all these sacrifices and women make none? Don't we all make sacrifices for each other? Isn't that part of being a parent, child, spouse, sibling, co-worker, customer, etc.?

For example:

"I will pretend to love read-

ing the same bedtime story to you night after night for two years."

Or "I will act as though I enjoy watching 'The Land Before Time' videos 16 million times." (Scratch that. I did enjoy that.)

"I will allow you to think it is my job to lay flat all of your favorite T-shirts so they do not shrink even 1/4 of one inch."

My children could respond: "I will listen to you harp incessantly about getting good grades."

"I will not get embarrassed when you tell my friends those 'precious' stories of my

youth."

"I will endure being seen with you at dinner when we run into my friends." (Oops, that could go both ways!)

For my husband:

"I will have you believe I love searching for Blue Dots at a car swap meet." (Don't ask. Only car people know what these are!)

For me, he will respond:

"Yes, I would love to get down on my hands and knees and scrub the kitchen floor for you simply because you don't like to."

Actually, my husband and I could go back and forth for hours and still have enough material for a multi-year television series.

In the end, don't we do these things because we want to? Correct that. It's not necessarily that we want to do it, but we know the other person appreciates it.

Is it so hard to watch "Paul Blart Mall Cop" twice?
Or "The Land Before Time" 16 million times?

Is it tiresome to scrub the floor or search for Blue Dots?
Not really when it makes someone else happy.

There are important male/female issues, like salary inequity.

Does this commercial minimize such issues?

Does a YouTube response counteract the effects in any way?

Would a group of men have created a YouTube version if the original commercial was a group of women listing all their chores to justify buying as many pairs of Christian Louboutin shoes as they wanted?

The grass is always greener on the other side and your side is always someone else's other side.

STREETWISE By Renee Landuyt

If you could only eat one thing a day what would it be?

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



'Chicken noodle soup because it's tasty and has a lot of good stuff in it.'
ROCCO RUSSANO
Grosse Pointe Park



'I would eat licorice because it is my favorite.'
KATE BEARDSLEE
Grosse Pointe Park



'Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches because I already do and because I like them the best.'
REED ROSELL
Grosse Pointe Park



'Vanilla ice cream with sprinkles because it's so good.'
TIARA CHERRY
Grosse Pointe Park



'I would eat pizza because it tastes good and it's cheesy.'
MAIRIN HEIMBUCH
Grosse Pointe Park

FROM THE ARCHIVES Compiled by Suzy Berschback

Grosse Pointe on Lake Sainte Claire



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

By Silas Farmer, 1886

"The Residences And Their Occupants"

On the landward side of the road, the first place, a very handsome one, just completed, is the residence of John B. Dyar, and known as "Beaurivage" (beautiful shore). The grounds contain some

The pretty Queen Anne cottage of Wm. A. McGraw comes next. Although one of the later "colonists," Mr. McGraw is an ardent admirer of the Pointe.

fine specimens of evergreens planted by a former owner, and the situation at a bend of the road, offers a charming lake view. Those who know Mr. Dyar need not be told that taste and comfort will reign within the portals of his home. Ever ready to aid in all social pleasures, an enthusiast as to the attractions of the Pointe, Mr. Dyar has contributed greatly to the general enjoyment.

He married Julia Edmunds Maynard, daughter of Judge A. B. Maynard, and niece of Senator Edmunds of Vermont. Their three children are Clara Gray, Ralph Maynard and John Wild.

The pretty Queen Anne cottage of Wm. A. McGraw comes next. Although one of the later "colonists," Mr. McGraw is an ardent admirer of the Pointe.



Queen Anne cottage of Wm. A. McGraw.

His grounds embrace about 10 acres, and are known as "The Poplars" — a handsome row of Lombardy Poplars, and an Osage orange hedge defining the front. The interior of the residence is a model of convenience, and its general finish and tasteful appointments are admired by all. Not the least attractive feature of the grounds of Mr. McGraw and his neighbor Mr. Dyar is the little park in front, extending to the lake.

Mr. McGraw is the son of A. C. McGraw, and of the firm of A. C. McGraw & Co., one of the oldest and most successful mercantile firms in Detroit. He married Harriet A. Robinson, a niece of John S. Newberry. Both he and his wife were born in Detroit. They have two children, Kathleen and Harrie.

As the road bends and approaches more closely to the lake, we reach what was for many years the residence of the well known lawyer, D. Bethune Duffield. The grounds include about twenty acres, which for years were the pride of their owner. The well stocked orchard and graperies are marks of the great care he bestowed upon the property. While gladly welcoming the new owner, the residents of the Pointe were not the less sorry to miss Mr. Duffield and family from among their number, their long residence having made them the friends of all.

This place is now known as Sans Souci (without care). Its present owner, Martin S. Smith, purchased the property in 1885 at a cost of \$21,000, and has since rebuilt the residence in a tasteful style.

The establishment is now as complete as the most fastidious need require. The name of



In 1886 John B. Dyar built "Beaurivage," which later stood at 65 Lakeshore.

M. S. Smith, as the founder of one of the oldest business establishments in the West, is probably as widely known as that of any person in Michigan; and whether in business affairs, in his duties as one of the Commissioners of Police, or in the discharge of his duty as a citizen, Mr. Smith is always consistent, courteous, benevolent and enterprising. Of late years he has been one of the firm of Alger, Smith & Co., carrying on one of the largest lumbering enterprises in the State. He is also interested in other extensive industries. Mr. Smith was born in Livingston Co., N. Y., in 1834. In 1862 he married Mary E. Judson, of Detroit, a daughter of Otis Judson. The name of their little girls is Helen Gertrude.

The rustic little cottage, next in view, is occupied by Will. C. McMillan, son of James McMillan of Detroit. This is



Lake Terrace cottage.

one of the older residences of the Pointe, as the arbor vitae hedges and old trees indicate.

Mr. McMillan graduated at Yale in 1884, since which time he has occupied an important position in the management of the Michigan Car Co.'s Works, and shows that he inherits the business talents of his father. He married Miss Marie Thayer, daughter of Frank N. and Ella S. Thayer of Boston, Mass. The latter now resides with them.

They have one child, Thayer McMillan. Generous and genial, his popularity is as great among friends at home as it was among his classmates at college. The baseball and lawn tennis interests of the Pointe are much indebted to his care. His cottage stands in the extensive grounds belonging to John S. Newberry and Jas. McMillan, known as Lake Terrace.

LETTERS: Student safety

Continued from page 8A

in the halls and in the gym locker rooms. They develop friendly relationships with them.

Do we really want poorly paid "outsiders" coming in such close contact with our children? I for one am uncomfortable outsiders will have such opportunities.

Also, there is a question as to the cost savings. It is my un-

derstanding many of the current hall monitors and locker room attendants do not take the medical coverage offered.

They do not take many sick days, and are among the most reliable employees in the school district. Most live here in Grosse Pointe, shop here and volunteer in the community.

Let's not risk finding ourselves in a situation where outsourcing creates more headaches than it solves, either because of poor financial performance or poor management and staffing practices.

RON MACK
Grosse Pointe Farms



In 1886, the Will. C. McMillan house was one of the older residences of the Pointes.



Martin S. Smith, purchased this property in 1885 at a cost of \$21,000.

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MEMORIAL: Thousands enjoy events each year at Grosse Pointe War Memorial

Continued from page 7A

A combined 200,000 people attend more than 5,000 functions each year at the War Memorial, including the auditorium, ballroom, and art and cable television studios added in 1993, according to memorial

representatives.

"The War Memorial is a community jewel and people have affection for it," Berschback said.

As a child, she and her sister took ballet classes at the War Memorial.

"Weddings happen at the War Memorial, so do memorial

services," Berschback said. "People are emotionally attached to that building because we've grown up there. Think of all those middle school dances."

People attending summer concerts last year on the back lawn of the former estate likely sat near where Marion is pic-

tured in the book playing with her granddaughter.

Concert patrons could walk up the terrace steps and stand where decades ago the Alger's servants were photographed serving Sunday tea. Pointe teenagers are shown in the same spot in 1954, posing with actress Debbie Reynolds.

Reynolds and husband Eddie Fisher were in town to help dedicate the Grosse Pointe (South) High School gymnasium-auditorium.

Inside the back porch is the terrace room, the Alger' old screened-in porch. Today, it's a place for children's birthday parties and garden club meet-



The book, co-written by Suzy Berschback and Ann Marie Aliotta, is due for sale Wednesday, March 17.

ings. Down the hall to the left is the wood-paneled billiards room. During Prohibition, the room was a portal for bootleg liquor smuggled through a secret door to a tunnel (now filled in) leading to where Alger docked his yacht — the moorings in "The Moorings."

The billiards room now is used for all kinds of events. A few years ago, it was where members of the community welcomed and honored visiting officers of the USS Michigan nuclear powered ballistic missile submarine.

Upstairs on the main floor, the library, where today people attend forums on such things as Great Lakes water quality, is one of little Josephine's fireplace launching pads.

In the second floor Lake Room, Josephine's old bedroom, the Senior Men's Choral Group last week rehearsed Irving Berlin's "Easter Parade."

But the heart of the house, in its new role as a memorial to service and sacrifice, is in the stone-walled front entrance hall.

A floor-to-ceiling bronzed plaque erected at the foot of the main stairway during the late 1940s lists more than 3,500 Grosse Pointe veterans of World War II. A separate plaque lists the 126 who died.

Additional plaques list Pointe veterans of Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and those who died.

"The architecture of the house reflects the permanence of the family's influence on the development of the Grosse Pointes and the state," said Mark Weber, memorial president, echoing Sheldon's words from more than 60 years ago. "Now, it's used to reflect the War Memorial's roll in the community, its standing in the community and its mission going into the future."

Weber, a former professor at Indiana University, wrote the book's introduction.

"The book is not just about a historic house, or a family, or our community and the War Memorial," he said. "It's about a sense of community and enhancing the quality of life in our community through educational, cultural, civic and patriotic programs in honor of our veterans and those serving currently."

Three of the five Grosse Pointes now have their own residents-only community centers. Yet, every Pointer is welcome at the War Memorial.

"We have a tradition of excellence and caring for our community," Weber said. "We represent all of the Grosse Pointes, rather than one or the other. We take pride in working with all of the communities to enhance the quality of life as much as we can."

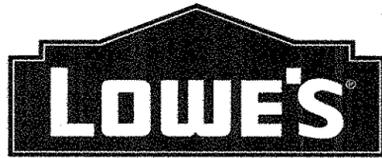
"The Grosse Pointe War Memorial" presentation, part of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Bicknell Lecture Series, is 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

After a talk by Suzy Berschback and Ann Marie Aliotta, they will sign copies of their new book, "Grosse Pointe War Memorial."

The event is cosponsored by the Grosse Pointe War Memorial and Grosse Pointe Historical Society.

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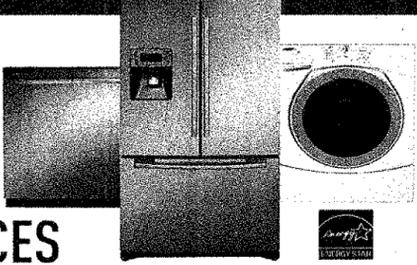
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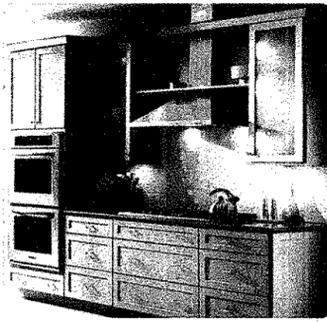
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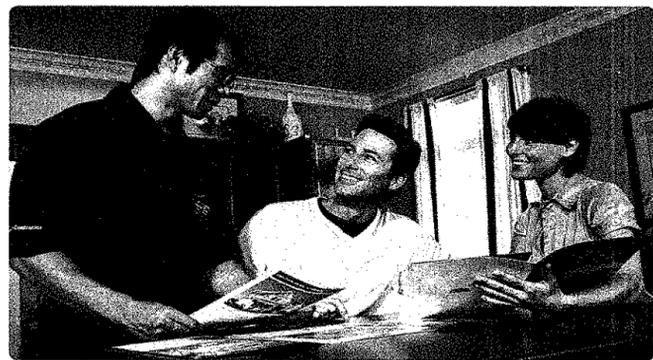
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TALKS: Survey sparks discussion of combining services

Continued from page 1A

chiefs were to again on Wednesday, March 10.

"This will take years," Hiller said, "but we need to start."

Hiller said current discussions are an outgrowth of talks initiated a few years ago by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, on collaborating fire services.

"Discussions became stalled because one of the issues we were looking at involved asking each city to earmark \$50,000 per year for purchasing fire equipment," he said. "But at the time, we had to say no because we simply did not have \$50,000."

But those talks did lead to serious analysis of figures regarding what it takes to run five separate police and fire departments, and the results showed an excess of personnel and costs for the approximately 48,000 residents in the five Grosse Pointes and the 11 square miles covered.

"We are in excess for our population," Hiller told the council. "We have five of everything, and it gets redundant. Ratios should be approximately 1.8 to 2 police officers per thousand residents. With all departments combined, we have 3.3 officers."

Hiller said the stepped-up pace of consolidation talks was sparked by a survey the City of Grosse Pointe conducted among its residents that indicated strong support among those citizens for going forward with the talks.

He indicated the talks among the directors have led to putting on paper some of the initial steps that would be taken in consolidating the five departments.

First, a Public Safety Authority would need to be established. This is a legal entity that would be the governing body for all police, fire and emergency services. Second,

all public safety services, including dispatchers and special bureaus, would be combined in a single central building. He said one site mentioned would be the land where the Kroger store is at Mack and Moross. However, in order to provide optimal coverage, fire stations would be located at three locations, one in the Woods, one in the Park and another centrally located in the Farms.

Funding would need to be worked out, and each city would be responsible for a percentage of the cost. That cost could be determined by population, state equalized values or other millage rates.

"That still needs to be determined," Hiller acknowledged.

While the public safety directors believe consolidation would be beneficial to the Pointes, and could result in an overall savings of \$1 million

dollars per year in public safety costs, several members of the Park city council didn't necessarily agree with the direction of talks.

Councilman Greg Theokis questioned Hiller as to why total consolidation is being discussed, and asked if it wouldn't be more prudent to consolidate only two departments at a time.

"Shouldn't we start with say combining with the City of Grosse Pointe, and when that is accomplished, then consolidate with the Farms? I believe there are logical pairings that would be fairly easy to accomplish. There are initial savings, but you create a bureaucracy, and over time it can move away from the original intent. You could be creating a huge government entity."

Councilwoman Laurie Arora expressed concerns about response times and quality of

service.

"There would be cost savings, obviously," she said. "But I think there will be concerns about response times."

Hiller assured the council that maintaining current services, including prompt response times, is a main concern for all the directors, but consolidation plans being discussed assure that there are enough patrol officers, as well as traffic safety officers, on the streets at all times.

"What we will do at this point is develop a plan and form three committees, including operations, finance and legal, in order to move the talks forward.

"This is the direction we need to go," Hiller assured the council. "I've been here for 38 years and I would never do anything that is not in the best interest of this city."

Councilman Jim Robson thanked Hiller for "thinking outside the box."

BORERS: Battle with bugs takes different approach

Continued from page 3A

away," McCullough said. "But, they'd just as soon lay there."

"Tree-age works a little differently than Imidacloprid," said Russ Davis, chief operating officer of Arborjet, in Woburn, Mass. "It prevents the insect's muscles from contracting."

It's also more toxic to the insect than Imidacloprid.

"It's more of an acute toxin," McCullough said. "We think this particular beetle is incredibly sensitive to that particular chemistry."

Another MSU study started last summer involves larger, infested ash having anywhere from 20 percent dieback to nearly being dead.

"We injected those with TREE-age," McCullough said. "Were going to see this sum-

mer and maybe next summer how many of them come back, and the point at which you can't bring them back."

Emerald ash borers are strong fliers. They've fanned out from Michigan to 11 other states, plus two Canadian provinces. The bug ranges from Maryland to Minnesota and Missouri to Quebec.

"A lot of communities are taking advantage of work we've done in Michigan and what we've found out here," McCullough said.

Still, the outlook for untreated ash trees in forests is dismal.

Another group of researchers has collected data showing almost 100 percent mortality of forest ash.

Read about it next week in the Grosse Pointe News.

7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20

WEEK AHEAD:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Continued from page 1A

Foundation, discusses "Friendship, a Gift from God." A bake sale is scheduled. Guest reservations must be made by

March 13 by calling Susan Plath at (313) 884-5081. For more information, call Janice McManus at (313) 886-9098 or Pamela Zimmer at (313) 882-9087.

◆ Lori Warner discusses "Is My Child on the Spectrum" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Connelly Auditorium, Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe. This event is sponsored by The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods. Admission is free. For more information, call (313) 432-3832.



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Art on display

Exhibit showcases broad talent

By Amy Salvagno
 Staff Writer

Art is expressive. It's edgy and effective, equivocal, ever unexpected. And at Grosse Pointe South High School, art is exceptional. At Artfest, now in its 27th year, students showcase their conceptions in painting, drawing, ceramics, jewelry, metals, fibers, photography and digital media. For five days, Cleminson Hall becomes a sea of originality as young artists display the work they've created throughout the school year or produced especially for the show. They can

even sell it and keep a portion of the proceeds. In addition to featuring hundreds of pieces in a wide variety of media, Artfest serves as the platform for awarding more than 50 monetary prizes and scholarships, including the Principal's Purchase Award for a piece selected for the school's permanent collection. "The kids get so much out of this," said art department chair Barbara Gruenwald. "To have their work on display for their classmates and parents and families and get that positive feedback is the best thing about Artfest. "I try to get them to understand how good they are. No matter how much I tell them, that outside opinion matters more. The awards give them the confidence in something they just haven't thought about seriously."

Several students are fresh off earning accolades from the regional Scholastic Art Awards, and had artwork on display at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit. Winning submissions of Gold Key recipients are forwarded to headquarters in New York City for national adjudication; 300 students will be honored in June at Carnegie Hall. The Silver Key is awarded to those with works worthy of exhibiting on a regional level, while certificates are awarded to submissions that demonstrate artistic potential. Paul Ferriole, a Silver Key winner for his photograph of a Hope College ballet, says Artfest puts the spotlight on an often overlooked field. "It shows the community that South embraces the arts and gives us a chance to shine," said the senior whose talent seems



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BARBARA GRUENWALD

Grosse Pointe South senior Maggie Fragel earned an award for this self portrait. Her artwork is among hundreds that will be showcased at the school's annual Artfest, March 23-27.

passed down through two generations — his grandfather's photos hang throughout his house; his grandmother, uncle and father also influenced his interest. Fellow photographer Maggie Fragel, who earned two Gold Keys and two Silver Keys for

her self portraits and a Gold Key for her portfolio, echoed Ferriole's thoughts about what little attention high school artists garner. "South doesn't focus on art much," she said. "People can see something that's so strong and see we're doing really well

in something else." Of the artwork displayed, 60 are regional Scholastic winners, including that of junior Melissa Bryan, a three-time Gold Key winner for her 2-D drawing and two sculptures; See ARTFEST, page 6A II

GPPSS struggles to ink teacher contracts

By Amy Salvagno
 Staff Writer

It seems there's no meeting in the middle for Grosse Pointe school officials and representatives of the Grosse Pointe

Education Association. Little resolution has been reached in the more than 20 sessions the two groups have held since teacher contracts expired Aug. 31, 2009, with sticking points ranging from health

insurance contributions to caps on salary increases. "We're so far apart," said Tom Harwood, assistant superintendent for human resources, noting a mediator was requested at the Jan. 5 meeting. "The

district doesn't have a history with this, so it's kind of new ground." "These are very tough times for contract negotiations," GPEA President Ranae Beyerlein said.

School districts across the state are grappling with an increase in the mandated retirement rate, from 16.94 percent to 19.41 percent — a \$1.6 million increase. Health care costs are also on the rise and expect-

ed to increase by 5 percent. And employee salaries and other direct compensation will go up because of existing contracts. See CONTRACTS, page 8A II

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Oldest school marks memorable milestone

By Amy Salvagno
Staff Writer

For a few hours one recent evening, Defer Elementary School was transformed into a disco ball-twinkling, strobe light-flashing dance club.

But the celebration didn't end when the music stopped.

Students and staff continue to commemorate the 85th year of the Grosse Pointe Park school, which opened in February 1925 to 407 K-8 pupils — 83 more than it was intended to accommodate. Three years later, a second wing was added to provide 12 additional rooms.

The oldest, continually operating school in the district shares its birthday with several other milestones: The first issue of the "New Yorker," the founding of the Chrysler Corporation; the opening of the first Sears & Roebuck store in Chicago; and the first of 2,128 consecutive games Lou Gehrig played for the New York Yankees.

Defer Dragon families and alumni Friday, Feb. 26, took part in festivities to mark the occasion, from consuming Coney dogs, chips and baked goods at The Dragon's Breath Cafe to dancing in The Dragon's Lair nightclub to tasting the entries in a chili cook-off.

Days earlier, students encircled the building and belted out a birthday tune, one heard from a few blocks away.

They also took part in a school-wide writing contest — a practice for the Grosse Pointe Writing Test — that was nar-



Above: Defer student Katherine Bsharah's smile is a little chocolatey from a cupcake made for the school's 85th birthday celebration. Right: Madeleine Glasser tastes chicken chili, one of 11 entries in the chili cook-off.



A year after his election to the Michigan Senate, he died of a heart attack. In 1996, when the school elected the dragon as

Spicy Chicken Chili with Bleu Cheese Pancakes

Defer Elementary fourth-grade teacher Andy Backman was named winner of the school's 85th birthday chili cook-off. Here, he shares his zesty recipe.

Ingredients for the chili:

- Olive oil — enough to coat the pan
- 2 pounds ground chicken or turkey
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped or canned
- 2 celery ribs, finely chopped
- 1 medium sweet onion, chopped
- 2 scallions, chopped
- 1 carrot, chopped
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and chopped, or canned
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 6 ounces beer
- 1/4 cup hot sauce
- One 15-ounce can tomato sauce
- One 15-ounce can jalapeno stewed tomatoes

Directions

Heat a large skillet to high. Add the olive oil and coat the pan, then add the chicken and cook for 10 minutes, breaking up the meat. Add the garlic, celery, onion, scallions, carrot and jalapeno. Season with salt, pepper, cumin and coriander, and cook for 5 minutes. Add the beer of your choice. Reduce the mixture over medium heat for 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the hot sauce, stewed tomatoes and the tomato sauce. Reduce the heat to low and simmer the chili for 15 minutes.

Ingredients for the pancakes:

- One 8.5-ounce Jiffy-brand corn muffin mix
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1 large egg
- 3/4 cup crumbled bleu cheese (about 4 ounces)
- Optional: Finely chopped jalapeno — for the adventurous

Directions

Prepare the corn muffin mix according to package directions for corn pancakes (add water if necessary).

Stir the bleu cheese into the pancake batter. Heat a nonstick griddle pan or large skillet over medium heat. Spray pan with oil.

Drop rounded tablespoons of the batter into the pan. Cook the pancakes until bubbles form at the edges, then flip them and cook until golden all over, about 2 minutes per side.

Serve two pancakes with each cup of chili, one on the side and one for dipping.

rowed down to two essays per classroom. Out of the selected six or eight papers, writing specialist Roger McCaig, creator of the district-wide test, picked a winner.

Principal Ron Wardie believes the children embraced their role in the historic observance.

"One of the foundations of this school is respect and citizenship, and if children understand the significance of the building, they tend to take more ownership of it," he said.

"A couple of kids talked to me about comparing it (the age) to their grandparents," said fourth-grade teacher Robert Palmer. "We have entire generations of families that have gone through the building."

Before the school opened, the two-block-wide strip of land was home to a rhubarb patch, a strawberry field, an apple orchard and dairy cows, all on the Ludwig Meininger farm.

In its beginning, the Tudor Revival-styled Defer boasted now long forgotten features: Space to store a year's supply of coal — now the boiler room; a clinic for dental and medical exams; and boys and girls locker rooms — now classrooms. The kindergarten room, the former library, still holds traces of history: Pewabic tiles around the fireplace. It's Palmer's favorite place.

The school's namesake, George Defer, was a trustee and president of the then-Village of Grosse Pointe Park.

its mascot, the name George seemed to fit him best.

In 1928, the school's seventh- and eighth-graders shifted to the new Grosse Pointe High School, and when Pierce Middle School opened in 1985, sixth-graders moved across the street as part of a district-wide restructuring of middle school education.

Palmer, a self-proclaimed history and antiques buff, remembers orange and brown walls and odd murals when he arrived at Defer 20 years ago.

"I was thrilled to come to this school with all of its foibles at the time and watching the process of bringing the building back to its original glory," he said, such as restoring original woodwork that has been painted over.

"We're trying to maintain the integrity of the building," Wardie said.

When Defer was slated to receive new lockers a few years ago, the 10-year principal stumbled across a few artifacts as the old cubbies were removed from within the walls: A set of student papers, an old

See BIRTHDAY, page 5A II

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District likely to make unpopular decision

By Amy Salvagno
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Public School System officials have learned when it rains, it pours.

Not that it makes their work any easier, especially when it falls in unfamiliar territory.

Trampling a \$7.3 million budget shortfall is a new challenge for GPPSS administration and board of education trustees who are looking again to chip away at the district's biggest expenditure: human resources.

In the most recent draft of the 2010-11 fiscal year budget, a proposed 108 teachers and staff members — classroom assistants, hall monitors, clerical staff and plant and custodial engineers — are likely to face layoffs.

Personnel expenses make up 85 percent of district costs. Salary, retirement and health care costs continue to escalate, while student enrollment — which determines state funding — declines. Officials are projecting a loss of 120 students in the next school year.

The state supplies 65 percent of the district's \$100 million operating expenses through the State Foundation Allowance, funded by the School Aid Fund.

Districts receive per pupil revenue from the foundation allowance, but it's tied to enrollment. The School Aid

Fund, which has no local involvement, is highly susceptible to the state's economic conditions, Walsh noted.

Last October, three months after the school board adopted the 2009-10 budget, the state chopped per pupil funds and the 20J funds the district receives — a loss of \$3 million in revenue.

Funding designated 20J maintains per-pupil funding levels of higher-spending districts to pre-Proposal A levels, enacted to even out spending among all districts.

Districts stand to take an additional \$255 per-student hit from Lansing next year if no new revenue streams are adopted.

Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent for business and support services, said in his more than 30-year career, he's never seen this kind of funding crisis.

"We're looking at our revenue sources, making sure they're accurate, and in some places, if we can, boost them up and/or look at alternative sources," he said. "The biggest impact is on the expense side of the budget and the only way to achieve that right now is one, look for efficiencies in your organization and can you do it faster, better, cheaper, and two, do it through, unfortunately, some cuts through staff.

"Regarding cuts, we hope that along the way, some people retire to lessen that im-

'Quite frankly, we need some big ideas.'

CHRIS FENTON,
Assistant superintendent for
business and support services

pact. It's a very tough thing to do ... and the likelihood of those getting recalled gets slim."

Last year, the district laid off 76 teachers, but called back 54.

Fenton said officials started preparing for the 2010-11 budget a little earlier than years' past, spending a little more time analyzing line items.

The latest budget draft trims not only personnel, but brings in an outsourcing op-

tion for security, hall monitors and assistants.

Currently, Grosse Pointe North High School employs a firm to provide parking lot attendants.

Board treasurer Brendan Walsh said that cost-effective move spurred the rest of the district to look at doing the same.

"The preferred mode would be for those employees (security, hall monitors, assistants) to shift to a company so we wouldn't be bringing in a bunch of strangers," he said, referencing what the district did with its cafeteria staff a few years ago.

Fenton said it's best to take a balanced look at the big picture, rather than directly cutting from one area, such as sports, music or Advanced

Placement classes, for example.

"There are two things to emphasize regarding the Michigan K-12 funding challenge," said Walsh. "The root cause of the problem is that employee salaries, health care and retirement costs are increasing at a pace greater than our funding and now our funding is actually declining.

"Secondarily, any financial response to this dynamic that does not mitigate the rate of growth in these expenses will never solve the problem. For example, a move to trimesters would not solve that problem. This is why outsourcing has gained momentum among Michigan schools.

"For many, it is an unpopular choice. In our case, the last contract we agreed with the

custodians directly addressed the root cause because it capped retirement and health care costs. So outsourcing is not the only solution."

Walsh said the number of staff layoffs could decrease depending on the outcome of negotiations.

"I personally think if 900 people sacrificed a little, it is a better alternative than if 108 sacrifice their jobs," he said.

Officials are still analyzing staff levels when it comes to elementary reading specialists and the Resource Center.

The next budget draft will be presented at the Monday, March 22, board meeting. Fenton said the district welcomes input from the community.

"Quite frankly, we need some big ideas."



Camps available

Assumption Nursery School offers summer camps for children ages 1-6 and youth ages 7-12 June 21-Aug. 27.

The theme for the 10-week summer program is, "Express Yourself!" Younger children discover arts and participate in activities from storytelling to cooking to dance and music to sports.

The older set engages in many hands-on activities to increase awareness of physical and creative self-expression, such as volleyball, soccer, basketball, the arts, cooking and outdoor fun.

Two celebrations are highlighted over the duration of the camp and open to families and friends: "Let's Get

Physical," a field day celebration, and "The World is a Stage," a celebration of different art mediums including acting, drawing, painting and sculpting.

Camp hours are 9 a.m. to noon with full-day child care available from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The registration fee is \$75 and begins at 8 a.m. Friday, March 26.

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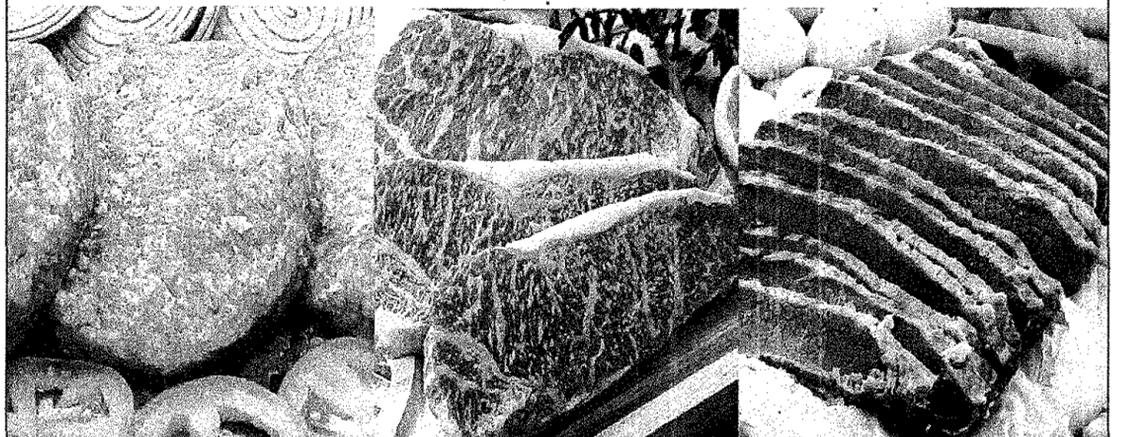
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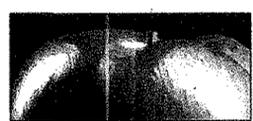
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Teacher of the Week



They play a key role in every child's development and inspire excellence in and out of the classroom.

Here, students celebrate their favorite teacher.

This week, it's **Grosse Pointe North High School Advanced Placement Language and Composition teacher Kate Murray**.

She was nominated by senior **Ansley Semack**, a student from her 11th grade class:

"I have had the privilege of being taught by some of the greatest teachers I think truly have ever taught ... Mrs. Murray was the reason I passed the AP (English) test. English not being my forte, she was adamant that I, along with all of my classmates, could pass the test. She worked relentlessly to make sure we were challenged, knowledgeable, prepared and confident. I help her in her Freshmen Assist program, which helps

incoming freshmen get a step-up in high school. This program has not only changed the way these kids view school, and themselves, but has given me an opportunity I would never have otherwise. I feel like I have been given a chance to change people's lives and that feeling is difficult to put in words. She does all this while dressing fabulous every day, caring for a child at home and awaiting another on the way."

Years at the Grosse Pointe Woods school: 14

Previous work: I actually student taught at North and have never left!

Why did you become a teacher?

When I first entered college, I actually wanted to become the U.S. ambassador to France! In high school, I always taught Sunday School, and it wasn't until I was in col-

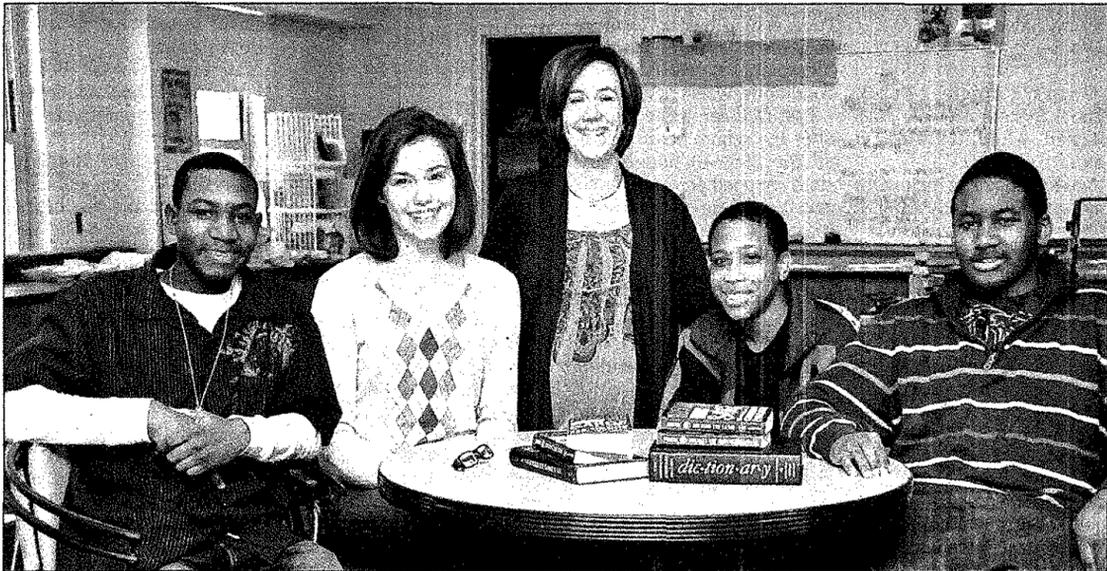


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe North teacher **Kate Murray** was nominated by **Ansley Semack**, second from left. The two work together in the Freshman Assist program with students, including **Michael Pressley**, **Damon Barbee** and **Lonzell Black**.

lege and teaching was no longer a part of my life that I realized how much I truly valued it.

Once it was missing, I recognized what a sense of purpose and meaning it had given me. Now I truly can't imagine doing anything else. I am right with the world when I am in my classroom.

What do you enjoy about teaching?

I love witnessing the moment when students achieve more than they even envisioned was possible for themselves. Watching students become empowered by their newfound skills and knowledge is incredibly rewarding

How do you feel about being nominated?

I am truly honored. Ansley is a remarkable young woman; she is intelligent, compassionate and dedicated. It's a privilege to be chosen by her.

Words of wisdom or encouragement for high school students?

Don't settle. Find your passion. Do what you love and love what you do. Read voraciously; write articulately and you can conquer the world!

—Amy Salvagno

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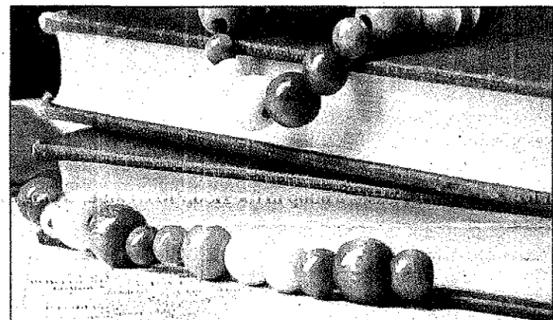
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Teacher's Pet

Give your teacher something better than a shiny red apple.

Nominate him or her for an upcoming Teacher of the Week. Students in grades K-12 can submit the name of their favorite teacher, along with a few reasons why your teacher is outstanding.

Submissions should include the teacher's name, current school and grade they teach, along with the nominating student's name and contact information. Teachers will be entered into a monthly prize drawing.

Call or e-mail the information to Amy Salvagno at (313) 343-5592 or asalvagno@grossepointenews.com.

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BIRTHDAY: Defer throws a party

Continued from page 2A II

kerosene can now in his office and a rusted nickel from 1928. In 2001, Defer was listed in

the National Register of Historic Places and in 2002, designated a Michigan Historical Site. For that milestone, the school erected a peace pole and a peace garden.

Wardie says Defer is one of the most diverse buildings in the district.

"Our children have a deep understanding of social and ethnic backgrounds."

"We've always been very lucky and very proud to have the parent support we have in the building," Palmer added. "When we need something, parents come through continuously and are pleased to do so and have made a huge impact on a daily basis."

"There's also a lot of community service and caring here by students and staff."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Elizabeth Ratsek tosses a hoop in the Hoop Toss game, trying to get it around the stick.

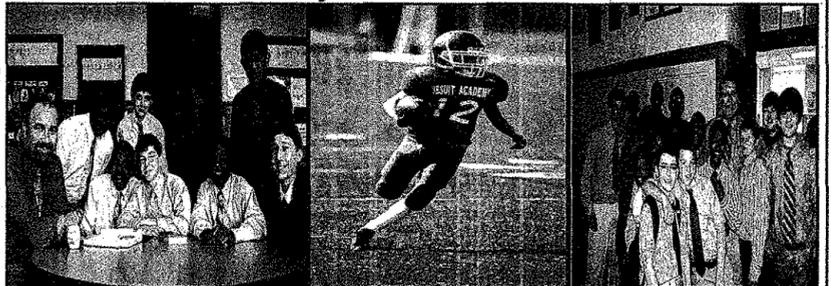
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6A II | SCHOOLS

**ARTFEST:
Students
show works**

Continued from page 1A II

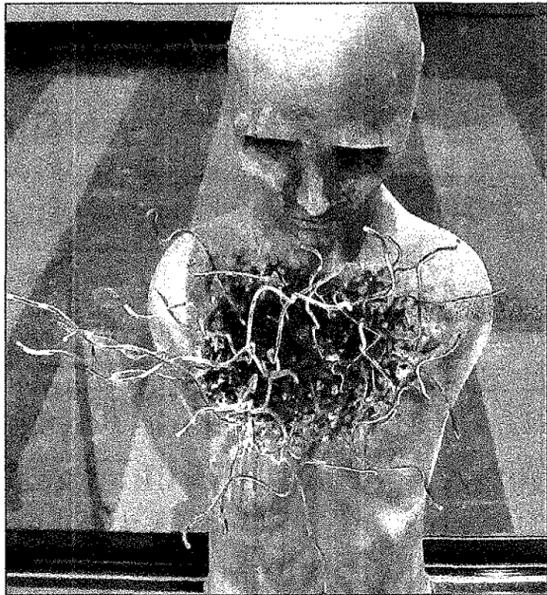
senior Hannah Ploechl, who earned a Gold Key for her digitally-created image; senior Sophie Martinez-Rodriguez, a Silver Key winner for her clay sculpture; senior Katherine Lanza, a winner for her photography portfolio and for an individual submission; and senior Jeremy Munsterman, who earned a Silver Key for his digital work.

Martinez-Rodriguez says the motivation to display her artwork is for the response.

"I feel like it's more to see how people react to my work and what people think of it."

Gruenwald noted in the last two decades, more than 200 South alumni have gone on to careers in art-related fields.

"The old notion that art is out is just that — old," she said. "Visual art employs more people than all athletics and performing arts put together. It's growing like crazy."

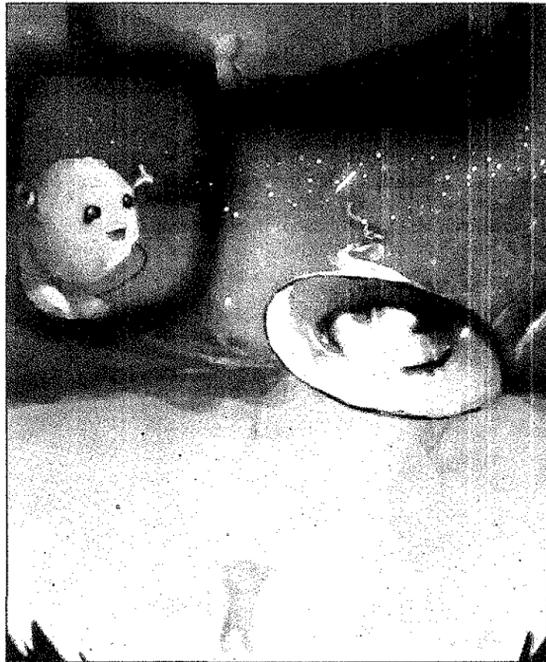


Artfest takes place March 23-27. Hours are from 7 to 9 p.m. March 23; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. March 24-25; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 26; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 27. The awards ceremony is at 8 p.m. March 24.

There is no cost to attend. The show features a raffle for a chance to win several prizes,

including a \$100 gift certificate for City Kitchen; a Pewabic Pottery vase and tour of the factory; and art lessons with local artist Roselyn Rhodes. The raffle benefits the art supply fund, which helps offset the costs of student materials.

For information on Artfest, contact Karen Shepard at (313) 824-9637.



Grosse Pointe South High School art students are gearing up for the annual art show. Far left: Melissa Bryan's sculpture, Point of Insanity, will be on display. Left: Hannah Ploechl's digitally-created image garnered her an award. Below: Students say Artfest provides the opportunity to showcase another arena at their school, one that receives little attention. Top row from left are Ploechl, Jeremy Munsterman, Paul Ferriole, and Sophie Martinez-Rodriguez; bottom row from left are Bryan, Katherine Lanza and Maggie Fragel. Each earned at least one nod from the Scholastic Art Awards, from sculptures to photographs to paintings.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY BARBARA GRUENWALD

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PHOTO BY AMY SALVAGNO

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OBITUARIES

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

John A. Fergusson

Former Grosse Pointe resident John A. Fergusson, 49, died Saturday, March 6, 2010. He lived in Birmingham and was a former resident of Anchorville.

He was the beloved husband of Lisa; son of Mary Ellen (William) Hartsig and the late John Fergusson. He was the stepfather of Chloe and Maddy Rae Hajjar and brother of Kimberly Fraley (Thomas Mines) and Lorie Plegue. He also is survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 11, at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon, Birmingham. Visitation begins at 9:30 a.m. at the church.

Memorial donations may be made to Houston's Ronald McDonald House, 1907 Holcomb Blvd., Houston, TX 77030.

Share a memory at DesmondFuneralHome.com.

Janet VanStone Huthwaite

Longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident Janet VanStone Huthwaite, 95, passed away peacefully Friday, Feb. 19, 2010. She also maintained a winter home in Pompano Beach, Fla.

She was born Dec. 19, 1914, in Detroit to Catherine and Charles VanStone. She was a devout supporter of her community, especially as a member of the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Library and as a donor to Pier Park where she and her late husband, John, spent many enjoyable, relaxing hours.

Mrs. Huthwaite is survived by her sons, John R. (Penny) Huthwaite, Robert G. (Dianne) Huthwaite, W. Barton (Nina) Huthwaite and Peter J. (Laura) Huthwaite; nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment also will be at the church.

Donations may be made to Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or Michigan American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division Inc., 1755 Abbey Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

R. Maurine Gornick

City of Grosse Pointe resident R. Maurine Gornick, 100, died Saturday, March 6, 2010.

She was born Oct. 26, 1909, in Watrousville to Claude and Elizabeth Cole. She earned a registered nursing degree in 1934 from Harper Hospital School of Nursing and practiced at Harper Hospital as well as St. John Hospital.

She enjoyed music, especially piano, gardening, golfing, birds, travel, card playing and her family.

She was a member of the St. Joan of Arc Altar Society, Burning Tree Golf Club and Grosse Pointe Seniors.

Mrs. Gornick is survived by her daughter, Roberta M. (Gerry) Hoover of Colorado Springs, Colo.; son, John C. (Elaine) Gornick of Troy; grandchildren, Jason Nhangang of Colorado Springs, Andrea Gornick of Belleville, Shelly Fischer of Highlands Ranch, Colo. and Steven J. Gornick of Rochester Hills.

