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Grosse Pointe News

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DEC 26 2013

DECEMBER 26, 2013
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

That's the spirit

Claire Nurse of Grosse Pointe Woods visits Santa Claus at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House last week, going over that very important list of hers. One of Claire's wishes was for a phone. That wasn't the first time Santa heard that request.

Fence takes a beating in 2013

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Once upon a time, motorists were dissuaded from routinely jumping the curb at the foot of Vernier at Lakeshore and smashing straight through the wrought iron fence into Osius Park.

"My understanding was, years ago, there was a very large arrow that you couldn't miss," said John Schulte, chief of public safety in Grosse Pointe Shores.

True, according to Brett Smith, the city's public works director.

The foot of Vernier used to be highlighted by a 4-by-4 foot yellow, double-ended arrow pointing left and right onto Lakeshore, he

said. "You could see it from Morningside (a half-mile away)," Smith said of the sign. "Wayne County took that sign down a number of years ago. That's when these problems started with this fence."

Four motorists this year jumped the curb and landed in the park. All were arrested for being drunk.

The most recent repair cost was \$2,313, according to a Dec. 2 entry in the city's check register.

Guilty drivers must compensate the city for damage to municipal property.

"I think we're getting money back for that from the person who hit pointing left and right

See FENCE, page 2A

Week ahead

23 24 25 26 27 28
 29 30 31 1 2 3 4

THURSDAY, DEC. 26

◆ City of Grosse Pointe Woods sponsors a Red Cross blood drive from 11:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. at city hall. To register, visit redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code GPCOMM. For more information, call Kathy at (313) 343-2408.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

◆ St. John Hospital and Medical Center sponsors a Red Cross blood drive from 7 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the hospital. To register, visit redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code STJOHN13. For more information, call Cindy at (313) 343-3680.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1

◆ Happy new year



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 Autos 4C
 Classified ads 7C



Year of change

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Many things changed during 2013 in the City of Grosse Pointe.

After the former Borders Books building sitting vacant three years, a buyer will renovate the property into a combination of medical offices and retail shops.

New zoning rules promote additional downtown development. The hometown hospital has expansion plans. The 9-year-old police dog died.

That and more during 2013:

January

◆ The armed hold-up of a 14-year-old girl last September didn't buck a double-digit decrease in crime, according to the public safety department annual report for 2012, released this month.

"We had a couple high-profile crimes in 2012," said Stephen Poloni, public safety director. "The perception may be among the public that crime is on the increase. However, perception is not reality in this case."

Crime reported in the city during 2012 decreased 15 percent overall, he said.

◆ A state grant and discount loan nearly make \$3.5 million worth of city-wide sewer repairs a financial wash.

The grant funds 90 percent of engineering costs, leaving the City a \$13,000 bill.



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

In April, Raleigh the police dog patrols the Village with handler, Sgt. Michael Almeranti. More year in reviews will follow in the Jan. 2 edition of the Grosse Pointe News.

A 2 percent, low-interest loan for \$3,443,800 will be paid by sewer fees.

◆ The city's 5-year financial outlook disputes the lovellorn's hope that opposites attract.

Revenues and expenses, which currently walk hand-in-hand on the general fund bar graph, are projected to go their separate ways at an increasing pace, according to City Manager Peter Dame.

The forecasted split peaks during fiscal year 2014-2015, in which expenses top revenues by nearly \$600,000, then settle back to a relatively steady estrangement of \$500,000 through 2018.

February

◆ The Downtown Development Authority's new marketing role for the Village

is intended to boost the entire central commercial district, not broker individual properties.

The DDA's expanded role assumes marketing duties of the Village Association, a volunteer organization.

Members of the 50-year-old association requested the DDA, established in 2008 to facilitate new construction projects, take over marketing.

◆ Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe faces the architectural equivalent of dental work.

It's as though a cavity is being filled and a tooth capped.

An indentation in the hospital's south facade is being enclosed with a three-story

See YEAR, page 3A

Driveway robbery in Woods

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Police continue to investigate an armed robbery that took place at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, in the driveway of a house on Bournemouth near Mack.

According to police, a 31-year-old male walked home from his job at St. John Hospital and Medical Center, stopping to check his mail. When he turned around, he was confronted by two men, one of whom held a gun to his chest.

The unknown suspects demanded his valuables. He turned over his backpack, containing his wallet with credit cards and identification, an iPad, a cellphone and a medical textbook.

The victim was ordered to go into his backyard and the suspects left. The victim stayed in the backyard for several minutes before going to a neighbor's house to call police.

Police brought in a tracking dog from St. Clair Shores, but the dog lost the scent in the middle of the street, leading police to believe the suspects left the area by car.

Details are scarce. The suspects are described as two black males, dressed in black hoodies. One of the hoodies may have had red lettering on the front.

According to Woods public safety director Andrew Pazuchowski, there has been no activity with the victim's credit cards, making it difficult for police to track suspects.

"Usually by now credit cards would have been used, which would have given us clue as to where the suspects were headed, but so far there has been no activity," he said. "We have not been able to track his phone, either."

Anyone with information is asked to call Woods police, (313) 343-2400.

PHONE: (313) 882-6900 ◆ FAX: (313) 882-1585 ◆ MAIL: 21316 Mack, GPW ◆ ON THE WEB: grossepointenews.com ◆ E-MAIL: editor@grossepointenews.com

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New business in Village

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — It's something to make Popeye's heart flutter:

An olive oil store is opening in the Village. A-gah-gah-gah-gah.

Giuseppe's International Oils and Vinegar sells extra virgin olive oil, balsamic vinegar, related products and accessories, according to documents the City of Grosse Pointe council used Monday, Dec. 16, to approve the store's site plan.

"(The company) mixes them on site and sell them," said John Jackson, executive vice president of McKenna Associates, the city's planning consultant and a resident of the city.

Giuseppe's is moving into a roughly 1,000-square-foot former law office above Bayne Optical on Kercheval Place, a one-way accessory behind stores on Kercheval

between Notre Dame and Cadieux.

"It's wonderful that we have a retail tenant who wants to move there," said Mayor Dale Scrae.

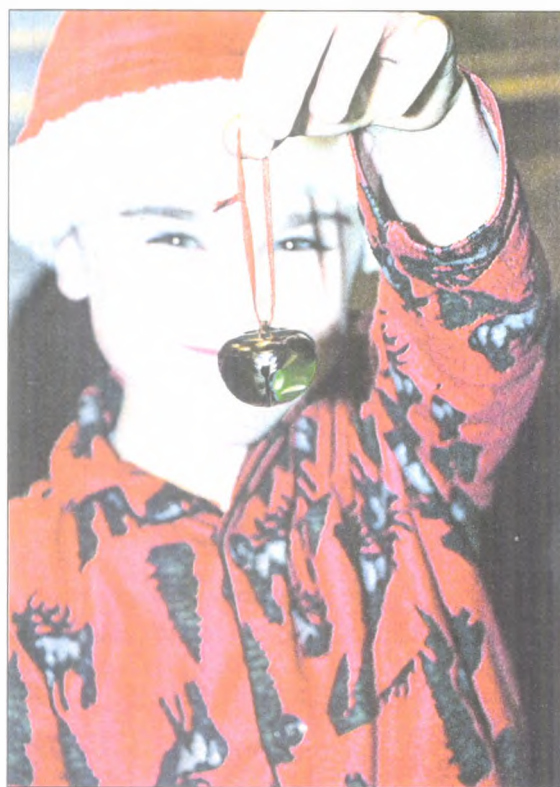
"The proposed use will be compatible with surrounding retail and will add vibrancy to Kercheval Place," he said.

Entrance to the business is off of Kercheval Place.

"It is not anticipated that the proposed use will generate a greater parking demand than what is currently provided," Jackson said.

Giuseppe's owner isn't planning to change to the building's facade or increase exterior lighting, according to Jackson.

"We recommend any new signage is reviewed and approved administratively, provided that it is in compliance with (municipal) standards and design guidelines," he said.



All aboard!

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Liam Maher said he can hear the bell associated with the story "The Polar Express." Maher joined other Grosse Pointe Woods residents as they traveled the city streets to view holiday lights decorating houses. The short trip concluded with a stop at the North Pole and a visit with Santa Claus.

Entries needed

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for Pointer of Distinction Awards to be presented at the chamber annual membership dinner, Jan. 30, at the Country Club of Detroit.

Pointer of Distinction Categories are: youth achievement, community service, excellence in business and new business Enterprise.

The youth nominee should excel academically, be involved in extra curricular activities, be enrolled in a Grosse Pointe high school and must be involved in one foundation or charitable activity.

The community service nominee must be a Grosse Pointe resident who has made a significant positive impact on the Grosse Pointe community through his/her achievements over an extended period of time and has enhanced the quality of life for the residents of Grosse Pointe.

A nominee for excellence in business must live or work in Grosse Pointe and be a chamber member in good standing. This person must show an outstanding performance and success in his/her industry. In addition to holding a leadership role in his/her company, the honoree must be an active participant in service organizations promoting growth and development for Grosse Pointe residents and businesses.

In the new business enterprise, category, the nominee must live or work in Grosse Pointe and be a Chamber member in good standing. The nominee must have launched a successful business in the last five years and have a solid business plan in place.

Call the chamber office at (313) 881-4722 or e-mail info@grossepointechamber.com for an application. Nomination forms will be accepted until Jan. 8.

City's rating is top notch

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — City Manager Peter Dame is ending the year with thoughts of financial forecasts dancing in his head.

"I am pleased by the recent presentation of the city's auditing group, Plante Moran, at which they applauded the city's long-range financial forecasting and steps it has taken to address legacy retiree costs in the face of property tax reductions," Dame said.

Recent editions of his annual five-year financial outlook for the City of Grosse Pointe stressed the

diverging paths of declining property tax revenues and increased costs.

"Plante Moran pointed out that it will take more than a decade to recover to the revenue levels from five years ago under Michigan's limited options for financing local government operations," Dame said. "Recognizing that those levels are not coming back anytime soon, the city's elected officials had the foresight and will to reduce expenditures to maintain a solid financial footing."

Credit analysts from Standard & Poor's cited the quality of city management among reasons the community's bonds deserve a

AA+ rating.

"Strengths include multiyear financial projections and quarterly budget and investment monitoring, with additional flexibility to amend the budget over the course of the fiscal year," according to a rating report in May 2012.

Although the report is 1 1/2 years old, its findings haven't changed, thus affirming the analysts' expectation at the time to maintain the bond rating for at least two years, if not longer.

"I am pleased we have the confidence of the rating agency, which upheld the very high rating the city established long ago in better economic times," Dame said.

Help available for moving house

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

All the Cadieux farmhouse wants for Christmas is a new owner.

Ever since the Grosse Pointe Park city council turned down a request from a homeowner on Harvard to move the historic house to his property, Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe has been searching for a new location for the small frame house.

According to Rick Swaine, Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe's president, a new owner needs to be found before

April.

"We expect to begin construction on our new parking deck in April," he said, "so we will need to have it moved by then."

The gray frame house is located at the corner of Jefferson and Notre Dame in the City of Grosse Pointe. Built in the 1850s, it is believed to be one of the last original farmhouses still standing in Grosse Pointe.

The hospital has offered to underwrite the moving costs, estimated at more than \$50,000, if the house could be relocated.

Grosse Pointe Park resident Stephen Thiel and his wife, Lisa, approached Beaumont about moving the house to the property they own at the corner of Jefferson and Harvard in Grosse Pointe Park, but in September their site plan was denied by the Park city council.

Since then, sites as close as Grosse Pointe Woods and as far away as Monroe and northern Michigan have been considered.

The problem, according to Swaine, is the house movers Beaumont has been consulting with recommend the house be moved no more than six

or seven miles from its current site.

"Moving a house of that age is extremely difficult," he said, not to mention extremely expensive.

Swaine acknowledged the process of giving the house away has taken much longer than anyone expected, but is confident a new owner will be found.

And while Swaine is uncertain of where the house will finally end up, he is adamant the house will be moved.

"We will not tear the house down," he said. "I made that promise and I'll stick to it."

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Park honors

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission presented its annual awards in residential and business categories.

A single business, William J's Hair Harbor, was honored for its facade restoration. The award was presented to William Musial.

In five areas, 26 resi-

dential properties were recognized for front yard gardening designs.

The residential winners included

Charles D. Tyrer, Diane and Christopher Huchingson, Inga and James Sabourin, Keith D. Smith, Richard Jacob, Sandra and Gerald McCarroll, Johnny and Violet Kircos, Gerard

Martin and Cathy Norby, Lance and Joanne Murphy, Dennis and Nancy Anderson, Brian and Lisa MacLean and Robert and Jamie Baker in the Park's southern end.

In the more northern part of the Park, the awards were given to Edie O'Byrne, Gilbert and Charlotte Demers, Paul J. Chuba, Russell and Linda Mlynarek, Jeff and Jennifer Mertz, James Matlock, Frederick

and Joan Curto, Todd and Tami Riley, Janet and Larry Peplin, Bill and Mary Jo O'Loughlin, Robert Burns, Jamie, Jan and Justin Graves, Steven Young and Meaghan Brown and Dave and Judy Brophy.

