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# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 77, NO. 51, 24 PAGES  
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DECEMBER 22, 2016  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

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## DTE ordered to stop line work

By Kathy Ryan  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — DTE has been ordered to shut down work on service line connections until problems with sidewalk repairs have been corrected.

Woods Director of Public Works Frank Schulte sent a “stop work” order to DTE this week because, according to Schulte, there has been “a lack of cooperation on DTE’s part” when it comes to sidewalk replacement.

The problem first came to light after the Dec. 11 snow storm, when city plows attempted to clear snow from several sidewalks in the city in areas where DTE had replaced gas lines and gas line connections to homes. When DTE completed installation of the new lines, it used slag, a metal-based sand, as a temporary replacement for the cement sidewalks. The city had expected DTE to replace the slag with a

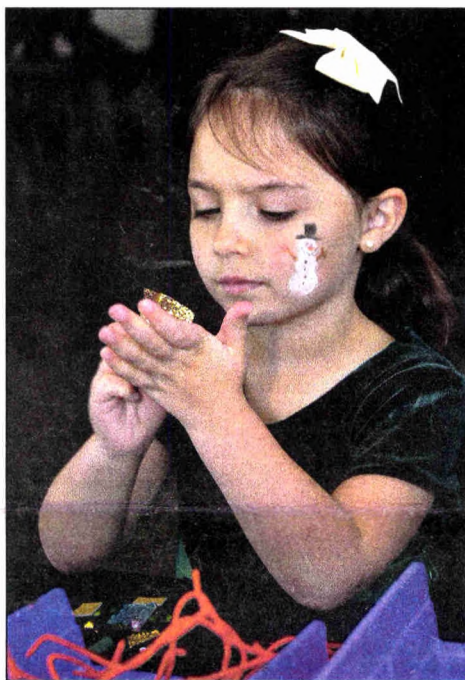
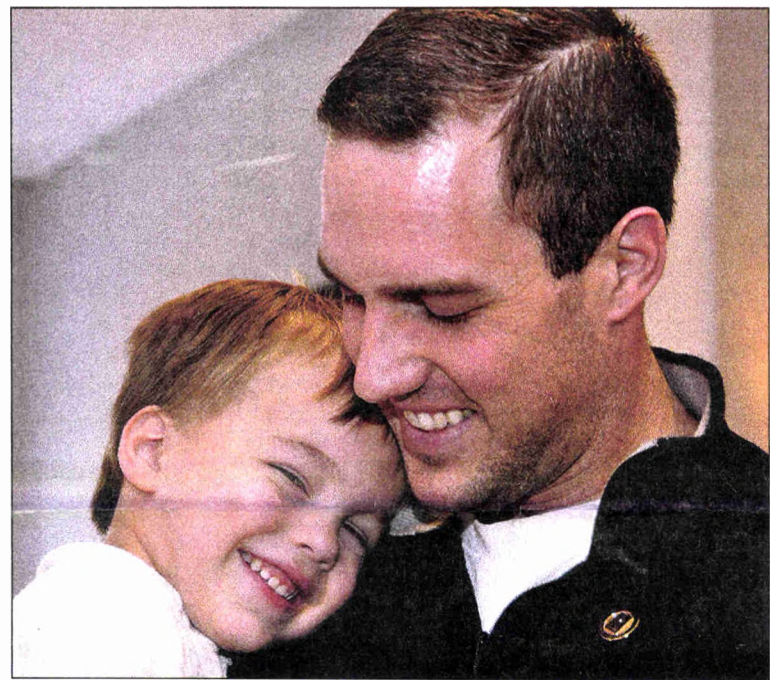
See STOP, page 5A



Coming soon!

Charlotte Dayne giggled while in line to share her Christmas list with Santa. Christmas Eve is Saturday night, so children, get to bed early — and don’t forget to leave out cookies and milk for Santa and a snack for his reindeer.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT



## Problem pump

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — As weekend Mr. Fix-its often learn the hard way, sometimes when a piece of mechanical equipment keeps breaking down, it’s best to forgo piecemeal repairs, tear it apart and put it back together.

An analogous situation exists in a sub-segment of the Neff Road sewage pumping station.

Pump No. 4 doesn’t work.

“For approximately two months, it has not been operable,” said Gary Huvaere, City of Grosse Pointe public service director. “We have had issues with it overheating.”

Once-and-for-all repairs cost \$19,415, according to a contract approved Monday, Dec. 22.

The pump is one of the station’s three smaller units despite being rated at 4,500 gallons of water per minute.

“The pump has a cooling jacket, but it doesn’t have a bladder,” Huvaere said. “So, sludge gets in and makes the pump overheat. This has typically been addressed with a service call.”

Technicians from Kennedy Industries, the manufacturer’s representative in Michigan, cleaned the pump.

“However, the pump continued to have prob-

lems overheating,” Huvaere said.

In August, pump failures at the station caused by electrical overheating and power interruptions allowed storm water to back up through sanitary sewers into more than 200 basements during a 2.76-inch downpour, concluded the city’s consulting engineers from Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick.

The engineers’ diagnosis of Pump 4 favors reconstruction.

“Kennedy is the only company in Michigan authorized to service this pump,” Huvaere said.

“This would include removal and delivery of the pump to Kennedy’s shop, replacement of all bearing and seal, disassemble, clean and inspect complete pump, assemble all rotating parts and balance, assemble pump, pressure test, install new oil, deliver back to the pump station and install,” said Stephen Pangori, executive vice president of AEW.

Kennedy’s quote includes sandblasting and inspecting the entire pump, pressure testing and more.

To further counter overheating, Pangori recommended rigging the pump with a \$4,000 fresh water cooling system.

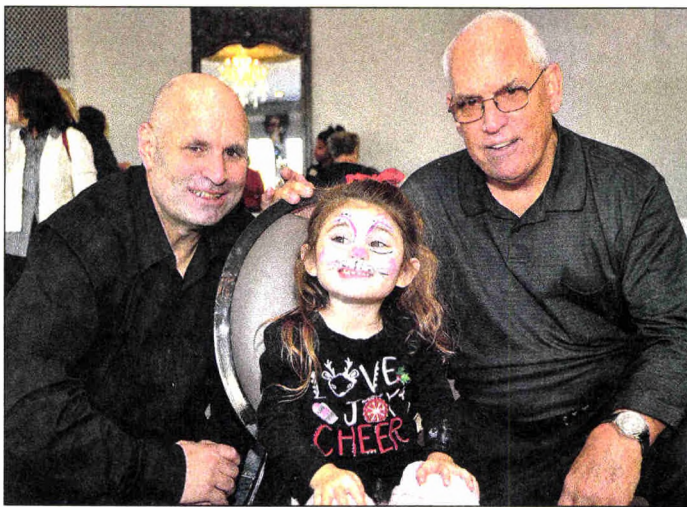
A new pump costs \$43,798.

## A win-win

Above, Kerby Elementary School kindergartner Ava Eatmon carefully selected gold paper to use on the Christmas tree craft she made for her dad, Navy veteran James Eatmon of Grosse Pointe Farms. Above left, active military member Army Sgt. Andrew Lazar of Macomb Township enjoys a moment with his son, Liam Lazar.

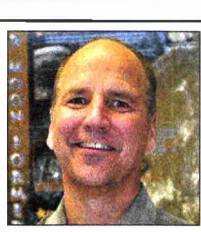
PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Wins for Warriors Foundation, founded by Justin Verlander, partnered with The War Memorial to present 1000 Christmas Salutes for military members, veterans and their families Dec. 18. The event included visits with Santa, holiday-themed crafts, a meal and a concert by electro-pop violin band, NUCLASSICA. Above, from left, Ann Vier, U.S. Navy veteran Jerry Vier, 3-year-old Dax Zielinski, U.S. Navy veteran Jed Vier, Emily Zielinski and Michelle Vier enjoyed the event for veterans and their families. Right, Grosse Pointe Woods resident Mark Berger of the Macomb County Sheriff’s Office and his 3-year-old daughter, Vivian Berger, sit with Berger’s father, Bruce Berger, a Vietnam veteran and retired Detroit police officer.



Public Safety . . . . . 5A  
Opinion . . . . . 6A  
Community . . . . . 1B  
Obituaries . . . . . 3B  
Sports . . . . . 1C  
Classified ads . . . . . 5C  
Schools . . . . . 1D

**Pointer of Interest**  
See story, page 4A



**Walter Charuba**  
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms  
Brownell science teacher, musician  
and New Horizons Fellow



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# Still going strong

## Bolton-Johnston plans for the future

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

When Village Food Market expands next spring, it will take over the building next door, currently the offices of Bolton-Johnston Associates of Grosse Pointe, Realtors.

Until then, the nearly 52-year-old firm is staying put at 18332 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Come spring 2017, Bolton-Johnston Associates will move to 90 Kercheval on the Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"In our new location we look forward to remaining in Grosse Pointe Farms and continuing to serve our community's real estate needs as we've done for going on 52 years," said broker/owner Nanci Bolton. "As our company continues to grow, our new location will provide new technology and the company will be rolling out a new mobile-friendly website with excellent search capabilities for our clients in January."

The agency, which started in 1965 as Borland Associates, was acquired by Bolton and Forman Johnston in 1985. Johnston retired in 2006 and Bolton is the current broker/owner.

Bolton carries a business degree from Michigan State University, is a certified Council of Real Estate

Brokerage Manager and is accredited with the National Association of Realtors.

She served as president of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors in 1990.

"We have 28 full-time, highly experienced associates, most of whom are associate brokers," Bolton said. "Our company has five associates who have served as past presidents of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors."

"We are highly involved with real estate trade organizations as well as many community organizations as volunteers," she continued. "We work hard at giving back to the community who gives to us."

One such effort with which the agency has become involved is raising funds for locally-sponsored Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs trainee, GP.

"Our company raised the most per associate than any other company in the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors and we continue to generate funding," Bolton said. "We're hoping in 2017 to be able to fund the complete training of GP."

Until Bolton-Johnston Associates moves to its new home on the Hill, Bolton and her associates may be reached at (313) 884-6400 or by visiting [boltonjohnston.com](http://boltonjohnston.com).



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COURTESY PHOTOS

# Platinum anniversary

edmund t. AHEE jewelers celebrates 70 years

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The late Edmund T. Ahee lived his life according to several philosophies: Treat people the way you want to be treated. Give the customer more than they expect. Give more than you receive.

He operated his business the same way.

His son, John Ahee, shared a story of his father's generosity in the early days of owning edmund t. AHEE jewelers:

A customer looking for an engagement ring searched Ahee's entire inventory, but didn't find anything that suited him. Edmund Ahee told the man he had one more ring in the back room to show him. The ring belonged to his wife, Bettejean Ahee, and was in back for polishing. The customer loved it and a deal was made. In the end, Bettejean wasn't upset. She planned to get a bigger diamond anyway.

"It all starts with my father," John Ahee said, reflecting on the store, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary. "His father passed away when he was 13 during the Depression. He dropped out of school to work and ended up reading a lot of



Above, the Ahee family in the 1980s, from left, Greg, Chris, Peter, Edmund, Pam and John. Left, Edmund and Bettejean Ahee.

books about business."

In 1947, an uncle who owned Harper Recreation bowling alley offered Edmund Ahee space to sell his wares. Apart from diamonds and jewelry, Ahee sold sewing machines, typewriters and other items. "By his second year in business, he had sold more Hoover vacuums than J.L. Hudson," John Ahee said. "His customer service was really his forte."

Eventually Edmund Ahee focused on jewelry, because "it was the only business he could think of if he didn't sell the merchandise, the more valuable it became."

In the early 1950s, the jeweler moved to a storefront on Van Dyke. By 1968, they'd outgrown the space and moved into an old DeSoto car dealer-

ship. "It's 6,500 square feet," John Ahee said. "We thought, there's no way we can fill that much space. Now we wish we had more floors."

The dealership was transformed into the AHEE showroom thanks to the design work of matriarch Bettejean Ahee. She has been a part of all seven decades of the store's history, which currently includes three generations of family in day-to-day operations.

John Ahee, the youngest of seven, said he and his siblings took an interest in the business at an early age. He was 7 when he started and did some accounting by age 13. His siblings also found work in the family business.

See AHEE, page 8A

## Stander named sports, entertainment director

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Jeffrey Stander, a financial advisor and senior vice president in the Morgan Stanley

Wealth Management office in Birmingham, has been named a sports and entertainment director in the Morgan Stanley

Global Sports & Entertainment Division. This specialized group was created to help address the distinct wealth management needs of athletes, entertainers and top professionals in the sports and entertainment industry.

Stander, a 1981 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School, will have access to customized resources and programs needed to craft creative financial strategies that account for the unique challenges and dynamics of sports and entertainment professionals' careers.

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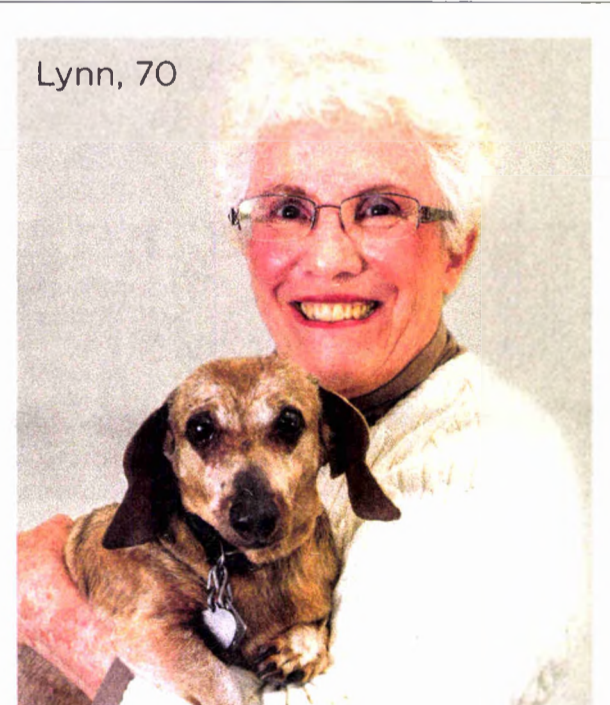
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# Big changes planned at Ford House

## Visitor center, admin building proposed for construction

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The Edsel and Eleanor Ford House is planning an overhaul, complete with 60,000 square feet of construction and environmental aspects that will allow for greater learning and educational opportunities for visitors.

