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# Grosse Pointe News

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MAY 19, 2016  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

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## Proposal receives mixed reviews

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

A controversial policy change voted down February 2009 is back on the table.

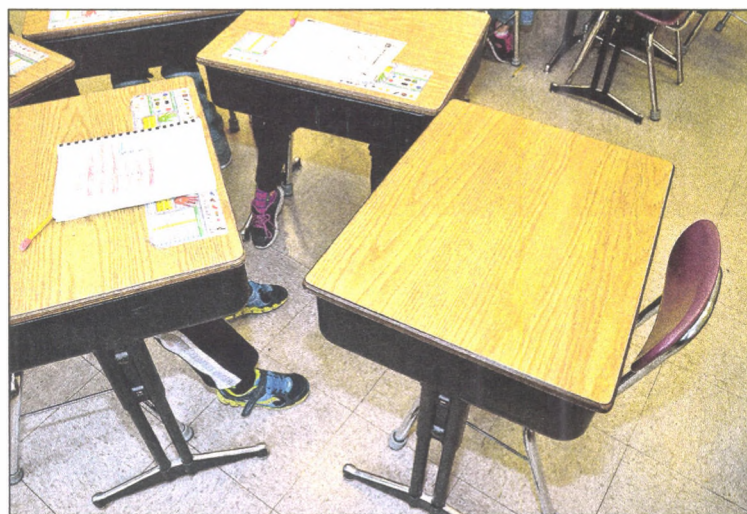
The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education will vote at the Monday, May 23, meeting whether to allow non-resident GPPSS staff members to enroll their students in Grosse Pointe schools. Proposed changes to

BOE Policy 5111, "Enrollment Eligibility of Students," permit any staff member who works at least halftime to enroll a child or children in GPPSS tuition-free. Children only will be placed where there is space and will remain at that school for subsequent years unless adjustments are necessary due to staffing, student groupings, discipline infractions or other contingencies.

Students follow the typical feeder pattern unless space considerations dictate otherwise.

The rationale for the proposal is to provide a benefit at no cost to the district; increase annual revenue; potentially attract non-resident teachers to move to Grosse Pointe; compete with districts that provide this benefit to recruit and retain top talent; and

See MIXED, page 11A



The board of education will vote May 23, whether to allow non-resident staff members to enroll their students in the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Relay day

Relay for Life Grosse Pointe held its annual event at the city offices in Grosse Pointe Woods Saturday, May 14. The 12-hour event ended early due to cold weather. More than \$20,000 was raised during the team event, which included games, food and entertainment for participants. Grosse Pointe South High School seniors Jennifer Maiorana, Jacob Schwessinger, Connor Mallegg and Emma Clutterbuck play euchre while Cameron Ennis and Samuel Jones look on.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



## Plans to come in July

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Advocates for and against transforming the Tennis House into 16 residential units are facing off in a match not made in heaven.

Yard signs in the neighborhood of the private, indoor, single-court tennis facility, located next to Brownell Middle School, read: "Preserve our neighborhood. No

See PLANS, page 6A



Above, Grosse Pointe Zumba teacher Susan Leithauser-Yee leads a crowd through some moves to limber up. At right, survivors take a lap to the cheers of participants in the Relay for Life.



At left, Bridget Wayman and Sheri Apigo, dressed as tooth fairies, represent My Family Dental in Grosse Pointe Woods. Above, Jacob Meerschaert, 3, with his dad, Jeff, shies away from Queen Elsa, Princess Merida and Ariel. At right, Kerby Elementary principal Sara Delgado with third-grade student Emma Hanoian, a cancer survivor.



## Farms looks to next budget

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — As the level of Lake St. Clair rises more than in two decades, the municipal budget for next fiscal year is hitting a modern high-water mark.

The general fund budget for fiscal year 2016-17, starting July 1, is \$14,016,340.

"This is our first year over \$14 million in quite a while," said Councilman Louis Theros, chairman of the Grosse Pointe Farms budget and audit committee.

As forecast last month, municipal

See FARMS, page 7A

Public Safety . . . . . 5A  
Opinion . . . . . 8A  
Community . . . . . 1B  
Obituaries . . . . . 7B  
Sports . . . . . 1C  
Schools . . . . . 1D  
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**Pointer of Interest**  
See story, page 4A



**Eldonna May**

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods  
Received a Fulbright Award to further music education and research in Africa



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2A | BUSINESS



# Genesis Cadillac

Genesis Cadillac in St. Clair Shores held an open house Thursday, May 12, with music, entertainment and a chance to see the newest models of Cadillacs. At left, dozens mingled with Genesis Cadillac employees at the 5-hour event. Below left, Grosse Pointe businessman Sean Lane, left, with general sales manager Brian Carroll. Below middle, the new ATS model. Below, the dealership, located at 19900 Nine Mile Road.

PHOTOS BY JOE WARNER

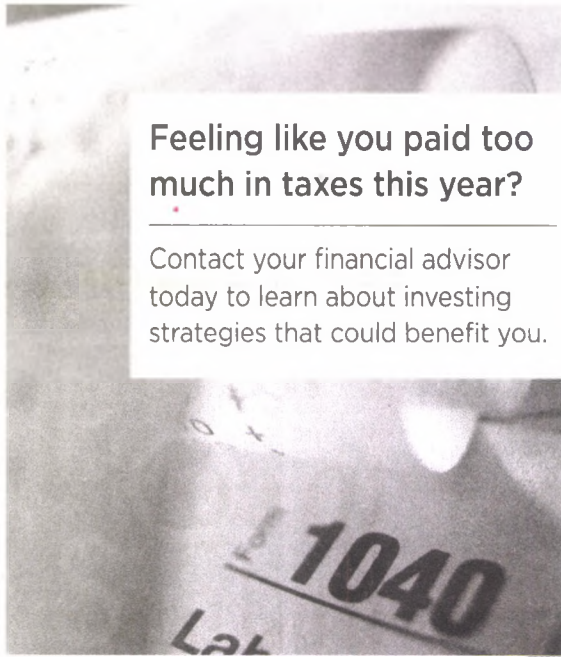


## Wendy's getting new old look

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

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**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Longtime diners at Wendy's on Mack may get a taste of déjà vu when the restaurant's new façade is uncovered. "We're going back to the original fascia that was on that building years ago," said Alan Okon, construction manager for The Wendy's Company, based in Dublin, Ohio. "It's still there (and) in pretty good shape."

As such, the former, gable roof will supplant the existing mansard version.

New, however, when

renovations are finished, is patio seating facing Mack and a remodeled interior.

"Every bench and seat will be new," Okon said. "We're putting in an electric fireplace with a WiFi bar and soft seating so it's more of a casual place. We're going to make this stand out as a top-notch restaurant."

Work starts as soon as possible and should take about one month.

"We're anxious to get going," Okon said.

Although Wendy's corporate planners are transforming most outlets with modern architecture, an exception is in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"We believe the modern architecture does not fit in with designs of surrounding buildings in the city, particularly along

Mack," according to written recommendations by John Jackson, the city's planning consultant. "The applicant agreed to retain a more traditional façade to mimic other buildings in the area."

A proposed brown exterior won't do.

"The paint was dark brown, which we did not feel was appropriate for the location," Jackson said.

An alternative suggestion went too far.

"The applicant then proposed to paint the building white, which we also did not find appropriate," Jackson said. "We discussed the possibility of exposing the brick, but the applicant believes the natural color is an unappealing red-brown."

Then a compromise.

"The applicant proposed a corporate-approved color, Wendy's Grey," Jackson said.

"A medium gray," Okon clarified.

Even that caused apprehension.

"This color is more appropriate than the original proposal, but it may be too light when applied to the whole building," Jackson said.

Municipal officials are involved because the business is technically a non-conforming use in an area zoned for community service.

"Because this is an existing non-conforming use, the zoning board also would have to approve alteration of the structure," said Terry Brennan, director of Farms public services.

Wendy's officials want to keep the restaurant, which has drive-through service, open until midnight.

"The original development was limited to 10 p.m., even though our ordinance does say midnight," Brennan said.

A change in operating hours also requires municipal approval, which can only happen after the public receives advance notice of a public hearing on the matter.

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## Grille grows in place

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — The narrow arcade outside Village Grille along Notre Dame at Kercheval is being enclosed to provide more indoor seating.

"Enclosure (allows) the (restaurant's owner) to remove the interior wall parallel to Notre Dame, increasing interior dining capacity by approximately 650 square feet," said John Jackson, the City of Grosse Pointe's planning consultant.

Although the restaurant's interior is expanding, the exterior isn't. The building's footprint remains the same.

"They're basically

See GRILLE, page 4A

# Bloom bidding farewell

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

During more than 20 years as director of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Vickey Bloom has seen great changes.

From increased hours of operation and program options to the addition of two new library buildings and the popular Books on the Lake program, Bloom has played a role in many library accomplishments.

This summer, Bloom will play a big role in another big change as she retires from the post she's held since 1995.

"It's been a lovely community to work in," she said. "The people are so nice. They value this library .... It's been a pleasure to work here and bring the best we could in the library system."

Bloom began her career in Grosse Pointe in 1988 as a reference librarian and took the interim director position in May 1995, just months before the director gig became hers.

She fell in love with libraries while in college.

"I worked at the East Baton Rouge Parish Library as a page (shelver) in college," said Bloom, who earned her undergraduate degree in family life and environment from Louisiana State University. "When I took the college job ... people would ask for help. There was a library information services desk that answered 500 questions a day — on anything .... After college, I moved into that department. It hooked me. That made me go to library school and get my master's degree."

She earned a master's degree in library sciences from LSU while working at the same library.

"I stayed there 12 years, then moved to Michigan when I met my husband."

Bloom said she was approached by the Grosse Pointe library board when the director post opened and she had to be talked into taking the position, but she never regretted the move.

"I've loved it — the people, type of job, the staff. It's been a good 21 years," she said.

Bloom chose retirement to spend more time with family. Her parents still live in Louisiana.

"I want to be able to stay for more than a weekend," she said.

She also wants to spend more time with her husband, Jim, who she said nearly died several years ago after sudden cardiac arrest. He's been retired for five years and patiently waits for his wife to join him.

While Bloom plans to travel, work on crafts, read — even more than usual — and find volunteer opportunities, she also wants to stay in touch with the people who've become her second family all these years.

"I want to keep in touch with the staff, so I'll be over this way a lot," she said. "And we'll be staying in Michigan, maybe not in Westland, but we enjoy

the four seasons — not just the one hot one in Louisiana."

She said the library board interviewed six candidates for the director post. Three finalists will be interviewed by the board 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 26.

Bloom's last day as director is June 30 and a replacement will begin July 1.

"What I'll miss most of all are the people, but the staff especially," she said. "The community knows how much they love the library. I will miss them very much."

Bloom's co-workers will miss her as well.

"We're very sad to see her retiring, but we're very happy for her that she'll be able to spend time with her family and enjoy her retirement. But we'll miss her very much," said Peggy Kitchell, assistant director. "She has been an inspiration to me and she has helped me with this new job as assistant director. I've really enjoyed working with her."

Added Jennifer Bingaman, executive director of the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation, "Vickey provided extraordinary fiscal management while responding to the needs of the community and championing the library staff. She was diplomatic in bringing about change and always seemed to take the long view, which was to sustain the great service this library system provides well into the future. She was a calm and thoughtful leader; I learned a lot from her and will miss working with her very much."

Foundation President Gary Colett also expressed gratitude. "In my short time as president of the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation, it has been a pleasure to work with Vickey," he said. "She is very dedicated to the library and to this community." "During my tenure as president of the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation, I found Vickey to be a direct and



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

**Grosse Pointe Public Library Director Vickey Bloom, holding one of her awards, retires from the library this summer.**

effective leader," said Dr. Henry Sprague, a member of the Friends Board of Directors and former foundation president, "and I'm glad to have worked with her to further the interests of the library."

"I've worked with Vickey Bloom for 20 years," said Robert Klacza, president of the library board of trustees. "She's been just marvelous to work with. She's managed the library's staff and buildings in excellent order."

"A tribute to her success is the millage issue we passed with a 3-to-1 margin. She's very conscientious, the staff enjoy greatly working with her. She will be sorely missed."

At the opening of the Ewald and Woods branches more than a

decade ago, Klacza said, "She ushered into existence two new libraries during her tenure. That's another great statement to her abilities and capabilities."

Securing the library's future is a cause Bloom worked tirelessly to promote. Those who would like to acknowledge her legacy are asked to consider a gift to the Grosse Pointe Public Library's Endowment Fund. Checks may be made either to the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation with "Endowment" in the memo line and sent to 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or to the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan with "GPPL" on the memo line and sent to CFSEM, 333 W. Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226.

# Budget ready to roll in Woods

By Kathy Ryan  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — By a unanimous vote, the city council adopted the recommended budget for the new fiscal year beginning July 1.

"I believe we have put forth a good budget for the residents of Grosse Pointe Woods," said City Administrator Tom Colombo.

The new budget sets general fund expenditures at \$12,698,220, an increase of \$11,119 over the previous year. It also sets the general operating millage at 13.8158, which is at the city's Headlee cap.

The overall budget shows a drop from 2015-16 of \$1.1 million, with a total budget of \$37,920,046, down from \$39,062,376 the previ-

ous year.

The largest cut in the new fiscal year will be in road construction. The city spent \$6.4 million last year in much-needed repairs and has budgeted \$3.8 in the new budget. A cut of nearly \$200,000 is proposed in municipal improvements, with \$370,070 appropriated in last year's budget and \$82,084 set for the new year.

Water rates will increase by 3.8 percent to keep the city in line with rate increases from the Great Lakes Regional Water Authority. The new rate takes effect July 1.

The new budget was presented at a public hearing during the city council meeting Monday, May 16. No one spoke in opposition to the new budget.

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We are happy to say Nick and Nitsa have retired at the young ages of 88 and 83 and are now enjoying life with their family, grandchildren and friends. They would like to thank all of their loyal clients for making their family business such a success and look forward to having their legacy continue for many years to come. From our family to yours "Thank you for bringing us into your home for nearly 50 years. It was truly a privilege and an honor."

4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

# May takes Fulbright award overseas

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

Since 2012, Eldonna May has traveled to Botswana annually to speak at Botho University's International Research Conferences. The longest time she's spent there until now is one month.

Soon the Grosse Pointe Woods resident and Wayne State University professor will call Botswana her home for a full year after receiving a 2016-17 Fulbright Award for teaching and research.

"I'm incredibly fortunate and incredibly blessed in many ways," she said. "It will be a grand adventure."

May — who earned an undergraduate degree in oboe performance and a master's degree in musicology from Wayne State University, as well as a doctorate in musicology from Michigan State University and an advanced degree in online teaching and learning from Florida State University — also is chair emerita of the President's Commission on the Status of Women and the delegate to the

African Deans Education Forum.

"Music is one of the great universals. We are fortunate that it transcends all boundaries. I can touch so many people as a lecturer," she said. "I'm fortunate to have had the opportunity to touch a lot of people. I've been able to coach, mentor and influence through my teaching. It's such a kick, an emotional high, when you have a student, when that lightbulb goes on, that epiphany moment. To see someone else experience that ... is just absolutely wonderful. Being able to open up that world of music ... in other folks is just an absolute joy."

During her time in Africa, May will work with Botho University's Faculty of Education Distance Learning unit to develop an online learning program and teaching commons for faculty, as well as launch the country's first music business program. She also plans to continue research and fieldwork in kwaito music, or South African hip-hop, expanding a research paper into a book.



At left, Eldonna May leads a break-out session at the July 2015 ADEF meeting/DETA conference at the Mauritius Institute of Education in Reunion. Below, May and her Welsh Corgis, Margaret, left, and Winston.

LEFT PHOTO COURTESY OF ELDONNA MAY. BELOW PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

"Another part of my Fulbright, and it's so sensational, is to be able to step back and step out of yourself and contribute — to work with others and make a positive contribution in places where it's both desired and needed," she said. "The students I've met in the past, they're so bright and capable and invested, unlike a lot of young people here that think, 'I'm not going to college' or 'I can just skate through college.'"

"Students there consider tertiary education to be the way up and out," she continued. "They take it more seriously than our students do here in the U.S. The government pays for tertiary education there, but it's much more competitive. The grades have to be there. If you flunk a course, you're gone." There are several other projects with which May is involved, each of them helping "shape the tertiary education of the continent," she said, noting an Internet

Communication Technology literacy project in Botswana and Ghana.

"I'm fortunate that I have established friendships in Botswana and Ghana," she said, adding the addition of her Welsh corgis, Winston and Margaret, will make the trip more like home. "They are the epicenter of the household."

May plans to start curriculum mapping when she arrives this summer and teach a seminar in music business before kicking off other projects through the Fulbright. During a nearly 5-week hiatus during the holidays, she hopes to travel. "I've gone north of Botswana and seen a game drive and gone on a boat cruise," she said. "I've been so fortunate to see elephants crossing ... herds of elephants with their calves. I've crossed into Zimbabwe and visited Victoria Falls. In South Africa, I've been to Johannesburg, Pretoria and Soweto. I've visited the castle at Cape Coast, where African slaves



were imprisoned, put on ships and sent off. I'm so incredibly fortunate, so privileged to be able to do this. I hope during the down time to get back to the Okavango Delta in Botswana. I haven't been there yet." When she's not presenting in locations around the world or playing chamber music with the Metropolitan Detroit Chorale or Brazeal

Dennard Chorale, May enjoys the outdoors — hiking, cross-country skiing, canoeing and kayaking. She also is a lake monitor for the Department of Environmental Quality. "The beauty of nature, wildflowers, trees, birds ... to be free from distraction, to be one with your environment, to empty your head and be able to focus on music composition."

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## GRILLE:

Continued from page 2A

making the temporary outside seating permanent inside seating," said Councilman John Stempfle.

The outdoor arcade, until now used for dining during warm-weather months, is 80 feet long and has nine arches facing Notre Dame.

"Plans propose to fill

the arched openings with brick to approximately 3 feet in height," Jackson said. "Windows will be installed in the remainder of each opening, matching second-floor windows in size and shape. They propose to do this in the character of the existing architecture."

A single arch facing Kercheval is being closed. A nearby bay window on the Kercheval façade will be replaced with French

doors leading to an existing 9-by-20 foot patio.

Municipal officials monitor business expansions in the central commercial district for their impacts on such things as parking capacity in surface lots and a parking deck.

"The plan should not have any significant impact on surrounding parking facilities," Jackson said. "Expected parking will not be more than is currently required during warm-weather dining seasons."

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## Grosse Pointe Park

## Dine and dash

At 10 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, two suspects in their early 20s skipped out on their dinner tab of \$24 from a restaurant on Mack. The pair ordered and ate a pizza, then left without paying the bill.

## Costly mistake

A resident of the 1000 block of Beaconsfield left her purse, a cellphone and her bike outside of her house during the early morning hours of Saturday, April 30. She discovered all three items missing around 7 a.m.

## Cellphone taken

A Berkshire resident reported to police Tuesday, May 10, a cellphone was missing from her house after a known person was inside the house doing work. Police continue to investigate.

## Credit card theft

A businessowner on Mack notified police an individual made multiple online purchases with a stolen credit card. The businessowner arranged for the individual to come into the store and police were waiting. The 20-year-old Detroit resident was arrested and charged with illegal use of a financial transaction device.

—Kathy Ryan

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

## Grosse Pointe Woods

## Public Safety Reports

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## Grosse Pointe Shores

## Complaint

At 8:30 p.m. Monday, May 9, an employee at a spa on Mack reported to Woods police concerns she had about a customer asked to leave the business. She said she has seen his car in the area and noticed him standing outside of the business. She was told by police to call them if he is seen near the business.

## Identity theft

A Brys resident filed a police report on Friday, May 6, after being called by a credit company regarding an account opened in her name with a major retailer that now has a balance of \$19,000. The resident told the credit company she never opened such an account and they advised her to file a police report.

—Kathy Ryan

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

## City of Grosse Pointe

## Copper theft

A copper backflow preventer is missing from the wall of a commercial property in the 18000 block of Mack.

An employee noticed the apparent theft upon trying to turn on lawn sprinklers. She reported it to police Wednesday, May 11.

"It is unknown when this happened or who may have done it,"

reported a public safety officer.

—Brad Lindberg

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

## Flowers cut

An unseen, unknown vandal cut an 8-foot bed of tiger lilies in the backyard of a house in the 200 block of McKinley sometime between 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, and 4 p.m. the next day.

Whoever did it likely entered the yard through an unlocked driveway gate, according to the female homeowner.

"She does not know anyone who would have a reason or motive for cutting the plants," said the officer.

Damage totals \$200, the woman told police.

## Fight

An estranged couple got into an argument while preparing to sell "some of their old belongings" at a garage sale Friday morning, May 13, in the first block of Merriweather, according to statements the wife, 65, reportedly gave police.

She said her husband, 65, pushed her to the ground and choked her, breaking her necklace. She said she bit his arm and took his wallet.

He "snatched" it back, "causing multiple credit cards to go everywhere," reported a public safety

officer, referring to the woman's statement. "The husband ran out of the house and jumped into his vehicle. (The woman) had no visible injuries and refused medical attention."

A sergeant found the suspect's car parked in the 15100 block of Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park.

"Officers checked the area but could not locate (him)," said an officer.

## Runs reds

The Farms prosecuting attorney reported the suspected drunken driver of a silver 2015 Dodge Caravan running red lights on eastbound Jefferson at 9:33 p.m. Tuesday, May 10.

A patrolman stopped the suspect, a 52-year-old man of unlisted address, near the intersection of Stanton Lane and Grosse Pointe Boulevard.

"When asked why he was running red signals, (he) stated he believed they were about to turn green," said the officer.

The man reportedly admitted taking a muscle relaxer and drinking alcohol before driving, but smelled of garlic, not intoxicants, which the patrolman attributed to him eating a chicken shawarma.

"I observed a large food mess around the driver's

seat," said the officer.

The man registered a .08 percent blood alcohol level. Officers arrested him for drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs.

## Fake policy

Police arrested a 22-year-old Detroit man 7:24 p.m. Sunday, May 8, for possessing 1.1 grams of marijuana, violating a suspended driver's license while operating a black 2002 Cadillac DHS and forging an auto insurance certificate.