FENCE:

Continued from page 1A

it," said Mark Wollenweber, city manager.

One driver hit the fence before it was fully fixed from an earlier crash.

"We still have to collect from them," Wollenweber said.

"Thus far, we've collected almost \$10,000 on fencing," said John Schulte, chief of public safety. "I spend a lot of time invoicing for that. We're keeping (the fence repair) guy in business."

"We should get frequent driver miles," said Mayor Ted Kedzierski.

The city's engineering consultants are reviewing the intersection, Smith said.

"Hopefully, the engineering people will come up with an alternative to detour people from entering the park without their park pass."

Smith also announced that the city qualified for a federal grant to improve traffic signals at the intersection.

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Comedy show Dec. 28

The Grosse Pointe Comedy Club presents three comedians for a night of laughter at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

The show is 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, and features Grosse Pointe native and Detroit Second City alumni Dave Landau. Landau has been featured on two seasons of NBC's "Last Comic Standing" and is a regular on the nationally-syndicated "Bob & Tom" radio show.

Weatherup, also a Grosse Pointe native, and Michael Issac join Landau for the event at the War Memorial's theatre.

Weatherup emerged from the Chicago comedy scene and Issac earned his television debut on "Nickelodeon's Nickmom Night Out."

Costa Papista, a Farms resident and the show's promoter, said comedy fans can see three talented acts close to home.

"The War Memorial is

a perfect venue to see these three very funny acts," Papista said. "I hope this is the first of several comedy events at the War Memorial."

Partial proceeds from the comedy night will go to the Grosse Pointe Old Devils Hockey Charity.

Landau is one of the most in-demand headliners in the comic world. He's appeared on Comedy Central's "Live at Gotham" and was honored as one of the top 21 club comics of

today at HBO's Las Vegas Comedy Festival.

Weatherup opened for Dave Coulier, Jamie Kennedy and the Clean Guys of Comedy. He also competed in the World Series of Comedy in Las Vegas.

Issac is from the south side of Chicago. He's also an actor and has been featured on national commercials for Wal-Mart and Velveeta.

Papista said the show is for adults and the audience will see some



Landau



Weatherup

of the best comedians who enteratin all over the world.

Tickets for the show are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Tickets may be pur-

chased at startickets.com or at Marge's Bar & Grill in Grosse Pointe Park. The Grosse Pointe War Memorial is located at 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Headlines during 2013 datelined City of Grosse Pointe:

Jan. 10: Budget matters rule | Jan. 31: One of state's safest; The nose knows; Repairs a good deal; Manager says major changes need to continue; Legacy costs hit cities hard; Shores seeks a new slogan | Feb. 14: Village Association will work with DDA; Beaumont expands within current footprint | Feb. 28: Lee is officer of the year; Low water forces dredging at City marina; Dispatch could go to Park | March 7: Joint venture will take time; Parking deal may come to Village; Merger would benefit both communities; CDBG amounts announced | March 21: Director offers revisions | March 28: Convenience comes with cost; Study will wait for vacancies to fill | April 18: City to flush water mains; Sign up for spring tennis lessons | April 25: Recovery in the Pointes; Signs of activity; Deals imminent; French restaurant opening this summer; Business is their game; Quality moves up | May 2: Tricks of the retail trade; Extreme sign approved; Cooking up creativity; Aging system on tap for two years of upgrade work; Correction | May 9: Anchors support district; Hill history reopens; Strengths still here in Pointes | May 16: St. John denied; Higher values help budget | May 23: Budget gets green light; Cameras will project public, officers; Neff Park ready for summer; Salon Biondo sign unanimously approved | May 30: Bonds may fund roadwork; Correction | June 6: City plans summer lot work; Village will get a creative nudge; Park starts busy season | June 13: Foundation fest June 27; Preview of GPC Foundation party at Neff Park; Review of bank value under way | June 20: Advisor opposes St. John proposal; Luau on the Lake June 27; Cities agree to move on grant | June 27: Terms change for benefits; Rates set by footage; City hopes to lure business; Lot work will finish by fall; Protect, serve and congratulations; Budget adjustments | July 18: Portable printing studio; Central business zoning district amended | July 25: Taurus cruisers replace Crown Vics; Bonds, sewer bonds; Trash project won't stink; Chief gets 3-year extension in City | Aug. 1: New carts on the way | Aug. 8: Contracts go for sewer work | Sept. 5: Revised Borders plan to council; New schedule set | Sept. 12: Zoning tweak paves way; Report good, critical of district; Village consultant offers strong ideas | Sept. 19: St. John Plan approved | Sept. 26: Mayor: 'I want to merge the cities'; Surplus a misnomer; Half size, half price | Oct. 3: Fall into autumn park events; Work gains approval | Oct. 10: Businesses receive OK for changes; Adams part of Special Olympic torch run | Oct. 17: Appraiser will hear disputes; City announces winners | Oct. 24: Shots fired after robbery; Beaumont expands footprint; Camera updates; Sidewalk improvements set | Oct. 31: Halloween parade set; Friends to host annual party | Nov. 7: 911 switch works; Incumbents in; System works for fire; New Standards; Witnesses capture, hit thief; Tricky for treating; Seeks a second | Nov. 14: Deal for shoppers; Gun, cigarettes stolen | Nov. 21: City tree lighting Nov. 22; Panhandling ruled a protected free speech; K-9 Raleigh was a friend of the community; Benefits change; Foundation swings donation for Neff Park; Courts made orderly | Nov. 28: Light up the night | 12.5: Rainy day stable | 12.12: Editor's note | 12.19: Mighty fire fighter; Cities to help fund new K-9 |

—Brad Lindberg

YEAR:

Continued from page 1A

addition. Also, the front entrance lobby is being expanded and outfitted with a 16-foot diameter wheelchair accessible revolving door.

Consolidation of public safety dispatch operations with Grosse Pointe Park, and thereafter the public safety department itself, are big-ticket solutions being considered as ways of countering a structural municipal deficit that has defied four years of cost cutting.

"We're faced with staggering legacy costs," said Councilman Andrew Turnbull.

Consolidating dispatch saves the city an estimated \$100,000 per year, said Peter Dame, city manager.

Consolidating the public safety department with the Park could save an estimated \$200,000 to \$600,000 per year, he added.

Low water levels in Lake St. Clair will be countered by dredging a 400-foot section of the navigation channel to the municipal marina at Neff Park.

March

Free one-hour parking may become a drawing card of Village shopping.

"It's a great way to market our Village," said Peter Dame, city manager.

The council authorizes Dame to spend up to \$10,000 for a consultant to determine if the municipal parking system can support one hour of free parking in off-street, city-owned gated lots.

The public safety dispatch center closes Sept. 1, according to a three-year agreement by a united city council to contract dispatch operations to Grosse Pointe Park.

All telephone calls to City public safety headquarters, emergency and otherwise, will be routed through the Park dispatch center.

The deal saves the City up to \$100,000 per year, according to City representatives.

A cashless parking meter option, Parkmobile, is being installed throughout the city.

Parkmobile wins a city contract to tag parking meters for wireless payments.

April

A major player in the metro healthcare scene has dibbs on the former Borders Books building in the Village.

"St. John (Providence Health System) has taken an option to purchase the building with the intent of developing it for offices and other commercial uses," said Jim Bellanca Jr., representing the vacant building's owner.

Internationally-known urban retail planning consultant Robert Gibbs likes what he sees in the Village central shopping district.

"Most downtowns today just sell things we don't need," Gibbs tells an audience at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. "You're an exception to that."

Gibbs, of Birmingham, speaks at the invitation of the Voice of the Village, a newly-formed group of downtown City of Grosse Pointe property owners and managers.

May

A divided city council denies a key element of St. John Providence Health System's \$5.4 million proposal to establish medical offices in the former Borders Books building in the Village.

Most council members oppose St. John's plan because it reserves 1/3 less space fronting Kercheval for retail usage than required by zoning ordinances.

Increased property values coupled with cost savings result in a proposed balanced municipal budget for next fiscal year, 2013-14, beginning July 1.

The turnaround in property values generates \$76,361 additional property tax revenue without raising the tax rate.

"We're not allowed to raise taxes," said Peter Dame, city manager. "We're at the Headlee limit."

The latest thing in public safety fashion is a body camera.

The public safety department is purchasing six cameras with the aid of a grant.

"Cameras would be worn by officers and record incidents that are outside the view of in-car cameras, thus reducing liability as well as providing evidence in prosecutions," said Stephen Poloni, public safety director.

June

The Downtown Development Authority hires a public relations consultant to promote the Village.

"Those blocks of Kercheval could use a little energy and a little verve, esthetically," said consultant Edward Nakfoor, of Birmingham.

An independent appraiser is retained regarding the disputed value of a bank building in the Village.

At issue is Flagstar Bank's petition to the Michigan Tax Tribunal to reduce the value of its two-story office on Kercheval from \$2,326,000 to \$500,000.

Council members seek a \$209,000 state grant to cover one-time start-up costs of melding police and fire services with Grosse Pointe Park.

If the cities don't consolidate departments, they don't get the grant.

July

Amended zoning regulations of the central business district are approved minus a provision that requires property owners to divulge the name of retail tenants upon seeking a special use variance from rules requiring the front 60 percent of first-floor space to be dedicated to retail usage.

Reconstruction of municipal parking Lot 2, in the Village, begins.

Upon completion this fall, a gated system replaces the lot's parking meters.

A commercial trash compactor to be located in the Village has an odor shield to satisfy the snootiest of schozzes.

Every time it compacts, it sprays an odor neutralizer into the mix.

The compactor becomes operational when construction of municipal parking Lot 2 concludes after Labor Day.

Land off St. Clair south of Kercheval in the Village, for which Sunrise Assisted Living canceled plans to construct residences for senior citizens, is rezoned as a transition district intended for such things as a hotel.

Public service employees agree to cancel their open-ended retirement healthcare benefits.

Terms apply to current employees, except those within two years of retirement.

August

Another batch of 64-gallon, wheeled recycling carts is ordered for sale to residents for \$61 each.

September

A zoning tweak reduces the mandated percentage of ground-floor retail space facing Kercheval in the Village's largest properties from 60 to 45 percent.

The change coincides with St. John Providence Health System's revised proposal to renovate the vacant Borders Books building into medical offices with the front 45 percent set aside for retail.

The Downtown Development Authority's public relations consultant opposes transforming the Borders Books building, vacant three years, into medical offices.

The consultant wants the property's owner and city to hold out for a large retail tenant or an owner willing to expand the property into mixed, retail and residential purposes.

A majority of council members approve new plans by St. John Providence Health System to buy the Borders Books building.

The 18,366-square-foot property's rear 55 percent will become medical offices.

The front 45 percent is reserved for up to three retail tenants.

Renovations are expected to start in 90 days and take about six months.

October

Registration begins for seasonal memberships in the municipal platform tennis program.

"Platform tennis becomes more popular every year," said Christopher Hardenbrook, City director of parks and recreation.

Police trace alleged shoplifters of a store in the Village to eastside Detroit.

During the arrest, a City officer shoots at the car of a suspect, accused of trying to run over the officer.

There are no injuries.

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe receives municipal permission to expand onto the entire city block bordered by Cadieux, Jefferson, Notre Dame and St. Paul.

Construction will

include a semi-underground parking deck along Notre Dame, a two-story outpatient services building off Cadieux and, possibly, a four-story inpatient building in the center of campus.

November

Combined dispatch begins.

Emergency 911 calls to the public safety department are routed automatically to the combined dispatch center in Grosse Pointe Park.

No surprises in the municipal election.

Incumbent Mayor Dale Scrace and council members Chris Walsh, Christopher Boettcher and Jean Weipert win against no opposition.

Raleigh the police dog, 9, is euthanized a few days after being diagnosed with cancer.

Members of the Grosse Pointe Foundation donate a new playscape to Neff Park.

The foundation is paying for the equipment and installation, which totals about \$50,000, according to Peter Dame, city manager.

December

The little fire engine that can enters service next summer.

Classified as a mini-pumper, the truck matches the Class A insurance-rating standards of the full-sized, 34-year-old fire truck it is replacing, according to Stephen Poloni, City of Grosse Pointe public safety director.

Municipal leaders adopt a pack mentality to fund a replacement for Raleigh, the public safety K-9 that died last month due to illness.

The cost needs to be fairly allocated among the communities that are using the resource," said City of Grosse Pointe Councilwoman Jean Weipert.

City Manager Peter Dame ends the year with thoughts of the city's AA+ bond rating dancing in his head.

"I am pleased we have the confidence of the rating agency, which upheld the very high rating the city established long ago in better economic times," Dame said.

Color Classic Collection

DAVID YURMAN

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City of Grosse Pointe

Nothing stirring

Nothing new in the crime blotter since last week's Grosse Pointe News deadline.