The plan brings the new construction of a visitor center and administrative building to the property, recently honored with a National Historic Landmark designation by the National Parks System. An eco-friendly parking lot upgrade accompanies the new buildings.

The proposal goes before the Grosse Pointe Shores Planning Commission Tuesday, Jan. 10. A date has not yet been set with St. Clair Shores.

"This was initiated by a concern I had been discussing with the board for a while," Ford House President and CEO Kathleen Mullins said. "The staff is located in historic structures. We're pretty hard on this house.



RENDERINGS BY SMITHGROUPJJR

The new visitor center, right, and administration building are both designed to complement the historic Albert Kahn buildings and Jens Jensen landscape and will demonstrate sustainability best practices.

We need to look at removing from our historic core all daily operations."

Several years ago, Ford House administrators developed a comprehensive site master plan to look at the estate's future, growth and stewardship, Mullins said. Major infrastructure work began last year and included a new irrigation system, electrical and other upgrades.

"The next phase is to get us out of these historic buildings," Mullins said.

The new 17,000-square-foot administration building will bring all Ford House operations to the same location and out of the historic estate itself. Apart from offices, the space will include a library resource center, meeting rooms and a social wing for lectures, gatherings and more.

The new 40,000-square-foot, two-story visitor center will be built at the location of the current visitor center and will include a lobby, educa-

tion wing, exhibition space, orientation space, an expanded Cotswold Cafe, event space, expanded retail space and more.

"We've been working 18 months on it with SmithGroupJJR on comprehensive planning for what those buildings and the site will look like," Mullins said. "Once we get through planning and bidding, our goal is to begin construction in summer 2017. We will wait until we get through

major events like EyesOn Design and the chamber's Legacy on the Lake."

Moving staff out of the historic buildings will allow for their renovation to more closely reflect how the buildings were used by the Fords.

Both of the new buildings are designed to demonstrate sustainability best practices. The administration building is designed to achieve a "net-zero" or "net-positive" facility and the visitor center will seek LEED Gold designation.

"As part of Ford House's commitment to sustainability, both buildings will utilize photovoltaic cells to harvest solar energy and geothermal technology to offset heating and cooling for the buildings," said Kevin Shultis, vice president for SmithGroupJJR. "The design inspiration for the new buildings is a village of Cotswold-styled buildings utilizing limestone and glass exterior walls, slate shingled roofs and copper gutters."

"Getting out of the historic core is one piece,"

Mullins said. "The other is what we're doing with the new buildings. The administration building will generate its own power uses. Hidden solar panels, geothermal equipment, the materials inside, the windows — all of it will allow the building to be net-zero .... It's all part of our messaging on making a much greener site and being good stewards of the structures and the environment."

An upgraded parking area also will help the environment. It will be designed to preserve nearby wetlands as parking rows will be separated by bio-swales planted with environmentally-friendly vegetation to help filter and improve the quality of storm water runoff. These bio-swales will drain into the estate's main bio-swale to ensure water runoff is cleaned before entering Lake St. Clair.

"We're really looking at every way we can with new construction and

See FORD, page 8A

## Lays groundwork for new gas lines

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Utility crews are working below ground at the intersection of Moross and Kercheval to pave the way for citywide replacement next year of natural gas lines.

"Some of those gas mains are 90 years old," said Shane Reeside, Grosse Pointe Farms city

manager.

Work, which closed the intersection more than a week, wrapped up last week.

"They were replacing a large vault, a precursor to work to begin in 2017 on gas main replacements," Reeside said.

Work next year mirrors that which just ended for the season in Grosse Pointe Shores.

"It's a DTE Energy project," Reeside said.

"It's an opportunity to bring new gas lines less prone to leaks, which is an issue with older lines. It also will increase the capacity of gas service. We've had reports of people wanting to put a gas generator in their home, but existing infrastructure didn't support it."

### No choice

As in the Shores beginning last February, metal

gas mains in the Farms are being replaced with plastic ones.

"The program is mandated by the Michigan Public Service Commission," said Ty Turner, DTE construction manager.

He expects construction to last from mid March or early April to late November.

Plans include swap-

See LINES, page 5A

## Audit shows high reserves

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Municipal leaders exceeded their goal of building emergency savings equal to 25 percent of the annual general fund budget, according to an audit of fiscal year 2015-16 ending June 30.

Fueling the effort was another year of consistent, yet modest, increased revenue driven mainly by rebounding property values and their consequent impact on property tax receipts.

"Property taxes, easily the biggest revenue source for the city, (have) been increasing every year for four years," said Spencer Tawa of Plante Moran. "That is due to taxable values increasing."

"The audit confirms our books are in good order," said Peter Dame, manager of the City of Grosse Pointe. "We had the highest possible rating of our audit."

Accountants spent 400 hours examining city

See AUDIT, page 4A

## Committee appointments for 2017

By Kathy Ryan  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Committee and commission appointments for the new year were made at the final meeting for the old year by the mayor and city council.

Mayor Robert Novitke made the following reappointments, with all approved unanimously by council.

- ◆ Beautification Advisory Commission — Debra McCarthy, Carol Sauter, Phillip Hage, Rachelle Koester and Jennifer Hess

- ◆ Community Tree Commission — Laura Gaskin, Peter Groeschner and Mary Ellen Meyering

- ◆ Historical Commission — Rebecca Veitengruber, Delmar Harkenrider, Suzanne Kent and Lynne Millies

- ◆ Local Officers' Compensation — John McAlpine

- ◆ Planning Commission — Grant Gilezan, Eric Reier and Richard Rozycki

- ◆ Senior Citizens' Commission — Mark Streck, Donald Witt, Ronald Wehrmann, Sharon Beeby and Heidi Uhlig (SOC Representative)

- ◆ Construction Board of Appeals — Walter Kiehler and John Vitale

- ◆ Pension Board — Gary Zarb

The city council approved the following reappointments:

- ◆ Building Authority Committee — Ross Richardson

- ◆ Citizens' Recreation Commission — Bill Babcock, Amanda York and Thomas Jerger D.D.S.

Residents wishing to serve on any of the city's commissions are urged to fill out an application, available online from the city's website, gpwmi.us.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

# Science teacher stretches his horizons

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Walter Charuba is a modern-day Renaissance man.

A 14-year veteran science teacher at Brownell Middle School with 27 years of total teaching experience, including in Detroit and overseas, Charuba also is a musician, songwriter and a New Horizons Fellow, invited to visit the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory during the historic Pluto flyby mission July 2015.

In addition to teaching, Charuba has worked construction in Australia, farmed in Canada and worked in restaurants. He draws the line at calling himself a jack of all trades, saying his experience building a house in Saline with his brother was "the biggest mistake in my life."

"I didn't know the dif-

ference between a hammer and a screwdriver when I started," he said.

Charuba received a bachelor's degree at the National College of Education in Evanston, Ill., and a master's degree in science education from Wayne State University. He and his wife of 20 years, Marci Charuba, a teacher in the South Lake district, live in Grosse Pointe Farms. Their son, Walter, is a sixth-grader at Brownell.

As a musician, he sings and plays guitar and harmonica with the six-member band Charuba. The group has regular gigs Fridays at Cadieux Cafe, performing rock, reggae and country cover songs as well as original compositions.

For a monthly schedule of venues and times, go to charuba.com. CDs — including a solo album of holiday originals — are available for sale online on CD Baby and iTunes.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Walter Charuba incorporates music into his science instruction at Brownell.

Charuba keeps a guitar in his classroom and regularly performs for his students as a teaching tool. Class favorites include the "Atom Song," with its instructional lyrics about protons, neutrons and electrons. "Atom, atom that makes two / Now you have a molecule," Charuba croons to his students to teach them about what makes up an atom.

"I use songs in class as very short phrasing that is easy to remember," Charuba said. "It stays in their head."

He wrote another song about density and one about parallax, which he uses to teach students

about measuring the distance of stars or other objects in space.

Not all of the lyrics for his songs are science based.

"Basically I just have a bunch of songs in my head and try to get them out," Charuba said.

As a New Horizons fellow, Charuba had the opportunity two summers ago to join scientists at APL's mission operations center to witness the historic Pluto flyby, an event many years in the making. The flyby capped a five-decade-long era of solar system reconnaissance beginning with Venus and Mars in the early 1960s

and continuing through first looks of Mercury, Jupiter and Saturn in the 1970s and Uranus and Neptune in the 1980s, according to NASA. The date of the flyby — July 14, 2015 — marked 50 years to the day after humans first explored Mars with NASA's Mariner 4 on July 14, 1965.

The mission reached a major milestone this fall when the last bits of science data from the Pluto flyby — stored on the spacecraft's digital recorders since July 2015 — arrived safely on Earth, according to a New Horizons mission update. Charuba brings the

solar system to life for his students each year by conducting a solar system walk. Prior to the walk, students map the distance between each planet and calculate the distances to scale into steps.

New horizons lie ahead for Charuba's teaching as well. He attended the NASA Galileo Educational Leadership Training in Orlando, Fla. on

the Next Generation Science Standards, a set of research-based, up-to-date K-12 science standards developed by the states to improve science education for all students.

"The whole idea of the program was to have teachers become trainers for other teachers throughout the country," he said, adding he will be involved in another training this spring.

Charuba said he looks forward to the challenges ahead of incorporating the new standards into the science curriculum at Brownell, perhaps inspiring a few new songs in the process.

**AUDIT:**  
Continued from page 3A  
accounts. They presented findings to council Monday, Dec. 19.

Property tax receipts totaled \$4,213,997 during the fiscal year.

The figure is \$170,000 more than the year before and \$350,918 greater than in 2013 when taxable values began rebounding from multi-year drops during the recession.

The upward trend is forecast to continue at an annual rate of 1.5 percent.

Yet, due to the deep real estate bust of the last decade, in which the city's total taxable value dropped nearly 25 percent from \$400 million to

just over \$300 million, plus state limits on the amount of annual increases in taxable value, it will be another 14 years until valuation returns to 2009 levels, according to Tawa.

"Your main source of revenue, which is 60 to 70 percent of your general fund revenue, has gone down 25 percent since 2009," said Pamela Hill, a CPA and member of Plante Moran's governmental professional standards team. "The fact you've been able to maintain a steady level of fund balance and actually

increase unassigned fund balance is not an easy thing."

A 29 percent loss in the water fund during the year "jumped out" at auditors, according to Hill.

"We did identify some issues that may have contributed to the water loss," said Kim Kleinow, city finance director. "There was an 8-inch water main break. They didn't know how long it had been running. There's no way for us to quantify how much water was lost during that break."

Other possible explanations are:

- ◆ a busy construction season during which contractors used large quantities of water and
- ◆ a period when water bills for Beaumont Hospital Grosse Pointe were estimated rather than measured accurately because the hospital's meters were being changed.

# Public Safety Reports Give-and-take for the best deal

## City of Grosse Pointe

### Safer than sorry

A mother and her young son returned to their apartment on Neff near Charlevoix early Friday evening, Dec. 16, and were startled by rustling upstairs behind a bed.

They fled the residence and the woman reported a burglary in progress.

"Officers searching the house moved the bed and a gray squirrel jumped out," said Detective Lt. Al Gwyn. "We tried to block the door and get it corralled, but it jumped on me and ran downstairs. We got it in the chimney."

### Curbed

At 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, a patrolman monitoring northbound St. Clair near the intersection of Waterloo spotted a woman driving a gray 2007 Chrysler Sebring with illegally tinted windows and a license plate registered to a suspended driver with

five outstanding traffic warrants.

The officer arrested the woman, 25, of Detroit, and impounded the Chrysler.

Her court hearing is 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017.

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

### Sloppy drunk

An Uber driver from Detroit got a nasty fare in the form of a sloppy 20-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods woman, according to a police account.

She passed out upon delivery to a house in the 300 block of Moross, according to a patrolman trying to make sense of the situation at 2:58 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 18.

He found her in the roadway near the Uber driver's van parked partially in a driveway with

its back end in the roadway.

"The female on the ground was highly intoxicated, had thrown up in the van and was unable to walk under her own power," reported the officer.

Four of five other passengers went in the house and wouldn't come out or answer the telephone, according to police.

The woman's 20-year-old male friend from Las Vegas tried to help but, given her condition, medics took her to St. John Hospital & Medical Center.

### Hides drugs

Things were just getting started when, at 2:05 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, Michigan State Police presented Farms police a 35-year-old Roseville man wanted in the Farms for failing to attend a court hearing regarding a speeding infraction.

Farms police put him in a holding cell. Some 6 1/2

See REPORTS, page 7A

## STOP:

Continued from page 1A

cement-based slurry by now, which would allow for plowing.

Schulte said crews attempted to plow the sidewalks, but the slag was breaking up and plow drivers were concerned it would damage city equipment. Plows had to stop, leaving several neighborhood sidewalks covered in snow.

Schulte contacted DTE and was informed the slag would be replaced

with slurry cement, a special "winter blend" of cement, by the end of last week.

That hasn't happened, thus the stop work order. "DTE did not have the sidewalks sealed in time," he said. "They are behind schedule but need to catch up soon," Schulte said.

Streets affected include Anita, Mack to Charlevoix; Hawthorne, Mack to Goethe; Hampton, Mack to Goethe; Roslyn, Morningside to Wedgewood; North and

South Brys, Marter to Van K; Hollywood, Mack to Goethe; Wedgewood, Vernier to the end of the street; Maple Lane and Wedgewood Road; Hidden Lane, Wedgewood to the end of the street; and Hidden Lane, Morningside to the end of the street.

Schulte said DTE could start using a cold patch, which would be acceptable to the city because it could be plowed.

"Cold patch can be used," he said, "but only if it is put down correctly."

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — They're pickin' and he's grinnin' on TV, but not for a remake of "Hee Haw."

It's the latest episode of "American Pickers," the History Channel reality show documenting two road-weary antique

archeologists scrounging the nation for "anything we can make a buck on," so says the show's weekly introduction.

At 9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26, the hour-long production airs a segment filmed last June at the warehouse of Grosse Pointe Moving & Storage, owned by Farms resident and former Grosse Pointe

school board president John Steinger.

"They came at 9:30 in the morning and stayed until 8:30 at night," he said.

Fans of the show recognize Mutt and Jeff co-hosts Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz.

