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# Grosse Pointe News



VOL. 76, NO. 51, 30 PAGES  
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DECEMBER 17, 2015  
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## Water, dog park top issues

By Kathy Ryan  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — The city council will carry over two issues into the new year — a dog park and the possibility of separating from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

At Monday's council meeting, Mayor Robert Denner announced representatives from the Recreation Commission and the Planning

Commission have been in talks with city administrators regarding a dog park. He said a report with recommendations should be in place shortly after the first of the year and expects their findings to be brought to the council at its January meeting.

"Once the report is received, it will be posted to the city's website," Denner said.

See WATER, page 6A



## Roadwork includes St. Paul

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Roadwork is scheduled next year on:

- ◆ all of St. Paul from Cadieux to Fisher,
- ◆ Roosevelt Place, Maumee to Jefferson and
- ◆ University, Maumee to just north of Jefferson.

Construction is funded largely by \$820,000 generated annually by a 2.5 mil road millage City of Grosse Pointe voters approved last year, plus variable sums from the state.

"This is the second year of our new, comprehensive road improvement program," said Peter Dame, city manager. "This first year was funded by the capital projects fund because the millage didn't start until this fiscal year."

Construction is priori-

tized by annual evaluations of road fitness with an emphasis on those rated poor and about to fail.

Upon completion of the millage-funded program in 2020, all roads should be on par, needing little to no maintenance.

"The asset management approach to roads is trying to grab streets that are on the fringe of going into the poor category and fixing those at about half the cost of fixing the road if it were to fall into the poor category," said Stephen Pangori, executive vice president of the city's consulting engineers, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick.

As such, two cracked and pot-holed stretches of Goethe and Rivard,

See WORK, page 6A

## All aboard

Grosse Pointe Woods held its annual Polar Express and the trolley was decorated for the season to take a trip down Lakeshore to view the lights then back to the Cook Schoolhouse at Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall for hot chocolate, cookies and a visit with Santa. Above, Becky Field, 2, shares her M&Ms with Santa. At right, Rhys Dilozenzo holds up his magic ticket. Below, Carson Ahee shows Santa his Polar Express train. Below right, Derrick Hosking tries on the conductor's hat.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



## Toys For Tots drop-off wraps up on the Hill

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Stockbrokers at Morgan Stanley on the Hill are bullish on Christmas.

They intend to top last year's donations to Toys For Tots.

"We took in about \$7,000 worth of toys last year and, with the help of coworkers

and other businesses on the Hill, we're doing a great job trying to beat that goal this year," said Chris Walsh, senior vice president of Morgan Stanley on the Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms.

A pile of new, unwrapped toys surrounds a Christmas tree in the branch lobby, transformed into a collection

See TOYS, page 6A



Trying to top last year's donations, from left, financial advisor Jon Randall, senior vice president and City of Grosse Pointe Councilman Chris Walsh, branch manager Paul Brent, wealth advisor Wayne Peters and senior vice president Sean Moran.

PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

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**Pointer of Interest**  
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**Johnathon Bolton**  
Home: Grosse Pointe Shores  
Co-founder of online art gallery



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# Hoban enjoys new role with St. John

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

Robert Hoban is quick to share credit when it comes to the success of St. John Hospital & Medical Center. The newly-named hospital president, who filled the shoes of former president David Brooks after Brooks resigned this summer, said the staff and physicians, and the philanthropic Grosse Pointe community, are what make the organization a triumph.

"I'm enjoying it," Hoban said of his new role. "It's been far more enjoyable than I anticipated coming in .... I like to say I came into a situation that's not broken. So I will continue to look at what programs and services we can add to address the community's needs. We want the facility to be satisfying to patients and to physicians."

Hoban said St. John's "bread and butter" are its

community-based programs. Since 1953, St. John has offered "person-centered, spiritually, patient-focused care" and many of the hospital's physicians work at St. John because of its dedicated focus on the patient.

"First and foremost we do a good job serving patients," Hoban said. "We serve the entire community and address the vast majority of their needs."

A lot of those needs are met thanks to the philanthropic efforts of the community.

Grants totaling \$2 million, gifted by the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation, will be used for the creation of an outpatient Senior Assessment for Independent Living Center and to enhance the new Acute Care of the Elderly Unit.

Thanks to a \$1 million donation from the Tersigni Family Foundation, the hospital plans to enhance its

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Birthing Center.

The Williams family's gift to the hospital will create the Jerome F. Williams Gastric Cancer Program that will enhance quality of care, improve outcomes and increase patient satisfaction.

"We're all so blessed with great philanthropic community here in Grosse Pointe, there's no doubt about it," Hoban said, noting donations from the Van Elslander, Boll and Valade families as well. "I'm the lucky one who has to figure out how to grow it incrementally. How do we take it to the next level?"

Hoban said he plans to work with physicians to continue to develop programs and services, conduct research and continue the hospital's solid base of patient care.

"We're blessed with some very, very talented physicians," said Hoban, who has a strategy and business development

background. "It's a great team. Changes in health care are challenging, but they always will be. We've been challenged for 20 years and we've met them so far."

St. John is part of Ascension, the world's largest Catholic health system. The hospital recently was one of 11 Ascension hospitals to earn an A rating for patient and hospital safety — one of many points of pride for Hoban, who said he looks forward to seeing change for the benefit of the hospital.

"The industry will drive change," Hoban said. "I think we'll see more and more services go outpatient and there will be more and more telemedicine. Patients want convenience and access. They want things to be quick and timely. How do we provide that?"

Hoban, who grew up on the eastside, has been employed with St. John for 14 years. Until last

year, he lived in Grosse Pointe, but moved away to downsize after his children moved away. Now, he has plans to move back.

"It's important for this job that we be based in the community," he said. "We'll be moving back to town .... It's a great community. You can't help but like the Grosse Pointe community — the parks, the lake, the school system, police and fire, city services. All the Grosse Pointes do a great job in that regard."

Though his children — Patrick, Paul (Allie), Megan and Michael (Sarah) — have moved away, Hoban and his wife, Judy, still have family nearby. Hoban's sister, Donna, is senior vice president and physician-in-chief at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe.

"She's been there all her professional career. She's done well," Hoban said. "I'm very proud of her."

Another sister is retired



Robert Hoban takes the reins as president of St. John Hospital & Medical Center.

and lives in Grosse Pointe.

"It's nice to have family in the area," he said.

Hoban is open about his plans for the hospital, as well as his personal plans. He said he'd like to retire in five to seven years.

"When I leave, if it's a better place than it is today, I'll leave smiling," he said.

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## Mayor lauds GP News

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — Almost 75 years to the day the Grosse Pointe News first published, Mayor Ted Kedzierski honored it with a proclamation.

"We're very pleased to have you in our community," Kedzierski told Editor and General Manager Joe Warner Tuesday, Nov. 17.

"We're honored to be

here," Warner said. "This is a great community."

The News first published Nov. 7, 1940, under the ownership of Robert B. Edgar. Upon his death in 1979, his son, Robert G. "Butch" Edgar took over.

Shores resident Robert Liggitt Jr. bought the paper eight years ago.

Kedzierski recounted some of the paper's

recent achievements as Michigan Press Association Newspaper of the Year plus awards from Suburban Newspapers of America and the Society of Professional Journalists; and Pointer of Distinction Awards for Excellence in Business from the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce.

— Brad Lindberg

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## Shores hopes for AAA

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — City officials hope the Christmas sea-

son brings peace on earth and a AAA municipal bond rating.

They'll find out late December when Standard & Poor's eval-

uates Grosse Pointe Shores' improved financial standing, featuring higher-than-standard reserves and, hopefully, \$400,000 less debt due to refinancing \$3.9 million worth of marina bonds at a lower interest rate.

Annual savings is \$20,000 for the life of the bonds ending in 2036.

"That's actual cash savings to the city," said Patrick McGow, an attorney representing the city.

"This is recurring savings, every year," said Mayor Ted Kedzierski.

See SHORES, page 11A

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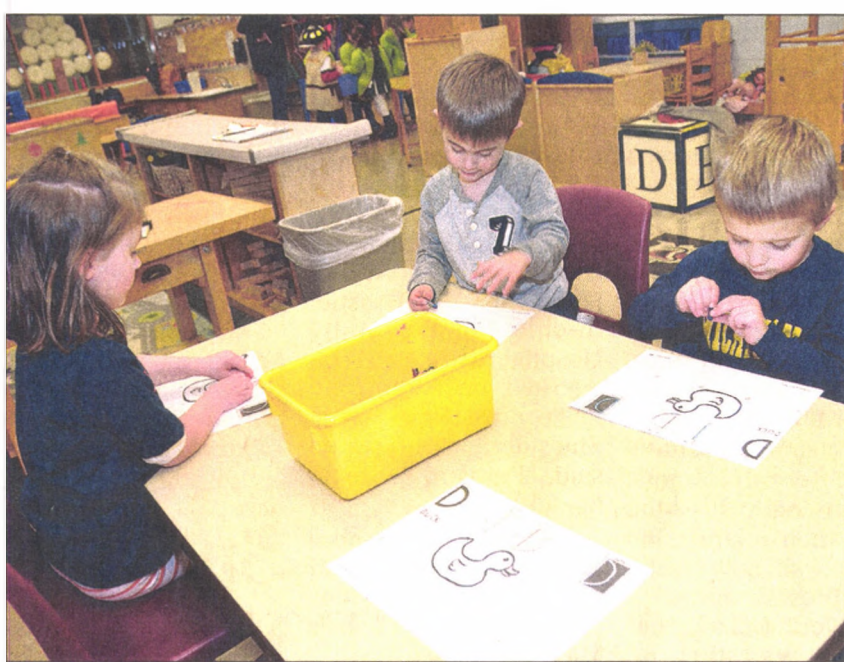
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Washing dishes as a learning skill at Barnes Early Childhood Center are preschoolers, from left, Graham Farrell, Stephen Warnick, Jackson Hachey, Mirren Victory and Mariella Newbold. At left, Karis Sanders, Cole Cristo and Gavin Bethell trace and color while learning the letter of the week.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## District offers new program

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Beginning in June, Grosse Pointe Public School System leaders started the process of reviewing current preschool programming and investigating expansion possibilities. Stakeholders from each elementary school building, including parents, teachers and GPPSS Board of Education members surveyed the community to guide decision-making. New and expanded options are a response to that survey as well as committee recommendations and feedback, said Keith Howell, director of pre-K and elementary instruction.

### Young Fives

Approved at the board meeting Monday, Dec. 14, was the Young Fives program, a free, full-day program offered to students within the district. Available at Defer, Mason and Poupard elementary schools, the program will follow the school day schedule and focus on social, emo-

tional, physical and academic development.

"The Young Fives program offers an alternative for children whose parents feel that they are not quite ready for a traditional kindergarten experience," Howell said. It follows the kindergarten curriculum, but is age-appropriate based on readiness.

Families with children whose birthdate falls between March 1 and Dec. 1, 2016 may apply to one of the identified schools. Students who participate and complete the Young Fives program are expected to return to their home school the following year.

Children typically will progress to kindergarten. However, if a student meets the kindergarten social, emotional and academic expectations by the end of the year, a first-grade placement may be made based on teacher and principal recommendations, Howell said.

The locations span the district, with Mason and Poupard at the north end, Defer at the south

end. "We picked these buildings because there is room," Howell said. If buildings fill to capacity, additional Young Fives locations may be identified if space is available. A minimum of 18 full-time students is required in each location.

Young Fives is considered a kindergarten program, with the district receiving state funding in the same manner. Teachers will be from the district.

Parents interested in learning more should go to [gpschools.org](http://gpschools.org) and click on the Young Fives link or attend Kindergarten Information Night Thursday, Jan. 21, Howell said.

"A lot of parents who come to our kindergarten night are the ones unsure about whether their children should attend kindergarten or not."

Families enroll through the GPPSS residency office by Friday, Feb. 26. If needed, a lottery drawing will be held Monday, Feb. 29. "We are going to leap into the Young Fives program," Howell said.

### Preschool expansion

The early childhood special education and current GPPSS child development and preschool programs at the Barnes Early Childhood Center will remain unchanged. Information is available on the district website.

New tuition-based preschool offerings open to families in and outside the district include a half-day preschool at Monteith and Richard elementary schools.

Four-year-olds attend Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Three-year-olds attend Tuesdays and Thursdays. The programming will resemble the current preschool program at Barnes.

The full-day preschool currently available at Barnes and Trombly Elementary School will be expanded to Maire and Monteith elementary schools for the 2016-17 school year.

The programming will resemble the current preschool program at Barnes and Trombly.

Registration begins Monday, Jan. 4.

## Audit shows savings stockpile

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — This year's municipal audit presentation had the tenor of a sing-along.

Auditors and city finance personnel harmonized about Grosse Pointe Farms' upbeat standing.

"The city continues to be in sound financial condition," Bill Brickey, an audit partner at Plante Moran, told members of the city council Monday, Dec. 7. "You have a healthy fund balance."

"We maintained the same millage tax rate the last four years," said Councilman Louis Theros, chairman of the finance committee. "The Farms continues to be the lowest city mil rate of any of the Grosse Pointes by over \$2 per \$1,000."

The audit for June 30 met all standards and revealed no irregularities regarding or related to the \$25 million annual budget, including the \$13 million general operating fund.

"It shows your commitment to transparency and the overall quality of your financial reporting," Brickey said.

Highlights include a \$3.9 million unassigned fund balance, often considered a rainy day fund.

The figure represents 29 percent of the fiscal year 2015-2016 budget, roughly one-third more than the minimum 20 percent auditors prescribe.

"Total fund balance is \$5.1 million," said Farms controller John

Lamerato. "We added roughly \$85,000 to fund balance as a result of having revenues over expenses for the year."

"All city general fund departments were under budget for the current year, which saved the city about \$247,000, which is about 2 percent below what was budgeted to be spent," Brickey said.

Savings grew despite expenditures on fixed assets.

"The city continues to make significant investments in infrastructure and, in the current year, spent about \$2.5 million on a variety of capital improvements, including road improvements, vehicles and sewer infrastructure," Brickey said.

Pension systems are brimming.

The police and fire pension is 118 percent funded; the general employee pension is at 101 percent, according to Theros.

"Both are in fantastic shape," he said.

"For the first time, that overfunding is being reported in your financial statements as an asset," Brickey said. "Most communities report a significant liability."

Work starts soon on next fiscal year's budget.

"We've been notified by the state that the Consumer Price Index adjustment for next year's taxable value is .6 percent," Lamerato said.

"That means the most a resident's taxable value can go up is .6 percent."

He doesn't anticipate flat property tax revenue to pose a funding problem under current conditions.

Letters to Santa,  
pages 8A, 7B, 9B and 5C

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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

# Promoting local Online art gallery features Michigan artists

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

Johnathan Bolton is the first to admit he isn't the greatest artist. But he'll also say his passion for art is driven by so much more than the ability to put paint on canvas.

He looks for the story in art and, in an effort to share artists' stories with the community, decided to open an online art gallery featuring the work of Michigan artists.