She was predeceased by her husband, John L. Gornick.

Memorial donations may be made to Mary Knoll Missions at mklaymissioners.org; Capuchin Ministries, 1750 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207; or the Alzheimer's Association, 20300 Civic Center, Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48076.

Sidney Eugene Girardin

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Sidney Eugene Girardin, 89, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010.

He was born April 9, 1920, in Detroit to Sidney E. and Elfrieda (nee Meyer) Girardin. He was raised in Detroit, attended Eastern High School and, on April 17, 1948, married Arlene Mundt.

Mr. Girardin was drafted into the U.S. Army during World War II. Upon completion of basic training, he was sent to officer's training school to become a combat engineer officer. He was a combat engineer company commander in the Pacific Theater and also served in the occupation of Japan. He served on active duty from Jan. 16, 1942 until April 6, 1946, when he received an honorable discharge from the army.

Mr. Girardin earned a bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from the Detroit Institute of Technology. He was a local builder for many years, as well as a math teacher at South Lake High School when the building business was slow in the 1950s. He was also an instructor at Macomb

Community College until his retirement.

Along with all of this, he used his skills as an architect in designing plans for others. He was active in the Cub and Boy Scouts of America, concerned about local matters, especially as they pertained to education, and had a passion for spreading God's word as a member of the Gideon's International.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Arlene; his parents; sister, Berniece Cottie; grandson, Christopher Girardin and nephew, Leslie Cottie.

He is survived by his sons, LTC Sidney A. (Susan) Girardin ANG of Greenland, N.H.; Rev. Mark (Jane) Girardin of Centralia, Ill. and special niece, Marie (Gary) Bonk of Sterling Heights. He is also survived by grandsons, Andrew, Philip and Patrick (Jessica) Girardin; niece, Darcy (Mark) Frost and nephews, Ed (Cindy) Nault and Jay (Gi) Nault, as well as other family and friends.

A memorial service was held March 5 at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Memorials may be made to the Gideon's International at gideons.org.

Share a memory with the family at ahpeters.com.

Hazel DeCoster

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Hazel DeCoster, 89, died Wednesday, March 3, 2010.

She was born May 14, 1920, in Pensacola, Fla., to Walter and Annie L. Pate and earned a nursing degree from St. Joseph's School of Practical Nursing in 1967.

Mrs. DeCoster loved music and was a 30-year member of the Sweet Adelines International Shoreline Sound Chorus chapter. She also enjoyed travel and was an accomplished seamstress. She was a member of the "Pieces be with you" quilt ministry at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Mrs. DeCoster is survived by her daughter, Sandra L. (Dan) Morehead; sons, Larry (Michelle) DeCoster and Chris (Annemari) DeCoster; grandchildren, Cliff Morehead, Carla Nimocks, Lynn Carollo, Matthew DeCoster, Danielle DeCoster, Brittany DeCoster, Derek DeCoster, Adam DeCoster, Geof Swanson and Matthew Swanson; great-grandchildren, Adrienne Morehead, Chelsea (Jeremy) Kliever, Rylan Nimocks, Caroline Nimocks, Maggie-Pate Nimocks, Robbie Carollo,



John A. Fergusson



Janet VanStone Huthwaite



Hazel DeCoster

Caitlyn Carollo and Peter Carollo and great-great-grandchildren, Jackson Kliever and Cohen Kliever.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Arthur DeCoster; second husband Daniel Phillips; sister, Dana Williams and brothers, Millard, Walter and William Otis Pate.

A memorial service was held March 5 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms; Beaumont Hospice, 1200 Stephens, Troy, MI 48063; or Shoreline Sound Chorus Chapter, Sweet Adelines International, c/o Joanne Kramer, 19641 Fleetwood, Harper Woods, MI 48225.

Dorothy White MacLean Gormely

Dorothy White MacLean Gormely, 83, was a longtime resident of the Detroit area and died peacefully, surrounded by her loving family Tuesday, March 2, 2010.

She was born March 24, 1926, in Detroit to Toney Lee White and Lou Ona Vaughan White of McAlester, Okla. Known as "Dot" to family and friends, she was a 1944 graduate of Denby High School.

Mrs. Gormely loved to garden, sew and embroider for her children and home. She loved music and was an avid reader. She enriched the lives of her family and friends with fun, laughter and love. Her greatest stated fulfillment in life "are my children." She will be remembered as the most fun "mom" of "The Whittier Gang."

Mrs. Gormely is survived by her children, Gary MacLean, Robert (Sherry) MacLean, Janet (the late Robert)



Janet VanStone Huthwaite



Dorothy MacLean Gormely

Wittmann, Dorothy Fink, Patricia (Terry) Kidd, Beth MacLean and Jennifer (Paul) Ericson; 14 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and her siblings, Donald (Loretta) White, Chester (Jo) White, Lahoma Jean (the late Walter) Chapman and Sharon (Bill) Johnson.

She was predeceased by Malcolm N. MacLean, whom she wed Aug. 24, 1948 and with whom she had eight children. She married Michael P. Gormely Feb. 14, 1984, and spent several peaceful and happy years with him prior to his death.

She was predeceased by one child, Joseph MacLean, on May 15, 1950.

Mrs. Gormely also was predeceased by her siblings, J.L. (Jean) White and Myrl (Buddy) Slayton.

Memorial donations may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, Development Department, 30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 220, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

Share a memory at faulmannwalsh.com.

Dale G. Johnson

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Dale G. Johnson, 82, died Sunday, Feb. 14, 2010, at St. John Hospital and Medical Center in Detroit.

He was born April 19, 1927, in East Jordan to Elwyn Johnson and Pansy Aderdice Johnson and attended high school in Charlevoix.

Mr. Johnson worked since he was young, peddling newspapers, handbills and working with animals on a farm in Charlevoix.

He was forced to drop out of school in the 10th grade and leave his home in Charlevoix. He worked many jobs to support himself before joining the Merchant Marine at 17.

Later, he moved to Detroit,



R. Maurine Gornick



Dale G. Johnson

and again worked numerous jobs to support himself.

Mr. Johnson was recruited into the army, obtained his GED and was stationed in White Sands, N.M. He worked in radar repair and developed an interest in technology, eventually leading to computers.

He attended Bennett-Hoyt Institute and in 1964 began work at Harper Hospital in Detroit. His family said he was a "computer guru" and in his 31 years with the hospital and Detroit Medical Center his information technology responsibilities ran the gamut from evaluating software for potential purchase, assisting in software installation, supporting executives and all departments and solving computer problems.

Mr. Johnson enjoyed retirement continuing an active interest in amateur radio, traveling extensively, involvement with Amvets and interest in animal rights organizations. He loved his wife and "fur children" (dogs).

Mr. Johnson was a lifetime member of Amvets, Post 57 of Harper Woods and various amateur radio organizations.

His family said he was loved by family, friends and neighbors alike. He was known for his patience, humor and ever-present smile.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife, Diana Kay-Johnson; mother-in-law, Monica Kay; brothers-in-law, Ron (Shelby) Kay, Alan Kay and David (Debbie) Kay; nieces, Mackenzie Kay and Alexis Kay; nephew, Trevor Kay and sister-in-law, Betty Johnson.

He was predeceased by his parents and brothers, Donald, Desmond and Douglas.

A memorial service was held Feb. 19 at A.H. Peters Funeral Home in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Donations may be made to the animal protection/anti-cruelty organization of the donor's choice.

PRIDE OF THE POINTIES

Samuel G. Mott was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Washington and Lee University. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Mott of Grosse Pointe.

Ronald Mack of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Loyola University Chicago. He is the son of Ronald and Theresa Mack and a 2008 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School.

Joshua S. Jankiewicz, a senior at Wayne State University in the college of education, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester. This is the seventh consecutive semester he has obtained this honor. A graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School, he is the son of Pamela and Jerome Jankiewicz of Grosse Pointe.

Caitlin Hulway was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Wayne State University, college of education. The 2005 Grosse Pointe North graduate is the daughter of Lynn and Andy Hulway of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Peter Maniaci was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Michigan State University. The 2008 Grosse Pointe North graduate is the son of John and Cheryl Maniaci of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Sara VandenBoom has been elected to the honor society of nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, as an undergraduate student through Lambda Chapter at Wayne State University. The Grosse Pointe South High School graduate is the daughter of Diane and Tim VandenBoom.

Matthew Iwanski was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Michigan State University. He also is president of the MSU chapter, Club Managers Association of America. The 2006 graduate of DeLaSalle Collegiate is the son of Mark and Catherine Iwanski of Grosse Pointe Farms.

The following students graduated December 2009 from Northern Michigan University: John T. Neych of Grosse Pointe Woods, Andrew E. Johnston and Ryan M. Steiner of Grosse Pointe Farms and Kieran P. Connolly-Ng and Christine E. Campbell of Grosse Pointe Park.

The following students graduated December 2009 from Western Michigan University: Christopher M. Gray and Kristen M. Saelens of the City of Grosse Pointe; Daniel P. Houlf and JoAnn

M. Mathews both of Grosse Pointe Farms; Emily A. Gilbride, Ryan M. Maynard and Evan M. Wouters all of Grosse Pointe Park; Stephen R. Johnson of Grosse Pointe Shores; and Katherine A. Cartwright, Kathryn E. Curis and Greg J. Gurney, all of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Andrew Conti of Grosse Pointe Woods, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Lawrence Technological University.

Nathan Loree of Grosse Pointe Woods, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Lawrence Technological University.

Geoffrey Weed was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2009 semester at Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Weed is a graduate of Western Michigan University and Grosse Pointe South High School.

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8A II | SCHOOLS

CONTRACTS: Groups can't agree

Continued from page 1A II

Harwood said that though the contracts have not been renewed, several key details carried over, such as STEP increases. Teachers who accomplish one year of service move to the next step in salary. The average STEP increase results in a 6 percent raise. By their 11th year in the district, a teacher is at the top of the pay scale.

Currently, two-thirds of teachers are at the top.

Individuals can also move up the ladder horizontally — obtaining a higher educational degree or taking on a role of department chair or coach can result in a pay raise.

Harwood said in the current union contract, teachers do not formally contribute to the health care plan beyond paying for an office visit co-pay or a deductible.

In the current contract, teachers had also agreed to coordination of benefits.

The district's latest proposal asks for teachers to agree to a cap on the district's pre-tax contribution toward health care — \$400 per month for a single, \$900 per month for a couple and \$1,120 for a full family.

Harwood noted this would save the district \$1.2 million.

He said by the time health care coverage, STEP increases, retirement and FICA are factored in, the average teacher earns around \$117,000 per year.

The state-appointed mediator has met with school officials on three occasions and meets with the GPEA for a second

time Tuesday, March 23, to determine if any of the submitted proposals can be imposed.

Harwood said the union has asked for additional STEP increases: A 12th step, for the current school year, of 1.75 percent; a 13th step, for the 2010-11 year, of 2 percent; and a 14th step, into the 2011-12 year, of 2 percent.

Since bargaining began, district officials have presented 28 offers; Harwood says some are changes in language, while others concern economic factors.

GPEA representatives — Team09 — have proposed 20 options.

"While we have tentatively agreed on some proposals, only a few of those are substantive ... We have offered some viable solutions for relieving some of the economic angst that the state's funding projections have caused the board (of education)," Beyerlein said.

Several of those solutions of-

fered, she added, include:

- Stop using the fund surplus as "the most sacred of all cows in the district."

- Consider a severance incentive that would encourage the highest paid employees to consider other employment or retirement options.

- Downsize in areas farthest from face-to-face staff-student interactions.

- Use "thoughtful processes in budgeting rather than line-item reductions that actually end up costing more for the district."

The GPEA has also filed Unfair Labor Practice charges against the board because attorneys filed a brief to dismiss arbitrations.

Harwood said an expired contract doesn't recognize the right to arbitration.

"That is very demoralizing and disrespectful to teachers," Beyerlein said. "In the past, the GPPSS has not settled its contracts before school starts, so seasoned teachers are accustomed to not having contracts settled right away. But, in the past, the board has always honored the labor agreement that existed before expiration until a new labor agreement was reached."

Over the past several months, Team09 has surveyed its 589 members, asking some 80 questions to ascertain feelings about the negotiable issues of compensation, benefits

and working conditions, Beyerlein said.

"During our own meetings, we discuss and set bargaining goals and strategies, analyze surveys, review grievances, new legislation, the contract and other informational sources in order to prepare for negotiations," she said. "For five people who are the representatives and voices for our teachers, great personal sacrifices have been made by not having a contract. Our Team09 members have done an excellent job ... but that takes a great deal of time and energy, in addition to working their regular, full day with students."

"We have collectively lost a lot of sleep worrying about the needs of our members."

Beyerlein said her members are getting by without a contract.

"Teachers are continuing to function professionally, as we would expect of the high caliber of our members, but they are stressed about the uncertainty of their future ... in regard to layoffs."

The district is currently starting at a \$7.3 million budget shortfall and proposing to lay off 108 staff members. Last year, 74 teachers were let go, but 56 were recalled.

Officials say not having a settled contract makes balancing the budget difficult because they can't count on any changes in salaries or fringe

benefits.

Beyerlein said the school system can still take care of its teachers in the current economic climate.

"In order to attract and keep the best educators, we need to have an exceptional compensation package, support teacher professionalism and keep class sizes small in order to differentiate instruction."

"Supporting teacher professionalism costs nothing. The other two pieces are economic issues in tough economic times. The school system could better take care of its teachers by supporting our professionalism and by working with us to solve the economic problems."

Harwood's goals are along the same lines.

"I want to maintain the quality educational experience of students. That even during these difficult times, we shouldn't be looking at denying the benefits we provide to our students," he said. "I also want to maintain jobs and employment with our district."

"We appreciate the support of the administrative staff and other professionals who have helped us as we move through negotiations," Beyerlein said. "We know that most of them are behind our efforts at using bargaining to improve instruction and in maintaining the tradition of excellence in education for which our district is known."

Nursery school enrolling

The Cooperative Nursery at Christ Church, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, is enrolling 3- and 4-year-old students for fall 2010.

Children must be 3 or 4 by Dec. 1, 2010. Young 5's are welcome.

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through play. Parents take turns in the classroom working with four certified teachers to engage children in socializing and having fun with a wide array of toys and learning tools.

CNCC boasts a music program, including gross motor skill movement activities, as well as outdoor play as often as the weather permits.

Redbirds (3-year-olds) attend school three or four mornings a week. Bluebirds (4-year-olds) attend school four mornings a week and experience a kindergarten-readiness curriculum.

For more information or to schedule a visit, contact CNCC Membership Chair Julie Schuetz at (313) 882-5224 or jmschuetz@sbcglobal.net



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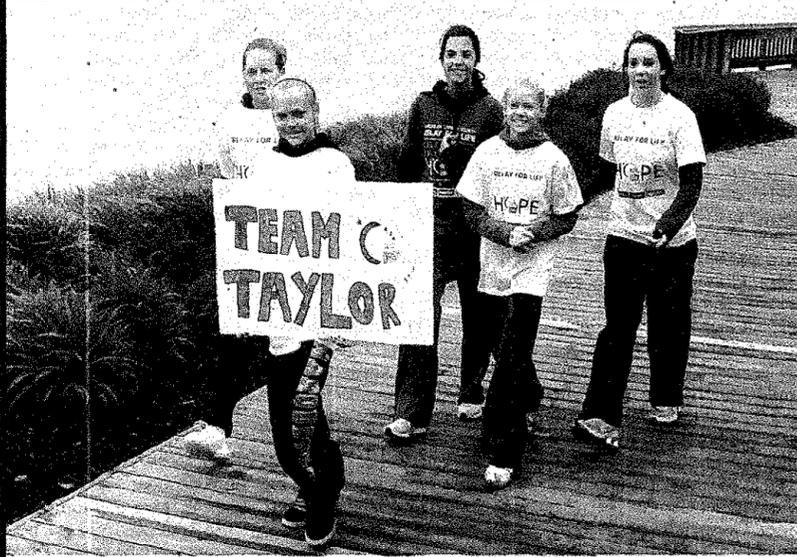
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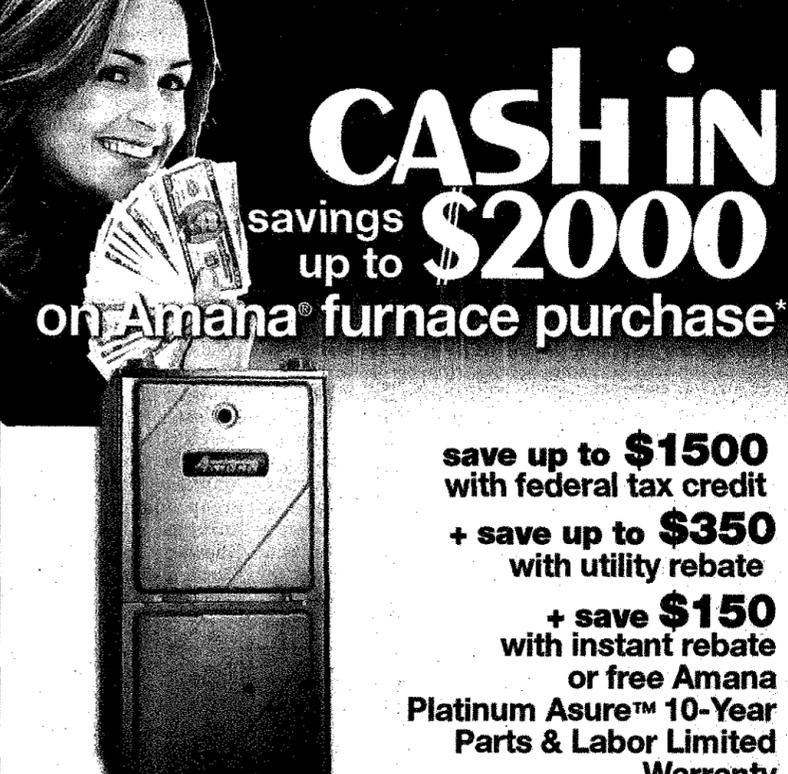


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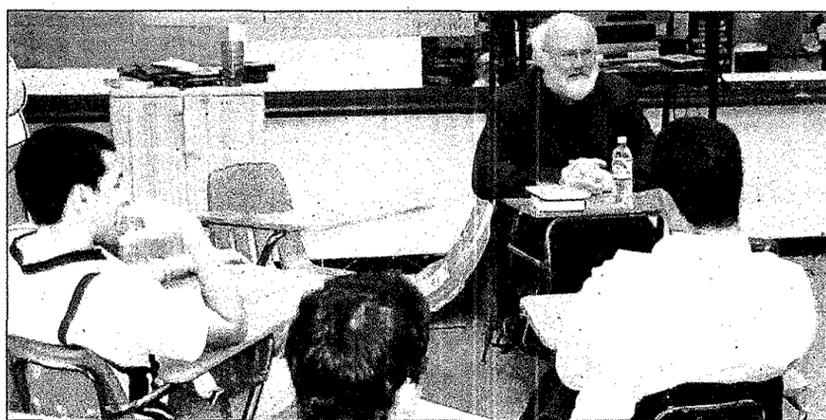
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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Salute to scouts

Pack 86 at Trombly Elementary recently wore its uniforms to school to mark the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts, giving an honorable salute at the base of the flagpole. Back row, from left, is Edward Kotula, John Dotson, Bobby Ash, Daniel Hernandez and Andrew Mason. Front row, from left, is Nicholas Chown, Joey Ash, Jacob Bruetsch, Andrew Chown and Caleb Lewis.



Poet visits

Keith Taylor, coordinator of the creative writing program at the University of Michigan, spent March 2, at University Liggett School. The poet read some of his works and talked with students before spending the evening discussing his poetry as part of Book of the Semester. Taylor shared how his many job experiences — dishwasher, house painter, freight handler, radio talk show co-host, night attendant at a pinball arcade — led to his poetry, which is published in a series of books. The most recent, "If the World Becomes So Bright," was published by Wayne State University Press in 2009. During a morning assembly with middle and upper school students, Taylor said his poetry is born of his stories, stolen stories, fiction and dreams. Taylor also gets many of his stories from his sister, wife and other family members, including his mother- and father-in-law.

Students step up

University Liggett School students have collected \$2,900 to donate to the relief efforts following the earthquake in Haiti.

Lower school students collected spare change throughout February and raised \$981.44.

Middle school students hosted bake sales and paid to have reduced-dress code days and collected \$733.

Upper school students contributed \$1,161 collected from bake sales, reduced-dress code days, gate receipts from sporting events and other donations.

The money has been donated to the American Red Cross and Partners in Health, a Boston-based agency providing health care for the poor. PIH has been serving the needs of Haiti since 1985.

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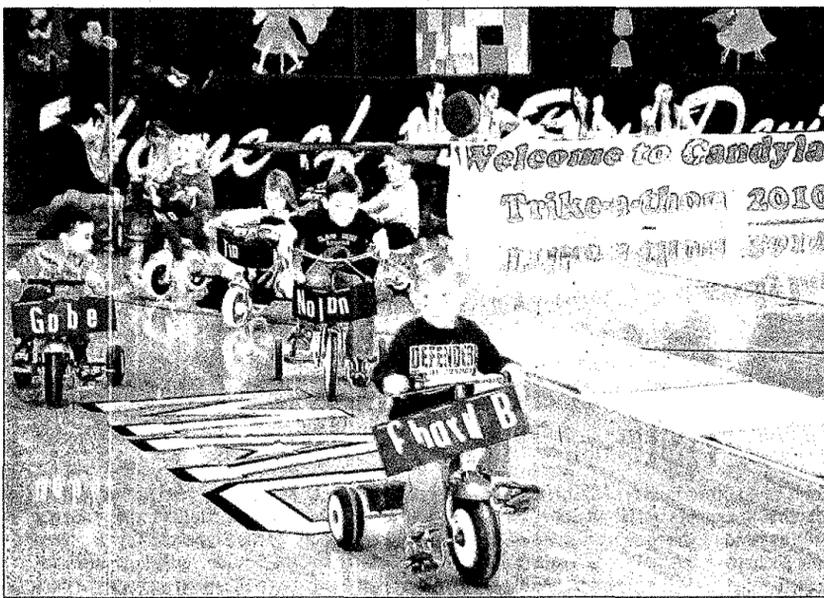
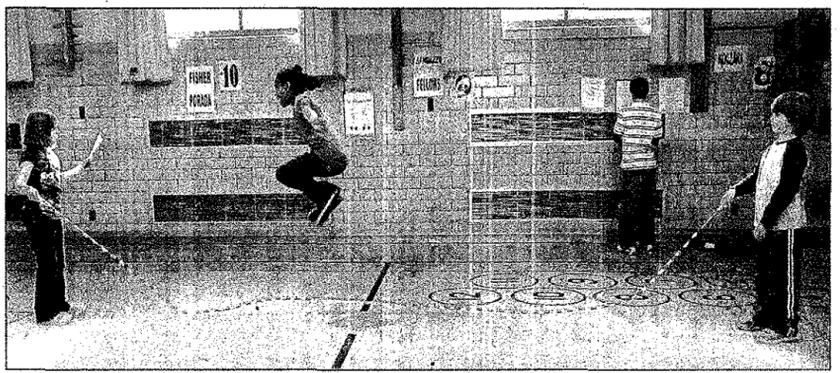


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Trike-a-thon

Little ones in the Grosse Pointe South High School childcare program rode laps around the main gym Thursday, Feb. 25, as a fundraiser for Pediatric AIDS. Supporters came by to cheer on the trike-bound children, dropping off monetary donations and bidding on silent auction items.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Jumping beans

Top: Monteith Elementary fourth-graders Elizabeth Abel and Ryan Rokicki turn the rope for Kyla Jones at the school's recent Jump Rope for Heart, a national fundraiser for the American Heart Association. Center: At Ferry Elementary School, Louis Cardinale, Eli Ropotos and Jack Hall participate in the same event, taking turns with the Chinese jump rope. Above: Ferry students Jessica Gieseck and Alyssa Hamilton see how high they can go during their time to jump.

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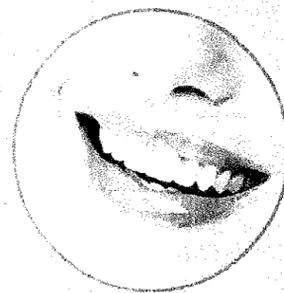
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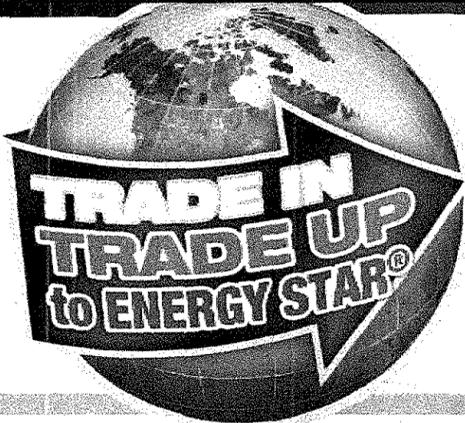
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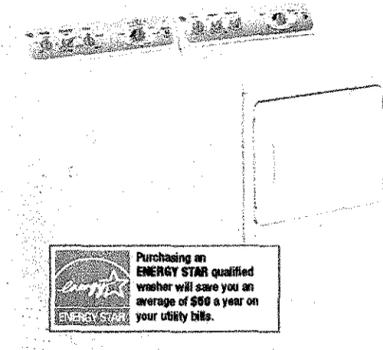


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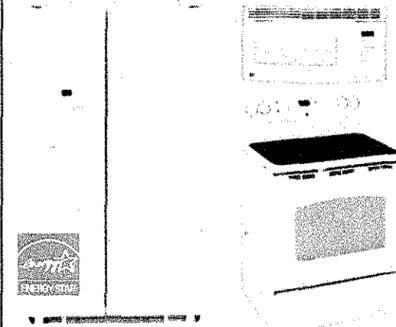


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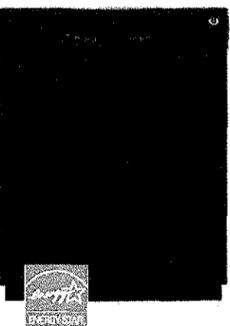
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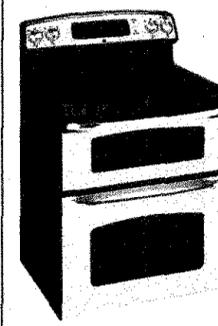


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NEWS III

4A III PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

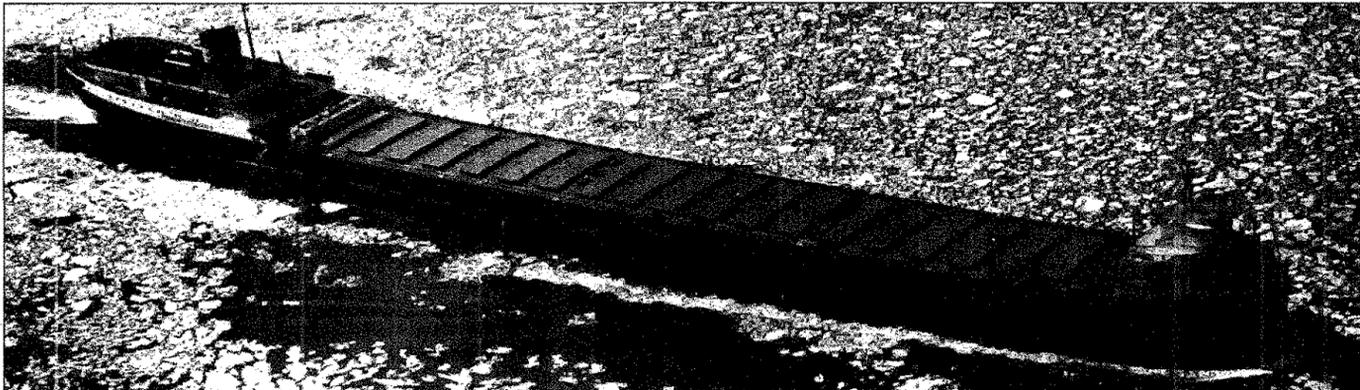


PHOTO BY RICHARD ANZINGER

Readers of the Aug. 27, 1998 "Pointer of Interest" learned that Richard Anzinger, now deceased, photographed the Edmund Fitzgerald in 1974 or 1975 steaming downbound in the St. Clair River.

A Fitzgerald crewman remembers

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

George Yaworski stepped off the Edmund Fitzgerald and into the rest of his life.

Crewmates staying behind on the 729-foot Great Lakes freighter would be dead a year later.

The Fitzgerald sank in a monster storm on Lake Superior in November 1975. The 29-man crew was lost.

"I knew most of the men on board," said Yaworski, 86, steward on the Fitz during the 1973 and 1974 seasons. "Most of the crew would gather in the mess during a storm. Shooting the bull."

See FITZGERALD, page 6A III

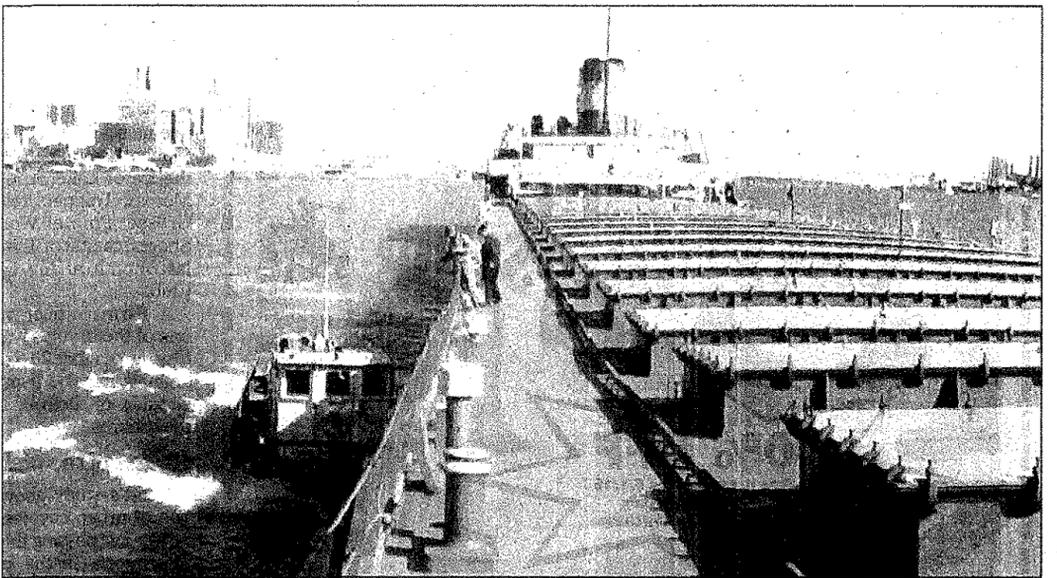


PHOTO BY GEORGE YAWORSKI

J.W. Westcott II mail boat makes delivery to the Fitzgerald on the Detroit River. George Yaworski one day in 1974 missed the freighter's departure from Toledo. He took a bus to Detroit and hitched a ride on the Westcott to the freighter. "They dropped an aluminum ladder from the Fitzgerald," Yaworski said. "The Westcott got close to the ship. You climb up. The captain of the mail boat beeps his horn to the Fitz. The Fitz answers. You're climbing up. Those beeps just about blow you off the ladder."

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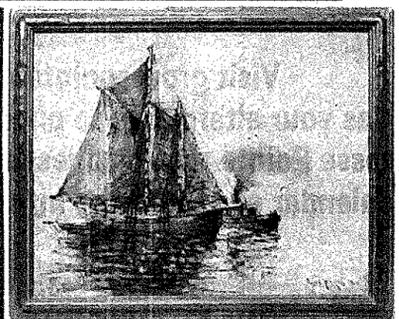
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At 6:30 p.m. At 11:00 a.m. At Noon

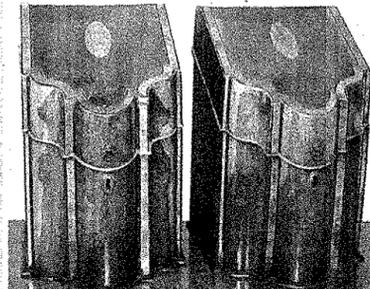
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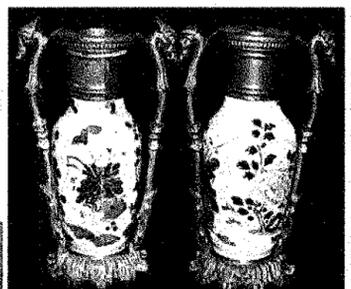
MYRON BARLOW,
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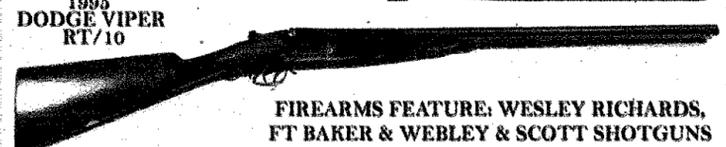
GEORGIAN INLAID YEW WOOD
KNIFE BOXES,
C 1810, PAIR, H 16", W 10", D 12"



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Because they can

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

For coyotes, cities are the final frontier.

"People have to accept the idea that coyotes are going to be their neighbors," said Stan Gehrt, one of the nation's leading experts on urban coyotes.

"That doesn't mean people have to accept their neighbors," he added.

Yet, once coyotes learn they can rub elbows with people, there's not much people can do to evict them.

"We've never successfully permanently removed coyotes from anywhere in the United States," Gehrt said.

Gehrt is assistant professor of wildlife ecology at The Ohio State University. He's main editor of "Urban Carnivores," soon to be published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

He also wrote "Urban Coyote Ecology and Management," a bulletin on coyotes living in Chicago.

"When we began our research about 10 years ago, there was nothing really known about urban coyotes," Gehrt said. "It was a pretty new phenomenon."

He assumed — as anyone would who grew up in rural Kansas and sat around the campfire at night with his father howling just to see if a coyote would howl back — that coyotes entered cities by mistake; the canid equivalent of sharks getting lost up a river.

"It took me one week after I'd radio collared three coyotes that I knew I was totally wrong," Gehrt said. "There were a lot more coyotes out there than I thought."

By 2006, six years into the study, researchers had captured 253 coyotes in Chicago, according to the bulletin, also known as the Cook County Illinois Coyote Project.

"Initially, when coyotes moved into the area, people were scared of them, worried and fearful," Gehrt said.

"There was zero tolerance. People spent a lot of money eradicating coyotes because they didn't think they belonged there."

It happens here, too. "We've had reports of them in downtown Detroit," said Timothy Payne, Southeast Michigan wildlife supervisor with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Grosse Pointe residents began encountering coyotes about midway through the decade. Sightings have escalated during the last six months.

The question is whether the surge of reports is due to coyotes becoming less wary of humans, or humans becoming more aware of coyotes.

Some Pointe residents have witnessed coyotes attacking and killing their small pet dogs. Reports of lost cats often come with fears of assumed coyote attacks.

A large coyote in the yard of a Grosse Pointe Shores home-



ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

owner a few months ago seemed unimpressed when confronted by three adults and their two large pet dogs.

Grosse Pointe Farms police this winter shot two coyotes, one near a den at the Country Club of Detroit, the other on the ice of Lake St. Clair near Moross. Trappers retained by Grosse Pointe Woods and Shores caught a third coyote last month at the Lochmoor Club.

A Farms officer who shot one of the coyotes was told by his sources that 20 to 30 of the animals may be living on the eastside of Detroit, including the suburbs.

Ghosts of the plains

Gehrt's study shows nearly half of urban coyotes are solitary or just passing through.

"As soon as the police remove two or three coyotes, they'll be replaced within a few weeks by those solitary animals," he said.

Pointe police are making it clear to the public that coyotes are here to stay, according to experts.

"We wish that weren't the case," said Stephen Poloni,

Shores public safety director. "We're trying to remove the ones that are a hazard."

Coyotes are found throughout all but the most northern reaches of North America. Their wide range speaks to their intelligence and adaptability.

The better the coyote, however, the less its seen by people.

"The majority of coyotes we radio collar are extremely good at what they do," Gehrt said. "They are very adept at avoiding people, not being seen or heard. In Kansas, they're everywhere. Yet, you never see them. That's why we call them the ghost of the plains."

The rule applies to urban areas, too. Coyotes seen frequently by people are probably losing their fear of humans.

"A minority begins to feel comfortable around people," Gehrt said. "The only ones you see are the ones that tend to be misbehaving. There are coyotes that slip over to the dark side."

Bad behavior

Signs of habituation include lack of fear of people, increased aggressiveness, stand-

ing their ground and barking at people.

"It's important to remove them before someone gets hurt," Gehrt said.

Numerous studies of coyote behavior report reduced daytime activity when living near people in metropolitan areas, according to Gehrt's 2007 paper, "Ecology of Coyotes in Urban Landscapes."

"Exceptions to this nocturnal pattern would seem to be good indicators of habituation in coyotes, and a precursor to conflict," he wrote.

There has never been a documented coyote attack on a person in Michigan, according to the DNR's Payne.

That doesn't mean it couldn't happen.

"In western states, there are records of coyotes attacking adults and kids," Payne said. "Records I've looked at are when the coyote has gotten tame and conditioned to people."

One case grew from people in a park feeding coyotes scraps of food.

"He'd come up and grab

See COYOTES, page 8A III

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They come from all over

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Guesstimates that coyotes entered Grosse Pointe from Canada across frozen Lake St. Clair don't hold water.

"I hate to break it to you, but those coyotes are yours," said Jolanta Kowalski, senior information officer with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. "I checked with our coyote experts. There's nothing to indi-

cate that coyotes from Ontario are going there."

There are no confirmed sightings of coyotes crossing the upper St. Clair River near Sarnia, Ontario.

"I heard through the grapevine a week ago that someone had seen a coyote on the ice," said Tammy Holmes, of the Sarnia District Humane Society. "It could have been a dog. That's the only time I've heard of that happening."

Ditto Harsens Island, nearly 40 miles south at the river's mouth.

"Every year, we get a couple reports of animals or dogs on the ice, but nothing confirmed of a coyote that I know of," said Pat Pokorny, a dispatcher with the Clay Township police department, which covers the island. "I've lived here my whole life. I'm sure they're here, but

See ALL OVER, page 8A III

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Farms assault suspect free on bond

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

The Detroit teenager accused of raping a Dearborn girl Feb. 22 in a Grosse Pointe Farms alley was arraigned this week on four counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct.

Each count carries a 15-year prison term.

DeVontae Christian Sims, 17, is due back in Farms municipal court at 8 a.m. Wednesday, March 17, for a preliminary examination in front of Judge Matthew Rumora.

Until then, Sims is free on \$100,000 personal bond.

"He doesn't have to post any money, but would be responsible for that sum if we have to pursue him," said Detective Mike McCarthy, in charge of the investigation.

Conditions of bond include having no contact with the 15-year-old alleged victim or her

family.

Sims' attorney entered a plea of not guilty on all counts during the arraignment early afternoon Tuesday, March 9.

"We don't anticipate any problems prosecuting the case," McCarthy said.

McCarthy predicted a plea agreement.

Police had arranged for Sims to surrender himself for arraignment the previous morning, but he didn't appear in court.

"I tried to call the family this morning," McCarthy told Rumora. "The mother of DeVontae hung up on me."

Rumora signed a warrant for Sims' arrest.

An attorney called police and said he would bring Sims to police headquarters upon the authorization of an arrest warrant.

The next day at noon, Sims, accompanied by his attorney, arrived at the police station.

Third degree criminal sexual

conduct includes penetration of a victim aged 13 to 15.

The alleged rape occurred at 7 a.m. Feb. 11, behind stores in the 19222 block of Mack, about 1 1/2 blocks from where the parties involved transfer buses on their respective ways to school.

Sims attends Martin Luther King High School in Detroit. The girl attends Grosse Pointe North High School. Her mother has a house in the Harper Woods section of the district, according to McCarthy.

"(The girl) reported that she met (Sims) on the bus,"

McCarthy said. "He forced her to walk to the rear of 19222 Mack, where he then physically and sexually assaulted her several times. The girl said she continuously tried to push him away and tell him to stop. He refused."

The girl was taken to nearby

St. John Hospital, McCarthy said.

"A forensic nurse indicated that it appeared she was sexually assaulted and received injuries," McCarthy said. "We tried to interview the suspect. We received no cooperation from (his) family."

Retirees miffed at Woods officials

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

"It's a new world."

And for those Grosse Pointe Woods retirees who liked the old world coverage their health insurance program provided, that was not the message they wanted to hear.

About 30 retirees met last week with Woods officials and the city's health insurance consultants from the Cornerstone Group in Troy. Cornerstone had assisted the city in re-vamping the health care cover-

age provided at no cost to approximately 100 former city employees and their spouses.

"It's a new world," Mark Manquen, a Cornerstone Group partner, told the retirees. "This is the direction health insurance is taking. This is not just in Grosse Pointe Woods. We revised programs for Wayne County and other Grosse Pointes."

With the cost of health care being fully covered by the city, it was an item in the budget

See RETIREES, page 7A III

Seat kept open

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

The late Doug Roby's seat on the Grosse Pointe Farms city council will be left unfilled for a month in honor of his memory.

Roby died Feb. 27 of cancer. He was 77.

Roby had been on the council since 2002. His term ran through June, 2011.

"He was a great guy," said Mayor James Farquhar. "The highlight of his life was to be on the council, his wife told me."

Roby was "honest, true and always a gentleman," Farquhar said at Monday's council meeting.

The meeting began with a minute of silence.

Shane Reeside, city manager, said Roby's death was "quite a loss. He was a positive person, always looking at the best of the situation and the best in others. He made everyone he was around feel good."

The city charter governs how to fill vacancies on the council.

"The council has the ability to appoint somebody to serve the remainder of Doug's term,"

Reeside said.

Appointments need approval by a majority of the council.

"I imagine the council will have a discussion at next month's meeting to decide what process they want to follow and make an appointment," Reeside said.

The last appointment was in 2002 to replace Mayor Edward Gaffney, elected to the first of three consecutive terms in the Michigan House of Representatives.

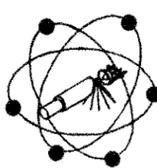
"We went with someone who was a previous council member, who knew the procedures and who was not going to run for council," Farquhar said. "We didn't want anyone to have an unfair advantage once they got in there. It worked well. Everything went smooth."

A memorial service for Roby is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, March 13, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 50 East Fisher Freeway at Woodward in Detroit.

Memorial donations may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Foundation, Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48073.

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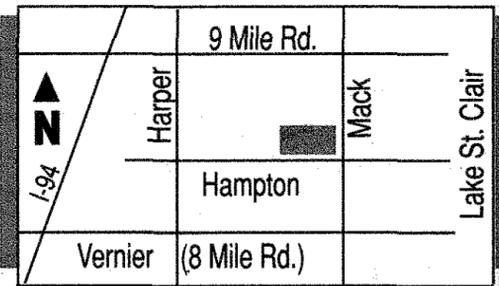
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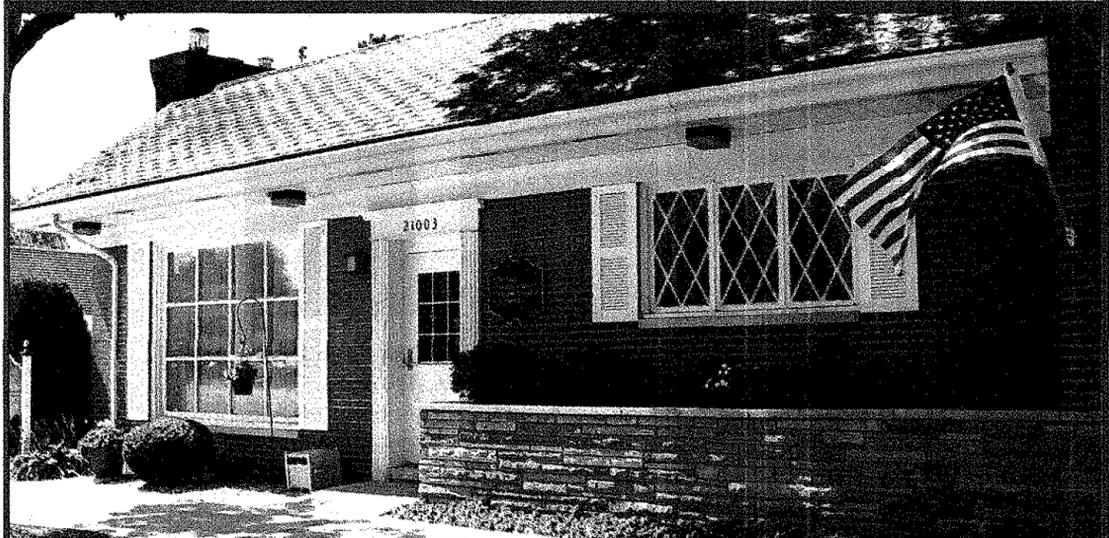
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City of Grosse Pointe

Fatal charges

A Ford Escort registered to a woman wanted in Detroit for a fatal hit-and-run car crash in 2006 was found at 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 4, backed into a spot in the Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital parking lot.