"It was just like on TV,

See DEAL, page 6A

## LINES:

Continued from page 3A

ping analog meters located inside houses with remote sensing units located outside.

Remote sensing outdoor meters don't require meter readers and can be turned off by firefighters during emergencies.

"Previously, you'd have to wait for the gas company to come and do that," Turner said.

Some 99 percent of installation is by directional boring about 3 feet underground, not digging trenches, he added.

"Without doubt, it will cause disruption," Reeside said. "However, it's necessary."

"This is sometimes like taking medicine," Turner said. "But, once we put this in, you may never have to see us again in your lifetime."

### Method

The utility upgraded nearly 200 miles of pipe

in the metropolitan area during the last two years.

Work occurs in three steps:

◆ a contractor lays mains, usually between curbs and sidewalks,

◆ DTE employees, usually working 10 to a team, run individual feeder lines from mains to houses, plus move meters outside and, lastly,

◆ contractors repair damage, usually within two weeks.

Residents will be notified of work at the house 60 days in advance by letter followed by door hangers.

"We will make arrange-

ments with residents that are out of town," Turner said.

### Restoration

"DTE will fully repair damage that may occur while moving the natural gas meter outside of the home," according to a company bulletin.

"If we damage it, we fix it," Turner said.

The pledge applies to everything from turf, sprinkler systems, electric dog fences, paving and so on.

"We do our best to avoid trees," Turner said. "We've never had to cut down a tree."

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## 6A | OPINION

## Grosse Pointe News

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In Memory of Elizabeth Soby

## GROSSE POINTE NEWS MISSION STATEMENT

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

## OUR VIEW

## 'Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus'

Dear Editor —

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.' Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon  
115 West Ninety-Fifth Street

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

"Is There a Santa Claus?" reprinted from the Sept. 21, 1897, issue of *The New York Sun*.

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## Pure Grosse Pointe

The Grosse Pointe Lake Shore Chorus caroled its way around town last Friday night, Dec. 16, including a stop at Watermark Restaurant in St. Clair Shores. While they sang, they passed around a can to collect donations for Kids on the Go.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

I SAY By Mary Anne Brush

## The unexpected gift of Christmas

The first package arrived on our doorstep a week or so before Christmas. It was wrapped in plain tissue paper. Inside there was no card or gift tag, just an empty wooden crèche.

We had dinner guests that night, so I set the crèche aside and forgot about it. The next night another tissue-wrapped package appeared at the front door. This time it was an angel. Again, no note or explanation accompanied it. By this time my husband, three children and I were intrigued. Each evening we decided to watch for the arrival of the next package. We lurked at the windows, hoping to catch the culprit in the act.

It was like a magic

trick when you tell yourself to pay attention, but in that one moment you're distracted, the magic happens.

After a few days, the kids set up a stakeout from the second floor windows. Other than the sight of our friends' van on our block one evening, there was no sign of who our mystery gift givers were or why they had chosen us as their beneficiaries. Our amateur sleuths eventually gave up.

By this time, there was a certain predictability to the arrival of each figure to be added to the nativity scene on our dining room buffet. Following the angel, the shepherds appeared, then the wise men. We knew after Joseph arrived to expect Mary.

On Christmas Eve, our children were too caught up in the excitement of Christmas preparations to think about the crèche in the dining room. After they had gone to bed, my husband and I stayed up to assemble gifts under the tree and fill stockings so burdened with treasures we had to lay them on the hearth rather than hang them from the mantelpiece. My husband had finished eating the burger he cooked for Santa each year — a practice he inherited from his own father under the theory Santa was tired of all those Christmas cookies. The kids had written their Santa letters, left carrots on a plate for the reindeer and set a glass of milk for jolly old St. Nick by

the fireplace — all traditions they maintained well past the age of belief in any Santa other than the ones who wrapped their gifts and paid the bills.

My husband had just written Santa's response to the kids — the finishing touch to make Christmas morning complete — when I remembered. I opened the front door to a blast of cold air. There on the doorstep was what I knew was the final offering. I guessed what was inside before I even unwrapped the tissue.

And when I opened it, what I found was expected and unexpected at the same time.

Brush is a Grosse Pointe News staff writer. Reach her at [mbrush@grossepointenews.com](mailto:mbrush@grossepointenews.com)

GUEST OPINION By Dave Robinson

## Be prepared for the holidays

My mother had a saying, "Christmas comes the same time every year — two weeks too early!" She was an elementary school teacher and there were always parties, programs, pageants and presents for which to prepare. This year seems no different. December's calendar fills up pretty quickly and the big day will be upon us in no time.

Every year I read reports of Christmas tragedy in the form of house fires. Make sure your home and family are safe this season by following a few simple safety rules. Inspect your Christmas tree lighting for worn wiring, overloaded circuits and if you are still using those screw-in bulbs, make sure there are no broken bulbs or exposed filaments. One of every three Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems. Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are likely to be serious. On average one of every 40 reported home

Christmas tree structure fires results in a death compared to an average of one death per 142 total reported structure fires. A heat source too close to the tree causes one of six reported Christmas tree fires.

More than half — 56 percent — of home candle fires are a result of something flammable situated too close to the flame. There is a significant higher percentage of candle-related fires in December than other months of the year.

If you're still putting up a real tree every year, make sure you keep it well-watered. If you've ever burned your tree after Christmas, you know how fast it can go up.

Here are a few more tips from the experts:

◆ Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.

◆ Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents.

◆ Get rid of your Christmas tree

immediately after the holiday.

◆ Connect no more than three strings of mini lights or no more than 50 lights of the screw-in variety.

Oh and one more thing, keep your fire extinguisher handy. It takes less than 30 seconds for a dry tree to go up in flames — no time to run out to the garage and grab it.

Winter is statistically the worst for home fires. Cold weather coupled with holiday decorations and over-burdened heating and electrical systems boost the danger-factor significantly. Take care of your family this year and walk through your home with fresh eyes, looking for anything that may cause a fire. Let's keep our families and homes safe this holiday season. Here's wishing you and yours a very merry Christmas.

Robinson is the postmaster in Bandon, Ore., and author of "Disaster Prep For The Rest Of Us." Previous columns may be found at [disasterprepdave.blogspot.com](http://disasterprepdave.blogspot.com).

## DEAL:

Continued from page 5A

except they bring a 12-person entourage with cameras and everything," Steiner said. "Mike's a really genuine guy. Frank's a little harder to get to know."

Steiner sold them about \$12,000 worth of collectibles the pair resells at stores in Iowa and Nashville.

"I had a model locomotive and coal tender — it's about 6 feet long and 200 pounds — handmade by a tool-and-die maker," Steiner said. "Frank loved that train. I wanted \$7,500 for it. He paid about \$6,800."

An intriguing backstory boosted the value of a World War I German army helmet to \$2,200. "What made it unique was a battle scene painted on the front," Steiner said. "An American had seen the

German soldier killed while wearing the helmet. He took off the guy's helmet and painted a rendition of how he'd seen him killed. Mike bought that."

Some things were too quirky or sentimental to part with.

"I have a taxidermied, shoulder-mount of a giraffe," Steiner said. "I told them no."

Much of Steiner's early collection came as castoffs.

"When people are moving, there's always something they don't want to drag along," he said. "Years ago, before collecting really took off, people used to give this stuff away."

Mike and Frank tried to buy his 1929 Hollywood spotlight.

"I said, no, that's from my first moving job on Lakeshore," Steiner said. "A lady didn't want to lug it and gave it to me."

**REPORTS:**

*Continued from page 5A*

hours later, another detainee informed them the Roseville man was hiding suspected drugs in his rectum.

The Roseville man denied it but, upon a trip to St. John Hospital & Medical Center for a computerized tomography scan and laxatives, he was arrested for possessing 1 gram of cocaine.

**Stay out**

Two teenage boys want what they can't have, namely, anything to do with the Grosse Pointe public schools.

Both are banned from the system, which is why they were arrested shortly before 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, for trespassing in the Grosse Pointe South High School choir room, according to police.

Cited were a 17-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods resident and a 16-year-old companion from Harper Woods.

They were on campus while South hosted boys and girls basketball games against Grosse Pointe North.

"School officials stated (both teens) were made aware multiple times in the past not to enter any Grosse Pointe public school property," reported the arresting officer.

**Bad move**

Stumbling and smelling of alcohol, a drunken 16-year-old Grosse Pointe Park male figured he'd ask a Grosse Pointe South High School administrator directions to the rest room during a basketball game on campus shortly after 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, according to police.

The administrator summoned public safety officers.

They logged the boy's .178 percent blood alco-

hol level, released him to his father and prepared to mail him a citation for being a minor in possession of alcohol.

**Package stolen**

Two sets of tracking software support a woman's report of the theft of a package delivered last week to her residence in the 300 block of Hillcrest.

She ordered a \$15 black Tablet cover from Staples, which records a UPS driver delivering the item to her house at 5:32 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14.

She verified the shipper's tracking number, which lists the package delivered to the front porch.

**Not too bright**

A patrolman investigated a 26-year-old Detroit woman on east-bound Mack near Bournemouth Drive shortly before 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, for driving a 2009 Pontiac Grand Prix with high beams.

"(She said) her standard headlights are not bright enough," reported the officer.

He arrested her for unlicensed driving, violating a suspended operator's license and possessing an open bottle of Gallo Sweet Peach wine in the passenger compartment.

He also noted her record of possessing an invalid license plate and fraudulent auto insurance and summoned a tow truck to haul the Grand Prix to an impound yard.

"At the sight of the tow truck, (she) became upset and began to yell," said the officer. "She claimed she had not done anything wrong and even said it was because she was black."

**Standout**

It's not easy getting

noticed behind the wheel of a tan 2003 Chrysler Town & Country, except when speeding on east-bound Ridge near Fisher during slick conditions at 2:13 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14.

"Road conditions were snowy and icy from recent snowfall," reported a public safety officer.

The male driver, 35, of Detroit, was arrested for having a .19 percent blood alcohol level, more than twice the legal maximum to operate a motor vehicle in Michigan.

"(He) said he came from a bar on Kercheval but could not recall the name," said the officer.

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

**Grosse Pointe Shores**

**Season of peace**

No updates to the public safety blotter.

—Brad Lindberg  
*Report crime to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.*

**Grosse Pointe Park**

**'Tis the season**

Once again, thefts of newly-delivered packages from front porches dominate the reports. Thursday, Dec. 8, a box containing UGG boots, valued at \$130, was taken from a porch in the 1200 block of Cadieux. Saturday, Dec. 10, a package containing a Zingerman's Deli Triple Coffeecake, valued at \$100, was taken from a porch in the 1200 block of Berkshire. And Thursday, Dec. 15, a package containing several kitchen items, valued at \$163, was taken from a porch in the 500 block of

Lakepointe. However, this time a witness saw the theft and reported two young black males leaving the scene in a small brown 4-door vehicle. Police ask residents to report any suspicious activity immediately.

**Attempted UDAA**

A witness reported a rather odd sight at 3:45 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19, alerting police to a blue mini van pushing a 2016 Ford Explorer down Lakepointe and across Mack. Police intervened, the minivan fled and the Explorer was recovered.

**Cash taken**

Sometime between 1 and 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, an unknown person took \$27 from a purse while the victim was in a business in the 15000 block of East Jefferson.

**Suspect arrested**

A 49-year-old male was arrested at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, after being seen checking car door handles in the area of St. Paul and Lakepointe.

—Kathy Ryan

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

**Grosse Pointe Woods**

**He said, he said**

Police were called to a house on Hidden Lane at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, by a 62-year-old male who said his 23-year-old stepson assaulted him after he was asked to help clean up the house. A shoving match ensued during which the man said the stepson tried to choke him. Police continue to investigate.

**Paget Court fire**

A fire that broke out in a house on Paget Court

approximately 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, quickly went to two alarms. The elderly homeowner reported to police he had attempted to put out the fire on his own, but was not able. He fled to a neighbor's house and the neighbor called public safety. There were no injuries, but the homeowner's dog perished in the fire. Public Safety Director John Kosanke urges residents to never attempt to put out a fire by themselves, rather to leave the house and call 911. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

—Kathy Ryan

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



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## AHEE bracelet sale benefits heart patients

Edmund T. Ahee jewelers and the St. John Providence Foundation are partnering to help patients living with heart disease.



"This is a great opportunity to find a perfect holiday gift and to help make a difference in the life of a patient in need," said Jean Meyer, president and CEO of St. John Providence.

AHEE has created a heart-shaped, sterling silver bracelet available for \$60 in the gift shops of all St. John Providence hospitals and at the AHEE store in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Proceeds from the sale of the bracelet go to the Edmund T. Ahee Cardiac Patient Assistance Fund, a mission-based program for patients at St. John Providence hospitals who need extra support.

The Ahee family is a longtime supporter of St. John Providence. In 2005, to aid fundraising efforts for St. John Hospital & Medical Center's cardiovascular research and create awareness of the hospital's comprehensive cardiovascular services, AHEE donated 300 sterling silver heart necklaces to the "One Heart Can Make All the Difference" campaign.

## FORD:

Continued from page 3A

operations of being a much more sustainable, green site," Mullins said. "We will set the example that a historic site can do this."

The projects are all new construction as the current visitor center, built in the 1980s, will be torn down. The administration building will be located adjacent to the visitor center.

"There will be a plaza in between the two, so as visitors come into the parking area, they can see the cove, the lake, that great view," Mullins said.

The Ford House estate will be open throughout construction and daily tours, grounds walks and other activities will continue. Only food service

will be suspended during construction, Mullins said.

Once construction begins, visitor arrival will temporarily be located in the historic garage, with nearby parking provided.

"We don't anticipate any disruption," Mullins said. "We will still continue with the major events that we do. We just have to approach these things creatively."

Staff offices are being relocated straightaway, "into any available space we can put them," Mullins said.

"We are using traditional methods (to pay for it)," she continued. "We are not doing a campaign for this."

The architect estimates the visitor center will open during the 2018 holiday season and the administration building will open late winter,



RENDERING BY SMITHGROUPJJR

The new visitor center will include outdoor seating at the Cotswold Café.

early spring 2019.

"We want the visitor center back online to accommodate for the holiday season," Mullins said.

The plans are the first major update to the estate in 25 years and the largest new construction since the home was built.