He and Jacob Dombrowski launched Artists & Investors in September.

"We provide accessibility to local art to a wider audience," Bolton said. "Instead of brick and mortar, we want to focus on making art accessible to people using e-commerce."

The focus is on millennials, he said, adding professional services and

client interaction are also key.

Bolton, a Grosse Pointe Shores resident, graduated John Carroll University in 2013 with a degree in English. After school, he taught English in Spain for a year, including giving private lessons to a former art collector.

"I always had passion for art. I was never good as an artist, but I had such an interest in it," he said. "I saw a huge market for it when I came back to Detroit. I saw an opportunity to start a career in something I've always had a passion toward."

With help and encouragement from his entrepreneur father, Bolton, 24, was inspired to take a chance and start the website. He formulated a business model and pitched it to new friend Dombrowski, a former



Jacob Dombrowski, left, and Johnathan Bolton recently launched the online art gallery [artistsinvestors.com](http://artistsinvestors.com).

COURTESY PHOTO

University Liggett School student who has degrees in studio art and art history. Dombrowski, who grew up in St. Clair Shores and lives in Detroit, is working toward a master's degree in visual and critical studies.

"John is good at communicating his passion and work ethic," Dombrowski said. "When he presented this idea to me, I was interested in the idea of helping local artists connect with patrons and providing a reliable place for those looking to buy art to make a confident investment. The metro area has plenty of galler-

ies with a great range of work, but very few places are bridging the gap between quality contemporary artists and those interested in collecting new local work."

The business partners have different opinions about art, but that's what makes their relationship work so well, Bolton said.

Dombrowski agreed. "We work well together because we start on opposite sides of a lot of issues," he said, "but we both want to be a part of the new growth happening throughout the whole metro area. That's the biggest goal for the company, to encourage this growth by bringing local art and culture straight to those who support it."

The website includes 19 original works from a handful of artists, including Bolton's former class-

mate Egan Franks, her friend Jessica Ford and Ford's friend Cayl Austin. Grosse Pointer Molly Daudlin's work also is on the site.

"Day by day, we're piecing it together," Bolton said. "I'm really happy about that."

They plan to add more work to the site soon and are happy to consider works from other Michigan artists.

"We want to represent the best emerging artists in Detroit," Dombrowski said. "The artists we show now are very talented and it's exciting every time we add new work."

"It's been a lot of hard work, but so much fun," Bolton said.

Bolton said artistsinvestors.com is like an art gallery without the walls. Potential buyers not only

browse the works online, but may schedule — free of charge — appointments to have the work sent to their homes to see if they like the piece in person. The proprietors are happy to suggest in which room the piece would look best or help hang the work. On occasion, the artists themselves may come along as well.

"Even if they don't buy it, it doesn't cost them anything," Bolton said. "Art is such an aesthetic thing. Some people need to sit with it for a bit."

Bolton said art may be hand-delivered to buyers up to 40 miles away. The delivery includes installation, if desired, for \$10.

For information about Artists & Investors, visit [artistsinvestors.com](http://artistsinvestors.com) or follow the gallery on Twitter @artinvest4.

## Special thanks

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Andrew Llewellyn, a 12-year volunteer of the city's Beautification Advisory Commission, received special recognition from his peers for having a green thumb worth its weight in gold.

Councilman and Commission Chairman Lev Wood praised Llewellyn for "work, dedication and overall beautification efforts," adding that he has "a great eye for excellence."

"Thank you for all your hard work," said Mayor James Farquhar.

"During our planning meetings, Andy always contributes," Wood said. "He assists new members with a better understand-

See THANKS, page 6A

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# Proclamation honors Hiller's 44 years

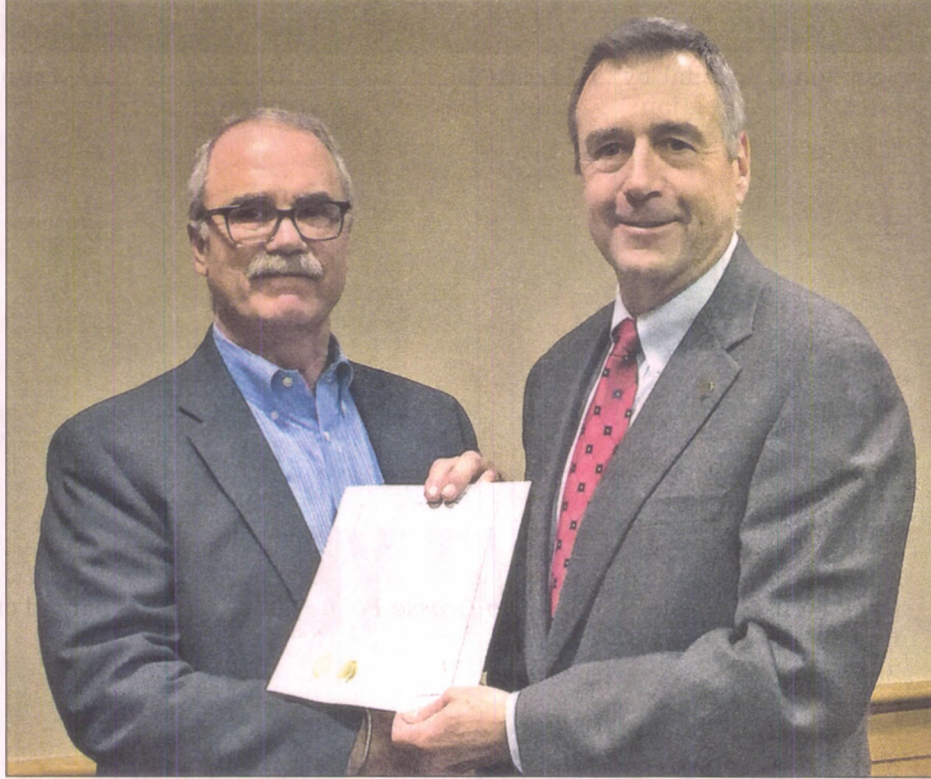
By Kathy Ryan  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — On Jan. 3, 2016, 44 years to the day he first walked into the police station in Grosse Pointe Park, Chief David Hiller will retire.

But that doesn't mean the long-serving officer will be walking away.

"We all have your number on speed dial," said City Attorney Dennis Lasseur as the Park city council honored Hiller for his service. "You may be out of office, but you're not out of the picture."

Mayor Robert Denner presented Hiller with an official proclamation from the city and thanked him for his years of service. "It's amazing what you've seen and what you've done. I congratulate you on an exemplary career."



Chief David Hiller, left, accepts a proclamation for his service to Grosse Pointe Park from Mayor Robert Denner. Hiller will leave his post Jan. 3, the same date he started 44 years ago.

leader and a stand up guy. Thanks, buddy, for everything."

Laurie Arora thanked Hiller for his dedication to Park residents.

"Thank you for taking my calls on Saturday nights," she said. "You were always responsive to the citizens and we will miss you."

City Manager Dale Krajniak, who worked with Hiller 30 years, congratulated him on an outstanding career.

Hiller thanked the council for its support.

"It doesn't seem like 44 years," he said. "It's been fun to work with a council that allows me to do my job and not micro-manage. But call me, I'll answer."

PHOTO BY KATHY RYAN

Councilman Jim Robson couldn't help commenting on a picture of Hiller as a young officer.

"You were one handsome guy," he said with a laugh. "But in all seriousness, you've been a great

Hiller joined what was

then the Grosse Pointe Park Police Department Jan. 3, 1972. He was promoted to sergeant in 1982, lieutenant in 1988 and detective lieutenant

in 1990. He was appointed deputy chief in 2000 and in 2001 was named director of the Department of Public Safety.

## WATER:

Continued from page 1A

The major issue regarding a dog park is where it will be located. Many dog owners have expressed an interest in having it at Patterson Park, while the city proposed putting it on city-owned land at Mack and Wayburn.

Another issue that will be on the council agenda is the possibility of the Park building its own water plant, allowing the city to separate from the Detroit system.

In response to a resident's question, City Manager Dale Krajniak said the city, to date, has spent \$250,000 on studies and tests to determine the feasibility of such a project.

The city started the process back in 2006. It has been conducting tests required by the state and has secured permits from the Department of Environmental Quality, some of which, Krajniak said, must be renewed.

Denner noted he has established a new city commission, the Public Service Commission, to oversee the process.

He serves on the commission, along with John Chouinard. Dan Grano is chairman.

Once tests are completed and applications are approved by the state, the Public Service Commission and city administration will issue a report to the council. According to Denner, a public hearing will be held.

While no date was given for a possible report, Krajniak said the newest round of tests will take five to six months to complete, and those results must be submitted to the state.

## WORK:

Continued from page 1A

rated worst in the city's 28.3-mile inventory,

aren't scheduled for reconstruction for at least five years.

"We're looking city-wide and trying to bring all roads to an acceptable

level, then maintain them so we don't run into the same situation where we have roads that are trouble," Councilwoman Jean Weipert said.

## TOYS:

Continued from page 1A

center for Toys For Tots, a children's Christmas charity founded by U.S. Marine reservists after World War II.

Morgan Stanley employees on the Hill teamed with the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade to support giving gifts to area children at risk of not receiving presents under the tree.

"This is a win-win for

the community and something that will bring smiles to little kids' faces," Walsh said.

"We took donations and purchased a bunch of toys at Target Eastland," said Jon Randall, financial advisor. "Between contributions from the office and other businesses in the community, it's been a great opportunity to come together as a community on the Hill."

"Giving back has been a cornerstone of the

Grosse Pointe office," said Paul Brent, branch manager. "Toys For Tots has been our flagship event. I look forward to doing this throughout the years."

The last day to drop off toys in the lobby, 130 Kercheval near the corner of Hall Road, is Thursday, Dec. 17.

"There's also a collection box in the lobby of the City of Grosse Pointe (city hall, 17147 Maumee) that we also collect," Randall said.

## THANKS:

Continued from page 4A

ing of our work. If there's ever any extra work to do, Andy is the first to volunteer."

In August, Llewellyn earned the Individual Service Award for

Outstanding Community Service from the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan.

"The award honors outstanding volunteer efforts in the field of beautification," Wood said during the Grosse Pointe Farms 2015 beautification awards ceremony Tuesday, Oct. 13, at

Pier Park.

Unlike the commission's annual awards for beautification of residential and commercial properties, special recognition of particular members is not given regularly.

"Andy's been a great volunteer and model for all of us," Wood said.



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## City of Grosse Pointe

## Key problems

A week after someone stole a woman's house and car keys from the lock to her apartment door in the 800 block of Neff, she reported her purse stolen from her car.

It happened between 4:15 and 4:35 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, she told police.

She described parking and locking her black 2013 Kia Optima in a carport with her black leather purse on the floorboards.

"When she returned to retrieve her purse approximately 20 minutes later," reported an investigating officer, "her car was still locked, but her purse was gone."

In its place she found an empty Kroger gallon milk jug.

Her missing purse contained \$50 and a Verizon cell phone.

## Heroin, too

A 20-year-old City of Grosse Pointe man, investigated at 1:53 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, for smoking marijuana with friends in a 2002 Honda parked in the 300 block of Rivard, reportedly admitted owning a bag of the drug found under the driver's seat.

But, he had no knowledge of two small baggies of heroin at the bottom of a pack of Camel cigarettes in one of his pockets, according to police.

Officers arrested him for possession of drugs.

Police released the driver, a 21-year-old man from West Bloomfield,

and 18-year-old female passenger from Grosse Pointe Park.

"The substance in the cigarette pack tested positive for heroin," reported an officer. "The test for marijuana came back positive."

—Brad Lindberg

Report information about these and other crimes to City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

## Grosse Pointe Farms

## Super drunk

Shortly before 3 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, a 25-year-old Grosse Pointe Farms woman being questioned on Mack near Elizabeth Court for driving a black 2004 Mercury Sable erratically registered a blood alcohol level more than four times the legal maximum to operate a motor vehicle.

She reportedly told police she was returning from work at a bar on Detroit's eastside, where she had nothing more to drink than one beer.

"She was asked to recite the alphabet from D to O," reported the officer, logging her .34 percent blood alcohol level. "She stated, 'D and O,' then stated it was a very confusing test."

It was her second drunken driving arrest.

Police searching the car said they found two empty half-pints of liquor.

"She was transported

to St. John Hospital by medics for evaluation," reported the arresting officer.

## Incoming

A fight with neighbors on Hillcrest Lane over an unspecified matter landed a 51-year-old Farms man in jail Friday evening, Dec. 11.

"While in the cell, (he) was disruptive and continually banged on the cell door," according to an officer.

He's accused of entering a neighbor's house without permission, becoming violent and complaining about the neighbor filing a police report regarding a matter police didn't reveal.

Grounds for arrest were assault and battery plus breaking and entering.

## Fake check

On Thursday, Dec. 3, a man identifying himself as a 24-year-old Detroit resident entered a bank on the Hill and cashed a \$2,298.97 check from Aon risk services that bankers learned a few days later was fake.

The man returned Tuesday, Dec. 8, attempting to cash a check for the same amount, but the bank manager refused.

The man left the area before police arrived.

Bankers described the suspect as black, 5-foot-9 with short hair and beard. He wore a gray sweater and drove a silver sports utility vehicle.

## I.D. theft

A Farms woman learned last week someone used her name to collect \$18,100 unemployment benefits from her former company.

"(She) advised she never filed for unemployment," said a public safety officer, filing the complaint as identify theft.

—Brad Lindberg

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

## Grosse Pointe Shores

## On cruise control

No reports.

—Brad Lindberg

Report information about crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

## Grosse Pointe Park

## Package thefts

The Grinch is at it again. Three packages

delivered to front porches went missing this past week: one Monday, Dec. 7, from a porch in the 800 block of Harcourt; one Saturday, Dec. 12, from a porch in the 1300 block of Nottingham; and one Saturday, Dec. 12, from a porch in the 1300 block of Audubon.

## Unlocked cars entered

Sometime overnight Monday, Dec. 7, two unlocked cars parked on Kensington were entered. While nothing was taken from either car, the cars were rummaged and contents strewn about. Police can't stress enough how important it is to lock cars to avoid becoming a victim of this crime of opportunity.

## Larceny arrest

A host became a victim when houseguests stole power tools and cash during the early morning hours of Saturday, Dec. 12. According to police, the resident was awakened by the sound of his

houseguests leaving his house with more than \$400 worth of power tools and \$1,200 cash which were used to purchase crack cocaine. Police were able to apprehend the suspects.

—Kathy Ryan

Report information on these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety, (313) 822-7400.

## Grosse Pointe Woods

## Food fight

Two unknown males apparently were surprised Saturday, Dec. 12, to find a package they purloined off a front porch in the 1800 block of Severn contained nothing more exciting than food and dropped the box just a few houses away. According to police, a homeowner's security camera captured the theft of the box, a prepackaged meal from Blue Apron. Another resident found the box, unopened, and returned it to the rightful diners.