A plain-clothes officer kept an eye on the car. When the woman, a 31-year-old Detroit resident, got in and drove away, a uniformed officer arrested her on northbound Cadieux at St. Paul.

"I asked her name," said the arresting officer. "She said, 'Lekesia,' then stopped and attempted to change her mind. She gave several false names until she finally admitted (who she was)."

Hit and run

A resident of the 400 block of St. Clair awoke at 5:55 a.m. Wednesday, March 3, to a bang

he said sounded like a shotgun blast.

He saw out a front window a blue, foreign four-door car of undetermined make behind a parked Lincoln Town Car. The blue car had front-end damage. The Lincoln had rear-end damage.

"The blue vehicle sat for approximately 30 second before driving away from the scene," the homeowner told police.

The parked vehicle was registered to a Clinton Township resident.

Chased and caught

Police from the City, Grosse Pointe Park and Detroit shortly before 11 p.m. Monday, March 2, chased and captured two Detroit teenage males accused of stealing a woman's Chrysler Voyager parked at her house in the 800 block of Loraine.

City Officer Jean-pierre Cormier pursued the alleged thieves as they drove the van into Detroit.

Park Officer Michael Miller, one of seven Park officers in-

involved, saw the Voyager heading westbound on Harper near Chadwick.

"It quickly turned southbound on Nottingham and began accelerating," Miller said.

Speeds reached 75 mph before the fleeing driver crashed while turning from Lennox to Kercheval.

"The suspects bailed out in the area of Dickerson and Kercheval," Cormier said.

He helped catch the driver. Miller helped catch the other suspect, who was hiding under a parked car.

The suspects are 15 and 17 years old.

—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

Known to police

A 19-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man, on probation in

the Farms for possession of marijuana, refused to let his breath be sampled and tested for alcohol content when discovered shortly before 3 a.m. Sunday, March 7, walking on Lothrop near Moross.

A patrolman said the teenager smelled of alcohol and was walking with the aid of an 18-year-old male friend from the City of Grosse Pointe.

"(The Woods teen) explained that he had been drinking at a friend's house, had too much and was on probation," said the officer.

Police released him to his father. Charges may develop if probation was violated.

Wanted felons

Police said they found drug paraphernalia and the makings of an identify theft operation in the 1995 Chevrolet station wagon of a Detroit couple investigated on Mack near East Warren shortly before 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, for a traffic violation.

Police arrested the male driver and female passenger, both 49-year-old Detroit residents.

An officer patrolling Mack noticed their car didn't have a license plate.

Police said both subjects were wanted by 3rd Circuit Court: the man for unpaid child support; the woman, who police said had a small pipe tucked in one of her shoes, for drug and fraud charges.

Speeding drunk

A 39-year-old Harper Woods woman, who was pulled over for speeding 12 mph over the 30-mph limit on northbound Moross near Moross Place, registered a .17 percent blood alcohol level and was arrested for drunken driving.

Drunken driver

A 49-year-old Detroit man, investigated at 7:41 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, for operating a 1984 Lincoln Town car erratically on eastbound Mack from Kerby, registered a .9 percent blood alcohol level, said

the arresting officer.

"He would repeatedly drift on and across the dotted white line markers," said the officer.

Police said they found a fake license sticker in one of the car's windows.

Stops burglary

A woman living in the 200 block of Charlevoix drove up to her house last week in what police characterized as the nick of time.

"It appears that (she) interrupted a home invasion," said an officer.

Parts of the house had been ransacked. A large-screen television in the basement had been unplugged and placed on a table.

"Nothing appears to be missing," said the officer.

There are no known suspects. Yet, as the woman drove into her driveway, she noticed an unknown man in a dark green mid-1990s Jeep Cherokee parked on the north side of Charlevoix. She called police about the man, but he'd driven away.

Creamed

An unruly customer at Cold Stone Creamery, 16823 Kercheval in the Village, reportedly threatened an employee at about 7 p.m. Thursday, March 4.

"(The woman) became irate when told the next coupon she received cannot be deleted prior to use," the employee reportedly told police.

Officers went to the store at closing time to ensure employees left safely.

—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

Juveniles arrested

At 11 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, the City of Grosse Pointe reported a 2000 Plymouth Voyager had just been stolen and was observed heading north on Cadieux. Grosse Pointe Park police officers located the vehicle at Harper and Chatsworth in Detroit and the officers were able to stop the car and take two juveniles into custody.

Meals on wheels

A resident on Windmill Pointe Drive reported March 5 his gas grill was missing from his backyard.

Expensive fix

Sometime between 11 a.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, March 5, the catalytic converter was taken from a 2002 Pontiac Montana van parked on Hampton.

You can run ...

At 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, members of the ACTION task force observed a parked vehicle with an improper plate. The driver fled and after a short pursuit, he exited the vehicle and fled on foot. Officers gave chase and were able to apprehend the driver. The 27-year-old suspect was also found to be in possession of a large amount of cash and prescription narcotics.

—Kathy Ryan

If you have information on

these or any other crimes, call the Grosse Pointe Park police, (313) 822-7400.

Grosse Pointe Shores

Sleeping it off

A patrolman at 5:19 a.m. Saturday, March 6, found a 40-year-old man from Howell sleeping behind the wheel of a 2002 Lincoln LS parked on Webber.

The car's engine wasn't running. The keys were out of the ignition.

When the officer asked the man where he thought he was, he reportedly said, "South of Clarkston."

His blood alcohol level measured .18 percent, police said.

Smash & grabs

♦ A Mercedes Benz parked overnight Monday, March 1-2, on Webber Place was broken into.

A radar detector was taken. Entry to the car was made by smashing the passenger-side window.

♦ A \$500 Passport radar detector was stolen out of a 2006 Mercedes Benz parked overnight Monday, March 1-2, on North Deeplands.

The vehicle's driver-side window had been smashed.

Two in one

"Just one," said a man with a .23 percent alcohol level, when asked during a drunken driving investigation if he'd consumed any alcohol.

The 30-year-old Detroit resident was pulled over at 6:16 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, for weaving a 1999 Chevrolet along southbound Lakeshore near Webber.

The man was driving in tandem with a 24-year-old Detroit woman whom police stopped for weaving a 2004 Ford.

Asked if she'd been drinking, she reportedly answered, "A little, but I don't really drink." She registered a .13 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

Marlboro man

At 5:25 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, an unknown male entered a drug store on Mack and just as the manager approached him, he grabbed several cartons of cigarettes and fled.

The manager attempted to stop him, but he ran from the store and drove off in a white Jeep Cherokee. He escaped with four cartons of Marlboro cigarettes, valued at \$240. A security tape is being reviewed by the detective bureau.

iPod missing

A student at Parcels Middle School reported to police at 5:30 Wednesday, March 3, that he left his iPod in a gym locker during wrestling practice and when he returned, it was missing.

—Kathy Ryan

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



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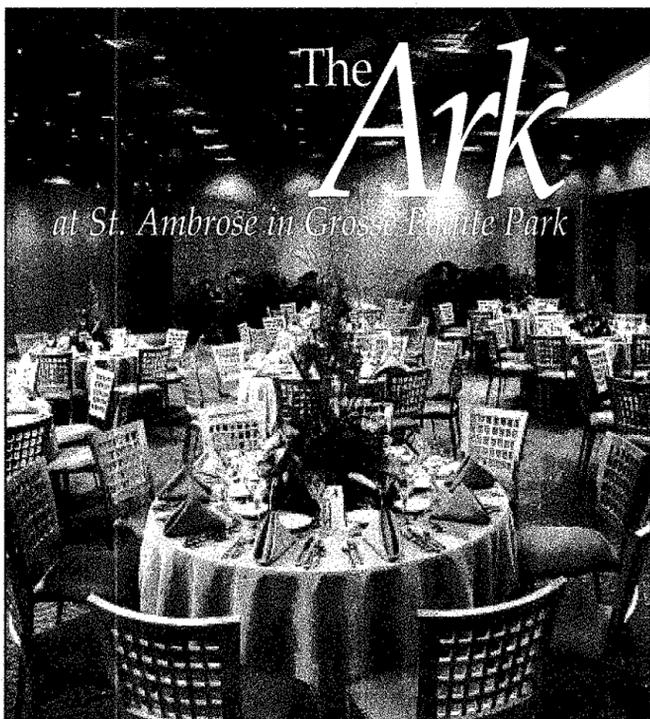
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City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms currently has one vacant seat as a consequence of the death of Councilman Douglas F. Roby, Jr. Pursuant to applicable law, such vacancy may be filled by appointment approved by the City Council, and the person appointed would serve the balance of Mr. Roby's term (through the regular City Election in November 2011).

Qualified residents of Grosse Pointe Farms interested in being considered for such appointment should, not later than March 25, 2010, submit in writing an expression of interest and a current resume. Such materials must be submitted to the City Clerk, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236.

All timely expressions of interest from qualified residents will be considered, but the City Council retains the discretion, under applicable law, to appoint any qualified person to fill the vacancy, whether or not such person has filed a timely expression of interest.

No pattern needed

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

They are known simply as the Knitting Ladies, and for nearly 70 years their needles, yarn and creativity have provided warmth and comfort to countless newborns and hospital patients throughout the community.

Like so many of their projects, the group is a work in progress, with new members joining veterans who have been there as long as 30 years, some armed with knitting needles, some with crochet hooks, but all come with a love of their craft.

"I had crocheted for years," said Martha Pease of the City of Grosse Pointe, as she worked on the border of sever-

al knitted squares that would come together as an afghan.

"We won't say how many years," said Georgia Killeen, also of the City, with a laugh. With some prodding, Pease said she had been a member of the group for 19 years, Killeen for eight.

Meeting at the Neighborhood Club, the group of about 20 women knit and crochet blankets, afghans and caps that are distributed to local hospitals and are added to newborn layettes. Benefactors include cancer patients at Cottage Hospital and new mothers who are being assisted through Pregnancy Aid.

"We have received over 930 blankets from the Knitting Ladies," said Nancy Anger, office manager for Pregnancy

Aid. "Every one of our clients receives a blanket, and each one is special. We tell our new mother that this blanket was knitted especially for them, and our clients are touched when they realize that a stranger had made something this special for them."

Many of the blankets are a group effort, as evidenced by the work Pease and Killeen were doing, along with Irene Mecha, a 17-year veteran of the group from St. Clair Shores. Knitted squares were being finished off with a crocheted edge, then sewn together to make a blanket.

All supplies are donated to the group, but only washable yarn is used for the knitting projects. Anything the Knitting Ladies can't use is donated to



The Knitting Ladies enjoy their time at the Neighborhood Club two days a month

PHOTO BY
KATHY RYAN

Arts and Scraps.

"Nothing is wasted," said Marge Zurack of Grosse Pointe Park. "We're not even sure where all the donations come from. Sometimes we'll

receive yarn from someone who said they were cleaning out their mother's house and came across yarn, but usually we don't have a clue. The yarn just appears at the desk at the

Neighborhood Club." Zurack joined the group 10 years ago, after being laid off from her job as a clinical appli-

See PATTERN, page 9A III

Survey due this month

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

A survey asking residents to rank city services is prompting more questions than answers among some members of the city council.

Surveys, being distributed to all 1,100 households in Grosse Pointe Shores, has a Friday, March 26 deadline to be returned to city officials.

Households are being asked how much they value specific city services, which ones they want to ensure, others they would cut back or eliminate to save the city money during a time of fiscal pressure.

Municipal officials will use responses when planning budgets, negotiating four labor contracts due to expire this summer, determining staffing levels and weighing the benefits of sharing services with sister Pointes.

A plan by Councilman Ted Kedzierski, chairman of the finance committee, to hold a finance-related town hall meeting prior to the survey deadline was put down last week by a majority of his colleagues.

"It makes implicit sense to have the survey first," said Councilman Robert Graziani at the March 2 meeting of the committee of the whole, which replaced the finance committee and is chaired by Kedzierski.

"We'll use the survey as a foundation," Graziani said. "We'll have feedback so we can better understand the issues and talk about it more appropriately. Let's get that and then have a meeting."

"We've got 1,100 households," said Mayor Dr. James Cooper. "There's no way you're going to get 1,100 people in a town hall meeting."

"I think the community

would benefit from an information town hall, just about financial issues," Kedzierski said.

"I agree," answered Brian Vick, city manager. "I'm just concerned about the timing. If we can wait until the survey's turned in, we can put that information together."

The town hall meeting, proposed for this week, was put off until after survey results are compiled. The date isn't determined.

Survey questions

In a related matter, Councilman Dan Schulte said

survey questions should be more detailed.

Questions not only should ask residents, for instance, how much they value door-side rubbish pickup, but also inform residents how much money could be saved if the service is downgraded to curb-side pickup.

"Everything's got a price on it," Schulte said. "You don't know much value they really have until you put a number on it."

"This (the survey) is to provide you feedback with regards

See SURVEY, page 9A III

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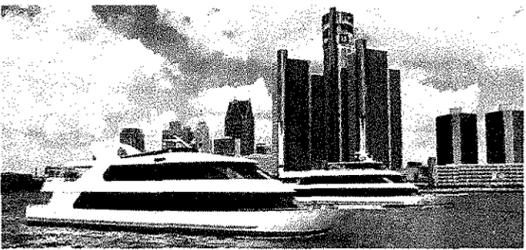
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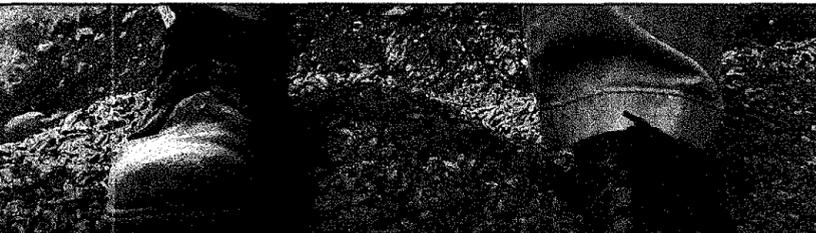
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FITZGERALD: Presentation includes video documentary

Continued from page 1A

He knew Allen Kalmon, 43, second cook, from Wisconsin. "He was one of the best second cooks I ever had," Yaworski said.

He knew Oliver Champua, 41, third assistant engineer, from Wisconsin. Champua had served on another freighter during most of 1975. By late in the year, he'd packed his bags to go home during winter lay-up when offered a run on the Fitzgerald, at one time the Queen of the Lakes, a title anointed the largest vessel operating on the Great Lake system.

"He jumped at the chance, and that was the end," Yaworski said.

The crew's mess was in the aft deckhouse. Every now and then while riding out a storm, a crewman would leave the mess, walk up a corridor and look forward out a porthole to the main deck and pilothouse.

Yaworski figures the routine held firm on the Fitzgerald's final day.

At about 7:20 p.m. Nov. 10, the former queen succumbed to 86-mph wind gusts and 35-foot waves in 530 feet of water 17 miles from the shelter of Whitefish Bay.

"There's a door at the front of the doghouse on the stern where during storms you could see the bow going up and down and water going over the deck," Yaworski said. "The rougher it got, they must have known they were going to go."

Yaworski, of suburban Cleveland, joined the Fitzgerald as a porter in May 1973.

"The first thing I noticed as I stood in the center of the galley, was when she rolled back and forth, all you could see was all water or all sky," he said. "That's the distance she went."

Yaworski signed off the

Fitzgerald for the same reason he'd signed on. Adventure.

"I didn't want to be on the same ship all the time with the same crew," he said.

Yaworski retired from the lakes in 1988. He spent his 15-year career as a steward on freighters marked with the yellow "C" on a brown star of the Columbia Transportation Division of Oglebay Norton Company.

"I was on 12 of the company's 18 boats," he said. "I miss it all. I'd go back in a heartbeat, but I'm a little too ancient."

Yaworski served with the Coast Guard in the South Pacific during World War II. Upon discharge, worked 18 years as executive chef at Chippewa Hotel in Manistee. He also cooked at the Buccaneer Inn in Onekama.

"After I left the hotel and inn, they burned to the ground," Yaworski said. "After I left the Fitzgerald, it sank."

There's something about the Edmund Fitzgerald that makes some people want more.

Many speak of her almost distractedly, as though looking beyond the conversation to the horizon over which they remember seeing her steam all those years ago.

The Fitzgerald was built in 1958 at a former Ecorse shipyard.

"When I saw her, she was recently built and the largest boat on the Great Lakes," said Frank Friske, 62, a retired lake sailor originally from Grosse Pointe Park. "It knocked my socks off when I saw her."

Friske worked on the lakes from 1995 to 2006. He sailed on five boats, including reigning queen, the 1,013-foot, 6-inch Paul R. Tregurtha.

"They were all good ships," Friske said.

At 68,000 tons, the Tregurtha, built in 1981, is more than 2 1/2 times the size of the 26,000-ton Fitzgerald.

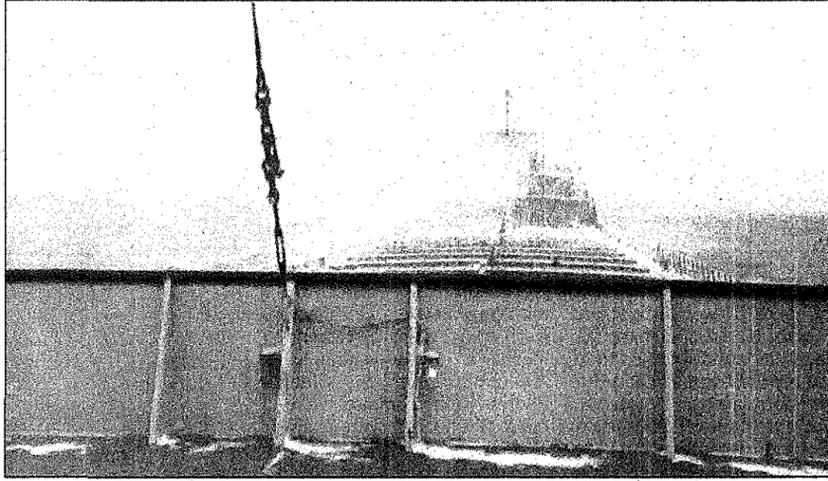


PHOTO BY GEORGE YAWORSKI

The Edmund Fitzgerald brushes off a wave breaking over her deck during a storm on the Great Lakes. The scene in 1973 is from the aft deckhouse, where crewmates often gathered to ride out storms, according to steward George Yaworski.

Friske will give a free, one-hour lecture on the Fitzgerald at noon, Sunday, March 21, at Great Lakes Maritime Center on the Port Huron waterfront.

Friske last year gave a presentation at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial on queens of the lakes.

"It packed the house," said Friske, a frequent lecturer nicknamed "Freighter Frank."

His presentation in Port Huron involves a video documentary, "The Edmund Fitzgerald Investigations," by Ric Mixter, an independent video producer from Flint. Friske has helped Mixter on previous documentaries.

Mixter has been a diver and videographer on expeditions to the Fitzgerald. He's also done work for the U.S. Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard.

"You'll follow the ship from the time the keel was laid until the last investigation by the insurance companies and government as to why it went down," Friske said.

Like Yaworski, Friske was a

steward. They have similar theories about what caused the Fitzgerald to sink after only 17 years of operation.

Friske thinks the freighter was overloaded on its final voyage and wound up in weather it couldn't handle.

"Back then, captains got paid for carrying extra weight," he said.

"She broke records five or six times by three different captains," added Yaworski.

Yaworski suspects six collisions and groundings, constant flexing of the hull and routine wear and tear weakened the boat for heavy seas.

"In 1973-1974, she had a crack in a propeller blade," he said. "She vibrated. The vibration would make bowls stacked in the mess room clink. Every once in a while, one of those bowls would break. There'd be glass all over the place. In 1974, they took the Fitzgerald into Sturgeon Bay (Wisc.) and replaced the propeller blade."

The Fitzgerald, like all lake

freighters, was designed to undulate slightly with the waves.

"When you stood on the stern during calm or medium weather, you'd see the bow go up, then notice the midships go up and then the stern went up," Yaworski said of the Fitzgerald.

Friske has been on boats that did more than flex in storms.

"One day on the (806-foot) Charles M. Beagley, I was on the back of the boat," he said. "The bow of the boat went down so far in a wave, I couldn't see the top of the pilot house."

Weakened or not, no hull would likely have withstood what Yaworski thinks the Fitzgerald encountered on its final voyage. The freighter, which had a 27-foot draft, went down so fast the captain didn't have time to send a distress call.

"There are 36-foot shoals near Caribou Island, where she was in that storm," Yaworski said. "When seas are high, its possible for wave troughs to be

lower than 36 feet. I think she hit bottom around Caribou Island."

In 1974, the year before Yaworski signed off, he cooked the last Thanksgiving dinner on the Edmund Fitzgerald.

The menu included roast turkey, beef and duck. Dessert included hot mince pie, pumpkin pie, ice cream and plumb pudding with brandy sauce.

"Some guys would say, 'Skip the plumb pudding, just give me some more of that brandy sauce,'" Yaworski said.

He saved lobster tails for the next day, Friday. Every Saturday was New York strip steak night.

The day of the sinking, Yaworski was home on leave from his new boat, the 647-foot Reserve, built in 1953 at the same Ecorse shipyard that produced the Fitzgerald five years later.

"When they told me the Fitzgerald went down, I said, 'Aww, you're full of it,'" Yaworski said. "They probably just lost radio contact."

Friske learned of the sinking while working on the roof of his house.

His wife called to him, "One of your boats just sank."

"One of my boats?" he said.

"Yeah, the Ellen Fitzgibbons."

"You mean the Edmund Fitzgerald?"

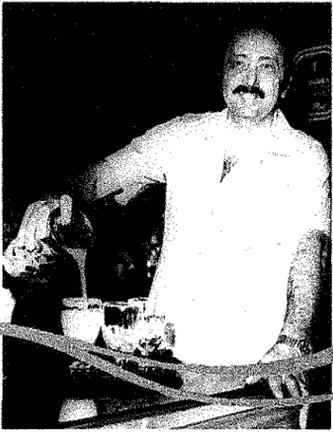
"That's it. It's on WJR."

"There's no way it can sink," Friske remembered thinking. "It's only 20 years old. Brand new. I just about flipped out."

"Freighter" Frank Friske gives a free one-hour presentation on the Edmund Fitzgerald at noon, Sunday, March 21, at Great Lakes Maritime Center, 51 Water Street on the Port Huron waterfront.

For more information, call (810) 985-4817 or visit achesonventures.com and choose "Maritime Center."

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RETIREEES: Benefit costs take a hike

Continued from page 3A III

process where officials looked to cut costs. Based on advice from Cornerstone Group, the city moved the retiree health care plans from a traditional Blue Cross policy to a Blue Cross Preferred Provider Organization, effective April 1. The city hopes to realize a \$68,000 saving in making the change.

While several retirees expressed dissatisfaction with the coverage provided by the new PPO, it was the new prescription plan that fueled not only anger among the retirees, but also the threat of legal action.

"We'll be going forward with a lawsuit," said Laura Hunke, wife of a retired public safety employee. "We've spoken with an attorney and she told us the city is committing fraud. This plan is not what employees agreed to when they retired." Hunke said she has received financial contributions from other retirees to move ahead with the lawsuit.

Effective April 1, all long-term prescriptions, such as high blood pressure medications and cholesterol-lowering drugs, will be dispensed through Express Scripts, a mail-order drug provider. While retirees will keep their current \$2 co-pay per prescription, their brand-name medicines may be moved to generic forms through a "Step Therapy" program used by Express Scripts. This requires a trial of a generic drug before

a brand-name, and usually more expensive, drug can be covered. If the generic drug is effective, but the retiree opts to continue receiving the brand name drug, they must cover the additional cost out of their own pocket.

"This type of program is already in effect in several prescription insurance programs," said Cindy Pavella, an account director for Cornerstone. "I predict all insurance plans will have this step program very soon. This is not new. As people have moved to HMOs, they are already living in the world where generic drugs are the norm."

Pavella illustrated the cost effectiveness of generic drug programs by comparing the costs of brand name drugs with their generic counterparts, using the drug Prilosec and its equivalent as an example. A 30-day supply of Prilosec costs \$166. After a \$2 co-pay by the retiree, the cost to the city is \$164. A generic equivalent costs \$78. After a \$2 co-pay, the cost to the city is \$76.

"If you absolutely want the brand name prescription, you will have to cover the cost of that yourself," Pavella told the retirees. "Or, if you work with your doctor through the step program of testing generic equivalents, and your doctor determines that a brand name drug is necessary based on trials with generics, then the doctor must seek authorization through Script Express. Most

doctors are familiar with this process."

Woods retirees will receive a letter from Express Scripts indicating what prescriptions they are taking and what the generic equivalent will be. Retirees were advised to sit down with their physicians to go over the changes.

Pavella explained that many of the so-called brand name drugs are readily available in a generic form because the patent on the brand name has expired, and the doctors will write a prescription for the brand name simply because they are not aware that a generic equivalent is available.

"About 95 percent of the time, a pharmacist will dispense a generic drug unless the doctor has given a 'dispense as written' directive," Pavella said.

After most of the retirees indicated they were not pleased with the change, they were even less pleased after hearing the assessment about health care and prescriptions delivered by Manquen.

"It's a no-win situation," he said, "but I predict that the majority of prescription programs will soon involve this process. We can point fingers at pharmaceutical companies, government, health care workers, but this is the new reality. But data shows that 99 percent of the time, generics work."

When the meeting ended, retiree Thomas Hunke insisted the discussion is not over.

"I have written to the city council, asking that this be placed on the council's agenda for the March 15 meeting. They will hear from us."

While declining to discuss specifics of the plan because of the threat of litigation from the retirees, city administrator Mark Wollenweber said the decision came after a thorough analysis.

"The city council and the administrative staff agonized over this decision," he said.

Bledsoe meetings set

State Rep. Tim Bledsoe, D-City of Grosse Pointe, hosts coffee hours with residents to discuss state and community issues.

Coffee hours are:
 ♦ Monday, March 22, from 10 to 11 a.m. at Biggy Coffee, 18480 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms.

♦ Monday, April 12, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at McDonald's, 16950 Harper, Detroit.

To schedule a private meeting with Bledsoe before or after the coffee hours, call his office toll-free at (888) 254-5291 or send an e-mail to timbledsoe@house.mi.gov.

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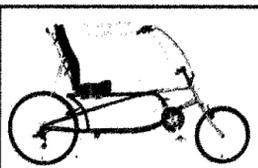
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They eat what they can get

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Coyotes in urban areas don't have to wolf their food. "Once they find a food source coupled with no fear of predators, that's a good reason to hang around and have something to eat," said Timothy Payne, Southeast Michigan wildlife supervisor with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment. "They enjoy an elevated survival rate," said Stan Gehrt, assistant professor of wildlife ecology at The Ohio State University and author of a 10-year study of urban coyotes in Chicago. "They're essentially protected from hunting and trapping. Once they figure out how to avoid people and cars, they have a pretty good life."

A bustling rabbit population appears to have whetted coyotes' appetite for Grosse Pointe.

"Usually in urban areas, you have a fairly decent food base to keep them going," Payne said. "If there's no negative consequences from being in the area and coyotes have a little bit of cover — areas where they can hide and be away from sight most of the time — they adapt to that."

Coyotes in the wild eat berries here and there, but mainly stick to meat. The same applies to urban coy-

otes. "They do well around people," said Adam Bump, a bear specialist with the state DNR. "They learn pretty quickly that there's a lot of food available."

Pet cats and small dogs are lower on a coyote's menu. "If they have a chance at a cat, they probably will go after it," Bump said. "But, a cat is probably tougher to kill than the average mouse. So, coyotes aren't going to focus on cats."

Gehrt found in his Chicago study that less than 2 percent of an urban coyote's diet consists of pets, pet food and garbage.

Top five of 12 food sources and their percentages were:

- ◆ small rodents, 42;
- ◆ fruit, 23;
- ◆ white-tailed deer, 22;
- ◆ Eastern cottontail, 18 percent;
- ◆ birds, 13.

For coyotes in the Pointes, food options are likely to expand when Canada geese return from winter break.

"Migration will be picking up in the next couple of weeks," said Bill Rapai, president of the Grosse Pointe Audubon Society and a City of Grosse Pointe resident. "Once the grass begins to green up, you'll see more Canada geese on people's lawns on Lakeshore. That's when I suspect coyotes will

See EAT, page 9A III

Life with people

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Everybody wants a piece of bottomland, even coyotes.

They stake out territory and defend it.

"Only so many coyotes can live in a territory. As they pro-

duce coyotes, they push them out into increasingly less desirable habitats," said Stan Gehrt, assistant professor of wildlife ecology and a coyote researcher at The Ohio State University.

As the untamed landscape became more occupied, coy-

otes started moving into suburbs and cities.

"They have now established themselves in the last habitat not being used by them, the city," Gehrt said. "It's not en masse. It would be a few poor souls forced to go into cities. Then they find out, 'Hey, this is-

n't so bad."

After a while, newfound urban coyotes start producing more coyotes. And so on.

"When you start with a couple of coyotes, you end up with a full population within a few

See LIFE, page 9A III

COYOTES: Experts say children safe around urban coyotes

Continued from page 2A III

them and take off," Payne said. "In another case, someone was rollerblading and another was jogging. It triggered the attack. The coyote decided to go nipping at their heels."

Payne wants people to be safe and coyotes to remain wild, for each other's sake.

"When a coyote is seen open and obvious in the middle of the day — those are keys that

tell me this coyote is heading down a path where there could be an interaction," Payne said. "That coyote needs to go."

Parents worry if their children are safe in communities that have become home to coyotes.

"The answer is yes," Payne said. "Having said that, if you have a coyote in the area that is hanging around and lingering, I would treat it as a wild dog."

Sharing the neighborhood with canine predators can make people nervous.

"Don't be," Payne said. "Enjoy them. Keep them wild. Every coyote's not a problem. If they become problems, you need to take care of it."

It's an issue facing city folk from coast to coast.

"Here in Massachusetts, especially in the Boston area, coyotes have been expanding their ranges and living in close proximity to people," said Todd Fuller, wildlife professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. "A friend of mine, who just wrote a book that

deals with suburban wildlife, got a call from people at a radio station in New York City because a couple coyotes had shown up in the city. That's not unusual."

Urban coyotes are being studied in Los Angeles, Fuller added.

"I'm guessing what you're seeing (in Grosse Pointe) is not that different from lots of other places," Fuller said. "The question, then, is why in general does that happen? I think it's because it can."

ALL OVER: No passport needed for wild coyotes

Continued from page 2A III

nothing I've seen." Pokorny's right. Harsens Island has coyotes.

"We've been aware of it," said Timothy Payne, Southeast Michigan wildlife supervisor with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment. "Our manager says the coyotes seem to be good predators of fawns. When you have limited upland areas with lots of water, that makes easy hunting for coyotes."

Payne figures coyotes showing up the last few years in urban areas of southeast Michigan are coming from "everywhere but the ice."

More likely, coyotes are entering the metropolitan area along a series of natural and

man-made corridors.

Rather than assuming coyotes came to Grosse Pointe from rural areas in Canada to the east across the lake, they may have come by land from the opposite direction.

"You've got that whole series of parks along the Rouge River coming in from the west," Payne said. "Coyotes can follow those corridors easily."

Then, as with urban pheasants Payne studied years ago, coyotes could have fanned out along railroad rights-of-way radiating from Detroit through the suburbs.

"It's easy to see how these animals could be moving around and not be highly detected until they're in your backyard," Payne said.

That's not to rule out the usual suspects: river and lake ice.

Coyotes, foxes and wolves aren't intimidated by ice.

"Its not the barrier it might be to other animals," said Todd Fuller, wildlife professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

In 1982, while teaching biology at Northern Michigan University, Fuller coauthored a study of how winter shipping on the St. Marys River, the outlet of Lake Superior, affected the movement of mammals across river ice.

"Coyote would readily cross the ship track as soon as it was refrozen and would support their weight," Fuller wrote in the study. "Slippery ice did not hinder travel by canids."

The six-week survey was conducted by aircraft, on foot and snowmobile along a 14 kilometer stretch of the river off Neebish Island.

Of 554 sets of mammal tracks that crossed the river at spots up to 1,000 meters wide, 15 percent were made by coyotes.

Fuller, author of "Wolves of the World," said coyotes commonly travel long distances.

They are "probably pretty used to ice," whether it be frozen rivers, streams or creeks, he said.

That goes for open water, too.

"They're pretty good swimmers," Fuller said. "Rivers often serve as boundaries for territorial animals because there's some effort to get across. But, animals that are just trying to find a new place to live, I don't think coyotes would hesitate much at all to swim, especially across something they could see the other side of."

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Woods part of Nixle network

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Woods residents are just a click away from receiving up-to-date information on what's going on in their neighborhood, good and bad.

The city has launched a community notification service, referred to as Nixle, which provides quick updates to residents via e-mail or text message, covering everything from crime alerts to community events.

'Messages are delivered that provide residents with information on everything from road repairs to severe weather.'

AL FINCHAM,
Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Director

Messages can be geographically sensitive, for example, by alerting residents on a certain block about a crime that just happened on their block. All messages are posted by the Woods public safety department.

"I think it's just another way to enhance our community outreach," said Public Safety Director Al Fincham. "It enables us to provide details about a specific crime so citizens can be aware of something happening right now in their neighborhood, or it can also be used to advise residents of activities in the community."

Nixle, created by public safety and communication professionals, is part of the Nilet's system, a computer-based message switching system that links state, local and federal

See NIXLE, page 9A III

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Grant helps Woods upgrade boots for public safety officers

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

A good pair of boots is anything but a fashion statement to a fireman, who exposes them to a mixture of icy water, hazardous chemicals and hot embers.

Protecting the health of those who protect homeowners and their property is most important, and thanks to a \$13,100 award from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, public safety officials in Grosse Pointe Woods have one less thing to worry about.

"We had conducted a risk analysis of what we needed in

the way of equipment to improve service to our residents," said Cpl. Jim Lafer, the city's fire inspector. "We were fighting fires in boots that in some cases were 10 years old. We had to hand them down from a retiree to an incoming officer. They seldom fit correctly, and there wasn't money in the budget to purchase new ones."

In addition to not meeting current professional codes, the old rubber boots were just plain wearing out. Blisters and wet feet were common complaints.

"When you're at a fire, you don't want to have to worry about your feet," Lafer said. "Our first concern should be

the safety and welfare of our community."

Lafer was notified the department was awarded the grant in February, and plans on putting the 46 pairs of boots the department will need up for bids in the next week. Lafer said every firefighter will be custom measured, and expects the new boots could be delivered by late spring.

"That will be part of the bid specification, as we need them as soon as possible," said Lafer. "The boots we are recommending for purchase are such an improvement over the old rubber boots. The new ones are leather, and are as comfortable as tennis shoes. There is a

warm lining and a tread that provides much better traction."

While the city must pay up to 5 percent in matching funds, or approximately \$700, Lafer believes that's a bargain.

"The cost benefit will be realized immediately," he noted.

"The new boots will allow our firefighters to respond quicker and move about far more freely."

The grant program is administered through FEMA, and Grosse Pointe Woods was one of only seven Michigan cities

selected for a grant. Since 2001, Lafer has been instrumental in securing \$176,000 in grants and equipment, including coats, pants, helmets for firefighters and a 12-lead defibrillator for the city's ambulance.

EAT: Cops urge residents not to feed coyotes

Continued from page 8A III

have a better chance of taking a goose. Foxes in the area go for goslings. That's one of foxes' favorites."

Local police have been campaigning for residents not to feed coyotes or allow them easy pickings.

"We're pounding out a message to the public to continue doing what experts have rec-

ommended: watch their dogs, don't put trash out, make sure there's nothing for coyotes to eat and scare them anytime you see them," said Stephen Poloni, Grosse Pointe Shores public safety director.

Wild animals and people are better off when they don't interact.

"Anything that associates food with people is a bad mix for any wildlife," Bump said.

"Those are ways you habituate coyotes to people."

Coyotes have been in southern Michigan for at least 20 to 30 years, he said.

"They've been in urban areas almost as long," he added.

"The longer you have generations of coyotes that have never spent time anywhere else but urban areas, they get more and more comfortable with people."

LIFE: Fur trapping kept numbers down

Continued from page 8A III

years," Gehrt said.

Urban coyotes must adjust to living close to other coyotes, something not as common in the wild.

"There are two types of coyotes in cities: resident pack animals that live together in family groups within territories; and individuals that are moving in a relatively small area," Gehrt said.

His 10-year study of coyotes in Chicago, "Urban Coyote Ecology and Management," measured how much urban coyotes have downsized their territory compared to counterparts in the grasslands, forests, hills, mountains, deserts, marshes and everywhere else highly-adaptive coyotes thrive in natural areas of North America.

"Coyotes in rural areas typically range over eight or nine square miles," Gehrt said. "In cities, their territory size would be on average about two

square miles — pretty small for a coyote."

There's no reason to doubt the same adaptations aren't happening in metropolitan Detroit, where coyotes have been spotted for years.

Reports of coyotes in Grosse Pointe began a few years ago.

So many coyotes have moved into Chicago that they're having to divvy up the city into smaller and smaller territories.

"One of our packs has been maintaining its territory of less than 1/2 square miles for at least the last four or five years," Gehrt said. "In other words, these coyotes have never left 1/2 of a square mile in years."

Solitary coyotes comprise one-third to one-half of the Chicago population.

"These are animals that have left their pack, either voluntarily or they got kicked out," Gehrt said. "They still live with-

in the city, but they have a huge home range. They average about 30 square miles in home range. They can get up to 60 square miles of home range."

Most metropolitan areas across the Midwest and eastern United States with coyote populations didn't have them 20 years ago, according to Gehrt.

He cited conditions in Michigan that likely contributed to coyotes moving into metropolitan Detroit.

"In many parts of Michigan back in the 1940s, 50s and 60s, coyotes weren't common," Gehrt said. "Wolves either kept them from moving in or kept their numbers low."

Fur trapping during the 1960s and 70s helped keep down coyote populations.

"We don't have that kind of pressure anymore," Gehrt said. "So, their numbers are increasing."

PATTERN: Group gives back to community

Continued on page 5A III

Specialist for a microbiology laboratory instrument company. She readily admits that crocheting granny squares is a far cry from her previous position.

"I had been knitting and crocheting since high school, and I was looking for something to do when I read about the group in the Neighborhood Club flyer," she said. "And I thought, 'I can do that.'" She now also teaches knitting to students at St. Clare of Montefalco.

"Knitting is definitely making a comeback," she said. "It's relaxing and creative."

Suzanne Lappin of Grosse Pointe Farms is considered a newbie, having joined the group a year ago after retiring from her job as a middle school teacher. Like many others in the group, she was taught to knit by her grandmother.

Barbara Held, also of the Farms, just wanted something to do where, "I didn't have to think."

"I just wanted something to do that was, well, mindless," she said. "I just didn't want to have to think, and this is perfect. You can just pick up yarn and start crocheting, put it down, and come back to it."

The group has recently tak-

en on a new project, making what are called chemo caps for cancer patients.

"They are in the style of a baseball cap," Zurak explained. "They are fuzzy and warm and nice for winter."

Last year, the group donated 94 blankets. Thanks to donations, they expect to do the same this year.

Donations of washable yarn, even if not a complete skein, are always welcome, as are new members. The group meets at the Neighborhood Club on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Call (313) 885-4600, for more information.

SURVEY: Responses could provide insight

Continued from page 5A III

to residents' values," Vick said, making a case for not including cost figures. "To put (cost figures) out for every scenario that list doesn't accomplish what we're trying to accomplish right now. We're trying to get the flavor of the community, look at particular categories, then put those numbers together. Then, you have a work session or town hall."

The Shores survey is based on one written by a group of citizens appointed to an ad hoc advisory committee in the City of Grosse Pointe.

City residents surprised their municipal leaders by downgrading the importance of ser-

vices thought to be highly desired, such as doorside rubbish collection compared to curbside pickup.

"(Survey responses) could be clear as mud," Vick said. "It also could provide unique insight as to where the community is right now."

"The survey is important to do first," said Olivia Broome Boykins, a special assistant to Congressman John Conyers Jr., attending the meeting. "Its going to generate thinking in your citizens, so when they come to a town hall meeting it will generate conversation prior. It will give them more reason to feel that they were part of the process before you had the meeting."

Kedzierski said he'd like to "empanel citizens that have that expertise in our community to assist me and this committee in developing some workable solutions to our problems and attack the structural deficit."

Dr. Raymond Rahi, a resident attending the meeting, said the survey should ask residents if they're willing to pay more taxes to maintain or increase services.

"It's wonderful that we're looking to gain economies of scale and efficiencies," Rahi said. "But, at the same time, we have to attract people to come here and be willing to raise their children here. We want to maintain services and we want to build on them."

NIXLE: Woods joins network

Continued from page 8A III

law enforcement agencies.

Information is sent over a secure, closed network. There is no advertising allowed, and the service is free to both residents and public agencies.

To participate, residents register with Nixle by visiting the city's website, gpwmi.us, and opening the Public Safety page. Follow the prompts and complete the registration process, which takes less than five minutes. Nixle sends alerts via e-mail and/or text message. Residents may opt out of the notification system at any time. Additional information can be obtained from nixle.com.

St. Clair Shores, where Fincham resides, also participates in the Nixle system, and he finds it useful.

"Messages are delivered that provide residents with information on everything from road repairs to severe weather," he said.

Fincham discussed the use of the system with a Woods' block club, and they were looking forward to having the added security a system provides.

According to Chief of Police David Hiller, Grosse Pointe Park has also joined the Nixle system, and hopes to have the system available to residents by April 1. Grosse Pointe Farms was the first of the Pointes to join the system.

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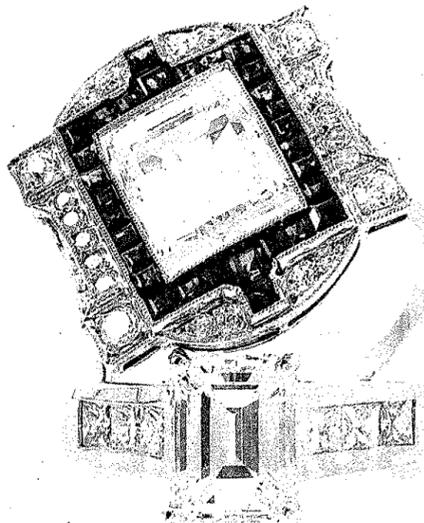
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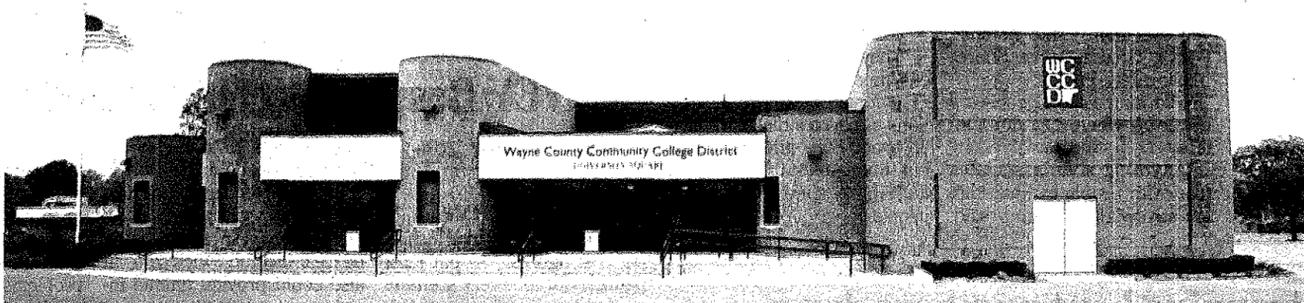
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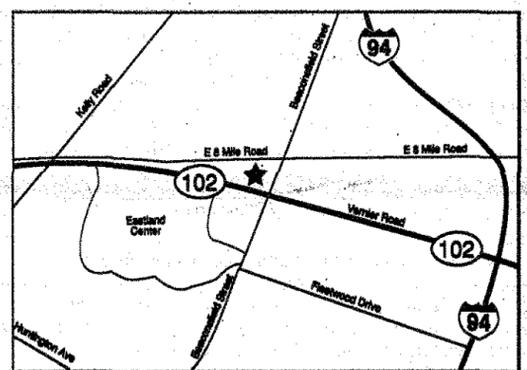
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1-10A IV AUTOMOTIVE

AUTOS By Jenny King

'Gold Digger' shines at Autorama



Maybe it was just a good guess, but Tennessee plating specialist Steve Tracy thought "Gold Digger," a 1933 Ford Phaeton from Georgia, was an outstanding candidate for the Ridler prize at the 2010 Autorama.