"The addition of these two buildings is an important step in furthering the vision my

grandparents, Eleanor and Edsel, had for their estate," said Edsel B. Ford II, chairman of the Ford House board of trustees. "This phase of the master plan will provide us with the opportunity to interpret the entire home. Continuing their legacy in a sustainable manner is a top priority for the board and for the entire Ford family."

## AHEE:

Continued from page 2A

ness. "By the time we went to school to be tested, it was kind of easy for us," he said.

Edmund Ahee passed away in 1999, but not before leaving a lasting impression on family, friends and strangers.

"During all his years he was tremendously philanthropic," John Ahee said. "I knew he was generous, but at his wake I learned just how much. Even when he was really struggling, he always would give more than he'd receive. It's our goal to carry that on."

"Thirty-five years ago my father came to us — I was 18," he continued. "He said, 'Thank God

you will never not know where your next meal is coming from, but I did. My friend stood in line at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. I want you to have an event.'"

The first Capuchin event was organized at the Roostertail and raised \$8,000. Thirty-five years and several venues later, the Capuchin Souper Summer Celebration takes place each summer at Comerica Park. It's the only event for which Comerica closes the park, Ahee said. Several thousand people attend and, to date, it has raised more than \$6 million for the Capuchins.

Additional funds from the event established the Edmund T. Ahee Endowment Fund for Hunger, which supports



COURTESY PHOTO

The Ahee landmark store formerly was a De Soto car dealership, redesigned in 1968 by Bettejean Ahee into a jewelry store.

the Capuchins as well. The endowment is set up to perpetuate funds raised.

"We all have a great passion for the Capuchins and what they do," Ahee said. "A week doesn't go by that someone doesn't tell us about

their blessings from the Capuchins or Fr. Solanus."

The Capuchins are just one of many charities with which the jewelry store is involved. Edmund Ahee believed strongly in giving back to the community and his family has wholeheartedly carried on that tradition.

During 70 years of business, the Ahees have accomplished numerous points of pride. In 1968, Edmund Ahee purchased a large collection of jewelry from the estate of Matilda Dodge Wilson, one of the most influen-

tial women in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1971, a workshop was created with an in-house team of award-winning master craftsmen. In 1985, the Ahees brought in a piano and pianist to perform at the store. In 1987, the Ahees were selected to create jewelry for Pope John Paul II's visit to Detroit.

The store was named Michigan Retailer of the Year in 2001 and was honored among America's Best Jewelers by The Wall Street Journal and National Jewelers Magazine. In 2013, Edmund T. AHEE jewelers was the first retailer to receive the Five Star Diamond Award for excellence in luxury products and services. It also was the first to receive the Landmark Award and Legacy Award for its beautification efforts.

"We have a partnership with the largest firm of De Beers in the world," John Ahee said. "We distribute throughout the United States and get stones direct from the mines."

In 2015, Edmund T. AHEE jewelers was acknowledged as one of America's Coolest Stores and Bettejean Ahee received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

To celebrate its 70th anniversary, the Ahee family — all 60 immediate relatives — hope to take a trip next summer. John Ahee said it's nice all the generations get along, at work and outside the store's walls.

"We're really blessed," he said. "The whole family really gets along. I attribute that to my mom and dad."

"I'm the youngest of seven, six of them boys," he continued. "Fourteen of the 21 grandchildren are boys and 13 of the 15 great-grandchildren are boys. The family name will be around for a while."

The store likely will be around for a while, too, if Edmund Ahee's superstitions are accurate.

"My father was good at auctions," John Ahee said. "He bought a cash register at an auction in the late '40s. He was superstitious. Business started picking up, so he kept it. Seventy years later, this is the cash register we use."

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## Funds support programming, growth

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

A successful fundraising gala will help the Full Circle Foundation develop a new program and continue to support 11 ongoing programs for people with disabilities.

The foundation's Glitz & Glam event at the Roostertail in late October cleared \$115,000 for the organization, which provides opportunities for special-needs participants ages 18 to 26 to become productive and contributing members of the community. "It was unbelievably successful," Full Circle Founder Mary Fodell said of the event, which included live and silent auctions, dinner, music by Nick Kuhl and the Gang, dancing, singing by some program participants and a fashion show. North Shore Valet in St. Clair Shores donated tuxedos and dresses were supplied by Full Circle and Gratzi Custom Clothier in St. Clair Shores.

A cake contest featuring entries from various bakeries rounded out the night.

The event was a sell-out.

"Everytime we have an event, the only complaint is we need to get a bigger place," Fodell said.

The gala, chaired by Debbie Graziani, took a year to plan.

"Debbie Graziani did a fabulous job of helping share the message, mission and vision of Full Circle — what we have done, what we're trying to do and what we hope to do in the future," said Sue Banner, administrative coordinator.



From left, Sue Kopf, Full Circle founder Mary Fodell and Full Circle Administrative Coordinator Sue Banner.

Debbie had committees for everything to oversee every detail. We met monthly to make sure everyone was on target."

The committees' hard work paid off as the event was not only a financial success, but an exciting evening for Full Circle participants. "This is a huge part of their life," Fodell said. "These kids were so excited."

The foundation plans to use the funds to grow its programming. The problem, however, is the limited space in which to grow.

"We need a bigger building," Fodell said, adding she'd like to at least double Full Circle's current 6,000 square feet. "I'd love a full-size laundry, full-size florist, activities room, a place to exercise."

With no immediate plans to move, Fodell said she does hope to get job coaches for Full Circle programs, which range from its Upscale Resale store and Edible Garden to laundry, shredding and floral services.

One program just getting off the ground is

Team 26, which will take the lead after participants age out of the program.

"We're in the process of formalizing it, who it services, how it's serviced," Banner said. "It's developed but continuing to evolve .... Our goal is to help kids develop microenterprises."

She explained some participants have college degrees and can't find jobs. Through Team 26, they'll be able to use their skill sets to develop viable businesses for themselves.

"We're trying to get them launched, not stay here forever," Fodell said. "We're trying to find what they're good at or what they want to be good at."

Finding ways to sustain its current programs is always a priority, Banner said.

"It's a big challenge," she said. "As kids leave the school district, it's on us. We don't have current staffing to support all 12 programs. Keeping the store running is a big, big job. Everything else evolved from that."

For example, Banner and Fodell said while the laundry program is growing and they could purchase more washers and dryers to meet the need, they have no space for the extra equipment.

"All the programs we want to grow, but we can only do that with the right support," Banner said.

Both agreed the support the organization gets from the community is amazing.

"This community is very deep," Fodell said. "They're starting to know about us. We're good for the community. These kids, this organization is powerful to have here. It isn't offered in other places. It's important that they grow up here, live here and be a part of things here."

Added Banner, "That's why microenterprises are so important — so they can work here and be a part of the community .... This is a great way for 18- to 26-year-olds to be off campus and going to school and working in the community."



Above left, Yarnell Waller sings accompanied by classroom assistant Nick Raymond. Below, Full Circle students, from left, Caitlin McLoughlin, Byron Howard and Annie Kellett.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTINE HATHAWAY

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Top, event chairwoman Debbie Graziani and her husband, Bob. Above, honorary chairs Beline and Tony Obeid.

**2B | COMMUNITY**

# AREA ACTIVITIES

**BNI**

Business Network International meets 7 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23, 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 the following blood drives:

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, St. John Hospital & Medical Center, 22101 Mack, Detroit.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

**Retreat**

"An Evening Retreat with Michael Fronczak: Exploring the Peace Within" takes place 6 to 9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 2, at The Current, 24026 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. Cost is \$49 and includes yoga, meditation and answers to questions. Fronczak is visiting from Sri Lanka, where he facilitates a retreat center. Call Marla Ruhana at (586) 801-4701.

**GPAA**

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association offers a drawing and painting studio with Edward Duff 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 3 to 31. Duff assists students on current drawings and paintings. Register at [grossepointeartcenter.org](http://grossepointeartcenter.org).

The GPAA's exhibit, "Joy and Wonder," is shown through Friday, Jan. 6, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. It features 55 pieces from 26 artists. Call (313) 881-3454 or visit [grossepointeartcenter.org](http://grossepointeartcenter.org).

**Ecumenical Breakfast**

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets 7:45 a.m. Friday, Jan. 6, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. John Prost of WMTV speaks. Reservations are not required; all are welcome. Breakfast is \$7. For more information, call (313) 882-5330.

**DSO**

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents the music of Beethoven and Schubert, featuring conductor Daniel Blendulf and violinist Benjamin Beilman, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods. The concert is part of the DSO's William Davidson Neighborhood Concert Series. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased online at [dso.org](http://dso.org) or by calling (313) 576-5111.

**Beaumont**

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe hosts "Let's Be Smoke Free Together" 5 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 9 to 30, at the Beaumont Medical Center, 25631 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores. Cost is \$50. For more information, call (800) 633-7377.

**ASK THE EXPERTS** By Beth Walsh-Sahutske M.A., L.P.C.

## The benefits of taking a gap year

**Q: My daughter has some friends who graduated from her high school and took a year off before going to college and now she is interested in exploring this idea. After all of this college admissions pressure, am I crazy to consider allowing her to take a break from formal education?**

### The Family Center

ASK THE EXPERTS articles

**A:** The concept that your daughter is referencing is called "gap year." It almost always is concentrated on a combination of education, service and personal growth. Such programs have been encouraged by highly selective colleges and Ivy League institutions like Princeton and Harvard the last 40 years. There is a growing body of evidence that it is actually preferable for many students to build this interim into their academic pro-

gram for the benefits of personal experience, cultural exposure, life balance and focus. Whether a student is working on environmental conservation or developing a social media technology application, the gap year provides an opportunity to expand their perspective and gain direction that gives the college years meaning and focus. During a gap year, students take a semester or a full academic year away from the traditional college classroom to have some life experience like international travel, service programs, work/internship, academic immersion and more. Students may explore an entrepreneur-

ial interest or they might just explore the world. There are many reputable organizations with long histories. To research options, I would recommend perusing [usagapyearfairs.org/](http://usagapyearfairs.org/).

Whenever possible, attend a gap year fair. Similar to a college fair, one can hear speakers talk about the benefits and considerations of taking a gap year as well as visit with representatives of various programs. Locally, Rochester Community Schools is hosting a gap year fair 6 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25. Most colleges will defer admission for a year if the student chooses this path, but be sure to check with individual colleges for requirements of deferral.

Beth Walsh-Sahutske M.A., L.P.C., is chairwoman of the counseling

department at Grosse Pointe South High School where she is in her ninth year as a counselor and 18th as an educator. She has guest lectured at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University and is the mother of four. Walsh-Sahutske may be reached at (313) 432-3522.

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](http://familycenterweb.org), call (313) 432-3832, email [info@familycenterweb.org](mailto:info@familycenterweb.org) or write to: The Family Center, 20090 Morning-side Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

## Ford family fills tall order at Detroit Zoo

Longtime Detroit Zoo supporters Cynthia and Edsel Ford II of Grosse Pointe Farms are sticking their necks out for the benefit of the giraffes at the Detroit Zoo with a \$1 million gift which will pay for an expansion of the animals' indoor habitat.

"There have been so many significant improvements made at the zoo in recent years and our family is happy for the opportunity to foster that growth," said Cynthia Ford, who serves on the Detroit Zoological Society Board of Directors.

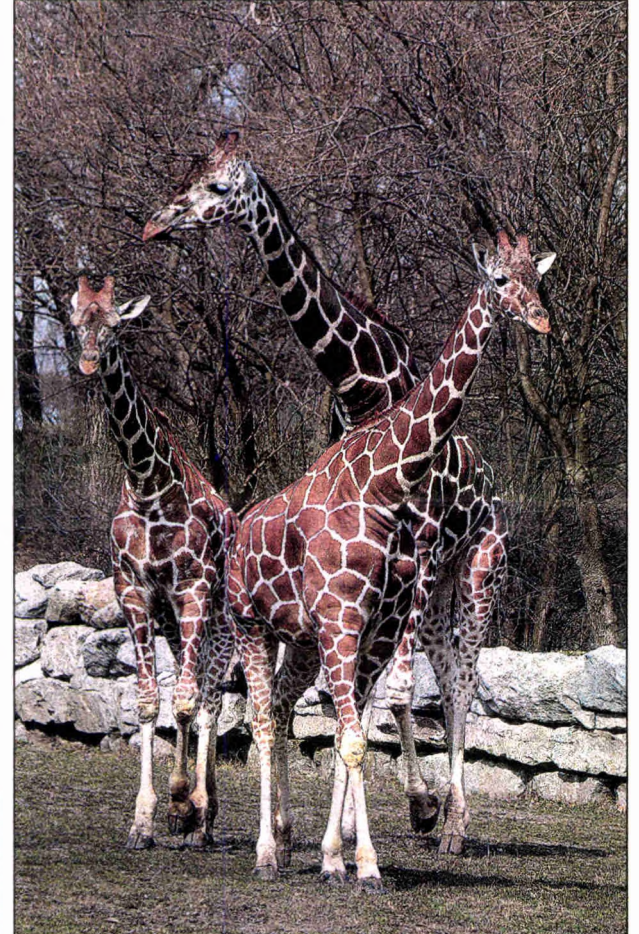
The Detroit Zoo is home to four reticulated giraffes, including 9-year-old male, Jabari,

and 7-year-old female, Kivuli. They are parents to 2-year-old male, Mpenzi, and 4-month-old female, Zawadi, both born at the Detroit Zoo.

"We have a special fondness for these graceful, elegant animals," said Edsel Ford II. "This growing family needs a larger home and we were drawn to the idea of creating an environment where they can all gather in one space."

Renovations will double the giraffes' interior space, including the addition of a large area for the entire herd to be together. The work is expected to be completed by late spring.

"Cynthia and Edsel Ford have been extraor-



COURTESY PHOTO

Jabari, Kivuli and Mpenzi.

dinary supporters of the Detroit Zoo for many years and we are extremely grateful for this generous gift," said DZS Executive Director and CEO Ron Kagan. "There is growing conservation concern with wild giraffe populations."

The International Union for the

Conservation of Nature recently declared giraffes — the world's tallest land mammal — officially in danger of extinction. Giraffe numbers have plummeted in the wild by more than 40 percent in recent decades, resulting in the species moving to the "vulnerable" category on the IUCN Red List.