—Brad Lindberg
Report information about these or other crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Department at (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

1 stop, 2 arrests

A 33-year-old man from Detroit, driving a black Ford Crown Victoria outfitted with a license plate for an Oldsmobile, was arrested during a traffic stop at 10:41 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, on Mack near Canyon.

He also violated two driver's license suspen-

Public Safety Reports

sions and was wanted on a pair of unspecified outstanding warrants from Warren, police said.

Officers arrested a 27-year-old female passenger on two unspecified warrants from her hometown of Warren.

Detected

Between 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, an unknown thief smashed the driver-side window of a black Dodge Ram parked in the 300 block of Kercheval and stole a \$300 Escort radar detector off of the center console.

No lights

A 33-year-old Oak Park man entered "super drunk" territory upon

registering a .288 percent blood alcohol level during a drunken driving investigation at 1:46 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, on westbound Mack near Radnor, in Detroit across from Lincoln.

The level is 3.6 times the state maximum to legally operate a motor vehicle.

A short while later at headquarters, another test recorded his blood alcohol level at .35 percent, which is 4.35 times beyond legal limit.

Officers took him to a hospital. He reportedly became "irate and had to be subdued by police, security and staff."

The arrest developed from a traffic stop. A patrolman pulled him over for operating a gray 2004 Isuzu Axiom with-

out lights at speeds up to 50 mph on westbound Mack near east Warren.

The Axiom had "extensive damage," said the arresting officer.

In an effort to determine where the man may have crashed into something, the officer asked where he was coming from.

"What does it matter?" he reportedly answered.

Car theft

A black 1999 Jeep Cherokee was stolen while parked from 1:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, in the 400 block of Touraine.

The Jeep's operator, a 19-year-old Farms woman, was working at a store on Mack.

The Jeep has a pink hummingbird sticker in

the rear window and the name, "Modest Mouse," an American indie rock band.

Attempted theft

Someone tried to steal a red 2002 Dodge Durango parked from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, on the southbound side of the 400 block of Moran.

The vehicle belongs to a St. Clair Shores woman working at a house on the block.

"Near 6:30 p.m., she heard something outside, but believed it to be the homeowner arriving," said an officer.

An officer drove her to a relative's house in Grosse Pointe Shores.

Police think the failed theft was committed by the unknown thief of a Jeep Cherokee that same day in the 300 block of McKinley.

—Brad Lindberg
Report information about these or other crimes to the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department at (313) 885-2100.

grabbed her purse, causing her to fall and break her hip.

While Woods police had identified the suspect, they had not been able to locate him until they were notified of his arrest by Detroit police.

—Kathy Ryan

Grosse Pointe Park

Delivery hijacked

A package left by the mail carrier on Monday, Dec. 16 on a porch in the 1400 block of Bedford was taken by an unknown suspect.

Catalytic converter theft

A surveillance camera caught a couple stealing a catalytic converter at 2:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 from a Chevy van parked on Mack. The tape shows a woman holding up a tarp as her male accomplice slid under the car and removed the converter. The male suspect also grabbed a snow shovel from a business on Mack before the couple fled north in a dark colored PT Cruiser.

Grosse Pointe Shores

No reports
Clean blotter.

—Brad Lindberg
Report information about these or other crimes to the Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety Department at (313) 881-5500.

Theft from autos

Cars parked on Maryland overnight Tuesday, Dec. 17 were entered and several small items were taken, including change and a pack of cigarettes. Police remind residents to lock their cars.

—Kathy Ryan

Grosse Pointe Woods

Suspect in custody

Grosse Pointe Woods police are waiting for charges to be filed by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office against a suspect in a purse snatching that occurred in the CVS parking lot at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26. According to Public Safety Director Andrew Pazuchowski, the suspect, who has not been named pending arraignment, was arrested by Detroit police following a similar incident in downtown Detroit.

Woods police had identified the suspect after surveillance video was released of him exiting the store shortly after the victim, an 83-year-old St. Clair Shores woman. The victim was placing items in the trunk of her car when the suspect, driving a red pick up truck, drove up and reached out through the window and

Report information on these or other crimes to Grosse Pointe Park police, (313) 822-7400.

Wedding toll bells ringing

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The prospect of love birds flying their separate ways has nothing to do with the city's new \$20 wedding fee being nonrefundable.

Nor does buyer's remorse bear on the fee being collected at the time of the ceremony.

Members of the Grosse Pointe Shores city council are required by state law to set a fee for the mayor to conduct a marriage ceremony.

"I've had the honor of officiating at two weddings so far, one at the office and one at city hall," said Mayor Ted Kedzierski.

The fee, collected by Kedzierski at the time of the marriage, is deposited in the city's general fund.

The mayor of a Michigan city is authorized to conduct a marriage ceremony in the county the community is located.

"Grosse Pointe Shores is located in two counties (Wayne and Macomb)," Kedzierski said. "That allows the mayor to officiate over a wedding in those counties."

Fees vary by city, from no cost to at least \$135, according to research obtained from nearly 20 cities by City Manager Mark Wollenweber.

"Some (cities) differentiate between residents and non-residents, whether the wedding's at city hall or not," Kedzierski said.

The Shores fee is a flat rate, no matter where the bride and groom live.



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GUEST OPINION By Greg Zyla

The saga of young Joe

With more drivers on the road this 2013 holiday season than ever, it's time for my yearly column on the dangers of drinking and driving and/or using a cell phone while behind the wheel. This is the story of young Joe, a fun loving 21-year-old who is full of life, has lots of friends and is a good person. He drives a 1969 Mustang Boss 302.

Joe could be your friend, son, parent or husband. He's having a great time at a holiday party, joining in on all the fun. He's overdone the eating and drinking, something many of us do each year.

Now it's 1 a.m., and time to head home, which is just six miles away. Joe knows he's had one too many of the alcoholic drinks, but doesn't feel it will impair his driving abilities.

Joe isn't aware on this night, he'll become one of the 32,000-plus drivers who died in car accidents in 2013.

Even though these numbers are the lowest since 1949, he'll add to the statistic that involves alcohol related deaths and also join a new measure of fatalities related to distracted driving — cell phone, texting, etc. Further, his death will be recorded in the 25 percent statistic group of impaired driving fatalities occurring between midnight and 3 a.m.

Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on America's roadways. A new statistic, cell phone/texting, causes around 20 percent of all accidents reported, not just the fatal ones.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration unveiled its new "distraction-affected crashes" data recently and it's not good.

Fatalities in distraction-affected crashes increased by more than 2 percent, with 3,267 fatalities in 2010 to 3,331 fatalities in 2011 to approximately 3,600 in 2012. NHTSA believes the actual number of distracted crashes is much higher.

Distraction.gov is a resource for learning more about distracted driving. Get the facts, get involved and help keep roadways safe.

Michigan law bans texting while driving. And Kelsey's Law bans cell phone use for Graduated Driver Licensing 1, for supervised learners; and 2, for intermediate drivers. NHTSA's alcohol-impaired driving fatalities statistics for Michigan is 259 in 2012.

Back to Joe.

Joe is not aware he is speeding at 65 mph and approaching a curve in the highway. His reactions, meanwhile, have been slowed by the alcohol drinks. Additionally, his cell phone rings and he's distracted as he tries to answer it.

Joe "misses the curve," and to make matters worse, he forgot to buckle his seat belt. Before Joe even knows what is happening, his car is off the road and headed directly toward a tree. His Mustang doesn't have air bags.

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

At 1/10th of a second, his Mustang's front bumper and grillwork collapse. At 2/10ths of a second, the hood crumbles, rises, and smashes into the windshield. The grillwork now disintegrates. At 3/10ths of a second Joe is sprung upright from his seat. At 4/10ths of a second, the front of the car is completely destroyed and is now dead still. However, the rear end of the car is still traveling at 55 mph, and the 700-pound engine and accessories are crunched into the tree. At 5/10ths of a second, the chassis bends in the middle, and Joe's head is slammed into the windshield. The car's rear-end begins its downward fall as its spinning wheels churn into the ground. At 6/10ths of a second, the entire body of the car is twisted out of shape. The front seat continues to ram forward. At 7/10ths of a second, Joe's chest is pinned against the steering wheel shaft. At 8/10ths of a second, Joe is dead. He's now a statistic.

Adult drivers also become statistics from mistakes behind the wheel. Of these accidents, many are alcohol, distracted or a combination of both, like the late Joe.

Plan your travel carefully this holiday season, and never be in a hurry. If the roads turn nasty, pull off safely at a roadside rest or stop and have a coffee at a restaurant. And forget using your cell phone while driving.

Finally, if you must stop to rest, never pull off and park on the side of a road — it's dangerous sitting there as the percentage of being struck by an oncoming vehicle rises greatly.

More deaths per mile traveled will occur during holiday season.

Have a safe and happy New Year's Eve.

Zyla is a syndicated auto motive columnist.

KEN SCHOP



LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced and signed. 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.

Informed answers

To the Editor:

I was surprised and disappointed to see the Grosse Pointe News ran yet another letter in the Dec. 19 issue about the technology bond from the Majewskis, "Technology bond proposal on website."

The letter was written after Dr. Harwood's clear and concise letter, "Development," printed in the Dec. 5 Grosse Pointe News, in which he answered many of the questions the Majewskis previously asked in their letter, "School board technology bond," printed Nov. 28, and directed them to where they can find out more.

It seems as though these repeat questions, rather than honest queries, are merely a tactic to create the impression the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education has not done their homework — that the bond proposal is not well thought out in every way.

As a concerned citizen who has been paying close attention to what has been going on with this issue over the past several months, I resent that.

Obviously, the vast amount of detail that went into developing this bond proposal is hard for the average person to absorb.

It's understandable people, like myself, will have questions about this

\$50 million bond proposal.

But when I discovered the answers to my concerns on either the Grosse Pointe Public School System website or by attending or replaying the board meetings online, I felt confident knowing this bond is not only absolutely necessary, but also the most appropriate and responsible for our specific needs in Grosse Pointe.

People who are just hearing about this issue might think, "Wait. Not so fast." But the board has been researching, analyzing and vetting all of this information for almost a year. And all evidence points to one conclusion: We need to act now.

When you have cancer and the University of Michigan Health System, Cleveland Clinic and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center give you the same diagnosis and treatment protocol, you don't wait around wondering if the Mayo Clinic might come to a different conclusion. You act.

We're in the same boat.

Many, many other districts are passing us by in technology and already reaping the rewards.

We've squeezed every penny we can out of our current technology. It's time.

The independent analysts and experts have all spoken: We need this bond to pass, so our schools, and our community, can move into the

21st century and remain competitive, healthy and vibrant today and in the future.

If you have questions or want more information, there are several ways to find answers. Go to the Grosse Pointe schools website first to catch up on the issue. Then visit gptechnology.org to find helpful articles and research as well as ask any question about the bond or how we came to this point.

I or other concerned citizens will get the answers to you promptly so you can be as informed as possible.

Lastly, the district has just confirmed informational sessions will be held Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library - Woods Branch at 1 p.m. and the Ewald Branch at 5 p.m.

The answers are available. You just have to be willing to hear them.

LAURA GUSHEE
MONAHAN
Grosse Pointe Farms

Musical program

To the Editor:

To understand and appreciate why the arts and music are important and critical to the fabric of a school and the community, look no further to a recent event at Grosse Pointe South High School.

On two successive nights, talented musicians from eight of the schools in the southern district participated one night in a band-o-rama followed the next night by a String Extravaganza.

Both nights brought out a jammed-packed crowd. They witnessed some magnificent, majestic music by hundreds of students, starting with the fifth-grade bands combined through the middle and high school bands including the Grosse Pointe South High School Marching Band.

It was a night of classic

melodies which included Christmas tunes. The audience experienced music that made us feel we "were happy tonight walking in a winter wonderland."

The final presentation of "Bugler's Holiday" at the band-o-rama elicited loud and prolonged applause from the appreciative crowd.

It's no secret schools in our country are under pressure to operate with less funding. Many have made cutbacks in several of their educational programs.

There is one program that should remain untouched and one that should continue to receive school board and community support — the music program.

To witness the dedication and enthusiasm of the students is priceless. And as such, strategies should be established so the musical programs never fall victim to cutbacks.

Studies have shown music students have a much lower high school dropout rate. And researchers find sustained learning in music correlates strongly with higher achievement in both math and reading.

Through June 2014, the musicians in the southern district of Grosse Pointe will be participating in numerous programs. Get yourself a schedule and then witness firsthand some of the most talented musicians in the area.

And while you are there, thank the teachers for their dedication in introducing their students to a segment of our culture that will have a lasting positive impact on their lives.

This will be a "feel good" experience for you but, refreshingly, it may take days before your toes quit tapping from the music.

BILL KALMAR
Lake Orion

GUEST OPINION By Matthew R. Rumora

Expunging juvenile crimes

Legally speaking, a new law went into effect at the end of 2012 that allows for expungement of offenses committed by juveniles.