And he was right-on. The Ford, owned and designed by Tammy Ray of Dahlonega, Ga.,

won the coveted award at this year's Autorama at Cobo Center the last weekend in February.

Ray said she was inspired when her entry into the 2006 Ridler competition — another 1933 Ford — at Autorama was selected for the finalist "Great Eight Circle."

"I own a gold mine in Georgia," said Ray, who is the first woman to win the prestigious \$10,000 top prize for the best hot rod making its public debut. "There are two gold nuggets from my mine on the valve covers of the 427-inch all-aluminum small block under the hood."

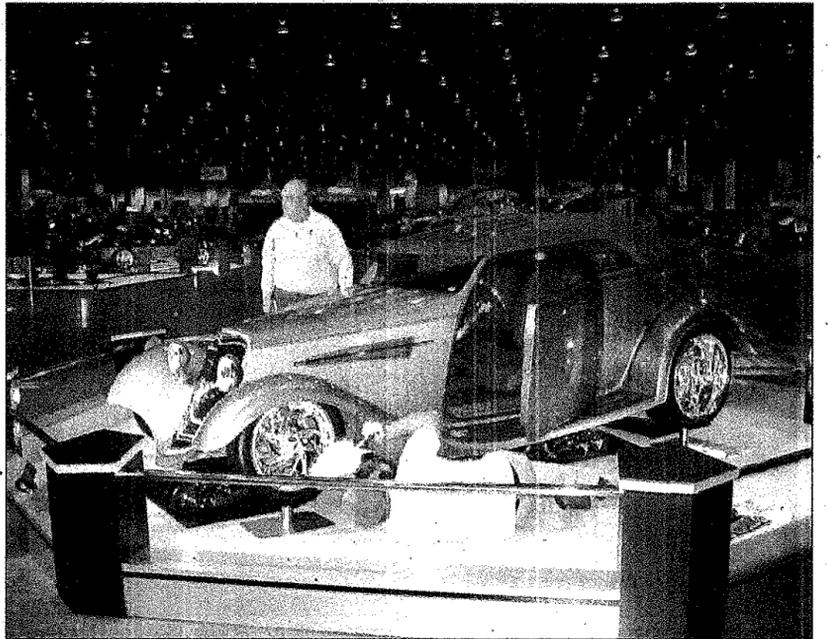
It was sought-after metal plater, Tracy, of Advance Plating in Nashville, who did the chrome work on the gold Phaeton in addition to at least two other Ridler competitors.

"It took me two years to complete the 3,152 pieces we did for the (Rich and Paige) Udells' 1932 Ford roadster," he said, nodding toward the elegant green all-steel car owned by the Swan Lake couple.

"The greatest number I've done was for the 1942 Willys Jeep here that owner Dave Sellers of Boulder, Colo., assembled," Tracy said. "It had 3,800 pieces to be chromed."

Ray obviously had her "Gold Digger" carefully trailered up to the Motor City from Georgia.

Some, such as Clark Bates and his brother-in-law, John Becker, braved the late-February weather and drove Bates' 1948 Chevy pickup with one windshield wiper from snowy Pennsylvania to slushy Detroit.



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

Gold mine owner Tammy Ray of Dahlonega, Ga., designed a sweeping version of her 1933 Ford Phaeton, insisted on painting it gold and placed some gold nuggets from her business on the valve covers.

On Friday morning, the first day of the three-day 2010 show, Becker was lounging with friends on a rusted glider on the lower level of Detroit's Cobo Center where the vehicles qualifying for the "Extreme" category congregated. "Clark has had the truck 24 years," said Becker, of Hanover, Penn. "It has a stock 350 (Chevy) engine with 250,000 miles. He takes it to a lot of shows."

Parked in the same cluster was "Blue Devil,"

a 1930 Ford Model A roadster pickup designed and built by Brylen Brajkovich of Jonestown, Penn. Recently completed, the blue and white open-cab truck was making its public debut at Autorama.

Brajkovich, who owns a customs and hot rods business in Jonestown, explained in great detail the extensive body work required to

See AUTARAMA, page 2A IV

Oval shapes and three-line designs are among the distinguishing features of this 1932 Ford roadster owned by Rich and Paige Udell of Swan Lake. Jon Watts of Lake Placid, Fla., and Steve Tracy of Nashville, Tenn., were among the specialists who designed and built the sparkling green contender for the prized Ridler Award.

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	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="font-size: small;">GM EMPLOYEE PRICE & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS</th> <th style="font-size: small;">GM EMPLOYEE & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS LEASE FOR</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">\$30,715*</td> <td style="text-align: center;">39 MO / 12,000 MI. per year</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Includes Pontiac Owner Loyalty</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$349* mo.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">\$1999 Down • Includes Pontiac Owner Loyalty</td> </tr> </table>	GM EMPLOYEE PRICE & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS	GM EMPLOYEE & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS LEASE FOR	\$30,715*	39 MO / 12,000 MI. per year	Includes Pontiac Owner Loyalty	\$349* mo.		\$1999 Down • Includes Pontiac Owner Loyalty		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="font-size: small;">GM EMPLOYEE PRICE & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">\$22,995*</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Includes Pontiac Owner Loyalty</td> </tr> </table>	GM EMPLOYEE PRICE & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS	\$22,995*	Includes Pontiac Owner Loyalty					
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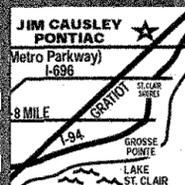
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2A IV | AUTOMOTIVE

**AUTORAMA:
Treasured
show car**

Continued from 1A IV

complete this 1,900-pound, all-steel "calling card" car with 289-inch Ford engine, automatic transmission and nine-inch rear end.

"I gave it a longer wheelbase for a better ride, built a hatch-top storage area in the back, used an air tank for the gas tank and installed a dashboard from a 1950 Oldsmobile," he said. "I put about 300 hours into this project."

Brajkovich won in the "Extreme" category at the 2008 Autorama with his "Puppy Crusher." Some of the show organizers asked him this year if he should have been on the main level: His brightly painted 1960s-style hot rod looked out of place among the scruffy rat rods.

Their 1937 Chevrolet Master Deluxe coupe was right where owners Bill and Sue Kech of Dubuque, Iowa, wanted it: upstairs with other contenders for the coveted 2010 Ridler award.

Bill Kech admitted he was wired as the noon-time opening of the show approached, along

with the narrowing to eight of the Ridler award field. Only days before the 58th annual car show, the rave red coupe had slipped off a jack and received a serious puncture wound. Once in Detroit, the Keches' Chevy had another jack incident and gained a last-minute scratch.

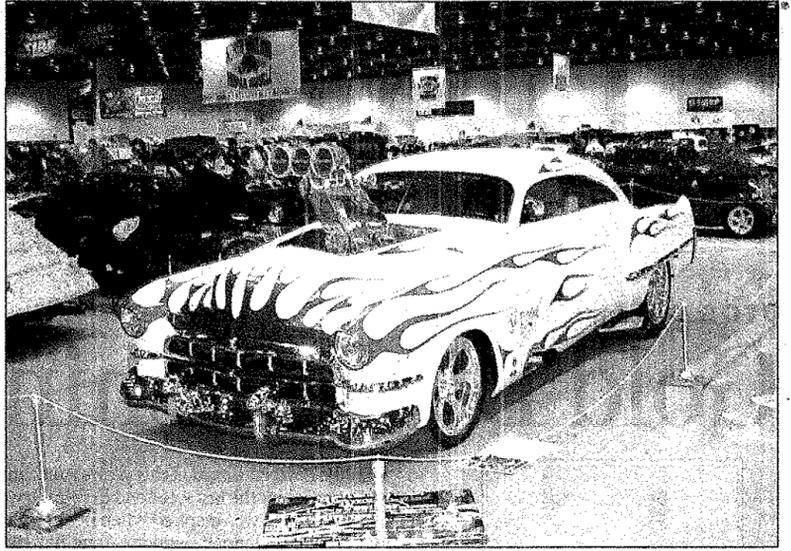
The retired couple bought the car in Wisconsin for \$100. Three years and more than \$200,000 later, they were in Detroit to show it for the first time — which is one of the qualifications for Ridler contenders.

Last-minute preps

Unlike the Keches' red Chevy Master Deluxe and its last-minute repairs, the Udells' 1932 roadster was completed and show-ready a full 90 days prior to this year's Autorama.

Glenn Hickman, of Waterford, said the console in his 1967 Chevrolet Nova II was completed only last week. Hickman said he was thinking of stuffing an even larger engine than the current 425 horsepower, 383-inch, racing-fuel-driven Chevy powerplant in the Nova — even though it's equipped with a two-speed Powerglide transmission.

A 1966 Chevy Nova II, shown by owner Tyson Humphries of Plymouth, was one of the show cars treasured for its original condition. Humphries bought it, disassembled, in Indiana



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

Bob Fryz of Dearborn owns this 1948 Cadillac dubbed "Sh Boom."

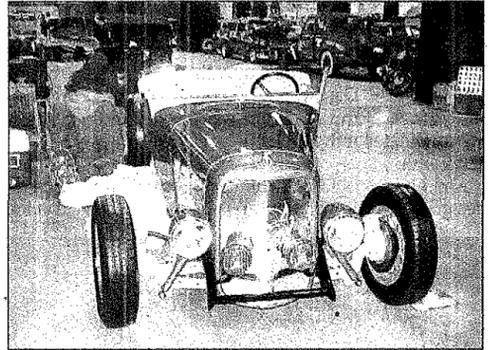
10 years ago.

"My mother, who passed away, said she, as a girl, had wanted a 1967 Nova," Humphries said. "This was as close as I could come."

Humphries created a 327-inch small block for it from an engine block he already had. He paid \$4,000 for the car in 2000 and trailered it back to Michigan.

"Each time we stopped for gas, someone came over and offered to buy it as-is," he recalled.

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



Brylen Brajkovich of Jonestown, Penn., designed and built "Blue Devil," above, right, a clever, steel-bodied take-off on a 1930 Ford Model A pickup truck. He plans to take it to several shows to market his professional skills.

Dave Sellers put this 1942 World War II vintage Willys Jeep, right, back together in the rarefied air of 10,000-foot-high Boulder, Colo.



Auto shop students at Roseville High School transformed an everyday 1951 Ford Custom coupe into a showcar.

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AUTOS By Jenny King

The 2010 Nissan Cube is funky, fun and futuristic — just three of the many reasons the versatile vehicle was named Automobile Magazine's 2010 Design of the Year.

Nissan Cube steals glances, hearts



First, our apologies. We are misspelling the name of Nissan's little van. The auto maker refers to it as cube, with a lower-case "c." Not wanting it to get lost in a sentence or be mistaken for a building block or something for cooling a drink, we are opting for Cube. When the exterior color — fatigue green — and the placement of the fuel door latch, hidden beneath the instrument panel, are the only complaints about a test vehicle, it seems we have a winner on our hands. An unusual-looking winner, perhaps, but the pug-nosed, boxy exterior and passenger-

friendly interior of the 2010 Nissan Cube are likely to tug at the hearts and pocketbooks of new-vehicle intenders of all ages. Not just "gens X and Y." The Cube reminds us of a distant relative: The Renault Megane. Perhaps the French 5-passenger car, which bowed way back in 1995, has been an influence, especially given the close relationship between Nissan and Renault. The two companies became cross-shareholders back in 1999. The first Megane had a more prominent "nose" than the Cube. And in its 15 years on the market, has become quite sleek and sophisticated — unlike the Cube, which appears to revel in its impish looks. But there's a family resemblance in chopped-off, lots-of-glass rear of these vehicles. The rear door of the Cube is hinged on the left and opens like a cabinet or refrigerator door. The left is supported by a pillar. The right rear, where a

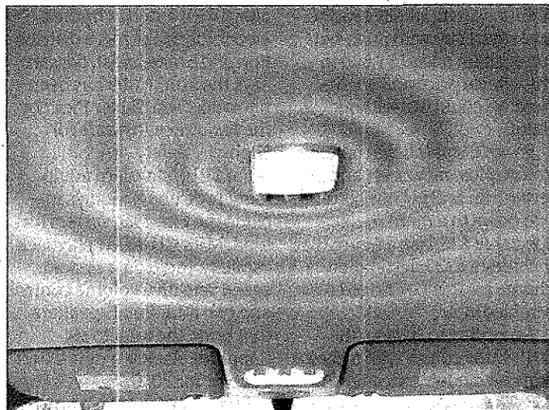
steel pillar would extend to the roof, has a wrap-around rear window. All the large windows, the high roofline and sit-up-straight seats give Cube passengers a sense of riding in a terrific tour bus. One in which you could wear a top hat, should you choose to do so. When we went in search of crash test results on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website, we were startled to learn the Cube is listed as a "van," not a car or utility vehicle. It earned four out of 5 stars for front seat occupants in front crash situations and 5 stars for both front and rear seat occupants in side crash tests. In a rollover situation, the Cube had a four-star rating. The front-drive Cube is offered with a standard 122



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

The 2010 Nissan Cube, a wide but short preshrunk van, fits neatly into a parking structure space.

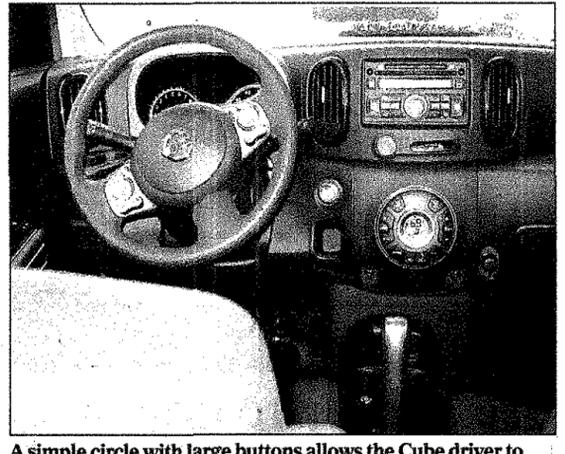
See CUBE, page 4A IV



The ripple theme in the Cube's molded headliner shows up in the carpeted floor mats and in the upholstery.



Elegant silvery handles and attractive inside door panels are accompanied by colorful elastic cords up front and knobs for hanging items in the rear.



A simple circle with large buttons allows the Cube driver to make heating, defrosting and air conditioning choices with only a quick glance.

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<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">2008 CHRYSLER SEBRING \$10,993 #P0287</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">2001 HONDA PASSPORT V6 & NICE ONLY \$4,900 #P3164</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">2009 FORD FUSION \$13,990 #P0233</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">2008 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LIMITED ONLY \$9,900 #P0331</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">2009 NISSAN ALTIMA LOADED ONLY \$15,990 P0272</p>	

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4A IV | AUTOMOTIVE

Luxury innovations continue for Cadillac

Cadillac recently unveiled the XTS Platinum Concept, suggesting a new paradigm for the luxury sedan of the future.

The concept showcases Cadillac's emerging top-of-the-line Platinum series of models, emphasizing new aspects of luxury and technological features, including a plug-in hybrid propulsion system.

The vehicle was designed from the inside out, re-imagining the luxury sedan as a per-



Cadillac XTS Platinum Concept

See CADILLAC, page 6A IV

CUBE: Futuristic design

Continued from page 3A IV

horsepower 1.8-liter 4-cylinder engine which can be mated with either a continuously variable transmission or a 6-speed manual.

That quiet, smooth CVT promises fuel economy of some 30 miles per gallon in highway driving and 28 mpg in urban settings. We like this kind of seamless transmission very much. While it would be fun to test that 6-speed manual, a better season might be summertime when it's highly unlikely we'll be sitting in snow-bound traffic situations.

A quick weather-related aside: With a vehicle like the

with carpeted floor mats, bungee-style cords on the front door handles and a cunning-if-mystifying black-and-white circular shag carpet atop the instrument panel. And never mind the \$790 alloy wheels.

We loved the 20 color interior or accent lighting that illuminated the front floor and multiple cupholders. And the blue-lighted aluminum kick plates that welcome you into the Cube were lovely. These come in a \$2,550 "Ginormous" package along with chrome accents, a custom grille, a cargo area protector and an aero kit with low hanging front air dam that challenges all ice-covered snow mounds and cement curbs and probably will lose to them on impact. Still, we loved the lights and the cool exterior appearance.

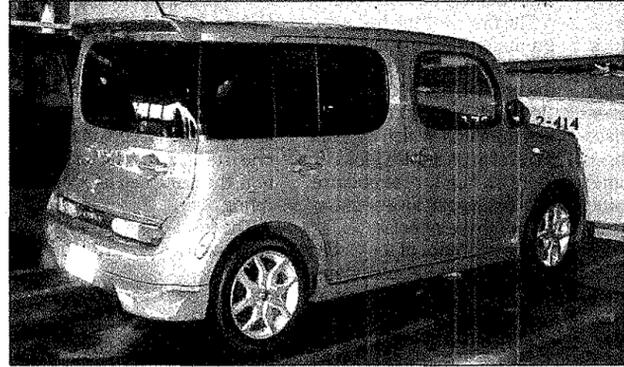
The SL preferred package with handsome steering wheel audio controls, Bluetooth

dressed Cube 1.8 S Krom starts at \$20,120 and offers a long list of add-ons that can be purchased individually instead of in packages with features you don't want. All Cubes share the 1.8-liter four.

Nissan says the Bluetooth and steering wheel audio controls are standard on the S and SL models. Our window sticker lumped them in an SL "preferred package," along with fog lights, rear sonar that beeps when you shift into reverse, satellite radio and push-button ignition.

All Cube models have six air bags. In addition to front and seat mounted bags for front seat passengers, there are two air curtains to protect all-outboard passengers in certain impact situations.

Cube also offers standard front-seat active head restraints and vehicle dynamic control with traction control,



Not exactly beautiful but certainly heart-warming, the 2010 Nissan Cube allows passengers to keep their top hats on while in the car.

Cube with its expansive roof, don't neglect to clear all the snow off before setting out. We had a few unexpected avalanches pour over the windshield at stop signs after a recent wet bout with Old Man Winter.

Our test car was the upscale Cube 1.8 SL with \$5,000 in options. Being of a frugal nature, we examined those packages and single items to see how we could bring the price down closer to the Cube 1.8 SL base price on our window sticker of \$16,790. Unfortunately, the features we trimmed initially only added to about \$1,000: a \$230 interior designer package.

phone system, satellite radio and smart key with push-button ignition added \$1,600 to the vehicle price and we figured we could live without them.

So we'd scratch that option group, plus the wheels and interior trim and get our bottom line down to a more respectable \$20,160, a figure that includes a \$720 destination charge for this Los Angeles-assembled van.

According to Nissan, the 2010 Cube comes with a choice of three models, priced from \$13,990 for the base Cube 1.8 to \$17,130 for the Cube 1.8 SL. The limited edition, well-

along with antilock brakes, electronic brake force distribution and brake assist. Nissan says the 2010 Cube has been named a "Top Safety Pick" by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

For 2010, standard equipment for Cube S models include the interface system for iPod, MP3 CD-ROM playback capacity, radio data system, speed sensitive volume control and two additional speakers that bring the total to six. Sapphire black is a new exterior color for 2010.

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

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TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

2010 Ford Escape XLS 4WD



it's a smart, proven design. Two powertrains return for 2010, including the aforementioned and standard fuel efficient 2.5-liter, 171-horsepower Inline-4. Optional is a 3.0-liter V-6 engine that produces 40 horsepower more than the previous generation V6, even though it's the same size as the 2008 model's 3.0-liters. However, there is a major tradeoff in fuel mileage, as the Inline-4 produces either 21 city/28 highway (AWD) or 22/28 (FWD) versus the V6's 17/24 AWD numbers.

This week, we're testing one of the most popular compact SUVs on the road today, the 2010 Ford Escape — base price: \$22,985; price as tested: \$24,310.

Delivered in AWD XLS dress, it's one of six different models available that comes standard with Ford's gas saving Inline-4 cylinder engine. It's also hard to look at Escape as a smaller SUV, thanks to Ford's ability in delivering what feels like "big class" behind the wheel and interior room.

Redesigned in 2009, Escape and sibling Mercury Mariner enter 2010 as popular multifunctional SUVs that are easy on the checkbook and deliver excellent return on investment. And, with an entry level 5-speed manual front drive model that starts at \$20,555 retail, there's surely an Escape waiting for you at your local Ford dealer, where numerous buy incentives make the price even lower.

Escape's popularity stems first from its well balanced and stylish exterior. Noted is Ford's exterior design code, which follows the "don't overdo" mode of popularity even when major design changes arrive.

Ford doesn't upset its Escape/Explorer pattern that has been a hit for many years. Still, the company continues to make excellent design upgrades along the way without hindering what I feel is a great SUV look.

Some might say Escape is too boxy and dated, but I say

On the safety side, 4-wheel antilock disc brakes, Advantetrac with roll stability and traction control, and all the air bags including side curtain safety canopy are included in the base price.

Once inside, Escape's cabin is one of the vehicle's high-

lights. "Roomy" is the word for the 2010 Escape, regardless of its small SUV classification. The seating is cloth bound with buckets up front and a split bench in the rear.

All the expected powers come at no extra cost, as do things such as air conditioning, blind spot mirrors, rear defroster and much more. Our tester came with all weather floor mats for \$75 more, while sounds were handled by the standard AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo with four speakers.

Listed as a five passenger, there is enough head and leg room everywhere, although

things can get a bit tight if you sit three full size adults in the second row. Otherwise, everything is "A-OK" inside.

Important numbers include

a wheelbase of 103.1 inches, 3,539 pound curb weight, 16.5 gallon fuel tank, 1,500-pound

See ESCAPE, page 6A IV



2010 Ford Escape

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIECK MEDIA

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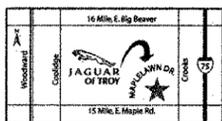
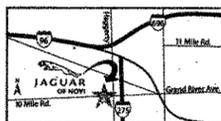
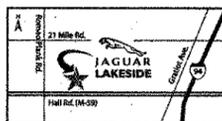
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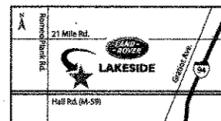
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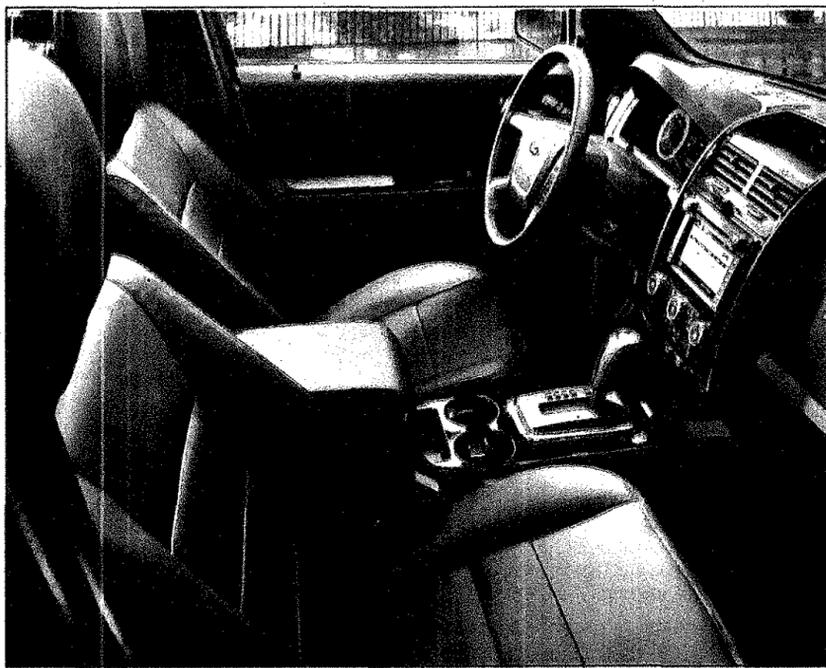


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6A IV | **AUTOMOTIVE**



2010 Ford Escape interior.

ESCAPE:
Five new features

Continued from page 5A IV

maximum tow capacity, 8.4-inch ground clearance, 29.2 to

66.3 cubic-feet of cargo capacity and excellent 5-Star government safety and crash test ratings.

With \$725 added for destination, the final tally came in at \$24,310. This is a great price for what you get in return, and I'm happy Ford Motor Co. is currently showing strong sales results after refusing govern-

mental monies to "help it along."

If you are shopping in this market, don't miss driving an Escape.

Likes: Price, fuel mileage, looks, build quality, roomy.

Dislikes: Limited options on XLS.

Greg Zyla is a syndicated auto columnist.

CADILLAC:
Platinum Concept

Continued from page 4A IV

sonal headquarters, built for efficiency, luxury and connectivity. The concept introduces a new approach to in-car electronics that improves the form and function of the car's entertainment, navigation and information systems.

"We envisioned this concept as an automotive personal headquarters, using advanced technology to enable new levels of connectivity and luxury," said Bryan Nesbitt, Cadillac general manager.

The XTS Platinum Concept uses Cadillac's 3.6L V-6 Direct Injection gas engine, paired with a plug-in hybrid system. The plug-in technology enables the battery to fully charge from a standard electrical outlet, enabling pure electric propulsion in many driving situations, especially urban commutes in which fuel efficiency may double that of a conventional hybrid.

Like the current Platinum Edition products, such as Escalade Platinum and the STS and DTS Platinum sedans, the interior is based on hand cut-and-sewn materials. The XTS Platinum Concept inserts more contemporary forms and themes into the interior design, including the use of Organic Light-Emitting Diode displays in place of traditional gauges and screens.

The vehicle design features

the minimization of traditional buttons and switches. Designers blended the display screens into a flowing instrument panel. They call it a "dead front" design, because the panels appear black until the car is turned on and the screens illuminate.

Premium leather seats include a new style of automotive suede, with a laser-etched pattern. The patterned material is on the center sections of the seats and accents the door trim. Detailed stitching is used throughout the interior, including the seats, instrument panel and door panels.

Passengers in the spacious rear compartment also have access to the car's connectivity feature, along with a range of infotainment choices.

"We never lost sight of the fact that a large luxury sedan needs to be spacious and accommodating," said Dean. "Passengers will find generous headroom, legroom and knee space, along with the technology elements that make the drive more productive."

Like the interior, the exterior elements are precisely tailored and detailed. Brushed billet aluminum trim is used selectively and the 20-inch, 11-spoke wheels feature a brushed aluminum face accented with bright inserts within the spokes. The wheels are wrapped with special Bridgestone tires created specifically for the auto.

The plug-in hybrid electric propulsion system builds on the experience Cadillac has gained with the Escalade Hybrid and Escalade Platinum Hybrid flagship models. The

plug-in capability boosts the car's electric-only driving capability, offering additional battery energy capacity and enabling it to recharge from a standard external electrical outlet.

The key benefit of external plug-in recharging is the battery can fully recharge in about five hours while the car is not in use. The plug-in system operates at maximum efficiency when operating on power the battery has drawn from the electric grid. In some conditions, such as urban commutes, drivers can experience efficiency that doubles that of conventional hybrids.

At higher speeds or when conditions demand it, a combination of engine power and electric power or engine power only, propels the vehicle. The combination of the Direct Injection V-6 engine and the PHEV system featuring fully electric variable drive provides a spirited driving experience. The system provides an estimated 350 horsepower and 295 pound-feet of torque.

Magnetic Ride Control enables the XTS Platinum Concept to deliver outstanding road-holding performance while maintaining luxury car composure in "regular" driving conditions. It uses shocks controlled by advanced magnetorheological technology, rather than mechanical valves, to greatly accelerate response time and precision.

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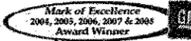
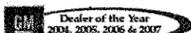
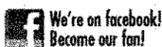
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AUTOWIRE By Derek Price

The reliable 2010 Chevy Silverado pickup has a classic look with tall stance and uncluttered body style that emphasizes its strength and durability.

Silverado is true to its roots

If you're looking for a new truck, I've got good news and bad news. The good news is nobody makes a bad truck anymore.

The competition has become so intense, especially since Toyota and Nissan entered the picture with their Tundra and Titan, that Ford, Chevy and Dodge have all redesigned their truck lines in a frenzy of "oneupmanship."

If you haven't driven a new truck in a few years, you'll be blown away by the differences. What used to be a noisy, bumpy work vehicle has transformed into a rolling living room. Now for the bad news: That oneupmanship has also led to a whole slew of gimmicks.

The Ford F-150 and Dodge Ram, the two most recently redesigned pickups, happen to offer the most frivolous feature set. Between the two of them, they offer heated rear seats, a cooler built into the bed, a fold-down step, a heated steering wheel, an Internet connection and a defroster in the rear sliding window.

They're all nice features, but they're not the kind of things you equate with the core purpose of driving a pickup.

That's why when a 2010 Chevy Silverado showed up in my driveway, it seemed like a purist's truck. It's a truck that hasn't strayed from its mission, eschewing bells and whistles in favor of perfecting three simple things that make a truck great, a powerful engine, a stout chassis and a tough suspension.

The Silverado excels in all those areas. Its engines, a 4.3-liter V6, 4.8-liter V8 and 6.2-liter V8, all offer the kind of power and confident acceleration you expect in a truck of

this caliber. It can tow up to 10,600 pounds when equipped properly, which is plenty for anyone other than hardcore owners who shouldn't consider a light-duty truck anyway.

The Silverado's smooth ride comes via a nicely tuned suspension and a chassis that shows very little flex. It's a refined and comfortable feeling, even if you never forget you're driving a tough truck.

Keeping with its back-to-basics theme, Chevy doesn't offer any luxury packages with fancy chrome badges on the Silverado.

That's what GMC's Denali line is for. Instead, Chevy offers some options that can make long trips a lot more comfortable, without breaking the bank.

There's a USB connection on the radio that lets you play music from an MP3 player, a rear-view camera that helps when backing up, satellite radio and a navigation system. Check the right boxes, and you'll end up with a luxurious truck even without the GMC branding.

Chevy also doesn't want you to forget about being "green." All three of its engines can



2010 Chevy Silverado



burn E85 ethanol. And if that's not enough, it's available in a hybrid model, too.

Overall, the Silverado is simply an honest, straightforward truck. It doesn't offer a lot of gimmicks because it just doesn't need them.

What was tested? The 2010 Silverado 1500 4WD Extended Cab LT with a base price of \$32,275. The options on the test truck: Interior plus package for \$470, the exterior plus package for \$410, the power plus package for \$1,780, the off-road suspension package for \$275, the Z71 appearance package for \$995 and leather seats for \$1,075. The total manufacturers suggested retail price as tested including the \$995 destination charge came to \$37,775.

Why avoid it? The off-road suspension can be bouncy, and it's the least fresh of all the American-brand trucks.

Why buy it? It has all the makings of a great truck, with a choice of three strong engines, a stout chassis and a tough suspension.

Hyundai Sonata Named 'Top Safety Pick'

The all-new 2011 Hyundai Sonata was recently named "Top Safety Pick" of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

This award is given to vehicles that do a superior job protecting people in front, side, rear and rollover crashes. A car's ability to handle itself in these crashes is determined by how many "good" ratings it receives in each of the IIHS tests. Also, the vehicle must have electronic stability control readily available as an option.

Sonata is built from the ground up with safety in mind, with a high-strength steel body structure, advanced air bag technology and Electronic

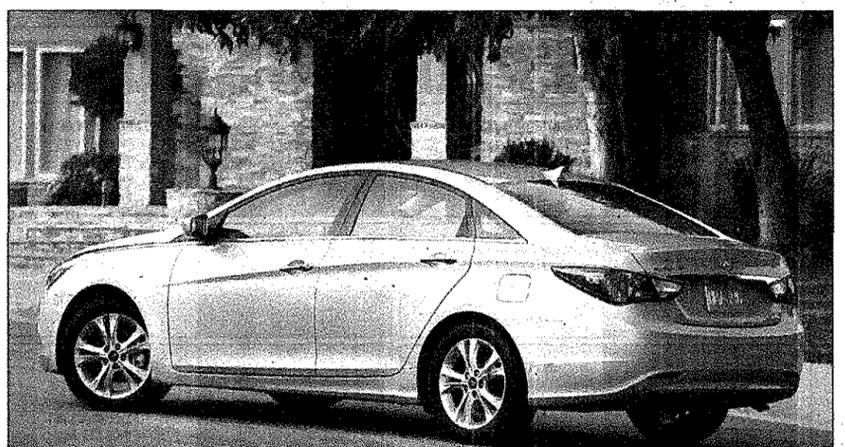
Stability Control. In 2005, the Sonata was the first popular midsize sedan to standardize ESC. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has reported ESC results in 35 percent fewer single-vehicle crashes and 30 percent fewer single-vehicle fatalities in passenger cars.

The Sonata also features a state-of-the-art Anti-Lock Braking System including Brake Assist and Electronic Brake-force Distribution. Sonata features six air bags — including dual front, front seat-mounted side-impact and front and rear side curtain air bags — along with active front-seat head restraints.

IIHS Top Safety Pick standards are higher, with a roof strength test added to the qualifications. According to the new guidelines, roofs must be more than double the strength of current federal requirements to better maintain vehicle integrity in the event of a rollover accident.

The other IIHS Top Safety Pick standards are stringent as well. The institute's frontal crashworthiness evaluations are based on results of 40 mph frontal offset crash tests. Each vehicle's overall evaluation is based on measurements of intrusion into the occupant com-

See SONATA, page 9A IV



2011 Hyundai Sonata

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIECK MEDIA

AUTOWIRE By Derek Price

Sporty VW lives up to its reputation

If you're shopping for a compact car, there are a few things you can always expect to find, such as a low price and good gas mileage. But what about refinement?

Unfortunately, most small cars aren't on the leading edge of technology, smoothness and sophistication, and buyers generally don't mind. They're looking for something affordable and efficient. If the engine has emphysema and the suspension has polio, so be it.

The Volkswagen GTI, though, is different. This compact car aims, above all else, to be refined. It's a little more expensive than most commuter cars, but it feels a lot more expensive, with the kind of performance, comfort and tech gear that you'd normally expect from a luxury brand.

Take the GTI's transmission. Normal cars in this class would have either a manual or automatic transmission, nothing fancy. But the GTI comes with one of the most impressive pieces of technology in any car at any price: a Direct Shift Gearbox.

The DSG is something you'll often find in exotic sports cars. Essentially, it's a robotic manu-

al transmission that offers the perfect combination between a stick-shift and an automatic.

Like a stick-shift, it offers ultra-fast shifts that make the driver feel connected to the car. But like an automatic, there's no clutch pedal to get in the way. You can change gears with the paddles on the steering wheel, or you can leave it in fully automatic mode for normal cruising around town.

Another big difference is under the hood. Where most small cars would have a regular four-cylinder engine that may or may not sound like a lawnmower, the GTI adds a turbocharger and intercooler to create a powerplant that's as powerful and smooth as anything in its class.

Step on the gas pedal and the GTI responds with a torrent of torque that can easily spin the front tires. It makes 200 horsepower and 207 pound-feet of torque, absolutely ridiculously high numbers for a car this small, so it definitely lives up to the GTI's legendary performance.

And really, that's the story of the GTI. As much as it's a great car, one with the mechanical precision that feels so wonderfully German, it's ultimately a vehicle that lives within the

broad shadow of its hot-hatch predecessors. It's a throwback car.

Volkswagen brought the original GTI to America in 1983, spawning a whole new type of car, the sport-compact, with its powerful engine in a small package. It was a hit right from the start.

It was also noted for its distinctive style. The classic GTI has black paint with little bits of red trim, big wheels and a sporty body completing the package. Today's GTI continues the trend with a strip of red trim around the grille and some huge, old-school phone dial wheels that evoke the 1983 original. It's stylish, but not in a flashy way, more like the kind of style hardcore VW enthusiasts would notice more than ordinary drivers.

Again, it's all about refinement.

The suspension is also surprisingly advanced. It's fully independent, with an unusual rear layout that improves handling and provides more space in the cabin. The details are boring, but the results are outstanding, with incredible grip, poise and control in the corners that you notice at speed.

What was tested? The 2010 Volkswagen GTI four-door



PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLKSWAGEN GTI INTERNET MEDIA

The 2010 Volkswagen GTI

with the DSG transmission with a base manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$24,990. Options on the test car: A power sunroof for \$1,000 and the navigation package for \$1,750. The total

MSRP price as tested including the \$700 destination charge is \$28,740.

Why avoid it? The base cost is just under \$25,000 with the awesome DSG gearbox. Why buy it? It's fast, refined

and smart looking. It's nostalgic, too, with throwback styling that evokes the original hot hatch of the 1980s.

Best of all, it's about more than gas mileage and the window sticker.

SONATA: Named "Top Safety Pick"

Continued from page 9A IV

partment, injury measures recorded on a dummy in the driver seat, and analysis of slow-motion film to assess how well the restraint system controlled dummy movement during the test.

Side evaluations are based on performance in a crash test in which the side of a vehicle is struck by a barrier moving 31 mph. The barrier represents the front end of a pickup or SUV. Ratings reflect injury measures recorded on two instrumented dummies representing an average-sized woman, assessment of head protection countermeasures, and the vehicle's structural performance during the impact.

Rear crash protection is rat-

ed according to a two-step procedure. Starting points for the ratings are measurements of head restraint geometry — the height of a restraint and its horizontal distance behind the back of the head of an average-size man. Seat/head restraints with good or acceptable geometry are tested dynamically using a dummy that measures forces on the neck. This test simulates a collision in which a stationary vehicle is struck in the rear at 20 mph.

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<h3>2010 VW CC SPORT</h3> <p>36 Month Lease \$298⁰⁰/mo.</p> <p><small>*10K Per year, no security deposit. \$1786 due @ signing. Total due includes \$1499 cap cost reduction, \$98 1st payment. Plus tax, title, doc fee, plate with approved credit. Offer ends 3-31-10.</small></p>	<h3>2010 VW ROUTAN SE</h3> <p>36 Month Lease \$249⁰⁰/mo.</p> <p><small>*10K Per year, no security deposit. \$1748 due @ signing. Total due includes \$1499 cap cost reduction, \$249 1st payment. Plus tax, title, doc fee, plate with approved credit. Offer ends 3-31-10.</small></p> <p><small>Must have a conquest vehicle.</small></p>
<h3>2010 VW TIGUAN WOLFSBURG</h3> <p>36 Month Lease \$279⁰⁰/mo.</p> <p><small>*10K Per year, no security deposit. \$1776 due @ signing. Total due includes \$1499 cap cost reduction, \$279 1st payment. Plus tax, title, doc fee, plate with approved credit. Offer ends 3-31-10.</small></p>	<h3>2010 NEW BEETLE</h3> <p>36 Month Lease \$207⁰⁰/mo.</p> <p><small>*10K Per year, no security deposit. \$1706 due @ signing. Total due includes \$1499 cap cost reduction, \$207 1st payment. Plus tax, title, doc fee, plate with approved credit. Offer ends 3-31-10.</small></p> <p><small>Auto Trans/Mats</small></p>
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<h3>2009 VW GTI</h3> <p>was \$26,365 NOW \$21,999⁰⁰</p> <p><small>Premium Audio System, Bluetooth, 18" Rim Pkg Plus tax, title, plate and doc fee. Offer ends 3-31-10.</small></p>	<h3>2009 VW EOS</h3> <p>was \$33,030 NOW \$26,999⁰⁰</p> <p><small>17" Rims Plus tax, title, plate and doc fee. Offer ends 3-31-10.</small></p>
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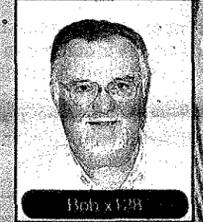
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MSRP..... \$22,825⁰⁰
 A/Z DISCOUNT PRICE..... \$20,758⁸⁹
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STK# J2965



MSRP..... \$24,770⁰⁰
 A/Z DISCOUNT PRICE..... \$22,774¹⁴
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MSRP..... \$28,195⁰⁰
 A/Z DISCOUNT PRICE..... \$26,271³³
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 RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH..... -\$2,000⁰⁰
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MSRP..... \$29,520⁰⁰
 A/Z DISCOUNT PRICE..... \$27,430⁷³
 PROMO RETAIL BONUS CASH..... -\$1,000⁰⁰
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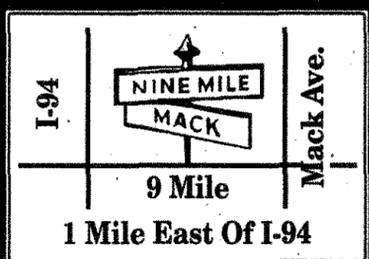
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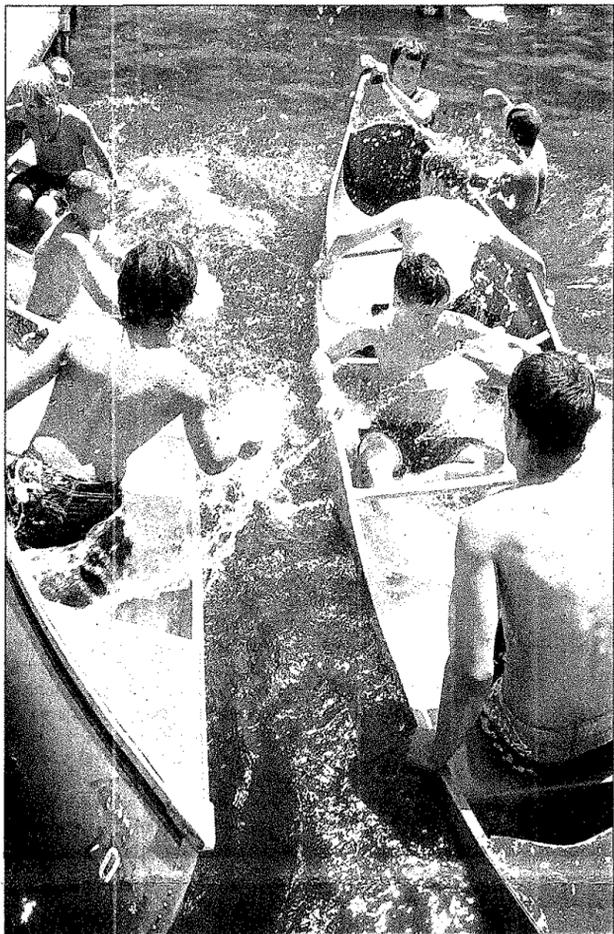


PHOTO COURTESY DAN ROESKE

100 years of doing a good turn daily

By Ann L. Fouty
Features Editor

The Boy Scouts of America have been doing good deeds for 100 years.

Attribute that to the scout slogan, "Do a good turn daily," said Chris Lucander, Grosse Pointe Park resident and Lakeshore District chairman for the Detroit Area Council. "They give back to the society."

In partnership with Gleaners and Kroger, the Lakeshore District gathered 45,660 pounds of food for the 2007 annual Scouting for Food campaign, and 46,060 pounds in 2008, all of which stayed in the metro area.

In past years, scouts have provided school renovations, removed poison ivy from school playgrounds and helped at homeless shelters, The Turning Point, Crossroads Club House and Macomb Respite Home.

"Good deeds" come in many forms with the goal of becoming an Eagle Scout, the final rank in the young scout's experience.