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**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Saturday, December 24, 2016  
4:00 pm, 6:00 pm & 12:00 Midnight

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Sunday, December 25, 2016  
10:00 am

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
Saturday, December 31, 2016  
4:00 pm

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
Sunday, January 1, 2017  
9:00 am & 11:00 am

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**December 18th**

- 9 and 11 am - Children's Christmas Pageant "The Promise"
- 5 pm - Christmas Concert "The Christmas Story" (Free childcare for morning services)

**December 24th**

- 11:30 am, 5:00 pm (Family Service)
- 7:30 and 10:00 pm

Candlelight lessons and carols all services  
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**December 25th**

- 10:30 am - Service of Worship

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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.

## Gordon A. Snow

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Gordon A. Snow, 83, passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 16, 2016, surrounded by his family.

A graduate of Wayne State University, he retired in 1980 from the Detroit Police Department as detective lieutenant. He was a member of the VFW Bruce Post, St. Clair Shores.

He was a lifetime boater, fisherman and hunter.

Gordon was the beloved husband of Shirley for 60 years; loving father of Jennifer McGuire (J.T.), Elizabeth Nelson (Jack), Gordon (Shannon), Susanne Babcock (David), Paul, Julia O'Donnell (Brian), Christine Wujek (Michael), Laura Coraci (Joseph) and the late Lisa Kathleen. He was the proud grandfather of 17; great-grandfather of three and dear brother of William (the late Noreen).

A memorial service took place Dec. 19.

Donations may be made to the Salvation Army at [salvationarmy.org](http://salvationarmy.org).

Share a memory at [wujekcalcaterra.com](http://wujekcalcaterra.com).

## Cynthia Vanderpool

Cynthia Vanderpool, nee Cline, passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2016, from cancer. She was 61.

She was born Valentine's Day, 1955. She was the beloved wife of John, daughter of Charlie and the late Peggy Cline, sister of Ken Cline (Pat), Bill Cline (Laurie), Charlie Cline (Sarah) and Kathy Vanderpool (Bob). She had many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Cynthia enjoyed a successful career in graphic arts where her creativity and humor allowed her to flourish. Her passion for Halloween was evident from the costumes she would construct from scratch every year and kept her friends and family wondering what fun things they could look forward to next.

Some of her best adventures were sailing in the Caribbean, scuba diving and flying small airplanes. She loved computers, roller coasters and anything Star Trek. Her repeated encounters with cancer would temporarily knock her down, but she always came back with a strong will and a positive attitude. She is deeply missed.

A private interment was held Dec. 10. A memorial to celebrate Cynthia's life will be held in 2017 at a later time.

## Richard Roy Dossin

Richard Roy Dossin, 90, of Grosse Pointe Woods, died Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016.

Richard "Dick" Dossin was the loving husband of Elaine Dossin who passed away in September. He is survived by Marlena Dossin Hanlon (Kevin), daughter of his former late wife, Ellen Bery Dossin; daughters, JoAnne Wyckhuys (Allan), Janet Block (Dennis) and Judy Dellinger (Calvin); grandchildren, Elizabeth, Kaitlin, Andrew, Robyn, Renee, Rachelle, Jeremy, Lindsay, Amy and Christopher and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his dearest brother, Robert (Francine) and twin sister, Dolores (Robert). He also is survived by his favorite dog companion, Riley.

He was born Oct. 26, 1926, in Detroit, to Roy L. and Mary (Elizabeth Link) Dossin, and graduated from Grosse Pointe High School, where he was voted "best dressed" student in his high school graduating class of 1945. In February 1945, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Korea, where he was honorably discharged as sergeant and returned to Detroit to attend Detroit Business School. He then entered his father's business and upon graduation began working for Dossin Food Products (Dossin's Pepsi Cola).

The Dossin family was philanthropic and sponsored many causes in Detroit, including the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle. Here remains their hydroplane, Miss Pepsi, winner of the 1952 Gold Cup. Miss Pepsi was the first hydroplane to reach more than 100 miles per hour.

Dick was a family man and enjoyed his time with family and friends. He was involved with the Grosse Pointe Lions Club, joining in the 1960s. He served the offices of president, vice president, lieutenant governor and director of club. In his 50 years of membership, he personally raised more than \$250,000 to help the blind and underserved. He was a lifelong member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, enjoyed golf, tennis and time spent on his boats, "Moby Dick" and "PepsElane."

He was a member of the Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club, lifelong parishioner of St. James

Lutheran Church and a longtime friend of the Kitchen family and supporter of the Thomas and Gloria Kitchen Foundation.

Dick will be remembered and missed by his family and friends.

A funeral service was held Dec. 21.

Donations may be made to the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, 100 The Strand, Detroit, MI 48207.

## John A. Kohlberg

Longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident John Anthony Kohlberg, 88, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2016, while at ShorePointe Nursing Center in St. Clair Shores.

John was born July 1, 1928, to Pauline and Rudolph Kohlberg. He grew up in Cranston, R.I., where he attended St. George's School. It was during his childhood that John's love of fishing and music was cultivated. He became an accomplished pianist. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in German Studies from Bowdoin College of Brunswick, Maine, in 1952. After graduation, he entered the U.S. Army and was a physical fitness instructor during his military career.

John met the love of his life, Nancy Wheeler, while on a business trip in Chicago. She didn't think she would hear from him again, but as he often told friends and family, he "knew a good thing when he saw it" and surprised her with a phone call the next day. They married in Nancy's home town of Omena, in October 1954. John's life was complete as he had Nancy, fishing and music. They moved to Grosse Pointe Farms in June 1971.

John was an independent commercial insurance agent. He enjoyed combining his salesmanship and love of fishing to "cement the deal," much to the enjoyment of his clients. He handcrafted more than 400 custom fishing rods over the years and made his own lures. His fishing adventures led to two appearances on the Mort Neff television program "Michigan Outdoors." He and Nancy enjoyed their membership at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, where they made many lasting friendships.

John is survived by his sister, Susan (Kohlberg) Lavan of Harpswell, Maine; nephews, Jonathan, Daniel and Timothy Lavan and niece, Joanna Lavan.

He was predeceased by his wife of 60 years, Nancy, and his parents.

No formal services are planned.

Donations may be made to the St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church Music Enrichment Fund, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS), 26 Peterboro, Detroit, MI 48201.



Gordon A. Snow



Cynthia Vanderpool



Richard Roy Dossin

## Marjorie Esther Dallas Kammer

Marjorie "Mickie" Esther Kammer (nee Dallas) of Grosse Pointe Park, beloved wife of the late Donald Arthur Kammer, daughter of William Roderick and Ethel Maude (nee Macqueen) Dallas, passed away peacefully Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016, after a two-year battle with dementia.

She is survived by her beloved daughters, Cynthia Ann (the late Eric Clark), Kristen Lynn Kammer and Nancy Elizabeth (Steven Wildern); loving sister, Victoria Eunice George; grandchildren, Nathaniel, Tyler (Malorie) and Caitlyn Clark and Harper and Dante Wildern; great-granddaughter, Nola Clark, as well as many cherished nieces and nephews.

From childhood to the mid-1960s, Marjorie was a member of Central Methodist Church, Detroit, where she was baptized, sang in the youth choir and was married and where the seeds for Peace and Justice Concerns were planted and nurtured for the family. As a student first of Mason school and later Grosse Pointe High School, she developed her love of arts and her skill as an award-winning athlete in field hockey and tennis and, most life changing, where she met and fell in love with Don, himself a four-letter athlete.

During World War II, Mickie worked for the records department while Don served in the Pacific (Okinawa). When the family moved to Lexington, they joined and became active in the Methodist church there. Marjorie was recruited by Principal Paul Geer to open a youth center in the former elementary school.

The family moved to Saginaw in the late 1960s where Mickie and Don met people who became lifelong friends through their association with the local anti-war group, Peace Watch, the schools, their neighbors, as well as in First Presbyterian Church where she worked to improve living conditions for migrant workers. Mickie also was involved several years later in a community-building effort known as Bridging the Gap, bringing awareness to the need for connecting a divided city. Marjorie worked hard to save Bliss Park from being lost to development; located across the street from Saginaw General Hospital where she fulfilled a 20-year career at the reception desk.

When she retired, Mickie moved to Glassboro, N.J., to be closer to her daughter



John A. Kohlberg



Marjorie Kammer

and grandchildren. It was here she won the Volunteer of the Year Award from People Against Spousal Abuse and was an active member of First Presbyterian, teaching Sunday school, a service she embraced at every church where she was a member.

Coming full circle back to Grosse Pointe Park, she continued her life path, enriched with her commitment to family, friends, social justice and faith, her ongoing service to God guiding her daily. She continued her humanitarian work, as an active member of Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian, serving on various committees, teaching, baking, crafting for a cause, reaching out to new visitors, decorating, cleaning, working with children in the Arts Camp, Bible school and with the Presbyterian Women of Detroit, all well into her 90s.

Mickie worked on Habitat for Humanity houses, Pointes for Peace and participated in several Martin Luther King Day marches from the church of her youth, Central Methodist. At Trombly Elementary, she

was a lunchtime/playground supervisor.

She loved her community of metro Detroit and supported its many gems, like Belle Isle, where she participated in the annual clean-up day. A devoted reader, she read the entire Free Press every day, often at the Ewald Library. She considered the librarians to be among her many friends. She never missed a Noel Night, loved the arts, music and theater and the parks where she could bike to swim, take a class, read by the lake, play with her Michigan grandkids or go to the movies. She stayed active within her community doing Jazzercise at SOC into her 90s. Mickie embodied the adage "bloom where you are planted." She often remarked how she loved life and she grabbed it with both hands throughout.

Marjorie donated her body to the University of Michigan, her final act of service.

A more comprehensive expression of her life story, suggested donations in her name and date of memorial service can be found at [ahpeters.com](http://ahpeters.com).



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8:30pm – Carol Prelude Service

9:00pm – Candlelight Solemn High Mass with St. John's professional choir

Christmas Day – 11 AM in the Chapel  
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8:00am Communion

10:00am Holy Communion

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**New Year's Changes**  
Obituaries are due by 3 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 30 for the  
Jan. 5, 2017 issue.

# 4B | CHURCHES

**PASTOR'S CORNER** By the Rev. Sean Motley

## We cannot remove Christ from Christmas

It is the Christmas season. We know Christmas is about the celebration of the incarnation of Jesus and looking forward to his return. There are great amounts of energy and money spent on this celebration. We have concerns about the level of commercialization of this holiday and that many people may be missing the true meaning of Christmas. We even see messages saying we must not remove Christ from Christmas, often excoriating the use of "Xmas" crossing out Christ, although the X represents the first letter of Christ in Greek.

Even though there is truth in the view much of our nation has lost sight that Christmas is not about Santa, not about purchasing every toy we can find, not about stuffing ourselves until we have to roll away from the table, we forget Christmas boldly declares God sent his only son into the world for our salvation. We cannot remove Christ from Christmas.

We cannot remove Christ from Christmas for we do not have the power to keep God from being God nor to keep Jesus from coming into this world to bring us forgiveness of our

sins and life eternal. Even if there should come a day when not one person glorifies God for the birth of the savior, for the awesome love of God for his creation, not one person worships God for this amazing grace and this greatest gift, Jesus still will be the son of God and Christ still will be in Christmas. Even if every voice is silent, then the stones themselves will sing out praise to the God of all creation. Nothing we can do will ever be able to take the Christ out of Christmas.

This is why we celebrate. On Christmas, we know there is no power in this world greater than the power of God. On Christmas, we are reminded that even though we have fallen short of the glory of God, even though our sins may be many, even though the world may not think much of us and we may even not think much of ourselves, the God of the universe, the creator of all things, the king of glory has come. Our savior, Jesus the Christ, has come into this world and is the light and life of all people. Jesus is and was and is to come.

Motley is the pastor of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**DEAR JEFF AND DEBRA**

## A holiday guide for family celebrations

**Q:** We now have two family members recovering from alcoholism — and a few more who probably should be. We always host a large family party over the holidays and wonder if we can offer something besides soft drinks and coffee for the non-drinkers?

**A:** Thoughtful people like you embody the spirit of the holidays. Family parties should be a time for celebration, but for newly-recovering alcoholics, they can be stressful and dangerous. Having some interesting alternatives to alcohol will not only make their lives easier, but these "great pretender" drinks also can encourage others to stay within their limits.

For many years, AAA Michigan published

"Great Pretenders" drink recipes for just this reason. Although it hasn't been published this year, you can find a previous edition here: bit.ly/2heHguW.

We also found a tasty drink called Golden Glow Punch at drinkmixer.com:

6 ounces orange juice concentrate  
6 ounces lemonade concentrate

1 quart chilled apple juice

2 quart chilled ginger ale

1 pint lemon sherbet or ice ring


Pour the concentrates and apple juice into the punch bowl. Stir the ginger ale into the bowl. Spoon in sherbet or add an ice ring. Serve immediately.

To make an ice ring, arrange thin citrus slices

in a 6-cup ring mold. Pour water into the mold to partially cover fruit. Freeze. When frozen, add water to fill mold three-quarters full. Freeze. Unmold and float fruit side up in punch bowl.

Everyone will enjoy these festive drinks and your thoughtfulness will be appreciated. Your sober friends and family members will notice the extra effort you've taken and your holiday spirit will really shine.

Jeff Jay and Debra Jay are the authors of the best-selling book, "Love First," and other titles. They live in Grosse Pointe Farms and have worked nationally with families for 30 years to overcome addiction. Learn more about their work at lovefirst.net.



# WORSHIP SERVICES

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

**VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**  
Saturday, December 24, 2016  
CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 4:00 P.M.

**FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**  
Sunday, December 25, 2016  
Concert at 11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve  
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12:00 A.M.  
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 8:30 A.M.  
AND AT 11:15 A.M.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY**  
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God  
Saturday, December 31, 2016  
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.  
Sunday, January 1, 2017  
MASS AT 8:30 A.M.  
AND 11:15 A.M.