A juvenile is a person who has not attained the age of 17 when the crime or crimes were committed. The law provides that a person who has been adjudicated of not more than one juvenile offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult; and not more than three juvenile offenses, can file a motion to set aside the adjudications.

This law allows expungement where the person has one felony adjudication and two misdemeanor adjudications and also when the person has no felony adjudications but has three juvenile adjudications.

Multiple adjudications arising out of a series of acts committed within 12 hours or less that had a single intent or goal, constitutes one offense — as long as none of adjudications were assaultive crimes, an offense involving the use or possession of a weapon or an offense with a maximum penalty

of 10 or more years in prison.

Expungement is not allowed for crimes if committed by an adult, carry life imprisonment, traffic offenses, or serious offenses where the juvenile is tried as an adult when requested by the prosecution and approved by the judge.

An application can be filed one year after disposition for the crime, one year after completion of any term of detention, or when the person turns 18 years old — whichever occurs later.

However, expungement

is not automatic. The judge must make a determination that the circumstances and behavior of the person from the date of adjudication to the filing of the application warrant and set aside the adjudication of the offenses.

The judge must also find that setting aside the juvenile adjudications is consistent with the public welfare.

Rumora is the municipal judge for Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Shores and an attorney in private practice.

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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.

Elizabeth Dwaihy-Barr

Elizabeth Dwaihy-Barr passed away peacefully Monday, Dec. 16, 2013.

She was born March 29, 1944, in Detroit, to Dr. Paul and Rachel Dwaihy. An accomplished dancer, writer and teacher, she began teaching ballet at 16, produced lavish yearly recitals in Detroit and Grosse Pointe, developed a program of exercises designed to prepare women for childbirth, and performed with Dance Nonce.

Ms. Dwaihy-Barr earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Detroit and began a journalism career reporting on numerous topics from education to crime, for The Macomb Daily and

Utica Daily Sentinel. Midlife, she dedicated herself to teaching English as a second language, often serving as an advocate for her students. She collaborated with her husband, David Barr, on art and book projects. Together, they traveled the world to install his sculptures, often blessed by a ceremony choreographed and danced by Ms. Dwaihy-Barr. Her love of Italian language and culture grew from their regular trips to Tuscany.

A master knitter, she designed and hand-crafted garments for family and friends, including baptismal outfits, which became family heirlooms. Her family said her generous spirit will live on in all who knew and were inspired by her.

Ms. Dwaihy-Barr is survived by her husband, David, his daughters, Heather Adamczyk (Mark) and Gillian Copeland (Charles) and five grandchildren; her mother, Rachel Dwaihy; her siblings, Paula Edgar (James), Anne Abowd (Dr. Thomas), Margaret Pryor, John (Karen), Norman (Madeleine), Rachelle (Steven Morris), Marian (Thomas Briske), Jane (Ronald Omilian), and George (Carolyn); and 42 unique nieces and nephews. The family is forever grateful to niece, Dr. Renee Dwaihy-Logan, who oversaw Ms. Dwaihy-Barr's care throughout her long illness.

A memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, at St. Maron Church, 11466



Elizabeth Dwaihy-Barr

Kercheval Ave., Detroit. A condolence hour begins at 10 a.m. at the church.

The family requests no floral arrangements be sent.

Sarah Moore Marantette

Former Grosse Pointe resident Sarah Moore Marantette, 40, died Thursday, Dec. 19, 2013, in San Francisco.

Known as Gucci to family and friends, Ms. Marantette was born in Detroit and graduated in 1996 from the University of Michigan. She was a property manager with Cushman Wakefield in San Francisco.

Ms. Marantette enjoyed hula hooping, reading, and being outside, especially spending time in Golden Gate Park. She loved being with her friends and the company of her cat, Gus.

Ms. Marantette is survived by her father, David T. Marantette III; mother, Nancy Newell Baity (Michael); sisters, Katie Hall (Dan), Lauren Wasson (Paul) and Julie Kinnaird (Ed) and brother, David Marantette (Kaye).

A funeral service will be held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29, at James Lutheran Church Academy of the Sacred



Sarah Moore Marantette

Heart, 1250 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills.

Donations may be made to California Transplant Donor Network, 1000 Broadway, Suite 600, Oakland, CA 94607 or at ctdn.org or to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 201 Alabama St., San Francisco, CA 94103 or at sfspca.org.

Richard E. Moellering

Grosse Pointe Park resident Richard E. Moellering, 84, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2013.

He was born in Fort Wayne, Ind., to Edwin and Irene Moellering and graduated from Miami University in 1951. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War as a corporal in the counter intelligence corps.

In 1954, he earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Michigan and began a career at National Bank of Detroit. He retired in 1992 as a vice president from NBD after 38 years of service.

Mr. Moellering was a longtime member of St. James Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms



Richard E. Moellering

and a founding member and former president of the Munderloh Foundation, an organization providing financial assistance for Lutheran seminary students.

In his leisure, Mr. Moellering enjoyed annual summer family vacations in northern Michigan, playing the piano, walking Zoe, the family dog, golfing and playing platform tennis at the Lochmoor Club. He also enjoyed his post-retirement years volunteering at Bon Secours Hospital.

Mr. Moellering is survived by his wife, Emily H. Moellering; sons, Richard W. Moellering and Thomas E. Moellering (Dolly); daughter, Anne E. MacKenzie (Dean); grandchildren, Zachary and Megan MacKenzie and Ruby and Jack Moellering; sister, Martha Howard and brother, Victor Moellering.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, at St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillan Road, Grosse Pointe Farms.

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

New mayor pro tem

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Councilman Bruce Bisballe, winner of most votes in the Nov. 5 municipal election, becomes mayor pro tem in the updated administration of Mayor Ted Kedzierski.

"Even though not required under the city charter, our practice has been to select the highest vote-getter for mayor pro tem," Kedzierski said.

The council unanimously approved Bisballe's expanded role during the Nov. 15 council meeting.

Councilwoman Kay Felt had been standing in as mayor pro tem since Kedzierski removed Councilman Dan Schulte from the post in August.

Kedzierski also named Bisballe liaison to beautification advisory commission. Bisballe remains chairman of the

finance committee.

The timing of the appointments was routine.

"We said every two years after an election there would be a reorganization," Kedzierski said. "We would look at all the committees and recommend changes."

More were expected to be announced at the Tuesday, Dec. 17, council meeting.

"We're in the process of setting up a new committee," Kedzierski said. "We're inviting residents who want to serve to submit their applications. We're always looking for good volunteers to serve our community."

Councilmember committee assignments are: **Beautification Advisory Committee:** Bisballe replaces Councilman Dr. Alexander Ajlouni.

Election Commission: Felt replaces Councilman Robert Gessell as council

liaison.

Finance Committee: Chairman Bisballe and members Felt, Gessell and Kedzierski are reappointed.

Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation liaison: Barrette.

Municipal Buildings liaison: Barrette reappointed.

Parks and Harbor ad hoc Committee: Barrette replaces Schulte as chairman.

Planning Commission liaison: Gessell replaces Schulte.

Public Relations liaison: Ajlouni reappointed.

Public Safety liaison: Kedzierski remains.

Public Works liaison: Councilman Robert Barrette reappointed.

Senior Citizens Groups liaison: Felt appointed.

Tree Board liaison: Schulte replaces Bisballe.

One-way signs stay

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The department of redundancy department should yield to common sense instead of requiring more than three dozen one-way signs on a roughly 1.5-mile stretch of Lakeshore, according to representatives of Grosse Pointe Shores.

The signs, on the median and both outside curbs of the divided roadway, sprouted upon repaving the stretch below Vernier to the Grosse Pointe Farms border, maintained by Wayne County.

"The job done south of Vernier was a county project through the Michigan Department of Transportation," said

Brett Smith, director of public works. "They have to meet all MDOT specifications."

"There was a signage requirement from the Michigan Department of Transportation that required one-way signs," said Mayor Ted Kedzierski. "If we removed them, we would have to self-insure that risk."

Shores officials want to take down the signs, considered excessive to the point of unsightly.

"We've been told by the county to absolutely not remove them and, if we take them down, it's our responsibility to accept liability," Smith said. "It's a county roadway and the county is enforcing its rules."

The Shores maintains Lakeshore north of Vernier to the St. Clair Shores city limits, where repaving last year didn't result in extra direction signs.

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

◆ Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Remi Alli**, won the first place prize in the nationwide Nation on Trafficking Essay contest. Alli is a graduate of University Liggett School and the University of Michigan. She also earned a Master of Jurisprudence degree from Loyola University School of Law and recently earned a Juris

Doctor degree from the University of Toledo Law School.

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School graduate **Chantal Chuba** was accepted into the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and service at Albion College. She is the daughter of Paul and Gilda Chuba of Grosse Pointe Park.

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Notable schools stories of 2013

By A.J. Hakim
Staff Writer

Board members resigned. A former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate's visit stirred national controversy, while a group of parents residing in a particular area of Grosse Pointe Farms has caused a dispute locally. A Grosse Pointe North High School teacher made statewide news for other, more complimentary reasons, and the board approved a technology bond for placement on the February ballot.

There was hardly a dull moment in the Grosse Pointe Public School System in 2013, and several of the events will undoubtedly have repercussions lasting into the new year and beyond.

Here are some of the stories from 2013 that made headlines — locally, statewide and, in that one instance, nationally.

Stepping Down

The year ended just as it started — with a GPPSS Board of Education member resigning from his position. In March, then-treasurer Brendan Walsh unexpectedly resigned, citing “new professional responsibilities” as a contributing factor. Walsh, who notified the other board members via e-mail on the day of his resignation, had served on the board since August 2005.

He said he left believing the district is “better financially positioned than any school district in the state.”

At the end of April, remaining board members unanimously approved Brian Summerfield to fill Walsh's vacancy.

Eight months later, the board has another vacancy to fill. Trustee Tom Jakubiec, at the December meeting, the last of the year, announced his intentions to transition off the board heading into 2014.

“Unfortunately, I do need to move on,” Jakubiec said. “I reached out to our board president (Joan Dindoffer) last month and communicated that to her through some documentation. My



FILE PHOTOS

One of the school system's most exciting news stories of 2013, Grosse Pointe North High School physics and chemistry teacher Gary Abud was named Michigan Teacher of the Year in May.



Sen. Bert Johnson folds fudge during a demonstration at Defer Elementary School in December. Johnson has supported the students' request to name Mackinac Island fudge the official state sweet.

commitment to her was to work with her so that we can transition well moving forward.”

Jakubiec has served since 2009 and, if not for new legislation that changed school board elections to even-numbered years, would've concluded his term in November. During the past four years, Jakubiec said he accomplished what he set out to do as an elected member.

“I had a very, very clear scope and focus of what I wanted to accomplish on the board,” he said, “and that was to make sure that we had sufficient dialogue on the board, to make sure that some of the directions that seem to be positioning from the

board could be influenced from a position of somebody who would take more of a holistic, non-special interest focus, and that's really what I tried to do. I think I can show I've done that through my four years.”

The board is currently seeking Jakubiec's replacement.

Chef's Delight

For Imran Mihas, at the time a fourth grader at Maire Elementary School, 2013 was a year to remember.

In May, Mihas was named the Sodexo Future Chefs: Healthy Salad Challenge national winner.

His Tortilla Cup Salad garnered 48 percent of the 26,539 total votes on the competition YouTube channel, besting four other finalists with his vegetarian recipe consisting of garbanzo beans, black beans, cucumber, mango, tomato, corn and cilantro in a tortilla cup.

As the national winner, Mihas received several prizes courtesy of Sodexo, including a laptop; GoPro Camera and juicer. The prizes were awarded to him during an all-school assembly at Maire in



The district made national news in April with its handling — or mishandling — of former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate Rick Santorum's visit. Santorum, pictured, spoke to students about leadership.

June. It was the Grosse Pointe schools' first time participating in the national program.

The Santorum Challenge

GPPSS made national news in April — albeit for negative reasons — for its handling of former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate Rick Santorum's visit to Grosse Pointe South High School. His visit was courtesy of Young Americans for Freedom, which has local chapters at both South and North high schools.

A day after principal Matt Outlaw notified South's staff of Santorum's visit, the district canceled it due to several factors, from district officials' desire to remain neutral and not impose a political position at a school activity during the school day to a denied request to review ahead of time the content of Santorum's speech.

The cancellation led to local and national scrutiny, and district officials quickly overturned their decision, allowing Santorum to visit and give two separate assemblies, one during the school day that was restricted to South students and staff who opted

in and another, a community forum open to the public.

Santorum, a Republican and vocal opponent of same-sex marriage, libertarianism and pornography, among other issues, arrived at South April 24, and delivered a 47-minute speech on leadership to a receptive and respectful crowd of students and staff, 1,100-strong.

Another 400 to 500 people attended the community forum, which included a question-and-answer format. Among the questions, one resident asked for Santorum's forgiveness for how the situation was handled.