He's also wanted in Harper Woods for failing to appear in court on a charge of retail fraud, according to police.

A patrolman stopped him on eastbound Mack near Ashley for not wearing a seat belt.

"The (insurance) certificate shows different fonts and print sizes and is printed on regular printer paper," reported the officer.

An insurance carrier confirmed the patrolman's suspicions.

"The policy number does not conform to (the agency's) policy and does not exist in their database," said the officer.

—Brad Lindberg

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

## Drunk

A patrolman monitoring Lakeshore from the foot of Oxford at about 12:45 a.m. Saturday, May 7, noted a silver 2015 Honda Accord being driven northbound at 14 mph over the speed limit.

"(I) followed the vehicle with camera recording," reported the officer. "(I) noted the vehicle drifting in the lane of travel, but not crossing the white lines."

During a traffic stop at Hawthorne, the driver, a 28-year-old man from Macomb Township, reportedly smelled of intoxicants and failed a series of field sobriety tests.

"Honestly, I had two drinks" at a bar in Detroit, he allegedly told the officer prior to registering a .165 percent blood alcohol level.

The percentage is more than twice the legal maximum to operate a motor vehicle in Michigan.

Police arrested the man for drunken driving, his second such offense, according to records.

"(He) was compliant and followed directions throughout the booking process," said the officer.

—Brad Lindberg

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

## Hearing resumes

By Kathy Ryan  
Staff Writer

DETROIT — Bob Bashara returns to court on Tuesday, May 24, to conclude the hearing on his request for a new trial.

Judge Vonda Evans announced two weeks ago she will allow Bashara's attorney, Ronald Ambrose, to continue questioning Joe Gentz about his role in the January 2012 murder of Jane Bashara and Gentz's allegations Bashara paid Gentz to kill Jane Bashara.

Evans said Gentz will be the last witness called

in the hearing that began September 2015.

Bashara filed an appeal in 2015 asking his conviction

be overturned. He was convicted in

See RESUMES, page 12A

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# Critics tee off on Tennis House condos

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Eyefuls of written opinions are on file at city hall about converting an indoor tennis club into 12 condominiums, plus constructing four additional single-family residential structures on the 1.5-acre site.

In contention is rezoning the 80-year-old private Tennis House club in Grosse Pointe Farms from a community recreation district to multiple family residential.

Club owners want to transform the interior into 12 condominiums without changing outside dimensions.

Four stand-alone residences are proposed for lawn space along the club's driveway from the tip of Moselle Place, oth-

erwise a dead-end with eight houses.

The club has been owned and operated since 2013 by the Kornmeier family organized as ANK Enterprises.

Owners say the club, consisting of a single court although the building could fit two, is losing membership and no longer sustainable as an athletic facility.

"If they are using the excuse that they can't make money as a tennis house, that is their own fault," Brian Vladu e-mailed members of the Grosse Pointe Farms council and administration April 20.

His house, listed as sold, on Belanger backs up to club property.

"We neighbors have never been invited to join the club," Vladu wrote.

His letter is the first of

about 20 recorded by the Farms city clerk.

Yet, Matthew Kornmeier, ANK's director of property management, said years of trying to revive the Tennis House failed.

"The two previous owners did the same thing," he said. "We have had membership drives, capital campaigns and open houses."

Ruthanne Johnston, a nearly 30-year Belanger resident, e-mailed a complaint May 5.

"I find it a little amazing that the Kornmeier family purchased the Tennis House with the intention of preserving it and found that was not going to be possible," she wrote.

The club is at a competitive disadvantage with larger facilities, including municipal parks, offering

more courts on which it's easier to schedule matches, Kornmeier said.

"People want to play in groups of eight or 12 in leagues," he said. "This is just a one-tennis court place. The model is obsolete."

Robert and Jane Grambo, residents of Moselle Place, are among critics warning Farms officials about a residential development's harmful impact on increased traffic congestion, reduced safety of children walking to and from nearby Brownell Middle School and the "negative pressure" of condominiums on the value of surrounding single-family homes.

"Those types of things are first and foremost in our minds," Kornmeier said. "Those will all be addressed."

A traffic study is intended.

"Preliminary indications are there may not be a significant effect on traffic, but we don't know that for sure," Kornmeier said. "We need to address that. Pedestrian safety comes into play there as well — how they get in and out, what time of day they come in and out and how it coincides with school traffic."

He plans to host another meeting with neighbors.

"I want to make sure everyone is clear on the proposal," Kornmeier said. "They can give us their concerns and comments and we will address them. People think there will be rentals and apartments and people moving in from other places."

He presented a prelim-

inary proposal to the Farms council in early March.

"All the necessary things to put together a true site plan for consideration have not been completed," Kornmeier said.

"If we go to the next step of considering a site plan, our intent is addressing all of those concerns for the neighbors and community."

The council next meets on the matter at 7 p.m. Monday, July 11.

"As long as I've been on this council, as many proposals have failed as succeeded," said Councilman Louis Theros. "People have come to us for multiple proposals on the corner of Moran and Ridge. And it's still Moran and Ridge with no construction. We listen to all opinions."

## PLANS:

Continued from page 1A

Tennis House condos."

Residents packed Grosse Pointe Farms council chambers Monday, May 9, to lobby opposition.

"We have a full house tonight," said Mayor James Farquhar. "I know why a lot of you are here. In advance of this meeting, the city received 20 written comments from all of you. And I've seen a lot of the signs."

Discussion ended

before it began because the Tennis House's owners weren't scheduled to present their site plan and seek exceptions to zoning restrictions until the council meets at 7 p.m. Monday, July 11.

"Thank you all for coming," the mayor told interested parties. "We request you hold your comments until the public hearing in July after seeing and hearing the plans."

Other than being presented conceptual renderings of a transformed Tennis House during a work session in March, city officials haven't

seen enough detail to rule on the owner's proposal, including rezoning the less-than-2-acre property from recreational use to multi-family residential.

The building opened in 1936 behind what is now First Church of Christ Scientist.

Lone access is off Moselle Place, but the facility is visible from Chalfonte and borders houses on Belanger.

Its curved, metal roof evokes an airplane hanger. Curved edges of the building's brick entryway admit to construction during the Art Deco heyday.

It was 22 years after the inaugural members' first game, set and match that school children began answering morning bells at Brownell in 1958.

Built with backing of and for Pointe blue bloods, the club operated with an exclusivity that grew in recent years by the sole means of shrinking membership.

The number of members are far below the

100 needed to sustain operations, according to Matthew Kornmeier, director of property management for the family business, ANK Enterprises, owner since 2013.

"They have not submitted any proposal, proposed site plan or drawing for our review," Farquhar said of the family.

"All we've seen are some color schematics," said Councilman Louis Theros. "The only thing they have on the agenda tonight is they want us to vote to put it on a future agenda to discuss the substance at that time."

Although Kornmeier and his legal counsel, Charles Berschback, attended the council meeting, they had nothing to present.

"We're asking, simply, for scheduling a public hearing," Berschback said.

Many matters to be addressed in July echo concerns residents have been writing about, according to Farquhar, such as:

- ◆ traffic flow and congestion,
- ◆ pedestrian safety,
- ◆ structural and population density,
- ◆ privacy,
- ◆ Grosse Pointe heritage,
- ◆ property values,
- ◆ rentals,
- ◆ sale price,
- ◆ property mix and
- ◆ aesthetics.

"It's our expectation (the owners) will make an informed decision, meaningfully consider and address citizens' concerns at the public hearing," said Councilman Peter Waldmeir. "Some concerns may be obviated by what's submitted to us in July."

Property owners within 300 feet of the Tennis House will get advance notice of the hearing, Theros said.

Most audience members exited the session. Many began discussions among themselves in the tile-floored, echo chamber of a hallway outside council chamber's double wooden doors.

Not Brian Vladu, resident of a house on Belanger with a "sold" sign in front of it. The property borders the Tennis House.

Vladu stayed for the rest of the meeting.

He saw the council pass next fiscal year's \$14 million municipal budget, approve a new façade for Wendy's restaurant on Mack, deny a Merriweather homeowner's request for a zoning variance to erect a 6-foot privacy fence

on the Kercheval property line and raise the average water bill 4.8 percent.

The council also passed a consent agenda authorizing purchase of an \$11,900 boiler for the Pier Park bathhouse and a new public safety 911 telephone system costing \$84,126; recognizing Grosse Pointe South Choir Boosters Inc. as a non-profit organization for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license from the state, and approving quarterly legal fees totaling \$9,863.05 and an \$11,303.35 bill to fix a broken water main.

Then Vladu spoke. He wants to "stop" the Tennis House project and wanted the council's advice on "the best way to stop it."

"I can't give an answer on that," said Farquhar. "We haven't seen any detailed proposal yet. We have to look at it first and go from there."

"It will go through the normal process," added Theros. "They come to us, make a proposal, give us a site plan, tell us what they plan to do, how they plan to do it, what changes in the law they need and more."

Integral to the process are analyses by the city planning consultant, public service director regarding ordinances and the city attorney.

"The question is how the applicant's going to respond," Waldmeir told Vladu. "And, are you going to be satisfied with that applicant's response?"

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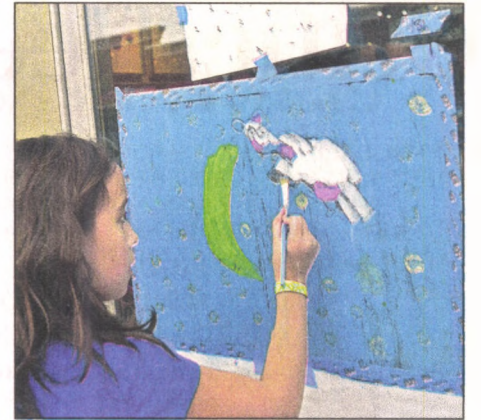
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# Nice work

The Village of Grosse Pointe held its 28th annual Paint the Window contest Saturday, May 7. More than 160 children entered. This year's theme was "Out of this World." At right, Harmony Swanson shows off her painting, Alien Language.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Above middle, Gillian Byarski is focused on her work, as is Lorelei Wohlfarth, above. Far left, Henry Chesterton removes tape around his painting. Left middle, Jack Nearhood and his friend Will Turner work on Disco Billy. At left, Ben Coffey paints next to his sister, Natasha.

## FARMS:

Continued from page 1A

officials built the budget partially on a .45 mil tax increase for rubbish operations. The change generates about \$330,000 per year.

"The rubbish budget will now pay for itself and free up the general fund to put more (money) toward capital improvements, particularly roads," Theros said.

Revenue from property taxes totals \$10,194,170, or nearly 73 percent of all municipal income.

"Assessed values for homes in Grosse Pointe Farms increased an average 7.6 percent, which marks our fourth year in a row of increases," Theros said.

Due to legislation limiting property tax increases to the lesser of the rate of inflation or 5 percent, taxable property values in the

Farms went up 1.5 percent.

The figure includes the .3 percent rate of inflation plus amounts generated by new construction, expansion of existing structures and taxable values that are uncapped when property changes ownership.

Increased property values and the rubbish rate hike mean the average Farms homeowner pays \$90 more in taxes next fiscal year.

"We continue to have the lowest tax rate of all the Grosse Pointes," Theros said. "We are .623 mils lower than Birmingham and 1.72 mils less than communities outside of our area that we are often compared to."

The Farms also collects taxes for the public school system and Wayne County.

"Only 30 cents of every \$1 we pay in taxes goes to Grosse Pointe Farms," Theros said. "Seventy cents of your taxes go to other governmental enti-

ties for which we collect taxes."

Municipal reserves, officially called fund balance and characterized as a rainy day fund, total just more than \$4 million.

The figure represents "just under 29 percent of our general fund budget, which is aligned with what the state wants communities to have," Theros said.

The budget includes \$1.333 million, an increase of \$333,000 from last year, for infrastructure improvements and pur-

chases of equipment.

"Without that, the budget would have gone up only 2.6 percent instead of 5 percent," he said.

Capital improvements include:

- ◆ \$500,000 to resurface parts of Moran, McKinley, Cloverly, Touraine, Scripps Court and Evans Court.

- ◆ \$300,000 to buy public safety vehicles and equipment, including \$100,000 for fire apparatus reserve and

- ◆ \$125,000 building and

improvements at Pier Park.

Public safety is the greatest expense, \$4,705,810, or 34 percent of the total.

Then comes "other

functions," at \$2,179,130, or 16 percent of expenditures; transfers to other funds, \$2,121,500, 15 percent; and parks and recreation, \$1.3 million, 10 percent.

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## Grosse Pointe News

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### GROSSE POINTE NEWS MISSION STATEMENT

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### OUR VIEW

## Amber Alert system needs to be quicker

The Amber Alert system is good, but flawed. In the case of the car stolen in Detroit earlier this week, when a father left his 3-month-old in a parked, running and unlocked car at 1 a.m. while he went inside a liquor store, we question the effectiveness of our system.

For the second time in a week, the Amber Alert alarms went off on phones and across car stereos in metro Detroit, while roadside signs broadcast a description of a white Chevy Impala and the license number.

So the awareness is good. But the Amber Alerts came several hours after the crime was committed. One came at 7:30 a.m. and another less than 30 minutes later. Nearly seven hours after the car and baby went missing.

Fortunately the child was found safe.

Leaving a car unlocked and running is stupid, especially in that area of Detroit at that time of night. Doing so with a child in the car is arguably criminally stupid.

But think how far away this person could be in seven hours. And think about how the public can help police if they know to look for a car, license plate and a baby that may have been left along the road somewhere. It was found at a random house not too far from the liquor store.

And what kind of information was originally sent out? Fox 2 Detroit had the wrong year for the vehicle and wrong license plate number in its original report. What good does that do?

Fox 2 was quick to pin the misinformation on Detroit police via an editor's note on the website story. That's fair for them to do. It wasn't their mistake.

Getting it right the first time is the job of Detroit's police — and if they're in charge of moving this to Amber Alert status, it took way too long. In seven hours a driver can be in the middle of Kentucky, eastern Pennsylvania, southern Illinois, southern Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula. Who knows where they could be.

National guidelines for the Amber Alert system are merely suggestions for states that have many different rules. It's a voluntary, unregulated warning system, but it has a great opportunity to work.

We implore our government, from federal to local, to be a little stronger with guidelines, perhaps make them real rules and work in the best way to find a missing child.

An Amber Alert can be a very powerful tool, but often they come too late to be effective.

It's better to have millions of drivers and passengers on the lookout for a vehicle or a missing child. But it needs to happen much faster.

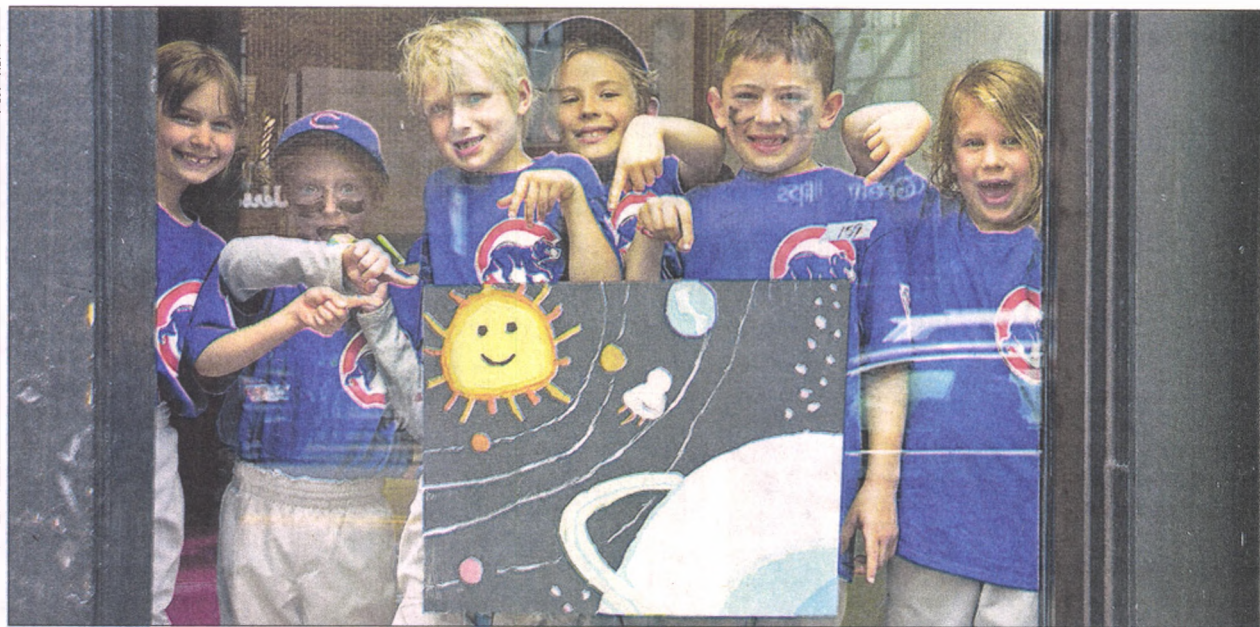


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Pure Grosse Pointe

Pointing at a painting they like in the window at TCBY are members of the Cubs, a Grosse Pointe Park Little League team, Allie Betcher, Myla Garceau, Henrik Moore, Jude O'Meara, Charlie McPartlin and Maureen Scanlon. Their coach took them to TCBY after a game.

## 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).

### Offensive

Town hall meeting? Hardly. The town wasn't invited. The Grosse Pointe Public School System town hall meetings are planned, reservation only, marketing ploys to sell another bond and raise taxes. While there are infrastructure repairs that need to be done, our community knows and supports that. How about a real town hall meeting that wants to listen to what the community has to say? It is offensive to disguise a three-hour presentation (plus sitting through a board meeting) that only wants to hear about how to successfully pass more bonds.

DIANE KARABETSOS  
Grosse Pointe Woods

### Support

We are writing in sup-

port of the proposal to explore allowing students of Grosse Pointe Public Schools employees to bring their children to the district. It is a sensible plan that provides an additional benefit to our employees and could financially benefit all members of the community.

We would like to clarify that we would not be taking advantage of this benefit ourselves; all of the signatories on this letter either are not raising children or have children who are beyond the K-12 stage of their education. Why, then, would we support this policy?

We support our colleagues. All of them: Those who are raising children and those who are not. Just as we would advocate for equitable salaries, flexible health care and reasonable work conditions for everyone in GPPSS, regardless of

their family structure or their role in the district.

It is inarguable that the financial health of the district is of concern to everyone. The population decline among our student body is a frequent topic of conversation and a reality that is already impacting day-to-day life in schools. While we should continue to pursue public relations strategies to encourage families to move to Grosse Pointe, and to bring more families from competing private schools, we have an existing population of students whose families are already invested in the community, upon whom we can draw today. Please consider this proposed change with all of us in mind.

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Grosse Pointe Woods

### Agree

Mr. Warner, I agree with you 100 percent [in your recent column about smoking]. I choke when I smell it also. That is why I switched to Windsor for my gaming. What a shame that someone's hands got a little richer in not changing Detroit's casinos to smoke-free. The excuse at the time was that the Indian-owned casinos would lose business (I might be incorrect, but I believe that the casinos had to have a percentage of Indian investment here). Come on. Canada took a hit for a long while in making their choice, but it's so much better to gamble in a smoke-free atmosphere than downtown's casinos. And you are correct that the smoking that can take place is in a room (without doors) at MGM. Go figure. They don't know smoke travels right through? I hope that

See LETTERS, page 9A

### GUEST OPINION By Kelly Boll

## What's the purpose of the proposal?

The community at large is unaware of current board discussions regarding revisions to Enrollment Policy 5111. This proposed policy change has great impact, both financially and in terms of faculty/staff equity. Where is the transparency? The board is ill-advised to go ahead with a vote on this issue May 23 without additional community input and approval.

Basic questions were asked at the board meeting May 9 about the purpose of the revisions, the cost and the fairness. The public was not provided answers to their questions but was told that individuals will receive answers to their questions privately. What secrets are the board trying to hide? The board is elected to represent the taxpayers of the district, not the teachers. The union represents the teachers, only some of whom will benefit from

the proposed change. How can the board in good conscience go ahead with its vote without granting sufficient time for informed taxpayer input? Several constituents came forward during public comments with valid questions. The answers deserve to be put in the public forum for debate, especially if it is the taxpayers who will be the ones to foot the bill for the additional 'free tuition' payments for students of non-residents for years to come.

Currently there exist district enrollment policy problems that remain unsolved. Many violators of our residency policy have been investigated and discovered by the private investigator hired by the board. However, over several years of known violations, no tuition has been collected from any families who have committed fraud, per verbal statement by the district authority on

this issue. Who has been stuck paying the bill? Shouldn't the board take control and resolve this issue prior to extending the open enrollment policy for other non-residents? Taxpayers of the Grosse Pointe district contribute school taxes over and above the rate of non-GP property owners. Residents pay a premium to send their children to district schools. Shouldn't non-residents as well? Separately, do policy revisions take the district closer toward a school of choice situation?

Regarding the fairness of the policy, if the 'free-tuition' is extended to non-resident teachers and staff, has the board considered how to compensate resident teachers and staff who do not receive this benefit? Will teachers and staff who take advantage of this policy bonus be obligated to pay state income taxes on this untaxed perk?

Will GP district taxpayers somehow be given compensation for their extra contributions? Where is the fairness?

Finally, the taxpayers appreciate the board's awareness of its obligation to work with the community and the administration to solve the problems presented by declining enrollment in our schools. However, the school district ought to be run like a business. Offering non-resident faculty and staff places in GP district schools is a poor solution to beef up enrollment if that is its intended purpose. The underlying question: what is the real purpose of the policy change? It really can't be to show appreciation for the faculty and staff as was stated at the board meeting. Businesses show their appreciation to employees by paying their contracted salaries.

Boll is a resident of Grosse Pointe Park.

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LETTERS:

Continued from page 8A

the ban does not get lifted. We have rights also and our right is to be in a smoke-free atmosphere inside of any building. Keep up the fight with your columns. I enjoyed reading it.