—Kathy Ryan

Report information on these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

## Retires and comes back

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff writer

POINTE — The director of public service starts retirement this month in the same place he's been for

35 years — at work. Gary Huvaere, a

CITY OF GROSSE

See RETIRES, page 11A





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## Grosse Pointe News

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### GROSSE POINTE NEWS MISSION STATEMENT

To provide the Grosse Pointes the most relevant, accurate and timely information in our print and online publications.

### OUR VIEW

# Penny was gold for our community

Elizabeth "Penny" Soby was a treasure for the Grosse Pointes.

Her unexpected passing this week has brought sadness to many. She served this community for so many years as a teacher, mentor, leader and friend.

She always had a smile, a hello, a hug and a laugh. Penny was a wonderful grandmother and mother, as we know here at the Grosse Pointe News.

Her daughter, Erika Davis and her grandson, Ian, are part of our family. Visits from Ian with grandma were always fun and exciting.

And she was happy to chat about the Tigers or Red Wings. A hometown team love she shared with her daughter and grandson.

Penny was quick to talk about our town's history. She was current president of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, something she enjoyed a great deal.

As a dozen community leaders gathered for a Grosse Pointe News Advisory Board meeting in November, Penny proudly hosted us at the Provencal-Weir House in Grosse Pointe Farms.

She was absolutely excited to talk about history and her hometown paper.

The historical society, in an e-mail to its subscribers, said they will carry on the many initiatives and projects near and dear to Penny. We encourage them to do so.

Few people have had more passion for life, our rich history, the schools and students, Detroit's arts, entertainment and the Ilitch-owned sports teams than Penny Soby. This community lost a real treasure.

Our hearts are with you, Erika, Ian, family and friends. Thank you for sharing a wonderful lady.

*Penny's obituary is on page 6B.*

# LETTERS

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

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

Letters to the Editor can be e-mailed to [jwarner@grossepointenews.com](mailto:jwarner@grossepointenews.com).

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# Pure Grosse Pointe

The Grosse Pointe North High School choir entertained at the annual senior holiday social in Grosse Pointe Woods last week.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

# Dear Santa ...

The following letters are from Lyndsey Briggs and Karla Corio's first graders from Kerby Elementary School:

Dear Santa,  
 How do you make your reindeer fly? Is it with Pixie dust? Thank you for reding my letters Santa. Can you give me a Infinity Character named Barnay?  
 From  
 Ryan

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I left some reindeer food at my front door. You get cookies and reindeer and reindeer get food.  
 From your friend  
 Will

Dear Santa,  
 Can I have the Republic Gunship made out of Legos? In Star Wars it drops Clones. And I will put some gifts by the tree for you to put in your bag for Will and Bissy and Patric and Matt and Jacob.  
 Love  
 Dasch

Dear Santa,  
 I want a Nerf gun. My other Nerf gun I lost my Nerf bullets. I will be more careful with these toys. I hope you give me one.  
 From  
 Quinn

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I think that you are awesome because you do give everyone toys. How do you go down the chimney? I love you Santa.  
 From  
 Patrick

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I want a Karaoke machine because my cousin had one and it looks so cool on Christmas. Thank you.  
 From  
 Mia

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I want a girl scout cooking oven. I will share it with my cousins and my brothers. Santa you are awesome.  
 From  
 Ella

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I would like for Christmas a game. I want to give the old games to someone else. I will share it with my sister. Please get a new game. Merry Christmas. I love you.  
 From  
 Stella

Dear Santa,  
 I have 60 toys and I wot fewer. I would like you to get me Skylander Giants for Christmas because the game is fun!! I think a new Skylander game will be easier. I like you! Can I be on the nice list?  
 From  
 Jacob

Dear Santa,  
 I want a magic K stick. With a magic K I can make all world. I love you Santa  
 From  
 William

Dear Santa,  
 I love you Santa and I wont you to bring me skylanders super chargers you are the best!  
 From  
 Bizzy  
 PS. I fourgot to tel you I wont you to bring me xbox skylanders super chargers #I'm on the nise lest.

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I want a Lego set. I don't have a lot of Legos. I will donate my old Legos to someone else. I hope you have a safe trip.  
 From  
 Jacob

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I would like a basketball. Sometime I have nothin to do and this would be fun so I can learn how to shoot baskets in this sport. If I got a basketball my Dad and I can play together.  
 Love  
 Ali the basketball star

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I've been very good and I think I should have a remote control dinosaur. It will help me lern what dinosaurs looked like. It wood help me lern about dinosaurs. Merry Christmas.  
 Love,  
 Lucas

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good. I want a I-pad and a bike. I need I-pad so I can learn on it. I would like a new bike because my bike is too small  
 Love,  
 Mario Michigan kid

Dear Santa Claus,  
 How are you I have been so good that I would like a computer because it can help me with math and my has an Ipad and tablet  
 Love,  
 Charlie



Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good. I think you should bring some fashion playtes. To help me draw people with cool outfits. This wold help me have beetr drawing skills. It is very fun. If you give me some, you would not have to give me so many other presents.  
 From  
 very good Grace

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good. I think you can get me a math game. Becus all of my othe games are boring. Learning new games is fun. Mabey I can get games for my sister too.  
 Your math monsher,  
 Ricky

Dear Santa Claus,  
 How are the reindeer? I have ben so good because I want a io hok. So if I be good with my balancing. It will be fun.  
 Sadie

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good. I thank I shud have a knitting kit. It will help me git moow schafs and hats. It will help me git beder at soing so I have been vewe good.  
 Your favorit kid,  
 Lila

Dear Santa,  
 How are the reindeer? I have been so good I think you should bring me a new dark purple bike. This will help my body to get stronger.  
 One of the best kids,  
 Hana

Dear Santa,  
 I have been so good! You should bring me a motor bike. It will help me get to skool faster. It is faster then mky bike.  
 Your good boy,  
 Oskar

Dear Santa,  
 I have been very good could you please brrg a remote contorl. I have nevre got one before. This toy is not danger-

ous. A car wed help me lear the parts of one. I wont crash it  
 your responspl kid,  
 Trey

Dear Santa,  
 How are the Elves I have been vere god. Could you bring me new roller blads my uthr wouns got to smol wen I pot thun on my fat wod not fit on de. I went to a Porte and we played on the stret your skakes dinnt fit I had to wat and I wont them to be frozin I wont sosoe thum to loyt up wen I stop and I always wontid thum.

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good I would like a motorbike. It can get me to school faster I can drive my brother and I to the park too. So my mom doesnt have to drive me any more.  
 goobye  
 Patel

Dear Santa,  
 How are the Elves doing? I have been so good. I think I need a kindle Fire decase. I want to be a shtranger reeder. I will only reed it at night with my Mom or Dad. I will do my math and reed on it.  
 Love so good  
 Jack

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good. I think you should bring a big book. It could help me to read better. It could help me learn lots of new thing. It would be really fun to read. I now your elfs are doing good.  
 Love,  
 Carolyn

Dear Santa Claus,  
 I have been so good I think you should bring ... another elf on the shelf because it wood help me be a better prsin. And my "Winter" is very lonely. I think my elf Winter is so funny, because I like having it at my house.  
 Yore varey good  
 Millie

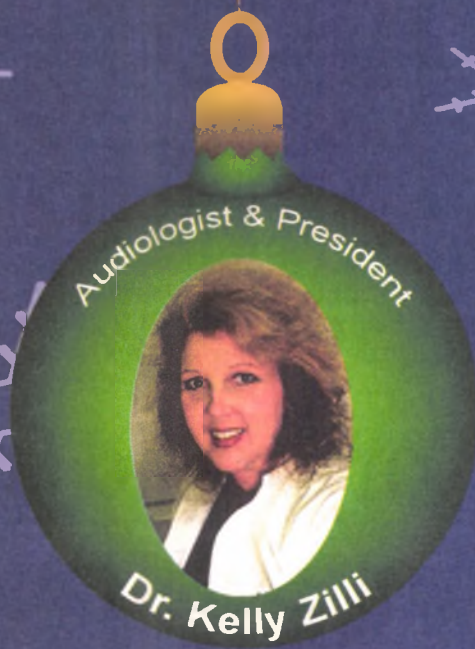




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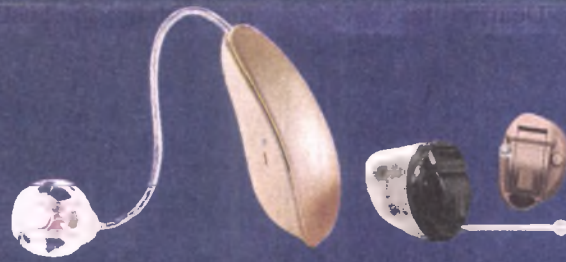
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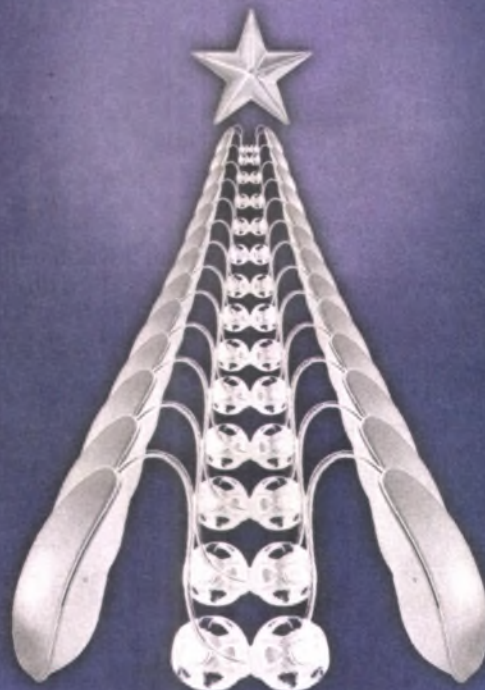


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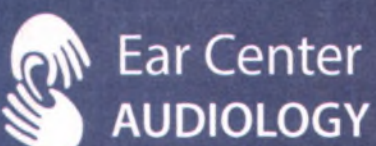
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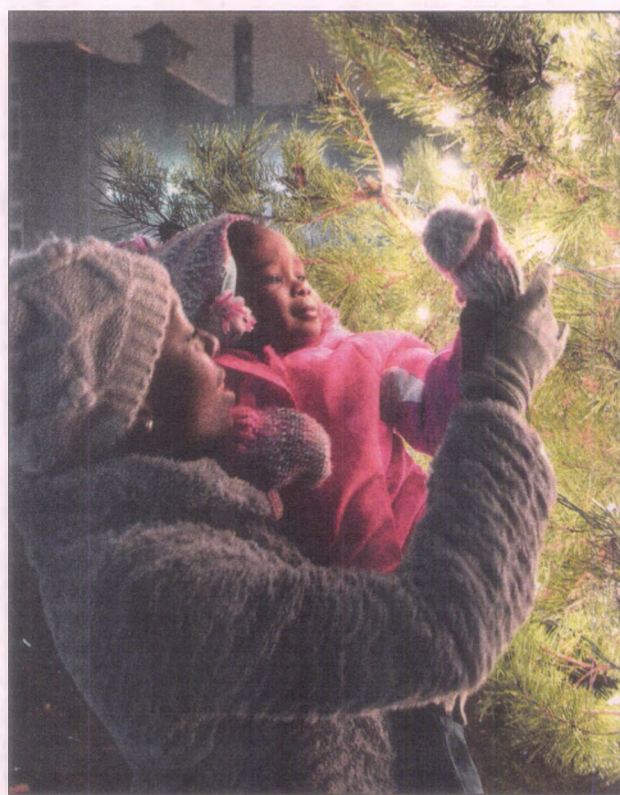


PHOTO BY NORA EZOP

## Christmas wonder

Grosse Pointe Academy eighth-grader Nafi Sall and her sister, Zeyna, enjoy a moment together during the school's annual tree lighting. The school community enjoyed a performance by the eighth-grade bell choir under the direction of Bob Foster and the singing of Christmas carols led by the GPA choir. Afterward, everyone assembled in front of the school for the lighting of the trees while warming their hands on cups of hot chocolate and filling up on doughnuts before the countdown.

# Foundation awards grants

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education announced an award of \$69,940 in grants to the Grosse Pointe Public School System at the GPPSS Board of Education meeting Monday, Dec. 14. Grant proposals were submitted by staff members, parents, students and administrators, said Christie Scoggin, GPFPE vice president. The foundation awarded 16 grants out of more than 30 proposals received.

The largest grant — \$14,000 — was given to Grosse Pointe South High School's symphony orchestra for the pur-

chase of two new cello outfits. Other high notes were funding for drum line instruments for Grosse Pointe North High School's pep band and a new tuba for South's band.

Grants ran the gamut from Kidblog, a blogging platform for students at all nine elementary schools, to iPads and accessories for all three middle school journalism programs and a district-wide K-12 grant for Peer to Peer, a mentoring program creating a bridge to typical activities and social environments for students with special needs with the help of their peers.

Additional enhancements included Think

Through Math, a web-based math program, and LEGO kits for Kerby Elementary School; sensory room materials designed to help children with autism or other developmental disabilities and a projector for the gym for school-wide presentations for Poupard Elementary School; and a literacy program at North that pairs struggling learners with mentors to create a culture of shared leadership.

Grants extended beyond the school day to extracurricular programs. Recipients were Parcels Middle School's First Tech Challenge Team, "The Blown Fuses," South's aerospace club and solar car

team and North and South's combined Gearheads robotics team.

A hydroponics station at Trombly Elementary School will create a real-life growing environment within the existing greenhouse. Students will be able to monitor the stages of the plant cycle regularly with this hands-on learning center.

While GPFPE is a separate organization from the school board and district, it takes the needs of the district into account when making funding decisions, Scoggin said.

"We gift according to the greatest need as well as some very creative, innovative new programs that might be coming up in our grant cycle."

# North and South thespian troupes travel to state festival

Since its establishment as the National Thespian Society in 1929, the Educational Theater Association has worked to promote and strengthen theater arts programs in educational systems throughout the United States, according to Sean Kifer, drama director at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Grosse Pointe South High School students, Pointe Players director Meaghan Dunham, members of the thespian troupe No. 49 along with

North students, Kifer and members of troupe No. 5781 attended the Michigan Thespian Festival at Saginaw Valley State University Dec. 4 and 5.

According to Kifer, highlights for students included the opportunity to compete in individual event competitions and audition for scholarship opportunities before a number of college and university recruiters, all of which could lead to national recognition at the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Neb., in June.

They viewed performances by fellow thespian troupes, attended numerous workshops and returned with new perspectives on theater design and performance. South junior Mary Reinman won an award in the tech games competition for the second consecutive year.

The International Thespian Festival created individual events to give students a chance to showcase talents in several categories, including acting, musical theater, technical prowess in every aspect of production, playwriting, film and dance. More than 1,000 students competed in these events at the state level and South's troupe No. 49 took home two superior honors.

Senior Emily Fleming earned a superior in monologue performance and Reinman earned a superior rating in solo musical theater. Junior Calyx Turco was awarded an excellent rating in solo musical theater.