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
Saturday, January 7, 2017  
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.  
- CONFIRMATION LITURGY  
Sunday, January 8, 2017  
MASS AT 8:30 A.M.  
AND 11:15 A.M.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson, just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall. (313) 822-2814 • stambrosechurch.net facebook.com/stambroseparish

**Let us exalt His name together**  
—Psalm 34:3

**December 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**10:30 AM**  
*Everyone welcome!*

**First Church of Christ, Scientist**  
282 Chalfonte Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms  
(next to Brownell Middle School)  
**313-884-7490**

**Grosse Pointe Congregational Church**  
(United Church of Christ)

**Christmas Eve Family Service 5:00pm**  
**Candlelight Service 11:00pm**

**Christmas Sunday 10:00am**  
**Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver**  
*An Open & Affirming Church*  
240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms  
313-884-3075  
www.gpccong.org



**Saint James Lutheran Church**  
170 McMillan Road (at Kercheval)  
Grosse Pointe Farms  
313.884.0511 • www.stjamesgp.org

**Christmas Eve**  
**5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist**  
with Special Music and Candle Lighting

**Christmas Day**  
**10:15 a.m. Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist**

**January 1**  
**10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

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

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10:45 am Christian Education  
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313.881.6670  
The Rev. Justin Ditrich





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[WWW.SSPPJESUIT.ORG](http://www.ssppjesuit.org)

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**Saturday, December 24th**  
**5:00pm**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**Sunday, December 25th**  
**12:00 Noon**

**NEW YEARS EVE**  
**Saturday, December 31st**  
**5:00pm**

**NEW YEARS DAY**  
**Sunday, January 1st**  
**11:00am & 7:30pm**

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# Balancing end-of-life caregiving with holiday celebrations

Caring for a seriously ill loved one is difficult any time of year. But the holidays can compound the stress as caregivers, especially those who mark the season in grand fashion, seek balance between the responsibilities of meeting their loved ones' needs and creating a memorable celebration.

Whether it's continuing with longtime traditions or introducing new ones, the keys to a meaningful holiday while facing end-of-life are to:

- ◆ avoid overwhelming your loved one by scaling activities to the realities of the situation;
- ◆ think outside the box if elaborate annual traditions are not feasible; and
- ◆ remember there is no right or wrong approach. "The most important point is to remember that the stress of caregiving may leave little energy for the grand celebrations families have held in the past — so it is perfectly acceptable to scale down or simplify to keep

it even more memorable," said Karen Monts, practice manager, counseling services for Hospice of Michigan.

Monts suggested considering such plans as:

- ◆ Opting for a family trip, if your loved one can travel;
- ◆ Donating as a family to your loved one's favorite cause;
- ◆ Dining together at a favorite restaurant;
- ◆ Focusing on faith traditions, attending a religious program together; or
- ◆ Creating keepsakes and reliving memories such as taking a family picture, creating a memory stone or recalling funny stories.

Monts also said if having all the decorative bells and whistles are an absolute must and your loved one has been "the 'king or queen' of decorating, consider recruiting the help of friends and extended family or hiring professional decorators."

Thinking outside the box also can include hosting your celebration or special event on a day other than the actual holiday to ensure your loved one can fully participate.

"It's important that family members continue to create memories with their loved ones," said Monts. "About 10 years ago, a patient's daughter decided to move up her wedding and held her ceremony in our facility between Thanksgiving and Christmas so that she could share the moment with her father. We helped plan the ceremony and one of our spiritual care coordinators officiated. That was the gift she gave him that holiday. He relaxed after the ceremony, happy because he believed she was safe and taken care of. He died the following week. Unique experiences like that resonate with families and allow the memories of a final holiday season with a loved one to be cherished rather than ignored.

"Many patients and families are incredibly hopeful, even at the end of life," Monts continued. "They expect to celebrate. Even if holiday plans don't materialize, families shouldn't feel guilty. There is hope in the planning."

In her 26 years in hospice care, Monts has learned many hospice patients want to "remember good relationships and the positive impact they've had on others." The holidays offer an opportunity for friends and family to share "how a loved one wants to be remembered and discuss that their life had — and still has — meaning."

Monts suggested families build lasting memories by interviewing each other. "There are profound understandings that come out of that process," she said.

There are many online resources to help get the conversation started. Story Corps — storycorps.org — is a site that

helps spark talks with patients, exploring such questions as:

What is your proudest moment?

How do you want to be remembered?

What is your most spiritual moment?

What are your thoughts about death and the afterlife?

Do you have any regrets or last wishes?

What advice do you have for me, my children or even children to come in our family?

Starting these conversations is typically the most difficult step in talking about sensitive and

intimate feelings and viewpoints. But once the ice is broken, these exchanges can produce tremendous rewards.

In addition to planning ahead, Monts believes the only other absolutes in celebrating the holidays when caring for a seriously ill loved one are to "remember the only 'should' is doing what is best for you and your family during this time and to simply enjoy the holidays with your loved one, no matter how you choose to celebrate."

For more information, call (888) 247-5701 or visit hom.org.

## CHURCH EVENTS

### First English

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, invites the community to its 10th annual Christmas

Tree Walk and Afternoon Tea noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28. Freewill donations and nonperishable food gifts for the pantry are accepted. Call (313) 884-5040 for reservations.

# WORSHIP SERVICES



**Grosse Pointe UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
An Official Welcoming Congregation  
211 Moross Rd.  
Grosse Pointe Farms  
886-2363

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
5:00 pm Family Service  
9:00 pm Candlelight Service  
11:15 pm Candlelight Service(Chapel)

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Worship Service  
11:00 am

**CHURCH SCHOOL**  
9:45 am 4 yrs. - 5th Grade  
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Rev. Sari Brown

**Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church**  
467 Fairford (at Morningside)  
Grosse Pointe Woods

**O Come, Let Us Adore Him Christmas Eve**  
4:00 pm, 4:15 pm (in gym), 6:00 pm, 11:00 pm  
Musical prelude begins at 10:30 pm  
Musicians from the Grosse Pointe Symphony

**Christmas Day**  
9:30 am and 11:30 am

**Mary, Holy Mother of God**  
Saturday, December 31: 4:00 pm  
Sunday, January 1: 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:30 am  
www.olsos.org (313) 884-5554

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11:00 a.m. - The Holy Communion with our Professional Choir

**Thursday Services of Holy Communion**  
12:10 p.m. - 12:35 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Services, December 24**  
7:30 & 11:00 p.m. Holy Communion Services  
No Services on Christmas Day

**The First Sunday After Christmas, January 1, 2017**  
8:30 a.m. - The Holy Communion  
11:00 a.m. - Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmas-Tide

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Grosse Pointe Woods  
(313) 884-5090  
www.christthekingpp.org

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

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

**Christmas Day Service**  
Sunday, December 25  
ONE Service with Holy Communion, 10:45 A.M.

**celebrate CHRISTMAS**

**Crosspointe Christian Church**  
Sundays at 9:30am & 11:00am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5:30pm  
www.YourC3.org

**FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
800 Vernier Road (Corner of Wedgwood)  
(313) 884-5040

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
5:00 p.m. Special Children's Time  
7:30 p.m. Festival Worship  
11:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**  
at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor  
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# 6B | COMMUNITY

## Belle Isle New Year's Eve Fun Run/Walk set

Fifth Third Bank presents the 47th annual Belle Isle New Year's Eve Family Fun Run/Walk at Belle Isle Park Saturday, Dec. 31. The children's fun run begins 3:30 p.m. and the 5K starts at 4 p.m.

Fifth Third Bank has sponsored the event the last 10 years. The host running club is the Downtown Runners and Walkers. Other sponsors include Hanson's Running Shop, Siegel Chiropractic, the

Governor's Council on Physical Fitness Health and Sports and Michigan Runner Magazine. Proceeds support Special Olympics Michigan.

"We cannot thank Fifth Third Bank enough for

being our presenting sponsor," said Jeanne Bocci, race director. "This race, which is the longest, continuously held running event in Michigan, has become a favorite holiday activity for multiple generations and our numbers are growing."

The event includes post-race refreshments, awards for the top three men and women in the 5K, trophies for every child who finishes the one-mile event and patches for registered Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Entry fees are \$15 for

children age 12 and younger and \$35 for ages 13 and older through Friday, Dec. 30. Adult fees increase to \$40 on race day. To register online or for more information, visit belleislefunrun.com. Online registration is accepted through Dec. 30.

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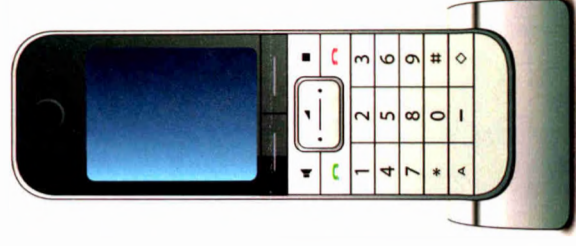
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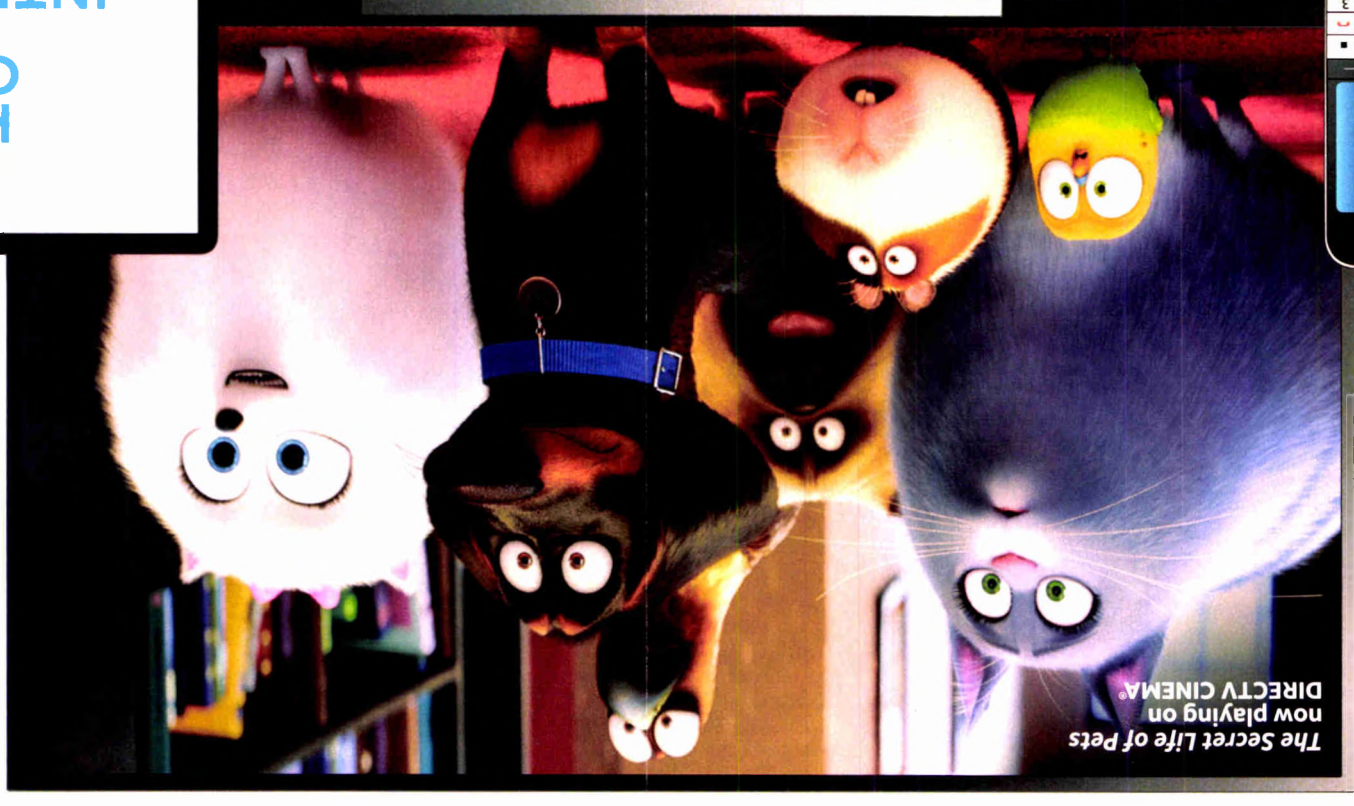


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# The CHRISTMAS Story

The Birth of Jesus Christ Luke 2:1-21

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The Gift of Jesus Christ Romans 5:8 and 1 Peter 3:18a

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God,

The Hope of Jesus Christ John 5:24

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

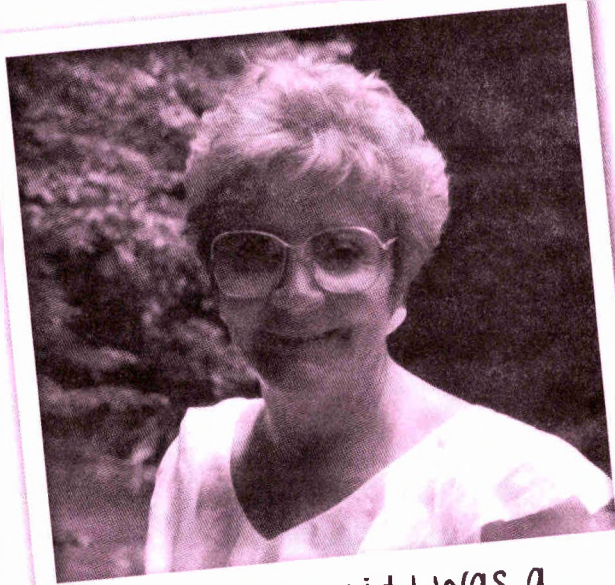
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<sup>1</sup> National Stroke Association, [www.strokeassociation.org](http://www.strokeassociation.org).

<sup>2</sup> Hackam DG, Karpral MK, et al. Most Stroke Patients Do Not Get a Warning: A Population-Based Cohort Study. Sept. 2009. *Neurology*, 73, 1074-1075.