MARILYN RICARD  
Grosse Pointe Park

Thoughtful

Justice Bridget M. McCormack spoke at a recent "Husbands, Wives and Friends" annual breakfast, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. She is one of the Michigan Supreme Court Justices; her term expires Jan. 1, 2021. I found her both thoughtful and industrious, helping us to focus on many important topics.

One concern Justice McCormack mentioned — perhaps with some embarrassment — is what happens after an unjustly convicted person is released from a Michigan prison. These are folks whose conviction has been overturned, usually due to incomplete, erroneous and / or poorly supported legal actions.

Michigan does not provide any financial support for these folks on release. Many states do. New Hampshire, for example, provides those unjustly convicted with \$18,000 per year. That is not a large amount, (consider your yearly expenses), but far better than zero.

Let us also consider how the state of Michigan supports our schools. Here again our support is weak.

This, of course, keeps our taxes lower. What does it do to our children's future?

A better use of state funds, even if increased, is suggested.

Let us look to areas deserving attention and worry less about 'lower taxes.'

GORDON MORLAN  
Grosse Pointe Park

Thoughts

Just read the article by Kathy Ryan about the Woods city council keeping their breed ban for now. Two things really stood out besides the prejudice toward the breed by the council, which I believe had more to do with their decision than residents.

1. The picture of a pit that was used [on the



website] fed into the stereotype people have in their heads and promotes fear about the dog.

The two dogs in the picture above I've sent also are pit bulls. The big black one is Roger. My wife, a PhD, private practice licensed psychologist uses him as a therapy dog. The black and white one is Duke, a gym favorite who loves children. There are thousands of pictures of pit bulls on the Internet like these.

Why would you use the one you did?

2: Councilman Todd McConaghy is so wrong when he talks and says "when they bite they don't let go." This is a myth that has been told

over the years that is not true. The jaws of the pit bull are functionally the same as any other breed. For more on this go to, realpitbull.com/myths.html

To report this total falsehood is to again, continue the myth and promote people being afraid. He's selling you the "boogie man." While you might say you were just reporting what was said you could have and maybe should have also reported that this statement is not fact. He's quoted as if he's an expert; he's not. You might have gone to Janet Pepler of Pepler Insurance and ask her what she thinks. A long-

time Grosse Pointe resident, she's heavily involved in Detroit Dog Rescue, rescuing mostly pit bulls.

My hope is the Senate passes the bill forbidding cities to ban breeds and concentrate on out of control dogs and bad owners. Until then, I hope you reflect on the things I've pointed out, do some research and find out what Jennifer Miller (pit owner) knows. The pit bull is an awesome dog still treated very badly by people including cities that want to ban them.

KEN WELCH  
Grosse Pointe Park

Thanks

Thank you, Mr. Warner, for your recent article in the Grosse Pointe News. I

did not know there was a state that allowed smoking in restaurants, motels, etc. Also, I was shocked to learn Michigan might put a ban on the smoking ban. I sincerely hope that doesn't happen.

As a lifelong nonsmoker, I cannot tell you how happy I was when smoking was banned in restaurants, motels, airplanes, etc. In my early 20s, I was a social worker and shared a small office with three others who smoked. In all the arenas (except one) I eventually worked in, I had to deal with secondhand smoke. I detested having to breathe in secondhand smoke and have the smell lingering on my clothes, hair, etc. I was not pleased whenever I flew in airplanes and again had to breathe in secondhand smoke. Even

when I would request seating as far away as possible from the smoking section, invariably I would be put in the first row from the smoking section. Once when I traveled by air with two small children, one with asthma, we were to be seated in the row in front of smokers, my patience just ended. I refused to sit down. Holding one baby and the toddler beside me, I refused to sit so close to smokers. It was bad enough the circulated air had smoke in it, but to have to sit where the smoke would be so profuse and my children having to endure that and possibly causing the baby an asthma flare up, I stood firm. The hostess confronted me; I ex-

See LETTERS, page 10A

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10A | OPINION

GUEST OPINION By Brian Banks

# Busy time in state House

As the minority vice chairman of the human services subcommittee of Health and Human Services, I am always striving to make sure state government is responsive to our public health needs. In the recently passed fiscal year 2016-17 state budget, my Democratic colleagues and I tried to improve the health-related services the state offers and add new services that we think are important.

We added funding for treatment and prevention of the Zika virus, including mosquito abatement programs, education and screenings. We agreed to invest \$3.15 million into home heating assistance in order to leverage almost \$140 million in federal food aid assistance, which means some people will receive an additional \$76 of food assistance every month. The budget also includes money for the First Responder Presumed

Cancer Fund to help firefighters who develop cancer. Other improvements to the budget include: \$75,000 for indigent burials; \$7.6 million for a new unit at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry; an overall 5 percent increase to Senior Community Services which maintains full funding of the Meals on Wheels Program; funding to expand the Health Kids Dental Program; adding \$3.3 million for a total of \$4.3 million for the University of Detroit Dental Clinic. Language is also included in the budget to require DHHS to do an appraisal for the replacement of the Hawthorne Center Facility and to do a non-emergency medical transportation pilot, which would be a public/private partnership to encourage the facilitation of non-emergency medical transportation to help individuals get to

See BUSY, page 11A

GUEST OPINION By Catherine Saurbier

# Contact the board; let them know your opinions, questions

For the past several months, much has been written and spoken concerning the U.S. citizen-taxpayer dissatisfaction with the functioning of the public sector. However, incompetence, illegalities and lack of transparency do not begin at the federal level. Being out of tune with the citizen-taxpayer really begins at the local public sector level.

A current local example of this "forgetfulness" is the proposed change to Policy 5111 of the Grosse Pointe Public School System by the Board of Education. On May 23, the BOE will vote on changes to Policy 5111 which will allow the children of any out-of-district part-time or full-time employee of GPPSS to attend the Grosse Pointe public schools.

Whichever opinion you may have regarding this change, I believe the

Grosse Pointe citizen-taxpayers have not had a comprehensive fiscal analysis provided as to the ramifications of this change. In fact, I would bet that a significant portion of the 80 percent of the citizen-taxpayers who do not have children attending GP schools are even aware of this proposed change.

In response, I would ask you to access the GPPSS website and read the proposed changes to Policy 5111 before the vote. I would then ask you to retrieve your most recent GP tax bill and note the dollar amount for schools, keeping in mind the separate sinking fund millage amount. I would then like you to retrieve your recent GP tax assessment, noting the increase.

Please keep in mind while you are reviewing this tax info that the revenue per GP pupil for

2014-2015 (the most recent numbers provided me) was \$12,149.

If these numbers have not given you a migraine headache yet, please take note that the \$12,149 directed to each GPPSS student resulted in a 2015 ranking by The Washington Post in their study of "America's Most Challenging High Schools" of No. 14 in Michigan for Grosse Pointe North High School and No. 16 in Michigan for Grosse Pointe South High School. In addition, The U.S. News & World Report 2016 ranking reported for Grosse Pointe South High School a mathematics proficiency of 55 percent and English proficiency of 82 percent. Grosse Pointe North had a mathematics proficiency of 41 percent and English proficiency of 73 percent.

How about a comprehensive fiscal analysis of

the proposed changes to Policy 5111 before a vote? How about seeking GP citizen-taxpayer input after providing the results of the fiscal analysis before a vote? How about increasing the academic skills of GPPSS students before admitting out-of-district students who would be required to have at least a 2.0 GPA? How about striving to make the GPPSS No. 1 on any ranking?

Finally, I ask you to contact the GPPSS BOE before the May 23 vote. Email, write and/or call these elected members to notify them of your opinions, questions and/or comments.

As citizen-taxpayers we cannot simply be dissatisfied with the functioning of the public sector. We must make that dissatisfaction known and provide alternatives.

Saurbier is a resident of Grosse Pointe Farms.

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 9A

plained that I had requested seating as far away from smokers as possible and I refused to sit in the row in front of them. I was by now standing in the back part of the plane where nonsmokers were seated. The airline was not going to do anything, but a kind gentleman gave up his seat and

took my seat in the smoking section. I am to this day still grateful.

I had the same problem when I would try to get nonsmoking rooms in hotels. Invariably, I would be placed in a room where there had been smokers. Did the hotel managers really think I would not smell it and my child would not be harmed due to her asthma? The same scenarios would follow with restaurants.

I won't bore you with more details, but I can tell you I would be very upset if the ban on the ban in Michigan or anywhere else would be put in place. If a person wants to smoke there are plenty of places they can without harming the nonsmokers. Second hand smoke can be just as deadly as smoking itself. The police try and get people who drink to excess off the road, to keep them from harming

others due to the effects that renders some disoriented, destructive or abusive. In my opinion, a smoker can be just as deadly with people whose health may already be compromised by any disease most especially with pulmonary disease. For those with good health, why put them in potential harm?

ANN ROBINSON WILLET  
Grosse Pointe Farms

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Wayne, Macomb and Oakland County Addresses Only

## MIXED:

Continued from page 1A

increase enrollment in anticipation of a continuing decline in forecasted school-age population in Wayne County.

"Here's an opportunity to grow enrollment with our staff that want to bring their children here and perhaps move here and that's why we're bringing this policy," said Vice President Dan Roeske.

In a survey conducted last summer, 33 staff members indicated interest in enrolling their school-age children in Grosse Pointe. This number has grown to 55, according to Laura Mikesell, president of the Grosse Pointe Education Association.

Peer districts providing this revenue enhancement as part of their benefit package include Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Northville, Novi, Rochester and Troy. Several have offered it to employees with 10 years or more service. Not one charges tuition or allows schools of choice.

"Opening the district to a very limited program for staff and families is not an opening to schools of choice," said Mikesell. "I don't advocate for that, no one on the board has advocated for that and there has not been one GPEA member that has ever advocated for that."

"There's not one person on the board that wants schools of choice," said Roeske. "We vote every year and we vote unanimously that we will not do that."

Mikesell described the

policy as "a realistic, manageable way to attract young families to the Grosse Pointe Public School System."

Moreover, the revenue generated from the additional per-pupil enrollment will help the district offset other, less desirable choices like increased class sizes, teacher layoffs or building closures, she said. She cited forecasts from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments as evidence of declining school-age population until at least 2026, with the Wayne RESA intermediate school district area projected to experience the greatest decline in the region — 18 percent or approximately 60,000 children — between 2010 and 2020. According to Mikesell, Moody's Investor Services downgraded 47 school districts last fall due to financial uncertainty, citing a declining tax base, elevated debt ratios and stagnant per-pupil state funding in their rationale.

Christian Fenton, deputy superintendent for business and operations, confirmed a decline in enrollment of an average of 98 students a year for five years, for a total of 490 students since the 2011-12 school year.

Roeske, who chairs the policy committee, voted unanimously along with trustees Brian Summerfield and Lois Valente to bring a draft of the revised policy to the BOE for an initial read at the April 25 meeting. The topic generated public comments at the May 9 meeting, with several speakers raising questions. Concerns ranged from opening the district to schools of choice to

creating an unfair benefit.

"Rather than showing appreciation to our non-resident staff and faculty, I believe allowing their children to attend district schools tuition-free is unfair on many accounts," said Grosse Pointe Park resident Kelly Boll. "First of all, approval of a change would remove a valuable incentive for current or future staff member parents of school-age children to pursue permanent residence in this community. Approval of a change would be unfair to all current and past staff members who've made the sacrifice to move to this community and who pay the taxes that are required for our schools."

Judith Sheehy of Grosse Pointe Woods questioned why "we use other districts as an answer to why we should be doing something" and asked, "Was it the union who came to the board to ask for this perk for the teachers?"

Superintendent Gary Niehaus said in the survey completed by 575 out of 1,000 employees, the benefit for non-resident staff was one of 10 top priorities respondents asked the board to consider. He said this was a factor behind the policy committee pursuing the proposed changes.

Diane Karabetsos of Grosse Pointe Woods sought clarification on whether the policy is tuition free and what the exact numbers would be. "It can be any staff member, not just a teacher? Could it be a lunch person, a janitor, anyone?" she asked.

"I do think what we're really talking about here

is the budget," she said. "Do you want to do the hard choices, closing a school, laying off staff, or are we going to raise taxes in the fall? What is this really about?"

Other questions involved hidden costs to taxpayers.

"The taxpayers of the Grosse Pointes pay a significant additional amount for school taxes over and above what the state reimburses per pupil," said Catherine Saubier of Grosse Pointe Farms. "My question is, for these out-of-district students, would they be paying that additional amount, or would the taxpayers be subsidizing them? And what is that additional amount that the state pays for that academic year?"

In response to questions raised at the meeting and in subsequent communications, the district posted frequently asked questions and answers online at [gpschools.org](http://gpschools.org).

According to the FAQ, the marginal cost of adding one student in a class under capacity is zero dollars. Because students only would be assigned to classrooms where there is space, no incremental cost, such as hiring a teacher, would accrue. In the meantime, each student would bring in money to the district while filling empty seats.

The amount of foundation allowance comes from the sending district so may vary from district to district, but a fair estimate, according to Jon Dean, deputy superintendent of educational services, is approximately \$7,800 per student. Conservative estimates project a revenue

## Pangborn: This is done 'under the wire'

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

The Policy Committee of the Board of Education considered possible changes to BOE Policy 5111 at an April 20 meeting following general conversation at the April 18 public meet-

ing. Subsequent discussions about the transparency of the proposed change and timing of the vote took place at the April 25 and May 11 meetings. These questions are addressed in item No. 14 in the fre-

See UNDER, page 12A

enhancement of a quarter to a half million dollars annually from the initiative.

"Our board has indicated they view this as a potential benefit of employment," Dean said. "The primary concerns I have heard from residents have been either the slippery slope argument that (the policy leads) to schools of choice. The other argument we've heard is that this is going to financially cost the district. I can tell you that is financially not accurate. This is a marginal cost issue."

Dean also said the pro-

gram will help ensure GPPSS's depth of programming.

Chace Wakefield, a local Realtor, approached the issue from a personal standpoint. "I highly value the teachers and employees in the district and figure if we are trusting them to essentially help in raising our kids, we have to trust they are doing a good job of raising their own and thus allowing their children to attend the schools really isn't a big deal to me," he wrote in an email to the board.

"In the end, I simply think it is the right thing to do."

## BUSY:

Continued from page 10A

the doctor's office or other appointments.

I also am working to make sure lead screening is available for our young children. The Flint water crisis and the discovery of lead in the water of some Detroit Public Schools, is a reminder we must be vigilant about the safety of our water supply. My bill, House Bill 4061, creates a trigger when any health crisis exists dealing with lead. The bill would require an initial non-invasive screening to ensure that lead exposure in children is caught early so that long-term health impacts can be minimized. HB 4061 requires health professionals to order lead exposure screening when a patient, between ages 12 and 24 months, lives in any of the target communities, which includes Detroit, named in the bill. We need these provisions because the earlier lead poisoning is discovered in a child, the quicker doctors, government officials and school officials can take action to restore clean water and take steps to minimize the effects of lead poisoning in children.

I know for many families, it can be hard to access the health care services and programs available. That is why I am inviting everyone to join me May 28 for a free Health Fair that includes free food, raffles and giveaways, medical exams, screenings and more. There will be workshops on mental

health, diabetes, cancer, Hepatitis C, autism, dementia/Alzheimer's, and support after an accident. There also will be music, events and panel discussions. Please join me 10 a.m. Saturday, May 28, at the East English Village Preparatory Academy, 5020 Cadieux Road in Detroit. The doors open at 9 a.m. and speakers begin at 10 a.m.

Staying healthy is one of our most important tasks. One of state government's most important tasks is to offer

assistance and programs to encourage healthy living and to help protect our health. As your state representative, I will continue fighting for public health and social service programs that will help all our families.

Banks, D-Harper Woods, represents Michigan's 1st District and serves as the chairman of the Detroit Caucus. He can be reached by email at [BrianBanks@house.mi.gov](mailto:BrianBanks@house.mi.gov) or visit his website, [banks.housedems.com](http://banks.housedems.com).

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Sparty on

Michigan State University mascot Sparty visited Ferry Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Woods Friday, May 13, a stop on Sparty's Literacy Tour. More than 300 students listened to MSU student executive team intern Emily Baswell read "Hello Sparty." Sparty mingled with the students and passed out plenty of high fives.

Alan Marschke is known internationally as a trusted source for rare and collectible rugs. Alan Marschke carries rugs that are tough as well as "art for the floor as well as the wall" from a few small projects in the world that make rugs in the traditional manner. His expertise is sought from new and seasoned collectors alike.

Alan Marschke carries names such as **Woven Legends, Miri, EMOC and Zollanvari** which can be vetted on the internet for authenticity and value.

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## RESUMES:

Continued from page 5A

December 2014 of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in his wife's death and sentenced to life in prison without parole on both convictions. Bashara has charged, in his request for a new trial, he received inadequate counsel from his defense attorneys, Michael McCarthy and Lillian Diallo.

Gentz confessed to police he murdered Jane Bashara, but did so at the behest of Bob Bashara. Gentz, in a plea deal, was charged with murder in

the second degree and is serving a minimum sentence of 17 years.

However, in yet another bizarre twist in this case that has seen many, Gentz filed an affidavit with the court in December 2015 stating Bob Bashara had nothing to do with his wife's murder. He was brought in to testify at Bashara's hearing for a new trial.

But in a move that stunned even the most veteran of court watchers, Gentz, testifying under oath, said the affidavit he had filed was "a lie" and Bob Bashara had indeed asked him to kill Jane Bashara and was in the garage in the Bashara

house on Middlesex the night of Jan. 24 when he killed her. Gentz told the court Bashara held a gun to his head and ordered him to kill his wife.

"I didn't break into the house, Bob let me in," said Gentz, as he disputed, point by point, many of the allegations made in the affidavit filed on his behalf by another inmate who describes himself as a paralegal.

"This whole thing is a lie," Gentz said of the affidavit.

Evans said May 24 she will set a date for closing arguments and will announce her decision regarding a new trial following those arguments.

## UNDER:

Continued from page 11A

quently asked questions available at gpschools.org.

"The main problem with this is we are doing this now under the wire and that's what many people are saying today," said Trustee Cindy Pangborn. "You don't want to hear from this community and that's why you're doing this at the end of the school year."

"I don't think we're hiding this or sneaking this under the wire," said Trustee Lois Valente. "I think this is a perfect time to have this discussion."

"When you look at the calendar, if you're going to even talk about it, you have to do it now, because people have to make plans for next year," Vice President Dan Roeske said in a phone interview, adding

now is when the administration begins to plan enrollment for next year. If the policy were approved, priority would be given to children of residents and transfer requests before any potential placement decisions were made for non-resident employee children.

"We had a very deliberate discussion at the policy committee about that," said Roeske. "We put a lot of thought into all those concepts. For me, it's about enrollment and a benefit for our staff. But first and foremost it's about enrollment, which is one of our strategic goals."

"The question I ask is, 'Will this work?'" said President Judy Gafa in a phone interview. "Is it valuable and will it make Grosse Pointe public schools better or not? That's how we should look at it." She said responses the board has received have been 50/50 in favor and

against. Emails posted on the district website show support from staff members and non-staff members alike.

Gafa noted a different financial and enrollment climate today than when the policy change was considered by the board in 2009. "Back then, we had \$20 million in our fund equity and the economy (was) just starting to go south and not do well," she said. Fund equity later dropped to an all-time low of 2 percent with gradual growth to a projected 8.6 percent at the end of this school year.

In 2009, the policy was defeated 5-2 and Gafa was among the "nay" votes. This time around, "I'm listening to the community," she said. "I'm taking it all in. I'm looking at both sides — pros and cons. At the end of the day, I'm interested in representing the community and that's how I'm going to base my decision."

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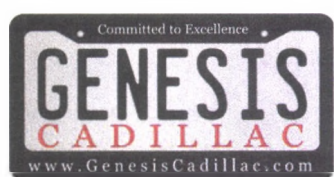
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## A week to remember

### Memorial Week honors veterans, service members

By Jody McVeigh  
 Community Editor

A few years ago, the Grosse Pointe War Memorial took celebrating Memorial Day to a new level, implementing a week's worth of activities and events to commemorate the country's veterans and service members.

This year is no different as Memorial Week 2016 honors military members with four days of programs.

"It was a pivotal point for us, going from a day to a full week," said Grosse Pointe War Memorial CEO Charles Burke. "We are cementing our promise to the community, from 'Our Community Salutes' to

the Memorial Day ceremony, from 'An Evening of Red, White and Blue' to 'A Time of Reflection.' This is about the institution rededicating itself to patriotism and honoring those who've served."

The week starts with "Our Community Salutes" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, during which graduating high school students enlisting in the armed services will be honored as they take the oath of office.

"It honors the choice of high school seniors who are entering the military instead of going to college or entering the workforce," said Ed Lazar, a board of directors member at the War Memorial. "It's typically something school dis-

tricts do not acknowledge."

The enlistee recognition ceremony is open to the public and includes an address by Major Thomas P. Shields, U.S. Marine Corps, commander of the Detroit Military Entrance Processing Station. Attendees also are treated to a light meal and provided resources from agencies like the American Red Cross, Blue Star Mothers and other family-readiness groups.

"These are things families need as kids get ready for boot camp," Lazar said. "They can get familiar with resources available."

Enlistee Recognition Certificates are provided by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence.

Entertainment for the event is provided by the Motor City Brass Band.

"It's an upbeat, positive, inspiring send-off to these young patriots," Lazar said. "We're celebrating the choice they're making to enlist in the military. We feel very strongly about it. As programs develop at the War Memorial, we want to be able to keep in touch with them ... It



COURTESY PHOTOS

Graduating high school seniors are sworn in during last year's "Our Community Salutes" event during Memorial Week.



All ages turn out to pay respects and honor veterans and fallen soldiers during the Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Memorial Week events.

all starts with meeting them here."

Lazar said last year, 80 enlistees attended. He hopes for the same strong attendance this year.

"As a father of an enlistee nine years ago, I'm entirely empathetic to what families are going through," he said. "It's a bittersweet experience where you're proud and scared at the same time, but it's still an honorable choice. I have every confidence ...

the military will take good care of our children. There's lots to look forward to and I wish them fewer sleepless nights than I had."