In addition, junior Lolly Duus of North's troupe No. 5781 earned a superior rating in solo musical theater and a superior rating in monologue performance and

sophomore Lee Daniel scored an excellent rating in playwriting.

Two members of North's troupe, Duus and sophomore Caitlin Mayernik, serve on the Michigan State Thespian Board made up of students who assist in organizing the festival.

Other attendees from South's troupe were seniors Hannah Connors, Lilly Hampton, Alissa Martin and Alexandra Niforos; juniors Tony Attard, Owen Clepton and Abbey Schuetze; and sophomores Sean Gates, Grayson Kennedy, Tommy Thams and Morgan Wilson.

Attendees from North included seniors Matt Carlsen, Rebecca Flynn, Olivia Hoover, Emma Puglia and Colleen Squillace; juniors Grace Guthrie and Sara Wietecha; sophomore Alex Dean and freshman Brennan Hughes.

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SHORES:

Continued from page 2A

A triple-A rating would put the Shores in league with Grosse Pointe Farms, the only city in Wayne County with S&P's top honor.

Plans are to issue refinanced bonds early next year in bite-sized minimum denominations of \$5,000.

"There's going to be a heck of a lot of appetite for these bonds, especially if you're the second community in Wayne County that gets the AAA rating," bond counsel Mike Gormely told city officials Tuesday, Oct. 20. "We would make bonds available retail-wise for the community, as well as the underwriting firm would be selling to institutional investors."

Marina bonds, issued in 2007, funded total renovation of the municipal facility at Osius Park.

Shores officials said they had to delay refinancing until close to the call date Oct. 1, 2016.

"The bonds we're refunding are at about a 4.25 interest rate," Gormely said. "Today, we'd be refinancing those about 3 percent interest rate. The gross savings are \$400,000 net present value."

The marina fund is an enterprise fund.

As such, it's supposed to be self-sustaining and

generate revenue, which it doesn't.

Some \$100,000 from the general fund was used to counter the marina deficit early this year.

"The marina fund needs as much help as it can get," said Councilman Bruce Bisballe, chairman of the finance committee. "When we do underwriting on this bond, we will be going to Standard & Poor's to make our case vociferously, forcefully, professionally to get a AAA rating."

The deal isn't done. First, the city filed with the Michigan Department of Treasury for approval, according to Gormely. Then comes S&P's review.

"We would be before Standard & Poor's making a presentation in roughly early to mid-December, receiving the bond rating back by the end of December," Gormely said. "Then, be in the market mid-January with a closing in mid-February."

The bond is held by an escrow agent until the call date.

"Savings will not lock in until the bonds are sold," McGow said. "That's expected to be in January. Once they are sold, that schedule is set for the next 20 years."

"That's the last major piece of debt we need to restructure," Bisballe said. "We have a bond being paid off next year so, that puts us in a good position."

# New officer on City beat

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Andrew Prueter wanted to work in a close-knit community and he is.

Prueter, 24, is the City of Grosse Pointe's new public safety officer. It's his first job in law, but not in enforcement. He's a first lieutenant in the Michigan National Guard.

"I'm in a maintenance company that drills out of Bay City," said Prueter. "We're attached to the 125th Infantry. In sum-

mer and spring, we're usually training in Camp Grayling."

He hasn't been deployed overseas.

"We'll see," he said, "with all this stuff happening with ISIS."

Prueter is from Walled Lake. He graduated from Central Michigan University in 2013.

"Part of the reason I got into law enforcement was community policing," he said. "I like the City of Grosse Pointe. On top of that, there's the public safety aspect. Doing police and fire fighting is something not

a lot of people get to do." Prueter topped about 70 applicants for the job.

"He came with high recommendations from the staff at the Oakland

Police Academy," said Chief Stephen Poloni. "He is obviously dedicated because he serves in the U.S. military. We're very happy to have him."

RETIRES:

Continued from page 7A

Grosse Pointe native and City employee since 1980, follows retirement Thursday, Dec. 31, as public service director by resuming the job Friday, Jan. 1, as a contract employee.

"Gary is an essential employee we would like to retain," said Peter Dame, city manager.

"I like the direction the city's going," Huvaere said. "I'd like to be part of it."

"I'm glad you'll be around to impart your institutional knowledge," Councilman Andrew Turnbull said.

The arrangement saves the city \$9,408 annually.

"Under terms of this agreement, Gary will not accept active employee healthcare, not qualify for retirement programs

for active employees and not be entitled to carry over or payout of sick or vacation time not used in a given year." Dame said.

Huvaere's contract lasts three years at \$80,000 per annum.

"The city may terminate this agreement after two years, with 90 days notice," Dame said.

Before approving terms Monday, Dec. 14, the city council amended Section 2-31 of the city code permitting rehired department heads to be retained in the same job under contract.

"Allowing the rehiring of department heads after retirement under contract could, depending on how the contract is written, permit savings to the city by avoiding having to pay benefits typically associated with active employees or by paying the retiree a lower salary than a new department head would be paid," Dame said.

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## Spirit of giving Farms family hosts Toys for Tots drive

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

The DeYoung family in Grosse Pointe Farms opened their home to the community Dec. 12, all for the benefit of the less fortunate.

For a second year, Amy Ketola-DeYoung spearheaded a Toys for Tots drive to teach her children — and the 70 to 100 other children who attended — the importance of giving.

“We’ve always tried at Christmas time to do things for other people,” Ketola-DeYoung said. “I grew up with adopting a family. My mom and dad always tried to find a family (to adopt) with the same number of kids in it and taught us to do the same.”

Ketola-DeYoung and her husband, Blair DeYoung, an interventional cardiologist at McLaren Macomb, are parents to five children: Aden DeYoung, 12; Gavin DeYoung, 9; Rory DeYoung, 7; and Colton and Jackson Ketola, 5.

Last year, instead of adopting a family with five children, Ketola-DeYoung decided to collect toys for Toys for Tots. She said around 40 people showed up and the event was such a success, she decided to do it again this year.

Apart from inviting



Five-year-old twins Jackson and Colton Ketola hand Pfc. Nicholas Vicari and Lance Cpl. Brandon Goodwin toys for the Toys for Tots collection. The Marines are based out of Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

classmates and teammates from her children's schools and teams, Ketola-DeYoung opened her home to church friends, neighbors and even strangers this year. She estimates \$3,000 in toys were collected for donation to the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program.

One family from Ferry Elementary School donated a new bicycle. Another woman who couldn't make it to the event sent 10 stuffed animals for donation.

“It was pretty awe-

some,” Ketola-DeYoung said. “It went by pretty quick. It seems to be getting bigger and bigger. I don't know what I'll do next year.”

Two Marines attended the event, as did Santa and Mrs. Claus, a few elves, a reindeer and musicians from the Grosse Pointe Music Academy. Food was catered by the Polish Cafe.

“Everybody had a great time. It's not only about kids learning to give, but also about community,” Ketola-DeYoung said.

“It's about getting together and celebrating together. It was really



Toys pile up in the family's garage as donations continued to arrive.



Elves Gareth Larsson and Defen Strong stand by as 3-year-old Colin Gough of Grosse Pointe Farms visits Clarice the reindeer.

fun.” Another message Ketola-DeYoung said she hoped to convey to the families who attended is the importance of being humble and kind.

“We're very privileged,” she said. “It's humbling. You need to be humble, especially if you're lucky. My husband works very hard. He's an amazing man, but we're lucky. It's important to teach your kids to work hard, but a lot of kids don't have the same opportunities. They

need to feel lucky, not entitled. They're learning how to give and have kind hearts. It's not about what you have; it's about having a kind heart.

“It's important for people in this community, despite how lucky we are, to give back,” she continued. “These aren't handouts. It's sharing and understanding that not everybody's fortunate.”

The event, she said, was successful in teaching children it's more important to give than to receive. The generosity of her guests was matched only by the excitement children had for giving to those in need.

“Not one kid here didn't understand what those gifts were for,” Ketola-DeYoung said. “And it makes me happy when they're all here and not playing video games. We try to promote more interaction with kids and getting to know other kids, too.”

## A Christmas miracle Accident survivor, midwife prepare for miracle baby

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

Anna Trela doesn't like to talk about the accident that nearly killed her last February. She doesn't dwell on the surgeries that followed or the pain she still experiences after being run over by two cars in Hamtramck while crossing the street after work.

Instead she focuses on the miracle of finding herself pregnant after 10 years of trying, the health of her fetus after taking pain medications before knowing she was with child and the help she has received from Emily Dove-Medows, a certified nurse midwife with Beaumont's Karmanos Birth Center.

“I'm going to be recovering for a long time after the baby,” Trela said. “But the pregnancy helped me focus on the positive instead of the negative, instead of the pain.”

Alexander is due to arrive Dec. 23. He will join 11-year-old Olivia and parents in their Warren home.

Trela found out she was pregnant after the accident, after surgery and treatment for pain. She stopped taking pain medications when she found out about Alexander.

“It hurts everywhere,” she said. “The injuries were severe. I tried for 10 years to have a baby. To find out I'm pregnant was almost like I was hit by



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

another car.

“Just surviving the accident was a miracle, but then boom, finding out I'm pregnant was another miracle. I feel like God saved me for a reason. Especially at Christmas

time. What more could you ask for?”

Much of Trela's positive attitude has to do with Dove-Medows. After a negative experience with her original obstetrician, Trela “fell in

**Certified nurse midwife Emily Dove-Medows, left, consults with patient Anna Trela, who discovered she was pregnant following a near-fatal accident in February.**

love” with Dove-Medows' professionalism and care. “I've never had a better doctor,” she said. “She takes time with you, never ignores you. She cares about her patients and you always get posi-

tive thinking from her side .... I think she was born to do this. Here, I'm welcomed, never judged .... She always gives a little advice to prepare you, to keep you positive. Even when you go in negative because you're so scared, you come out hopeful.”

Dove-Medows, who lives in Grosse Pointe Farms with her husband, Peter, and their three children, works at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, and has an office in Warren. Her role as a midwife includes not only maternity care, but gynecologic care for women of all ages.

“Many people think that we only care for

See BABY, page 4B

## Tis The Season



Suzanne Antonelli, CFP®  
Senior Portfolio Manager

The holidays are rapidly approaching and we are deluged to make year end donations. Thus, it is timely to review creative gifting strategies and how to gift more with less outlay. When making philanthropic

gifts it is important to keep adequate records of gifts as the IRS requires supporting documentation if audited. Any monetary gift with a value in excess of \$250 requires a receipt from the charity.

Donations to a qualified tax-exempt organization may only be claimed as a deduction if you itemize expenses. If you claim the standard deduction, your charitable gift will not reduce your federal tax burden. Also, with the changes in tax law that took effect in 2013, higher income taxpayers may not get the full benefit of their total itemized deductions. Regardless of deductibility,

there are effective strategies for charitable giving that are more tax efficient than merely writing a check. Gifting appreciated securities avoids the capital gains tax that would be due if you sold the securities.

**For example:** You purchased 5,000 shares of XYZ stock in December of 2001 for \$1.36, for a total cost of \$6,800. Today, that same stock is now worth \$115.00 per share, or \$575,000 with a capital gain of \$568,200. If you were to sell the shares to give cash, your capital gain would be taxed at 20% + 3.8% Medicare surtax for those in the highest tax brackets,

or \$135,231 (23.8%); State of Michigan taxes would be \$24,140 (4.25%) and your net contribution would be \$415,629. If you made a direct gift of the shares to the charity they would get full benefit of the market value of the shares, \$575,000, and could sell the shares with no tax liability. In other words, by making the direct gift you are gifting what would be the tax liability to the charity, rather than paying the funds to the tax authorities!

Another strategy is to contribute cash or appreciated securities to a Donor Advised fund. You receive the tax benefit in the year in which

you make the gift, but retain the right to make gifts from this “escrow-like” account far into the future. Some Donor Advised funds allow automatic gifts to be made on a regular basis (even as often as weekly and as little as \$10). These accounts make donations in your name or you may remain anonymous if you are so inclined.

If you have an IRA subject to Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) and do not need the annual withdrawal to live on, you are able to directly transfer up to \$100,000 of your annual RMD to a qualified charity. Your philanthropic

wishes are met, but the \$100,000 is not subject to income taxes.

As you contemplate gifts to your favorite charity please keep the above strategies in mind. All questions or comments are welcome.

Suzanne has over 25 years of experience in personalized portfolio management, tax and retirement planning, risk management, and estate plan execution and funding. She specializes in the unique financial needs of families, retirees, and women. Phone: 248-223-0122  
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2B | COMMUNITY

# 'Longest Night' service slated

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, offers a "Longest Night" service at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20.

While Christmas is a time of excitement and joy for most, it can also be a season of sadness. The constant refrain of getting together with family and friends can be a painful reminder to some of what they have lost or never had. The death of a loved one, the anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the

weariness of ill health or the pain of isolation can make them feel alone in the midst of seasonal celebrations.

"Longest Night" is a way to support those who need the space and time to acknowledge sadness and concern and to know they are not alone. The worship service is an occasion to share and hear prayers, scripture and music acknowledging God's presence with those who mourn and struggle in sadness.

For more information, call (313) 886-4301.

# AREA ACTIVITIES

## BNI

Business Network International meets at 7 a.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Ryan Marier at (313) 638-7526.

## Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets at 7:15 a.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Dr. Peter Henry, pastor of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, speaks. Call Eric Lindquist at (313) 530-8656.

## Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe meets at noon Mondays in the Fries Ballroom at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Each week features a speaker and lunch is

available for \$20.

## SOC

Services for Older Citizens, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, shows "The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23. Cost is \$2. Call (313) 882-9600.

## Women's Connection

The Women's Connection of Grosse Pointe presents "Classy Dancing," featuring Grosse Pointe couples offering dancing tips, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Call Ellie Kay at (586) 463-2463 or Jan Baumann at (586) 243-2241.

## Story time

Barnes & Noble, 19221 Mack, Detroit, presents "How to Catch Santa" storytime at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19. The reading is followed by coloring and activities.

Call (313) 884-5220.

## Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit;

◆ 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21, Beaumont Health System, Grosse Pointe, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe and

◆ 1 to 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, Heartland Nursing Center, 21401 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

## Libraries

The Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, hosts "Twas the Night Before Christmas" at 4:30 and 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22. Santa will read the book and take requests from children. Crafts and snacks also are available. Registration is required. Call (313) 343-2074.

The Woods Branch, 20680 Mack, presents its

"Rockin' New Year's Noon Bash" at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29. Children ages 5 and younger are invited to bring their families for music, dancing and fun. Call (313) 343-2072.

## Senior Men

The Senior Men's Club of Grosse Pointe meets for lunch Tuesday, Dec. 22, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Nolan Finley, editorial editor for the Detroit News, speaks. Men ages 55 and older are invited. Cost is \$10. Call Robert Murphy at (313) 886-4927.