“I'm required to forgive. I have no choice; I have to forgive,” Santorum said in response. “As far as what happened here, my feeling is, as most things in my life have, it's all turned out for the best. I certainly will remember Grosse Pointe South for the rest of my life.”

Best Practices

In May, Gary Abud, a chemistry and physics teacher at Grosse Pointe North High School, became only the second teacher from GPPSS since 1952 to be named Michigan Teacher of the Year.

State Superintendent

Mike Flanagan officially announced the honor during an all-school assembly May 23.

“(Judges are) looking for outstanding teaching, and frankly, if you get to the five, you've got five winners,” Flanagan said. “But they said that Gary just was that much more ahead than the others. His enthusiasm, his ability to connect with kids.”

In earning the distinction, Abud received a 2013 Honda CRV from Meemic Insurance, was given a non-voting seat at the state board of education regular monthly meetings and has become an active voice in advancing the district's and state's education systems.

“Working with the students here, working with the educators here and, as well, being a student of this school system has really helped me to be the best professional I can be, and I really want to dedicate this award to all those people in this school system that have helped me to be so successful,” Abud said at the time.

Inside the Technology Bond

Much of the discussion at board meetings and steering committee meetings between August and December focused on a proposed technology bond.

The bond is intended to upgrade and improve antiquated hardware and infrastructure, a network already operating at capacity and safety and security systems.

Initially, administration had pushed for a 10-year, \$48 million multi-series proposal for the November ballot. But it failed on a 3-3 vote in August from fear the details weren't developed enough and the community wouldn't support the hefty price tag.

The failed vote delayed any proposal from appearing on the ballot until February.

In the months following the August vote, the district awarded Ehresman Associates, Wright & Hunter and Peter Basso Associates a bid as a consultant, the group's review of which resulted in a recommended 10-year, \$50 million bond proposal.

After several weeks of discussions and disagreements, the board approved by a 5-1 vote the \$50 million, multi-series bond proposal for the February election.

“I think everybody on this board feels very passionate about the position that they're in ...” secretary Lois Valente said in November. “It's time to let the public decide whether or not this is going to be a tax that they want to, or a debt that they want us to incur.”

Sweet Surprise

It started as a small lesson within the context of the social studies curriculum. Students studied state symbols and the process of a bill becoming a law, then wrote a persuasive letter to Sen. Bert Johnson urging him to consider Mackinac Island fudge the official state sweet.

Some time later, to the surprise of Kari Mannino and her 4/5-grade magnet class at Defer Elementary School, Johnson responded, and thus began the students' unexpected and exciting hands-on experience with the legislative process. The experience included a visit from Johnson and representatives from

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Know Your Skin

By Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, MD

As we near the official start of winter, days become shorter, the skies grayer, and for many, less sunshine tempts us to stop some good habits, such as sunscreen use in the hopes of getting “just a little more sun.”

The reality is that despite reduced sunshine, the sun's rays remain harmful, though not as intensely as during summer. Premature aging (wrinkles and skin damage), and the progression towards skin cancer remain risks even with the sun's reduced light. So continue to use sunscreen, even on the dreariest of days.

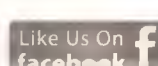
Reduced sunlight also results in the loss of a tan that developed in the summer. For some, this is cause to visit a tanning booth. This should never be considered an option — there is too much evidence that its use is dangerous (look at the unprecedented increase in skin cancer for young girls, especially for those who frequent these tan-

ning booths.) If you must maintain a “glow” the many self-tanner options remain the best choice.

A fading tan may also cause you to notice new lesions and spots. If any of these cause you concern, whether due to new growth, changes in appearance or shape, it is always appropriate to bring them to the attention of your dermatologist. (I am always amazed how our natural instincts are so often correct.)

To learn more about protecting your skin from the sun, even in winter, contact your dermatologist, or call us at Eastside Dermatology, Dr. Lisa A. Manz-Dulac and Associates

Eastside Dermatology has offices in New Baltimore and Grosse Pointe Woods. You can reach them at (313) 884-3380.



See REVIEW, page 9A

REVIEW: Stories to remember from 2013

Continued from page 8A



In May, Imran Mihas was named the Sodexo Future Chefs: Healthy Salad Challenge national winner.

Ryba's Fudge Shops, who hosted a fudge-making demonstration at Defer in December.

It didn't end there. Johnson and staff invited Mannino's class to Lansing to present Senate Bill 571 on the floor of the Senate. There, Hayden Berry, Luke Srebernak and Jake McBride — Johnson chose their letter to spark bill discussion — will speak about the bill as the rest of the class experiences the process of a bill becoming a law.

"As an educator, the whole experience is a dream come true," Mannino said.

Crossing Boundaries

A group of parents residing in a 13-block area of Grosse Pointe Farms, an area zoned for North high school, petitioned the school system to consider rezoning the area and allowing their children to attend South high school with the children's peers.

Because of current zon-

ing procedures, students in this area attend Monteith Elementary School, Brownell Middle School and North high school. The constant shuffling between cities, the "Unite the Farms" parents said, makes it difficult for their children to develop lasting, meaningful relationships with peers.

Additionally, in December, parents cited Brown v. Board of Education in their argument. The 1954 case led to the U.S. Supreme Court declaring "separate but equal" schooling for blacks and whites inherently unjust and paved the way for racial integration in American public schools.

Despite the parents' petition, board members have said publicly they won't consider rezoning district boundaries; rather, the parents must follow the current board policy and submit transfer requests. Transfer decisions are based on space.

South, district officials have said, is at capacity with 1,712 students compared to 1,327 at North.

Other Headlines

• Jeff Nardone and Brian Aulph, two beloved educators from South high school and Parcels Middle School, respectively, passed away in 2013; Nardone in November from T-cell Lymphoma and Aulph in February following complications from heart surgery.

• In February, Kate Murray was named principal at North high school.

• South's Solar Car Team, through extensive fundraising efforts, raised nearly \$35,000 to build a solar car to race in the 2013 Dell-Winston Solar Car Challenge in Texas.

• Pierce Middle School celebrated its 75th anniversary with a dinner and auction event in November. The school raised money to replace aging seats in its auditorium.

Star places fourth

Katelynn Mulder, pictured right, of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School, placed first in the poetry category Saturday, Dec. 14, during the Eastside Catholic Forensics League 7th/8th grade competition at St. Thecla in Clinton Township.

Star of the Sea placed fourth overall, having participated in several categories, including duo, multiple and poetry.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA KUSCH

ATTENTION PLEASE



In the 2014 edition of "the little Blue Book" on page 1, the wrong ad was placed. Please replace "THE HILL ON KERCHEVAL" display ad, with the ad below.

The Windmill Pointe Park Gate House number on page 4 is incorrect. The correct number is 313-822-5155. Please correct your directory.

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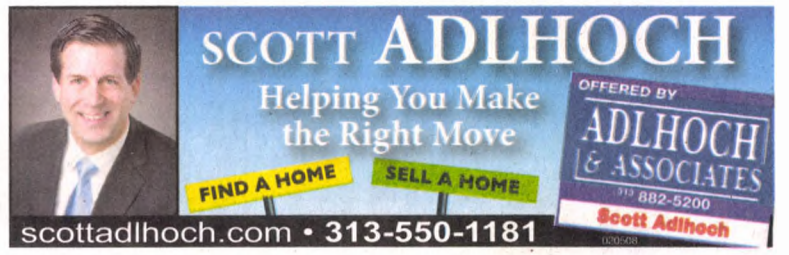
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2B HEALTH | 2B ENTERTAINMENT | 3B CHURCHES | 4B WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS



PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

The Grand family recently moved to Grosse Pointe Farms from Seattle and volunteered to fill baskets at Services for Older Citizens. Helping are from left, Pam, Charles and Oskar.

Holiday memories



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Woods' annual senior holiday social saw Sally Roberts, left, win a spa day from Salon Bionda. Mary Hyduck hands her the gift. Other afternoon festivities included lunch and a musical performance by Grosse Pointe North High School's choir.

PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

Even a tree dedicated to cats and dogs has been set up at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church. More than 40 themed trees are on display and include a nautical tree, celestial with moons and stars, a gingerbread filled tree, a holly and ivy tree, a tree with snowmen on its branches and another tree is filled with Beanie Babies. There are trees with butterflies, nativities, garden utensils, Santa Clauses, stars, bells and flags.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Co-chairwomen for the Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods' annual Hollyfest were, standing from left Mary Beth Austin and Anne Prokop; seated is Beth Vernon. The sold-out event at the Little

Club was deemed a success as attendees bid on among other items, a vacation package and original works of art. Below, The special needs Parcels Middle School students made and wrapped ceramic ornaments. Proceeds of the package of five ornaments benefitted the Family Center.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

El's Boutique, 17110 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, earned the most creative award in the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce decorate the door contest in which more than 30 businesses hung lights, wreaths, ribbons, greens and bows on their doors. Right, the Full Circle's door, adorned with paper Christmas sweaters, captured the people's choice award. Full Circle is located at 17006 Mack.



PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

Morning Glory Cafe on the Hill received the most festive designation in the Deck the Door contest, sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce. The window is filled with green and green wrapped boxes, a table set with holiday mugs to catch the marshmallows falling from a fluffy white cloud, a happy snowman and a tree made of Morning Glory Cafe bags.



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Storyteller Performance
 Doug Berky combines masks, puppets, mime, drama and comedy for *Gems: The World's Wisdom Stories*.
 Lecture Hall, Saturday and Sunday, 2 & 4 p.m.

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2B | HEALTH/ENTERTAINMENT

ASK THE EXPERTS By Rebecca L. Palen

Getting through the holiday while grieving



Q I lost my spouse to cancer this past summer. I am starting to feel even worse now that the holidays are approaching. Can I have some guidance of how to get through the next few weeks?

A While there are other critical dates and times that affect grieving people, for many the most difficult day is Christmas. This particular holiday more than any other means family is together, making the void of your loved one even more

acutely aware. Listed below are some suggestions others have found helpful in coping with the holiday season. Chose the ones that will help you:

- ◆ Keep it simple. Holiday tasks can seem overwhelming. Instead of cooking an elaborate meal, have your guests bring a dish, order food out or ask someone else to cook.
- ◆ Accept help. Although you may have been the one to handle holiday preparations in the past, these responsibilities can become overwhelming. Let your friends and family help you, and be specific about what they can do.
- ◆ Eat wisely. Although you may not have much of an appetite, good nutri-

tion can give you more energy and improve your mood during the holidays. Visit cancercenter.com/complementary-alternative-medicine/nutritional-therapy.cfm for nutritional ideas.

- ◆ Know your limits. You aren't obligated to participate in every holiday activity. You may decide to decline some activities so you have energy to enjoy ones that are most important to you. Pace yourself, get plenty of rest and take time for yourself if you need it. Your loved ones will understand.

- ◆ Be smart about travel. If you're visiting relatives or friends for the holidays, plan ahead to make traveling easier and more comfortable. Consider

staying at a hotel so you have more time to relax.

- ◆ Share your feelings. Sharing your feelings with others can help reduce stress during the holidays. Your loved ones may not know how to approach you or what to say, so communicate with them.

- ◆ Nurture your spirituality. Participation in spiritual and/or religious activities, particularly during this time of year, can be a source of peace, comfort and hope for many.

- ◆ Set goals for the New Year. Your dreams and hopes for the future may be different now. You can gain perspective and a sense of control by thinking about your goals for the year ahead and the

things that matter most to you. Visit cancercenter.com/complementary-alternative-medicine/spiritual-support for more information.

- ◆ Discover what the holidays mean to you. Try not to dwell on what may be missing or is different about this year's holiday season. Instead, focus on what the holidays truly mean to you, such as spending time with loved ones or being thankful.

Palen is a clinical therapist serving the Grosse Pointe and St. Clair Shores areas. She can be reached at (586) 335-2006 or at rebecca.palen@gmail.com.

The Family Center serves as the community's

hub for information, resources and referral for both families and professionals. It is a non-profit organization founded to promote a deeper understanding of the role of parents and others in supporting our youth to become competent, caring and responsible community members and has the motto enriched communities through stronger families.

All gifts are tax-deductible.

To volunteer or contribute, visit familycenterweb.org or call (313) 432-3832.

E-mail: info@familycenterweb.org or write to: The Family Center, 20090 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

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

Field trip unveils 'super' women



Sometimes it takes spending a day with someone to truly appreciate their gifts.

Case in point: Ted took off work one day recently to accompany our son, Andrew, and the Parcels Middle School students in the special education classrooms on a field trip to the Plymouth Orchards and cider mill.

One of the first people to greet him was classroom assistant Angie Holtz. Anticipating Ted's arrival, she had brought a past X-tra Special Advice column we had written about her many years ago when she was one of Andrew's classroom as-

stants at Barnes Early Childhood Center. The column meant so much to her. You could see it in her eyes. The way she gently held the paper like it was heirloom jewelry. Holz was still deeply touched by the column we wrote about her work with Andrew. She is still as sweet, thoughtful and kind as we remember.