Following "Our Community Salutes," the War Memorial hosts "An Evening of Red, White and Blue" at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 26. The gala event, Burke said, includes "interesting, clever, creative cocktails" in the newly minted courtyard, a small presentation by

the Detroit Public Theatre, a five-star menu with locally sourced food by Chef Frank Turner and an evening of fun in the front garden, "all while raising funds for our Patriot Initiative."

"The gala primarily raises funds to support our work in honoring and supporting veterans," said Ann Rock, vice president for institutional advancement at

See HONOR, page 5B



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# Family Center celebrates 15 years

## Gala is June 2 at historic Charles Lambert House

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

Diane Strickler remembers well writing the Family Center's third annual report. In her research, she read most nonprofits fail within the first two years.

"I remember thinking, 'We made it,'" she said. "We made it through all the hard stuff — getting the word out, trying to raise money. It was a frenetic time."

Strickler's hard work — and the tireless efforts of many others — has brought the Family Center to its 15th anniversary. What began as a way to make Grosse Pointe more youth and family friendly has grown



COURTESY PHOTO

The Family Center celebrates its 15th anniversary with a gala event at 166 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms.

into a community staple, complete with resources, access to professionals and activities for people young and old.

The organization celebrates the occasion with "A Celebration of Family," 6:30 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, June 2, at the

historic Charles Lambert House, 166 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms.

The evening includes a VIP reception and private home tour for select sponsors, a strolling dinner catered by Chef Bobby Nahra of Lakeland Banquet & Event Centre

and live entertainment. Proceeds benefit Family Center programs.

"Diane's thrust in the beginning was to provide educational enrichment programs to the community," said Debbie Liedel, executive director. "We started with six pro-

grams. We had a static website — an informational landing spot. Now we have an interactive website that is a virtual resource center."

Technology isn't the only change in the Family Center's offerings. Instead of just focusing

on children, the center provides information and resources for the lifespan, from childbirth to empty-nest issues and beyond.

"Our reach has broadened," Liedel said. "Our families have aged with us."

Which is what the occasion celebrates June 2.

"We're celebrating family. There are so many different family units. The Family Center is community-minded. We care for the community, look out for the community, nurture it," Liedel said, adding families are found everywhere, at home and work and in

See GALA, page 4B

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## AREA ACTIVITIES

### Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets 7 a.m. Friday, May 20, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. People of all faiths are welcome.

### BNI

Business Network International meets 7 a.m. Friday, May 20, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Ryan Marier at (313) 638-7526.

### Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts blood drives 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 20, at Harper Woods High School, 20225 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, and 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack. To register, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

### SOC

Services for Older Citizens offers a skin cancer screening clinic \ noon to 4 p.m. Friday, May 20, with Catherine Nordby M.D., a dermatologist who will examine sun-exposed areas and give advice.

The movie "Mr. Holmes" is shown 1 p.m. Monday, May 23. Cost is \$2.

SOC's Spring Fling luncheon takes place 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, catered by Polish Village with entertainment by the Heart of the Hills Players. Cost is \$12.

For reservations for any of these activities, call (313) 882-9600.

### Women's Connection

The Women's Connection of Grosse Pointe presents "I've Got You Under My Skin," presented by Catherine Nordby M.D., at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 22. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$32 for members, \$38 for non-members and \$8 for the program only. Call Ellie Kaye at (586) 463-2463 or Jan Baumann at (586) 243-2241.

### War Memorial

Radhanath Swami visits the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore,

Grosse Pointe Farms, 6 p.m. Monday, May 23, to launch and discuss his new book, "The Journey Within." He will discuss spiritual concepts, offer solutions to life's dilemmas and bring the philosophy of Bhakti Yoga to life. Call (313) 881-7511.

### Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets 7 p.m. Monday, May 23, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods. Call Wendy Bradley at (313) 884-1184 or Ron or Marcia Pikeleik at (313) 884-4201.

### Libraries

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, (313) 821-8830

◆ 6 p.m. Monday, May 23, Family Movie Nights, "Cinderella."

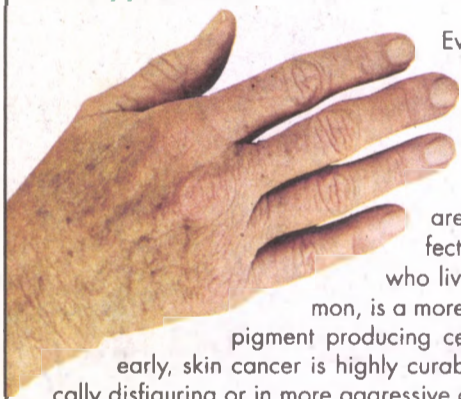
◆ 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, Java & Jazz Series presents "Bird," a film about jazz saxophonist Charlie "Bird" Parker, directed by Clint Eastwood.

◆ 6 p.m. Thursday, May 26, "Container Gardening and the Newest Trends in Outdoor Furniture," with Advanced Master Gardener and Master Composter Rhonda Linton and Wes Mator, owner of Labadies Patio

See EVENTS, page 3B

## Are They Age Spots...or Something Else?

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Every year in the United States, millions of people are diagnosed with skin cancer. In fact, skin cancer is more common than the incidence of breast, prostate, lung and colon cancers combined. Basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma are the most common forms of skin cancer affecting between 40 to 50 percent of Americans who live to age 65. Melanoma, while not as common, is a more serious form of skin cancer arising from the pigment producing cells of the skin. Fortunately, when detected early, skin cancer is highly curable. If left untreated, skin cancers can be locally disfiguring or in more aggressive cases, may even cause death.

Regular self-skin examinations can alert you to any new or changing skin growths and may aid in the early detection of cancerous or precancerous lesions. Some warning signs we look for are changes to existing growths including color, size, shape, and the development of symptoms such as itching, bleeding, crusting, or non-healing sores. For the pigmented moles on the skin, we look for the ABCDE warning signs of melanoma. This includes:

- A: Asymmetry.** When viewing a mole, it should be symmetric on both sides. When one half does not match the other half, this is a concerning feature.
- B: Border.** Benign moles tend to have smooth, round borders. Atypical moles and melanoma can have irregular, uneven appearing borders.
- C: Color.** Most benign moles are one color. If a mole develops multiple colors to it, or changes color this can be a warning sign of melanoma.
- D: Diameter.** Melanoma is usually greater than 6 mm in diameter (about the size a pencil eraser), however when diagnosed early they can be smaller.
- E: Evolving.** Any change or evolution of existing moles including size, shape, or color can be a red flag for a developing melanoma.



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# One of a kind

## Antiques show in 32nd, final year

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

Christ Church Grosse Pointe bids a final farewell to a 32-year tradition as its Antiques, Garden and Design Show takes center stage June 2 to 5.

The show — the only of its kind in metro Detroit — pulls together 30 antiques dealers with rare and collectible items as unique as the show itself.

"This is a high-end antiques show, not a flea market at all," said Patsy Gottfredson, who co-chairs the event with Jennifer Fozo. "They're all treasures — things you don't come across every day. The pieces you find at this show carry a lot of meaning. They have a provenance, a history. I love hearing the stories."

Though in its final year, organizers are set on celebrating the relationships the show has formed during the years.

"We're really excited about celebrating this longstanding tradition and celebrating all the antique dealers who have come to Grosse Pointe for 32 years to support our choir program and outreach programs,"

Gottfredson said.

The Rev. Andrew Van Culin said this year's show is a celebration of the "first visionaries who dreamt up the antiques show and brought it to life," he said. "It's been a ministry of connection, of friendship throughout the years. It's a celebration of that vision as well. It's made the choir trips possible, but it did a lot more. The antiques show is more than just sending kids on the trip."

The girls' choir this summer will travel to Spain, visiting Granada, Savia, Toledo, Madrid, Zaragoza and Barcelona.

Choir Director Scott Hanoian echoed Van Culin's sentiments, adding the show means a great deal to the church's choirs.

"It became a community-building event," he said. "We work together to serve the community and experiences of children through the choir program. We're all in it together to change the lives of children as they go through the program."

Just as the antiques show is more than a fundraiser, the choir program at Christ Church does more than teach

music to children, Van Culin said.

"Music is merely the tool for shaping and forming the kids," he said. "They're developing into leaders, striving for excellence, accomplishing excellence. These are the same characteristics of our faith and discipleship. They're learning the discipline that that takes. It's not accidental."

"The antiques show as a whole reminds us of something about our formation as a community and as leaders," he continued. "It actually takes a community. The antiques show is an expression of that."

This year's show includes a preview party 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, June 2, catered by The Hill Seafood and Chop House and with a silent auction. Auction items include the two-year lease of a Ford Edge Titanium, donated by Crest Ford, as well as a boat cruise on Lake St. Clair, a scotch-tasting party, Neiman Marcus package, wine pull, Red Wings tickets and a fitness package.

Prior to the preview, a meet-and-greet with event speaker Lindsey

Coral Harper takes place at 6 p.m. for archangel and gold sponsors.

"But we really want everyone to come and see their favorite dealer," Gottfredson said.

Several dealers who've faithfully attended the show these 32 years will return and a new dealer selling vintage handbags makes its debut.

"There's a price point for everyone, from antique rugs to garden design accessories, vintage handbags, high-end furniture, silver and vintage linens," Hanoian said.

Fine and antique prints, drawings and maps, ori-



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

From left, Christ Church Music Director Scott Hanoian, event chairwomen Jennifer Fozo and Patsy Gottfredson and the Rev. Andrew Van Culin with a Ford Edge Titanium, one of this year's auction items.

ental rugs, vintage jewelry and other items also are in store. Preview party guests will see items before the show opens to the public Friday, June 3.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, and 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 5. Harper speaks 10 a.m. Friday.

See ANTIQUE, page 10B

### Sponsors

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### EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

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◆ 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 31, Mystery Book Discussion, featuring "Maisie Dobbs," by Jacqueline Winspear.

#### Chamber

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosts Business After Hours 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, at Heartland of Grosse Pointe Woods, 21401 Mack. Call (313) 881-4722.

#### Senior Men

The Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Group meets 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 24, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

#### Family Center

The Family Center hosts "Applied Behavior

Analysis for Children with Autism" 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, at Services for Older Citizens, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. The workshop separates myths and misconceptions and explains why ABA is beneficial. Register in advance at

familycenterweb.org or (313) 432-3832.

#### Woods Community Center

The Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, offers Crafty Afternoons 1:15 p.m. the second Wednesday of each

month. Space is limited to 10 participants. Cost is \$7 for residents, \$8 for non-residents. June 8 is "Quilting Basics," July 13 is "Meditative Doodling" and Aug. 10 is "Watercolor Painting." Call (313) 343-2408.

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## Awareness campaign kicks off

"Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" is a public awareness campaign to educate parents about the health and safety risks of serving alcohol to teenagers and increase awareness of and compliance with the underage drinking laws. The campaign encourages parents and the community to send a unified message at prom and graduation time that teen alcohol consumption is unacceptable. It is illegal, unsafe and unhealthy for anyone younger than 21 to drink alcohol. Parents who give alcohol to their teen's friends under any circumstance, even in their own homes, are breaking the law and can be prosecuted. Parents can protect themselves and their teens by following these guidelines when hosting a teen party:

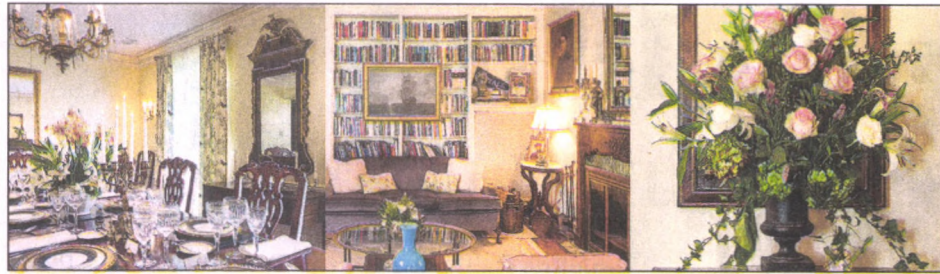
- ◆ Be at home when your teenager has a party

- ◆ Talk to other parents about not providing alcohol at youth events

- ◆ Refuse to supply alcohol to teens or allow drinking in your home or property

Parents play a major role in their teen's choices about alcohol, tobacco or other drugs. The Beaumont Community Health Coalition and the Grosse Pointe Public School System are partnered on this campaign during prom and graduation season.

*The Beaumont Community Health Coalition's mission is to enable the entire community to reach its potential by preventing disease and promoting wellness through prevention education and developing solutions for positive health based on community needs. For more information, contact [anne.nearhood@beaumont.org](mailto:anne.nearhood@beaumont.org).*



The Family Center's "A Celebration of Family" includes tours of the historic Charles Lambert House.

COURTESY PHOTO

## GALA:

Continued from page 2B

volunteering and donating. "We stand to serve the community in partnership, not competitively."

Family Center volunteer Cynthia Dawdy and her husband, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, offered their home for the event. Built in 1927 and designed by architect D. Allen Wright, the home has an ambiance of a French manor house and features original Pewabic installations.

"It speaks of Detroit and this area of Grosse Pointe," Liedel said.

"We share a passion for historic houses and a deep commitment to our communities," Dawdy said of herself and her husband, president of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit. "We moved here two summers ago from Salem, Mass., where our house dated from the 1700s. Our home in Grosse Pointe Farms has a beautiful story and a rich history that we are excited to open its doors and wel-

come our new friends." Dawdy, who has a doctorate in clinical psychology and has worked with victims of abuse and neglect, said she adores the work the Family Center does.

"Knowledge is power and the Family Center provides essential programming in the area of senior care, mental health, drug prevention and child welfare, to name a few. I can truly say from firsthand experience, programs like these save lives and help to keep this community safe and its families strong."

The Family Center relies on the generosity of the community. Liedel said many people think because it's housed in the Grosse Pointe Public School System's Barnes School that it's a school-operated program. The 501c3 is independent of the district, Liedel said, though GPPSS is a strong partner to the Family Center. People don't need to be district students, parents or residents to use Family Center services.

"There's really nothing like us in the community," she said. "We are a

go-to resource center. It would look different in whatever community it's in, but we've sculpted it to meet the needs of this community.

"People rely on us," she continued. "This is something the community has really embraced."

Since its inception, more than 600 Ask the Experts articles have appeared in the Grosse Pointe News and its website has tallied more than 1.5 million page views and 500,000-plus visitors. Its most popular article, "Coping with Your Enmeshed Family," regularly receives more than 600 views a month and its video "Building Better Brains," available on its YouTube channel, has more than 16,000 views. "We've grown tremendously," Liedel said. "It's remarkable that the organization has been able to sustain itself the way we have. We're doing something right."

Family Center offerings include its Association of Professionals, an online directory with 24/7 access to local mental health practitioners, organizations, senior services, schools, faith community

members and businesses. It offers regular Ask the Experts articles, talks and videos, as well as Play Central, a twice-weekly drop-in play program for children.

"The Family Center has continued to adapt," Strickler said. "We're always listening. We're finding out from the community what the issues are now and how we can address them. Partnerships are important. Collaboration is so critical."

Strickler said it's her dream the Family Center will have its own home someday, but for now will work giving the community what it needs.

"We will continue to adapt with changes in the community and provide what families and professionals need," she said. "Knowledgeable parents raise competent, caring kids."

"Over the past 15 years, the Family Center has grown and flourished," Family Center President Cathy Leverenz said. "We hope you can join us on June 2 as we toast our first 15 years and look forward to the next 15."

Individual tickets are \$150. Call (313) 432-3832.

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# Reflection and honor

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial's "Evening of Red, White and Blue" includes the presentation of two awards — the Spirit of Service Award and the Spirit of the Community Award.

The Spirit of Service Award will be presented to retired Brig. Gen. Richard S. Miller, who began his career in 1972 as a private after enlisting as a technician in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. He attended the Indiana Military Academy OCS program and graduated in 1982 as an Infantry 2nd Lieutenant.

In 2004, he was deployed to Afghanistan and served as Commander RC South in Kandahar for Task Force Phoenix III. He commanded all embedded tactical trainers in southern Afghanistan and was the senior adviser for the 205th Corps of the Afghan National Army. He served in Afghanistan one year. Miller served as the deputy commanding general of the 38th Infantry Division in Indianapolis, Ind., until 2012 and currently is president of Ares Consulting LLC, a veteran-owned business in Saline.

Miller has been the recipient of numerous awards and commendations, among them the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal and Combat Infantry Badge. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in public affairs from Indiana University in 1984 and a master's degree in strategic studies from the United States War College in 2003.

"Since his retirement from the military, he's been very active in veteran education, talking about the importance of veterans and what they need when they come back home," said Ann Rock, vice president for institutional advancement at the War Memorial. "He spoke at our Veterans Day breakfast and we are working with him on more projects in the future."

The Spirit of Community Award will be presented to Toni Murphy of New Baltimore, formerly of Grosse Pointe Farms. Murphy is next of kin to Corp. George P. Grifford, a Korean War POW whose remains were accounted for Nov. 7, 2015.

Grifford, who lived in Grosse Pointe Farms, entered the Army at age 17 and was in the 27th Field Artillery Battalion, SVC Battery, 2nd Infantry Division. He was declared missing November 1950 while fighting the enemy near Kunu-ri, North Korea.

He will be interred at Arlington Cemetery this summer.

Murphy said it took some time for Grifford's remains to be identified, but eventually enough DNA was extracted to make the ID.

"I'm the oldest living survivor and pretty

much the only one who remembers him," she said. "I want him in Arlington because that's where he belongs."

Murphy said her grandmother didn't want to believe Grifford was gone.

"She hoped George found some nice Korean girl and settled down, married into her family, had children, had a happy life," she said. "When Mom died, I stopped watching for him because I figured he'd never come home, but he found me .... I didn't expect it to be me to lay him to rest."

Stories of Grifford's death conflict. The Army told the family he died of dysentery in a concentration camp. Murphy was told her uncle was captured and tortured until he died. Either way, Murphy said she is grateful finally to have closure for her family's loss.

"We're so thrilled he's coming back," she said. "I'm so grateful to have his remains in my lifetime. For them to bring these remains, just to identify him ... it's fantastic."

"It's an alignment of stars," said Charles Burke, CEO of the War Memorial. "Everything fell into place for that happening. We are honoring this family for never forgetting, never letting the fire dim."

Murphy, her sister, several cousins and other family members plan to attend the ceremony at the War Memorial.

"George was a hero," she said. "They were all heroes. Anyone who goes off to war is a hero."

Among the medals Grifford received were the Prisoner of War Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Korea War Service Medal and Purple Heart.

A brass star will be placed next to Grifford's name on the War Memorial's MIA POW plaque to show he has returned home.

— Jody McVeigh

## HONOR:

Continued from page 1B

the War Memorial. "We have longterm plans to be more involved in the community. The Patriot Initiative funds our veterans services — what we do to honor and serve veterans at the War Memorial. Next year, we hope to support other veterans groups in the community."

Also at the gala, the Spirit of Community and Spirit of Service awards will be presented (see sidebar, left).

The celebration continues 1 p.m. Friday, May 27, with "A Time of Reflection," a private ceremony for the family of Grosse Pointe Farms native George Grifford, a Korean War POW whose remains were recently recovered. His family will be presented with nine medals he was awarded posthumously.

The week wraps up with a Memorial Day service 10 a.m. Monday, May 30. The ceremony takes place on the back lawn of the War Memorial in honor and remembrance of those who gave their lives in service to the country. The public is welcome to attend. Brig. Gen. Richard Miller will speak.

The ceremony includes a reading of the names of those who've lost their lives and a fly-over by Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Other highlights include the tolling of the bell in honor of the fallen, a rifle salute, music by the Motor City Brass Band and Danielle Wright of Opera MODO.

"We decided a couple years ago that simply holding a memorial service wasn't enough to recognize our patriots, so we expanded that," said Ted Everingham, president of the War Memorial Board of Trustees. "That's the core of our mission at the War Memorial."

"We hope the community participates and recognizes again how much so many of us owe to so many," he continued. "It's a wonderful series of events and I'm proud to be a part of it."

Added Burke, "This is a really proud week and something that represents the best of this community."

For tickets to Thursday's gala, contact Rock at (313) 332-4075 or e-mail arock@war memorial.org.



Above, several events are planned at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial during Memorial Week, including a ceremony Memorial Day. Left, a veteran salutes during last year's Memorial Day ceremony.

COURTESY PHOTOS

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**PASTOR'S CORNER**  
By the Rev. Edward Dunn

# Reflecting on life's storms

I grew up on the southern coast of the United States and love the expanse and grandeur of the ocean. I've witnessed the stillness of the water and its mirror-like appearance. I've watched waters churning and roiling and felt the sting of sand and spray on my skin in times of storm.

I am drawn to the waters of Lake St. Clair, the beauty of calm waters and the energy of waves breaking along the seawalls causing water to splash onto Lakeshore.

Rob Bell, pastor and author, shared about a time he and his son hiked through a forest on a day that began clear and beautiful. While on the hike, the weather began to change from clear skies to the threat of rain and soon the rains began. He described the terror of his son, a toddler, as the storm's intensity grew; thunder, lightning and rain soaked them and the cover of the forest did little to protect them. Rob said at one point his son could do nothing but shriek in terror because the storm was all he could see. He saw no reality beyond the storm.

How often do we become fixated on storms we encounter? Have you ever begun a new day, a new adventure when the weather was fair, only to have a storm arise? It's easy to lose perspective when

we focus on the intensity of the storms in life. And there will be storms.

There are several stories in the gospels about storms. Matthew and Mark tell of when Jesus and his disciples went out on a lake. A storm arose and the boat was nearly swamped by wind and waves. The disciples raced from port to starboard, bow to stern, panicked and unable to see anything but the storm.

In an act of desperation, they woke Jesus who had fallen asleep. "We are perishing."

The writers tell us Jesus spoke to the wind and the sea and they became calm, to the amazement of the disciples. Jesus wasn't focused on the intensity of the storm, but trusted God to protect them even in the midst of the storm.

Bell concluded his story, sharing while the storm raged on he took his son in his arms, held him tightly and spoke calmly and assuredly. "I love you buddy. We're going to make it. Dad knows the way home. I love you."

Remember when you find yourselves caught in life's storms — and they will come — you are held in the embrace of God and may you hear God's voice, "We're gonna make it. I love you."