## War Memorial

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents "1,000 Christmas Salutes," a holiday meal for veterans and their families, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23. The event is in partnership with Justin Verlander's Wins for Warriors Foundation. Reservations are required. Call (313) 322-4074 or visit warmemorial.org.

## Reunion

Grosse Pointe South High School class of 2000 is hosting a casual get-together for its 15-year reunion at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, at Bayview Yacht Club. Email gpsclassof2000@gmail.com or follow gpsclassof2000 on Facebook.

## ART Center

The Grosse Pointe ART Center, 17118 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, presents "CHEERS!" featuring work by Linda Allen, through Thursday, Jan. 28. Call (313) 881-3454.

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Storytime with Local Authors Saturdays, 2 - 3 p.m.  
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Free Gift Wrap at Grosse Pointe Art Center, Fridays, 5 - 8 p.m.

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## Family Christmas Eve Service And Christmas Eve Candlelit Service



Thursday, December 24th

5:00 PM (Family Service) and 11:00 PM (Candlelit Service)

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church  
240 Chalfonte at Lothorp in Grosse Pointe Farms  
www.gpcong.org  
All are welcome to be a part of the celebration!!!

# St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church hosts Motor City Chorale

The Motor City Chorale performs at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18. A free-will offering is collected to help cover

expenses.

MCC is a charitable organization based in Warren, whose mission is to foster, develop and share a passion for choral music. The group annually performs 20 to

25 concerts across the metro Detroit area at senior centers, community, religious and civic venues, as well as for charitable organizations and events.

Grosse Pointe resident,

St. Paul music director and MCC accompanist Eric Miller joined the group in 2008. He has served as choir director at Warren's Lincoln High School since 1981 and in various music capacities

at several churches in the Detroit area. Miller also has been the senior choir director at St. Paul since 1994.

Besides playing the piano and the organ, Miller is proficient on the

trombone, cello and string bass.

MCC membership is open to anyone who loves to sing. There is no audition required to join. E-mail info@motorcitychorale.org.

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December 31, 2015 • 7:00 pm - 2:00 am

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Irving Berlin's ... **White Christmas** The Musical

**December 13, 19-21, 2015**

Produced by special arrangement with R & H Theatricals

**Sunday curtain - 2 p.m.**

**Evening curtain - 7:30 p.m.**

**TICKETS - \$24**

**313-881-4004 or www.gpt.org**

Shows are performed at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Theater  
32 Lake Shore Road • Grosse Pointe Farms 48236

Sponsored by: **Grosse Pointe News**

Ticket Office: 315 Fisher Road • Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

**4B | COMMUNITY**

**ASK THE EXPERTS** By Dr. Christine Chelladurai

# Why the elderly may behave different at night

**Q:** My elderly parent has been diagnosed with dementia and has moved to an assisted living facility. The transition was difficult, but lately things have been going pretty well. I do notice, however, a significant change in his behavior late in the day and when I'm visiting. I'm not sure what is happening or how to help him settle down. What is this about and is there any way I can help him?

**A:** When a person with dementia experiences changes in behavior specifically and consistently during the evening hours, this could be due to a phenomenon called sundowning. The exact cause is unknown; however, sundowning has been thought to occur due to one's impaired circadian regulation, which refers to the disruption of one's internal clock that

regulates the sleep-wake cycle. Other contributing factors may include mental fatigue, lessened stimulation later in the day and lowered lighting later in the day.

Sundowning refers to a state of confusion that occurs in the evening hours and sometimes into the night. It often involves disorientation, anxiousness, aggressive behaviors, difficulty comprehending or following directions and/or pacing or wandering behaviors.

You can reduce sundowning by:

- ◆ Working on sleep hygiene to reduce day-night reversal by limiting daytime naps, caffeine and excessive sugar intake prior to bedtime.
- ◆ Using low-dose melatonin, which is a naturally occurring hormone that regulates the sleep-wake cycle.

## The Family Center

### ASK THE EXPERTS articles

◆ Maintaining a predictable routine for bedtime, waking, meals and activities.

◆ Providing frequent orientation to surroundings.

◆ Providing a small afternoon nap limited to less than an hour followed by increasing afternoon stimulation and activity.

◆ Planning activities and exposure to light during the day to encourage nighttime sleepiness.

◆ Reducing background noise and stimulating activities in the evening to nighttime hours as this can increase agitation.

◆ If the environment is

strange or unfamiliar, bringing in familiar items such as photographs or bed linens.

It is important to note if your loved one is typically not confused in the later hours of the day and develops confusion, this may be a sign of delirium, which is different from sundowning and needs immediate medical attention.

*Christine P. Chelladurai DO is a geriatric medicine physician and medical director for Beaumont Geriatric Evaluation Center and ShorePointe*

*Nursing Center in St. Clair Shores. She can be reached at (586) 447-8021. Beaumont Hospital is a member of the Family Center's Association of Professionals.*

*The Family Center's mission is to serve the community through programs and resources vital to today's families. As a nonprofit organization, it is completely supported by community donations. To learn more, visit familycenterweb.org, call (313) 432-3832 or e-mail info@familycenterweb.org.*

## BABY:

*Continued from page 1B*

women who are pregnant and want natural childbirth, but that is not true," she said. "If you identify as a woman, then you can see a midwife. I have patients who are 15 years old and patients who are 95."

She said she chose midwifery so she could work with women during "some of the most important and influential times during their lives. Having a positive birth experience or health care experience is one that can be transformative for many women and my goal is to facilitate that in the safest way possible .... My entire purpose is to

empower women to make safe choices about her health throughout the lifespan."

Dove-Medows said working with Trela has been an honor.

"Anna's story is just triumphant. Her positive attitude in light of the magnitude of her accident is something we can all learn from," Dove-Medows said. "She has also been fiercely dedicated to her healing since her accident and that has contributed immensely to her overall health. As far as her pregnancy goes, she has just thrived."

Dove-Medows said she also feels lucky to work at Beaumont and with its nurses, providers and support staff. Beaumont's hospital-based midwifery

program at the Karmanos Birth Center launched earlier this year.

"I am thrilled that Beaumont has been so supportive of midwifery and that through the Karmanos Natural Birth Center and other outreach, more women than ever have access to midwifery at Royal Oak," she said.

Trela said she not only is grateful for Dove-Medows' help, but also that she wants to give hope to other women struggling to get pregnant.

"I want to inspire somebody. There is some hope," Trela said. "If there's somebody giving up on the idea of having a baby, don't give up. Miracles do happen."

*Jesus Born In Bethlehem  
His Candles Are Burning Forever  
Christ's Love Is Always With Us  
The Warmth Of Cold December  
Our Blessed Mother Mary And  
Her Beloved Joseph, Kneel Before Their  
Precious Boy Giving Praise And Thanksgiving  
To God The Father, For Their Gift  
Of Greatest Joy.  
The Shepherd Boy Was There  
His Presence Was His Gift Of  
Love And Care  
They Noticed Three Wise Men  
From Afar, They Came To Honor Jesus  
The Eternal Star.  
The Angels Were Rejoicing, When They Heard  
The Shepherds Horn  
Announcing To The World That  
Christ Our King Is Born.  
I Will Always Remember My Friends So Dear  
We Were Always Together Throughout The Years  
Planning And Preparing The Childrens'  
Christmas Festivity  
Our Labor Of Love Is Our Gift  
To Jesus, His Majesty  
My Friends Are Now Residing In Heaven  
In Eternity.  
Preparing For Our Lords Nativity,  
A Most Blessed Festivity.  
Embracing The "Son"  
Shining The Stars  
Dusting The Clouds  
Polishing The Moon  
Making Sure That The Poinsettias For  
Jesus, Are In Full Bloom  
This Is My Spiritual Bouquet  
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Greetings From  
-Fanny Filangi  
and Family*

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A service of reflection and remembrance

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# WORSHIP SERVICES

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**Crosspointe Christian Church**  
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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:30 pm [www.YourC3.org](http://www.YourC3.org)



**St. Clare of Montefalco Church**  
1401 Whittier Road  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230  
313-647-5000  
[www.stclarem.org](http://www.stclarem.org)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2015**  
Vigil (December 19) 4:00 pm  
Sunday Morning 9:00 and 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening 5:00 pm

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Thursday, December 24, 2015  
4:00 pm Vigil Mass  
6:00 pm Mass  
(11:30 pm Christmas Caroling)  
12:00 am Midnight Mass

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Friday, December 25, 2015  
9:00 am and 11:00 am

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2016**  
Vigil (December 31) 4:00 p.m.  
Mary, Mother of God—Mass 10:00 am

**Grosse Pointe UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

An Official Welcoming Congregation  
211 Moross Rd.  
Grosse Pointe Farms  
886-2363

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Family Service - 5:00 pm  
Candlelight Service - 9:00 pm  
College Reception - 10:00 pm  
Chapel Service - 11:15pm

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
9:30 am

**CHURCH SCHOOL**  
9:45 am 4 yrs. - 5th Grade  
10:45 am Middle School  
11:00 am Adult Sunday School

Nursery & Toddler Care Provided  
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**Sunday Worship Schedule**  
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10:45 am Christian Education

375 Lothrop  
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[www.stpaulgp.org](http://www.stpaulgp.org)  
Rev. Justin Dittrich, Pastor

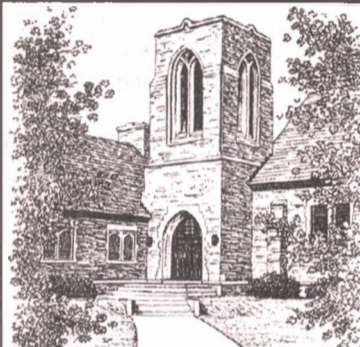
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5:00 pm  
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7:30 pm  
Candlelight with Special Music  
11:00 pm  
Candlelight with Holy Communion

**Sunday Mornings**  
9:30 am - Contemporary Worship  
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**Thursdays in Advent**  
Recitals following the 12:10 p.m. Eucharist Service.  
Dec. 17: The Three Chorals of César Franck  
A light luncheon will be served following the recitals.

**Christmas Eve Services, December 24**  
12:10, 7:30 & 11:00pm Holy Communion Services

**The First Sunday After Christmas, December 27**  
8:30am-The Holy Communion  
The 11:00 o'clock service will be the Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmastide.

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**O Come Let Us Adore Him CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**Christmas Eve Services**  
Thursday, December 24  
5:00 P.M. with Holy Communion  
10:00 P.M. with Festival Music

**Christmas Day Service**  
Friday, December 25  
ONE Service with Holy Communion, 10:00 A.M.



**St. John's Church, Detroit**

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**Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday in Advent**

7:30am Morning Prayer  
8:00am Holy Communion

10:00am Holy Communion followed by an Advent Soup Luncheon and 'Greening' of the Church

**Christmas Eve – December 24**

4:00pm – Children's Pageant Service with Communion

8:30pm - Carol Prelude Service  
9:00pm – Candlelight Solemn High Mass

Christmas Day – 10am in the Chapel

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**Saint James Lutheran Church**

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**Sunday, December 20**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
9:00 a.m. Education Time  
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Christmas Eve**  
4:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.  
Holy Eucharist with Special Music and Candle Lighting

**Sunday, December 27**  
First Sunday of Christmas  
10:15 a.m. Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

The Rev. Denise M. Grant  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church**  
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**Sunday, December 20, 2015**  
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service  
"Lesson and Carols"  
Church School: Crib - 5th Grade

Join us on Thursday, December 24  
**FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
4:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**  
10:00 p.m.  
Special Prelude Music - 9:30 p.m.

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**The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose Catholic Church**

**VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**  
Thursday, December 24, 2015  
CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 4:00 P.M.

**FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**  
Friday, December 25, 2015  
Concert at 11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve  
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12:00 A.M.  
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 8:30 A.M.  
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 11:15 A.M.

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**  
Saturday, December 26, 2015  
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.  
Sunday, December 27, 2015  
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY**  
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God  
Thursday, December 31, 2015  
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.  
Friday, January 1, 2016  
MASS AT 10:00 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.  
(313) 822-2814 • [stambrosechurch.net](http://stambrosechurch.net)  
[facebook.com/stambroseparish](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparish)

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Join us for our 168th celebration of the Birth of Christ. Since 1848, families have made Ss. Peter and Paul their home for Christmas. Consider coming downtown and celebrating with your family this year.

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Thursday, December 24th  
5:00pm  
MUSIC BY CAROLE MIHALO  
WITH A MUSICAL PRELUDE BY THE SS. PETER AND PAUL CHOIR BEGINNING AT 4:30PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Friday, December 25th  
12:00 Noon  
MUSIC BY ANDREW HERBRUCK

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NEXT TO UDM SCHOOL OF LAW  
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# OBITUARIES

## S. Louise Burton

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident S. Louise Burton passed away peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015.

She is survived by her daughters, Debra Louise Burton and Kerrie Kay Burton (Mark Bargowski); granddaughter, Paris Louise Burton and many loving nieces, nephews and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband, William K. Burton; father, William D. Hines; mother, Doris Hines Green and brother, Donald W. Hines.

Mrs. Burton was a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend who will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by those who knew her.

A memorial service honoring Mrs. Burton's life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at The Shores Church, 24905 Manhattan, St. Clair Shores.

## Michael Joseph Connolly

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Michael Joseph Connolly, 66, passed away peacefully, Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2015, surrounded by family.

Michael was born March 26, 1949, in Grosse Pointe, to Walter Briggs and Anne Riordan Connolly. He attended St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School in Grosse Pointe Farms and Austin Catholic Preparatory School in Detroit, where he was on the basketball team. He attended Regis College in Denver, then Mississippi Law School and earned a Master of Laws degree from Wayne State University.

Following law school, Michael went into private practice with a specialty in labor law with the firm of Berry, Moorman, King, Lott and Cook in Detroit and later joined the legal staff of General Motors Corp.

In November 1981, Michael was appointed general counsel to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. After his public service in Washington, D.C., Michael returned to Detroit and reentered private practice with various firms and retired with Connolly, Rodgers & Scharman PLLC. He also coauthored a book on labor law, "A Practical Guide to Equal Employment Opportunity," with his brother, Walter.

Michael was an active community member over the years and a parishioner of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

He was fond of quoting Shakespeare and other literary figures. Michael enjoyed participating in a variety of sports, including boating, tennis and golf and was an avid follower of University of Notre Dame sports teams. He was proud of his Irish heritage and had a passion for the arts and traveling, especially to Paris, France, along with vacationing at his cottage in Harbor Springs.

Michael is survived by his sons, Benjamin and Jonathan; sister, Geraldine Anne Connolly;

brothers, Walter Briggs Connolly Jr. (Robin) and William Riordan Connolly (Josephine) and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother, Richard Patrick Connolly and his parents.

Memorial arrangements will be held at a later date.

Donations may be made to Beaumont Foundation Hospice of Grosse Pointe, P.O. Box 5802, Troy, MI 48007 or The Cameron Can Foundation, P.O. Box 373, Riverside, IL 60546.

Share a memory at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org).

## Warren Smale

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Warren Smale, 93, died Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015.