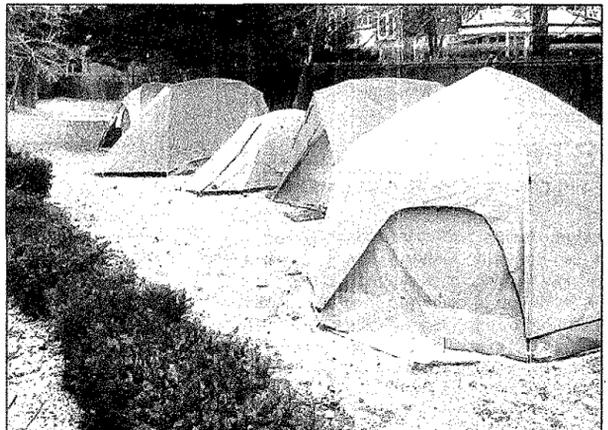


PHOTO COURTESY LEE GREENING

Troop 86 set up a winter camping demo at Paterson Park during the Grosse Pointe Chilly Fest Feb. 6, and stayed overnight. At left, scouts participate in water activities like fishing, swimming, sailing and the canoe bucket race at D-A Scout Camp at summer camp. The goal is to sink the other team's canoe by filling it with water.

The Eagle project requires the scout to recruit volunteers and donations to complete a project beneficial to the community.

The typical path of an Eagle Scout begins as a Tiger at age 6. It

See SCOUTS, page 2B

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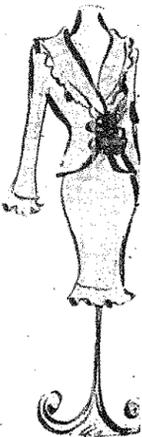
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SCOUTS: From the basics to life's greatest lessons

Continued from page 1B

Scout oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake and morally straight.

progresses through elementary years, achieving the ranks of Wolf, Bear and Webelos, culminating in a ceremony to "cross over" into Boy Scouts. The boy earns the ranks of Tenderfoot, followed by Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and finally, Eagle.

"The whole part is to take a young boy, a Tiger, through his 18th birthday," Lucander said, "to develop him into being self-sufficient with integrity."

In the beginning, the family is involved but the ultimate goal, "is to help boys break away and do things on their own," he said.

Parents are required to attend each Tiger function, said Charlie Roarty of the Park and treasurer of Pack 399 at St. Clare of Montefalco. "It tapers off in the latter years."

The Cub Scout program is structured, he said, and each scout has a handbook to guide him through each achievement. For example, Roarty explained, boys learn about citizenship, personal hygiene, first aid, knot tying and rescue techniques.

"There is a reoccurring theme, a little more advanced each year," he said.

The journey takes boys from learning how to whittle to carrying a pocket knife as a Bear in the third grade. By the time he is a Boy Scout, he has mas-

tered shooting a BB gun and arrows.

"A Cub Scout develops (ideally) from a very family level, one-on-one, learning experience (as a Tiger) to developing a stronger sense of community and self-reliance," he said. "The goal, as a Webelos II, is to bridge into a troop after earning the Arrow of Light. As the scout transitions into Boy Scouts, he will develop more leadership, responsibility and self sufficiency. The scout program, throughout, is trying to develop character."

At the Wolf level, said Chad Veeseer, Lakeshore District executive, a boy learns, among other skills, how to cook, stay healthy and use the proper tools for household repair and building, the latter the core of an Eagle project.

The final test for the Boy Scout is his Eagle project, pulling together everything he has learned.

Projects are as varied as the scouts. Church renovation projects have been undertaken, as



Charlie Gabrion of Grosse Pointe Farms and Troop 96 throws a tomahawk during summer camp family night.

well as improving city parks and nursing homes.

Recent projects completed by Grosse Pointe Eagles have included cleaning church grounds and refurbishing out-

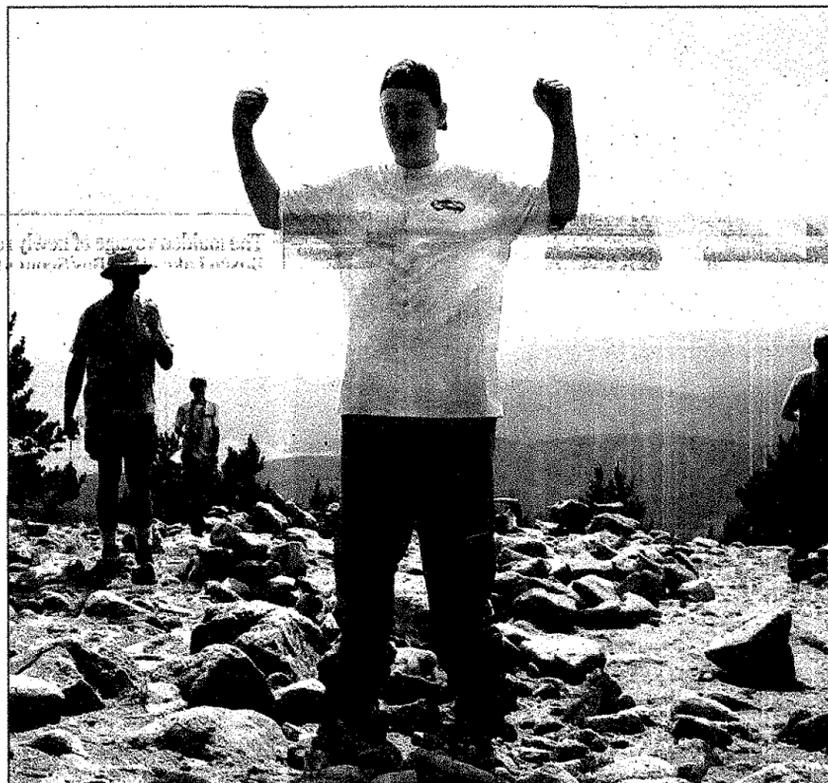
door benches by Donn Bacon; Christopher Cahill installed tree identification labels on the grounds of Cranbrook Institute of Science; Mac Day replaced dead ash trees with red maples at Most Holy Trinity School; Andrew Fildes replaced the coaches' dock at the Detroit Boat Club; Andrew Milenius created a waiting room area at a community center; and Bobby Sullivan carved a totem pole.

These boys represent less than 3 percent of registered scouts who attain the Eagle Scout rank. Achieving that pinnacle translates into a lifetime benefiting characteristic.

According to Lee Greening of the Park, an Eagle and father of two Eagle Scouts, "They are better leaders and citizens in the community. The Eagle is recognized worldwide as being able to follow through. The rank of Eagle helps the scout get into schools and get a job. Employers give Eagles a second look."

The completion of the Eagle rank proves the scout is self-sufficient, starting as a Cub Scout discovering the world — through scout activities and experiences, learning about careers by visiting a police station, for example, and acquiring skills such as reading maps.

It also comes as the youngest scouts take off for summer day camp. As they get older, attend-



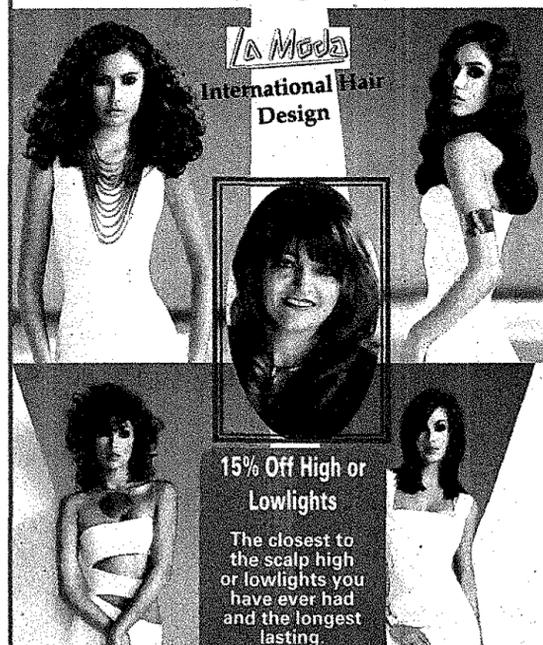
PHOTOS COURTESY DAN ROESKE

Scout Donn Bacon at the peak of Mt. Baldy at the Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, N.M. The elevation is 12,441 feet.

See SCOUTS, page 3B

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SCOUTS: Camping is a major part of the scouting experience

Continued from page 2B

ing weekend and week-long camps are part of the scouts enjoyment and growth.

Scouts learn the basics and fundamentals of camping, as well as conservation.

For the past 50 years, scouts have been "going green," Lucander said.

"The scouts have had the approach for 50 years for conservation," he said. "It's fundamental in camping out — leave no trace."

Camping, of course, is a major part of the scouting experience.

"Camping is the core of scouting and that is important," Veesser said. "That's what youth love. They stay because of the outdoor activity. (We) stick true to what they like."

"Its fun," Frank Kurta of Grosse Pointe Park said of the camping experience. "I don't know if that's first or last."

Kurta attributes the personal growth of his son, Joseph, to the scouting experience and his first Boy Scout camp last summer. Joseph earned badges in fishing, first aid,

swimming and sailing. And through the week at D-A camp, he learned and taught his family how to build and tend a fire.

"For me," said Dan Roeske, Troop 96 leader, "the fantastic experience is watching them mature and seeing them grow. To see them take on a new activity, something they never have a chance to do. They said, 'I can do this.'"

"Scouting will always be focused on the outdoors," Veesser said. "To not appreciate the outdoors is a shame. It's a waste of life. There is a lot of beauty in Michigan. There's something very basic about being in tune with nature."

Lucander added, "I don't think scouting will move away from enjoying outdoors. It can evolve into the next century and be vital."

America, when the Boy Scouts of America was established in February 1910, was still an agriculturally-based nation. A century later, the country has definitely changed; therefore, scouting has had to keep up by eliminating badges such as signaling, path finding, carpentry and tracking. Every three years, Lucander



PHOTO COURTESY LEE GREENING

Troop 86 Boy Scout Anthony Gennaro of Grosse Pointe Park is ice fishing on Lake St. Clair during an outing hosted by the Lake St. Clair Walleye Association Jan. 31.

said, a merit badge review is conducted to add or subtract relevant skills.

Scuba, scouting heritage, GPS/GIS and robotics were re-

cently added, Veesser said.

While the 121 merit badges — an accomplishment of a determined set of skills — change, the basis of scouting,

the oath, law and motto, have not.

The motto, "be prepared," carries over to life.

For example, Lucander said,

Ranks of scouting

CUB SCOUTS

Tiger
Wolf
Bear
Webelos

BOY SCOUTS

Tenderfoot
Second Class
First Class
Star
Life
Eagle

"If boys do their homework, they are prepared for the test."

Roeske said his troop prepared for a winter outing by packing appropriately — sleeping bags for the cold, heavy clothing — and knew the importance of staying hydrated when temperatures drop to near zero.

Preparation is derived from leadership.

"Scouting provides an avenue to test their skills and gives a leadership opportunity," Roeske said. "At every rank, they take on more of a leadership role. That's a great opportunity. The scouting experience in itself breaks the barrier, challenges them all the time. They look at a challenge, they can handle it."

Eagles Rob and Tim Greening of Grosse Pointe Park tested their leadership skills on an 11-day trek at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M.

Rob was elected crew leader of a group of 12, all who carried their food and equipment in backpacks for the adventure.

On another trek, Tim was crew chaplain, also an elected position. He assisted in person-

Continued on page 5B

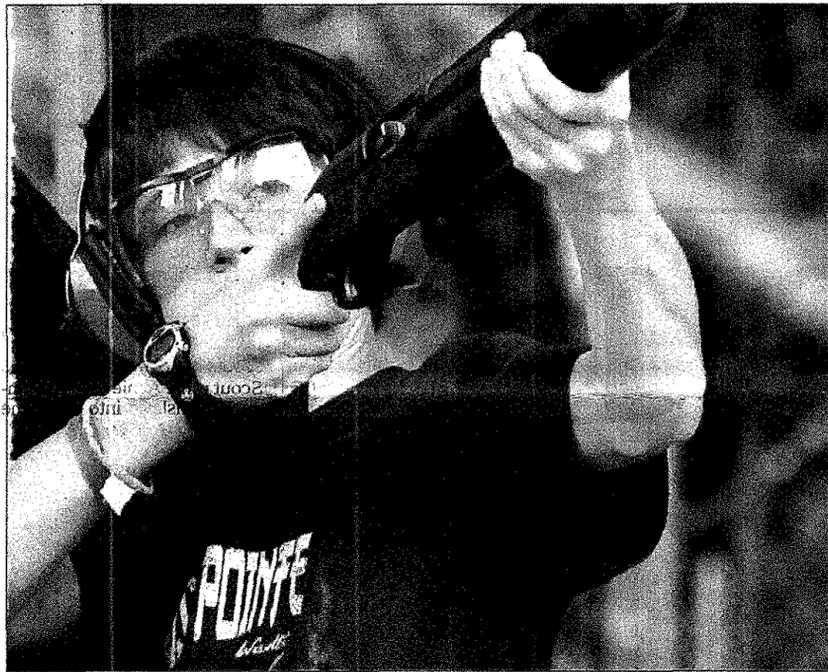
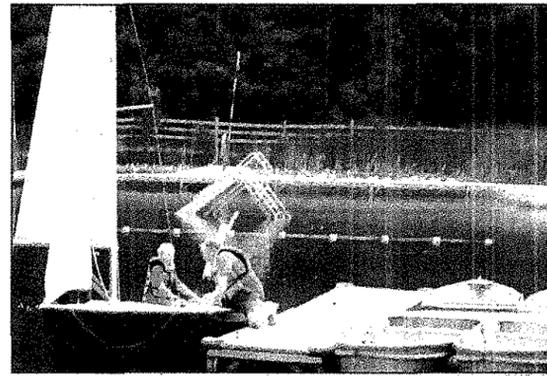


PHOTO COURTESY DAN ROESKE

Harrison Krasner of Grosse Pointe Farms fires a 12-gauge shotgun at the trap range.



The maiden voyage of newly refurbished Flying Junior on Boxco Lake at the Boy Scout's Cole Canoe Base in Alger. On board are Anthony Gennaro and his father, Tony.

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CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Mariners' Church

Mariners' Church of Detroit, 170 E. Jefferson, hosts a Lenten concert at 12:35 p.m. Thursday, March 11, following the 12:10 p.m. Holy Communion service.

The concert features organ music performed by Kenneth J. Sweetman.

The Thursday, March 18, concert features organ and piano music performed by Kevin J. Bylsma. Selections by Chopin will be played in recognition of Chopin's 200th birthday.

Free parking is in the Ford Auditorium underground garage, with an entrance at the median at Jefferson and Woodward.

For more information, call the church at (313) 259-2206.

St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose Catholic Church holds a buffet dinner from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 12, in the ARK, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park.

The menu includes a salad bar, two soups, cod, potatoes, macaroni and cheese, an entree, vegetable and beverages. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$10 for children 6 to 10 years old.

Carry-outs are available.

For more information, call

(313) 822-1594.

Men's breakfast

Grosse Pointe Ecumenical Men's breakfast meets from 7:15 to 8:15 a.m. Friday, March 12, in the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church's Fellowship Hall, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

The speaker is the Rev. Harry Cook, a retired Episcopal priest.

For more information, call (313) 882-5330.

St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts St. Mike's Third Annual Corned Beef Feast beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 12.

Dinner includes corned beef and cabbage.

For more information, call (313) 884-4920 or visit stmichaelgpw.org.

Christ the King

Christ the King Preschool hosts its annual Mom to Mom sale from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at the

See *ACTIVITIES*, page 10B



Full bowls

The Empty Bowl fundraiser attracted more than 500 people and raised more than \$5,000 for Gleaners Community Food Bank. The annual event at the Greek Orthodox Assumption Center Feb. 28 offered hot soup in a hand-painted bowl and bread. Left, Vasili Vasilos of Grosse Pointe Shores carried his family's six bowls to the serving line. Below, James Penz, of Grosse Pointe Woods, right, serves Art Nichols of St. Clair Shores.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

PASTOR'S CORNER By Rev. Jim Rizer

The nature of God's heart

In this Lenten season filled with introspection, searching our hearts and reflecting on God's incredible redeeming love for us, it is important to remember the nature of God's heart.

Often as we consider our brokenness and God's entering into human history to redeem us, we envision how we approach a child getting into trouble. The phone rings late at night, waking the father. The child says he's at the local po-

lice station and needs to be bonded out. The father, dressed in his pajamas topped with a bath robe — checkbook protruding from his pocket — mutters as he drives to the station.

On the way, filled with the irritation of being awake from necessary slumber, mind racing with what this life detour will cost his son and himself, trying to quell the anger so that some productive parenting may take place; the father wrestles with what to say.

This may be how we envision it. This may be how we would do it. But this is not how the Bible describes God's heart as Christ comes to redeem us. We find a window into God's heart in Ephesians 1:4.

"For God chose us... to be adopted as his sons and daughters through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will... In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace."

Twice in three verses we discover that it is "according to his good pleasure" or out of "the riches of God's grace" that God chose, adopted, redeemed, forgave and revealed all this to us. This is not some begrudging act of an angry parent, but the outpouring of the lavishness of the riches of God's grace and love for us.

Let us never forget the nature of God's heart for us.

Rizer is minister at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church.

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March 14, 2010

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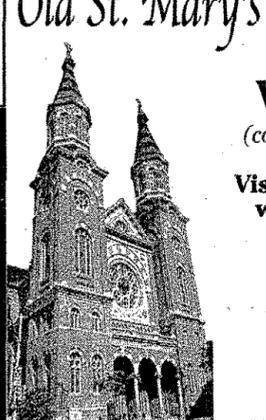
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Six earn Eagle scout rank

Boy Scout Troop 96 recognized six young men earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

Donn Bacon is the son of Lynne and Drin Bacon.

Enhancing the grounds around Grosse Pointe Memorial Church was his Eagle project.

Bacon's team of volunteers raked and cleaned the grounds for members to hold outdoor Easter services. The team also removed weeds and scattered wood chips on top of newspapers to deter the regrowth of weeds.

"There were two benches out front that were shel-lacked. We sanded the shel-lacking off with coarser sand paper and then sanded it smooth with fine sand paper," he said.

"Philmont (Scout Ranch) was my favorite camping experience, but one of my favorite camp-outs was at Camp Grayling," he said. "We got to stay in the barracks and the next day we spent building a quinzee (snow shelter) and doing snow activities. That night we spent outside in the quinzee and we were very warm. It was fun to spend the day in the snow."

He was named a Macomb Area Conference student varsity athlete. He plays football and rugby.

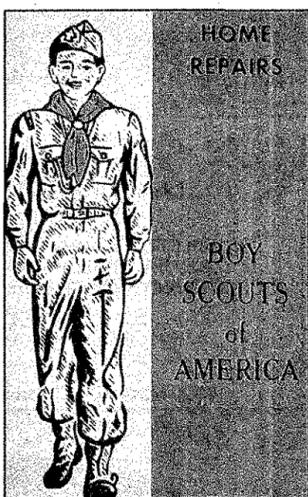
Bacon plans to major in engineering at the University of Michigan, Flint.

Christopher Douglas Cahill is the son of Stephen and Sharon Cahill of Grosse Pointe Park.

Cahill's Eagle project was at Cranbrook Institute of Science. Cahill installed 10 signs identifying tree types.

"The work I led included gathering all of the materials for the project, also researching the proper way to construct the signs," he explained. "Once I had the proper method of design, I wood-burned the words onto the wood. After wood burning, three coats of varnish were applied. On the day of installation, the signs were attached to pressure-treated posts using stainless steel screws."

Learning to be self-sufficient through camping, he said, was the most important aspect of



scouting. "Camping in the outdoors forces you to think ahead for gear, pack yourself, prepare your own food and be knowledgeable on all the scouting skills such as knot tying, etc."

"Scouting promotes the development of the individual and through scouting I learned a lot of basic skills and reinforced a bunch of values that will serve me for life," he said.

Cahill is a junior at Grosse Pointe South High School and is affiliated with AAA (Attitude, Academic, Achievement) for success; student athlete; junior varsity basketball; cross country; is vice president of Latin Club; a DECA and Latin Club member; Student Association senator; and is on Grosse Pointe South High School's Tower staff.

He volunteers at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe and is a lifeguard at Windmill Pointe Park.

He is undecided where he will attend college but is looking at the University of Michigan, Michigan State, Georgetown, Lehigh, and George Washington University to major in either medicine or law.

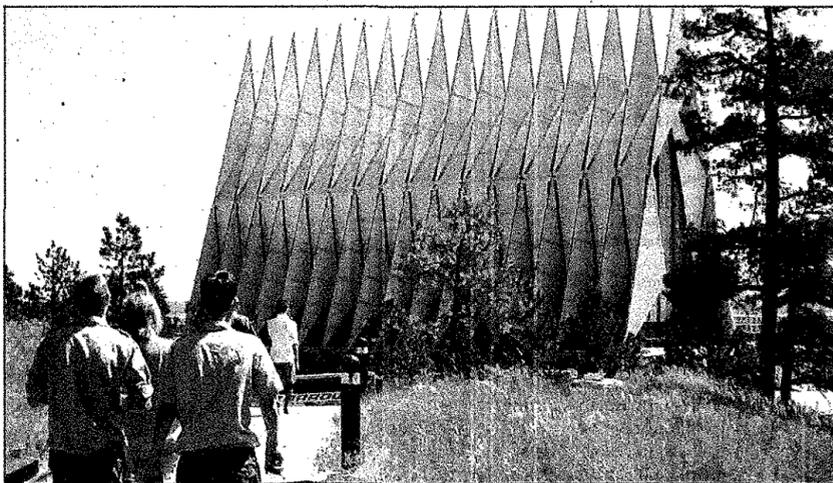
Mac Day, son of JoAnn Blackford and Robert Day of Grosse Pointe Farms, earned his Eagle Scout rank by removing nine dead ash trees in front of the Most Holy Trinity School and planted nine red maples.

His fondest scouting memory is attending D-A Scout Ranch.

"The special part about summer camp for me was that I was able to do activities from all of our other weekend camp-outs all in one place. My friends and I could swim, mountain bike, go rifle shooting, sail, camp and much more all in the same place," he said. "Whether it be camping skills or leadership and communication skills, I cherish everything I learned from scouting."

"I am very dedicated to the Grosse Pointe

trustworthy ■ loyal ■ helpful ■ friendly ■ courteous ■ kind ■ obedient ■ cheerful ■ thrifty ■ brave ■ clean ■ reverent



PHOTOS COURTESY DAN ROESKE

Local scouts visit the Air Force Academy Chapel in Colorado Springs, Colo.

SCOUTS: From the basics to life's greatest lessons

Continued from page 3B

al issues and conflict resolution.

"The scoutmaster is involved in development of all phases," Greening said. "You have a (Boy Scout) senior patrol leader to run the troop and patrol leaders to run patrols. All scouts live the scout oath and law by helping the troop improve. Scouts learn to be better citizens, better leaders; generally better folks."

Scout leadership is achieved through a specific set of rules, said Roarty, who is also a youth sports coach.

"It's common sense to treat each other with respect. What I see is kids getting along well. I see less teasing in scouts than in sports. They are encouraging (to each other), even in the biggest competition," the Pinewood

Derby."

Values, including respect, haven't changed in 100 years, Veeseer said. "Humans, at the core, have basic beliefs to help the community, to be true, to be upstanding."

Values are instilled in scouts by saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each pack or troop meeting, Lucander said. "It burns into the mindset to have honor, integrity, reverent, courteous and kind. None of that is said at a sporting event."

Kurta added, "Scouts learn timeless values and become a better person. The 12 points of Boy Scouts says it all."

Veeseer sums it up, "The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the scout oath and law."

Founding

Founder Lord Robert Baden-Powell was a British army general who, according to the Boy Scout handbook, was known for his leadership during the Boer War in South Africa. After the war, his goal was to turn boys into men and have fun to doing it.

In 1907, Baden-Powell organized the first camp outing, which would become the mainstay of scouting.

From that initial event, Baden-Powell wrote the book, "Scouting for Boys." As one boy after another read it, scouting spread across the world. It came to the United States with William D. Boyce 100 years ago.

Boyce had lost his way in the foggy streets of London. A young boy led him to his destination and refused to be compensated, saying "No thank you, sir. I am a Scout. I won't take anything for helping."

After meeting with Baden-Powell, Boyce gathered American businessmen, educators and political leaders to found the Boy Scouts of America Feb. 8, 1910.

See EAGLE, page 9B

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State Rep. Tim Bledsoe, D-City of Grosse Pointe, left, attended Boy Scout Troop 96's Court of Honor which recognized six Eagle Scouts, from left, Bobby Sullivan, Andrew Fildes, Chris Cahill, Mac Day, Donn Bacon and Andrew Milenius.

EAGLE: Six earn scouting's highest honor

Continued from page 5B

South swimming and diving team as well as my homework," he said. "It takes up a ton of my time but it is something that I enjoy for the most part."

In addition to enjoying the sport of swimming, Day said he has a passion for baseball.

"It doesn't matter if I'm playing a pick-up game or attending a Tigers game. I always have fun with the sport."

Day is a senior at Grosse Pointe South High School and is considering his college choices, including University of Michigan, Michigan State University, College of Charleston and Miami of Ohio.

Andrew Philip Fildes is the son of Lisa and Chris Fildes of Grosse Pointe Farms.

To earn his Eagle rank, Fildes restored the coaches' dock at the Detroit Boat Club. Fildes chose the project because, he said, the facilities were deteriorating due to a

lack of finances.

The project entailed pulling up and replacing 70 feet of dock and building a new dock ramp. The work was done about 6 feet at a time.

"We used 1/2 inch shims so that the new planks were evenly spaced. The new planks were screwed into place so that they would not pull up as the wood weathers," he said.

Fildes best scouting memory centered around Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

"I learned self-reliance and how to get along in close quarters with a large group of people for an extended period of time."

During his high school years, Fildes, a senior at Grosse Pointe South High School, has

lettered in wrestling and crew; is a member of the Detroit Boat Club Crew; placed first in rowing doubles at the Midwest Regional Championship and 11th overall at nationals; and rowing as a single, he placed 14th overall at the Head of the Hooch, the largest regatta in

the United States.

Fildes is considering attending either the University of Toledo or University of South Carolina to study engineering, with a possible military career.

Andrew Milenius is the son of Georgina and Keith Milenius of Grosse Pointe Farms and is a senior at University Liggett School.

His Eagle project was creating a new waiting room area for a community center.

He said the community center's administrators were pleased with the project.

"Administrators were relieved because they then knew where people would likely be and the hallway where people used to wait became cleared and easy to navigate."

To complete the project, Milenius led a team of boys to clear out the room and wash and paint the walls.

"We put up a corkboard for announcements and improved a broken door at the back of the room. We installed seats and rugs to make the room

look nice and provided the administrators of the center with means to hang up artwork on the walls," he said.

His best scout memory is when he and his friend, Bobby Sullivan, "got lost in the woods at Philmont (Scout Ranch) while looking for the infamous bombardier toilet with the fantastic view of base camp from Tooth Ridge. All the time we spent looking for it, which was an absurd amount of time, made the view so much sweeter when we finally found it and sat down to admire the gigantic New Mexican vista."

Milenius has participated in school plays, played on the soccer and baseball teams and

is a member of the Casa Maria Community Service Club and ULS Players. He participates in the Spanish Honors Society and scored Gold on the National Spanish Exam.

In 2009, he won the Brown University Award for Excellence in Writing and is a National Hispanic Recognition Scholar.

Milenius' college plans include either attending the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Northwestern University or Cornell University to study international relations or journalism for a possible career in foreign service, social work for a non-profit, or broadcast or print journalism.

Bobby Sullivan is the son of Chuck and Andrea Sullivan of Grosse Pointe Park and is a senior at Grosse Pointe South

High School.

Sullivan's Eagle project was done at Camp Daggett near Petosky. His volunteer group poured a concrete base for a totem pole and carved a totem pole.

His best scout memory is of backpacking in Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico to conquer his fear of heights and participate in wilderness survival camp-outs.

He is president of the choir, a class senator and a member of Pointe Players Amnesty International and National Honor Society.

Sullivan likes to play rugby and to bike and kayak.

He would like to attend the University of Michigan to major in political science with a career in government or business after serving in the Peace Corps.

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PASTOR'S CORNER By Rev. Matthew McCroskery

Lent — a period of renewed focus

We are now four weeks into Lent, a period of renewed focus on repentance in preparation for our celebration of Christ's resurrection.

For some of us, it means more time in church, more prayer and a much stricter standard of fasting than we are generally accustomed. We light many candles, sing many hymns, and try — and fail, and try again — to put aside our desires, impulses and passions and turn daily toward Christ. He said himself anyone desiring to follow him must deny himself, not once, not occasionally, but daily.

Our lives are mirrors intended to reflect Christ. But because of our sin, that reflection is nearly always obscured. Our

mirrors accumulate dust and grime. Even when the surface of our mirror seems clear, the image of Christ is distorted like something one would find in a carnival funhouse. Sometimes our mirrors are cracked, chipped, or shattered.

But never, my friends, are they ever beyond repair.

Despite the title of this column, I am not a pastor, a theologian, a seminarian, a scholar or an academic. I am a simple layman. But I am a layman learning my mirror needs constant cleaning. I simply cannot go about my life expecting always to reflect Christ the way I should without making an effort to keep the mirror clean.

My mirror is assailed every day by the muck and grime of this world. If I allow it to build up, then the image of Christ I am supposed to reflect be-

comes ever darker, ever more obscured until it is obliterated. The idea is never to let it get that bad, which is why it is necessary to repent daily.

A one-time, momentary conversion of faith is simply not sufficient to keep our mirrors clean. Rather, it requires daily, hourly, minute-by-minute conversion — that is, constant repentance and self-denial. That's why serious Christians go to church several times per week, surround themselves with religious imagery, give alms, fast regularly, pray constantly and make the sign of the cross about 100 times a day. This is not because they believe these actions will earn God's favor, but because they want to stay constantly focused on Christ, away from self and tuned-in to what is true, honest, just, pure and lovely.

As Christians, we are called to be transformed by the renewing of our minds; we are commanded to be perfect as our father in heaven is perfect; we are instructed to work out our salvation with fear and trembling. Like St Paul, we are to bring our bodies under subjection. Like St John the Baptist, we are to decrease so that Christ can increase.

That is the purpose of our Christian lives. That is why we need to pray and fast and repent and use this season of Lent to get our spiritual lives back on track.

Our mirrors simply will not stay clean otherwise. *Matthew McCroskery of St. Sabbas, The Sanctified Orthodox Monastery, 18745 Old Homestead, Harper Woods.*

ACTIVITIES: Church events

Continued from page 4B

church, 23800 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Early bird admission is \$2; after 10 a.m., admission is \$1. Mothers with strollers are admitted after 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call (313) 884-5998.



Ashley Holmer

LTA

the door. First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts Sunday afternoon at the movies, beginning at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 14. The movie is "Ordet."

Gerhard W. Heinen leads the discussion about the film, set in the winter of 1925 in Denmark, based on a 1944 play by a Danish priest who was killed by the Nazis.

Tickets cost \$5. The event is sponsored by the Lay Theological Academy.

Revival Church

The Revival Church meets at 5:15 p.m. for prayer service and 6 p.m. for worship service Sunday, March 14, in the First United Methodist Church, 24036 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

For more information, call (313) 799-3473.

Holy Family Church

The Holy Family Church, 641 Walter P. Chrysler Service Drive, Detroit, celebrates the Feast of St. Joseph with the blessing and distribution of bread at the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

A pancake breakfast follows in the church hall.

Adult tickets cost \$5 and \$3 for children 2 to 10 years old. For reservations, call (586) 294-1684. No tickets are sold at

the door.

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 14, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Advance tickets cost \$25, \$22 for seniors and \$10 for students. To purchase tickets, call (248) 559-2095 or visit detroitchamberwinds.org. Ticket cost at the door increases by \$5.

Woods Presbyterian

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, hosts a spaghetti dinner from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 14, to benefit

3 1/2-year-old Casey Craig of Clinton Township, who has leukemia.

Donations are accepted at the door.

The event includes dinner, live music and prizes.

Congregational Church

Former Grosse Pointer Ashley Holmer is the 10 a.m., Sunday, March 14, speaker at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms.

She co-founded the Indigenous Education Foundation in Tanzania, in 2005, a non-profit grassroots organization that provides quality, affordable secondary education to children in rural Tanzania. More than 400 children applied in 2009 for 40 slots.

For more information, visit ieftz.org.

Career networking group

The Eastside Take Control Group, an ecumenical career networking organization, meets from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Monday, March 15, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park.

The day's topic is "Polishing up the Resume."

For more information, call Sarah Sharp at (313) 822-2814.

Church of the Most Holy Trinity

An Irish buffet and entertainment from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 17, at the Electrical Workers Union Hall, 1358 Porter, Detroit, benefits the Most Holy Trinity School.

A blessing at noon at the Church of the Most Holy Trinity, 1050 Porter, Detroit, precedes the benefit.

St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, offers the second in a video series entitled, "From Jesus to Christ," Wednesday, March 17. A potluck supper is served at 6 p.m. The video and discussion are from 6:45 to 8 p.m.

For more information, call (313) 884-4820 or visit stmichaelsgpw.org.

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First English

The winter edition of the Open Door Series at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts The Belle Valley Community Band at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 21.

The 40-piece band, founded in 1989, is directed by Dennis and Steven Burnsa and Christine Dodge.

Adult tickets, at the door, are \$8 and \$5 for students.

A reception follows the concert.

For more information, call (313) 884-5040.

St. Paul's Lutheran

Compositions by Bach and Brahms are featured works performed by the Detroit Lutheran Singers at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 22915 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

Advanced tickets are \$5. At the door, tickets cost \$10 for adult admission and \$7 for seniors and students.

Tickets may be purchased at the church office during regular weekday business hours.

For more information, call (586) 777-0215.

Congregational Church

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church members caravan to the 23rd annual ALIVE Festival, one of the nation's largest contemporary Christian music festivals, June 21 - 27, at Atwood Lake Park, south of Canton, Ohio.

Tickets are \$107; \$61 for 12 and under with a guardian. The price includes transportation, admission, camping, meals and all worship and recreational activities.

More than 50 artists and speakers are scheduled to appear, including Christian performers Leeland, Tobymac and John Beuben.

For more information, call Alison Scarfone at (313) 884-3075 or visit gpcc-ed@sbcgloбал.net.

Money is due by Thursday, April 1.

OUR NEWS WILL TRAVEL



Fred Ollison of Grosse Pointe Park in front of Peter the Great's throne in the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia.



Larry, Janine and Meghan Van Cleve of Harper Woods watched the Detroit Tigers play the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park in Boston.



Katelyn, Dianne and Dan Aitken of Grosse Pointe Shores in St. Mark's Square in Venice, Italy.



Rich and Mary Krakowski of Troy and Mary and Tom Soldan of Grosse Pointe Woods in front of the Hermitage in St. Petersburg.



Former Grosse Pointers Werner and Sue Vethacke at Dorado Beach, Puerto Rico. They currently live in St. Clair. When you travel, take along a copy of the Grosse Pointe News and have a photo taken of yourself in front of a local landmark. Send the picture, along with a few words to: The Grosse Pointe News Reader, 96 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or e-mail to editor@grossepointenews.com. Your picture will appear in an upcoming issue.

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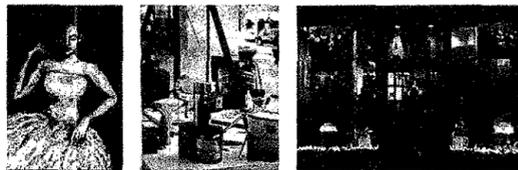
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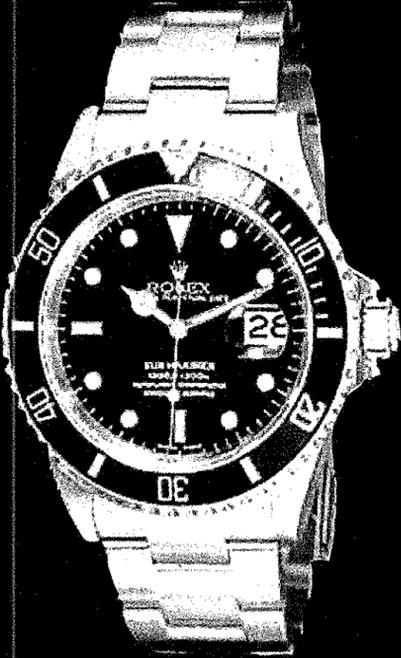
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FEATURES II

ENTERTAINMENT
Irish luck
Everybody needs bread
PAGE 7B II

6-7B II ENTERTAINMENT

The **Dominican Literacy Center** offers adults the gift of reading in a one-on-one tutoring atmosphere.

Teaching the basics

By Ann L. Fouty
Features Editor

Ideally, Adrian Dominican sisters Janice Brown and Sue Schreiber would like to see The Dominican Literacy Program go out of business.

Ideally, the two would like everyone in the program's service area, Detroit's east side, to be able to read, write, do math and be computer literate.

Until that time, the program will continue to provide free, one-on-one tutoring skills to those 18 years and older, as it has since 1989.

"We started with five volunteers and 20 students. Today, there are 260 volunteers and 327 students. The needs keep increasing," said Brown, who has been with the program for four years. "With the shift in the economy, with the good factory jobs disappearing, people can't just step into new jobs without the basic skills. Reading, writing and basic computer skills are needed."

Adding to the role of teaching the basics and laying the ground for General Education Development preparation classes, the literacy program includes another segment of



Liz Ricci of Grosse Pointe Woods helps Lilia Kitsmey study her reading skills.

'Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.'

FREDERICK DOUGLASS

the population — English as a second language students. They come from Russia, Bosnia, Poland, Vietnam, Senegal, Columbia, Jamaica, Bangladesh, China, Croacia, Albania and the Ukraine. In fact, the literacy program has served more than 20 ethnic populations.

Liz Ricci of Grosse Pointe Woods tutors an Albanian woman who enrolled with a rudimentary knowledge of English, identifying basic words by flipping through a picture book.

Spending two hours together once a week for months has improved her grammar and self confidence.

"The center has a program of books with exercises in each book," Ricci said.

When the lesson is complete, the learner's proficiency is tested. Though the program is free, students purchase their books, Brown said, providing a sense of ownership.

Between the homework and

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

See BASICS, page 2B II

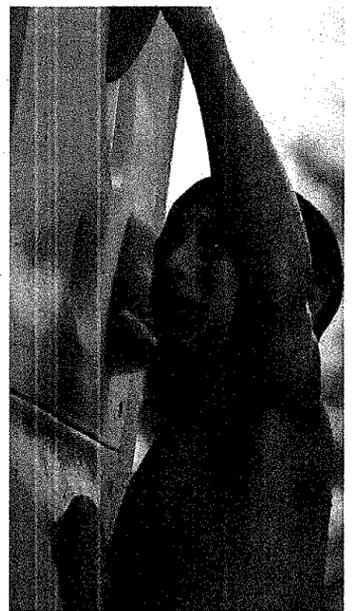


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2B II | FEATURES

BASICS:
Learning for tomorrow

Continued from page 1B II

lessons, Ricci said her student "has a renewed sense of purpose. She keeps practicing. She is identifying more."

Denise Neville of Grosse Pointe Shores has been working with Marcia, of Detroit, for seven years. Together, they have been practicing reading, writing and some arithmetic.

Saddled with health issues, Marcia started school late, which put her behind, Neville explained.

"She never caught up. She never graduated," Neville said.

Entering the Dominican literacy program was a way to be a role model to her children. "Reading is her focus," Neville said. "She's a trooper."

Practicing literacy skills, Neville helped Marcia take her written driver's test and registered her to vote.

Literacy makes all the difference in the world, Brown said.

She added there is a direct correlation between the parent's basic skills and their children's skills. Thus, the literacy program is serving two generations through a curriculum geared toward new adult readers.

The literacy program uses the Lauback method of learning.

The reading material is structured for the adult student with a reading level between first and sixth grade, Brown said.

"The program has the tools to build a life. They (students) are encouraged to build on what they have learned," Brown said.

She added, students feel at home in the building which also houses the Head Start program.

Oft times she has seen parents register their children in Head Start then register them-



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Ramiza Jakubovic works on her reading and English with her tutor, Julie Panizzi of Grosse Pointe Park.

selves in the literacy program, either as students or tutors.

Tutors come from all walks of life, Brown said. Many are retired and have been teachers, auto industry engineers, video experts, construction workers, plumbers, nurses and social workers.

Ricci was drawn in by her daughter, an unemployed teacher.

"I'd been thinking about it for a good year. My daughter didn't have a job. She volunteered. I signed up," she said. And that was five years ago.

Neville has been a tutor for seven years.

"I moved to the area. I was a stay at home mom with a degree in journalism," she said.

Both wanted to contribute. "It is very rewarding, helping facilitate another person to learning," Brown said.

Semi-retired nurse and re-

tired English teacher, Fran and Ed Benz of the City of Grosse Pointe who have been tutoring for five years, agree.

The couple returns to the center on Harper in Detroit, returning because they are sharing a skill.

"We've been so blessed, it is (tutoring) giving back," he said.

Both say they have a special student

"My guy," Ed said, "is a special case. He is struggling. We take baby steps. You reward for crawling, as well as running."

Fran said of her student: "The man knows baseball. He can't get the capitalization at the beginning of a sentence and end with a period. But that's OK."

Both students, the Benzs say, enjoy attending their tutoring session and share lunch with the couple.

"It's a wonderful place," Fran said. "It's a totally wel-



According to Michigan Literacy Fact, one out of three working-age Michigan adults, 1.7 million people, lack the basic skills or credentials to attain family-sustaining jobs and contribute to the state's economy and of these, 692,000 do not have a GED or high school diploma.



Penny Damore of Grosse Pointe Woods works with Detroit Garoy Anderson on his vocabulary.

coming atmosphere. It's very happy. There is no negativism. Everything is positive. The whole atmosphere is 'we are going to succeed.'"

The list of accomplishments by the 4,200 learners served is lengthy:

- ◆ Attain consumer skills
- ◆ Improve reading levels
- ◆ Enter or retain employment or improve employability skills
- ◆ Enter community college, academic or vocational programs
- ◆ Register to vote for the first time
- ◆ Obtain citizenship or achieve citizenship skills
- ◆ Increase involvement in community activities
- ◆ Become more involved in children's education
- ◆ Attend a parent-teacher conference
- ◆ Visit a library
- ◆ Purchase a book or magazine
- ◆ Read a menu
- ◆ Write a note to a friend

Services offered

- ◆ Free one-on-one tutoring for adults
- ◆ 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday
- ◆ Flexible scheduling
- ◆ Reading, writing, math, basic computer skills
- ◆ Learners progress at their own pace
- ◆ Continuous registration
- ◆ Tutors trained by certified staff

◆ Leave public assistance
It's a win-win program, the tutors and nuns agree. Each gives and each gets.

"We are called where others may not want to go because there is not a lot of prestige in the work set out; however, it is rewarding work," Brown said. "I stay because I have been taken back by stories. They want to improve for themselves and their kids and family."

"It's moving. It is very rewarding helping facilitate another person to learning."

Schreiber added, "We look to see the people who haven't had the opportunity to learn and gain self confidence and pass it on to their children and contribute to the community."

"It's such a reward. It's not a one-way street. What an easy way to help," Neville said. "She's (Marcia) helped me through tough times and I've helped her."

As long there are people like Marcia in need, the Dominican Literacy Center will stay in business.

For more information or to volunteer, the Dominican Literacy Center is located at 11148 Harper, Detroit, in the Warren/Conner Development Coalition building; call (313) 267-1000; or visit dcliteracy.org.

Tutoring workshops are run twice a year, in May and October.

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Meeting the author

Author and radio talk show host Mitch Albom spoke at De La Salle High School about his books, "Tuesdays With Morrie," and "Have a Little Faith." From right, Janine Albom, Albom, Beline and Tony Obeid of Grosse Pointe Woods and Jane Nugent of the City of Grosse Pointe.

What's happening

Here's what's coming up at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. To register for programs and for more information on these and other classes and events, call (313) 881-7511.

Film Basics, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, March 13 — Working on film sets is a comprehensive class for those seeking work as a production assistant. Understanding film jobs helps one to land a job in a fast-growing industry.

March 20 Easter Egg Painting, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, March 20 — Pysanky artist Roman Seniuk teaches participants how to create eggs believed to bring health, happiness and prosperity using a European art form. The eggs are dyed using wax in a Batik method.

Garden Trellis, 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesday, March 23 — Learn the technique of bending willow to make a decorative garden trellis or potted plant. The process can also be used to make furniture and garden accents.