On the bus ride to the cider mill, Ted discovered "Super Mom." Dawn Levick traded a successful business career years ago to teach children with special needs as a classroom assistant. She spoke glowingly of closely monitoring her own children's social lives as a "super" helicopter mom and how much she enjoys working with Andrew. Always positive, she was a "super" mother on the trip. Other teachers came to her and her suitcase-sized handbag for necessities, such

as wipes, tissues and Altoids. Ted would not have been surprised if she had pulled a full-size vacuum cleaner out of her bag if one was needed. Levick even carried all of the lunches, smiling and helping along the way.

Throughout the trip, Ted learned why Erin Amos is such a trip. We already knew Andrew's teacher was positive, creative, slightly mischievous, thoughtful, loving and kind. She was the reason we selected Parcels for Andrew and the teacher we believed would be a perfect fit for him and his one speed. Amos had us at hello. And the trip reinforced we were right. She is perfect in every way for Andrew and his classmates.

Patience is a requirement for any teacher. Teaching children with special needs requires far more patience and a special love only special teachers can deliver. Amos showed her love and patience on

the trip, encouraging her students to learn more, nudging them gently out of their comfort zones and inspiring the other teachers and classroom assistants.

On the return bus trip, Amos revealed her plans to be "Super Woman" for Halloween this fall. We cannot think of a more fitting costume.

It is our hope leaders of the Grosse Pointe Public School System recognize what we already know as parents: We have "super" teachers with special gifts in our district. Spend a day with them to discover it for yourselves and pledge to support them in every way you are able, which in turn, supports the education of our children.

Coutlish and Langan created this column to share experiences from their journey as parents of a child with Fragile X Syndrome. Send your questions or comments to mblangan@hotmail.com.

A LA ANNIE

By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff



PHOTO BY VIRGINIA O. MCCOY

Annie creates a white cheese ball for the New Year's Eve table.

Prepare cheese ball for New Year's Eve gathering



roasted hazel nuts. Yummy.

Winter White Cheese Ball

1/2 cup mascarpone cheese
2/3 cup gorgonzola cheese
1/2 cup fresh ricotta cheese
1/2 cup hazelnuts, skinned, toasted and finely chopped
1 to 2 teaspoons finely chopped fresh parsley

I like to keep it simple when ringing in the New Year. Cold champagne and good food to nibble on. Cheese is always on the list. This year I'm making it a cheese ball. A white cheese ball. Mascarpone, ricotta and gorgonzola blended together then rolled in

Combine mascarpone, gorgonzola and ricotta in a medium bowl. Mix well. Shape into a ball, carefully wrap in plastic wrap and chill for a few hours or overnight.

Toss chopped hazelnuts with chopped parsley in a small shallow bowl. Roll chilled ball around to coat evenly with hazelnut parsley mixture. Chill carefully in refrigerator until ready to serve.

This recipe can easily be doubled to make two balls.

This flavorful cheese ball will spread nicely over crackers, crostini or even in a celery boat.

Pair it with a dry champagne and a kiss at midnight.

Happy New Year.

WMTV Programming Located in Classifieds Section C

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New attorney

From left, Michigan Supreme Chief Justice Robert P. Young Jr. of Grosse Pointe Park, Michele Boris Dunsky of Grosse Pointe Farms and her father, Christopher J. Dunsky of Grosse Pointe Farms. Young swore Dunsky in as an attorney. The event took place in the courtroom of the Michigan Supreme Court.

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PASTOR'S CORNER By Roger Skully

Symbols convey more than thought

Human communication uses symbols for transmitting ideas. Gestures, nuances of tone, smiles, etc. communicate the thoughts and feelings of the speaker to the listener.

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch suggests two primary advantages that concrete symbols have over the spoken word. We see these concrete symbols everywhere, from necklaces to large structures built to communicate ideas and feelings.

A) Symbols employed, or symbolic acts performed by hundreds of individuals at the same time, underscore their sense of unity, uniformity and recognition of the teachings and principles that hold them together.

B) By accompanying us throughout our lives, regardless of our momentary concerns, symbols serve as constant reminders of the ideas they represent, an advantage that can never be attained by the spoken word or even by the written word.

If you are a Christian, the wearing of a cross is such a symbol. If Jewish, a six pointed star serves a similar purpose. These convey a series of ideas that would take a long time to explain, but are assumed by the wearing of such a symbol.

Jews also use another symbol called a Mezuzah. The literal meaning of this word is "door post." In common usage it refers to the parchments inserted into a case affixed to the right door post of every door in the house. These contain the central prayers of Judaism, that God is One, and the instructions you place them on the door posts of your house and on your gates to remember the commandments of

the Lord in your homes.

Throughout the world and throughout history these have decorated the doors of Jewish homes. They have been found dating back more than 2,000 years to the caves in Qumran (the place where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found) to the homes in Israel (even the Moslem quarter) which, although they may no longer belong to Jews, have a niche in the door frame for the placement of these scrolls.

The Torah presents this commandment to remind us our homes are transformed into a place of holiness. These verses are transcribed exactly as they appear in Torah. Any flaw in the writing makes them unusable for a mezuzah.

This can be understood in comparison to a modern day computer chip, which if it has a flaw, makes it unusable for a modern computer.

They (mezuzot — the plural of mezuzah) remind us our homes should be blessed and a repository of wisdom and awe of our creator. They are a symbol we should lead lives devoid of sin and transgression. In effect, they guard the home and protect it and its occupants. They increase the awareness of God's presence in our lives.

They acknowledge the great kindness of our creator and the belief in an honorable and loving life towards all men (and women).

Amen and Amen.

Cantor Skully is with the Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue and president of the Grosse Pointe Ministerial Association.



PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

More trees

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, invites the public to see 46 Christmas trees, each decorated in a different theme, from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27. For a reservation, call (313) 884-5040. From left is the Girly Girl tree, the Swedish/Scandinavian tree, the up north tree and, at far right, is the poinsettia tree.

CHURCH EVENTS

Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

First English

A new year's message is included in the 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 29, service at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church. The service includes communion.

Epiphany is celebrated during regular worship times, 9:30 and 11 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 5.

The church is located at 800

St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose Catholic Church celebrates the feast of the holy family at the 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, Mass and at the 8:30 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 29, Masses.

New Year's Eve Mass begins at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. A 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1, Mass celebrates the new year.

Worship Services

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Sunday, December 29, 2013

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Meditation: "Maybe Next Year?"
Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3
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Randy S. Boelter, Pastor

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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

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Sundays Holy Eucharist
10:15 a.m.

Education Time
9:00 a.m.

CROSSPOINTE

Sunday Services
9:30 & 11:00 AM

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crosspointechristianchurch.org

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church

19950 Mack at Torrey
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Sunday Worship 10:30am
Christian Education Hour 9:00am
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The Christmas Season continues at St. Ambrose Catholic Church

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
Tuesday, December 31, 2013
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Wednesday, January 1, 2014
MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday, January 4, 2014
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, January 5, 2014
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF JESUS
Saturday, January 11, 2014
MASS AT 4:00 P.M. - Confirmation
Sunday, January 12, 2014
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson, just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall.
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Beautiful Beginnings



WEDDINGS

Kurtz - McKinnon

Sarah Louise Kurtz and Robert Craig McKinnon, both of Ann Arbor, were married Sept. 28, 2013, in the Grosse Pointe Congregational Church.

Harry and Lynn Kurtz of Grosse Pointe Shores are the bride's parents. The groom is the son of Pilar McKinnon of Wilmore, Ken., and the late Craig McKinnon.

The Rev. Richard Wood officiated at the ceremony which was followed by a reception at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

Lindsey Ellen Kurtz of Grosse Pointe Park served as her sister's maid of honor.

Bridesmaids were her friend, Molly Nestor, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Alison Lehner of Chicago, a Northwestern University roommate; and childhood friends, Anne Kopf of Baltimore, Md., and Margaret Walton of Washington, D.C.

Matthew Carter of Ann Arbor served as his friend's best man.

Groomsmen were the groom's brother, David McKinnon; childhood friends, Brendan Shannon of Phoenix and Jacob Cullen of Ypsilanti; and the couple's friend,

Coert Ambrosino of Denver.

Georgia Wrinkle was the accompanist. Piano soloist Rob Grohman of Hoboken, N.J., the bride's college friend, played Mendelssohn's "Song Without Words Op. 38, No. 6 - Duetto."

The bride earned a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism in 2008. Since 2009, she has been the director of Camp Al-Gon-Quian, the Ann Arbor YMCA's resident children's summer camp on Burt Lake.

The groom is a self-employed carpenter and runs McKinnon Brothers Construction.

After attending a Detroit Lions game Sunday, Sept. 29, with family and friends, the couple traveled to Traverse City.

Deck - Cura

Andrea Deck, formerly of Grosse Pointe Park, and Ben Cura of London, England, were married Aug. 24, 2013, in the Mayor's Parlour, Islington Town Hall, London.

The bride is the daughter of Larry and Pat Deck of Grosse Pointe Park.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Craig McKinnon

Jose and Silvia Cura of Madrid, Spain, are the groom's parents.

The ceremony was officiated by Registrar Thomas Dyson after which a reception was held at The Connaught Hotel London.

The bride dressed in a fitted full length strapless, drop waist lace gown with beaded embellishments and wore a jeweled headband. She also wore her grandmother's antique diamond necklace and a second diamond necklace, a gift from the groom's family. The bridal bouquet was made up of bombastic roses, peonies and succulents.

Formal witnesses were the groom's brother, Nicolas Cura of Madrid, and Enrique Ballesteros of Amsterdam, Netherlands.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Deck chose a full length satin, pewter colored dress with a pleated, shawl collar and wore a crystal



Mr. and Mrs. Ben Cura

heart necklace given her by the groom. Bombastic roses, succulents and fresh herbs comprised her wrist corsage.

The groom's mother wore a pale pink sleeveless tea length dress and a bright pink brimmed hat.

Her wrist corsage featured bombastic roses, succulents and fresh herbs.

The groom's sister, Yazmin Cura of Madrid, read her original poem during the ceremony. The groom's mother read an original blessing in Spanish.

"Fate," a poem by Carolyn Wells, was read by the bride's mother.

The bride is a 2005 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in acting from the London Academy of



Mr. and Mrs. James Charles Brescoll

Music and Dramatic Art and is an actor, singer and co-director of Tough Dance Ltd.

The groom is a 2006 graduate of the French Lycee in Madrid. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and is an actor, singer, musician, producer and co-director of Tough Dance Ltd.

A religious marital blessing and reception are planned in Grosse Pointe in 2014.

The couple resides in London.

Simcox - Brescoll

Rachel Ann Simcox and James Charles Brescoll, both of Chicago, were married Sept. 7, 2013, in Saint

Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

The bride is the daughter of Jack and Valerie Goodwin of Fort Wayne. Dennis and Mary Brescoll of Grosse Pointe Woods are the groom's parents.

The Rev. Daniel Scheidt officiated at the ceremony that was followed by a reception at the Indiana Hotel.

Sara Conley and Susan Conrad, the bride's friends, served as matrons of honor.

The groom's sisters, Julie Pandya and Laurie and Jennie Brescoll, served as bridesmaids.

Thomas Lucido was his friend's best man.

Groomsmen were the groom's friend, Paul DiBattista, the groom's brother-in-law, Brian Pandya, the groom's cousin, Michael Neuenfeldt, and the bride's brother, J. Hua Simcox.

The bride graduated from Hanover College and DePaul University College of Law. She is a management consultant with Scouler & Company.

The groom is a Columbia University and DePaul University College of Law graduate and an attorney with Chicago Title Insurance Company.

The couple honeymooned in Mexico and lives in Chicago.

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ENGAGEMENTS

Leonard - Ritter

Mr. and Mrs. William Leonard of Grosse Pointe Farms have announced the engagement of their daughter, Mary Elizabeth Leonard, to Edwin James Ritter, son of Linda S. Ritter of Port Charlotte, Fla. He is the son of the late James Ritter. An April wedding is planned.

Leonard graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 1992 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, with honors, from Michigan State University, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in 1996. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from Emory School of Law in Atlanta, Ga., in 1999. She is a guardian ad litem attorney with Gwinnett County Juvenile Court,

Ga., and is a volunteer and fosters pets with Angels Among Us Pet Rescue, Alpharetta, Ga.

Ritter graduated from Naperville North High School in 1986 and studied criminal justice and business administration at the College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Ill. He is a corporal with the Gwinnett County Police Department and public information officer for the chief of police.

Vitale - Singer

John and Mary Ann Vitale of Grosse Pointe Woods have announced the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Vitale, to Andrew Singer, son of Bryan and Nancy Singer of West Bloomfield. A



Edwin James Ritter and Mary Elizabeth Leonard

May wedding is planned.

Vitale is a 2003 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School and a 2006 graduate of the University of Michigan where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in neuroscience. In 2011, she earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Wayne State University and is an anesthesiology resident



Lisa Vitale and Andrew Singer

with the University of Michigan Health System.