He was born April 17, 1922, in Grosse Pointe, to William and Nellie Alice Irene (nee Halliday) Smale.

Warren graduated from Grosse Pointe High School. A veteran of the U.S. Navy who served during World War II, he retired from Chrysler Corp.

Warren was the beloved husband of Clara; loving father of Sue Zielinski (Carl), Jerry Smale, Sharon Smale, Bob Smale (Rita) and the late John Smale. He also was the dear brother of George Smale (Dianne); loving grandfather of Nick, Anna, Joseph, Mike, Kira, Ray, Ryan and Kate and great-grandfather of Jacob.

## Warren Mark Reppenhagen

Warren Mark Reppenhagen, 60, died unexpectedly Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2015, at his home in Richmond, Calif.

Warren was born Feb. 6, 1955, in Detroit. He is survived by his mother, Ernestine Hagermoser; sisters, Marjorie Cloeter (Daniel), Karen Stoll (William) and Nancy Kintz (Robert); brother, Paul Reppenhagen (Molly); and 13 nieces and nephews and five grandnieces and grandnephews who loved and adored him. He was predeceased by his father, Warren Marvin Reppenhagen.

Warren lived in the San Francisco area for more than 30 years. He worked in retail design and merchandising for Esprit de Corps and Levi Strauss & Co. and eventually founded his own company, Reppenhagen Design, in 1989.

His family said Warren's unique and innovative design ideas redefined retail design throughout the banking and financial services industry. His combined color, forms, materials, branding elements and architectural shapes created memorable retail stores and merchandising displays that delighted his clients and their customers.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Zaagman Memorial Chapel, 2800 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids.

Donations may be made to the American Heart Association at [donatenow.heart.org](http://donatenow.heart.org) or by check to American Heart Association c/o Zaagman Memorial Chapel, 2800 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

## George Ceccarelli Vincent

Grosse Pointe Farms resident George Ceccarelli Vincent, 95, of Grosse Pointe Farms died suddenly Saturday, Dec. 5, 2015.

George was born Oct. 20, 1920, in Vignanello, Italy. He came to the United States in 1929 with his mother through Ellis Island. He and his mother joined his father who had previously immigrated to Detroit.

George trained at Ford Motor Co. in his youth and later became founder and partner in Diemaster Tooling, a tool and die company. He also was involved in the development of Roman Cleanser and building equipment for growing ruby and sapphire crystals for use in lasers.

In 1979, George married Inge, then a German translator for General Motors. According to the family, George's first question to Inge was, "How is your passport?"

So began a whirlwind of exploring the beauty of the world that led George and Inge to become members of the Circumnavigators Club.

George and Inge shared 36 years of marriage dedicated to love, family, travel, opera and all of life's wonders.

George was a kind, gentle, generous man who will be deeply missed by those who knew him.

In addition to his beloved wife, Inge, he is survived by his children, Christopher (Jane), Frances and Nancy and his grandchildren, John, Angela and Joseph.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore Road, Grosse Pointe Farms.

## Dolores Haska

Dolores "DJ" Haska died Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2015.

DJ earned a bachelor's degree in interior design from New York University. She was interested in interior design, acting, bowling, gardening, traveling, opera and the theater. She was a member of the ladies bowling league at the Detroit Athletic Club, worked as an actress, director and set designer for the Fine Arts Society of Detroit and the Theatre Arts Club. She was a member of the Detroit Institute of Arts and a member and past president of the Indian Village Women's Garden Club.

She also served as a Eucharistic minister at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Detroit.

DJ is survived by her husband, William Haska Jr.; daughter, Elizabeth Hanlon (Joseph); sons, Marc Iecampo and Craig Iecampo; stepdaughters, Diane Haska, Sula Haska and Barbara Gately; stepson, William Haska III and grandchildren, Owen and Liam Hanlon, Nicole and Andre Iecampo and Jack Gately.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 14 at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Detroit.

Donations may be made to the Michigan Humane Society at [michiganhumane.org](http://michiganhumane.org).



S. Louise Burton



Michael J. Connolly



Warren M. Reppenhagen



George Ceccarelli Vincent



Dolores Haska



Elizabeth A. Soby

## Elizabeth A. Soby

Longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident Elizabeth A. "Penny" Soby, 73, died Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015.

She was born Jan. 24, 1942, in Grosse Pointe Farms, to Harry Franklin Knous and Dalina (nee Rossi) Knous. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University and taught more than 40 years in the Grosse Pointe Public School System before retiring in 2006. She taught thousands of students throughout her career at both North and South high schools. Her last position before retirement was as advisor of North's student newspaper. She also taught at Marygrove College and was on the Grosse Pointe News Advisory Board.

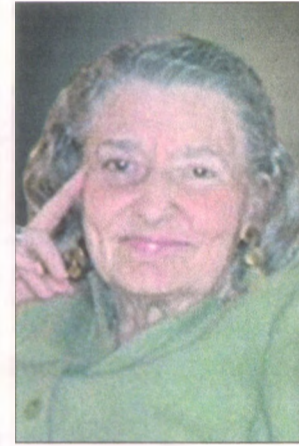
Penny enjoyed traveling and volunteering, had an interest in history and education and was an avid supporter of the arts. She was the current president of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society and a member of the Beaumont Assistance League, Grosse Pointe Rose Society and Jane Austen Society of North America and a member and past president of P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was active with Christ Church Grosse Pointe, where she was a member of the communication committee and instrumental in the development and founding of The Cloister Bookshop.

Penny loved and appreciated all music, both as a performer and patron. She was a member of Pro Musica Detroit, Christ Church Chorale and Rackham Symphony Choir and enjoyed attending performances of the Michigan Opera Theatre, Detroit Symphony Orchestra and various theater productions throughout the area.

She was a faithful fan of the Detroit Tigers and loved Detroit Red Wings hockey, never missing a televised game.

Penny was a kind and generous person willing to help anyone or in any situation. She enjoyed being with people and trying new things. She found joy in every adventure and was able to turn situations into teachable moments in a gentle and careful way.

Penny is survived by her daughters, Erika Davis and Brigit Soby-Rodriguez (Carlos) and grandsons, Ian and Andrew.



Gayl Robinson

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at Miller Hall at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, also at Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

Donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Historical Society, 381 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or the music fund at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Share a memory at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org).

## Gayl Robinson

Gayl Robinson, a longtime resident of the Grosse Pointes, died in her home Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2015, after a lengthy illness.

She was born April 29, 1931, the only child of Franklin Robinson and Virginia Vernor Robinson. Although she never had children, Gayl's favorite companions were her cats with whom she shared her life. She was devoted to them and they filled her years with amusement.

Gayl loved music, especially music from the Big Band era. Her tastes included everything from classical to Elton John. Her home was filled with music and she said it kept her company. Gayl graduated from Grosse Pointe High School and attended the University of Vermont. She pursued a career in advertising, until health issues prevented her from working.

Gayl is survived by her cousins, Marilyn Mower Wiswedel (Wayne), Marcia Mower Courtney (David) and Lisa Mower Gandelot (Jon), a few close friends and dedicated caregivers.

A private memorial service will be held.

Interment will be in the rose garden of Christ Church Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Donations may be made



Clifford Warren Ashton

to the Detroit Institute of Arts at [dia.org](http://dia.org) or the American Cancer Society at [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).

Share a memory at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org).

## Clifford Warren Ashton

Clifford Warren Ashton, 94, passed away Friday, Dec. 4, 2015, in Kalamazoo.

He was born Aug. 14, 1921, in Chatham, Ontario, Canada. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. When he returned from service, he married Dorothy Bailey June 15, 1946. They made their home in Grosse Pointe until her death in 1993.

Cliff opened the Punch and Judy Toyland in 1949. He owned this business at 97 Kercheval, on The Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms, for 28 years.

Cliff joined the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club in 1950 and was a member with perfect attendance until he moved to Arizona in 2002. He was district governor of District 640 from 1963 to 1964. Rotary life provided his entire family with many lifelong friendships.

In 2008, he moved to Kalamazoo.

Cliff is survived by his special friend, Jeanne Hartenstein; daughters, Sandra Earls, Wendy Tycocki (Jim) and Cynthia Ashton (Mike Garvey); grandchildren, Matthew Swikoski (Antoinette), Andrew Swikoski (Lisa) and Teddy, Alexander and Nikki Georgeson and six great-grandchildren.

Cliff believed in the Rotary "Four-Way Test" and would teach it to those he knew. He will be remembered for his honesty, integrity and love of community. Cliff's smile and sense of humor will be missed by many people whose lives he touched.

Services will be held at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church at a later date.

Donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 36366, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

# HOLIDAY Gifting

Gift Ideas for Everyone!

## Dear Santa,

The following Dear Santa letters are from Kathy Pawlowski's kindergarten and first-graders from St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic School. Letters are printed as received.

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Hulk smash toy with a remote control. I would like an air plane with a remote control. I want some play dough.  
Braylin

Dear Santa,  
Bring the SC shoes and shirt. I wanted a big

trampoline.  
Tyler

Santa,  
Will you send me a picture of your reindeer. How cold is the North Pole. Is it 40 below zero? Send me a picture of a mountain.  
From Sean

Dear Santa,  
Are you real? How cold is it in the North Pole? Keep helping people please.  
Ciara

Dear Santa,  
I want lots of good

things for Christmas.  
Seth

Santa Claus,  
I love you. I have lots of love for you. Christmas is my favorite Holiday.  
Love,  
Trelise

Santa Claus,  
If you bring gifts to the kids they will be happy.  
Joshua

Dear Santa,  
I would like an American Girl doll. I promise I won't be on the naughty list.  
Keegan

Dear Santa,  
I want a remote control car.  
Jaydin

Dear Santa,  
I help children. It doesn't matter what you bring me. I love you.  
Franca

Dear Santa Claus,  
I don't care what you bring me. I like whatever you bring me.  
Lauren

Dear Santa,  
I share with my baby sister.  
Brendan

Dear Santa,  
I think that you're cool.  
Jade

Dear Santa,  
I think that you are the best man in the world.  
Helena

Dear Santa,  
I want a Minnie Mouse kitchen.  
Ryan

The following letters are from Lyndsey Briggs and Karla Corio's first-graders from Kerby Elementary School.

Dear Santa,  
I would like a sword. I will not use it to hit my sisters. I only have one sword. I need two swords to battle. I hope you have a good trip.  
From  
Jack

Dear Santa Claus,  
I am wondering how your reindeer fly? Will you tell me the secret? I've seen reindeer at the zoo. Why don't they fly? Only birds can fly. Do you put magic dust on a carrot? They will fly hier! Write back for me when you have a chance? Ok  
Santa.  
Eleanor

Dear Santa Claus,  
Please bring me a fur-bie I like that they can talk I will share it with my cousin who comes over. Thanks for reading my letter santa.  
From  
Elen

See SANTA, page 9B

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A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

# Berry pound cake is simple, delicious

Baking and Christmas go hand in hand. Besides my annual cookie fest, I like to make a special cake each year to share with my family. This year I have chosen a pound cake with fresh raspberries and blackberries tucked into the center as well as arranged over the top of it. It's simple, delicious and elegant.

It's beautiful to look at, even better to eat. This is a great recipe for first-time bakers.

## Fresh Berry Pound Cake (adapted from BBC)

- 2 sticks unsalted butter, softened
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 4 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 cup self-rising flour
- zest of 2 lemons
- 3 tablespoons honey, divided, plus more for garnish
- 6 oz. fresh blackberries
- 6 oz. fresh raspberries

1/3 cup powdered sugar  
fresh mint for garnish

Grease a loaf pan and set aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Beat together the butter and sugar until fluffy, 5 minutes or so. Add the eggs and continue to beat. Add the lemon zest, flour and 2 tablespoons of honey. Mix well.

Spread half of the batter into the prepared loaf pan. Place about 10

blackberries in two outer rows, five berries in each, and a row of raspberries down the middle. Turn the remaining batter into the pan and carefully spread over the berries. Top with another row of berries, gently pushing them into the batter so they are just visible.

Bake for 40 to 50 minutes, until golden brown and cooked throughout. If the cake becomes too brown before it is cooked in the center, cover it



juice to make the icing just thin enough to drizzle.

Place the pound cake on a serving plate and using a spoon, carefully drizzle the icing back and forth over the cake, allowing the icing to drip down the sides of the cake as well.

Arrange some of the remaining blackberries and raspberries over the top of the cake. Drizzle a bit of honey over the fruit then tuck with sprigs of fresh mint.

loosely with foil to prevent over browning.

Transfer the loaf pan to a cooling rack, wait 10 minutes then remove the loaf from the pan to cool completely.

To make the icing, whisk the lemon juice a bit at a time into the powdered sugar along with the remaining tablespoon of honey. Add lemon

# HOLIDAY Gifting

Gift Ideas for Everyone!

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# CHURCH EVENTS

## St. Sabbas

St. Sabbas Orthodox Monastery, 18745 Old Homestead, Harper Woods, hosts its seventh annual Christmas cookie walk at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, open while supplies last. Cost is \$12 per pound. Proceeds support the monastery. Call (313) 521-1894.

## Memorial

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents "The Christmas Story in Song," at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20. The church's choir, orchestra and organ present an hour of seasonal music. Admission is \$10. Call (313) 882-5330.

The church's Longest Night Service takes place 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, for those having a difficult time dealing with the holidays. Call (313) 882-5330.

Family-friendly Christmas Eve

services at Memorial take place 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24. Services with a full choir and instrumentalists take place 7:30 and 10 p.m. Call (313) 882-5330.

## First English

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, presents its Sunday School Christmas pageant at 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, featuring children in preschool through fifth grade. Also, candlelight services take place at 5, 7:30 and 11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24. The Sunday, Dec. 27, services take place at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Epiphany worship takes place at regular worship times Sunday, Jan. 3. Call (313) 884-5040.

First English presents its ninth annual Christmas Tree Walk and Afternoon Tea noon to 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 30. The tea, chaired by Waynette Hostetler of Sterling Heights, includes tea sandwiches, hot tea and an assortment of sweets. A free-will donation and non-perishable food for the pantry are accepted. To register, call (313) 884-5040.

## Woods Presbyterian

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, offers a family candlelight service at 5:30 p.m. and a communion and candlelight service at 11 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. The church continues the celebration of Christmas at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. Call (313) 886-4301.

## Living Hope

Living Hope Church hosts a grief group in a safe and supportive environment, facilitated by therapist Jillian Becker LMSW, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe. Call Kathie at (586) 243-5383 or the church at (313) 920-0335.



COURTESY PHOTO

## History lesson

Members of the Grand Marais Questers visited Detroit's Historic Trinity Lutheran Church and learned about the building, iconography and crèches before viewing hundreds of crèches from all over the world. Pictured from left are Chairwoman Wendy Jennings, Rebecca Hein, Jayne Warner, Rita Goss, Rachael Kurtz, Betsy Rowe and Mary Lee Obryan.