Don't cook dinner!, 6:30 p.m. March 17, 18, 19 and 20 — A buffet dinner is served in the Crystal

Ballroom for less than \$20. The menu includes salmon picatta, crab cakes, vegetable stroganoff, shrimp, orzo and grape salad, spinach and tortellini salad, corn soufflé, creamed spinach, asparagus and sage scalloped potatoes and a salad and dessert table. Guests may bring wine. For reservations, call (313) 881-7511.



Music of the Night, 6:30 p.m., Friday, March 26 — Sponsored by Sunrise Assisted Living of Grosse Pointe Woods, dinner and a concert featuring Joe Armijo and Kelly Ann Francis features braised beef tips, Tuscan chicken and more. Guests may bring wine. The performance begins at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$36. Call (313) 881-7511 for reservations.

Easter Brunch, Sunday, March 28 — The event includes photos with the Easter Bunny and an Easter egg hunt with prizes. Every child receives a gift. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for breakfast with photos immediately following.

For more information visit WarMemorial.org.

AREA ACTIVITIES

DAR

The Louisa St. Clair Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution hosts Judy Williston at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Her topic is "The Life of a Puritan Boy: My Sixth Great-Grandfather." Williston's presentation was developed from 25 years of genealogy pursuits, including research in towns along the Connecticut River and England.

She is professor emerita at Eastern Michigan University and has taught preschool, secondary and university classes.

Dinner is served. For reservations, call (313) 863-1015.

Lakeside Palette Club

The Lakeside Palette Club of St. Clair Shores meets at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena, 20000 Stephens, St. Clair Shores.

Members' art works will be critiqued.

For more information, call Robert at (586) 772-8843 or Denise at (586) 296-0217.

Grosse Pointe Questers

The Grosse Pointe Questers meet at 9:30 a.m. Friday, March 12. Rosemary Bay discusses "Mary Gregory, Who Are You?"

Mary Steiner is the hostess and Therese Dow and Jo Malecek are co-hostesses.

Mammograms

Women less than 40 years old who are at high risk for breast cancer can receive a free mammogram at St. John Hospital and Medical Center Friday, March 12.

To qualify, women must have one or more of the following: a family history of breast cancer, a mass in a breast that can be felt, be under-insured or uninsured, and live in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb counties.

To schedule an appointment for March 12 or later in the month, call (888) 440-0644.

Symphony orchestra

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra, lead by music director Joe Striplin, holds a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 14, in the Pierce Middle School auditorium, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

The program includes selections by J. S. Bach and Mendelssohn.

At 2 p.m., Jack DuBois lectures. Tickets cost \$15 for adults; \$12 for seniors; and students 18 years and under are admitted free.

For more information, call (313) 882-0077 or visit gpsymphony.org.

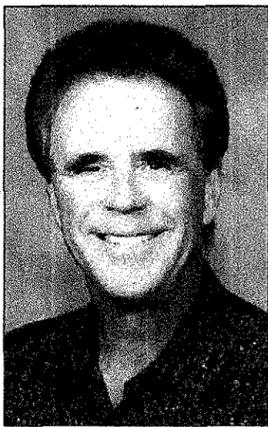
Grosse Pointe Rotary

Grosse Pointe Rotary meets from 12:10 to 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 15, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Host families are needed for two incoming exchange students sponsored by the Rotary Club next year.

◆ The Three Million Dollar Challenge is collecting books, nonperishable foods and clothing from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays and 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays at the former Children's Home of Detroit, 900 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Jackie Kalogerakos, district coordinator - Pointes Region for Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, D-Highland Park, has joined the club.



John McCulloch

Grosse Pointe Audubon

The Grosse Pointe Audubon Society presents the program, "A Closer Look at Whitefish Point," at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 15, in the annex behind Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe.

Board member Michael Fitzpatrick presents a slide show on the birds to be found in the area and research at Whitefish Point.

Friends of Vision

The support group, Friends of Vision, meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, March 15, and Wednesday, March 17, at the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, 15415 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

For more information, call Nancy Pilorget at (313) 824-4710, ext. 225.

Eastside Republican Club

Detroit radio personality John McCulloch addresses the Eastside Republican Club Forum at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

McCulloch discusses the broadcast industry, his views on current events and the bias in the media.

McCulloch was born in Ohio and spent his childhood summers in Michigan. He came to Detroit as a radio host in 1985 via Cleveland where he worked for three years during the morning and afternoon drive times. In 1999, McCulloch returned to Detroit from Florida.

In addition to hosting two weekend expert shows on WJR, McCulloch is responsible for frequently guest hosting the Frank Beckman and Mitch Albom shows.

In his 10th year at news/talk WJR-760am, McCulloch has more than 30 years experience in talk radio.

Admission is free and the public is welcome.

For more information, call Tom McCleary at (313) 882-2709 or visit eastside-republican-club.org.

Tech Club

L.T. Wilson discusses how to better use the Internet at the 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 17, meeting of the Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club Tech Club at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Lifelong Learning

St. Peter's Center of Lifelong Learning sponsors a free tour at 1 p.m., Thursday, March 18, of the Harper Woods Public Library and Heritage Room, 19601 Harper. Meet at the library. Call (313) 886-1770 by March 16 for reservations.

Harper Woods is the first Michigan public library in Michigan to earn a LEED, a green building award. The 2005 library renovation encourages energy and material conservation, air quality management, and incorporates green design strategies. The



=The Rev. Harry T. Cook

Heritage Room provides a walk through Harper Woods history.

Pointer Bridge Club

The Pointer Bridge Club meets at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 18, at the Alger House, Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, for lunch and bridge.

For reservations or to cancel, call (313) 886-7595 or (313) 881-8566 by Monday, March 15.

Poets Follies

Poets Follies hosts readings by Jennifer K. Sweeney and Chad Sweeney from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 18, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Pointes for Peace

The Rev. Harry T. Cook, an Episcopal priest and former religion editor for the Detroit Free Press, speaks at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at the Grosse Pointe Pointes for Peace meeting at the Grosse



Dixie Swim Club

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society and the Theatre Arts Club of Detroit performs "Dixie Swim Club" at 8 p.m., Friday, March 19, at the Historic Players Playhouse, 3321 E. Jefferson, Detroit.

Written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, the story follows five women for 33 years beginning with their experiences on a college swim team. It is directed by Marianne Schrader and produced by Geri Day. Tickets cost \$40 and may be purchased by calling (313) 884-7010. Guarded parking is available. Cast members are, seated from left, DJ Haska; seated right, Anne Maters; standing, from left, Pat Vintevoghel, Monica Quinn and Donna Ridella.

Pointe Public Library, Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Cook's presentation, "Religion: How They Got Along 3,300 Years Ago and How We Can, Too," is free and open to the public.

He has published four books in his field.

SOC

St. Patrick's Day Bingo, 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 16 — Sponsored by Peace of Mind Home Care and Aureus Home Care, the cost is \$1.25. Call (313) 882-9600 for reservations.

St. Patrick's Day Party, 11 a.m., Wednesday, March 17 — Go Go McGrannies perform the musical entertainment. The cost is \$12.

The Blue Pointe Restaurant and DA3 provide lunch of Irish stew, corned beef, boiled potatoes, parslid rice, cabbage and carrots, green peas with pearly onions, rolls and a dessert provided by the Full Circle commercial food cooking class. A raffle follows the festivities.

For reservations, call (313) 882-9600.

Rotary gala

Grosse Pointe Rotary gala and auction begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and a silent auction Saturday, April 24, at the Country Club of Detroit, 220 Country Club, Detroit.

Dinner and a live auction begins at 7:30 p.m. and at 10 p.m., the afterglow and entertainment begins.

Early bird tickets cost \$125, or \$135 later.

Proceeds benefit the Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation, the Grosse Pointe Public School System Smartboards, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit and the Rotary International Polio and Clean Water Initiatives.

A preview wine tasting party is from 8 to 10 p.m. Friday, April 23. Tickets cost \$195 and include Saturday's events.

For reservations, call John and Jane Kronner at (313) 884-8939 or visit epccott66@aol.com.

Lions Club

Grosse Pointe Lions Club raises funds Friday, April 23, during White Cane Day.

Funds will be used to help those with vision, hearing and diabetes-related impairments.



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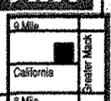
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6B II | ENTERTAINMENT

Yesterday's Headlines

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

1960

50 years ago this week

◆ **PARK BLAMED FOR POLLUTION:** The Park is at fault in polluting Fox Creek with sewage and surface water runoff discharged in the creek, and was ordered to take steps to correct this by the State Water Resource Commission in Lansing.

◆ **GYM TO SHOWCASE PRO GAME:** Professional basketball interest will be centered on Grosse Pointe this weekend when the Detroit Pistons open the Western Division playoffs against the Minneapolis Lakes Saturday at Grosse Pointe High gymnasium. The game will be televised nationally over NBC's 200-station network, but blacked out in this area.

Use of the high school gym was granted after the Pistons were literally "frozen out" of the regular home court at Olympia by the ice show.

◆ **JAILED THIEF SOLVES MORE ROBBERIES:** A man awaiting trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on a charge of burglary, cleared up six more breaking and enterings in the Pointe and Harper Woods.

The six break-ins make 17 the man has admitted to. His latest confession cleared one larceny in the City, one in the Farms, one in the Woods and three in Harper Woods.

1985

25 years ago this week

◆ **POLICE CARS RAMMED IN CHASE:** A high speed chase which began in Grosse Pointe Woods resulted in injuries to the occupants of the fleeing vehicle when it overturned near the Ford expressway. Three police cars were damaged, but no police officers were injured in the chase.

The incident began when a Woods public safety officer observed a pick-

up with three young men run a red light at the intersection of Vernier and Mack Avenue. A chase ensued through the Woods, Harper Woods, Roseville and St. Clair Shores. The pick-up rammed three police cars along the way before it failed to negotiate a turn at the Hollywood overpass and the Ford freeway, struck a curb, turned over and slid to an edge of the freeway embankment. It broke through the fencing, but did not slide down onto the road below.

◆ **BOARD CHANGES PRECINCTS:** To simplify the system and possibly save some money, the Board of Education approved a plan that will cut the number of voting precincts for school elections from 10 to six.

◆ **YOUTHS ROB WOMAN:** A 78-year-old woman was attacked and robbed by two youth on Devonshire according to Park police.

The woman had parked her car and was knocking on the rear door of the home when she found herself confronted by two juveniles. The assailants struck the woman and took her purse, which contained \$78, and escaped on foot.

2000

10 years ago this week

◆ **MAN'S EYE BURNED BY ACID SPILL FROM TRASH:** Acid spilled from the trash of a Grosse Pointe Park home nearly blinded a rubbish collector.

The victim's eyesight remains blurry after he was treated for third degree burns to his face and neck.

Park officials called the incident "tragic" and said it highlighted the need for residents to follow safety rules regarding hazardous waste disposal.

◆ **350-POUND STATUE STOLEN FROM WAR MEMORIAL:** It's 32 inches high, 60 inches long, 15 inches wide, made of bronze and weighs 350 pounds — and it is a statue of five boys playing musical instruments. It was discovered stolen from the Grosse Pointe War Memorial's memorial garden last week.

◆ **NORTH CLOSED AFTER THREATS:** Grosse Pointe North ad-



FROM THE MARCH 14, 1985 ISSUE OF THE GROSSE POINTE NEWS

1985: And ice, mast-high:

This was the scene last week off Lakeshore near Newberry.

ministrators closed school Wednesday after graffiti containing satanic symbols, a suicide threat and a death threat were found in two girls' bathrooms Tuesday night. When doors opened again on Thursday, there was police presence outside and inside of the school.

2005

Five years ago this week

◆ **BARRICADED GUNMAN:** A barricaded gunman on Hollywood in Grosse Pointe Woods was safely disarmed and taken out of his house.

Officers tried to talk with the gun-

man over the telephone, but the gunman refused to comply with requests to surrender and hung up the phone.

A Grosse Pointe Shores officer at the scene was able to take aim at the gunman with a Taser gun through an open kitchen window.

The 20-year-old gunman was taken to a nearby hospital.

◆ **SLIPPED A 'VICI':** Two students of a Grosse Pointe Woods middle school were suspended for slipping a Vicodin tablet into a classmate's milk during lunch.

One of the students said he found the pill, which he believed to be Viagra, on the floor of the hallway at school. He and a friend conspired together on the prank.

The milk and the pill were not

consumed.

◆ **BRAVERY REWARDED:** It could be said that a Grosse Pointe Woods resident was awarded in more ways than one when she heeded caution to opening a suspicious package left on her front porch.

The resident, a military science professor, called for assistance in assessing the package after she returned from a course on terrorism. The package did not have a return address and no one in the family ordered any items that were expected to be delivered to the house.

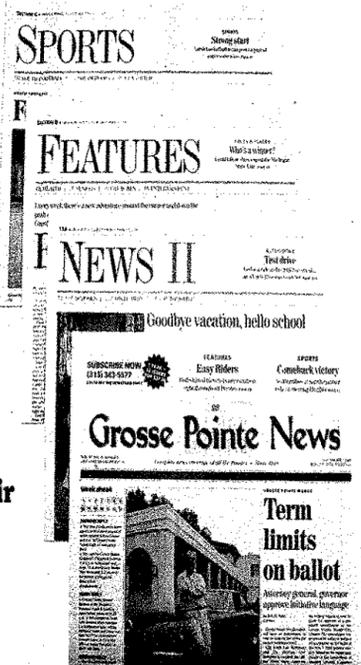
After assessing the situation, the resident opened the package. Inside was a teaching award from the university where she teaches.

— Compiled by Karen Fontanive

THERE'S MORE INSIDE THAN JUST THE HEADLINES

Every Thursday, we provide the Pointes with complete coverage of the people, organizations, businesses, sales and events in our community.

We make it easy for Pointers to stay informed about their schools and local sports, health, family events, real estate, business, restaurants, gardening, antiques, home maintenance and more. Our readers benefit from our advertising and the eastside's best classifieds, and the local award winning real estate section YourHome. Our subscribers save each week and have the paper delivered in their mail.



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Valade Healing Arts Center classes

The Valade Healing Arts Center in St. John Hospital and Medical Center, 19229 Mack, Suite 30, Grosse Pointe Woods, offers a variety of car-

ing-healing classes and services, including massage, guided imagery, yoga and the following classes.

Introduction to reiki
 The center also offers holistic physican consultants. Participants experience a mini, hands-on session and hear an explanation about reiki from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 18. Registration for the free event is not required. Donations are accepted and support the oncology fund for the healing arts center.

Reiki I
 Participants learn the history of reiki, basic hand positions and ways to use energy in their lives and for others from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, March 27. The cost is \$135.

Aura photography
 Participants are provided a color photo of their auras and chakras from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, March 13. Appointments are 20 minutes and the cost is \$30.

Lunch and Learn
 The topic of the free program is "Improve Your Memory," presented by Cheryl Beshada, certified medical hypnotherapist from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 16. Bring a lunch.

Reflexology
 Reflexology is \$50 for an hour appointment. Space is limited.

For more information or to register for the aforementioned classes and lecture, call (313) 647-3320.

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CULTURAL EVENTS

Detroit Artists Market

The Detroit Artists Market hosts its annual market scholarship and exhibition from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, March 12, at 4719 Woodward, Detroit.

This year's exhibition and scholarship program commemorates the 80 years of collaboration and support of the arts and scholarship by Wayne State University and DAM.

The exhibit is open through April 17.

A gallery talk, which includes the student finalists, is from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at DAM. The talk is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, visit detroitartistsmarket.org.

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House

"Tea and Textiles" is the topic of a 2 p.m. Saturday, March 13, tea at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

It features a tour of "Pieced Together," a quilt exhibit.

Guests may bring a favorite quilt to show participants.

The cost is \$30 for non-members and \$25 for members.

A children's sewing workshop is from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 14.

Students, 8 to 13 years old, create a group quilt for display at the Ford House and will use vintage Singer sewing machines and hand sewing techniques to create a personal quilt square.

The cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

Reservations may be made by calling (313) 884-4222.

Detroit Historical Museum

The Detroit Historical Society opens three new exhibits at the Detroit Historical Museum Saturday, March 13, featuring the latest installment in the Fabulous 5 series.

"Fabulous 5: Detroit's Beloved Sports Coaches" tells the stories of five people who are standouts in their respective games.

◆ George "Sparky" Anderson managed the Detroit Tigers for 16 seasons and led them to the World Series Championship in 1984. He is the first manager to win a World Series in both the National and American Leagues;

◆ Scotty Bowman, the most successful coach in National Hockey League history who led the Detroit Red Wings to Stanley Cup Championships in 1997, 1998 and 2002;

◆ the late Chuck Daly, who guided the Detroit Pistons for 14 seasons, including the "Bad Boys" back-to-back National Basketball Association Championships in 1989 and 1990;

◆ the late Will Robinson, a local basketball coaching legend in the Detroit Public Schools League, who went on to become the first black coach at a NCAA Division I school before finishing his career as a scout for the Detroit Pistons for 28 years;

◆ Dick Vitale, who coached at the University of Detroit from 1973 to 1977, leading the Titans to the NCAA tournament in his final season before becoming head coach of the Pistons for one season and starting a legendary career as an ESPN college basketball analyst.

In addition, March 13 and 14 features the first of four "Salute to Coaches" weekends offering organized youth sports teams (ages 17 and under) and their coaches the opportunity to see the exhibit free. All team members and coaches must be wearing a visible demonstration of their team affiliation (cap, jersey, etc.) to receive free museum admission.

Other exhibits opening in the Detroit Artists Showcase fea-

ture painter and illustrator John Gelsavage (1909-1988), who focused his work on capturing the world of America's working people, and New to the Collection, featuring some of the Detroit Historical Society's recent acquisitions.

The museum, 5401 Woodward, in Detroit's Cultural Center area, is open 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays; and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. Adult admission is \$6; seniors, college students with valid college ID, and youth ages 5-18 pay \$4.

Admission for children ages four and under is free. Parking in the museum's lot is \$4 at all times.

Pewabic Pottery

In conjunction with National Women's History Month, Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit, recognizes Pewabic founder Mary Chase Perry Stratton, opening from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, March 13.

"Detroit has been Pewabic's home for more than a century and this new exhibit is a great way for our 37,000 annual visitors to learn more about Pewabic's history," said Terese Ireland, executive director of Pewabic Pottery. "We believe visitors, students and artists who view this exhibit will come away with inspiration for their own lives."

"Journey of the Pioneering Spirit" provides an opportunity to discover and celebrate Stratton's contribution to Michigan history. Exhibit highlights include: "Awakening a Passion — The Early Artistic Environment of Mary Chase Perry Stratton;" "China Painting — The Craze Sweeps the Country;" "Achieving Artistic Influence — The Studio Pottery Movement;" and "Painting with Fire — The Art of Glaze Chemistry."

Pewabic is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (313) 822-0954 or visit pewabic.org.

Detroit Zoo

Girls ages 5 and older and their female chaperones, 18 and older, may attend the "Girls' Night Out" at the Detroit Zoo, in celebration of Women's History Month, from 7 p.m. Saturday, March 13, to 10 a.m. Sunday, March 14.

The event includes a late-night tour, keeper talks, craft project, marshmallow roast, movie and breakfast at an animal habitat. Guests will meet some female zoo employees, including members of the animal care staff.

The cost is \$50.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Animal footprints in the snow might be seen during "Girls' Night Out" at the Detroit Zoo, in celebration of Women's History Month, from 7 p.m. Saturday, March 13, to 10 a.m. Sunday, March 14.

"This overnight event is a wonderful opportunity for fun, facts, fellowship and a shared awareness of the role of women in history, especially relative to conservation and animal welfare," said director of education Irma J. Hamilton.

For more information or to register, call (248) 541-5717 ext. 3800 or e-mail education@detroitzoo.org.

Detroit Institute of Arts

◆ "Detroit Experiences: Robert Frank Photographs, 1955" and "Government Support for the Arts — WPA Prints from the 1930s" is open through March 21 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit.

Guided tours are at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1, 6 and 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 1 and 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Adult tickets are \$8, \$6 for seniors and \$4 for those 6 to 17.

For more information, call (313) 833-7900.

Grosse Pointe Art Center

Artist and instructor Roselyn Rhodes hosts her seventh annual exhibition of her students' works and her work from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, March 20 through April 10, at the Grosse Pointe Art Center, 16900 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

An opening reception is from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the art center.

Rhodes' students range from 6 to 83 years old. She teaches two-dimensional art in watercolor, water-soluble oils, drawing, paste and collage. She has been teaching since 1990 and running a private studio since 2000.

"I see people transformed through art every day," she said. "It may be an adult out of work who is taking time for themselves for the first time ever or a child who really blossoms in self confidence. I believe that the process of creating something is transformative for all of us — even for me as the instructor."

Educated at the University of Michigan and Center for Creative Studies, Rhodes has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design and fine arts. She's worked as a graphic designer and art director.

Detroit Opera House

"Sleeping Beauty" is performed at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, and Saturday, March 27; and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, March 28.

Tickets range from \$29 to \$76 and are available at the ticket office, by phone at (313) 237-7464 or online at MichiganOpera.org.

Macomb Community College

"And Still They Prospered: Living Through the Great Depression" runs through May 8 at The Albert L. Lorenzo Cultural Center at Macomb Community College.

At 11 a.m. Friday, March 12, a team from the Detroit Science Center explores the differences in 1930s and today's technology.

Paul Kaviuff, author of the "Purple Gang," speaks at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 13.

Local author Armando Delicato discusses prohibition in Detroit at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 14.

Author Mark Kurlansky discusses never-published files of a late 1930s WPA Federal Writers' Project, "America Eats," at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 20.

For more information, call (586) 445-7348 or visit LorenzoCulturalCenter.com

A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

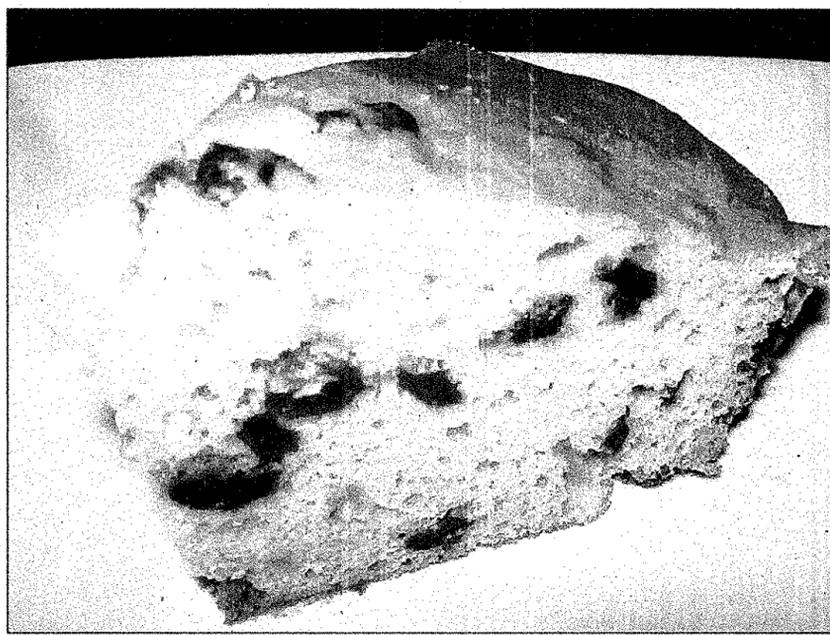


PHOTO BY VIRGINIA O. MCCOY

Topping off St. Patrick's Day with Irish soda bread.

Luck of the Irish not needed to bake this soda bread



After reviewing several recipes for Irish soda bread, I've concluded traditional soda bread is what lasagna is to the Italians — however you were taught to make it.

I chose the following soda bread recipe from the kitchen of Peg Cavanaugh because I liked the technique and most importantly, the outcome. Yummy.

St. Patty's Day is next Wednesday, so you have plenty of time to shop.

Peg Cavanaugh's Irish Soda Bread

- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk
- 4 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 stick chilled butter
- 2 cups raisins
- 2 eggs, beaten

This recipe actually begins the night before you want to bake the bread. In a medium (non-reactive) bowl, combine sour cream and buttermilk. Cover with plastic wrap and leave out overnight in a cool spot in the kitchen.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, salt, baking soda and

baking powder. Cut the chilled butter into small pieces and, using a knife and fork, incorporate the butter into the flour mixture. Stir in the raisins. Stir beaten eggs into the buttermilk mixture and combine with the flour mixture, using a wooden spoon to stir. The dough will be wet and heavy.

Turn the dough into a well-greased 10 inch iron skillet (or 2 greased loaf pans). Use a knife to make a cross into the

bread. This is considered an Irish blessing.

Bake for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Remove from oven to a cooling rack and brush the top of the bread with a bit of softened butter.

My cross didn't turn out so great, but my soda bread sure did. It even got the seal of approval from a guy named Kennedy.

That was all the blessing I needed.

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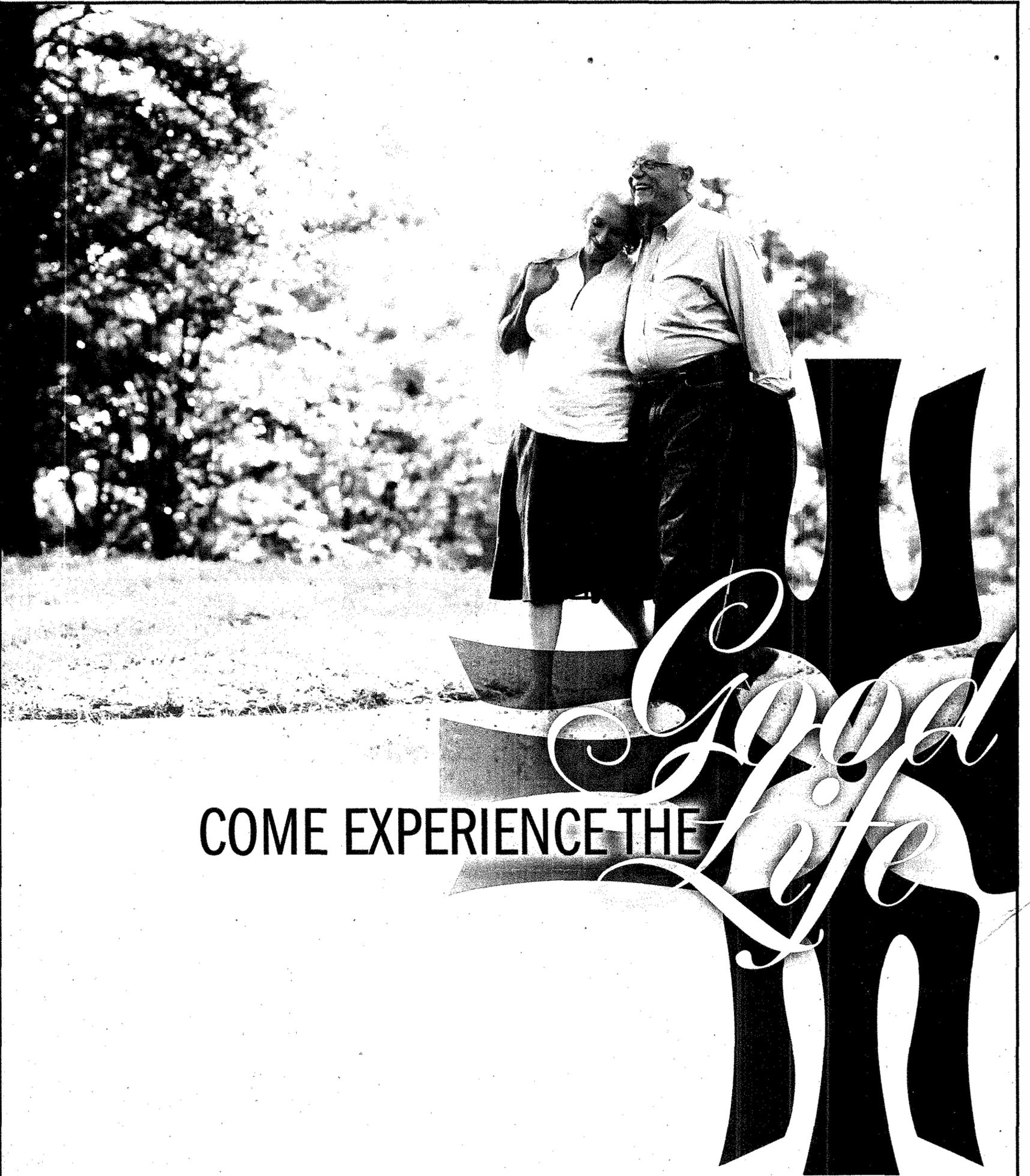
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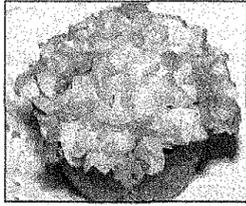
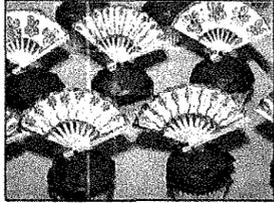


COMMUNITY

HEALTH
Hitting bottom
 Addiction effects more
 than users **PAGE 2B III**

2-5B III HEALTH

Sweet stuff



The Family Center takes the cake

By Ann L. Fouty
 Features Editor

It took three local judges more than an hour of deliberation to select three winners from a field of nine original recipe cupcakes in The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods' Cupcake Challenge.

First place was awarded to a Warren woman who uses baking as therapy for her recent diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. Second place was given to two young friends who say they developed a deeper friendship during their baking sessions. Third place went to a Kerby Elementary school girl who has egg and peanut allergies.

First place winner Cindy Kopchak of Warren learned about the contest through the Grosse Pointe News.

"I'd never made cupcakes from scratch," she said. "When I read about the contest I started trying different recipes."

She entered "Goodness Sake Cupcakes," decorated with delicate orange flowers displayed in a basket.

Second place went to Christiane Abiragi of Grosse Pointe Shores and Maria Liddane of Grosse Pointe Woods. They entered chocolate cupcakes incorporating the Italian word for friends into the title, "Amicizia Cakes."

Seven-year-old Caroline Kubek of Grosse Pointe Farms took third place with her "Crazy Cupcakes."

Judges said they liked the crunchy toppings of colored sugar and sprinkles which contrasted with Kubek's smooth cake.

Kubek is no stranger to the kitchen because she said she also makes Rice Krispies Treats, brownies and a special cookie, entitled Mrs. Claus' cookies.

"The kids did a fantastic job," said Frank Cherro, a judge and head chef at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, where the event was held. "It doesn't matter if you win or lose, if they did their best, that's all that matters."

Some 21 cupcake recipes and stories of the cupcakes' origin were submitted in a contest to celebrate The Family Center's ninth birthday.

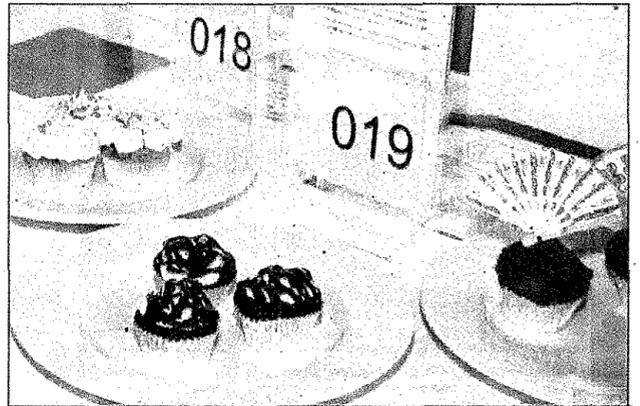
See CUPCAKE, page 6B III



PHOTOS BY PETER BIRKNER

Above, Maria Liddane, of Grosse Pointe Woods, and Christiane Abira, of Grosse Pointe Shores, took second place in the The Family Center Cupcake Challenge with their "Amicizia Cakes."

The cupcake contest recognized The Family Center's ninth birthday.



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2B III | HEALTH

HEALTH POINTS By Jeff and Debra Jay

Hitting rock bottom isn't enough



Dear Jeff and Debra:

My son has been using crack for about a year. He's just lost his job and his fiancé called off their engagement. He's lost about 20 pounds and looks terrible.

He's broke and coming to me for money. I've paid his rent to keep him off the streets, but that's all. Frankly, times are tough, and his dad and I can't afford to support him. I can't have him living in our house, either. He'd pawn half our belongings.

Friends and family mem-

bers keep telling me he has to hit his bottom, but what is it going to take? I don't see how much more he has left to lose, unless it's his life. This looks like rock bottom to me, but he's still smoking crack. It's killing his dad and me. What can we do?

— CRACKING UP

Dear Cracking Up:

Sometimes hitting bottom isn't enough to motivate an addict to reach out for help. Approximately 350 alcoholics and addicts die every day. That's their bottom. Countless more go to jail or prison.

Yet, we still hear the old myth: "You can't help an alcoholic or addict until he wants

help."

That's an action-stopping myth. It tells families there is nothing you can do other than let addiction run through your family like a freight train.

When told they must let their addicted loved ones hit bottom, families aren't told they are going to hit bottom too.

The people closest to alcoholics and addicts suffer from physical and emotional maladies caused by unrelenting stress. They're more prone to depression, anxiety, accidents and illness. Emotional strain impacts organs causing hypertension, irregular heart-beat, stroke, gastritis, colitis, peptic ulcer and irritable bladder.

Additionally, family members have reduced concentration, memory loss, sleep disorders, and fatigue. The stress hormones released in the body cause premature aging; even thinning of the skin,

making it more susceptible to wrinkling.

Family members who intently focus their attention on the addict are often unaware stress is taking a toll on their well-being. When they begin showing symptoms of health problems, they rarely make the connection between their illness and the stress caused by the unresolved addiction.

We suggest challenging action-stopping myths with an empowering question: "If you can't help an alcoholic or addict until he wants help, what will get him to want help?"

This question opens up the door to possibility: "How can we intervene and raise the bottom to today?"

Your son is a perfect candidate for structured family intervention. He may not reveal how desperate he feels, but we can guarantee that he doesn't understand what's happening to him. His life is crumbling under his feet, but

all he can think about is scraping up enough money for his next high.

You have two choices: work with a professional interventionist or learn how to do an intervention yourself. To get started, call Brighton Hospital or Maplegrove for a referral to an interventionist and to ask about their treatment programs or visit lovefirst.net for a thorough overview on intervention and an extensive list of resources.

Go to the bookstore or public library for a copy of the book, "Love First." A user-friendly read, it provides a complete roadmap for doing your own intervention. It also tells you when you need to work with a professional.

If you prefer video, interventionworkshop.com is a streaming program offered on the Internet.

Keeping your son safe and off the streets requires treatment and recovery. Giving

him money is a band-aid. Over time, the problem will get worse and bleed you of your resources and your health. Addiction is a thief. It robs you of everything.

Your son needs to know, through the loving process of a well-done intervention, that you and his father only support recovery.

Jeff Jay and Debra Jay, of Grosse Pointe, are professional interventionists. They are co-authors of "Love First," and Debra Jay is the author of "No More Letting Go: The Spirituality of Taking Action Against Alcoholism and Drug Addiction." Contact them at (313) 882-6921 or lovefirst.net.

Tips for ER trips with elderly parents

The American College of Emergency Physicians is arming caregivers with information they need when taking an elderly parent for emergency care.

"Emotions may be high, so prepare now for the possibility you will have to take your parent to the emergency room down the road," said Dr. Nick Jouriles, president of ACEP. "It's extremely helpful for emergency physicians to have medical history information about their patients. Knowing the medications they are taking, their allergies, their medical conditions, can save lives."

The nation's emergency physicians offer the following tips:

- ◆ Medical history form: Visit emergencycareforyou.org for a form to be completed, possibly with assistance from the parent's primary care physician. On the form, list medications being taken, allergies and past and current medical conditions. Bring to the emergency department and give to the emergency physician.

- ◆ Bring reading materials: Have a book, magazine, or newspaper to read while waiting for results or to see a physician. It will make the time pass more quickly and help reduce stress.

- ◆ Anticipate admission: Bring a change of clothes and some personal items in case admission is necessary. Leave them in the car.

- ◆ Know physician contacts: Write down the names and phone numbers of the parent's doctors, why they are being seen and for how long they have been seen. Give it to the doctor or nurse in the emergency department. If traveling, have copies of the most recent doctor summary and a copy of an EKG if it is abnormal.

- ◆ Convey parent's state of mind: If the parent seems confused, explain to the physician what "normal" behavior is like. Make sure the parent is included the conversation and try to ensure the parent understands.

- ◆ Consider living wills: If a condition is life-threatening, one needs to know what the plan will be and the parent's wishes.

- ◆ Report on recent surgeries: Keep track of surgeries, especially ones involving implanted devices such as hip replacements, or pacemakers.

- ◆ Simplify insurance information: Have a single sheet of paper with insurance and identification information.

- ◆ Resist downplaying: Realize that elderly patients often will talk down their symptoms to doctors or nurses and only tell it like it is to family members. Be ready to fill in the additional information if necessary.

- ◆ Be patient: Realize the more the complaints, the longer it takes. Be patient with the physician and the parent.

For more information about elderly emergency care, visit emergencycareforyou.org.

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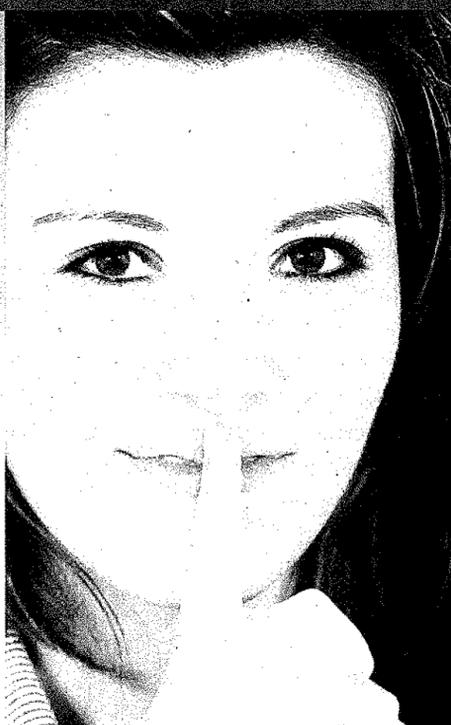
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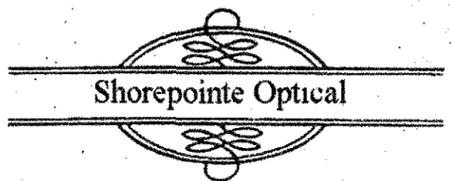
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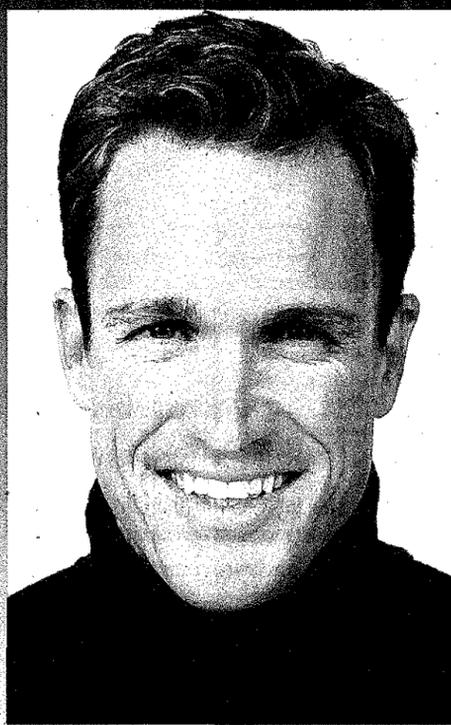


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ASK THE EXPERTS By Melissa Mueller

Helping teens build better body image



Q. My teenager spends an incessant amount of time getting dressed — she complains everything makes her look fat, but she really is a normal weight.

Is this typical teen behavior?

A. While your daughter's body may be healthy, what's not healthy is her body image — the way she sees herself — and how it affects her sense of worth.

Many teens start to struggle with their body image as they begin puberty. As girls develop fuller hips and breasts, they may feel self-conscious and fat.

As boys become gangly from a height-first growth spurt, they may try steroids or hormones to help their muscles catch up.

Teens with poor body images are more likely to try risky supplements and fad diets, develop eating disorders

and exercise compulsively. Or, they may turn to alcohol and drugs to soothe their unhappiness.

The messages teens get from magazines, movies and television are part of the problem. Your teenager's ideal may be an impossible-to-achieve illusion of computer tricks and chemical enhancements.

Here are some strategies:

◆ **Be media savvy.** Explain how most media are created to sell, persuade or manipulate. Teach how to view and think about media critically. Talk about whether that waif model is really healthy.

◆ **Focus on health.** Help your teen set goals to be strong, fit and vital.

Plan healthy, nutritious family meals and encourage more physical activity. Explain how diets don't work because food deprivation causes the body to burn fuel more slowly.

Discuss the hype and dangers surrounding many supplements.

◆ **Think about what you say.** If you lament your own image in the mirror every

morning or gush about how slim a friend looks, it reinforces the idea that a person's worth is defined by his or her body.

◆ **Talk to your teen's doctor** and seek help if your teen becomes obsessed with fixing his or her problem area or low self-esteem causes avoidance of social situations.

Mueller is a pediatrician at St. John Hospital and Medical Center and also practices at the St. John Children's Center. For more information, visit stjohn.org/StJohnHospital/Specialties/Pediatrics/.

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.

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Consumer Alert.

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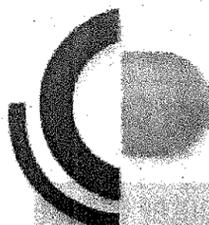
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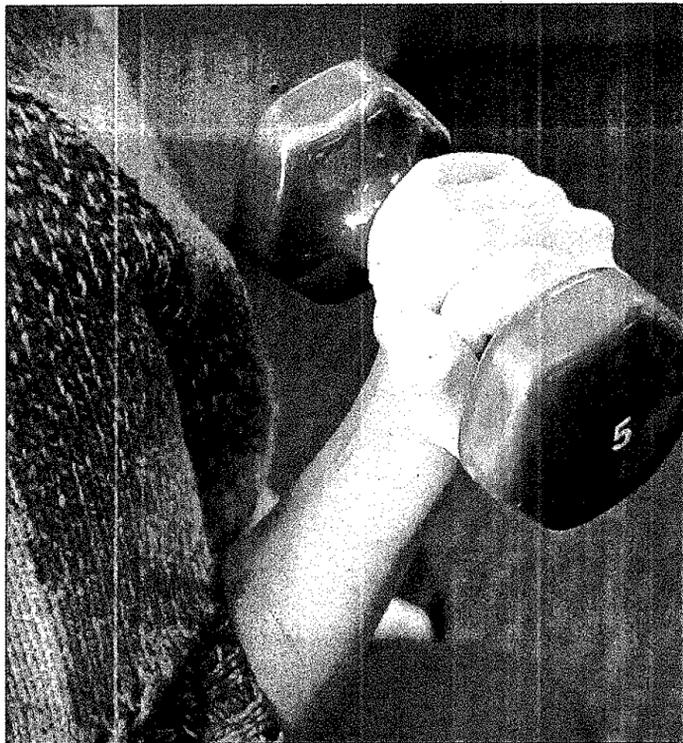
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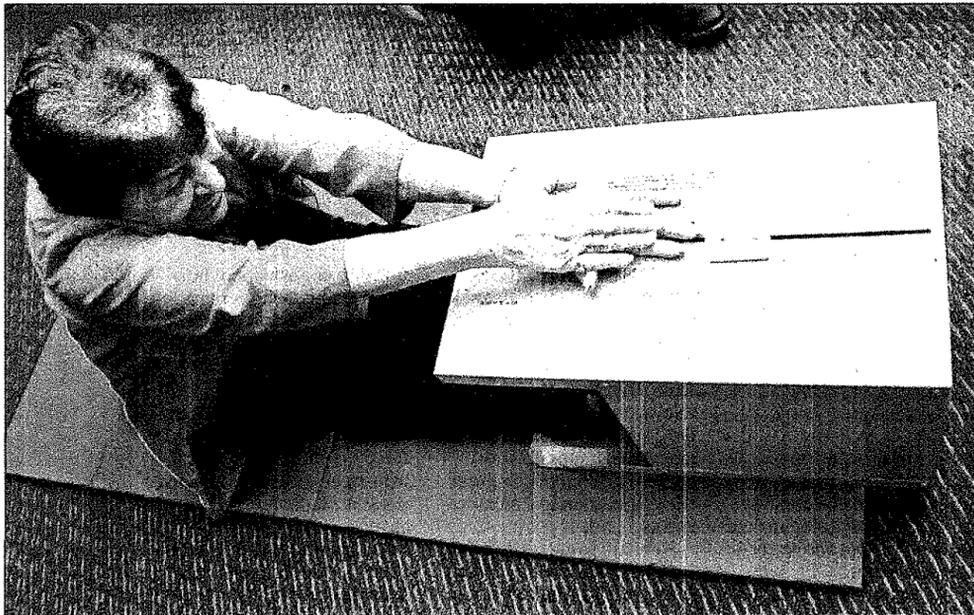
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This test required the guest to curl the arm to the bicep and back down while holding a five pound weight. Amanda Comps of the hospital's community health education department counted the number completed in 30 seconds.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Healthy hearts

How far can you reach? Or curl your arm while holding a five-pound weight? Tests such as these were part of the Heart Healthy event at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe last month. Joan Karns, 84, of St. Clair Shores, took the five-minute fitness assessment, including the sit and reach test. Pushing the measuring meter 13 1/2 inches, she had above average flexibility. Staff took blood pressures and performed heart echo cardiogram demonstrations during the open house.