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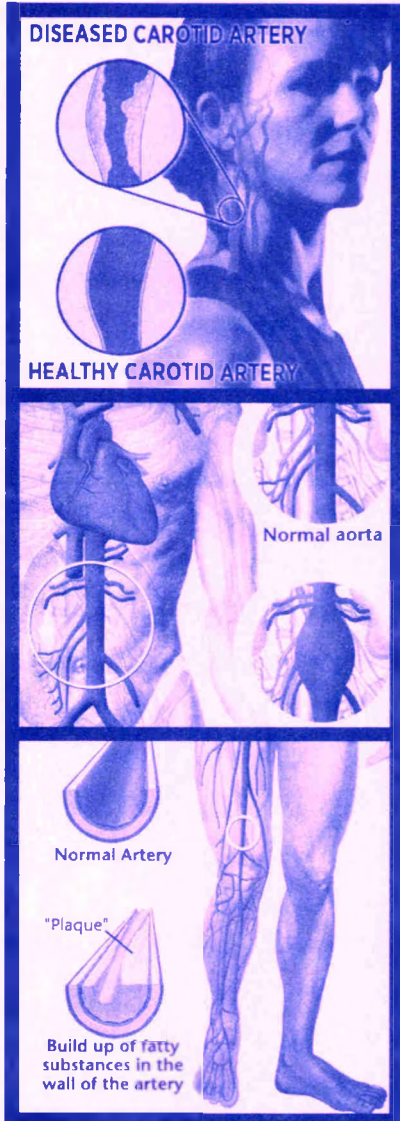
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# SPORTS

## HOCKEY

**Holiday tourneys**  
City rivals clash on the ice at McCann Ice Arena PAGE 2-3C

2C HOOPS, WRESTLING | 3C HOLIDAY CAMPS | 4C SWIMMING | 5-6C CLASSIFIEDS

### BASKETBALL

# North, South split hoops bonanza

## Solid first half lifts North

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North girls' basketball team made it two wins in a row over city rival Grosse Pointe South, winning 56-43 on the road last weekend.

"Before the start of the game I told the girls that the first four minutes of the game was going to be critical," North head coach Gary Bennett said. "Last year at South, the South girls had more energy right out of the gate and consequently built an early lead.

"When we stepped on the floor last night, we were focused and excited about playing. We played with purpose. I was very pleased that we shared the ball and found the most open person on the floor. It was clearly a team effort as we received contributions from all eight girls who played in the game.

"One thing that made me happy was that we played with a lot more patience on offense than we did in our loss to Utica Ford. South played much better in the second half and they should be credited for fighting back and not giving in."

The Norsemen led 15-10 after the first quarter, but used a dominating second quarter to grab a commanding lead.

The Norsemen outscored the Blue Devils 19-3 as they held the home team without a field goal in the second quarter. Each of their three points came from the foul line.

What the visitors did very well in that second quarter was work the ball around and hit the open person.

They shot well from the field and went into the locker room with a 34-13 lead.

Junior Grace Foster did her best to get the Blue Devils back in the game, scoring nine points in the second half, but the 21-point halftime deficit was too much to overcome.

For the Norsemen, senior Katie Snow, soph-



North's Josie Ciaravino, left, looks to pass with South's Maria Hessburg defending.

omore Julia Ayrault and freshman Michelle Bodnariuk led the way on the scoreboard, while sophomores Meghan Gallagher, Ava Stander, Rachel Sexton and Madeline Mills, as well as junior Josie Ciaravino, chipped in on the defensive end of the court to help the visitors win the Macomb Area Conference Red Division opener and improve to 1-0 and 4-1.

Snow finished with 23 points and 10 rebounds to lead North, while

Ayrault had 12 points, six rebounds and three blocks. Bodnariuk had 12 points.

For South, senior Sayanna Roy had 14 points and 10 rebounds, and Foster finished with 12 points.

In other games, South lost 60-41 to host Utica Ford and beat host Knightstown, Ind., 63-49 to see its record dip to 0-1 in the MAC Red Division and 1-5 overall.

"We will get better," Richards said following the North game.

## South uses big run to beat North

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South used a huge 24-4 third quarter to beat city rival Grosse Pointe North 54-48 last weekend.

North head coach Ron Kochan had his Norsemen up 28-24 at the half, but a mix of turnovers, poor shooting and hot shooting by the home team turned the tide.

"Coach (Mike) Shapiro made an adjustment at the half, extending our defense higher, and it worked very well as we were able to get some turnovers and easy baskets," South head coach Troy Glasser said.

During the game-changing run, several players had a hand for the Blue Devils, including seniors Dan Hessburg, Noah Davey, Brennen Buszka, Zane Draper, Josh Adams, Adrian lafrate and Michael Braker.

Sophomore Ryan Downey had a couple of



South's Josh Adams, right, goes up for a basket with North's Steven Levick defending.

big baskets which helped turn the South fans into a frenzy.

"Everything went wrong for us in that third quarter," Kochan said. "Too many turnovers and quick shots really fed into the run. I could see it starting in the last couple of minutes of the second quarter when we turned it over a couple of times and let them get closer at the half."

North grabbed an eight-point lead midway through the second quarter when junior Tyler Hill connected on two three-

point baskets. However, the lead dwindled to four at the half and the deficit hit 16 after the third quarter.

The Norsemen chipped away to make it semi-close in the final quarter as senior Steven Levick scored eight points. They outscored the Blue Devils 16-6 in the fourth quarter.

For the Norsemen, Levick had 15 points and senior Dillon Webb added 11. Hill finished with six and sophomore Joey Ayrault added five.

See RIVALS, page 3C



South's Grace Foster, right, had a good game for the Blue Devils.

### GYMNASTICS

## Remillet wins debut

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe United gymnastics team won its season opener last week, beating Fraser 131.875-118.5.

It was also the league opener for both squads and the head coaching debut of Kristin Remillet.

Grosse Pointe won each of the four events, including a wide margin

on parallel bars as the home team earned 29.6 points compared to Fraser's 22.6.

For Grosse Pointe, Isabelle Nguyen was the all-around winner, scoring 36.825 points on the floor exercise, bars, vault and balance beam.

Taking second was teammate Elizabeth Byarski, who had 32.25 points.

Fraser's Elizabeth

Avila was third with 32.125 points and finishing fourth was Grosse Pointe's Emma Burney, who posted a total of 31.75.

The home team's other scorers were Maggie Bowers, 30.05 points; Kaileigh Wu, 29.625; and Lexi Poulos, 22.475.

Others who competed in one event were Sydney Dugan, Claire Yee and Kyla Harris.

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Boys hockey

RIVALS

# South wins title

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South boys' hockey team used a three-goal third period to beat host University Liggett 4-2 in the championship game of last weekend's annual University Liggett Holiday Tournament.

South head coach Bobby McKillop watched his Blue Devils coast through two periods and the Knights took advantage. They took a 2-1 lead into the second intermission.

However, in the third period, Jack Flynn scored just 17 seconds in to tie it 2-2. Seniors Adam Pitters and Adam Cervone had assists.

Sophomore Conor McKenna scored the game-winning goal, with senior Jake Fillmore and junior Garrett Bollenbacher collecting assists. That goal came at the 11:03 mark and the Blue Devils had all the momentum.

Pitters put the finishing touches on the win by adding an empty-net goal in the final minute and help senior goalkeeper Jack Jordan notch the victory in his first start of the season.

The Knights led 1-0 when junior Spencer Stefani scored an unassisted goal at the 5:10 mark of the first period.

Flynn scored on the power play early in the second period to tie it 1-1. Pitters and Bollenbacher had the assists.

Stefani scored again to give the home team a 2-1 lead at the 10:51 mark of the second period. Senior goalkeeper Andrew



PHOTOS BY BOB BRUCE

North's Thomas Supal, right, has puck possession, but South's Liam Kavanaugh tries to poke it away during the semifinal game between the city rivals.



Liggett's Zane Demsey carries the puck in the neutral zone during the Knights' semifinal game against Berkley.

Doppke was solid in net as the home fans were into the game.

The Blue Devils, who beat the Knights 7-1 a few weeks ago, needed a gut-check in the locker room before heading on the ice for the third period. They were outplayed by the Knights.

Flynn's early goal

swung the momentum shift to the Blue Devils and the Knights never got it back.

They did put some pressure on Jordan, but he came up with some key saves to keep the Blue Devils on top 3-2.

In the semifinals, South blanked its other city rival, Grosse Pointe North, 4-0 as it improved to 5-1-1 overall.

South lost 4-2 to Novi Catholic Central earlier in the week for its first defeat of the young season.

Liggett beat Berkley 3-2 in its tournament semifinal and is 4-5 overall.

As for North, it stayed winless on the season after losing 7-4 to Berkley in the consolation game and 6-3 to Trenton in a

conference game earlier in the week.

Against Berkley, the Norsemen fell behind 2-0 before junior Evan Kolinski scored, assisted by freshman Michael Burns.

The Bears scored three unanswered goals to lead 5-1, but senior Brian Moody and sophomore Chris Lorelli tallied to make it a 5-3 game. Lorelli assisted on Moody's goal and senior Marko Tomovski assisted on Lorelli's goal.

The Bears scored the only two goals of the third period to win.

For the Norsemen, senior Brian Wenz started in net and sophomore Julia McLellan played the third period.

Grosse Pointe North is 0-7.

Basketball

LIGGETT

# Housey gets win No. 1

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Head coach Chris Housey earned his first win at the helm of University Liggett boys' basketball team last week.

The Knights beat Sterling Heights Parkway Christian 60-50 as three players scored in double figures.

"It was a good win for us," Housey said. "We had a tough start, but the boys picked up the pace and really played well at both ends of the court."

The Knights gave up 21 points in the first quarter, but only 29 in the final three combined. They clamped down on the defensive end, which Housey preaches.

On the offensive end, senior Jackson Walkowiak and junior Anthony George scored 21 points apiece, while sophomore Charlie Amine had 10 points.

Last weekend, Liggett lost 65-31 to Detroit University Prep.

"Turnovers hurt us and we didn't shoot particularly well," Housey said. "We played OK, but we have a lot of work to do. We will get there."

George had 12 points to lead the Knights.

On Monday evening, Liggett opened its Michigan Independent

Athletic Conference slate with a 79-47 home loss to perennial Class D state power Southfield Christian.

"We fell behind early and never recovered," Housey said. "We knew we had our work cut out for us. We battled against a very good basketball team."

It was 20-7 after the first quarter and 46-24 at the half.

The Knights didn't have enough firepower to counter Southfield Christian's explosive lineup, featuring a few Division 1 commits.

For the home team, Walkowiak and George had 15 points apiece, followed by sophomore Billy Kopicki with nine.

Liggett is 0-1 in the MIAC and 1-4 overall.

Girls results

Senior Nia Ahart had 35 points, 11 rebounds and four steals, but it wasn't enough as the University Liggett girls' basketball team lost 75-48 to Farmington Hills Harrison last weekend.

Head coach Omar Ahart said this would be a tough non-league game for his Knights and he was right. Harrison had a deeper, taller squad which gave the Knights fits.

Liggett dropped to 1-2 overall.

Wrestling

NORTH & SOUTH

# South duo takes fourth

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Host Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South finished 26th and 24th, respectively, in last weekend's annual Macomb County Invitational.

Macomb Dakota won the title with 318 points, followed by Warren Woods-Tower with 277 and Anchor Bay with 228. South earned 44 points and North had 38.

The Blue Devils, under head coach Patrick Salazar, had two medalists. Tyler Thompson won a fourth-place medal in the 130-pound division and Patrick Nauert also had a fourth place in the 285-pound division.

Thompson lost a 6-4 decision to Madison Heights Lamphere's Matt Tomsett in the third-place match, while Nauert was at the end of his match limit and took a loss to Lakeview's

Austin Bauslaugh.

For the Norsemen, under head coach Eric Julien, Wilson Moin, 160 pounds; Erickson Glazard, 285 pounds; Dirk Drieborn; Zaire Summerville and Raymond Hamilton entered the invitational with the team's top records.

Julien also pointed out Artan Berisha, Reed Bolecker, Matt Moores and Aaron Rozich had potential.

Both teams are done through the holidays.

Next for Grosse Pointe North is the Rochester Adams Invitational Saturday, Jan. 7, before beginning league matches Wednesday, Jan. 11, at Lake Shore.

Next for Grosse Pointe South is the Jim Dewland Classic Saturday, Jan. 7, at Parma Western High School.

They begin league matches Wednesday, Jan. 11, at East Detroit.

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## Girls hockey

## RIVALS

# Blue Devils fall in finals

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South girls' hockey team finished runner-up in last weekend's annual University Liggett Hockey Tournament at McCann Ice Arena, losing 4-3 to Livonia Ladywood.

The Blue Devils fell behind 2-0 and never could get the equalizing goal, despite cutting the deficit to one on three occasions.

"We are making a habit of coming out slow and we did it again today," South head coach Chris Booth said. "I think we outplayed them in the second and third periods, but falling 2-0 wasn't what we planned."

"The girls didn't come to the rink ready to play and Ladywood did. That was the difference. It was a good game and our girls fought back to make it a close game."

The Blazers scored midway through the first period and made it a 2-0 game with a goal at the 2:14 mark.

The Blue Devils got on the board when sophomore Madison Ryszewski was credited with a goal. Her pass across the ice hit a Ladywood defenseman's shin guard and deflected right past the goalkeeper to cut the deficit to 2-1. Sophomore Alyssa Czech was credited with an assist.

Ladywood scored two minutes later to make it a 3-1 game, but senior Shannon McKenna scored off assists from senior Carson Dennis and sophomore Rosie Williamson.

The Blazers scored four seconds into the third period to build a two-goal lead and Dennis once again made it a one-goal game when she scored at the 3:41 mark. Williamson and freshman Kelsie Francis had assists.

They kept the pressure on the Blazers during the final three minutes and had a couple of solid shots on net, but they couldn't get the tying goal.

Junior Bridget Donaldson was solid in net and made several key saves to keep the Blue Devils in the game.

"Bridget once again played a great game and we are fortunate because she was great in net," Booth said.

South has two regulation losses and both are to Ladywood. In the semifinal, South defeated Grosse Pointe North 8-0. In the process, North lost one of its best players, sophomore Clare Murphy, to a broken clavicle after getting checked into the boards with the Blue Devils ahead 6-0.

Grosse Pointe South is 5-2-0-1 overall.

In the consolation game, host Liggett defeated Grosse Pointe North 4-2 behind a hat trick from senior Kara Francis.

She made her season debut after missing the first month rehabilitating after surgery in the fall.

It was tied 1-1 after the opening period and 2-2 after 30 minutes. The Knights scored two third-period goals to net the win and third place.

"It was a good team win," Liggett head coach Anna Kuehnlein said. "We were better in the defensive zone, our offense put some goals on the board and Evie (Bournias) was great in net. It was definitely a needed win and a confidence boost for the girls."

"It was a great game



PHOTOS BY BOB BRUCE

South's Madison Ryszewski carries the puck during the Blue Devils' tournament semifinal win over Grosse Pointe North.

and close, which made it fun," North head coach Joe Lucchese said. "These are the kinds of games we love, hard fought and to the wire."