# HOLIDAY Gifting

## Gift Ideas for Everyone!

## SANTA:

Continued from page 7B

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want to have a new bike. I grew taller. When I stand up it looks too small. Thanks for reading my letter. I love you Santa.  
From  
Matt

Dear Santa,  
I owood love if I got a new Amiibo. That is a Louig Amiibo because I forgot to put it on my christmas list! I hope you will read my letter.  
Your frend  
Nate

Dear Santa,  
I want hockey guys for Christmas. If I give you my broken guys, can you fix them? Then you can give them to other kids. I hope you have a good ride in the sleigh.  
From your friend  
Riley

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a lighting up jumprope. I would like to jump rope at home. You are awesome.  
From your friend  
Madeline

Dear Santa,  
I want a Lego set for Christmas. I have so many because I love Legos! I will keep the Legos in a safe place. I love you Santa.  
From  
Elliott

Dear Santa,  
I want a computer. My parents have a computer and I don't. I will do my homework on my computer. I love you Santa.  
From  
Vincent

Dear Santa,  
I want a really big Lego set because I will give you a toy. I will try to be nies. Will you please bring it? I wish you elfs are not working too hard.  
From  
Simon

Dear Santa,  
I would like to make

some reindoor food. What do your reindeer like to eat? Will you give me the recipe? I will put the food outside my door. See you soon Santa.  
From  
Julia

Dear Santa Claus,  
I really want a tablet. I can learn on a tablet. My brother has a tablet. I would really like my own tablet. Thank you for reading my letter.  
Steven

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a bunch of Trash Packs. I don't have a lot of them. They are so special to me. Thank you for reading my letter.  
From  
Franklin

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<b>Kibbee Nyeec (Raw)</b> Container 1/2 Container \$15.95 \$9.00	<b>Cooked Kibbee</b> Aras Soneyeh Oval Shaped Balls Diamond Cut Layer \$18.79 \$2.09 doz. each \$17.90 per container	<b>Baba Ghannoos</b> Container 1/2 Container \$9.50 \$5.75	<b>Tabouleh Salad</b> Container 1/2 Container \$7.50 \$4.75	

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**BASKETBALL**

## Norsemen beat Knights

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

City rivals Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett opened their boys' basketball seasons last week with a non-league game on the Norsemen's home court.

The schools haven't met in a decade, but in the end the outcome was a 67-55 win for North, which played without its senior leader, Mitchell Zacharias.

"We have to adjust to what the opposition is running," North head coach Ron Kochan said. "We did a good job of sharing the basketball really well and filled the lanes."

"This was our first game and obviously we have a lot to work on before we play (Grosse Pointe) South, but overall we got a lot out of this game."

"We have to get more guys involved in scoring

other than Spencer," Liggett head coach Sidney Johnson said. "We needed this game against a big team before we host Parkway Christian."

The player of the game was Liggett senior Spencer Ewing, who had a career-high 45 points. He scored five points in the first quarter, 11 in the second, 17 in the third and 12 in the fourth.

The Norsemen were led by junior Jared Jordan with 18 points, followed by junior Steven Levick with 17 points and eight rebounds, and senior Andrew Bunch with 15 points and eight rebounds.

Senior Ryan Reveley had eight points and six rebounds.

The Norsemen jumped out to a 14-point lead, 21-7, after the opening quarter and it was at nearly 20 early in the third quarter.

That is when Ewing



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Liggett's Spencer Ewing, No. 2, scored a career-high 45 points, but it was North's Jared Jordan, No. 5, and the Norsemen who won the game.

put the Knights on his shoulders and was unstoppable.

His 17 points allowed the Knights to cut the deficit to 48-41 and he added five more points early in the fourth quarter to cut the deficit to 52-48.

Levick's back-to-back buckets made it a 56-48 game and the Norsemen

kept the Knights at arms length after that.

Liggett also played last weekend and the offense was in full gear as it beat Parkway Christian 86-68 to even its record at 1-1.

Junior Jackson Walkowiak scored a career-high 22 points, followed by Ewing with 18 and senior Thomas Jackson with 18.

## Boys net win, girls stumble

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South boys' basketball team earned a 69-66 win over host Warren Mott in last weekend's season opener.

The Blue Devils trailed by 18 points at one point in the game, but roared back to outscore the Marauders 45-29 in the second half to pull out the road victory.

"We just couldn't score in the first half and (Brennan) Buszka had two fouls in the first quarter and sat the rest of the half," head coach Troy Glasser said. "It was truly a tale of two halves. We picked it up in the second half and won."

Buszka finished with 18 points, 16 in the second half, and senior Jack Maher had 14 points, including eight in the fourth quarter.

Senior Nate Hall had 15 points, including eight

in the second quarter to keep the Blue Devils afloat.

They fell behind 37-23 at the half, but used a 21-14 third period to cut the deficit to 51-44. A 24-15 final quarter put the Blue Devils over the top.

Grosse Pointe South girls' basketball team also played last weekend and lost 41-37 to Flint Powers.

"We are right there, but just not doing the things it takes to win these tough games," head coach Kevin Richards said. "There is a fine line to winning and losing and right now we're turning the ball over too much and not rebounding very well."

Senior Anna Carmody scored 17 points to lead the Blue Devils.

However, when it came to the end result, 10 missed free throws and several turnovers on out-of-bounds plays were crucial to the defeat.

## Norsemen start fast

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North girls' basketball team began its season last week by pounding visiting Warren Regina 52-29.

The Norsemen used a 23-3 first quarter to squash the Saddlelites.

It was 33-14 at the half and 46-19 after three quarters as the Norsemen used a balanced scoring attack, veteran leadership and their patented pressure defense to easily win the opener.

Head coach Gary Bennett knows this was a better showing than the past few years when turnovers and a ton of

missed shots paved the way.

Four players scored in double figures, led by senior Erin Armbruster and junior Katie Snow with 12 points apiece. Armbruster added 13 rebounds and five assists, while Snow had six steals.

Senior Lauren Lesha had 10 points and eight rebounds, while freshman Julia Ayrault had 10 points, eight rebounds and six steals in her varsity debut.

An even bigger victory was posted by senior guard Emily McPharlin. She scored four points in her first varsity game in more than a year.

She tore her ACL in



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

North's Lauren Lesha drives toward the basket during the Norsemen's season-opening win over Regina.

her left knee and missed last season. She was back on the court.

Senior Katelyn Carney also had four points.

North followed the Regina game with a

51-40 home victory against visiting Utica.

Armbruster led the way with 22 points and Ayrault followed with 12 as the Norsemen improved to 2-0.

## Knights sink Cavs

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

It wasn't pretty, but in the end head coach Omar Ahart and his University Liggett girls' basketball team beat visiting St. Clair Shores South Lake 56-39.

"We didn't shoot particularly well and frankly missed a lot of shots in the paint, but overall we played hard and won," Ahart said. "It's a win and that is what counts."

The host Knights led 10-6 after the first quarter and 21-16 at the half. They had a 31-30 lead as the Cavaliers mounted a comeback.

However, an 8-0 run to end the third quarter

gave the home team a 39-30 lead and it grew to double digits early in the fourth quarter.

Senior Kendall McConico led the way with a double-double, netting 12 points and 10 rebounds. She also had six assists.

Junior Nia Ahart had a game-high 33 points, including making 11-of-12 from the foul line, and senior Anna Majewski had eight points and nine rebounds.

Last weekend, Liggett played Southfield in the Lady Baller Invite Showcase.

Ahart scored 19 points, but the Knights lost 55-35 to even their record at 2-2.

**YOUTH HOCKEY**



PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW HODGES

## Winners

The 12U Lady Bulldogs hockey team won two regional tournaments in November. The girls represent Grosse Pointe Park, Woods, Shores, Farms, City of Grosse Pointe, St. Clair Shores and Dearborn. First the Lady Bulldogs won the Cold Fusion Tournament held in Grand Rapids, Nov. 6 to 8. They finished 5-0 and had two shutouts. They beat three teams from Chicago and the Troy Sting. Next game the Motown Cup Series Tournament held over Thanksgiving weekend, which featured the Lady Bulldogs against the Canadian team's Sarnia Junior Sting, Clearview IceCats and Bluewater Hawks. Once again the Lady Bulldogs' goaltending and team defense was sharp as they held their opponents scoreless in three of the four tournament games, including a 1-0 victory in the championship game. Pictured above are, front row from left, Skylar MacPhee, Regan Sherry (tournament MVP), Mia Cassar, Mallory Burdick and Charlotte Thibault; middle row from left, Maddie McKee, Natalia Dragovic, Kendall Zinn, Veronica VanRossen, Sophie Clemens, Effie Hodges, Helen Jakubowicz and coach Jacci Sherry; and back row from left, coach Paul MacPhee, coach Justin MacPhee, head coach Matt Hodges and coach Pahl Zinn. The 12U Lady Bulldogs play in the Little Caesars Michigan Girls Hockey League AA/Tier II Division, the highest ranked Tier II division in the country.

Swimming

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

# Norsemen split

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North boys' swimming and diving team put on an impressive show in its season-opening 114-69 win over L'Anse Creuse North last week.

"Great first meet," head coach Alison Scarfone said. "Excellent first meet times. We are very proud of everyone today. Way to work together, follow directions and build everyone up."

The Norsemen won nine events, including all three relays. The 200-yard medley relay team of Joseph Cobau, Trevor Mieczkowski, John Cobau and Anthony Diamond won with a time of 1:55.09.

The 200-yard freestyle relay squad of Hunter Adelson, Sam Stafford,

John Cobau and Brian Stafford, Adelson, Veneri and Joseph Cobau won at 4:00.01.

In the 100-yard backstroke, Diamond won with a time of 1:07.27 and Michael Lemanske took second at 1:13.95.

Joseph Cobau won the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:39.29 and Jonathon Stander was third at 6:12.81. John Cobau took the top spot in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:00.82 and Veneri took third at 1:09.98.

William McNelis won the diving competition with 244.30 points and Austin Robbins was third with 117.15 points.

The Norsemen took second, third, fourth and fifth in the 50-yard free-

style with Adelson, Lemanske, Ben Sliwinski and Paul Treder leading the way.

John Cobau also was victorious in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:19.77 and Joseph Cobau won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:03.43.

Two nights later, North hosted Novi Catholic Central and lost 143-43 to even its record at 1-1.

McNelis won the diving competition with 268.05 points.

Joseph Cobau was third in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:38.43 and Adelson took third in the 100-yard freestyle at 57.77.

John Cobau took third in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 57.93 to wrap-up the Norsemen's top three finishes against CC.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

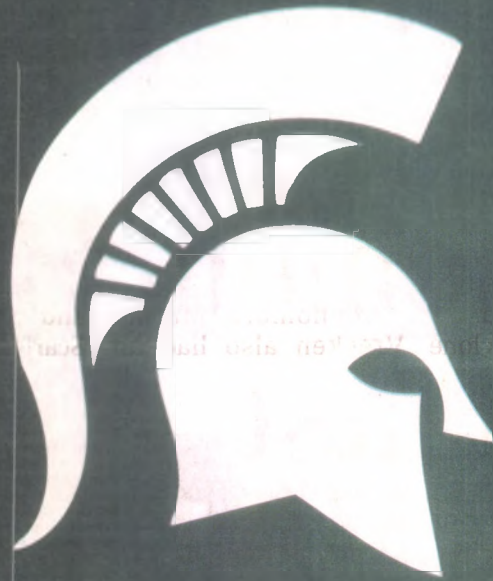


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Division 1 talent

Grosse Pointe South seniors Jacob Montague, left, and Claire Young signed letters-of-intent to compete on Division 1 men's and women's swimming and diving teams next year. Montague signed with the University of Michigan and head coach Mike Bottom, while Young signed with Eastern Michigan University and head coach Pete Linn. The Wolverines compete in the Big Ten, while the Eagles battle in the Mid-American Conference.

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## Girls hockey

## GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

## Blue Devils win two

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South girls' hockey team played two league games last week and outscored its foes 15-2.

The Blue Devils beat Warren Regina 7-1 as junior Carson Dennis scored two goals and had one assist.

Sophomore Lauren Kramer also scored twice, while freshman Charlotte Martinez, sophomore Erin Brannagan and senior Shannon McKenna scored one goal apiece.

Girls with assists were

senior Gennie Martin, sophomore Cailey Paull, Brannagan, junior Emma Frame, sophomore Emily Van Der Hoeven and sophomore Maria Di Cresce.

Senior Bella Strickler stopped 14-of-16 shots to earn the win in net.

Two nights later, South hosted Northville and jumped out to a 4-0 lead before cruising to an 8-1 victory.

Dennis had four goals and the other four were scored by Kramer, Frame, and sophomores Hannah Miller and Maddalenna Boyer.

Martin had three



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

South's Maria Di Cresce had a couple of assists in the Blue Devils' two wins last week.

assists and Brannagan had two to aid in the home win.

With the wins, Grosse

Pointe South improved to 2-1 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

## Wrestling

## NORTH &amp; SOUTH

## Blue Devils, Norsemen begin slate with wins

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South wrestling teams began their season last week, competing at University of Detroit Jesuit and Warren Cousino.

The Blue Devils won both their matches, beating U-D and Macomb Dakota "B" and the Norsemen dropped both.

Last weekend, the Norsemen tied the Blue Devils and won on criteria, while the Blue Devils also tied Cousino, but won on criteria.

South also beat Utica Eisenhower, Marysville and Dakota "B" teams to start the season 4-1 overall.

"We had a great opening week," South coach Tony Cimmarrusti said. "We had some great performances, but we have some injuries so we're not at 100 percent."

Leading the way for the Blue Devils were Jon Gough, Tyler Thompson and Luke Davey, who were each 5-0.

Earl Allard and Joe Kurta finished 4-1.

"The kids did a great job and they work hard to improve," South coach Patrick Salazar said. "Tony is a great coach and he is teaching me a lot as we work to get better."

For head coach Eric-Julien and the Norsemen, they lost to Cousino, but defeated Dakota, Marysville, South and Eisenhower to take second overall.

Leading the way for the Norsemen was Reed Boeckler, who was 5-0, followed by Matthew Moores at 4-1.

Chase Mocerri, Owen Brown and Charlie Wiess each finished 3-2.

Both North and South compete in the annual Macomb County Tournament Friday, Dec. 18, and Saturday, Dec. 19, at Roseville.

The top eight in each weight class earn a medal.

"I think we have a great chance to bring home several medals," Salazar said. "We're in a much better situation this year because of our depth and experience."

"The boys now expect to win matches."

## LIGGETT

## Knights post two victories

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Freshman Abby Doppke scored her first varsity goal to help host University Liggett girls' hockey team beat Ann Arbor Pioneer 8-1 last week.

Senior Allison Stapleton, juniors Haley Malewicz and Katie Fruehauf and sophomore Olivia Yates also scored in the Knights' five-goal first period.

Pioneer scored its lone

goal in the first period.

The Knights added three goals in the second period. Stapleton scored at the 13:24, followed by senior Grace Scarfone at the 5:20 mark and Scarfone again, short-handed, at the 2:18 mark.