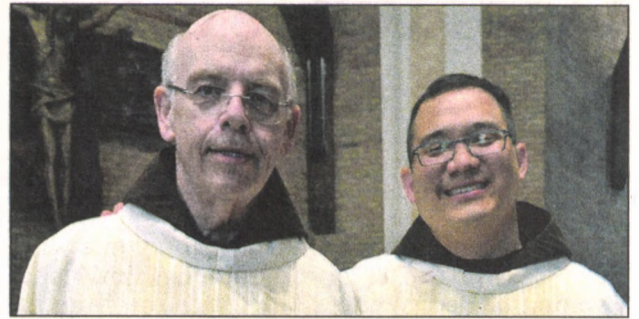
Dunn is the pastor at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church.

## Capuchin Friar Tom Nguyen ordained a priest

Capuchin Friar Tom Nguyen was ordained a priest Saturday, April 30, at St. Lawrence Seminary High School in Mt. Calvary, Wis., the founding site of the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph.

"Fr. Tom is a very talented musician and preacher and has done exemplary work among young adults and the Vietnamese Catholic community in Detroit," Capuchin Province of St. Joseph's Provincial Minister, the Rev. Michael Sullivan, said. "He is an energetic and joy-filled minister of the Gospel." "I thank God ahead of time for the road ahead

and for all the many relationships I have and will encounter in my life — the gift of family, friends, the people of God and especially my Capuchin Franciscan brothers," Nguyen said. "I pray that I may be an instrument of love in the world, just as St. Francis of Assisi was, and to model Venerable Solanus Casey's Capuchin Franciscan way of life. Ordination to the priesthood is about a ministry of service and outpouring of the heart of God's abundant mercy, love and grace. Please keep me in your prayers as I serve the people of God."



COURTESY PHOTO

Capuchin Province of St. Joseph Provincial Minister the Revs. Michael Sullivan, left, and Tom Nguyen.

Nguyen will serve at the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. He served as a deacon at St. Ambrose Parish, Grosse Pointe Park. He graduated from Concordia University Chicago with a Masters

in Church Music degree and Chicago's Catholic Theological Union with a Master of Divinity degree. He is an alumnus of St. Lawrence Seminary High School, a Capuchin ministry.

## CHURCH EVENTS

### Christian Reformed

First Christian Reformed Church, 1444 Maryland, Grosse Pointe Park, presents an organ recital by Dr. Dave Wagner of WRCJ at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 19. Admission is free, but reservations are required. Visit [firstcrdetroit.org](http://firstcrdetroit.org) or call (313) 824-3511.

### First English

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, sponsors a tour of Pewabic Pottery, followed by lunch at Sinbad's on the River, beginning 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 21. The tour includes examining original hand-operated machinery, digital kilns and founder Mary Chase Perry Stratton's originals, as well as works by contemporary artists. Cost is \$25. Reservations are required by Thursday, May 19, by e-mailing [skimom7921@gmail.com](mailto:skimom7921@gmail.com) or calling Kyle Clor at (313) 475-2359.

### St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe

Park, hosts Ernie and Janice DuMouchelle 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 20, and Saturday, May 21. The pair will give verbal and qualified written valuations of antiques and other collectibles. Appointments must be scheduled. Call (313) 822-2814.

### Memorial

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, partners with Hope Presbyterian Church in Detroit for the Motor City Clean Up 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 21. A continental breakfast and lunch are served. All are welcome to participate. Attendees should bring gloves. Call Harold Ellis at (313) 247-1778.

The church hosts educators from the Arab American Museum in Dearborn 10 to 11 a.m. Sunday, May 22, to speak about the history, culture, beliefs and contributions of today's Arab Americans. Call Scott Cauvel at (313) 806-0987.

### United Methodist

Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse

Pointe Farms, welcomes the Detroit Concert Choir for a concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 21. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for ages 55 and older, \$10 for young adults. Visit [detroitconcertchoir.org](http://detroitconcertchoir.org) or call (313) 882-0118.

### Redeemer

Our Redeemer United Methodist Church, 20571 Vernier, Harper Woods, hosts a one-day flea market 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 21, rain or shine. Call (313) 884-2035.

### Christ Church

The Christ Church Chorale, accompanied by soloists and an orchestra, perform "The Seasons," by F.J. Haydn, at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, May 22. Tickets are \$20 at the door or by calling (313) 885-4841. Visit [christchurchgp.org/concerts](http://christchurchgp.org/concerts).

### St. Paul on the Lake

The presentation by Fr. Jacques Philippe, French priest and renowned author on prayer and spirituality, on the topic "The Eucharist in the Light of the Year of Mercy" originally scheduled for Thursday, May 26, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, has been cancelled due to speaker illness. Call (313) 885-8855.

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10:45 am Middle School  
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**Sunday, May 22**  
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**Sunday, May 22, 2016**  
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Scripture: 1 John 4:7-19  
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Rev. Dr. Nancy De Vries, Preaching  
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# OBITUARIES

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

## Doris Rea Bennett

Doris Rea Bennett, nee Brown, celebrated life in and around Grosse Pointe from Dec. 2, 1919, until May 14, 2016.

Doris leaves the world a better place with her daughter and the many charities, societies and clubs of which she was a member or officer. She was a 75-year Kappa Alpha Theta sorority member from Michigan State University, from which she graduated in 1941. She will be missed dearly by her family and many friends.

Her family said Doris did not want an official service, but rather she be remembered by an act of kindness for another person.

Doris's family and friends would like to thank Kaaren (Beauqu-beau) James at Riverview Senior Living for being a tremendous caregiver and friend.

## Richard P. Doerer

Former Grosse Pointe resident Richard P. Doerer passed away Thursday, May 12, 2016, with his loving family by his side.

Richard graduated with a master's degree from the University of Michigan. He was CEO of Van Dresser Corp., served in the U.S. Army and was an accomplished musician. He enjoyed traveling throughout the world and was a pilot. He was fluent in French, an avid tennis player and dog lover. Richard was a generous benefactor of the arts and enjoyed adding to his personal collection.

Richard is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Dotti; daughters, Nancy (Bill) and Julia (Stephen); sons, Richard and John (Laura); 10 grandchildren and his dog, Maddy.

A committal service with military honors was

held May 16 at the South Florida National Cemetery, Lake Worth.

Donations may be made to The Humane Society at humane.society.org.

## Robert Benkert

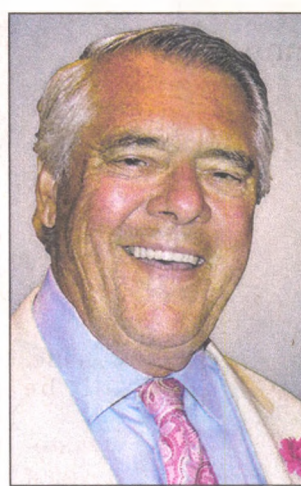
Former Grosse Pointe Farms resident Robert Benkert, 76, died Friday, April 22, 2016, after a long battle with leukemia. He was the owner of The Claymore Shop in Birmingham known for his dapper style in clothing, as well as his kindness in helping others.

He was the beloved husband of Janice, "J.J."; dear father of Brooke, Christopher (Patricia) and the late Lawrence and brother of Camilla Benkert, Sister Judith Benkert O.P. and Michelle Benkert Kozak (John).

Mr. Benkert was born Aug. 27, 1939, to Robert and Eleanor Benkert,



Richard P. Doerer



Robert Benkert



Jean Hughes Haddad

and graduated from Austin Catholic High School and Wayne State University. He started his lifelong affinity for the haberdashery industry when he worked summers during high school at a men's clothing store in downtown Detroit.

A lifetime member of Bayview Yacht club, he loved boating on his Hacker Craft "Gatsby" and was a past commodore of the Grosse Pointe Club. He and his wife were active in charity work through their church and The Claymore Shop.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 28, at Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christ Church Cranbrook,

470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 or Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Michigan at lls.org/michigan.

Share a memory at ajdesmond.com.

## Jean Hughes Haddad

Former Grosse Pointe Park resident Jean Hughes Haddad, 92, died in her sleep Sunday, May 8, 2016. She was living in Bradenton, Fla.

She was born Nov. 15, 1923, in Monticello, Ind., to Henry and Harriet Hughes. For 30 years she was a fixture in Grosse Pointe social life, an avid gardener and an accomplished chef highly respected for her addictive cinnamon rolls and

mouthwatering crepes. She was a sometime golfer and member of the Detroit Golf Club.

Jean earned a registered nursing degree at St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago and studied watercolor painting at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church under the tutelage of Sister Matsu Saki, a Japanese Catholic missionary to the United States.

A longtime member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, she is survived by her children, Elaine, Bill, Christine, Gail, David and Betsy; 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Benjamin F. Haddad M.D.

A memorial service is planned for the summer.

## Breaking bread Partnership benefits Cornwall, NEGC

It is written in Jewish tradition the gift of bread and salt comes with the blessing that the individual's pantry always will remain full. Since November 2015, Freeman Gunnell III, owner of Cornwall Bakery, has donated bread and pastries to the Northeast Guidance Center every week. He donates because he would like someone or an organization like the NEGC to benefit from products made fresh daily and knowing they will be put to good use.

"Imagine drawing a group of pictures and then at the end of the day just throwing away the things that are left over," he said. "Most artists and craftsman do not want to throw away something that required effort and resources to make."

According to Joyce Present, coordinator of food preparation and Go Green Gardening activities, the donations from Cornwall Bakery are enjoyed by cli-

ents. The weekly donated bread and pastries are sometimes turned into creative dishes such as bread pudding made from challah bread and the bakery's homemade croutons. The donations are items the NEGC could not normally afford.

Present said her staff is working on perfecting flavored croutons from the donated breads.

"We have toyed with making and selling cookies to raise money for the NEGC Clubhouse and this is something that we would like to do every quarter," she said. "We sold out at our first bake sale. We have a ways to go to perfect our craft and reach the level of the baked goods produced and donated from Cornwall, but we're working on it."

The craft is therapeutic for clients, she said.

Cornwall Bakery, 15215 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park, has been in business since September 2014 and is

active in the community.

"In our growth as a company we will continue giving back to the community and appreciate the neighbors close and far away that purchase our products," Gunnell said. "Cornwall is blessed to be in partnership with the Northeast Guidance Center and providing breads and pastries for their pantry is the very least that we can do."

The NEGC is a community-based behavioral health services agency founded by the Junior League of Detroit in 1963 to provide services to children on Detroit's east-side. Its mission is to provide innovative community-based services to children and adults, promoting behavioral health with an emphasis on total wellness. NEGC serves more than 1,000 children and 3,500 adults annually.

For more information, call (313) 308-1400 or visit neguidance.org.



### Submitting an obituary

The deadline for submitting an obituary is 3 p.m., the Monday prior to the Thursday publication. Obituaries may be submitted via a form on our website, [grossepointenews.com](http://grossepointenews.com). Obituaries written by the family may be sent to [karen@grossepointenews.com](mailto:karen@grossepointenews.com).

The Grosse Pointe News reserves the right to edit all copy. Color or black and white, 35mm photographs in original, scanned or .jpg format may be submitted for publication.

The Grosse Pointe News charges \$125 for most obituaries. Additional charges apply to more extensive obituaries. Only funeral homes will be billed. Family submission fees must be paid prior to the date of publication, via check, credit card or cash. Receipts are available upon request.

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### Bridget Breitenbecher Joire

Palm Springs, California resident formerly of Grosse Pointe, Michigan born on January 10, 1976 died peacefully on January 2, 2016 with her family at her side.

Bridget is survived by her loving parents Ronald and Margaret Breitenbecher, sister Carrie (Robert) Dow, brother Michael (Kelly) Breitenbecher, sister Shannon (Graeme) Bruce, aunt Audrey (Michael) MacMechan, aunt Carolyn Riley, uncle Joe (Cuma) Beirne, uncle Bob (Jere)

Breitenbecher, and uncle Tom Fox, nieces Caitlin and Erin Breitenbecher, Shareen Wells, Shaina (Brian) Pritchard and Regina Wells, nephews Matthew and Jack Breitenbecher and Stewart (Sarah) Wells, great grandniece London Wells, cousins from the Breitenbecher, Riley, MacMechan, Fox, Tschirhart and Wiencko families and Lulu her faithful four legged girl.

Predeceased by her paternal and maternal grandparents, aunts Mary Beirne, Kathleen Fox and Bonnie Breitenbecher.

Memorial contributions may be made in her name to your charity of choice or please consider [www.liftcommunities.org](http://www.liftcommunities.org) (choose Los Angeles, California area).

Your Smile

Though your smile is gone forever, and your hand I cannot touch, I still have many memories of the one I loved so much.

Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part, God has you in his keeping. I have you in my heart. Sadly missed, but never forgotten.

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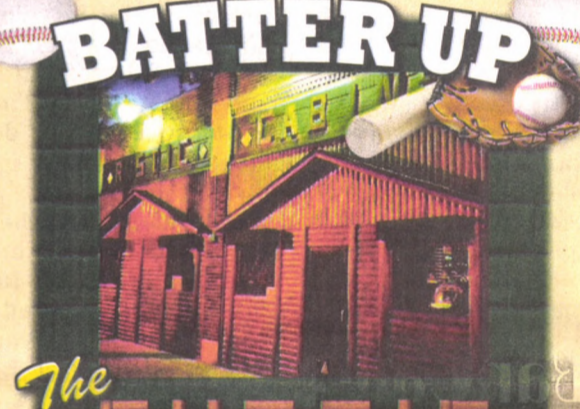
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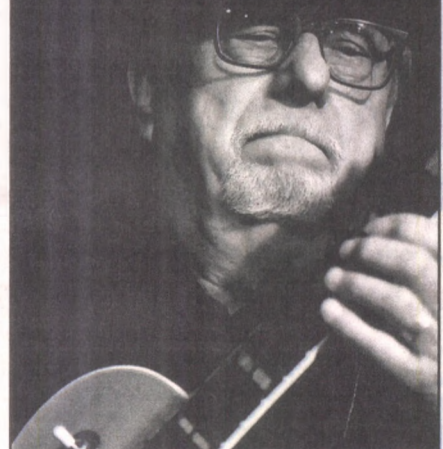
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# Talking Pointes: Competitiveness in schools

By Jody McVeigh  
Community Editor

The third session of Talking Pointes, giving a voice to millennials in the Grosse Pointe News, took place Thursday, May 12, and included four participants. The discussion, which centered on competitiveness in schools, was moderated by Caitlin Rose, public relations specialist at the Grosse Pointe News.

The event was sponsored by the Grosse Pointe News and Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce.

Participants were Miracle Bailey, 18; Erin Ivers, 19; Maura Moin, 23; and Darragh Punch, 23.

All of the panelists agreed their educational experiences and teachers in the Grosse Pointe Public School System were top notch, but most of them did not like the social atmosphere at their schools.

"The educational piece and teachers were awesome," said Moin, who attended Richard Elementary, Brownell Middle and Grosse Pointe South High schools. "The social experience, not so much. It was very clique-y. A lot of people think they're better than other people, which makes it hard to be nice."

Added Ivers who attended Defer Elementary, Pierce Middle and South schools, "I skipped a lot of school in high school," because of negative social experiences.

Punch, who attended



**Miracle Bailey, 18**  
City of Grosse Pointe South High School student, president of Black Awareness for Education



**Erin Ivers, 19**  
Former Grosse Pointe Park and Farms resident, Wayne State University student



**Maura Moin, 23**  
Grosse Pointe Farms Client service manager at Quicken Loans



**Darragh Punch, 23**  
Grosse Pointe Park Data analyst at IHS

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School and South, said despite a negative start, oftentimes things turn around.

"It was definitely clique-y," he said. "In middle school is when kids start developing cliques. I found by senior year I was befriending people I really didn't like freshman year. By then you've matured and realize you're going into the great unknown .... I think that unites people. You realize you don't want to have enemies or be jerks anymore."

Bailey, a senior at South who also attended Grosse Pointe Academy and St. Paul, hasn't experienced social negativity.

"I transferred from Marian (High School) in Bloomfield Hills my freshman year," she said. "I thought everyone was nice. There are cliques, but I don't associate myself with just one group. We're all nice to each other."

The panelists agreed the opportunities offered in GPPSS are greater than what's offered in other districts.

"In Grosse Pointe schools, we have a lot more opportunities than other schools do," Bailey said, noting photography classes and the television production room at South. "We have good opportunities here. A lot of kids take advantage of the opportunities. A lot of kids are into arts, photography, news production, journalism."

Added Moin, "Detroit Public Schools don't have new books or cameras to take home. They don't have the extra electives we do because we have more money to pay for it."

"I didn't realize until I was outside of high school and working with people who didn't go to school in Grosse Pointe how much of an opportunity we have," she continued. "I didn't take advantage or appreciate it as much as I should have."

When asked about having to face challenges in GPPSS, Bailey discussed a recent situation involving racial slurs on social media.

"It was something I never expected to hap-

pen at South," she said. "I feel like it changed South for the better .... We're trying to educate on why you can't use the 'N' word and why they thought it was OK. I think we handled it well. I didn't think a lot of kids would stand up and congratulate us for telling the principal about it. The community reacted in a good way."

Added Moin, "I was pretty shocked. When I was at South, we all knew that it's not OK. My parents raised me to accept everybody. Making it an issue at the school is probably a very good idea — raising awareness with that age group."

The group moved on to discuss the use of social media and its effect on education. Most panelists agreed while social media is a distraction, it also benefits some classes. Bailey said students now can use iPhones to their advantage in the classroom; however, Punch didn't agree.

"Kids being on phones in the classroom should be treated like adults," he said. "If they sit there the entire time on their phone, not taking notes, they should have to pay the consequences (with a

failing grade). I don't think the system should be holding hands if the kids spent their entire class time on Snapchat. They should know they're not going to do good."

When asked about feeling pressure to go to college, the panelists said they felt pushed in one direction.

"It's expected of you to go to college," Moin said, adding she dropped out after a year and found a job she loves that doesn't require a degree. "I was definitely not ready to have the responsibility of living on my own. If I would have taken a year, things may have turned out differently."

"I started at Wayne State, living on my own," Ivers said. "I didn't do as well as I could have. I took a semester off and when I came back, it was great. I just needed time to figure out what I wanted to do. Everyone around me was going to college right away."

Added Moin, "It's expected of you. It's what everyone was doing. What if you don't want to go to college at all? It makes you feel like you don't fit in .... It's a positive that people go to college to get an education,

but when people feel that's the only option, it can be a problem."

Bailey said she's feeling pressure to apply to colleges, but that she was put through GPPSS specifically for the education — and the standards that come with it.

"It's a good thing," she said. "I was encouraged and pushed to go to college after high school."

The group discussed meeting expectations and setting goals. Bailey said she would encourage students to take challenging courses as it has helped her academic career.

"Taking at least one AP class helped me. It boosted my GPA," she said. "I don't see a negative to it .... I've always been a minority since my Academy days. They expect you to be dumber in a way. Out of my friends, I'm the only one taking AP courses. My teachers are shocked to see me getting the same grades as my peers."

Moin said a negative is some students cannot handle academic pressure; it depends on personality types. Ivers said while friends expected to get into the colleges to which they applied, she was excited when she was admitted to WSU.

Punch said he was encouraged by a teacher to drop an AP class after a poor test score. The insult drove him to do better and he ended up passing the class.

"At the end, the teacher said I was one of his favorite students," he said. "You will be made great from this if you decide you want to be great from this .... It's a

See TALKING, page 11B

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## ANTIQUÉ:

Continued from page 3B

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As for its last year, Hanoian said all events have a life cycle.

"We want to go out on

an up," he said. "We can sustain it this year, so we really want to celebrate the end instead of watching (the show) dwindle."

"There's a lot of good energy around the show," Gotfredson added. "The community is looking forward to it, to celebrate with all these wonderful dealers who've become family. We've grown close with people here. We want to show gratitude to them for coming up to Michigan."

Van Culin said the church has no plans to replace the event with another fundraiser, but the church will feel the loss in other ways as well.

"The antiques show for many is a place of connection and relationship. That's another loss," he said. "We want to broaden our connection opportunities (and) the opportunity to serve."

General admission to the show is \$10. Call (313) 885-4841.

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## Beaumont GP collecting for kids

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe, is collecting items for LifeBUILDERS Summer School.

LifeBUILDERS is hosting approximately 80 students for its summer program. Its mission is to restore dignity and provide hope for residents of Detroit's Regent Park by empowering youth with life skills.

The community can support LifeBUILDERS by donating soccer balls, sidewalk chalk, large bottles of bubbles, washable markers, scissors for ages 6 to 10 and glue sticks.

Collection bins will be located at the lower level of Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe near the west elevators and Lakeshore Cafe, from Monday, May 30, to Friday, June 10. For more information, call (313) 473-1000 or visit [lifebuildersdetroit.com](http://lifebuildersdetroit.com).

## TALKING:

Continued from page 10B

good lesson for the real world. The boss is not going to hold your hand."

Moin said she would encourage young students to take advantage of opportunities offered in GPPSS.

"Do as much as you can, because no one has the opportunities we have," she said. "Ignore the noise, focus on yourself, make yourself happy, make your parents proud and be yourself."

Ivers agreed. "Take full advantage of sports and the art department while you still have it," she said.

The connection of drugs and schools briefly was discussed. Panelists agreed the school district won't impact students' behavior.

"Telling kids no doesn't work," Punch said. "It's

mainly an upbringing thing."

Added Moin, "You are a product of your environment. Pressures at school could have an impact on it, but it's not necessarily something that stems from the education system."

Bailey said South is cracking down on drugs, but Moin said a police presence in schools is scary.

"I don't know if it's a Grosse Pointe thing," Punch said. "My friends who got involved with drugs did pills first. Pills are easy to get your hands on. Find someone who can get pills and you'll eventually get heroin. Pharmaceuticals are how kids get involved in the first place."

Ivers said peer pressure also plays a role.

"Kids aren't even confident enough to be like, 'this is not for me,'" she said. "They're pushing it on people at parties. Grosse Pointe kids are very vulnerable."

Punch said while drugs are an issue, something he finds of concern is the negative perception of Grosse Pointe to those outside the community.