Beaumont's new CT technology scans in a flash

Beaumont Hospitals patients are Michigan's first to have access to the newest, safest and fastest form of CT scanning.

The Flash CT scanner at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe provides crystal clear images in less than half a heart beat, while significantly reducing radiation exposure.

The Flash CT is especially beneficial for those who have a difficult time remaining still or holding their breath, such as children or trauma patients. With traditional CT scanners, children require anesthesia to relax and keep them still during the scanning process.

A traditional CT scan of the chest usually takes about 15 seconds. A Flash CT scan of the chest lasts about .6 seconds, while reducing radiation exposure from 16 millisieverts (a

measure of radiation) to just 1 millisievert.

This significant reduction in radiation exposure is important for patients with chronic medical conditions who require frequent CT imaging to monitor their condition, such as those with inflammatory bowel dis-

ease, Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

Traditional CT scanners are certainly safe and appropriate for patients who require less frequent scans.

Beaumont, Grosse Pointe was the first hospital in Michigan to have the new

Risk assessment

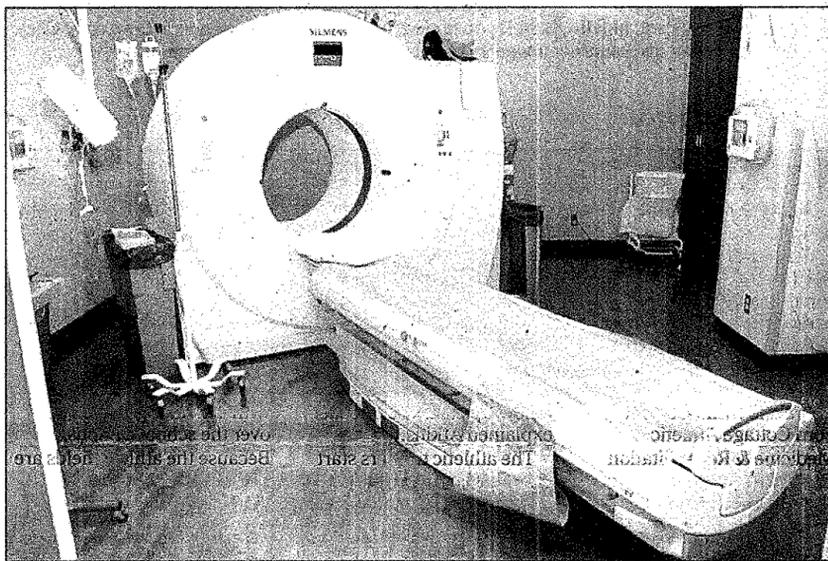
To help consumers assess their risk and take steps to reduce exposure, Beaumont Hospitals has launched a radiation safety call center and a radiation safety website.

The call center is staffed by registered nurses 24 hours a day and are specially trained and supported by Beaumont's radiation safety experts.

The center's toll-free phone number is 1-888-388-MYCT (6928).

The radiation safety website, with questions and answers on radiation safety, comparisons of radiation doses for various diagnostic tests and a radiation tracking wallet card, can be accessed at beaumonthospitals.com.

Beaumont hosts a webchat with radiation safety and imaging experts from noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 24. Visit beaumonthospitals.com to participate in the chat.



Visitors were shown the hospital's \$40 million upgrades and renovations and saw the Flash CT scanner. It provides clear images for diagnosis and scans in a flash.

Flash CT scanner, which is now also available at the Beaumont hospitals in Royal Oak and Troy. Beaumont's board-certified radiologists, who are highly trained super-specialists, now have the clearest images to diagnose medical conditions.

Cardiologists at Beaumont are recognized world leaders in cardiac CT imaging, with the highest volume of cardiac CTs

in the state. Physicians with the Ministrelli Center for Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging at Beaumont, Royal Oak are leading a state-wide collaborative studying the use of cardiac CT imaging. Their research has been published in renowned medical journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Advanced technology is just

one element that distinguishes Beaumont from other local health care providers. Exceptional customer service for patients and their physicians is also a hallmark of Beaumont's Radiology department.

Arun Patel, M.D., is a board-certified radiologist and chief of radiology at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe.

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'Blossoms' exhibit benefits The Family Center

"Blossoms," a featured artist exhibit and sale April through June at The Great Frame Up in Grosse Pointe Woods, offers patrons frameable photographs and contributes to The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods.

Grosse Pointe native Donald Schulte discusses his work at an artist's reception from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 24, at The Great Frame Up & Gallery, 20655 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The artist and gallery will donate 50 percent of all proceeds on the sale of photographic prints, cards and framing for the duration of the exhibit to The Family Center if the organization's name is mentioned at the time of purchase. The gallery will donate 100 percent of proceeds for purchases made the night of the reception.

"I am constantly trying to find ways to give back to the community that has supported me for so many years," said Heather Burgess, owner of The Great Frame Up. "Hosting this exhibit is one small way for me to give back what I have been given."

The exhibit is an evolution of five years of work exploring flower colors and form in local gardens.

"The tradition of European still-life painting is a lasting influence," said Schulte, a Grosse Pointe North High School alumnus and graduate of the College for Creative Studies in Detroit. "I seek to reflect their mastery of light and detail. The sense of color and energy in

the work is influenced by abstract expressionist painters like Clyfford Still and Robert Motherwell. Their ability to express energy and emotion with color and form is an inspiration."

The 12-by-12 or 6-by-6 images are individually printed in Schulte's studio with pigment-based inks on radiant white watercolor paper with a permanence rating of more than 92 years.

The prints are matted to 16-by-20 or 8-by-10 with hand-cut, four-ply, 100 percent cotton rag board and affixed to acid-free foam board using archival methods.

Schulte divides his time between photography for architectural and jewelry clients, garden photography for his own line of greetings cards and prints and full-time work as a writer/website coder/print production manager for Construct, a marketing communications company.

Optional RSVP for the June 24 artist's reception at The Great Frame Up can be made by calling (313) 432-3832.

The Great Frame Up owner Heather Burgess, left, and local artist Donald Schulte have teamed up to benefit The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods. Schulte's custom-framed photographs capturing the "personality" of local garden flowers is on display at the store from April through June.



Cottage athletic trainers keep teams in shape

Certified athletic trainer Michele Pye can bench Grosse Pointe North High School's star football player.

Her counterpart at Grosse Pointe South High School, Jeremy Atkins, has also earned that level of respect from the athletic director, staff, and parents of student athletes.

Pye and Atkins, of Henry Ford Cottage Athletic Medicine & Rehabilitation Center, are contracted to work with the two schools. Both have four-year degrees leading to their certification. Pye also holds a master's degree in kinesiology and biomechanics; Atkins has a master's in science and additional certification as a corrective exercise specialist.

When an athlete is injured during a game, event, or practice, the high schools' coaches depend on athletic trainers to determine what's best for the player's overall health, safety and well-being.

Both trainers work with an orthopedic physician. At Grosse Pointe North, the team physician is Terrence Lock, Henry Ford Medical Group, and at Grosse Pointe South

High School, it's Jeffrey Zacharias, a community physician. Along with the athletic directors, coaches and parents, the physicians' common goal is to help ensure a safe and successful high school athletic experience for all students participating in all sports.

"We're all about education, prevention, injury assessment and referral for emergency or follow-up care when needed," explained Atkins.

The athletic trainers start their day in the early afternoon, preparing supplies for home sports events, conferring with coaches and parents, and catching up on paperwork. As the athletes begin to filter into the training rooms, gyms and playing fields, they assess individual complaints and previous injuries to determine if the athlete is fit to play, needs more time to heal, requires taping or a brace for support, physical therapy or referral to a physician for a more serious injury.

If an athletic trainer or the physician believes it's not safe for an athlete to play, that decision is fully supported by the coaching staff and athletic director. And, while the athletes

may not like hearing they can't play, they typically follow the instructions given by trainers.

No matter what the season, there's always a practice or home event going on in one sport or another, explains Pye. Contact sports, like football, have the most injuries and occupy the majority of the athletic trainers' time, but they are in constant phone contact with activities going on all over the school campus.

Because the athletic fields are spread out at North, Pye frequently uses a golf cart to get from one event to another.

Lock and Zacharias also attend home football games to ensure immediate medical attention should an injury occur. In addition, HFMG neuropsychologist Dr. Kenneth Podell may be called upon for assessment of head trauma. Together with the athletic trainers, they attend to the immediate care of the injured

athlete, discuss the situation fully with the parents and coaches, and recommend emergency care or follow-up with a Henry Ford Cottage physician or the family doctor, frequently resulting in outpatient physical therapy at the Cottage campus.

In situations where the physicians are not present, Pye and Atkins can streamline the process of getting the student an appointment with a physician.

"It's good having the support structure of Henry Ford Health System and the people we work with in the Cottage Athletic Medicine Program to get the students where they need to be," Atkins said.

The athletic trainers said it's rewarding to educate student athletes on proper training and conditioning to avoid injuries and properly care for them when they occur.

"I like being able to spend one-on-one time with the

kids, providing them with information and getting them going in the right direction to healing so they can come back to their sport even stronger than before," says Atkins.

Pye said she is particularly appreciative of her athletic director giving her the opportunity "to implement information and education sessions to stress the importance of proper conditioning, like stretching to prevent muscle injuries, healthy nutrition to support and enhance performance and proper hygiene to avoid skin and other infectious diseases."

"To that end, the Cottage Hospital Athletic Medicine & Rehabilitation department collaborates with the physicians and the staff at the two high schools to conduct annual autumn sports physicals in preparation for each new sports year," said Sal LoGrasso, department supervisor.

"We have a tradition of commitment to the students, their parents, the schools, and the community that spans more than 20 years. We're all focused on and committed to the same goal — helping young athletes excel at their sports injury-free."

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - 2010 CITY TREE REMOVAL: Sealed bids will be received by the City at the office of the City Clerk, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 30, 2010, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing 2010 City Tree Removal services. Copies of specifications and bid sheets may be obtained from the City Clerk. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities in the bidding and to accept any proposals it deems to be in the best interest of the City.

Lisa Kay Hathaway, MMC
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 3/11/2010

City of **Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan**

BOARD OF REVIEW

Meetings for the purpose of reviewing the 2010 Assessment Roll for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Wayne County, Michigan, will be held by the Board of Review on:

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010
From 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
and
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
and
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010
From 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
and
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
and
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010
From 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
and
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236. Hearings will be scheduled by appointment. Please contact City of Grosse Pointe Farms at (313) 640-1618. You may also petition the Board in writing through the mail if you cannot make the hearing dates. These letters **HAVE TO BE IN THE OFFICE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 19th.**

Timothy E. O'Donnell
City Assessor

GPN: 2/25/10; 3/4/10; 3/11/10; 3/18/10

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6B III | COMMUNITY

**CUPCAKE:
Swirls, twirls
and frosting**

Continued from page 1B III

Submissions were narrowed down to nine based on the celebration story and recipe.

Sunday, March 7, the nine chefs entered a dozen of their cupcakes for judges' Cherro, Julie Lavigne, The Hill's operation manager and Grosse Pointe News Features Editor Ann L. Fouty, to consider based on appearance, presentation, test and originality.

Cherro said he was pleased Kopchak and Kubek were using food and food preparation as therapy.

"What a way to overcome (the nut allergy) and have your cake and eat it too," he said of Kubek's winning recipe.

While judges sampled and discussed the nine cakes, families had a chance to decorate cupcakes, color paper cupcakes, ride a pony; make a cupcake magnet and socialize.

Debbie Leidel, executive director of The Family Center said she was pleased with the turnout and anticipates a repeat for the center's 10th anniversary.

"All age levels were represented," she said.

The Family Center is a non-

profit organization that answers questions parents may encounter from a child's birth through age 18.

FIRST PLACE

Goodness Sake Cupcakes

Cindy Kopchak

Warren

Her story... "Of the many choice words I have used, "Goodness Sake" seems to sum it up!

"I woke up a year ago and couldn't feel my left leg. After weeks of doctor visits and tests, I was diagnosed with MS (multiple sclerosis). I started a regimen of various medications. It was trial and error for awhile, but I think we're on track. I have days that are good and days that are bad and some days are just plain exhausting. It could be worse, I remind myself as sometimes I struggle at the pantry shelf... I started to bake as a way to stay active and busy; trying new recipes for cake and frosting.

"So you might ask, why is this a celebration for Goodness Sake?"

"I bake each week and share my treats with family and friends who love and support me. I'm grateful I'm able to do this, not only for me but for the

'sake' of their 'goodness!' "I celebrate every day I wake. I celebrate sharing the cakes I bake. I celebrate pretty much everything for 'goodness sake!'"

Goodness Sake Cupcakes

- 4 oz. unsweetened chocolate, chopped
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup boiling water
- 2 eggs
- 1 3/4 cups granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup hot coffee
- 24 cupcake liners
- 2 cupcake pans, 12 count each

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Melt chocolate and butter in boiling water over medium heat until smooth. Remove from heat.

2. Line cupcake pans and set aside.

3. In a bowl, beat eggs, sugar and vanilla until creamy. Add chocolate mixture and stir until blended.

5. Fill cupcake liners approximately 3/4 full and bake 20 minutes. (Test with toothpick, if it comes out clean they're done). Let cupcakes rest in pan for 5 minutes, then move to cooling rack.

Supreme Butter Cream Frosting

- 1/2 cup solid vegetable shortening
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine softened
- 1 tsp. clear vanilla extract
- 4 cups sifted confectioners' sugar (approximately 1 lb.)
- 2 tbsp. light corn syrup
- 1 Tbsp. milk (use 2 tsp. if not using butter flavoring)
- 1 Tbsp. butter flavoring (optional)

Food coloring (optional)
In large bowl, cream shortening and butter with electric mixer. Add vanilla. Gradually add sugar, one cup at a time, beating well on medium speed. Scrape sides and bottom of bowl often.

Icing will appear dry. Add corn syrup and milk and optional butter flavoring and/or food coloring. Beat at medium speed until light and fluffy.

Frost cooled cupcakes (I also like to fill mine) and for "Goodness Sake" enjoy what you have just baked.

See CUPCAKE, page 7B III



PHOTOS BY PETER BIRKNER

Cindy Kopchak of Warren won first place with her chocolate cupcakes topped with a butter cream frosting.

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City of **Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan**

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF THE 2010 ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Board of Review of the City of Grosse Pointe Park, Wayne County, Michigan will be in session in the Municipal Building, 15115 East Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan on:

Tuesday 3-16-2010

and

Thursday 3-18-2010

From 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. HEARINGS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY & MUST BE SCHEDULED BY 3-15-2010, call (313) 822-4361.

WRITTEN APPEALS ARE ACCEPTED POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 3-20-2010.

Tentative state equalization factors:

Commercial property	1.000
Residential property	1.000
Personal property	1.000

Taxable increase for 2010 is: -0.30

G.P.N. 3-4-2010, 3-11-2010

Diann Lulis
CITY ASSESSOR

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City of **Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan**

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF THE 2010 ASSESSMENT ROLL: Notice is hereby given the Board of Review of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Wayne County, Michigan, will be in session in the Community Center of the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, on

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010

from 9:00 a.m. to noon, 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST, for reviewing the 2010 Assessment Roll. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by their assessment, or who have any questions or comments, may make an appointment to appeal before the Board of Review by contacting the Tax Department (phone 313 343-2440 Ext. 215). Resident taxpayers must appear in person or send an agent to appeal their assessment.

Tentative State Equalized Factors:

Commercial property	1.000
Industrial property	1.000
Residential property	1.000
Personal property	1.000

GPN: 03/11/10, 03/18/10

Kathleen Paul
City Assessor

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CUPCAKE: Swirls, twirls and frosting

Continued from page 6B III

SECOND PLACE

Amicizia Cakes

Maria Liddane

Grosse Pointe Woods

Christiane Abiragi

Grosse Pointe Shores

Their story ... "A Celebration of Friendship."

"This cupcake recipe signifies the friendship that has sprouted and developed between us over the past two and a half years, and the friendship that will continue for the rest of our lives. We have been friends only since the start of sixth grade at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Yet, it seems as though we are two old ladies who have been friends for ages.

"We have several experiences in the kitchen over our time together as friends. On some occasions, we would suddenly become motivated to make a dessert. So we would spring to the kitchen rummaging for crazy ingredients we didn't have.

"Moments later we would laugh at the absurd complexity of the recipe, the funny terms they use and the time-consuming procedure. We benefited from the length of certain recipes because they provided us with endless time to talk and talk and talk some more. We rarely ever ran out of topics to discuss.

"We are both going to pass this recipe down to our later generations. We have all had many heirlooms and traditions passed onto us but we have not necessarily thought about what we will pass on.

"Our hope is that our kids



PHOTOS BY PETER BIRKNER

Above, Cupcake judges from left, Frank Cherro, Julie Lavigne and Ann L. Fouty discuss a chocolate cupcake entered by Cindy Kopchak of Warren. Right, Caroline Kubek of Grosse Pointe Farms took third place with her "Crazy Cupcakes." She created her cupcakes as a result of an allergy to eggs, peanuts and tree nuts.

will use, love and share this recipe with another friend that cares. We anticipate our new recipe to later become a lasting memory and hopefully it will even be dubbed a 'Best Recipe' by grandchildren to come."

Amicizia Cakes

1 1/2 sticks butter at room temperature

1 cup granulated sugar

1/2 cup dark brown sugar

1 pinch salt

1 1/2 tsp. baking powder

1 1/2 cups all purpose flour

1/2 cup milk

2 tps. vanilla extract

2 eggs at room temperature

6 tbsp. pistachio Jell-O mix (do not make the Jell-O, use only powder)

2 Tbsp. chocolate hazelnut spread (such as Nutella)

2 tsp. ginger

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

Use an electric mixer to cream the butters and sugars. (Cream until light and fluffy.)

Beat eggs into the mixture, one at a time.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, salt, baking powder and dry pistachio mix.

Add a small portion of the dry mixture into the butter mix-

ture and stir. Then add a small portion of the milk and stir. Add more dry mixture, then milk, then dry mixture again and continue this process until everything is combined.

Stir in the vanilla.

Mix the chocolate hazelnut spread (use some elbow grease).

Stir in the ginger.

Place cupcake liners into tray, or grease, if desired.

Fill each liner about 3/4 of the way and bake for 20 minutes.

Insert toothpick into the center of a cupcake. If raw batter is on the toothpick, bake 2 to 3 more minutes.

If there isn't any batter on the toothpick, take them out of the oven and let cool in tray for 5 minutes.

Transfer from the tray to a rack. Allow the cupcakes to cool thoroughly, then frost.

Frosting

2 cups chilled heavy whipped cream

3 to 5 Tbps. cocoa

1/3 cup of confectioners sugar

1/4 cup of granulated sugar

See CUPCAKE, page 9B III



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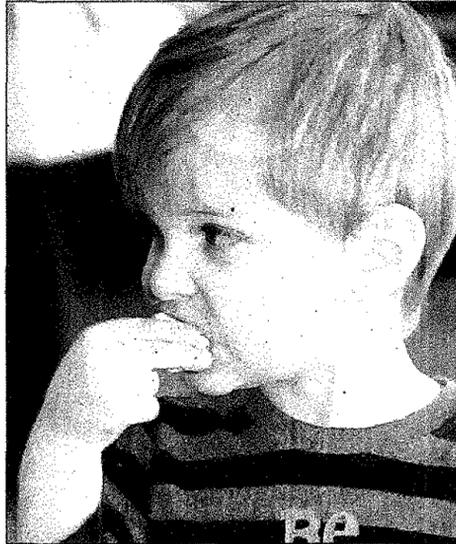
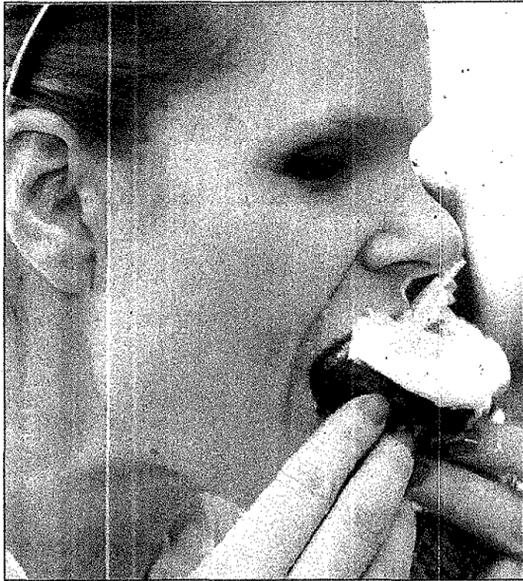
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PHOTOS BY PETER BIRKNER

Top, from left, Erica Blondell, of Grosse Pointe Farms, and Creed Villanueva, of Taylor, watch Dominik Forir, of Grosse Pointe Woods, toss a red bean bag. Above, Angela and Stevan Petkoski of Grosse Pointe Shores. Each joined the The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods' Cupcake Challenge. Right, Lily Kubeck of Grosse Pointe Farms took a pony ride while at the Hunt Club for the cupcake challenge, in which her sister took third place.

CUPCAKE: Frosting, icing and swirls

Continued from page 7B III

Put a metal bowl into the freezer and chill. Pour the whipping cream into the bowl with the cocoa and both sugars. Use an electric mixer to whip the mixture until soft peaks form. Transfer mixture into a piping bag and decorate your cupcakes as wished.

THIRD PLACE

Crazy Cupcakes with Vanilla Buttercream Frosting

Caroline Kubek
Grosse Pointe Farms

Her story "My name is Caroline Kubek and I am seven years old. When I saw this competition, I wanted to do it because my cupcakes are special.

"I have severe food allergies. I am allergic to eggs, peanuts and tree nuts. I have to carry an EpiPen at all times for protection. Because of this, I cannot have cookies, brownies or even cupcakes that other kids can have.

"However, my mom figured out how to make yummy cupcakes for me so I wouldn't feel left out. Our family calls them 'Crazy Cakes' because of the crazy way you make them and because they are safe cakes for people with severe food allergies like mine.

"My friends love coming to my birthday parties and eating 'Crazy Cakes.'

"They say it makes them crazy and wild when they eat it and we run around fast and laugh. My mom says it's the sugar. But the best part is that these cupcakes taste great! Everyone loves them and no one ever guesses that they are made without eggs.

"I hope that I win this competition because I want to show kids with food allergies everywhere that you can still eat food that tastes wonderful even if you have some restrictions."

Crazy Cupcakes

Cake:
Sift together 3 times:
3 cups flour
2 cups sugar
2 teaspoons baking soda
1/3 cup cocoa
1 teaspoon salt
Make 3 wells (holes in aforementioned mixture)
Into first, put 1 teaspoon vanilla.
Into second put 2 tablespoons white vinegar.
Into third put 3/4 cup canola oil.
Over all, pour 2 cups lukewarm water.

Mix until just blended together.
Pour into ungreased cupcake pan.
Bake at 350 degrees for 22 minutes or until a toothpick in center comes out clean.

Buttercream frosting
1 package confectioners' sugar
1 stick of unsalted butter
5 Tbsp. heavy cream
1 Tbsp. vanilla
Beat until light and fluffy.

City of **Grosse Pointe**, Michigan

NOTICE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WAYNE COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW

The CITY OF GROSSE POINTE Board of Review will meet at 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, Michigan on March 8th, 15th and 16th 2010. The Board will organize and review assessments on Monday, March 8th. The Board will hear protests from aggrieved property owners by appointment on Monday, March 15th from 9 am to 9 pm and Tuesday, March 16th from 9 am to 5 pm. Appointments may be made by calling the City offices at 313-885-5800 from 8:30 am to 5pm. Appeals by mail must be postmarked by March 16, 2010 and received by March 22, 2010.

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers necessary to compute individual state equalized values are as follows:

CLASS	RATIO	MULTIPLIER
Commercial	49.93	1.0000
Residential	50.00	1.0000
Personal	50.00	1.0000

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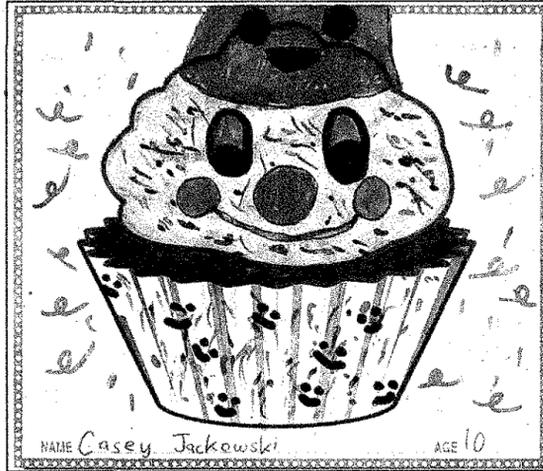
Annual savings based on information reported nationally by new Allstate auto customers for policies written in 2008. Actual savings will vary.

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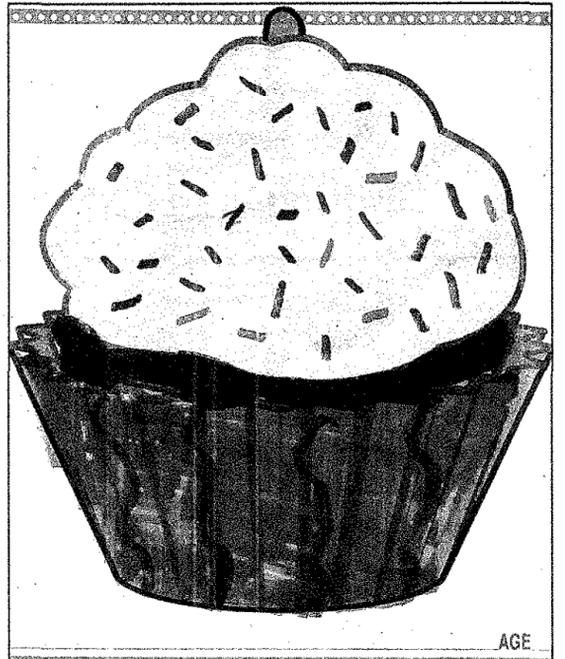
Cupcake challenge coloring contest



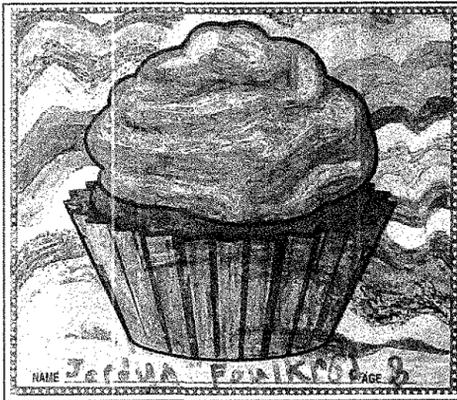
Gracie Pellegrino, of Grosse Pointe Park, took first place overall.



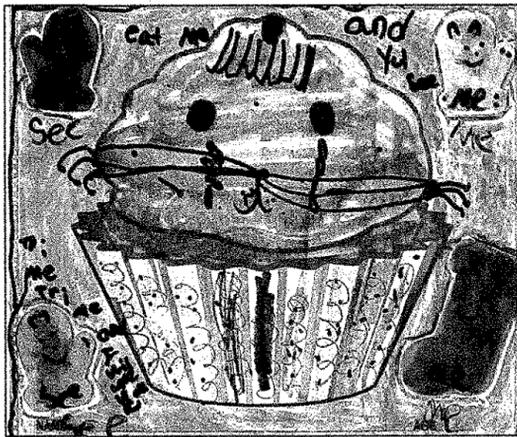
Casey Jackowski, of the City of Grosse Pointe, received first-place in the 10 to 12 category.



Second place was won by Elizabeth Torakis of Grosse Pointe Woods in the 6 to 9 age group.



Jordyn Foulkrod, 8, took first in the 6 to 9 age group.



Left, honorable mention was awarded to Sophie Konkey, 5, of Harper Woods.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

District champions shine

North beats South in title game

By John McTaggart
 Special Writer

It was the game fans had been waiting for all season long.

It was easy to conclude, given the outstanding regular seasons both Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South had, that they would meet in the title game of the district round of the state play-offs.

That's exactly what happened March 5 - the two squads squared off with a trip to regionals on the line.

"I knew we would have a tough game," North head coach Gary Bennett said. "I was honestly worried all day about this game. They're a very good team, very well coached, and a team I was worried about."

Bennett's concern proved well-founded when South battled back from a double-digit deficit to creep within four points, 38-34, in the closing

See RIVALRY, page 2C



PHOTO BY DANA KAISER

Seniors Ariel Braker, right, and Chloe Srebernak led their respective teams in scoring, but it was Braker and North who came out on top.

Liggett drubs Michigan Collegiate

By Bob St. John
 Sports Editor

For several years, Harper Woods High School was a practice facility for Liggett sophomore Madison Ristovski and freshman Haleigh Ristovski.

Then Harper Woods varsity boys basketball head coach Loren Ristovski had his young daughters practicing with his high school kids.

Fast forward several years and the Ristovski sisters helped Liggett win a Class C district championship, beating Warren Michigan Collegiate High School 72-47.

It's the Knights' first district title in several years.

"We were ready to play this week and it showed with a nice win in the championship game," head coach Wayne Gigante said. "The girls shot the ball pretty well and were able to get easy baskets off our defensive pressure."

The Knights forced 33

See KNIGHTS, page 4C

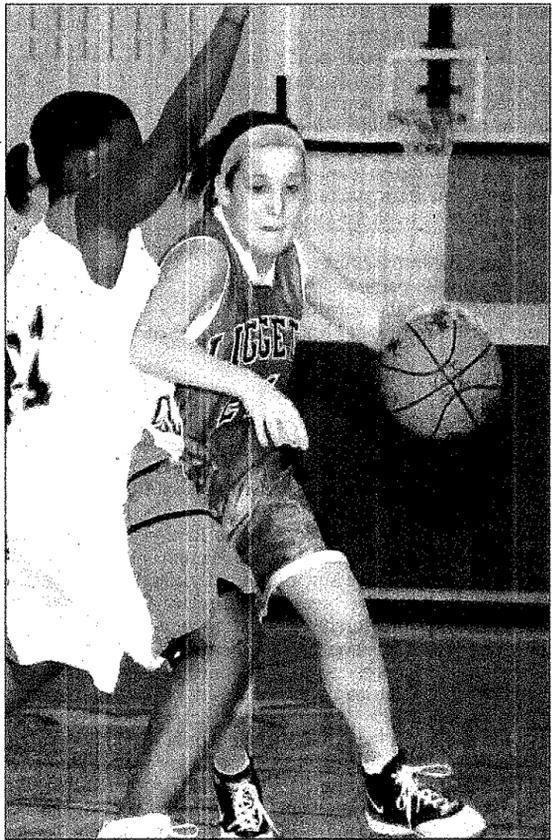


PHOTO BY RENATO JAMETT

Senior Hannah Baird, right, drives in for two of her 11 points in the Knights' district title win over Warren Michigan Collegiate.

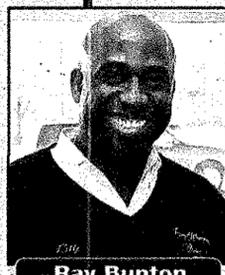


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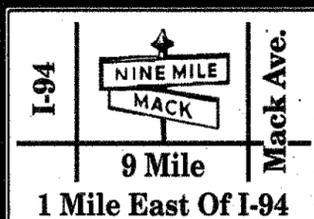
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2C | SPORTS

RIVALS: Comeback falls short

Continued from page 1C

moments of the contest. The Blue Devils' rally fell just short and the Norsemen added another postseason trophy to the case, winning 40-34. "I thought it was going to be a close game," Bennett said. "I really didn't think we'd get a big lead like we did. It's really fortunate, too, because, as it turned out, we needed it." North did get out of the blocks early, jumping to a 22-10 lead in the second quarter, and a 22-15 lead at the break. "They just did a great job on us defensively," South head coach Kevin Richards explained. "You know you're going to get that though. All of Gary's (Bennett) teams are so well coached and so good defensively. You know you're going to have to work for every point." South's defensive effort was valiant as well, particularly in the closing quarter, where they held North to just one basket from the field.

"I'm so proud of this team and how hard we played," Richards said. "We really clamped down in the fourth quarter and played really hard. We left everything out there on the court. We really did."

North's third-quarter defensive effort proved to be key to the contest. After the break, the Norsemen pressured the Blue Devils into turnovers on five consecutive possessions, building a 14-point lead after three quarters, 35-21.

"I felt like our defense really made it tough for them to score," Bennett explained. "But you have to give them credit. They really played well and battled back. They came in here very prepared and they played really well. But, our defense and rebounding is what really helped us get this win, though."

"They (North) did a real nice job taking away the perimeter game for us," Richards said. "Normally we get better looks than what we got today. That's a testament to how well they played defensively. They were able to take us out of some of the stuff we wanted to do."

Richards believes his team can look back on this game with great pride though, despite the outcome and immediate disappointment.

"I thought we had opportunities all game long, that's all you can ask for," Richards admitted. "We knew we were go-



PHOTOS BY DANA KAISER

Grosse Pointe North coaches and players took time out to pose with the district championship trophy after beating city rival Grosse Pointe South.

ing to have a tough game on our hands and we did. We fought though, and gave a great effort. We need to keep getting better though."

Richards credits the seniors on the club for the never-say-die spirit of the team, particularly senior Chloe Srebernak, who scored 16 points.

"She may play a little wild sometime," Richards said with a smile. "But she's tough out there and she really battles every possession. I think that attitude spread to the entire team."

Srebernak, Katie Hamm, Kathleen Raymond, and Theresa Zettner will be lost to graduation and certainly missed next season, Richards says.

"I really wanted to win this game for the seniors, and I feel bad that we weren't able to do that for them," Richards said. "But we gave it all we had and I'm proud of them and the entire team for that, and for the season we had. These girls should be very proud. I'm very proud of them."

South will have to wait until next year, but the Norsemen moved on to play in the regional round beginning March 9 at L'Anse Creuse against

Sterling Heights. Should North win the regional opener, they would square off against either Dakota or Warren Cousino in the regional final March 11.

"This was a very good game for us to have," Bennett admitted. "It was very good for us. We had to go out there and play hard and play well against a team that could beat us. This was a good game for us to have right now."

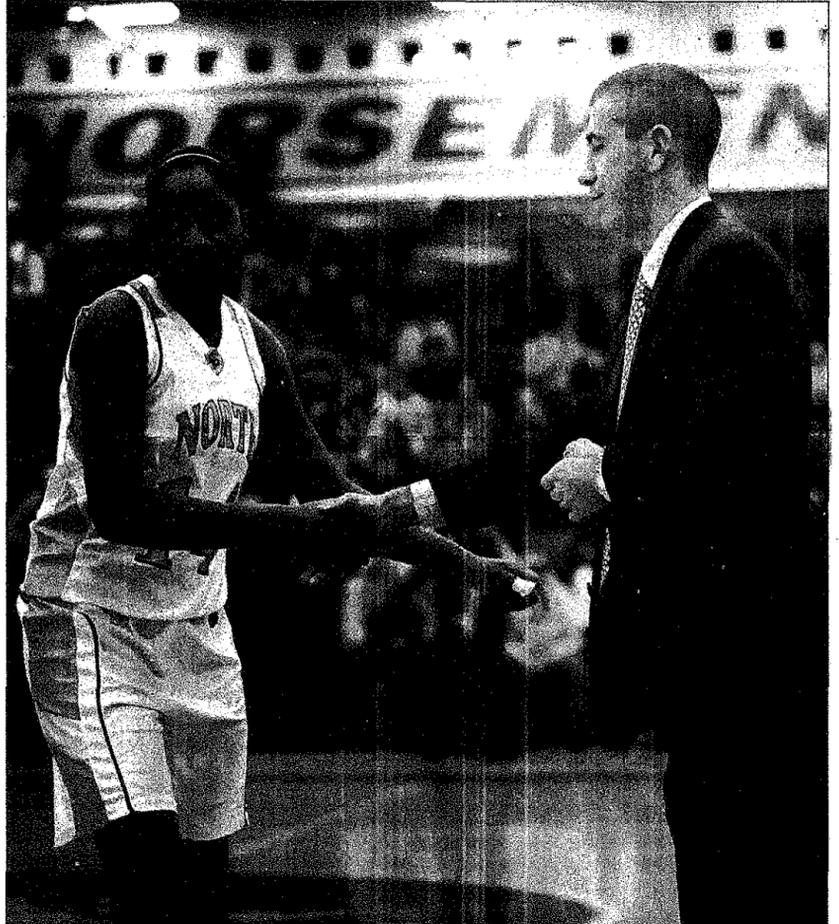
North standout Ariel Braker paced the squad with 20 points, while senior Kayla Womack poured in 13 points as the Norsemen improved to 22-1 overall.

In the district semifinals, North won by forfeit over Detroit Finney and South blasted St. Clair Shores Lakeview 58-34, making it five straight wins over the Huskies.

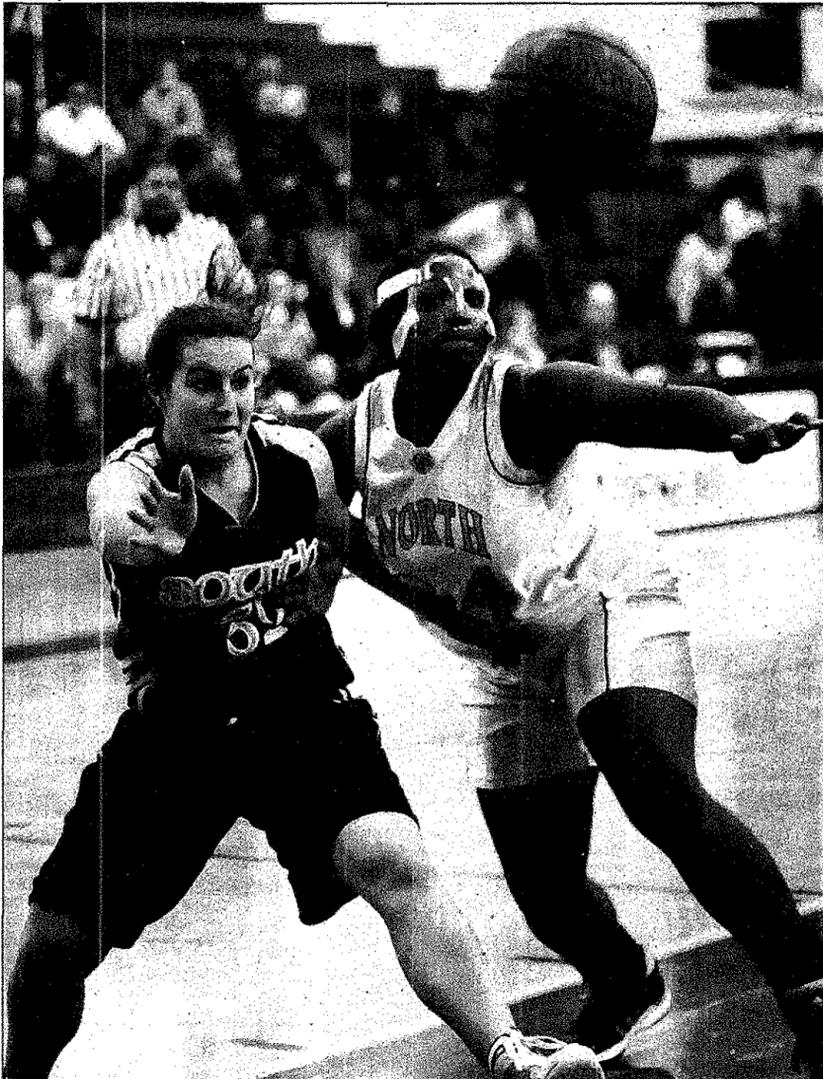
Three Blue Devils scored in double figures as Srebernak had 12, sophomore Caitlin Moore had 11 and junior Aisha Rodney had 10.

They wasted no time showing who the better team was as the Blue Devils led 20-5 after the first quarter and 31-18 at the half.

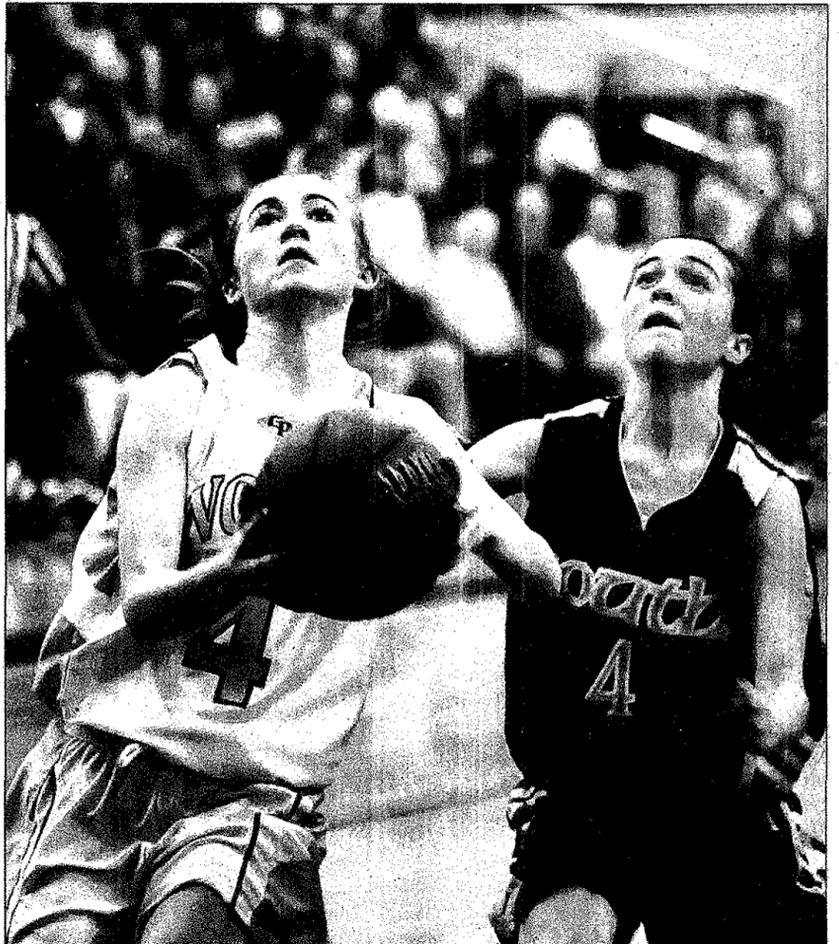
South finished its season 17-6 overall.



Grosse Pointe South head coach Kevin Richards shakes hands with Grosse Pointe North senior Kayla Womack.