Sophomore Katie Zinn had four assists, while senior Rita Sidhu added three helpers. Malewicz, senior Ellie Withers and Scarfone had two assists apiece.

Sophomore Marika Vreeken also had an

assist as the Knights had 10 players earn at least one point.

Senior Olivia Portillo improved to 3-0 between the pipes. She was tested, but the lone blemish came from a tipped shot.

Last weekend, head coach Cassie Jaeckle and her Knights hosted Bloomfield Hills and won 5-1 as Malewicz scored twice.

Stapleton had a goal and two assists, while Scarfone and junior Kara

Francis also had goals.

Senior Molly Murphy had three assists, while Yates recorded two assists in the home game.

Liggett improved to 4-0 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

Coming up for the Knights is their annual holiday tournament Thursday, Dec. 17, and Saturday, Dec. 19, at McCann Arena.

City rivals compete, as does Livonia Ladywood.

## G.P. NORTH

## Wins

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

It took a little while, but the Grosse Pointe North girls' hockey team found its rhythm and beat Ann Arbor Pioneer 6-1 last week.

"We didn't have it until midway through the second period, then it all clicked," head coach Joe Lucchese said. "Hopefully the girls keep on playing like a 'team' because it was fun to see them working well."

The visiting Pioneers actually had a 1-0 lead throughout the first 25 minutes of the game.

Then, in a matter of three minutes, the Norsemen scored four goals and added two more in the third period to post a league victory.

Senior Caroline Bock and freshman Bella Welke had two goals apiece to lead the team.

Senior Lindsay Gallagher and sophomore Natalie Barstys also scored.

Lindsay Gallagher also had two assists, as did sophomore Lindsey Ramsdell. Senior Elizabeth Gallagher, junior Eve Feldman, freshman Maddie McIntyre and junior Jennifer Wiederkehr each had one assist.

Two days later, North traveled north to Port Huron and won 7-0 to improve to 4-2 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League and 5-2 overall.

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College signings

GROSSE POINTE NORTH



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Signed

Grosse Pointe North seniors Emily Truss, left, and Jennifer Gmeiner signed letters-of-intent in crew at the University of Tulsa and Michigan State University, respectively. Tulsa's head coach is Kevin Harris and MSU's head coach is Matt Weise. Both schools competed in the prestigious Head of Charles regatta in October in Massachusetts. Both Truss and Gmeiner row for Detroit Boat Club.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

D1 rowers

Grosse Pointe South seniors, from left, Paige Swegels, Molly Packer, Sorin Koszyk, Olivia Kielt and Isabella Strickler, signed letters-of-intent to row for Division 1 colleges next year. Swegels is rowing at Rutgers University for head coach Max Borghard, while Packer and Kielt will be teammates at Drake University for head coach Charles DiSilvestro. Koszyk will row at Cornell University for head coach Todd Kennett and Strickler is headed to the University of Virginia to row for head coach Kevin Sauer. Rutgers is a member of the Big Ten, while Drake competes in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, and Virginia resides in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Harper Woods will be holding a Public Hearing on Monday, December 21, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining public input and comment on the reduction of lanes on Beaconsfield between Vernier and 8 Mile road as part of the Beaconsfield Reconstruction Project.

Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their written comments regarding this matter to the City Clerk's office prior to the hearing date.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS

LESLIE M. FRANK  
CITY CLERK

POSTED: December 8, 2015  
PUBLISHED: December 17, 2015

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Grosse Pointe News

Boys hockey

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Blue Devils net split

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Head coach Bobby McKillop knows his Grosse Pointe South boys' hockey team needs to be tested throughout the season to be ready for the state playoffs in March.

The Blue Devils faced host Birmingham Brother Rice last weekend.

The Warriors are the defending Division 2 state champs and knocked South out of the playoffs last year in the state semifinals.

This game was a lot different than last year's 4-0 loss. In the end it was still a defeat, 3-2, but it was a battle until the final horn.

"We had a couple of breakdowns early which led to two goals, but after

that I thought we wore them down midway through the second period and throughout the third," McKillop said. "I'm proud of the boys. They played a good game against a good team."

The Warriors scored a power-play goal at the 13:58 mark of the opening period and added another at the 8:09 mark to take a 2-0 lead.

The Blue Devils scored with only 61 seconds left in the first period when senior Griffin Brooks tallied, assisted by senior Graham Ryan and junior Adam Pitters.

Freshman Marshall Vyletel scored at the 15:43 mark, assisted by senior Jonathan Theros, but the Warriors scored what turned out to be the winning goal 27 seconds later.

The Blue Devils

appeared to tie the game at the 11:26 mark of the third period, but the goal was waved off as the officials said the puck was kicked into the net.

Sophomore Camden Mills was in net and suffered the hard-luck loss. He made several big saves midway through the third period to keep it a 3-2 game.

Earlier in the week, South blasted Riverview 7-1, scoring two quick power-play goals by senior Mac Cimmarrusti and junior Jack Flynn.

Other goal scorers were junior Liam Kavanaugh, senior Luke Taber and Will Poplawski, Brooks and Vyletel.

Junior Dante Valente earned the win between the pipes as Grosse Pointe South stands 4-2-1 overall.

LIGGETT

Knights fall in OT

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The University Liggett boys' hockey squad struggled in its special teams play in last week's 5-4 overtime loss to host Wyandotte Roosevelt.

The Knights gave up three power-play goals, including the game winner at the 3:38 mark of overtime, and a short-handed goal to the Bears.

Head coach Mike Hamilton watched his Knights battle back three times from a one-

goal deficit to force the extra session. Despite the overtime loss, they still earned one point in the standings.

The Bears took a 1-0 lead just 27 seconds into the game.

However, seniors Nick Gawel and Alex Minanov scored at the 11:46 and 13:11 mark to give the Knights a 2-1 lead.

It was 2-2 heading into the first intermission.

The home team was able to take a 3-2 advantage with a power-play goal midway through the second stanza.

The Knights tied it at 3 when sophomore Matthew Moroun scored, with freshman Caden Lewandowski and Gawel assisting.

The Bears took a 4-3 lead after scoring short handed at the 3:18 mark of the third period, but Minanov tied it with his goal at the 10:21 mark.

Sophomore Charles Fruehauf and senior Brett Abdelnour had the assists.

Liggett fell to 3-1-1-1 in the Michigan Metro Hockey League and 4-1-1 overall.



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Liggett's Alexander Minanov, right, has been an offensive force for the Knights

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Norsemen play well, but fall to Dakota

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North boys' hockey team is looking for its first win of the season after losing a tough 4-3 home game to Macomb Dakota last weekend.

"We have to get better and get a win," head coach Mike Maltese said.

The Norsemen dropped to 0-5, despite out-shooting and out-playing the Cougars.

The home team had goals from juniors Marko Tomovski and Paul Lucchese and senior J.P. Navetta.

Senior Alex Leach started in net and played the first two periods. Junior Brian Wenz finished the game.

Coming up for the Norsemen is the Liggett Invitational and a semifinal game at 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, against city rival Grosse Pointe South.

"Our schedule doesn't get any easier, but we have a chance to beat some good teams if we play better hockey," Maltese said.

# Dear Santa...

The following letters are from Lyndsey Briggs' and Karla Corio's first graders from Kerby Elementary School.



ARTWORK BY PEARL

Dear Santa Claus,  
I have been so good I think you should bring ... me a scienc kit. It will help be de a scientist It would be fun and It will help me do experiments and some day all be a scientist  
Thank you very much

Dear Santa Claus,  
Howr the raindeer? I have been so good. I think you shoold bring me a magnfying glas. It will help me esplor nacher. It will help me find this loost. I will be able to look at stuff really close like a scientist.  
One of the best kids  
Eden

Dear Santa,  
How are your elfs doing? I have been so good. I might want a dog. It will help me be responsible. My cat bites me all the time. I will keep my cat and my will be in difrent rooms.

Dear Santa Claus,  
How is Mrs. Claus? I have been good. I would like a pet pup. I want to learn how to take car of the pup. I will lrn that wen it gos to the bathroom I will tak care of the poop. I will train it. I will give it some food.  
Goodby from your favorite girll.

Dear Santa Claus,  
I have been so good I think you should bring me a souing mshen. And it will help be crative with my worck. I won't have to use my mom's sewing machine. Maybe someday I will be a fashion designer of clothes. Maybe I'll mack your next red suit.  
Jackie

Dear Santa Claus,  
I have been so good I think you should bring me a crazy cart. It's little car you pull the lever and spin around. This would be fun an help me learn how to drive sum day.  
Your good boy,  
Davis

Dear Santa Claus,  
I think I out grew my bike the weels are to small and I am to big. I try to pedel it. It wont go fast. I would like a red bike with bluw handle bars. It needs to be 36 inches high.  
The fast racer,  
Love Fischer

Dear Santa,  
I would like a computer. It could help me with math. My sister has her own computer then I wouldn't have to share.  
Favorite computer kid  
Hunter

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like my own math book because I want to get smarter because I want to be better at math. I want to save it for my little brother or my little sister because I don't like to colo in math.  
Emilio  
the great math worker

The following letters are from Anna Collins' and Kari Krausmann's first graders from Mason Elementary School.

Look for more letters in the Dec. 24 issue of the Grosse Pointe News.

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town. But I have a question for you, how do the elves make the toys?  
Sincerely,  
Henry  
P.S. I yoused my candy-cane pensl.

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you, what does your sleigh look like?

Sincerely,  
Henry K.  
P.S. I love you

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town I have a question for you, how old is the North pole P.S. I love you!

Sicerely,  
Pearl

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you is there an elf named Eli?

Sincerely,  
Eli

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you how can you get down the chimney when you have such a big belly

Sincerely  
Axton

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I hove a question for you are the elves teenagers or children? Ps thik you for the toys

Sincerely,  
Kylee

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question why do people celeb christmas?

Sincerely,  
Zoey

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you how do the elves freeze in the day? PS I love you

Sicerely,  
Ashlynn

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you, when is your birthday?

Sincerely,  
Eli  
PS: I am wearing red today

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you, do you control the snow?

Sincerely,  
Alex

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you how do you get all the toys?

Sincerely,  
Ben

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have question for you, whats your favorite cookie?

Sincerely,  
Augustine



ARTWORK BY HENRY

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you, how do elves on the shelves get here when we put up our Christmas tree? PS I love you Santa

Sincerely,  
Kai

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have question for you Why do elves lose their magic if you touch them twice?

Sincerely,  
Jenny  
PS I yoused my christ-mas pensl

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you, how do reindeer fly? PS you are awesome!

Sincerely,  
Madeline

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question how do you get around the world in one night? ps. How does your sleigh fly?

Sincerely,  
Griffin

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to com to town but I have a question for you, how old will you be on your birthday.

Sincerely,  
Jonas

Dear Santa,  
I can't wait for you to come to town but I have a question for you is there an elf named Adam? PS: I love your beard!

Sincerely,  
Adam

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph? Do you like cookies? How is the northpole going? I would like a necklace for christmas.

Your friend,  
Javier



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Ferry helps homeless animals

Ferry Elementary School's student council organized its annual event to collect donations to help homeless animals. All donations go to the Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society. Pictured from left are Mitchell Beaugard, student council treasurer; dogs Ginger and Ringo; Drew Behringer, student council representative; and Jane Ellis, student council advisor.

## Defer student wins young authors contest

The University of Michigan-Dearborn hosted more than 150 attendees at the 2015 Young Authors' Festival. The theme of this year's festival was "Celebrating Our Differences." The festival included a writing contest for children in grades 3 through 5. Entrants were asked to write about diversity and differences. First, second, and third place winners were selected from each grade along with one grand prize winner. Winning students received Barnes & Noble gift cards and were invited to read their entries aloud at the festival.

Ellie Summerfield, a student at Defer Elementary School, was the grand prize winner. Brody Lindsay, Hanley DeSmyter and Logan Detwiler, also of Defer, were awarded second and third place among fourth-graders and first place among fifth-graders, respectively.

Special guest presenter was Michigan author Gary Schmidt, two-time Newbery Honor recipi-



COURTESY PHOTO

Grand prize winner Ellie Summerfield is pictured with Kari Mannino, 4/5 magnet teacher at Defer.

ent, National Book Award finalist and author of the newly published young adult novel, "Orbiting Jupiter." The author of 13 children's and young adult books, Schmidt told stories illustrating techniques and principles the children could

use in their own writing. He also spoke about the process of writing and publishing a book.

The children enjoyed break-out sessions covering a variety of topics and techniques to help improve their writing and creative skills.

## Liggett receives donation for lower school science lab

University Liggett School will make substantial upgrades to its lower school science laboratory thanks to a gift from Drs. Narayan and Neelam Verma of Grosse Pointe Shores.

The \$100,000 gift will be used in part to upgrade the lower school science laboratory, bolster science materials and technology and enhance the overall science experience for students.

The couple—he is a professor of neurology at the Oakland University School of Medicine with a private practice in Warren and she is a geriatric psychiatrist practicing for Macomb County—emphasized science and medicine when their children, Liggett alumni Arunima "Toohie," Ankur and Akshay, were growing up.

"It was important to cultivate my children's interest in science at a

young age," Dr. Narayan Verma said. "My wife and I always put a strong emphasis on it."

Verma also hopes the gift will inspire his granddaughter, Sonya, who is in kindergarten at Liggett, along with her classmates.

"I hope this ignites something in her and in the other students," he said.

The gift supports the school's \$50 million Sure Foundations campaign.

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8			1	5				
		6		3				8
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ ★**

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!  
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**SOLUTION FOR LAST WEEKS PUZZLE 12/10/15**

4	6	5	2	9	1	3	8	7
9	2	3	7	5	8	1	6	4
7	1	8	3	6	4	5	9	2
1	5	6	8	7	3	2	4	9
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6	9	2	5	8	7	4	1	3
8	7	4	1	3	6	9	2	5

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**Featured Guests and Topics Dec. 21-27**

**Vitality Plus—6 a.m., 12 noon., 6 p.m., 12 midnight**  
Exercise

**Det Economic Club 6:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 12:30 a.m.**  
Joseph L. Hudson  
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**Mondays at the Max-7:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m.**  
WSU Department of Music Concert

**Family Center—8:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 2:30 a.m.**  
"Ask the Experts" presentation

**Senior Men's Club—9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 3:30 a.m.**  
Grosse Pointe North High School Choir

**In a Heartbeat—10 a.m., 4 p.m., 10 p.m., 4 a.m.**  
Dr. Clyde and Helen Wu  
Encore broadcast

**Great Lakes Log—10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m., 4:30 a.m.**  
Mickey Bennett  
DRYA

**MetroArts Detroit—11 a.m., 5 p.m., 11 p.m., 5 p.m.**  
Up-and-coming artists from the Metro Detroit area

**Cars in Context—11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., 11:30 p.m., 5:30 a.m.**  
Car Wars: The Yen to Crunch Currency

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Schedule subject to change without notice. For further information call, 313-881-7511