"I've noticed in our experience, meeting people from other communities sometimes and saying I'm from Grosse Pointe is a negative," he said. "There's definitely a connotation the community has. I think it would behoove the community to work on that. Too often Grosse Pointe is caught in its own bubble."

When asked what about the community embarrasses them, Moin said she's not embarrassed to say she grew up in Grosse Pointe.

"People have a perception we're a very wealthy community and a snobby community, but I would never say I'm embarrassed. I love Grosse Pointe."

Added Bailey, discussing attending a Black Lives Matter event at Cass Tech High

School, "A lot of students thought minorities had it hard going to Grosse Pointe. I just know I had to let it be known Grosse Pointe isn't racist. I don't feel threatened or embarrassed to live here."

Punch agreed Grosse Pointe has an elegance to it, but that lends itself to snobbishness.

Ivers said the community is rich and elegant — a far cry from her current residence in St. Clair Shores. "In St. Clair Shores, people don't pull themselves together as much," she said. "People don't walk their dogs in their pajamas in Grosse Pointe; it's totally fine in St. Clair Shores."

Next month's Talking Pointes panel will discuss the Grosse Pointe and Detroit divide, as well as the pros and cons of Grosse Pointe. To comment on this month's story, express interest in being on a future panel or suggest topic ideas, e-mail feedback@grossepointenews.com.

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Happy hours

The Lake House, which supports people whose lives have been touched by cancer through counseling and activities, presented, "Laughs for the Lake House," a comedy night fundraiser, April 28. The event helped raise \$28,000 for the nonprofit organization.



Pictured from left are Lake House Executive Director Madeline Bialecki, Andrew Camden and Lake House President Rose Tokatlian.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Chef Bobby Nahra

Dinner shouldn't be a dreaded task

The Family Center  
ASK THE EXPERTS articles

SAVE the DATE

Q: I'm a working mother with young children. When I come home from work, getting dinner on the table is a stressful chore. I would like to turn it into a learning activity — to teach them cooking skills and healthy eating habits — but finding the time and ways to do so are so difficult in our active schedule. Please share your tips.

A: Try not to look at making dinner as a dreaded task. You can do some simple things ahead of time to make the process more fun and exciting and hopefully more relaxing.

You can start by planning ahead and getting your whole family involved — pick your weekly menu together and make your grocery list at the same time. Give them options to choose what is on the menu some evenings. I recommend learning 12 to 15 simple recipes that can be tailored and changed to suit what you may already have in your home. Keep staples — such as pasta, dry rice and proteins — readily available and accessible. Challenge the kids to write the weekly menu themselves or make it a competition between siblings to keep it exciting. Give them rules about changing the menu each week, choosing things with something new they haven't tried, etc.

The children also can help with tasks during meal preparation. Lighten the mood in the kitchen by playing their favorite music and give them age-appropriate ways to help — wash produce, stir sauces, measure ingredients, set the table, etc. Working as a family together in the kitchen allows you to spend more time with them and open up communication. Sitting down together at dinner, too, is extremely important to connect with each other and discuss what is going on with the family.

Getting your children involved with meal planning and cooking not only builds memories, but you also are passing on an important life skill and preparing them for the future. They will thank you for it.

Robert "Chef Bobby" Nahra is president at Lakeland Banquet and Event Centre. Nahra specializes in fine-dining cuisine and has enjoyed notable success in large-scale event planning, preparation, logistics and production. As an award-winning master chef, Nahra is a familiar face on Fox 2 Detroit, WXYZ-TV, Just Ask Talk Show and Chuck

"A Celebration of Family," the 15th anniversary benefit for The Family Center, takes place 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 2, at the historic Charles Lambert House, 166 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. Event includes a strolling dinner prepared by Chef Bobby Nahra. Purchase tickets at familycenterweb.org or call (313) 432-3832.

Bennett's Society Confidential column in the Detroit News. He may be reached at (248) 224-6772 or visit lakelandbanquets.com. Nahra will participate in the Family Center's 15th anniversary celebration.

The Family Center serves as the community's hub for information, resources and referral for families, individuals and professionals. Its 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. All gifts are tax-deductible. To volunteer or contribute, visit familycenterweb.org, call (313) 432-3832, e-mail info@familycenterweb.org or write to: The Family Center, 20090 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

LWV to host voter registration drives

The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe hosts two more voter registration drives in coming weeks.

The Wayne County Community College University Center on Vernier in Harper Woods hosts a drive 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, May 23, in the main lobby. This location is open to the public.

Representatives from the League of Women Voters also will be at Grosse Pointe North High School 9 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 8, for a drive. This location is for students only.

For others interested in registering to vote, the law states U.S. citizens who are age 18 before Nov. 8 are eligible to vote in the election. Voters may regis-

ter at any Secretary of State office or at the office of their city clerk. Applications need to be in at least 30 days prior to the election. Application forms are simple and available online at michigan.gov/sos.

New registrants need to present a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, to the city clerk or officer of the Secretary of State before the election to qualify for an absentee ballot. Applications for an absentee ballot are available 45 days before the election. If registrants intend to vote in person, they need to show a photo ID when they vote.

For more information, visit grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org.

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**DIAMOND NOTES**

## Liggett baseball, softball win titles

### Baseball team beats Parkway

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Senior Matt Gushee stepped to the mound and delivered a masterpiece to lead the University Liggett boys' baseball team to a 12-0 win over host Sterling Heights Parkway Christian and clinch the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference championship.

Gushee threw a no-hitter, striking out seven and had plenty of offensive support, keyed by sophomore Noah Miller, who was 3-for-4 with five RBIs.

"Gushee was phenomenal on the mound and he was hitting his spots, keeping a good team off-balance," head coach Dan Cimini said. "This was a big win for us as we clinched the division title."

Two days later, the Knights hosted Parkway Christian and won 5-2 to finish 8-0 in the MIAC this season.

Senior Sean Fannon earned the win as Miller and Gushee drove in three of the runs. Miller singled home a run, while



PHOTOS BY BOB BRUCE

Liggett freshman Billy Kopicki was a solid contributor in the Knights' three wins last weekend.

Gushee was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to pick up an RBI and had a sacrifice fly.

Junior Connor McCarron was 3-for-4 with two runs.

Last weekend, Liggett won three more games to improve to 20-1 overall.

The Knights beat visiting Macomb Dakota 7-6 in the championship game of the Liggett Invitational.

They built a 7-1 lead and hung on to beat the Cougars as Anthony George earned the win and McCarron came on in the fifth to finish up in relief.

Miller was 3-for-4 with a double and three RBIs and freshman Billy

Kopicki had two doubles, was hit by a pitch and drove in a run.

The Cougars scored four runs in the fifth and one in the sixth to climb within one run. In the seventh, they had runners on first and third with one out, but McCarron struck out the No. 2 hitter and got the No. 3 hitter to ground out back to him for the final out.

"This is a sweet win against a good Dakota team," Cimini said. "We knew they are a big hitting team and we were able to hang on in the end."

The following day, the Knights hosted Anchor Bay and won 5-4 and then beat Detroit Western International 11-1.

Against the Tars, it was tied 4-4 in the bottom of the seventh when Morrison led off with a single, advanced to second on a ground out and scored on Gushee's single.

Freshman Brady McCarron started and went 6 1/3 innings. It was his older brother, Connor, who earned the win pitching the final 2/3 innings.

Against Western, freshman Alec Azar was the winning pitcher, going five innings and George ended the game with a bases-loaded triple to make it a 10-run win.

### Softball shuts out all 10 foes

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

University Liggett girls' softball clinched the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference championship with a doubleheader sweep over Huron Valley Lutheran last week.

In game one, junior Emma St. John threw her fifth no-hitter of the season, striking out 12, as the host Knights won 10-0 in five innings.

St. John was 3-for-3 with a double, triple and RBI and Anna Majewski was 2-for-4 with double, run scored and three RBIs.

In game two, a 16-0 win, freshman Emily Switchulis earned the win, giving up only two hits, one walk and four strikeouts.

Offensively, sophomore Maddie Hamilton had the big bat, hitting her sixth homer of the season among her three hits. Senior Allison Stapleton and sophomore Sabrina Malkoun had two hits apiece.



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Liggett sophomore Maddie Hamilton is hitting more than .650 on the season.

The Knights completed MIAC play two days later, defeating Auburn Hills Oakland Christian 10-0 in five innings as St. John threw another no-hitter. She walked two and struck out 13.

At the plate, senior Emily Kanakry was the show, hitting two home runs among her 3-for-3

day. Hamilton was 2-for-3 with a double, two runs scored and an RBI.

Liggett finished 10-0 in the MIAC and became the first team in conference history to shutout every opponent and they outscored the 10 foes 119-0. The Knights are 20-1 overall.



Liggett senior Sean Fannon delivers a pitch late in the Knights' home win over Parkway Christian.

**YOUTH BASEBALL**



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF MACCAGNONE

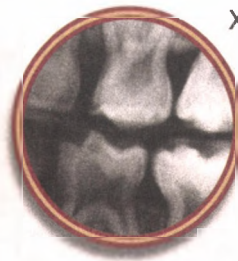
### Victory

The Little Caesar's 11U baseball team recently won the East Spring Thaw Tournament in Mount Clemens after winning each of its five games. Team members are, front row from left, Brendan Downey, Joey Mcevoy, Reggie Sharpe, Tommy Maccagnone and Drew Hill; and back row from left, Cliff Grabowski Jr., Braden Campbell, Matthew Green, Quinten Dennis and Evan Kargula. Jeff Maccagnone is the manager.

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Track & field

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

# Blue Devils stay perfect

On a cool, rainy afternoon last week the battle of the unbeaten Macomb Area Conference Red Division teams took place for the league title. After the 17 events were completed, Grosse Pointe South girls' track and field team prevailed, defeating Macomb Dakota 86-51.

"Our girls are always prepared to be at their best, but on this day we were at a new level," head coach Steve Zaraneck said.

Dakota did outscore South in the field events, but only by a three-point margin. Kayli Johnson (shot and discus); Juliana Leonard (high jump), and pole vaulters Hadley Diamond and Hadley Griffin gave South their much needed points.

Dakota anchored with

their star distance runner but the Blue Devils' team of Abby Hurst, Anna Piccione, Reanna Raymond and Katie Kuhr built up a huge lead by the end of the second leg and ended up with a 25-second margin of victory.

South then followed with a 1-3 finish, Katie Marschner and Natasha Boelstler, in the high hurdles.

South then put Helen Dodge, Diamond, Margaret Sohn and Elizabeth Calcaterra on the track for the 800-sprint relay and the four combined for a three-second victory margin over Dakota.

The Blue Devils outscored Dakota 17-10 in the three distance races with Piccione, Raymond and Kuhr combining for



PHOTO BY LOUISE BRADY

Natasha Boelstler hands off to Margaret Sohn in South's winning 1,600-relay.

seconds and thirds in the 800 and 1600 runs. Then, with two events to go, South pulled away from Dakota with a 1-2-3 finish in the 3,200-run behind Piccione, Hurst and Maddie McDonnell.

In the 4x100 sprint Johnson, Diamond, Sohn and Calcaterra ran a flawless relay to defeat Dakota 51.5 seconds to 52.7 seconds.

South continued to rack up points as Sarah Bellovich ran her fastest open 400 of the season, 63.4, to win that event. Calcaterra and Helen Dodge locked the meet

victory in the 15th event by going 1-2 in the 200-dash.

In the final event of the evening, South made it 4-for-4 in the relays as Adams, Bellovich, Sohn and Boelstler combined to win the 4x400 defeating Dakota by a six-second margin.

The boys' squad, under head coach Werner Schienke, finished 0-5 in the MAC Red Division after losing 119-18 to Dakota.

Alex Szura was the lone winner, taking first in the 400-dash with a time of 52.35.

Tennis

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

# Blue Devils on major roll

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South girls' tennis team is peaking at just the right time.

Last week, the Blue Devils beat Novi and Troy Athens, 7-1 and 8-0, plus finished 1-0-1 in the Holly Invitational to improve its mark to 15-1-1.

"The girls are really putting together some great matches and I can tell they are ready for the regionals," head coach Mark Sobieralski said.

Against Novi, the Blue Devils won 3-of-4 singles matches and all four doubles matches, including the No. 4 duo of Jade Shepherd and Kate Gavagan, who had the team's biggest win, according to Sobieralski.

The Blue Devils played Athens for regional seeding purposes and the biggest victory was posted by No. 4 singles player Elanore Walker.

South was scheduled to travel to Holly for the

invitational, but due to rain and cold the coaches broke it up into two four-team tournaments.

Joining South at Wimbledon Raquet Club were No. 1 ranked Midland Dow, No. 5 ranked Bloomfield Hills and No. 6 ranked Ann Arbor Huron.

Due to time constraints, the Blue Devils faced Dow and Bloomfield Hills, playing a 4-4 tie and earning a 5-3 win, respectively.

Against Dow, Raven Neely won 6-3, 6-3 at No. 1 singles, while the No. 2 doubles squad of Lauren Sommerville and Audrey Doherty won 6-4, 7-5 to highlight the Blue Devils' efforts.

In the win over Bloomfield Hills, Neely won 6-2, 6-4 at No. 1 singles and Laurel Sullivan won 6-3, 7-5 at No. 2 singles.

Another impressive victory was posted by the No. 1 doubles team of Madie Flournoy and Hanna Wilhelm 6-4, 6-7, 10-6.

# Norsemen drop finale

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North girls' and boys' track and field teams dropped their final league dual meet of the season last week.

The girls, under head coach Bruce Bentley, lost

70-66 to Romeo to finish 2-3 in the Macomb Area Conference Red Division.

The Norsemen won the long jump with Kiyla Jones landing a mark of 14-feet, 6 1/2-inches, and Faith Volpe tied for first in the pole vault with a mark of 8-feet.

The ladies got right back in the meet after Lauren Sickmiller, Katelyn Carney, Erinne Lubienski and Sydney Benson won the 3,200-relay with a time of 10:05.

Alexus Jimerson won the 100-hurdles with a time of 16.55 and

Aundrianna Boles was the winner of the 100-dash, posting a time of 13.21.

The Norsemen also won the 800- and 400-relay races. Boles, Jones, Jasmine Mathis and Tiffany Williams won the 800 with a time of 1:55 and the foursome of Boles, Jones, Jimerson and Williams won the 400 with a time of 53.28.

The Norsemen also won the 1,600-relay as Lubienski, Mathis, Josie Ciaravino and Benson had a time of 4:29.9 and it was Benson winning the 400-dash with a time of 1:03.6.

Head coach Frank Tymrak's boys' squad lost 90-47 to finish 3-2 in the MAC Red Division. Phil Robie won the high jump, clearing 5-feet, 9-inches, and Dan Leone won the pole vault, clearing 12-feet.

Robie also won the 110-hurdles with a time of 16.47 and James Shelton came through with a win in the 100-dash, posting a time of 11.11. Josh Fischer won the 800-run with a time of 2:07.4 and Shelton won the 200-dash with a time of 23.

LIGGETT

# Knights prep for regionals

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The University Liggett girls' tennis team finished 1-1-1 last week, losing 7-1 to Bloomfield Hills Academy of the Sacred Heart, tying Portland 4-4 in a match played at the Indoor Tennis Center at Michigan State University and beating Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard 5-3 Monday afternoon.

Against ASH, ranked No. 2 in Division 4, Maddie Fozo won her match at No. 1 singles 6-0, 6-0.

In the Portland match, the Knights swept the four singles matches and lost the doubles matches. Each match was completed in straight sets.

Against Portland, Fozo won 6-1, 6-0 at No. 1 singles, while Sara Anthony won 6-0, 6-3 at No. 2 singles.

Hannah Homsy was a 6-1, 6-1 winner at No. 3

singles and Gaby Cavataio won 6-1, 6-1 at No. 4 singles.

At No. 1 doubles was Grace Drettmann and Rita Sidhu and Tamara Ajjour and Siobhan Haggerty played No. 2 doubles.

Therese Drettmann and Angelina Polizzi played No. 3 doubles and the duo of Morgan Kelly and Kaitlin Fox played No. 4 doubles.

Against GR, Fozo won 6-1, 5-7, 1-0 at No. 1 singles and Sara Anthony won 6-3, 6-4 at No. 2 singles.

Homsy battled to a 6-4, 6-3 win at No. 3 singles and Cavataio made it a sweep of the singles matches, winning 6-2, 6-2 at No. 4.

Securing the victory was the No. 4 doubles team of Morgan Kelly and Kaitlin Fox, who won 6-3, 6-4.

Liggett plays its Division 4 regional tournament Friday, May 20, at Almont.

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## Soccer

LIGGETT

MIAC  
CrownBy Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The University Liggett girls' soccer team made a clean sweep through the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference, beating Ann Arbor Greenhills 5-0 and Plymouth Christian Academy 5-1 last week.

The Knights wrapped up the division title with a perfect 10-0 mark and improved to 11-1 overall.

In the Greenhills game, freshman Izzy Brusilow scored two goals and one assist, while sophomore Alexis Wenger had one goal and two assists.

Junior Kara Francis had a goal and assist, and freshman Mary Weiermiller had the other goal. Sophomores Kelly Solak and Olivia Yates each had one assist.

In the PCA contest, Wenger and Brusilow scored two goals apiece, while sophomore Annelies Ondersma had one goal.

Tallying assists were



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Liggett senior Ellie Withers is displaying a lot of leadership for the MIAC champion Knights.

Wenger, Brusilow, junior Rebecca Lohman and junior Maddie Wu (two).

"We scheduled Lutheran North, Cranbrook and Grosse Pointe North to round out the regular season and help us prepare for

districts," head coach David Dwaihy said. "We have a tough district, and will have to get by Foley and Shrine in order to advance to regionals.

"Gonna be tricky, but I like it that we'll have to earn our way through."

NORTH &amp; SOUTH

## North, South hit snag

After riding a wave of success throughout the season, the Grosse Pointe North girls' soccer team hit a wall last week, losing three one-goal games.

The Norsemen lost 2-1 to Macomb Dakota, 3-2 to L'Anse Creuse North and 3-2 to Anchor Bay.

Against Dakota, Greta DeLoach scored and she had both goals in the loss to LCN. In the Anchor

Bay contest, DeLoach and Ava Stander tallied.

Head coach Olivia Stander and the Norsemen dropped to 1-3-2 in the Macomb Area Conference White Division and 11-4-2 overall.

The Grosse Pointe South girls' soccer team is enduring a slump and the bad luck continued last week after losing 5-0 to host Utica Ford.

For head coach Gene Harkins and his Blue Devils, the loss dropped them to 0-4-1 in the Macomb Area Conference Red Division and 0-9-4 overall.

The lack of offense has been a problem as the youthful Blue Devils try to manage their way through the tough MAC Red.

—Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

LIGGETT NEWS

## Register for physicals

Liggett and Beaumont Hospital host free sports physicals at Liggett from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 21.

Physicals are being held in the gym.

All students participating in middle school and upper school athletics are required to have a completed sports physical form on file at school prior to participating.

Register now as spaces are limited and this event is open to the public.

Space is limited so contact Beaumont registration at (800) 633-7377 to sign up for a time period.

Volunteers for this event are still needed for check-in and check-out tables.

If interested in helping, please contact athletic trainer, Erin Raymond at eraymond@uls.org.

## League change

University Liggett School will join the Catholic High School League for athletics beginning in fall 2017.

Liggett's transition to the Catholic High School League will help strengthen the school's growing athletics program and allow student-athletes to compete in the league in every sport Liggett offers.

The CHSL also hosts many tournaments at professional sports venues such as Comerica Park, Ford Field and Joe Louis Arena.

"The Catholic High School League is arguably the best league in the state of Michigan,

and we look forward to joining the league in fall 2017," said Shaun McTigue, assistant head of school for athletics and wellness.

"Our teams will have an opportunity to compete against some of the very best teams in the state at some of the best venues, and we are excited for this important next step in our athletics program."

This spring, Liggett won division titles in baseball, softball, soccer and golf.

## YOUTH SOCCER



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANN-MARIE SMIHAL

## Tourney champs

The Eastside Boys 02 Green team won the U14 Silver Division Borderstars Tournament the weekend of April 9-10. They finished the tournament with a 4-0 record, winning 3-0, 3-2, 2-1, and 6-0 in the championship game. Pictured are front row from left, Ronnie Latiff, Ryan Richardson, Keegan Spitz, John Blake, Bennett Smihal, Tyler Gerbasi, Andrew Fleming and Ben Ameye; and back row from left, coach Helen Nkwocha, Troy Raschke, Tucker Griffin, Nolan Ondersma, Andrew Sheffield, Larry Kania, Max Simonson, Alex Bower and Jimmy Flom.

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## Baseball

## GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

# Blue Devils win 2-of-3 from Dakota

By Sam Meads  
Special Writer

The Grosse Pointe South boys' baseball team played the first of the three game series against the Dakota Cougars Monday afternoon and pulled out a 3-2 win in eight innings.

The Cougars are coming into this week's series in second place in the Macomb Area Red Division, so the Blue Devils, sitting two games behind Dakota, could make up some ground with a series win.

South started strong by taking advantage of a poor start by Dakota's defense. South's lead off man Will Poplawski reached second base after an error. A couple pitches later, Poplawski advanced to third on a passed ball and scored on a bad throw from the

catcher.

South added a second run in the first inning on another error, which scored Jack Maher who reached base on a single.

Dakota added a run in the bottom of the first to cut South's lead in half, but starting pitcher David Toth pitched out of a bases loaded jam to avoid any further damage in the inning.

Dakota scored one more run to tie the game in the bottom of the third inning, but again Toth stranded a runner in scoring position to avoid further damage.

Toth went five innings, giving up two runs on four hits.

Douglas Graham came in to start the sixth inning and retired the first six out of seven batters he faced. His efforts helped push the game into extra innings.