Singer graduated from Harrison High School in 2003 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in anthropology and zoology in 2007 from U of M. He earned a Doctor of Medicine degree in 2011 from WSU and is a pediatric resident with U of M Health System.

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SPORTS

YEAR IN REVIEWS

Looking back

North, South and Liggett
enjoyed success PAGE 2-3C

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Two
easy
winsBy Fletcher Sharpe
Special Writer

Sophomore Erin Armbruster had a career game as she powered the Grosse Pointe North girls' basketball team over the Titans of Sterling Heights Stevenson, 48-22, last week.

It was the Macomb Area Conference Red Division opener for both squads.

"Erin has tremendously improved from last year to this year," stated head coach Gary Bennett. "She has a high motor, and is active all the time. You love to coach the kids with high motors, because they listen. She's really easy to coach. She has a big effect on the game, because of her motor."

Armbruster scored 23 points, as well as had seven rebounds, six steals, two assists, and a block.

Part of her growth as a player can be attributed to Bennett, who moved Armbruster's position on the court from the paint to the wing.

"She's becoming more complete. I moved her to the perimeter because she needs to work on her face up game some more," Bennett said. Armbruster started along side the Lesha sisters, Megan and Lauren, and Dodge sisters, Lucy and Phoebe. The lineup contained Stevenson's shifty point guard Madeline Brender, and limited her to just six points. Sophomore Lucy Dodge finished with five points



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Junior forward Megan Lesha is going to have to pick up the pace in the absence of all-state point guard Maria Liddane.

and three rebounds, while older sister Phoebe finished with two points and two steals.

Megan and Lauren Lesha finished with a combined four points, four rebounds and three steals.

"We played well at some parts, and not so well at others, but we played well enough to win," Bennett chuckled. "It's always good to get a win going into Christmas break. These are the positive things you remember."

Earlier in the week, Grosse Pointe North defeated Livonia Ladywood 50-27 as Lucy Dodge scored a career-high 17 points in her first varsity start.

The Norsemen used their pressure defense to create havoc for the

Blazers. Dodge benefited from the extended playing time by collecting seven steals to help the team pull away and earn their first road win of the season.

Megan Lesha chipped in with eight points and four steals, while Lauren Lesha had seven points.

Phoebe Dodge contributed six points and four assists, and Armbruster had eight rebounds. Junior Kayla Barnes did an outstanding job defensively to help the Norsemen give up only 27 points.

Grosse Pointe North improved to 1-0 in the MAC Red Division and 4-2 overall.

Upcoming for the Norsemen is an away game at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, against division foe Utica Ford.

BOYS BASKETBALL



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Ouch

Grosse Pointe North senior Ricky Watson, above, scored 13 points, and senior Jacob Zacharias had 11 in the Norsemen's 70-39 loss to Warren DeLaSalle. After playing a 13-13 tie in the first quarter, the Norsemen struggled in the second and were outscored 27-2, falling behind 40-15 at the half. With the loss, Grosse Pointe North dropped to 1-2 overall.

SWIMMING

Norsemen win

The Grosse Pointe North boys' swimming and diving team defeated Sterling Heights Stevenson Tuesday 118-64 last week.

Danny MacAskill was a double winner for North, taking the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events.

John Cobau took the 100-yard butterfly, while William McNelis won the 1 meter diving, and Matt Stander was victorious in

the 100-yard breaststroke.

Head coach Mike O'Connor said season-best performances were recorded in the 50 yard freestyle by Alex Blunden, Adam Schreck, Quinn Gallant, Ben Sliwinski, Anthony Cafagna and Chris Ghanem; 100-yard freestyle by Graham Eger, Michael Lemanske and Adam Schreck; 500-yard

freestyle by MacAskill

and Cobau; 100-yard backstroke by Michael Lemanske and Daniel Leone; 100-yard breaststroke by Trevor Mieczkowski and Quinn Gallant; 100-yard butterfly by Anthony Cafagna; 200-yard individual by Cobau; and 1 meter diving by McNelis and Sam Shehadeh.

Grosse Pointe North improved to 2-1 overall with the win.

Grosse Pointe North Year in Review

Sumbera's 200th win highlights '13

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's athletic teams enjoyed a solid 2013, but the one thing missing was a state championship.

Starting in the winter, the girls' hockey team, under the tutelage of head coach Joe Lucchese, enjoyed the most success of any of the programs.

The Norsemen finished 16-5-2, losing to eventual state champ Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood in the state semifinals of the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League Division 1 playoffs.

The squad was led by seniors Natalie Skorupski, C.J. McCarthy, Julia Henderson, Sara Villani, Katie Bowles, Melanie Mermiges, Bryn Moody, Jacci Sherry and Sarah Richardson.

Former head coach Scott Lock and the North boys' hockey team was right in line with the girls' squad. The boys finished 16-11 overall and won a Michigan Interscholastic

Hockey League division championship.

The Norsemen ended their season with a 5-2 loss to league rival U-D Jesuit in a regional semifinal at City Arena.

Seniors were R.C. Nelson, Tyler Capp, Jack Stander, Nick Rahaim, Tommy Coon, Jack Guest, Patrick Lane, Brendan Keelan, David Chavis, Jeffrey Herron, Anthony Allemon and Tanner Colborg.

North's boys' basketball team under head coach Matt Lockhart had a .500 season (10-10 overall and 6-6 in the Macomb Area Conference White Division).

The underclassmen dominated Norsemen had a lot of success during the middle of the season, winning 8-of-10 games before ending the year with a five-game losing streak.

Robert Tillman, Taiwan Wiggins and Chris Doherty were the only seniors, leaving Lockhart with a veteran roster ready to win this winter.

Head coach Gary Bennett and the North girls' basketball team

slipped to a 10-11 mark last season. For the first time in several years, the Norsemen lost three times to archrival Grosse Pointe South, twice in the regular season and in the district title game.

Bennett had some positive moments, watching his players follow the game plan to the tee, but unfortunately there weren't enough of those moments to prevent some close defeats.

The seniors were Jenna Paglino, Lauren Koeppe, Anna Giordano, Emily Armbruster, Taryn Kiah, Stavi Varlamos and Francesca Ciaramitaro.

This season, watch a young Norsemen squad through the tough Macomb Area Conference Red Division.

The boys' swimming and diving team, under head coach Mike O'Connor, struggled to a 4-7 mark in 2012-13.

The team was led by senior state-qualifier Matthew Leone.

Head coach Eric Julien and his wrestling program took a positive turn last winter, finishing .500 overall and in the MAC

Gold Division. In the division meet, the Norsemen placed fifth behind St. Clair, Warren Mott, Clawson and Fraser.

The Norsemen were led by the senior trio of Paul Menth, Mike Bennett and Marcel Taylor. Julien's squad is loaded with underclassmen willing to put in the time to become better wrestlers.

Things improved during the spring season as the boys' track and field team, under head coach Frank Tymrack, won a Division 1 regional championship behind seniors Eric Balle, Danny Ciaravino, Chris Doherty, Chris Hamilton, Darius Hamilton, Matt Leone, Nathan Limback, Brian Longstreet, Steve Mitchell, Bobby Mulpuri, Jordan Radke, Lucas Segovia, Tyler Sickmiller, Robert Tillman and Taiwan Wiggins.

The girls enjoyed success, too, taking second in the regional meet and winning 3-of-5 division meets.

Coaches Bruce Bentley, Diane Montgomery and Liz Michaels had plenty

of senior leadership from Emma Abessinio, Jo Jo Beeby, Asia Dickson, Hailey Ferguson, Allison Francis, Taylor Lang, Sarah Neuenfeldt, Savannah Ransome, Sydney Scott and Mira Shenouda.

Long-time head coach Frank Sumbera's boys' baseball team finished 21-12. The season ended on a sour note, with a 6-2 loss to archrival Grosse Pointe South in a district championship game.

Seniors Evan Hayden, Joe Andreoli, David Kracht, Cody Parafin, Andrew Remus, Alex Raicevich, Alex Cendrowski, Mike Messina and Cory Pierce were the Norsemen's veterans.

Another long-time North head coach, Billy Seaman, enjoyed his final season at the helm as the Norsemen finished 9-5.

He recently announced to his players he will not return to the team this spring.

The season ended with a 17-5 loss to Troy in a regional playoff game.

His final group of seniors were Christine

Hawring, Julia Guest, Emma Mathews, Rachel Like, Kit Maher, Ali Lecznar, Marne Gallant, Kelly Bertolini, Jennifer Hawring, Anna Giordano, Susan Hartzell, Maggie Kelly and Bryn Moody.

Skipper Mukhtar made his first season with the girls' soccer program a positive one, guiding them to a 11-11-1 mark. Their season ended with a 3-1 loss to archrival Grosse Pointe South in the districts.

He didn't have a lot of seniors, so watch for the Norsemen to excel this spring. The seniors were Danae DiCicco, Francesca Ciaramitaro, Chrisa Kouskoulas, Emily Armbruster, Kim Cusmano, Natalie Skorupski and Jenna Paglino.

The boys' golf team, under head coach Brian Stackpoole, also finished .500 at 4-4 behind seniors Garrett Freismuth and Steven Zak. The Norsemen advanced to the regional tournament before bowing out.

The boys' lacrosse

See NORTH, page 2C

Liggett Year in Review

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

It was another great year for University Liggett athletics as one team won a title and several others gave fans a lot to cheer about in 2013.

Starting last winter, both the girls' and boys' basketball teams were hot on the court.

First-year head coach Omar Ahart stepped in and the Knights didn't miss a beat. Led by Haleigh Ristovski, Lola Ristovski, Arianna Castillo, Kendall McConico, Jessica Rotzoll, Lea Evangelista, Mackenzie Lukas and Shatara Cleveland, the Knights powered to a fourth straight Michigan Independent Athletic Conference championship and fourth straight without a defeat.

They started the season 0-4 before winning the next 15 games to head into the state playoffs with a ton of momentum.

The Knights easily won a fourth straight district title, beating Warren Michigan Collegiate and Harper Woods, plus blasted Marlette in a Class C regional semifinal.

The run to a third straight Final Four ended with a 17-point loss to Flint Hamady in a regional title contest.

Head coach Sidney Johnson and his boys' squad had a 15-4 regular season, losing two terrific MIAC games to Southfield Christian.

In the state district playoffs, the Knights beat Harper Woods Heart Academy before losing to highly ranked Mount Clemens in the semifinals.

The co-ed swim team, under the guidance of

Ryan Gunderson, didn't win a dual meet due to extremely low numbers. However, Connor Borrego and Chris Cornell made the Division 3 state championship meet.

The boys' hockey team, under former head coach Robb McIntyre, finished the regular season 15-10 before beating Madison Heights Bishop Foley 13-0 and Detroit Country Day 7-4 in the regionals.

Up next was state power Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood and what followed was a disappointing 7-2 loss, leaving the Knights 17-11 on the season.

Seniors were Cam Marchese, Manny Counsman and Jacob Soyka.

Head coach Cassie Jaeckle and the girls' hockey team endured a roller coaster season complete with a few highs and lows.

The Knights finished 10-11-2 overall, but did post a few surprising victories along the way. Included in the list of nice wins was a 4-3 triple-overtime outcome over Port Huron in the first round of the state playoffs.

The biggest story at ULS in 2013 was the boys' baseball team capturing its second Division 4 state championship in the last three seasons. In fact, it was the Knights' third straight trip to the state title game.

Liggett edged Beal City 3-2 in eight innings to win the crown.

The Knights, under head coach Dan Cimini, scored single runs in the sixth, seventh and eighth to make Adam Fiema the winning pitcher. Mark Auk started and went the first four innings and

Connor Fannon pitched the fifth, sixth and seventh innings, leaving with the scored tied at 2 heading to extra innings.

The Knights scored the winning run in the top of the eighth inning when Cole Zingas singled and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Fiema.

Zingas moved to third on a single by Auk, but an errant throw on a pickoff attempt of Auk at first allowed Zingas to score.

Fiema got Beal City out in order in the bottom of the eighth as the Knights rushed the mound to celebrate.

The state champion Knights' players were Anthony Simon, Robert Kaiser, Fiema, Auk, Jacob Smith, Nate Gaggin, Patrick Broder, Zingas, Ian Clark, Fannon, Nick Azar, Sean Fannon, Kevin Allen, Joseph Cipriano, Matt Gushee and Lordanthony Grissom.

Liggett finished the season 31-4 and has established itself as one of the best high school baseball teams in the state, regardless of division.

The road to the finals included regional wins over Royal Oak Shrine, 2-1, and Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, 2-0; a quarterfinal victory over Concord, 10-0; and a semifinal win over New Lothrop, 1-0.

The Knights' road to Battle Creek included two close victories in the regionals as senior Ashley Tengler owned the mound.

She was flawless in leading the Knights to a 1-0 win over Wixom St. Catherine in the semifinals and a 5-0 victory over Huron Valley Lutheran in the title game on their home field.