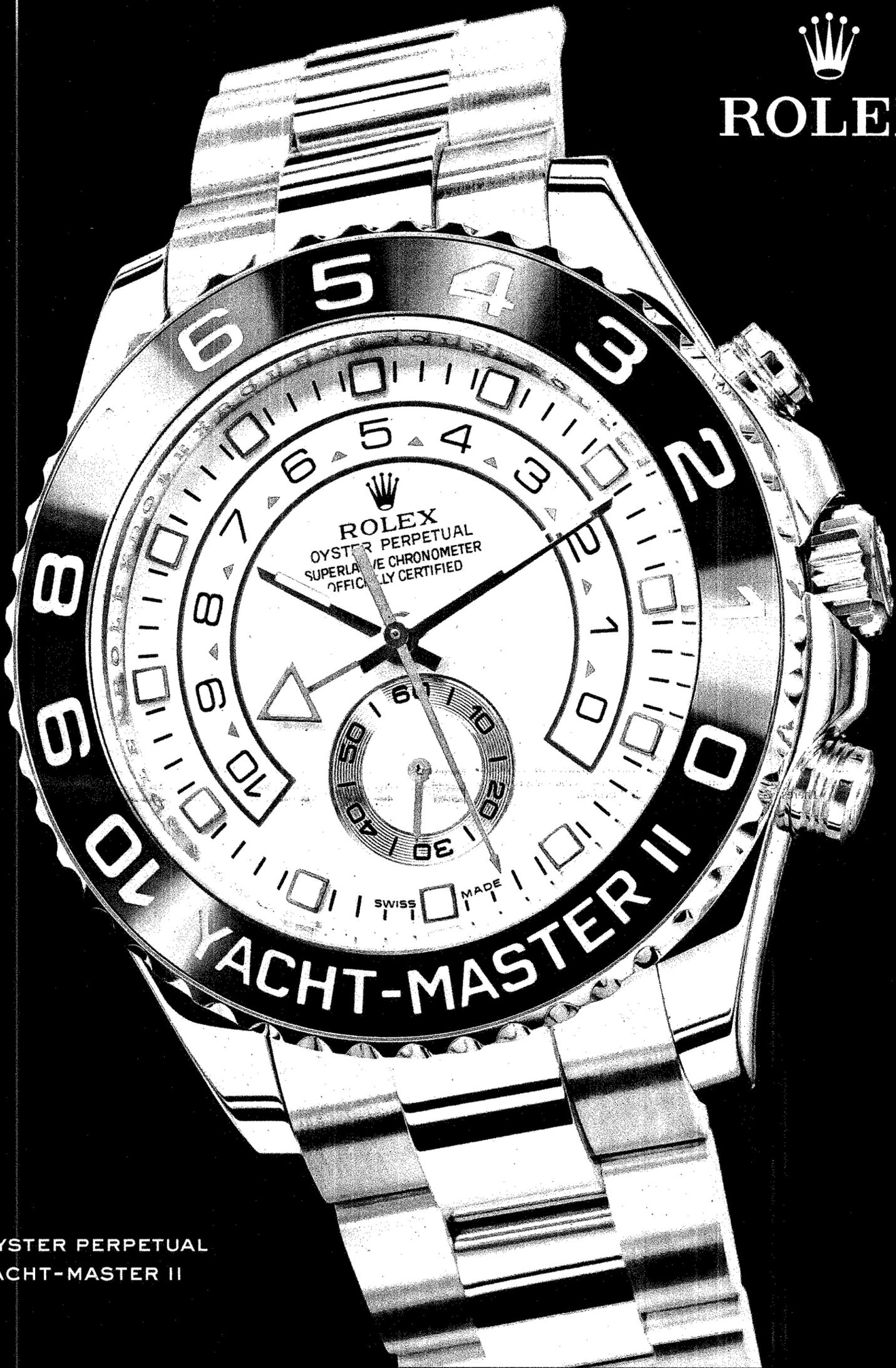
Grosse Pointe South sophomore Catherine Palazzolo, left, and Grosse Pointe North junior Nicole Strickland battle for position.



Grosse Pointe North junior Micaela Liddane, left, won this battle of No. 4s as Grosse Pointe South sophomore Carmen Engel gives chase during a layup in the district title game.



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**KNIGHTS:
Quick start
key to win**

Continued from page 1C

turnovers, including 15 in the first quarter in which they ran out to a 19-8 lead.

Thanks to senior Hannah Baird's 11 first-half points and Madison Ristovski's 14 second-quarter points, the Knights built a 44-23 halftime advantage.

Baird's hot shooting helped the Knights increase its offensive efficiency the past couple of weeks of the regular season and she played well in the two

district games.

"It's been a lot of hard work," Baird said. "I'm playing better defensively and feeling more comfortable shooting the basketball."

Baird finished with 11 points in the title game, while Madison Ristovski had a game-high 38 points to go with 13 assists and Haleigh Ristovski finished with 12 points.

Freshman Julia DeRoo had six points, while freshman Courtney Slabaugh had three and freshman Ariana Castillo had two to round out the Knights' scoring.

They had only 10 turnovers and collected only eight rebounds, thanks to the turnovers and Michigan



Freshman Ariana Castillo drives to the basket in the district semifinal game against Highland Park.



PHOTOS BY RENATO JAMETT

Liggett's girls' basketball team celebrates after winning a Class C district championship, beating Warren Michigan Collegiate at Harper Woods High School

Collegiate senior Precious Allen's 25 points. She was a force in the paint, grabbing twice as many rebounds herself as the Knights had as a team.

However, she couldn't beat a team hungry for a championship.

"The girls were focused in practice all week and they did a nice job tonight," assistant coach Ashley Alles said.

In the district semifinals, Liggett destroyed host Harper

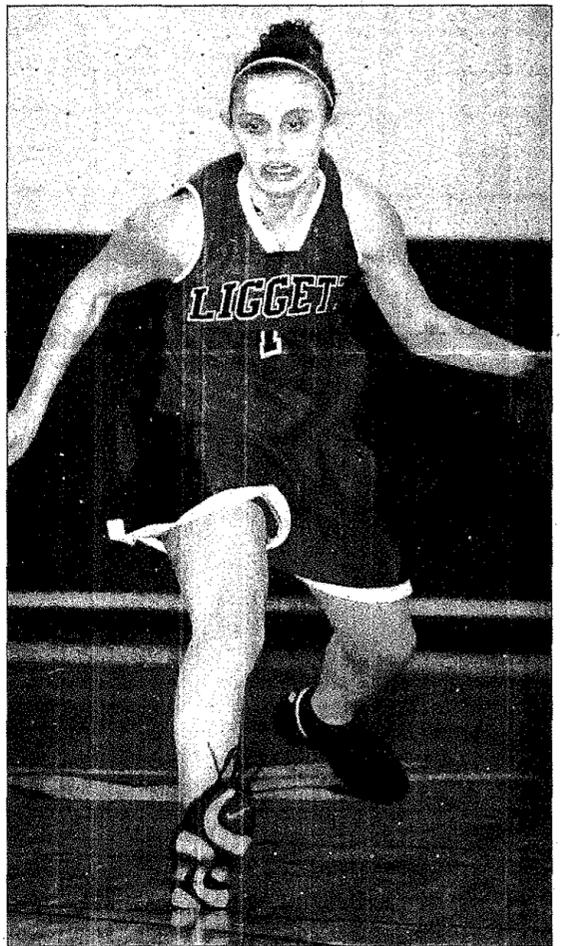
Woods 61-34 as it poured in 26 second-quarter points en route to landing a commanding 40-10 halftime advantage.

Madison Ristovski had 25 points and Baird added 19 as the Knights improved to 20-2 overall. Sophomore Andriana Evangelista had six points and DeRoo added four in the victory.

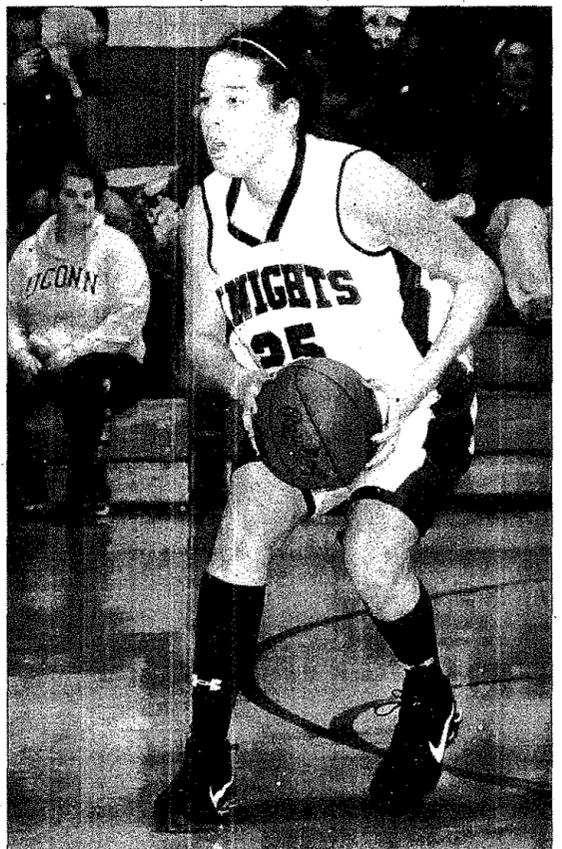
If the Knights can win a regional semifinal, it would play in a Sweet 16 game tonight, Thursday, March 11.



Freshman Haleigh Ristovski, left, tries for a steal during the Knights' game against Michigan Collegiate.



Sophomore Madison Ristovski, right, led the Knights with 38 points as they cruised to a district championship.



Freshman Julia DeRoo improved as the season crept closer to the state playoffs.

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Boys hockey

LIGGETT

Dreaded second period dooms Knights

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Liggett's boys' hockey team suffered its only loss of the season last weekend, 6-2 to host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood in a Division 3 regional championship game.

With the win, the Cranes advanced to the quarterfinals, while the Knights cleaned out their lockers.

"The game was closer than the final score indicated," head coach Robb McIntyre said. "The guys battled and gave Cranbrook a game, but in the end they got some pucks to bounce their way and we didn't."

"It's a tough loss, especially for the seniors who put their heart and soul into the team, but for myself and the young guys, we can use this as a learning experience for next season."

The Knights got on the board first when freshman Mark Auk scored, but the Cranes tied it a short time later and it was a 1-1 game at the end of the opening period.

The difference of the game was the second period when the home team put three goals on the board, including one at the buzzer that could have been waved off.

"It was very close as to whether the goal should have or shouldn't have counted," McIntyre said. "That was a huge goal, but I was happy to



PHOTO BY RENATO JAMETT

Liggett senior Rory Deane, shown above from an earlier game this season, scored the Knights' second goal in a 6-2 regional championship game loss to defending state champ Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood.

see us come back and get closer."

Senior Rory Deane scored early in the third period to

close the gap to 4-2, but the Cranes would add two more tallies to close the door on the Knights, ending their season

25-1-1 overall.

"You could tell Cranbrook was ready for us," McIntyre said. "They played Catholic

Central twice this season and played a very tough schedule, while I don't think our schedule prepared us for this type of

pressure game.

"We will make our schedule tougher next season."

The Knights advanced to the regional title game by beating St. Clair 5-4 and Marysville 6-0 in pre-regional games at Port Huron's McMorran Arena.

Against St. Clair, Deane scored the game-winner in the final minute to prevent the Saints from pulling off a monumental upset.

The Knights fell behind 2-0 early in the game before scoring four unanswered goals to grab a 4-2 advantage.

The Saints came back to tie in the final five minutes, but Deane's heroics saved the day.

In the win over Marysville, senior Dan Zukas had a hat trick and senior David McIntyre had the shutout in net.

McIntyre loses Zukas, Deane, Jake Goldberg, McIntyre, Jimmy Palmer, Mac Decker, Chris Ralstrom, Michael Kassab, Patrick Gushee, Dan Dube and Tripp Damman to graduation.

However, returning are Joe Davenport, Jeff Mott, Jake Hodges, David Gushee, Manny Counsman, Conner Wiggins, Boris Canzano, Jacob Soyka, Austin Petitpren, Auk and Nate Gaggin.

"Our young guys played well against Cranbrook and they will be the leaders of the team next year," McIntyre said. "We will be a very young team, but we have a lot of talent coming back."

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

North falls to DLS

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

For the first time since 2006, Grosse Pointe North's boys' hockey team will not be a final four participant.

Last week, the Norsemen were eliminated from the state playoffs with a 6-4 loss to league rival Warren DeLaSalle in a Division 2 regional semifinal game at Great Lakes Ice Arena.

It was the third time this season the Norsemen lost to the Pilots, falling 6-0 and 5-4 in Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League action.

Head coach Scott Lock said his team had to play better after beating Warren Mott in the previous round.

For the most part they did, but in the final few minutes, the favored Pilots used a two-on-one break to score the winning goal as Shane McKenna put a wrist shot past senior goaltender Mike Held.

Bryan Pike added an empty net goal with 11.5 seconds left to end the Norsemen's season at 10-15-1 overall.

"We played well the first seven minutes of the game and were all over them," Lock said. "They got a power play goal and then got a tipped goal to tie it."

"I have to give our kids credit because they came back strong and took another lead."

The Norsemen were up to the challenge in front of a raucous crowd. They were able to put four goals past Pilot netminder Matt Neal.

Senior Steve Herron and sophomore Joe Aluia scored in the first period, while Aluia and sophomore Joe Giordano tallied in the second stanza. Senior Matt Lucchese assisted on Herron's goal with sophomore Scott Dornbrock and freshman Jeff Herron assisting Aluia's first goal.

Sophomore J.P. Lucchese and senior Mitchell Capp had



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Joe Aluia scored twice, but it wasn't enough as the Norsemen lost 6-4 to the Pilots.

assists on Aluia's second goal and the final Norsemen tally was set up by seniors Alex Tomovski and Shane Johnston.

The Norsemen had an opportunity to lead heading into the final 15 minutes, but they surrendered two shorthanded goals in a 10-second span late in the second period that turned a 3-2 lead into a 4-3 deficit.

The first of the two tallies came on a penalty shot.

Despite the loss, Lock has an abundance of talent returning next season. He loses Matt Lucchese, Held, Steve Herron, Johnston, Alex Plomartis, Tomovski and Dylan Welke to graduation.

However, underclassmen are Aluia, Dustin Baker, David Chavis, Dornbrock, Giordano, Brad Herron, Jeff Herron, Brendon Keelan, Pat Lane, J.P. Lucchese, Shawn Miele, Julian Quinlan, Anthony Saleh, Brad Werenski and Chip Wujek.

YOUTH HOCKEY

Penguins skate hard, take second place

The Grosse Pointe Penguins squirt hockey team showed determination and stamina to pull off a runner-up finish in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association District No. 3 playoffs that ended Feb. 7.

The team, sponsored by Yates Cylinders and made up of Grosse Pointe-area players born in 1999 and 2000, came close to winning the championship, which would have sent the squad to Escanaba for the state finals.

After initially losing in the second round of the double elimination tournament, the Penguins battled back, taking the longest route possible to the district finals.

By the time the tournament was over, the Penguins had played and won more games than any team in the tournament. In all, they played seven playoff games, winning five.

All but one of the seven playoff games was won or lost by only one goal with the Penguins winning two of the games in nail-biter sudden-death overtime.

Highlights of the district-finals series are as follows:

Game 1: Penguins won in overtime against the Macomb Stampede after pulling their goalie. Right wing Mario Lorelli nailed the game-tying goal with 12 seconds left in regulation. At 4:02 of the first overtime, Natalia Asimakis sent the game-winning goal sailing past

"The Penguins' coaches and parents could not have been more proud of the job the kids did."

MARK HELLWARTH,
Parent

the Stampede goalie's glove.

Game 4: Once again the Penguins won in overtime, this time against the Troy Red Wings. The penguins took the lead at 8:58 in the third period, but the Red Wings responded

40 seconds later to tie it. However, the Penguins turned up the heat on defense and shut down the Red Wings' scoring efforts for the rest of the game. With the team fired up to face another OT challenge, Lorelli was the first to take the puck to the goal to capture the win.

The team narrowly lost the final game to the Fraser Falcons after a heated defensive challenge kept the game scoreless nearly to the end. With less than two minutes left on the clock, the Falcons slipped the puck past Penguins goalie Brad Thompson, who was steady as a rock throughout the series.

Head coach Jeff Allor's mantra throughout the playoffs was, "That's the play, baby! Rubbin' is racin'!" It could be heard any time one of the Penguins took an opposing player into the boards, knocking the opponent off the puck.

Throughout the series, the Penguins' locker-room chant was, "One more game!"

"The Penguins' coaches and parents could not have been more proud of the job the Penguin kids did and the way they conducted themselves throughout the tournament, always demonstrating the utmost sportsmanship," parent Mark Hellwarth said.

—Craig Bryson

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Boys basketball

RIVALRY

Wise quarterbacks South past North

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Rivals Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South squared off in Monday night's Class A boys basketball district first round game.

It was the rubber game for the neighbors as each won on the other's court.

The season series went to the Blue Devils, 53-41, as they played a perfect game to beat the host Norsemen. In the process, the Blue Devils stretched its winning streak to eight.

Senior point guard Jarvis Wise quarterbacked the Blue Devils, netting a game-high 16 points to go with five assists, three steals and one blocked shot.

He received plenty of help from his teammates as they overcame an early 4-0 deficit to lead 10-9 after the first quarter, 28-18 at the half and 40-32 after three quarters.

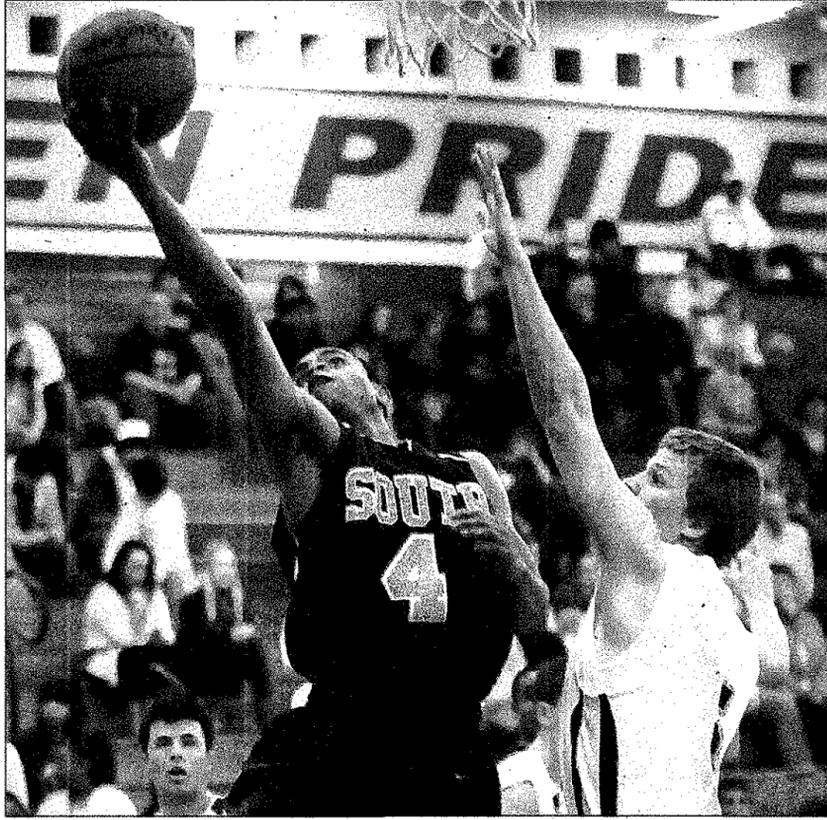
"Jarvis was confident out there and he was cool under pressure," South head coach Jim Twigg said. "North tried to press us, but Jarvis handled the ball and spread it around to hit the open guy. He played a flawless game, but got plenty of help, especially defensively.

"Our defense was outstanding and it's been good for a while now. We just have to keep it going."

North senior Bryan Brown scored 11 points, while senior Balazs Juhasz hit for a team-leading 12 points to go with six rebounds and four blocked shots.

Juhasz wasn't able to get clean looks at the basket, thanks to solid defense from junior Cooper Hartman.

"Cooper did a nice job on the boards and limiting Juhasz's effectiveness," Twigg said. "He beat us up in the post both times, but not tonight. We defended him pretty well."



Grosse Pointe South senior Jarvis Wise, left, played a near-perfect game, scoring 16 points and dishing off five assists.

The Norsemen hit its share of three-pointers, four, but they weren't deadline from behind the arc like they have in prior games.

North head coach Matt Lockhart was looking to make it two-for-two in district tournaments, but this run ended when the Blue Devils were able to rebound and hit free throws, 23-of-34.

For the Norsemen, sophomore Will Ritchie scored seven points and grabbed 10 rebounds.

For the Blue Devils, Conroy finished with 10 points, while juniors Victor Mattison and

Ben Fry each had eight points and junior Brandon Barkley had six points.

In regular season action last week, North bounced back from its mini losing streak to beat St. Clair Shores South Lake 67-46.

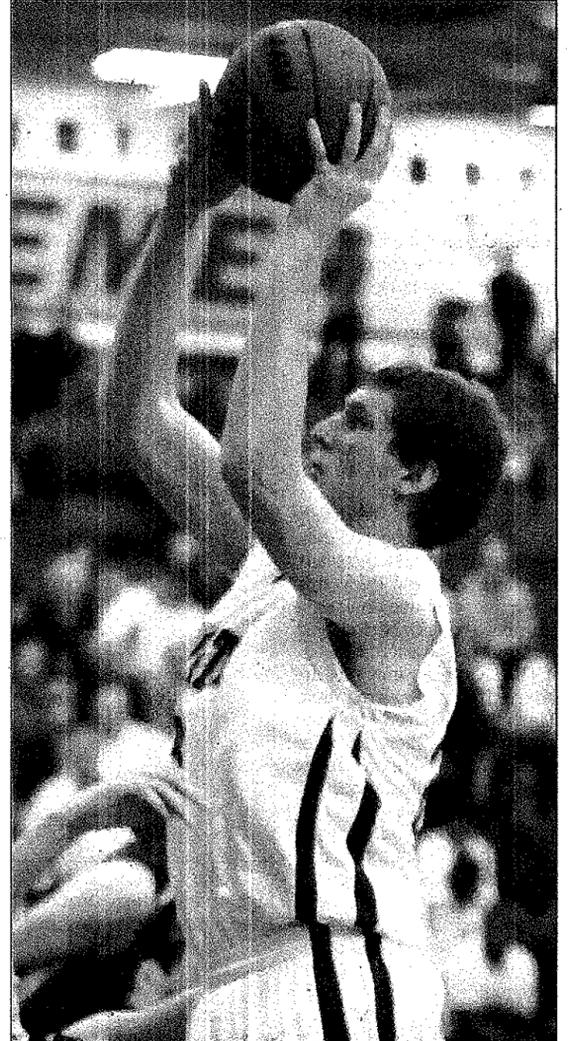
After trailing 15-14 after the first quarter, the Norsemen outscored the Cavaliers 21-9 in the second period and 21-13 in the third to grab a 56-37 advantage.

Brown led three in double figures, netting 24, followed by junior Chris Collins with 12 and senior Troy Williams with 11.

South kept its hot streak going with wins over Warren Fitzgerald, 57-47, and Romeo, 56-48.

The Blue Devils came out flat against Fitzgerald, trailing 13-8 after the opening quarter. They gained momentum in the middle quarters, outscoring the home team 32-16 to lead 40-29 with eight minutes left.

Mattison had 20 points, followed by Barkley with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Other top performances were turned in by Wise with eight points and eight assists, Conroy with eight points and eight re-



Grosse Pointe North senior Balazs Juhasz goes up for two of his 12 points, but it wasn't enough to prevent a first-round play-off loss.

bounds, and junior Alex Bedan with six points.

Against Romeo, they jumped out early, leading 16-7 before settling into a double-digit lead, 37-27, after three quarters of play.

Each team poured in 20 points in the fourth quarter in

the regular season finale.

Mattison had his second straight 20-point performance, while Wise had nine.

Grosse Pointe South, which was once 3-10, improved to 11-10 overall; Grosse Pointe North finished its season 11-10.

LIGGETT

Knights continue hot stretch with two more wins

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Liggett senior Mark Ghafari has emerged as a serious candidate to make the Class C all-state first team after another sparkling effort last week.

The point guard scored 30 points, dished off 10 assists and nearly grabbed double digits rebounds to lead the host Knights to a come-from-behind 63-61 win over Madison Heights Bishop Foley.

"We have one of the best point guards in the state with Mark," head coach Sidney Johnson said. "The guys didn't quit and they played hard. This is a nice win."

The Knights were a step behind virtually the entire game, trailing 16-12 after the first

quarter and 33-26 at the half.

The Ventures led 44-39 heading into the fourth quarter and built a 49-41 lead early in the final stanza.

The Knights were able to get one final scoring burst and Ghafari's three-point play with 3:37 tied the game at 54.

Bishop Foley went ahead 56-54 before it was tied again at 56, but Ghafari hit a reverse layup to give the Knights a 58-56 lead with 2:14 left.

Another lead changed as the Ventures drained a three-point basket from the corner and seconds later, freshman Eric Ewing hit a layup to give the Knights the lead for good, 60-59.

Junior Carl Ghafari hit a free throw to make it a two-point game, 61-59, and Mark Ghafari was able to drain two

free throws with 10 seconds left to give the Knights a 63-59 lead.

The Ventures hit a layup and called a timeout with five seconds left. They were able to get a steal in the far corner, but a last-second three-point attempt was well short, giving

the Knights a second straight nail-biting victory.

"The guys were able to solve their three-quarter court trap in the last quarter and make some big free throws," Johnson said. "The last couple have been close, but we have had the leadership it takes to

pull out wins."

Ewing finished with 12 points, followed by sophomore Eddie Thomas with eight, Carl Ghafari with seven, senior Joey Shannon with three and freshman KeVaughn Jackson with three.

In other action last week,

the Knights completed the regular season with a 53-48 win over host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood.

The win enabled the Knights to finish the regular season 15-5 overall. It was one of the best regular seasons in the Johnson era.

PARCELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

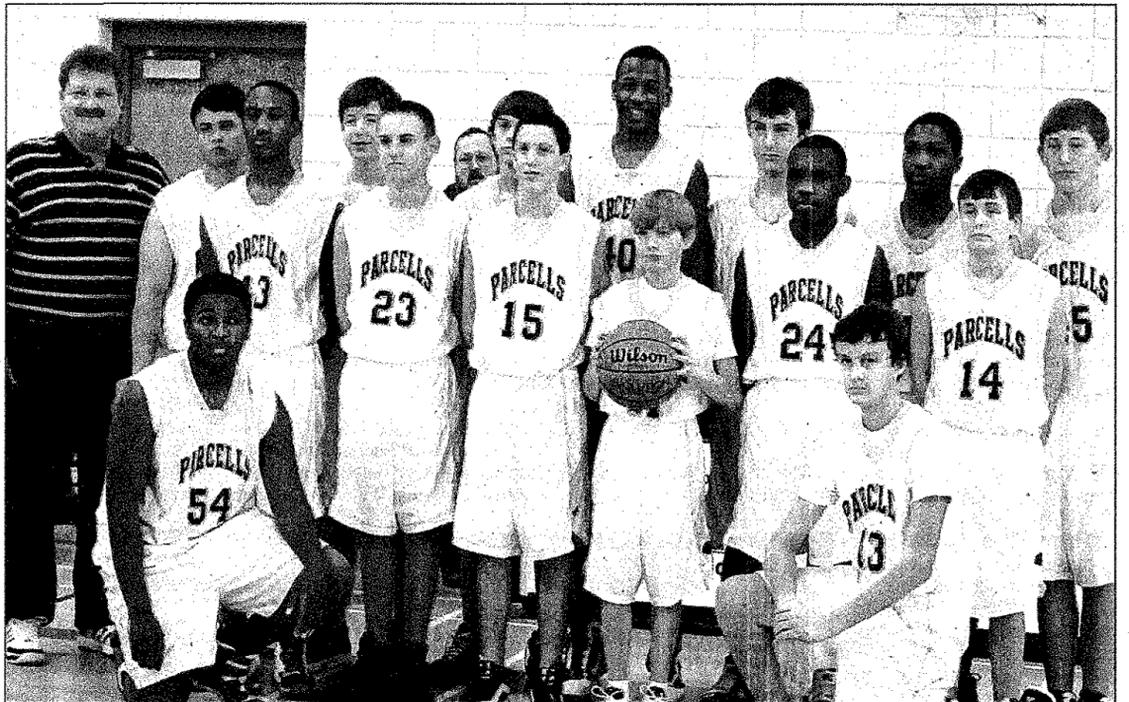


PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK SUMBERA

Perfection

Head coach Frank Sumbera, far left, and his Parcells Middle School eighth-grade boys basketball team crunched the competition this winter and finished with a perfect 12-0 record. The Panthers scored 494 points for 41.16 per game and gave up only 318 for a 26.5 average. It's the Panthers' ninth MAC Middle School League championship in 11 years. Team members are Matthew Kain, Rhys Williams, Jacob Zacharias, Sal Ciaravino, Tom Vismara, Jon Bevier, Kyle Moton, Justin Kennedy, Niguel Barksdale, Matt Dezeery, Jalen Browner, Ethan Rutkofske, Andrew Lock, Zack Josefiak, Makai Polk and Mike Bylski.



PHOTO BY RENATO JAMETT

Senior Mark Ghafari, with ball, scored 30 points for a second straight game. This time, the coring burst helped the Knights beat Bishop Foley.

Gymnastics

GROSSE POINTE UNITED

Five make finals, team finishes fifth

The Grosse Pointe United gymnastics team finished fifth with 137,525 points out of 11 squads in last weekend's regional meet at Plymouth-Canton.

"It was a great result, especially considering the competition," head coach Cathy Hubmeier said. "The top three teams, Canton, Northville and Livonia Blue are some of the best in the state. We had 11 girls qualify to the regional meet, so our team was one of the deepest at the regional meet. The girls performed really well."

In addition, five girls, junior Heather Koresky, senior Lauren Krieger, sophomore Madi Kaiser, freshman Emma Abessinio and freshman Aubryn Samaroo, qualified for the state finals. It was the first time in program history five girls qualified for the finals.

On vault, Ashley Krynski led the team with a score of 8.55, followed by Abessinio with an 8.45, Krieger, Kaiser and Samaroo with an 8.3, Sarah Fentin with an 8.2, Brittany Rizzo and Koresky with an 8.15, Emily Griffith with an 8.125, Fran Kay with a 7.95 and

Lydia Fuller with a 7.6.

The team had eight competitors on the bars with Abessinio leading the way with a fourth-place score of 8.6 and a spot in the state finals. Other state finalists were Kaiser and Koresky, who tied for seventh with an 8.4.

Other top scorers were Rizzo with a 7.05, Krieger with an 8.25, Fentin with a 7.9, Krynski with an 8.0 and Samaroo with a 7.95.

On the beam, Kaiser tied for eighth with an 8.825 and Krieger was third with a 9.175 to earn a spot in the state finals.

Hubmeier also watched Rizzo score a 7.65 in the event. Other scorers were Koresky with an 8.475, Fentin with an 8.175, Krynski with an 8.0, Samaroo with a 7.55, Abessinio with a 7.85 and Griffith with an 8.375.

The team finished the meet with the floor exercise. Abessinio and Samaroo qualified for the state finals, netting a fourth-place score of 9.075 and tying for eighth with an 8.975.

Other scorers were Krieger with an 8.875, Rizzo with a 7.8, Koresky with an 8.5, Fentin



PHOTO BY DANA KAISER

The Grosse Pointe United gymnastics team enjoyed one of its best seasons in history, which included a fifth-place finish at last weekend's regional meet.

with an 8.375, Kaiser with an 8.5, Kay with an 8.2 and Krynski with an 8.275.

"We are very excited to have qualified five girls to the state meet," Hubmeier said. "They

have all worked hard this season and it has paid off. We are very proud of all of the girls as

they have all contributed greatly to the team this season."

Boys swimming

NORTH & SOUTH

Local swimmers ready for finals

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

More than a dozen swimmers from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South compete in this weekend's Division 2 state championship meet at Oakland University.

Zeeland is the defending champion and should once again be in the running for another title, as will Birmingham Groves, which is the favorite.

However, head coach Eric Gunderson and the Blue Devils have put together a strong regular season and are one of the favorites to finish in the top five.

Competing in the finals and/or diving regionals for the Blue Devils are Mike Shook, Matt Mandel, Joe Hessburg, Matt Schmidt, Mac Day, Craig

Campbell, Cam Laney, Cam Johnson, Roby Boggs, Luke Hessburg, Ben Cornillie, Patrick Mulier, Kyle Eschenburg, Pete Basile, Ryan Graham, Sam Effinger and Daniel Fisher.

North head coach Mike O'Connor will have several kids in the finals. They are Justin Rakowicz in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle; Christian Mellos in the 200-yard individual medley and 100-yard breaststroke; and Robert Tripp in the 100-yard backstroke.

In addition, the 200-yard medley relay team of Tripp, Mellos, Zack Hanna and Matt Peyser will compete, as will the 200-yard freestyle relay squad of Peyser, Tommy Milne, Rakowicz and Tripp.

Last week, the North swim-

ming and diving team competed in the L'Anse Creuse North Invitational as a season-ending meet.

Mellos and Rakowicz were double winners and each time was a Division 2 state qualifier.

Rakowicz won the 200- and 500-yard freestyle, while Mellos scored wins in the 200-yard individual medley and 100-yard breaststroke.

Mellos' time in the 100-breaststroke broke the existing school varsity record set by Steve Ogilvy in 1999. His time also established a new L'Anse Creuse North pool record.

James McNelis finished first in the diving competition, while Tripp took second in the 100-yard freestyle with a season-best time.

In addition, the 200-yard freestyle relay team of Milne,

Peyser, Peter Shea and Tripp took fourth and the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Tripp, Peyser, Rakowicz and Mellos finished third with a state-qualifying time.

Wrestling

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

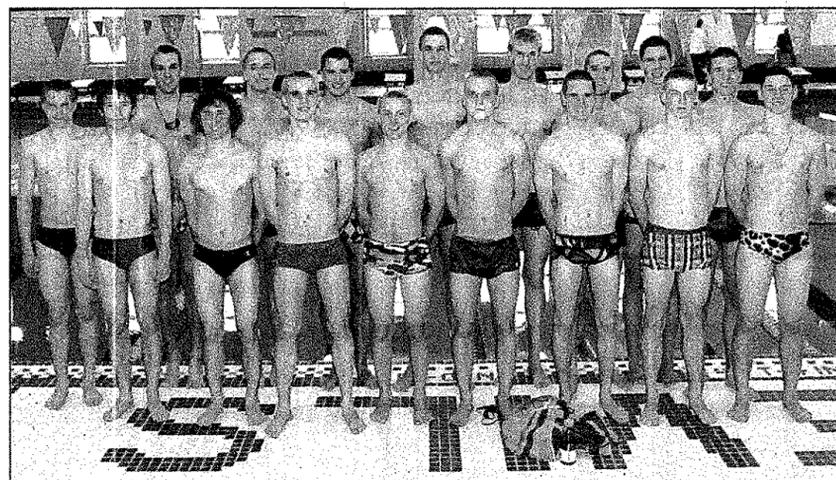
Doetsch drops two

Grosse Pointe North senior Alex Doetsch dropped his two matches in last weekend's Division 1 individual wrestling state finals at The Palace.

Doetsch, competing in the 171-pound division, lost his

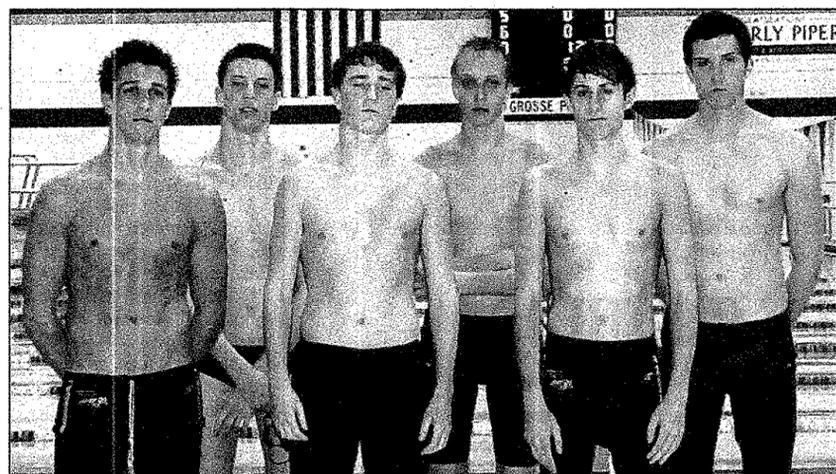
first match 11-6 to Livonia Churchill's Curtis Castleberry and was eliminated after getting pinned at the 4:31 mark by Holland West Ottawa's Joey McClure.

He finished 40-15 overall.



PHOTOS BY DANA KAISER

Grosse Pointe South's state finalists are, from left, Ben Cornillie, Patrick Mulier, Cam Johnson, Kyle Eschenburg, Cam Laney, Roby Boggs, Joe Hessburg, Dan Basile, Matt Mandel, Ryan Graham, Mike Shook, Craig Campbell, Matt Schmidt, Luke Hessburg, Mac Day, Sam Effinger and Daniel Fisher.



Grosse Pointe North's state finalists include, from left, senior Matt Peyser, sophomore Christian Mellos, senior Robert Tripp, sophomore Justin Rakowicz, sophomore Peter Shea and senior Tommy Milne.

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DETROIT BOAT CLUB

Pointers shine in regatta

By Taylor Wizner
Special Writer

It's a bone-chilling 10 degrees and the Detroit River is filled with massive pieces of ice.

Inside the Detroit Boat Club on Belle Isle, competitors fasten their shoe straps and prepare for the start. Family, friends and spectators gather around them, some contributing last words of encouragement. Then the buzzer sounds.

"This is not your typical crew regatta," said Lisa Freeman, a Friends of Detroit Rowing board member who helped coordinate the event. "Instead, we are hosting an indoor ergometer regatta to compete against some of our neighbor clubs."

On Saturday, Jan. 30, the Detroit Boat Club Crew hosted the Motown Madness Indoor Rowing Championship Regatta at the historic Detroit Boat Club boathouse.

There were nine competing clubs and 110 competitors overall.

Individuals and teams compete on a long row of ergometers, also known as ergs, said Freeman.

These advanced rowing machines are linked by a master computer. The electronic display on each erg constantly informs rowers of their time, the distance remaining and their place in the race.

The computer calculates how fast the rower completes a 2,000 meter row and results are posted nationally on rowing websites such as regattacentral.com, row2k or linked from usrowing.com.

"The categories include races by gender, which follow in order by weight and experience," Freeman said. "We end with relays, which are groups of four rowers competing against the different clubs."

Rob Heide, the junior women's varsity crew coach, was also influential in hosting the club's regatta.

"The purpose of this indoor regatta was to gauge where we are at in our winter training," said Heide. "It was also nice to have some competition with other clubs."

Another opportunity Heide noted was the scholarships available to high school age rowers.

"College coaches look at rowers erg scores very closely," Heide said. "They pick the top times and those rowers get the best scholarships. There are times when a girl has a 60 percent scholarship and she will row well here and a coach may raise it to a 70 percent scholarship."

Matt Weise, head coach for the Michigan State University women's rowing program, attended the Motown Madness regatta to spot future athletes for his team.

While he is unable to make direct contact with any rowers due to NCAA regulations, he said he came to get a pre-season look at the athletes.

"We are looking to identify some of the top performers," said Weise. "(At erg regattas) we look for horsepower and persistence that will continue in the water."

"We want a solid, consistent rower." Whether to show off their winter skills to college scouts or to obtain a personal record, known as a "PR," the rowers come prepared to race, said Brian Sullivan.

In addition to the 2,000-meter race, other team members participated in a 2,000-meter relay.

"Winter training is mostly strength conditioning so there is little time to learn to row together," said Heide. "A 2,000 piece is about the toughest thing to do, and to pull a PR (personal record) is the best challenge team race and a challenge is a good way to break up the off-season."

Winter training and regattas are beneficial in many ways, Heide said. Not only does prac-

ticing on the ergs prepare rowers for competition, but they also improve the rower's physique.

"It also establishes the rower's erg rate which is what collegiate programs look for. Erg scores are what can help boys get into a better college and can give girls a bump for a partial or full scholarship," Sullivan said.

"We have individual competitors that are unaffiliated with a club and we have master rowers," said Freeman. "The races are open to beginners as well, who would like to try out the sport or possibly join the club at a later time."

"These indoor regattas are also a way to show kids who are interested in high school rowing what the sport is like," said Sullivan. "Teenagers interested in joining the club or the sport are encouraged to come to try it out or just to watch."

Unlike the fall and spring, where rowers do both individual and team events in rowing shells ranging from one to eight people, erg regattas are mostly individual scores, said Sullivan.

Grosse Pointe medal winners include:

In the Youth Boys category, Pete Cornillie won a silver medal with a time of 6:48.4, while Colin Mott got the bronze with a time of 7:14.4.

In the Lightweight 145-pound youth boys division, Zak Jatkowski won the gold with a time of 7:15.2; Berg Tyler won the silver with a time of 7:58.3; and Ian Thompson got the bronze medal with his time of 8:06.8.

In the Lightweight Boys 155-pound division, Jon Allen won gold with a time of 7:05.8 and Andrew Fildes won a gold medal in the Lightweight Boys 165-pound category with a time of 6:54.2.

In Youth Girls, Alix Chrumka won gold with a time of 7:19.6, while Kelsey Flynn won silver with a 7:41.7 time.

Emily Hughes won gold in the Lightweight Girls 125-pound category with a time of 8:14.8, while Maggie Sullivan got silver with a 8:22.2 time and Cailin Klick achieved bronze with a time of 8:43.6.

In the Lightweight Youth Girls 135-pound group, Laine Maher won gold with a time of 7:47.8 with Karlene McGarry just behind winning the silver with a time of 7:48.2 and Brigid Klick won the bronze with a time of 8:22.7.

In the Novice Youth Girls division, Marjane Brennan won the gold with a time of 7:58.9 with Alexis Cobau earning a bronze medal with a time of 8:17.5.

In the Novice Youth Boys group, Nick Wilson won silver with a time of 7:20.0.

The Youth Coxswain Men 1,000-meter event, Griffin Lutz Griffin got silver with a time of 3:56.9 and Chris Simon got bronze with a 4:07.7.

Anita Shah, Youth Coxswain Women 1,000-meter event, got silver with a time of 4:23.9.

Auction time

The Detroit Boat Club Crew celebrates the victories of its rowers, past and present, at the DBCC auction from 6 to 10 p.m. March 12 at the Detroit Yacht Club.

Information is available on the website at DBCCAuction10.com or by e-mailing info@dbccauction10.com.

The Detroit Boat Club is the oldest rowing club in North America. It was founded in 1839, just two years after Michigan was admitted to the union.

Detroit Boat Club Crew, the official name of the rowing crew, races within the Midwest Rowing Association. There are more than 80 schools and clubs in Midwest Rowing.

Members are students and mature professionals. South and North students are eligible to receive their varsity letters.

College signings

GROSSE POINTE NORTH



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Going south

Grosse Pointe North senior Nikki Capizzo, seated center, signed a letter of intent to play soccer next year at Savannah College of Art and Design. Taking part in the ceremony were her father, Tony Capizzo, seated left, and mother, Susan Capizzo; and standing from left, North varsity soccer coach Jennifer Nadeau, sister, Samantha Capizzo, and brother, Anthony Capizzo. The SCAD Bees finished 2009 8-8 overall and 6-3 in its conference.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Heading west

Grosse Pointe North senior Mike Tolliver, seated, will play college football next year for Grand Rapids Community College. Taking part in the ceremony last week were his mother, Colleen, North varsity football coach Frank Sumnera, and Tolliver's grandmother, Ann Priem. GRCC finished 9-2 this fall, beating College of DuPage 43-20, Rock Valley College 62-0, Iowa Western Community College 54-36, Ellsworth Community College 77-56, Iowa Central Community College by forfeit, Joliet Junior College 51-7 and 41-27 and Harper College 33-9 and 35-0.

YOUTH BASKETBALL



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAULA BIENIEWICZ

Tourney champs

The Shock AAU basketball team recently won the Grosse Pointe North Tournament. Coaches Cindy Hison, far right, and Paul Bieniewicz, far left, joined team members, from left, Julia Salisbury, Tara Bieniewicz, Mackenzie Warner, Sydney Auito, Corbin Hison, Ryain Owusu, Maddie Novak, Marissa Towner and Audrey Fleming with the post-tournament celebration.

GIRLS LACROSSE

South hosts lacrosse clinic

The 2010 Grosse Pointe South girls' lacrosse team is offering a pre-season clinic from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 27, for the community. It is for girls in third through eighth grade.

The clinic is run by members of the 2010 team under the direction of varsity coach Lauren Germaine.

It will be held in the main gym and stadium field at South.

Instruction focuses on stick work, small game situations and shooting. No prior experience is necessary.

The cost of the clinic is \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Call (313) 881-2041 or e-mail jmecke@peoplepc.com to receive a registration form.

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