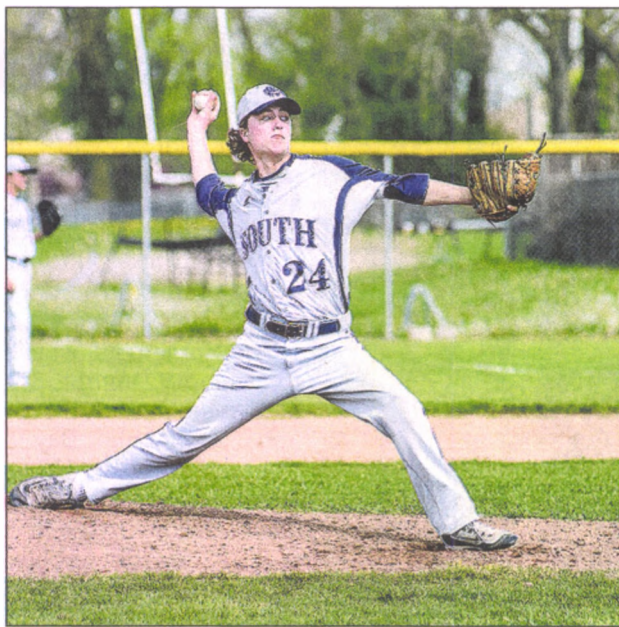


PHOTO BY PETE BALAYA

South's Douglas Graham pitched well to help the Blue Devils win the third game of the series against Dakota.

"We had great pitching and anytime you pitch and play defense you have a chance to win and that's what happened today," head coach Dan Griesbaum said.

South started the top of the eighth with base hits from Davis Graham and Maher. After failing to bunt the runners over, the Blue Devils caught a break when a wild pitch advanced the runners to second and third.

Alex Parthum hit a sacrifice fly to score Graham and give South a 3-2 lead.

"Parthum did his job, with a man on third and one out, hit the ball into the outfield," Griesbaum said.

Dakota threatened in the bottom of the eighth by loading the bases with two outs, but Graham finished the Cougars off to come away with the

win in extra innings.

Graham pitched three innings in relief, giving up no runs and only two hits to earn the win.

South came home for the middle game and lost 11-5 as the Cougars used a six-run fourth inning to win. Logan Mico started and took the loss, while Parthum had the big bat, going 3-for-3 with a walk and two RBIs.

D.J. Graham had a two-run double in the sixth to make it a 9-5 game.

South got the last laugh, winning the rubber game 2-1 as Douglas Graham went the distance, scattering six hits, striking out three and allowing no walks for the Blue Devils.

Poplawski and Maher, the senior leaders, were keys at the plate. Poplawski had four hits and one RBI, while Maher had two hits and drove in the other run as the Blue Devils improved to 6-6 in the MAC Red Division.

South improved to 4-1 on the week after beating L'Anse Creuse 10-6 and Warren Cousino 2-1 in its home doubleheader last weekend.

The Blue Devils used a five-run fourth and three-run sixth to beat LC.

Poplawski and Thompson had two hits and two RBIs apiece, while Maher walked twice and scored two runs.

Luke Riashi started and pitched the first 2 2/3 innings and Mark Schneider earned the win, going 3 1/3 innings.

Cam Shook pitched a one-two-three seventh to finish off the Lancers.

In the win over Cousino, the Blue Devils scored a run in the bottom of the sixth to break a 1-1 tie as Douglas Graham and Toth drove in the runs.

Bobby Weiland started and pitched well for the first five innings, striking out seven.

Andrew Budziak pitched the sixth inning and earned the win on the mound, while Matt Torlone earned the save by pitching a scoreless seventh.

The three pitchers held the Patriots to only four hits as South improved to 15-11 overall.

Coming up is the annual Grosse Pointe Invitational Saturday, May 21.

North and South battle Livonia Stevenson and Detroit Western International prior to the main event.

North hosts South at approximately 3 p.m. in a six-inning game.

## GROSSE POINTE NORTH

# Norsemen tie for 1st

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North boys' baseball team swept its Macomb Area Conference White Division series with Warren Mott last week, winning 11-0, 15-1 and 5-3.

In the opener, head coach Frank Sumbera watched his Norsemen cruise behind freshman Chad Lorkowski, who ran his scoreless innings streak to 31 by going seven innings on the mound.

He gave up only four hits and struck out eight.

At the plate, senior Alex Huguenin was 2-for-2 with two walks and a three-run homer, while Tristin Richardson was 3-for-3 with three runs scored. Sam Cross was 2-for-2 with a double, RBI and two runs scored.

In the middle game, senior Alex Kracht and Richardson hit two-run

doubles in the fifth inning, while Alex VanDoorne ripped a two-run single and Huguenin drove in a run with a single to put a seven-spot on the board.

Richardson earned the pitching win, tossing a two-hitter with five strikeouts.

Kracht was 2-for-5 and Steve Kent was 3-for-4 with two runs scored. Pete Ciaravino had three hits, including two doubles, and two RBIs.

The Norsemen completed the sweep, thanks to Cross who earned the pitching win, scattering six hits and striking out two, plus had a hit and two RBIs at the plate.

Henry Burchardt's single in the sixth inning scored a run to help the Norsemen pull into a first-place tie with Warren Cousino in the MAC White Division at 9-3 with three games remaining.

Grosse Pointe North is 17-7 overall.

## GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

# Blue Devils freshmen win North tournament

The Grosse Pointe South freshmen boys' baseball team won all three of its games to win the inaugural Grosse Pointe North tripleheader tournament May 7.

In game one, South defeated U-D Jesuit 10-0 as Alec Applegate pitched a two-hit shut-out. Gabe Webb got the Blue Devils rolling with a bases loaded single in the second inning.

South went on to post four runs in the fifth and five more in the sixth for a convincing victory, with Drew Maccagnone, Ryan Downey, Thomas Hutchison and Jacob Bruetsch drilling key hits.

In game two, the Blue Devils again played excellent defense with no errors to post another shut-out, defeating L'Anse Creuse 3-0.

Will Leonard and Hutchison shared the pitching duties, while John Lynch, Tanner Belanger and Maccagnone had key hits to drive in the three runs.

Cody Shook, John Poplawski and Hutchison had base hits as well. Maccagnone at shortstop, Chase Tomlin in centerfield and Poplawski behind the plate turned in stellar defensive plays.

In game three, city rivals Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South were both 2-0 and

played a thrilling back and forth game in front of a big crowd.

The Blue Devils started hot in the first inning, scoring two runs as Maccagnone and Downey led off with hits and Conor McKenna drove a double to right center.

North scored single runs in the second, third and fourth innings to take the lead on key hits.

Downey battled hard for South on the mound and limited the damage against a fine North team, ending each inning with runners onboard.

Zach Wollenzin, Tomlin and Poplawski contributed hits for South, as well, and in the top of the fifth, Devin Slaughter and Leonard lined base hits and scored when Downey belted a long double to the fence in left center as South went ahead 4-3.

Leonard made a fine play with a back-hand grab of a ground ball with the bases loaded and fired a strike home to nail the runner.

In the bottom of the last inning, the Norsemen put Cardinale and David on first and second with one out, but Jake Hannon snagged a line shot headed for center field and calmly stepped on the bag for a game-ending double play and the tournament win.

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Golf

RIVALS

# South defeats North at CCD

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South boys' golf team beat city rival Grosse Pointe North 143-169 at Country Club of Detroit last week.

For head coach Alex Macko and his Blue Devils, Teddy Schooff led the way with a 34, followed by Oliver Livingston with a 35 and Evan Theros with a 36.

For head coach Peter Kingsley and his Norsemen, J.P. Navetta and Ben Zacharias each shot a 41, followed by Ryan Schudlich with a 43 and Luke Muschong with a 44.

In other matches last week, South improved to 6-0 in the Macomb Area



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

South's Oliver Livingston putts while teammate Howie Crane holds the flag.

Conference Red Division with a 153-176 victory

over Romeo as Patrick Sullivan led the way with a 34. Jon Theros shot a 38 and Evan Theros had a 39.

Grosse Pointe North finished 5-3 in the MAC Red Division. It was the Norsemen's best division finish in several years, according to Kingsley.

"Tough week for us," Kingsley said. "Everyone slipped back to some old habits with the mental focus and the scores showed it."

The Norsemen lost 176-178 to Utica Eisenhower and beat Romeo 179-180 at Lochmoor Club.

In the Ike match, Mitchell Zacharias shot a 41, followed by Ben Zacharias with a 45, Matt Beach with a 45 and



North's Matt Beach prepares for a tee shot.

Schudlich with a 47.

In the victory over Romeo, Ben Zacharias was the medalist with a 42. Navetta shot a 45, as did Beach.

LIGGETT

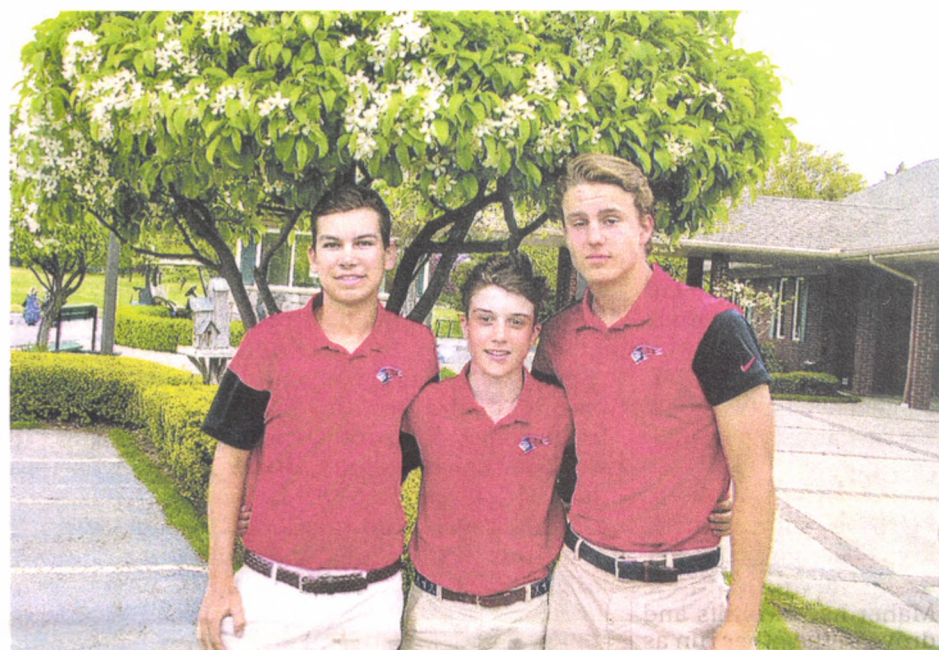


PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN SULLIVAN

## All-Conference

University Liggett golfers, from left, Macklin Carron, Spencer Lukas and Mason Campau made the First Team All-MIAC this season. The Knights' boys' golf team, under head coach Dan Sullivan, won the conference title after winning two of the three tournaments, plus taking second in the third. Liggett hosts a Division 4 district tournament Thursday, May 26, at Sycamore Hills Golf Club.

LOCHMOOR CLUB

# Lochmoor Club pros take first

Lochmoor Club golfers John Pershern, Kyle Martin, Ryan Wright and Dan Kilbert recently won the Michigan Section's opening Club Car Spring Scramble presented by Evolve Golf at Oakland University's Sharf Course.

The winning group posted 17 birdies and one par to finish 17 under, one stroke ahead of three other teams.

"We would like to thank our host site Oakland University," Pershern said. "Their staff did an excellent job hosting the event and the golf course was in great shape this early in the

year. "We would also like to thank Club Car and the team from Midwest Golf & Turf along with Evolve Golf for sponsoring this event.

"This was the 25th year that Club Car has been a sponsor of this event and we appreciate their continued support.

"This was the first year that Evolve Golf has been a sponsor of this event and the Michigan Section and we appreciate them stepping up and look forward to this new relationship."

Finishing in second place at 16 under were the teams of John Seltzer,

Jack Seltzer, Brent Goulding, Joe Pollack/Chris Sullivan, Pete Farner, Ryan Johnson, Anthony Sorrentino, Chris Zito, Jeff Gniewek, Scott Schulte, Jeff Sobczak and Steve Naelon, Cody Houghton, Mark Johnson and Patrick Humphrey.

Each team had to have a minimum of one PGA professional or apprentice with a current year playing permit.

All professional contestants had to be a Michigan Section PGA Member in good standing and amateurs had to be a resident of the state of Michigan.

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## Softball

## GROSSE POINTE NORTH

## Norsemen get split

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North girls' softball team had a chance to remain a game behind L'Anse Creuse in the Macomb Area Conference Blue Division last week.

The host Norsemen opened the week with a 9-3 win over Marine City as they pounded out 11 hits.

Vicki Blaine was 3-for-4 with two doubles, two runs and two RBIs, and Rebecca Alway was

2-for-4 with a double and two RBIs.

Other girls with hits were Liz Grumeretz, Sarah Cherry, Caitlyn Knorp, Celeste Janson, Kayla Kettler and Rachel Liagre.

Alway earned the win, going seven innings. She gave up 13 hits, three earned runs, five walks and six strikeouts.

Two days later, North lost a wild 11-10 game to host Fraser, dropping to 6-3 in the MAC Blue, while L'Anse Creuse is 8-1.

Always, Janson and Liagre hit home runs and they had a 10-9 lead after scoring three runs in the top of the sixth inning, but they couldn't hold it as the Ramblers scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to pull out the win.

Grumeretz had two hits, as did Lora Dobbs and Knorp.

Alway suffered the loss, giving up 13 hits, 11 earned runs, six walks and one strikeout in six innings.

Grosse Pointe North is 10-14 overall.

## Boys lacrosse

## NORTH, SOUTH &amp; LIGGETT

## Teams enjoy wins

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The University Liggett boys' lacrosse team improved to 9-4 overall on the season after beating Utica 12-4 last week.

Sophomore Spencer Warezak led the way with four goals and senior Harrison Wujek added two for the visiting Knights.

The Knights traveled to Madison Heights Bishop Foley later in the week and held a 7-1 lead late in the second quarter when a thunderstorm came rumbling through.

The game was stopped and will not be resumed.

In other recent action, Liggett beat Utica 14-0 as Wujek and senior Alex Minanov each had three goals and one assist.

Warezak had two goals and two assists, as did sophomore Tom Van Pelt. Senior Bobby Root had the shutout in net.

Liggett also defeated the Motor City Knights 11-4 as Wujek, Warezak, Van Pelt and senior Trevor Jones each had two goals and one assist.

The Knights also lost 12-11 in overtime to host Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard as Minanov led the way with four goals and one assist.

Van Pelt and Wujek chipped in with two goals and one assist apiece.

## North results

Grosse Pointe North boys' lacrosse team remained tied for first with Utica Eisenhower in the Macomb Area Conference Red Division after beating visiting Romeo 15-9 last week.

Both North and Eisenhower are 4-1 in the division with one game left.

They meet in the final regular season game with the title on the line.



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

South's J.D. Standish, No. 16, and his teammates played tough competition this season and played tough against them.

The Norsemen played well for three of the four quarters to ease away with a victory.

Senior Andrew Tomasi had a monster game, scoring four goals and collecting four assists, and sophomore Max Payton had four goals and one assist.

Senior Pelton Schneider and junior Marko Tomavski scored two goals apiece, while junior Hugh Anderson, sophomore Brendan Bergeron and junior Marc Filippelli each had one goal.

The Norsemen jumped out to a 4-1 lead and it was 11-6 at the half.

Head coach Mark Seppala calmed his crew down and they played better defense in the second half, giving up only three goals.

Junior goalkeeper Nathan Robinson played

another solid game in net.

In other games last week, North lost 9-8 to South Lyon and beat Warren DeLaSalle 10-6 to improve to 12-2 overall.

## South results

The Grosse Pointe South boys' lacrosse team played a strong game, but not strong enough as it lost 8-5 to Utica Eisenhower in a Macomb Area Conference Red Division game last week.

Senior Michael Coyle led the Blue Devils with three goals, while sophomore John Schulte and junior Peter Ulbrich had one goal apiece.

Junior goalkeeper Jameson Daley had six saves in a defensive-minded battle.

South dipped to 2-3 in the MAC Red Division and 3-6 overall.

## Girls lacrosse

## NORTH, SOUTH &amp; LIGGETT

## Tough week for local lax teams

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North girls' lacrosse team dropped its games last week, losing 24-11 to host Birmingham Marian and 9-8 to host Detroit Country Day.

The Norsemen played a tough first half against Marian, trailing 11-8. They couldn't get anything going in the second half as Marian pulled away.

Olivia Benoit had 13 saves in net and the offense was led by Katie Snow with five goals and Caroline Bock with two. Other goal scorers were Sydney Eger, Mara McMann and Lauren Frezza.

Head coach Lauren Nixon and her Norsemen stood toe-to-toe with the Yellowjackets, but couldn't get the equalizer in the final seconds.

"Senior goalie Olivia Benoit played a great

game and had 13 saves," Nixon said. "Great defense was played by Melissa Guest, Kelly Baranek, Dalaney Bradley, Aiyana Badih, Mara McMann and Montana Paton."

Goals were scored by Snow, four; Amanda Albrecht, two; Lindsay Gallagher, one; and Eger, one.

Grosse Pointe North dropped to 8-6 overall.

## Liggett results

The University Liggett girls' lacrosse team ended its losing streak last week, beating Rochester Adams 16-15 in overtime.

Head coach Jenn Calver has seen her team play hard on the field and the results just weren't what they were looking for.

After a good few days of practice, the Knights put it all together to edge Adams and improve to 23-6 overall.

Senior Liv Portillo led the way with six goals and one assist, and junior Katie Fruehauf had a solid game netting five goals.

Seniors Grace Scarfone and Allison Stapleton were also clutch. Scarfone had two goals and two assists, and Stapleton chipped in with two goals and one assist.

Also scoring a goal was freshman Emma Wujek and freshman Allie Quint came up with 10 saves in net.

## South results

The Grosse Pointe South girls' lacrosse team ran into two buzz saws last week, losing 16-14 to host Birmingham Marian and 14-12 to host Troy.

Head coach Alycya Valentine and her Blue Devils had chances to win each game, but couldn't get it done.

Grosse Pointe South dipped to 9-4-1 overall.

## GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

## Blue Devils beat LV

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South girls' softball team split its games last week, losing 9-7 to host Port Huron Northern and beating visiting St. Clair Shores Lakeview 12-6.

In the division loss to the Huskies, the Blue Devils nearly overcame a 9-2 deficit. They scored one run in the fifth, three in the sixth and added two in the seventh to make it interesting.

Sophomore Grace Foster was 3-for-3 with three runs scored and freshman Kendall Volpe had a double and triple and scored twice.

Freshman Julia O'Halla also had two hits and drove in three runs to help the Blue Devils battle back.

Freshman Adriana Agosta took the loss, striking out two in six innings.

The Blue Devils rebounded to beat the Huskies as sophomore Lauren Sancya had three hits and four RBIs to lead the offensive attack.

Foster had three more hits to continue her torrid pace at the plate and Volpe had two doubles, four runs scored and two RBIs.

Agosta earned the win on the mound, going seven innings and giving

up seven hits, six walks and striking out one. She was able to get some big outs down the stretch to preserve the win.

The defense behind her played well, especially senior Christina Ambrozy, who caught a line drive to left field and doubled off the runner at first to complete the inning-ending double play.

South was scheduled to play in the Ann Arbor Skyline round robin last weekend, but the games were rained out.

Grosse Pointe South is 10-11 overall and 1-7 in the Macomb Area Conference Blue Division.



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and proceeds benefit the Grosse Pointe Youth Nautical Education Foundation. The kickoff party, along with the weekend festivities at the club, are open to the public.



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From 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, May 20, noon to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 21 and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 22, the boating festival will fill the grounds of the yacht club. Boats from 16 to 80 feet will be on display, along with marine products and services, antique cars, items from the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, a display by the Antique Outboard Motor Association, vintage boats, Jet Skis and other water toys.

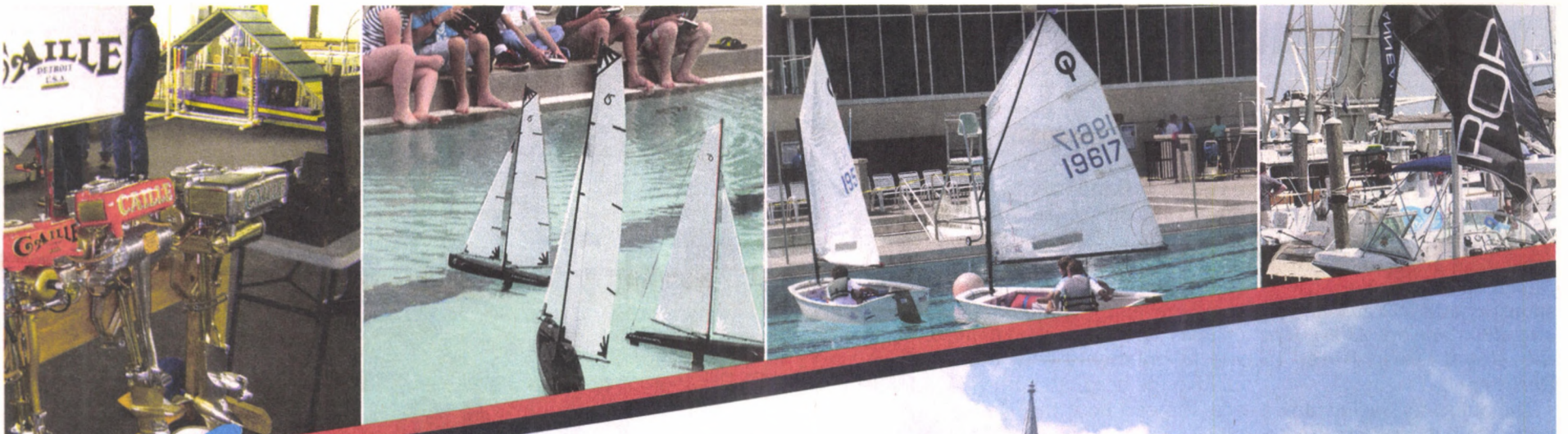
Admission is free to the show. Friday's kickoff party prices and reservations are available at [gpyc.org](http://gpyc.org) or by calling (313) 884-2500.

"The party and the festival will be a fantastic time," said past commodore and GPYNEF President Jim Morrow. "We will have more on display than we ever have. The support has been great."