In the state quarterfi-

nals, Liggett pounded Concord 11-1. However, the road to a title ended with an 8-6 loss to Ubyly in the semifinals in Battle Creek.

The seniors on the squad were Courtney Slabaugh, Tengler, Libby Stallings, Julia DeRoo, Amber Baldwin and Bandos.

The softball team finished its season 27-5 overall, which is one of the best records in the program's history.

Head coach David Dwaihy and his girls' soccer team enjoyed a fruitful spring. They finished 13-5-1 and won a MIAC title, as well as district crown with victories over Mount Clemens, 9-0; Merritt Academy, 8-0; and Marine City Cardinal Mooney, 4-1, in the championship game.

The leading players were seniors Beth Ottosen, Eleni Pitses and Castillo.

Head coach Bill Brusilow is getting the boys' lacrosse program to a state of consistency. The Knights finished 6-5 last year.

The girls' lacrosse team, under head coach Tamara Fobare, had no seniors on the roster. Despite the lack of veterans, the Knights managed to play better with each game and finished 3-9-1 overall.

Head coach Dan Sullivan had a nice boys' golf team, which won more matches than they lost, thanks to a corp of Stephen Campau, Luke Soyka, Thomas Perrachio, Josh Soyka, Paul Sidhu and Joey Maniaci.

The girls' tennis team, under Cathy Hackenberger, lacked wins on the court, but in enthusiasm.

Despite a less than .500 regular season, the ladies played well in the regional tournament, taking second to make it to the Division 4 state finals.

The boys' and girls' track and field team were light in numbers, but enjoyed success with dedication as the fuel.

Both squads earned points in a Division 4 regional meet. For the girls Castillo and Madison Jerome finished second and fifth in the long jump to score points. The duo also scored points with solid finishes in the 100-meter dash, plus Castillo made the state finals in the 200-meter dash.

The boys earned several points and William Gilbert made it to the state finals in the 3,200-meter run.

This fall, the highlight was the return of Cimini to the football field. His fire and passion turned a team of inexperienced players into a playoff squad.

They lost the first two games of the season, but ran off wins in five of the next six to be in the playoff mix.

Despite losing their regular season finale, the Knights made it into the 32-team playoff field for Division 7, but lost 27-14 to a solid Southfield Christian squad in the opening round.

Head coach David Backhurst and the boys' soccer team had a nice run through the season. They were in the thick of the MIAC race until the final week and went on to win a district championship by beating Auburn Hills Oakland Christian 1-0, Everest Academy 4-0 and Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest 3-2 in the title game on their home field.

In the regionals, the Knights edged division rival Inter-City Baptist 1-0 in a shootout as Noah LaMagno was the hero, scoring the game-winning goal on the sixth shot in the shootout.

The run to the Final Four ended one game shy as the Knights lost 3-1 to Bloomfield Hills Roper in the regional championship contest.

Seniors Shawn Fair, Adante Provenzano, Simon, Max Smith and Thomas Stevenson were some of the leaders on the squad.

Fobare did a wonderful job leading the girls' field hockey team to its best season in several years.

The Knights finished 8-5-2 overall and lost a tough 1-0 game to Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central in the playoff quarterfinals.

The boys' tennis team, under head coach Drew Mascarin, put together a solid season, despite a few bumps in the pre-season.

The team finished 8-4-1 and won a Division 4 regional championship. They were third in the state finals.

Head coach Trey Cassidy and the cross country teams performed well. The boys made it to the state finals, while Maddie Wu and Danielle Lorant made it for the girls.

The volleyball team, behind head coach Joe LaMagno, struggled in the first half of the season, but put it all together in the second half.

The Knights finished near the top of the MIAC standings and went on to win a district crown, pulling off a nice semifinal win over host Madison Heights Bishop Foley and defeating Detroit Edison in the finals.

LIGGETT

Stackpoole proud to see players excel

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Long-time University Liggett teacher, coach and official Romilly Stackpoole has the fortune of watching several of her former players coach several field hockey teams.

It's a gift she gets to enjoy every fall.

The list includes Tamara (Lie) Fobare, Liggett's head coach and 1992 graduate; Brittany Paquette, Grosse Pointe North head coach and 2004 grad; Millie Tompkins, Grosse Pointe South head coach and 1992 grad; Monica (Paul) Dennis, Grosse Pointe South aid and 1992 grad; Megan Getz, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood head coach and 2005 grad; Alle (Fortune) Case, Cranbrook-Kingswood coach and 2006 grad; Margie Scholtes, Ann Arbor Huron head coach and ULS student, but transferred; and Becky Gast, Liggett Middle School head coach and 1995 grad.

"It's a lot of fun watching my former students and players take the lead and coach other young ladies in such a great sport as field hockey," Stackpoole said.

Stackpoole came to the United States from Ireland in 1962 and began teaching at Detroit Dominican High School that same year.

A couple of years later, she began teaching at Liggett Middle School until 2000 when she retired.

During those 30 years, Stackpoole began the

field hockey program at Liggett and helped the sport gain popularity in the tri-county area.

After retiring from coaching, Stackpoole began officiating the sport she loves and has given back to the community by helping the current group of players learn on the field.

Thanks to Stackpoole's enthusiasm, the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association was created several years ago and there are currently two divisions containing 12 teams for a

total of 24 programs. The league still expands.

The Varsity Division I consists of Ann Arbor Pioneer, Ann Arbor Huron, Birmingham Marian, Livonia Ladywood, Farmington Hills Mercy, Novi, Grosse Pointe South, East Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor Greenhills, Saline, Bloomfield Hills Academy of the Sacred Heart and Washtenaw Whippets.

Varsity Division II consists of Detroit Country Day, Ann Arbor Skyline, Dexter, Cranbrook-

Kingswood, Grosse Pointe North, Grand Rapids Forest Hills, Liggett, Dearborn Edsel Ford, Dearborn, Warren Regina, Farmington and West Bloomfield.

Some programs have a junior varsity team and others have two junior varsity squads or a freshman team.

The talent level has also increased the past

several years and every team has some very solid performers on the field, thanks to dedication of Stackpoole and the coaches which came from Liggett.

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AUTOS By Jenny King

2014 TC from Scion: subtle good looks



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

The 2014 Scion tC bowed last March at the New York Auto Show and went on sale in early summer. New for 2014 features include a standard display audio system with a 6.1-inch touchscreen, faster-shifting six-speed automatic transmission, Dynamic Rev Management technology that Toyota says matches engine revs with gear ratios to limit driveline shock, and several exterior styling changes.

Trendy dark-gray painted 18-inch wheels are standard for 2014. The wheels complemented the cement gray exterior of the test tC, which had a six-speed manual transmission and larger, optional 19-inch wheels. Other options on the test car included BeSpoke Premium Audio with navigation system, illuminated door sills showing "scion" in blue light, Toyota Racing performance exhaust and a rear spoiler.

A larger power moonroof over the front seats was joined by a smaller, stationary moonroof that gave extra light to the rear seat. The compact



Dark-gray 19-inch wheels add to the sport profile of the 2014 Scion tC. New upper and lower grille treatments and LED accent light distinguish the front end.

profile of this sport coupe was misleading. There not only is a back seat, it is incredibly roomy for the two outboard passengers. A third safety belt indicated the possibility of a center passenger, but it would be quite uncomfortable for an adult of any size.

We were surprised by the amount of engine noise in fifth and sixth gears at highway speeds, even though the engine was running at around 2,500 rpms.

Now accustomed to having a backup camera on board, we missed such a watchful eye. There was none on the tC.

Fuel economy with the

standard 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine, with the manual transmission, is only 23 miles per gallon in city driving and 31 mpg on the highway.

The Scion tC proved itself worthy in its government safety ratings, with an overall vehicle score of five stars — top rating; its two four-star grades were for the passenger side in a front crash and in the roll-over test.

The base price of the 2014 Scion tC is \$19,210. The test car, with its several options, ran just over \$25,000, including \$755 for delivery.

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

Don Gooley Cadillac

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Plus all taxes, plate, title and doc fee. Must qualify for S or 1 Tier credit program must have GM employee discount, GM lease loyalty, no security deposit. Escalade must have GM and Cadillac Loyalty. Offer Expires 12-28-13.

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2015 Volvo S60 and V60 Polestar

The Volvo S60 and V60 Polestar are under production and available for sale in June. The six-cylinder, turbocharged T6 engine has undergone extensive development with a new twin-scroll turbo and intercooler to produce 350 horsepower at 5,700 rpm and 369 pound-feet of torque already at 2,800 rpm. The engine breathes through a 2.5-inch stainless steel exhaust system, giving a throaty engine sound. Pricing and production numbers have yet to be announced.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLVO



PHOTO COURTESY OF CADILLAC

2014 Cadillac CTS

The all-new 2014 Cadillac CTS ascends into the heart of the midsize luxury market with expanded performance, elevated luxury and sophisticated technology. A range of power-dense powertrains underpin its performance, including Cadillac's Twin-Turbo engine and eight-speed automatic transmission. Destined to stand out among the world's leading vehicles, this extraordinary sedan embodies the notions of luxury and sport.

The manufacturer's suggested retail price is from \$45,100 to \$72,300.

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*Add rebates to sale price plus tax, title and plates. Residential restrictions apply. Leases based 10k per year with \$ or A credit and are plus tax, title, plates and security deposit if required by lender. (LEASE ACQUISITION FEES ARE INCLUDED IN PAYMENTS). Payments & prices are either GM lease loyalty or competitive make in household. \$500 loyalty lease bonus good on any GM lease in household expiring now thru Dec 31, 2014. Payments & prices subject to change per GM incentives. Picture may not represent actual vehicle. See dealer for details. All prior sales excluded. Offer ends 1/2/14 at 9pm

6C | AUTOMOTIVE



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAGUAR

2015 Jaguar F-Type Coupe

The all-new Jaguar F-Type R Coup joins Jaguar lineup. The new all-aluminum F-Type Coupe, including the first F-Type R model, expands the Jaguar lineup beginning in spring 2014 with a manufacturer's suggested retail price starting at \$65,000. Available in three versions, the F-Type R Coupe is powered by a 550-horsepower 5-liter supercharged V8 engine and will reach 60 mph in 4.0 seconds. It has a top speed of 186 mph² — limited electronically. The F-Type S Coupe and F-Type Coupe are powered by 3-liter supercharged V6 engines in 380 and 340-horsepower forms respectively, giving 0-60 mph in 4.8/5.1 seconds and top speeds of 171/161 mph².

Ford Edge Concept

The Ford Edge Concept, recently revealed at Los Angeles Auto Show, offers strong hints at the technology, dynamic design and premium craftsmanship that will define the company's next global utility vehicles. Key attributes of the Ford Edge Concept: a sleek, sporty appearance; capability; fuel efficiency; and technology that assists the driver. Advanced, automated driving technologies include self-parking and obstacle avoidance systems currently under development by Ford. New automated driving technologies introduced in the Ford Edge Concept include a push-button and remote-operated parking feature customers could use from either inside or outside the vehicle. "The original Ford Edge offered customers in North America a fresh, compelling choice for an accommodating, efficient and safe medium utility vehicle," said Joe Hinrichs, executive vice president and president of The Americas, Ford Motor Co. "The next-generation Edge — previewed in the Ford Edge Concept — will build on these cornerstones to create a global vehicle with technology to make life easier, and design and craftsmanship to appeal to customers around the globe."



PHOTO COURTESY OF FORD MOTOR CO.

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2013 Jaguar XF
STARTING AT
\$439*
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* Price shown is MSRP. Excludes destination/handling, tax, title, license fees and optional equipment. Retailer price, terms and vehicle availability may vary. See your local authorized Jaguar Retailer for details. For well-qualified lessees as determined by approved lender. All amounts shown are estimates; retailer sets actual amounts. Residency restrictions apply. 2013 Jaguar XF 2.0T, 36-month lease, \$4,235 due at signing includes \$3,001 down, \$0 security deposit, \$795 acquisition fee and first month's payment, excludes retailer fees, taxes, title and registration fees. Actual rates and payments of closed-end lease may vary. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 12/31/14. Lessee responsible for insurance, maintenance, excess wear and excess mileage over 30,000 miles at \$0.30/mile. Based on MSRP of \$47,870 (includes destination and delivery) with a residual value of \$25,850 as of 11/1/2013. See dealer for details.

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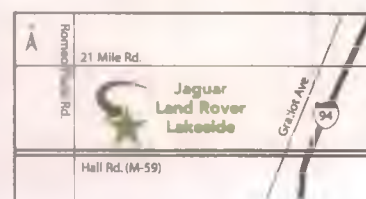


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LEASE FOR
39 MONTHS

*\$399/month plus tax with approved Tier 1 credit for 36 months with 10,000 annual miles allowed. \$3,995 cash down plus taxes, title, license, registration, document fees and \$795 acquisition fee is due at lease signing. No Security Deposit. Evoque MSRP = \$45,040. Offer ends 12/31/2013.

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2014