Community support comes from sponsors Genesis Cadillac, edmund t. AHEE Jewelers, Ray Laethem Motor Village, St. John Hospital & Medical Center, Sterling Insurance Group, Fifth Third Bank, Secure 24, Corporate Optics, Renewal by Andersen and the Grosse Pointe News. Ray Laethem Motor Village, Colony Marine and Boston Whaler will donate a 2016 Boston Whaler for raffle, edmund t. AHEE Jewelers has donated a Rolex watch for raffle and Genesis Cadillac has donated a Cadillac ATS lease for the raffle.

For more information, visit [gpyc.org](http://gpyc.org).





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May 20-22, 2016



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|-----------|--------|-----------|
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| Saturday, | May 21 | Noon-7 pm |
| Sunday,   | May 22 | Noon-5 pm |
|           | Raffle | 5 pm      |

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- APBA Racing Outboards
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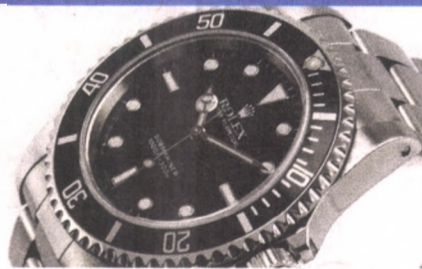


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Grosse Pointe News

CORPORATE OPTICS



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# Spring Tea draws support for Ronald McDonald House

The seventh annual Spring Tea, a family-friendly fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit, raised nearly \$18,000 from sponsors and 152 guests who attended the April 23 event at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester.

The afternoon included live jazz music, hors d'oeuvres, a balloon artist and sketch artist Darrell Swift. Executive Director Jennifer Litomisky unveiled a video produced by Zara Creative that captured day-to-day scenes at the House: patients having fun, volunteers extending a touch of compassion and a former

patient talking about the impact the House had on her and her family. A second video, produced by Ronald McDonald House Charities, depicted how a "home away from home" enables parents to spend more special moments with their child in the hospital. Both videos showed how the House takes care of families by providing rooms, services and amenities so they can focus on helping their child get through an illness or injury.

The event was co-chaired by Teresa Saputo of Oakland Township and Deborah Virgiles of Southfield. Virgiles gave a gift bag to the oldest

grandmother, Catherine Bagnasco, 94, and the youngest grandmother, Latrece Allen, 43.

"The event raised a record amount this year and we are delighted with the turnout and the interest of those who attended," said Litomisky.

A flower sale, bracelet raffle and silent auction raised \$5,600. Each child who attended the event received a goody bag with a stuffed animal, games and treats.

Funds raised add to the House's \$3 million "Hearts, Hands and Homes" campaign, which runs through August 2017.



PHOTO BY JAMES EDDY

Aimee Cowher, center, board member of the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit and a resident of Grosse Pointe Farms, attended the House's Spring Tea along with University Liggett School students, from left, Natasha Khan, Ali Cone, Abi Cone and Anna McCauley.

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# Women's Power Breakfast sparks record-setting donations

Thursday, April 21, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan celebrated its 23rd annual Women's Power Breakfast at Detroit's Eastern Market Shed 3. More than 640 of metro Detroit's most influential female leaders came together to make a difference in the lives of hungry children. The WPB is part of Gleaners' Million Meal Match campaign to raise one million meals for hungry children across southeast Michigan during April.

A highlight of the morning's program came when longtime Gleaners supporter Mary Beth Morabito offered guests the chance to match her donation



Vice President of DTE Energy and Women's Power Breakfast Co-chairwoman Faye Alexander Nelson of Grosse Pointe Woods.

of \$15,000 and the opportunity to provide the Gleaners Backpack Program to two schools for a year. Morabito's

passion to effect change on childhood hunger grew from her engagement with the issue — attending previous power breakfasts and volunteering at her church's food pantry. The opportunity to double her impact was all Morabito needed to make her donation.

The morning's program moved event co-chairwoman and Rush Group CEO Andra Rush to extend a match donation of \$20,000, event co-chairwoman and Henry Ford Health Systems CEO Nancy Schlichting to pledge an additional \$1,000 and the Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss Women's Caucus to donate \$500. Other

WPB guests answered the morning's "match challenge" collectively, donating an additional \$40,000. In total, Morabito's gift and the challenge raised \$75,500 to support the Backpack Program at five area schools.

To date, the Gleaners women's power events and Million Meal Match campaign have raised more than \$300,000 toward Gleaners' goal to provide one million meals to hungry children across southeast Michigan. Gleaners provides needed food through its Backpack, Smart Bites and school-based mobile pantry programs.



COURTESY PHOTOS

MotorCity Casino General Counsel Cheryl Scott Dube of Grosse Pointe, left, and Gleaners President Gerry Brisson of Ferndale.

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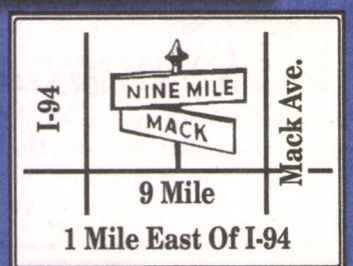
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## Student organizes suicide prevention walk

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Hannah Connors, a senior at Grosse Pointe South High School, organized South's first Out of the Darkness Campus Walk to promote suicide awareness and prevention three years ago. She got the idea when her sophomore English teacher, Nicholas Provenzano, introduced a project called 20 Time in which students spent class time Fridays — or 20 percent of the week — on their own “personal passion project.”

Connors knew she wanted to focus on mental health and suicide prevention. Her online research led her to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention website where she learned about the nonprofit's signature student fundraising series.

Out of the Darkness Campus Walks are designed to engage youth and young adults in the



PHOTO BY MARY ANNE BRUSH

Participants in the third annual Out of the Darkness Campus Walk are, back row from left, Connor Mallegg, Hannah Connors, Madeline Arkison, Lanie Fitzpatrick and Cinderella Ksebaci; front row, Louise Brady, Megan Fordon, Carmella Bate and Westin Bate.

fight to prevent suicide, the second leading cause of death among people 18 to 24. While the walks are geared toward colleges, Janice Hurtado, central division director for AFSP's Michigan chapter, helped Connors

structure the walk for a high school setting.

Out of the 140 or more campus walks held in the spring, only 10 are at high schools, Hurtado said, noting administration can be wary due to the sensitive subject matter.

“Hannah does a great job and I'm really impressed with her,” Hurtado said. “I know she has been generating a lot of awareness on campus, which is fantastic.”

“She has been fortunate that the school has

allowed her to do it,” she added.

The third annual walk was held Sunday, May 15. Participants gathered at the stadium field at 11 a.m. and, after the singing of the national anthem by senior

Madeline Arkison, set out for their route along Kercheval to Vendome to Grosse Pointe Boulevard and back to South.

The student-run walk raised \$8,249 this year for a total of more than \$24,000 in three years. Funds go to AFSP to support research and education programs, increase national awareness about depression and suicide and provide support for survivors of suicide loss.

Connors said a few of the younger girls who helped her with the walk this year expressed interest in carrying it forward next year. “I hope they do,” she said. “I definitely want to continue my advocacy in college, though I'm not sure yet if it will be with a campus walk at (the University of Michigan) or some other initiative.”

“I'm very proud of the work she has done,” said Provenzano. “She is going to continue to do great things in college.”

## Destination Imagination teams advance to globals

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe's Destination Imagination teams competed against regional winners across Michigan Saturday, April 23, at the state competition at Central Michigan University. First-through third-place teams are eligible for the global competition — the world's largest celebration of student creativity — May 25 to 28 in Knoxville, Tenn. Four Grosse Pointe teams advance to represent the district and compete against students across the globe.

At the middle school level, the Departed Dogs, a seventh-grade team from Pierce and Brownell middle schools, placed first in the service learning challenge. Their project was to help veterans and educate others on post traumatic stress disorder.



COURTESY PHOTO

Departed Dogs team members, from left, Ryan Hexter, Elli Richter, Jacquelyn Wang, Katie Bennert, Raegan Rybicki, Lauren Cooper and Jack Corrion advance to the global finals. The team is coached by Tom and Jill Richter.

From Pierce and Parcels middle schools, the seventh-grade Diamonds placed second in improvisation and the sixth-grade team, CATS, came in third in the same category. Because CATS

members are unable to attend the global competition, fourth-place Purple Panthers, a sixth-grade team, will attend in their place.

At the elementary school level, Trombly

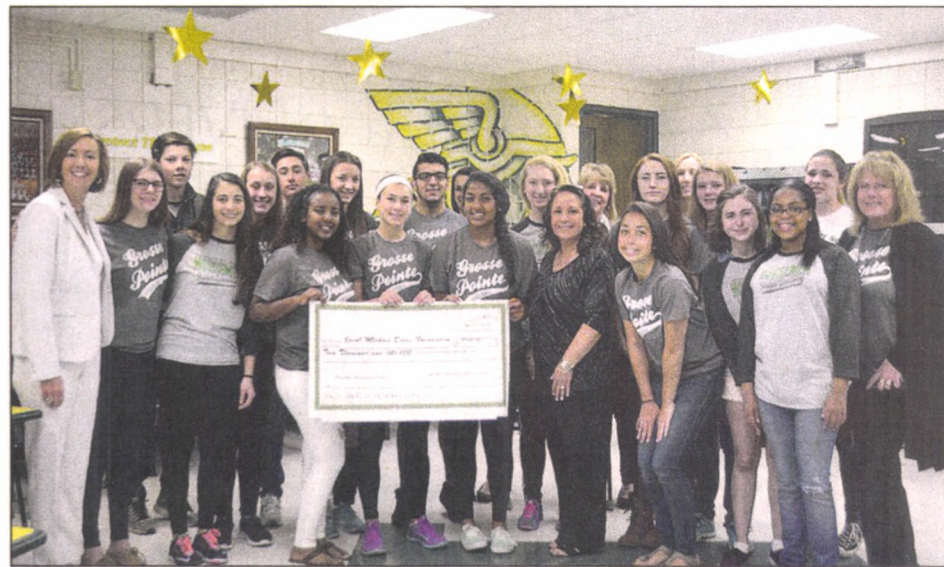
Elementary School's fifth-grade team, Presidential Pandas, placed third in the fine arts category.

At the global finals, stu-

dents will have the opportunity to attend workshops hosted by former astronaut Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger.

Metcalf-Lindenburger

will focus on the importance of STEM studies and careers, as well as share her experiences of becoming an astronaut and working with NASA.



COURTESY PHOTO

## North students raise money for foundation

Freshmen and seniors from Grosse Pointe North High School presented business education teacher Michelle Davis with a \$2,000 check for the Jacob Michael Davis Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to helping families touched by cancer. Students raised money for the foundation during a combined North and Grosse Pointe South High School dodgeball marathon earlier in the year. South's Student Association supported the Muscular Dystrophy Association while North raised money for JMD. Davis, center, pictured with North students and Principal Kate Murray, far left, is vice president of the foundation and has worked with students from Parcels and North to raise money for the foundation for six years. The foundation is named for Davis's oldest son, who died of leukemia in 2005.

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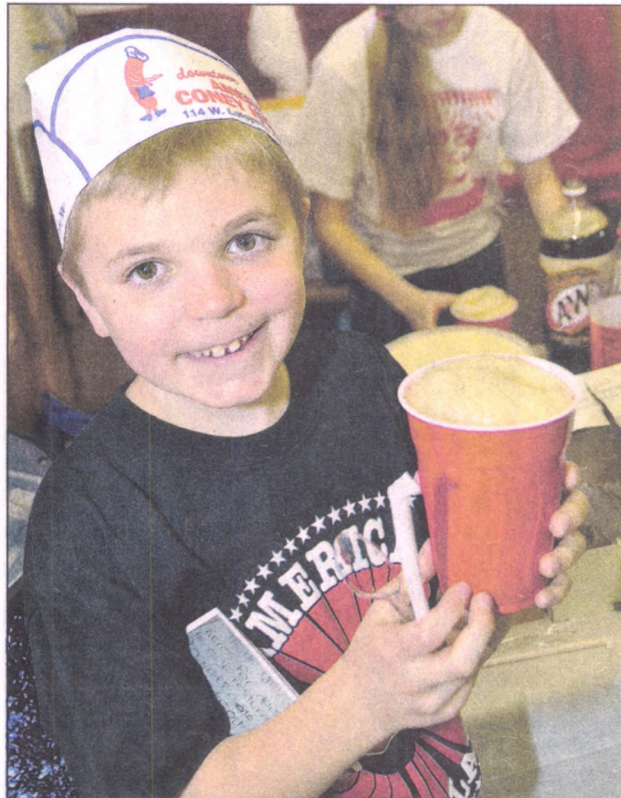
# Would you like fries with that? Ferry American Coney Island receives rave reviews

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

James Fisher's fourth- and fifth-grade magnet class at Ferry Elementary School created an American Coney Island in the classroom as part of a social studies unit on running a business. The class opened its doors Thursday, May 5, to family, staff and community members, including Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods mayors, Grosse Pointe Public School System administrators and members of the Board of Education. Students fulfilled more than 40 carry-out orders and served more than 200 restaurant patrons.

The project grew out of Fisher's interest in using restaurant management as a model for teaching students about business. Seven years ago Fisher's friend Grace Keros, third-generation owner of American Coney Island in Detroit, came up with the idea to form a partnership and create an actual restaurant for a day. Keros would help with donating and preparing the food and Fisher would work with students on the business side.

"I would teach them all the concepts," Fisher said. "Instead of showing them textbooks, I would have them actually live it and create a restaurant in our classroom."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Clockwise from left, Peter Hoffman holds up a root beer float he is taking to a customer; Chloe Harb delivers an order; Ben Graham serves Molly Abraham, food critic for the Detroit News. The coney dog and chips received a three-star rating.

The project took off, incorporating math, technology, research and problem solving into this social studies unit. Other less tangible benefits are teamwork and cooperation.

"The skills that went into the unit went far beyond academics," Fisher said.

Another outgrowth of the project is philanthropy. All proceeds from the event — \$900 in prof-

its after students paid off their loans from parents — will go to Mittens for Detroit, a nonprofit founded by actress Erin Cummings, another friend of Fisher's.

"With all the demands for testing going on right now, I really feel (the project) is beneficial," Fisher said. "I will do everything I can do to create hands-on learning because that's what I truly believe (students) need."



## Maire students read to support March of Dimes

Maire Elementary School celebrated the top readers and earners for its March of Dimes Reading Champions program Friday, April 29. Students read and raised money during March. The top earners and readers in the school by grade and overall were recognized at an

assembly. March of Dimes Development Manager Matt Babecki was present to accept the \$2808.65 raised.

Since 1998, Maire has raised \$96,646.19 for the March of Dimes. This year, students read a total of 229,924 minutes, with 213 out of 306 students participating.

Pictured are Maire's top two K-5 readers and earners. Standing far left is March of Dimes Development Manager Matt Babecki. Bottom left is Maire parent Kari Adams, with 18-month-old daughter, Parker, who was born prematurely and received support from the March of Dimes. Standing far right are Maire Principal Sonja Franchett and Julie Scheutze, parent and reading program coordinator.

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# PRIDE OF THE POINTES

**Jenna Shier** graduated summa cum laude December 2015 from Wayne State University with a master's degree in school and community psychology. She is a school psychologist with East Detroit Public Schools. The 2009 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School and 2013 graduate of Michigan State University is the daughter of Steve and Diane Shier of St. Clair Shores.

Grosse Pointe resident **Rachel Forcillo** earned New England Small College Athletic Conference All-Academic distinction for the winter

2016 season as a member of the women's indoor track and field team at Bates College. She is a 2014 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School.

Grosse Pointe Shores resident **Eric Balle** graduated fall 2015 from Marquette University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biomedical sciences.

Grosse Pointe resident **Paulina Perakis** was named to the spring 2016 Dean's List at Belmont University.

Grosse Pointe Woods resident **Meghan Melissa**

**Smith** graduated May 2016 from Grand Valley State University with a degree in special education. The 2011 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate is the daughter of Caroline Smith of Grosse Pointe Woods.

**Christopher Flanagan** graduated with honors May 2016 from Michigan State University with a master's degree in accounting. The 2011 Grosse Pointe South High School graduate is the son of Chris and Kathy Flanagan of Grosse Pointe Farms. He begins work at Plante Moran this summer.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

A totaled car, sponsored by SADD, serves as a reminder to students about making potentially life-saving decisions during prom and graduation season.

## Liggett students make environmental impact

University Liggett School's new turf athletic field doesn't grow dandelions and weeds. That's great news for the school's groundskeepers, but not for pollinating insects like butterflies and bees.

So this year on Earth Day, fifth-graders grabbed their shovels and spades and planted a large pollinators garden near the football field. Filled with butterfly bushes and other plants that attract pollinating insects, the garden is both beautiful and environmentally friendly.

The pollinators garden is just one of many Earth Day activities Liggett students participated in this year.

Other activities included designing solar lights in the science lab, creating a habitat design project and having an insect hunt at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Top, Morgan Hamilton and Ali Cone put pollinator plants into the ground. Above, Liggett fourth-graders, from left, Ian Flynn, Myles Melegari and Gerrit Vreeken, create solar lights to hang in the newly planted pollinators garden near the football field.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



This handmade paper shape is embedded with annual and perennial wildflower seeds. Plant this seeded paper and watch your garden grow—a little reminder that beauty surrounds us every day.

Soak the paper in water overnight. Plant the seeded paper shape under 1/4 inch of loose, well-drained soil. Keep evenly moist until seedlings are well established. Germination time is 1 to 4 weeks.

Happy Earth Day 2016!

Above, Randal Baker, Richard building engineer, and Steven Gulian, science and language arts teacher, instruct the fifth-grade class on planting recycled seeded paper. Left, each student was given paper printed with soy-based ink on recycled paper with embedded seeds to plant at home.

## Richard celebrates Earth Day

Richard Elementary School took celebrating Earth day to heart. The school hosted week-long events to weed and clean up the school yard and a raffle students could enter if they rode or walked their bike to school at least three times that week. Prizes were recycled planters and a clipboard recycled from a computer circuit board. On Earth Day, April 22, fifth-graders planted wildflower seeds alongside the school to help attract hummingbirds and butterflies.

## SADD week delivers sobering messages

Stacy Kryzminski and Lisa Steiner, co-advisers of Students Against Destructive Decisions at Grosse Pointe North High School, organized a week focusing on helping students make good decisions about drinking and driving or getting into a car with a drunken driver.

The week was timed to coincide with prom and graduation season when students may be at higher risk of making poor decisions.

Monday, May 9, students arrived at school to the sight of a totaled car in front of the Performing Arts Center.

Two banners greeted them along the front drive

into North's parking lot. The first read: "Your life isn't the only one on the line when you choose to drink and drive."

The second banner read: "Parents who host, lose the most. Don't be a party to teenage drinking."

The trees along the front drive were lined with red ribbons.

Inside the school building were other reminders. A yellow star was placed on every student locker. Some randomly had a red dot on the star and others had a black dot on the star. The red dot signified a person who killed another person while driving drunk.

A black dot signified a person killed by a

drunken driver. No dot meant the person made the choice not to get into a car with a drunken driver.

Placed on the windows of the student union were gravestones featuring photographs of people killed by drunken drivers. The sign said: "Graveyard of the innocent. Death by drinking and driving."

The signs and red ribbons "will remain up during the upcoming graduation period in hopes of stopping both the parent-sponsored drinking graduation parties and drinking and driving among the graduates," Steiner wrote in an e-mail.

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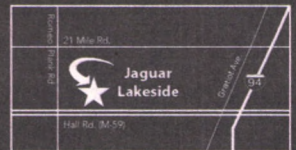
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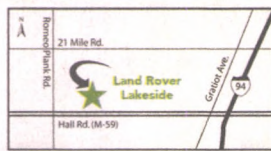


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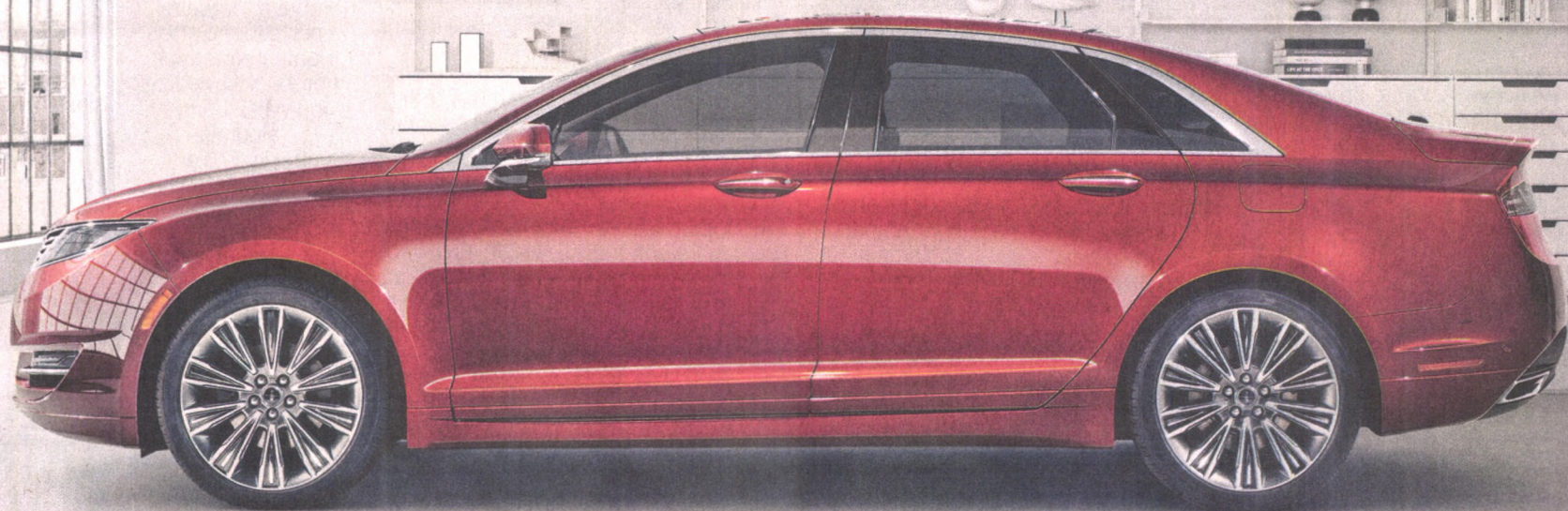
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