The Norsemen scored first when freshman Darby Pickford tallied late in the first period. Sophomore Bella Welke had the lone assist.

Francis scored a minute later with junior Olivia Yates assisting.

In the second period, sophomore Hannah Martin scored with

junior Kylee Banaszewski assisting. With only 43.3 left in the second stanza, Francis scored again with sophomore Abby Doppke drawing an assist.

Francis tallied her third goal at the 12:10 mark of the final period, with Yates assisting.

Senior Haley Malewicz scored an insurance goal midway through the third period.

Yates and Francis had the assists as the Knights extended the lead to two goals.

After that, the Knights' defense held tight and Bournias made a huge save on Welke, who skated in alone on a break-away.

Liggett improved to 2-6-1 and Grosse Pointe North fell to 2-8. In the other semifinal, Liggett lost 5-0 to Ladywood.

Earlier in the week, Liggett lost 6-0 to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood and North lost 10-8 to Ann Arbor Pioneer.



Liggett's Evie Bournias makes a save in the Knights' tournament semifinal loss to Ladywood.

## Around town

## GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

## Sign up for camp

Grosse Pointe South hosts the annual Grosse Pointe South Baseball Holiday Hitting Camp Wednesday, Dec. 28, and Friday, Dec. 30, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the main gymnasium.

The camp is for children in grades two through six. Seventh and eighth graders from outside the Grosse Pointe Public School District also may attend. The cost is \$60 for one day or \$100 for both days.

South coaches and players staff the camp and funds support the

South baseball program. Players should bring their own bats and helmets, but the school has some for those in need.

The purpose of the camp is to teach the fundamentals of hitting. Brochures can be found at gpsouthbaseball.com and all participants must pre-register. Make checks payable to GPS Dugout Club and send to Dan Griesbaum, 835 Hidden Lane, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

For further questions, contact Griesbaum at (313) 347-3672.

## GROSSE POINTE ACADEMY

## Hoops camp at GPA

The Lakers AAU club presents its annual "Holiday" Basketball Camp Dec. 26 to 28 at the Grosse Pointe Academy.

The Lakers' goal is to teach players important aspects of the game and to make them successful in the future.

The camp is for boys and girls in kindergarten through eighth grade.

It runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with drop-off starting at 8:40 a.m. The cost is \$100 per camper, per session.

The camp focuses on being a great teammate first, confidence with the basketball, playing without the basketball, offensive concepts, individual defense, team defense,

transition defense, ball handling, shooting, passing, cutting, screening, on ball defense and rebounding.

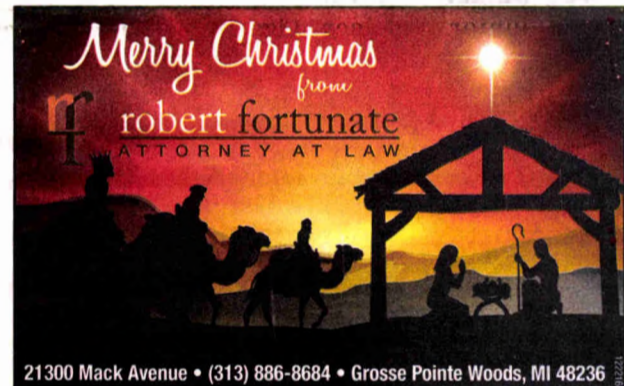
Each day is filled with drills with two breaks during the time on the court.

Each session ends with a contest from noon to 12:15 p.m. and team games run from 12:15 to 1 p.m.

For more information, call camp directors Kevin Richards at (313) 244-1523 or Steve Benard at (313) 580-0351.

Interested people can also visit the website or register at gplakers.com.

The Grosse Pointe Lakers fields several AAU teams.



## RIVALS:

Continued from page 1C

For the Blue Devils, Draper led a balanced scoring attack with 11 points and Buszka had 10. Downey finished with seven points, followed by Davey with six and Braker with six.

In other action last week, North lost 62-51 at St. Clair and 61-46 to West Bloomfield to fall to 1-3 overall, while South fell 90-74 at New Haven and 69-41 to Orchard Lake St. Mary's to even its record at 2-2.

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Swimming

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

# Blue Devils make waves at meet

The Grosse Pointe South boys' swimming and diving team travelled to Saginaw Valley State University last week to participate in the Pangborn Invitational hosted by Midland Dow High School.

Besides South, seventh in last year's Division 2 state meet, there was Dexter, defending Division 2 state champ, Midland Dow, sixth in the state meet, Saginaw Heritage, Howell, Alma and Bay City Central. The format of the invi-

tational is unique.

There are five scoring categories, so a team can win five different divisions, which gives some of the underclassmen a chance to earn valuable points.

In the invitational, the Blue Devils won two of the five Divisions, division 4 and the diving division, and was second in divisions 1, 2 and 3.

Division 4 was led by senior Max Finazzo and the divers were paced by Grady Eger. Unexpectedly, the boys

beat powerhouse Midland Dow in all five Divisions.

The following South swimmers scored: diving division competitors Jim Burton, Daniel Kuhnlein and Eger; division 1 swimmers Cameron Francis, Thomas Jogan, Nick Vallan, Matthew Koueiter and Ethan Briggs; division 2 swimmers Matthew Melican, Jared Pearson, Cam Sanders, Khalib Rahmann, Michael Currier, A.J. Rizer, Daniel Klepp, Tom

Wilkinson and David Swegles; division 3 swimmers Jack Burgoyne, Ethan Kincaide, Zach Grieser, Ethan Rothenbuhler, Brennan Zihlman, Nick Chown, Noah Segletes and P.K. Nugent; and division 4 competitors Peter Costello, Charlie Cieska, Joshua Dixon, C.J. Carion, Jeffrey Krotche, Anthony Swanson, Zeke Maes, Jackson Carion and Finazzo.

South is off until January.

— Todd Briggs



PHOTO COURTESY OF TODD BRIGGS

Head coach Eric Gunderson, center, leads his team to a post-meet cheer.

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GROSSE POINTE NORTH

# Norsemen cruise

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North boys' swimming and diving team had a successful debut for first-year head coach Dan Hafner last week, beating L'Anse Creuse 136-31.

The Norsemen led off the meet with a win by the 200-yard medley relay team of Paul Rakowicz, John Cobau, Brian Veneri and Hunter Adelson, which had a time of 1:55.48.

Joey Cobau won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:00.72. He was followed by teammates Alex Voronenko and Andrew Spiteri, who had

times of 2:05.39 and 2:20.31.

In the 200-yard individual medley, Veneri won with a time of 2:28.92 and Adelson won the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.31.

Norsemen Sam Stafford and Ben Sliwinski finished second and third in the 50-free with times of 25.99 and 26.03.

John Cobau, Rakowicz and Veneri finished first, second and third in the 100-yard butterfly, turning in times of 57.50, 1:10.84 and 1:14.82.

The Norsemen also swept the 100-yard freestyle with Joey Cobau, Stafford and Sliwinski posting times of 56.08,

58.65 and 59.74.

In the 500-yard freestyle, Adelson won with a time of 5:58.38. He was followed by Jonathan Stander and Sean Rogos, who had times of 6:11.85 and 6:20.07, and in the 200-yard freestyle relay, Joey Cobau, Voronenko, Stafford and Sliwinski won with a time of 1:44.38.

Rakowicz won the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:06.58 and John Cobau won the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:12.62.

The Norsemen's squad of Adelson, Joey Cobau, John Cobau and Voronenko won the 400-yard freestyle relay with a time of 3:49.74.

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# SCHOOLS

## SCHOOLS

### Inclusion champions

Mason celebrates inclusive schools week PAGE 2D

2D TOYS FOR TOTS | 3D MICHIGAN THESPLAN FESTIVAL

## New clubs kick off at South

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Among the 76 recognized student clubs offered at Grosse Pointe South High School, 13 are new this year.

"I never discourage a student from starting a club," said Maria Mitzel, South's student activities coordinator. "I tell them what their needs are."

This begins with completing a form to submit for administrative approval and finding a faculty adviser. Sometimes adults outside the school community fill that role, but all must be cleared through a police background check, according to Mitzel.

Involvement in a club "connects (students) to the school beyond academics. It makes them feel part of the school," Mitzel said, adding, "That's our goal."

Clubs are categorized level 1, 2 or 3 based on whether they are connected to the curriculum, such as a level 1 group, or represent a special interest in common with other students, such as a level 3 group. For example, level 1 student groups are reserved for varsity, junior varsity and freshmen athletic teams, the National Honor Society and those connected to a course currently offered requiring enrollment as a condition of participation. The pep band, Pointe Singers, the all-school musical and Tower are examples of level 1 groups.

Examples of level 2 groups are the drama club, Quiz Bowl, language clubs and the robotics team. Level 3 groups include fishing, rock climbing, table tennis and archery clubs.

Groups approved by school administration must be available to all students who wish to attend, according to administrative guidelines. Other criteria are the group enriches the high school experience for students, has a target membership and provides potential activities for members. School-



recognized clubs have access to the use of show-cases, bulletin boards, public address system, school announcements and fundraising opportunities. Priority is determined based on group level.

New as of the 2016-17 school year are the astronomy club, beach volleyball, breakfast club, dance club, Detroit Spike Dawgs, female fitness club, majorettes, recreational water sporting club, Re-investing in Detroit as Students, Spare to Share, vegan club, Voice for Choice and Young Democrats of America.

"Except for the ones connected with the curriculum, (advisers) don't get paid," Mitzel said. "They do it on their own." Given the number of clubs, "that says a lot about our staff," she added. "I can't say enough about them. Without them, none of this works."

### Food and fitness

When Anna Clark and Salvatore Cracchiolo came up with the idea of starting a breakfast club, they approached Patti O'Hare, commercial foods and pastries teacher, to serve as adviser. "They are both wonderful young people who love working with food so if I can help or inspire them, it is my

duty," O'Hare said.

The club meets in O'Hare's classroom 7 a.m. Thursdays. Its mission is to bring students together to socialize before school while cooking breakfast together.

"With so many families not having time to eat meals together, I think it is perfect for the students," O'Hare said. "I want the students to have fun and realize how important food is to cultures, body nourishment and socializing."

"Anna came up with the initial idea," said Cracchiolo. "I tagged along with it. My idea was it would be an excuse for us to make breakfast in the mornings with friends. It's also a learning experience. Pretty soon we're going to be making more than just breakfast in the morning. People will learn different cooking techniques."

On the menu so far is "really basic stuff just to start off," Cracchiolo said, such as eggs, bacon, omelets, hash browns and breakfast sausage. "We're going to get into more advanced things."

The vegan club met for the first time early December. English teacher Elizabeth Lulis said her primary role is to provide a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for students.

"It is extremely important to me that students

feel they can find their niche at South. So if it is in the form of a club, I am more than happy to sponsor and support in any way I can. I have acted as a coach and class adviser within the district and have always enjoyed spending time with the students outside of the classroom environment."

Lulis currently co-sponsors the rock climbing club with science teacher Stephen Kim and when she was approached to sponsor the female fitness club — expected to kick off after the holiday break — she said, "It seemed like a natural fit. I worked as a



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, hash browns and breakfast sausage were on the menu for the breakfast club last week. Pictured is club founder Anna Clark. Left, posing during the swim test for membership in the recreational water sporting club are, from left, Julia Turnbull, Lauren Thom, Matthew Melican, Evie Kuhnlein, Brookelle Matherson, Lilly Carlyle, Maddy Keane and Daniel Kuhnlein. In front is adviser Ericka Henk.

personal trainer years ago and fitness is still a foundational aspect of my life. I truly believe confidence and happiness can both be found in healthy lifestyles and exercising is such a part of this."

As for sponsoring the vegan club, she said while she is not a vegan or vegetarian herself, she respects and admires those who are.

"Many of my students have embraced this way of life and I was in full support of such a club. If I can help our kids in their passions and provide an opportunity for them to share in their passion with

others, then I feel like I am successful in my role as an educator."

### Social conscience

Special education teacher Kristin Baer was approached by her daughter, Margot Baer, and junior Harper McClellan to serve as adviser for a Young Democrats of America club.

"Margot and Harper followed the presidential election closely and decided they wanted to somehow be a part of the process," she said. "The formation of the Young

See CLUBS, page 4D



## Monique Vasquez

**School:** Monteith Elementary School  
**Years at Monteith:** 17 (1989 to 2000 and 2010 to present; at Ferry from 2000 to 2010)  
**Grade:** Fourth  
**Nominated by:** Principal Shelleyann Keelean  
**Principal's quote:**

"Monteith has an incredible group of teachers who truly do what is best for kids. We are very fortunate at Monteith to have teacher leaders such as Monique. She is a leader in and outside the classroom. When you walk into her classroom you can see the incredible learning environment she has created for her students. They enjoy being in her classroom because she takes the time to build relationships with her students and she believes they all have the potential to accomplish great things. Outside the classroom she is always willing to lead different committees and help her colleagues in any way she can. It is truly an honor to have Monique as part of our Monteith teaching team."

### What do you enjoy most about teaching?

It sounds so simple, but I enjoy talking with my students. I like to incorporate stories of my life when teaching and I believe it really helps give meaning to

the lesson. Over the years, I have shared numerous ridiculous stories about my many pets. As I grew older, I had fewer pets to speak about, but then I had my own children. These past two years I can share stories about my grandchildren. It is reciprocal, as students often share so much of their life with me too. Elementary school is a special time for children. It is probably the last time in their education they will spend so many hours of the day with the same adult. I want to be able to connect with them during that time. Let's face it — knowing how to be social is a very important life skill.

### Describe a "teachable moment."

Each year, around the holidays, I purchase and wrap books for a classroom of students in Detroit. I have included my class in this activity. I tell my class it is totally optional, but that they are welcome to donate money, wrapping paper and bows. I am humbled by their generosity to help with this project. My students make careful, well-thought-out cards for the recipients. They work together to wrap the books with as much bling as possible. Many students donate their own money to help me pur-



COURTESY PHOTO

chase the books. This project has become a life lesson — you truly do get more when you give. Today's educational trend is testing. However, when my students leave my classroom, I hope they remember the good feeling they had as they helped wrap books for others, rather than the hours they spent on a test.

### Name a book that influenced you.

Just one? I am an avid reader and I love memoirs. A few of my favorites have been "The Sound of Gravel" by Ruth Wariner, "The Unwanted" by Kien Nguyen, "White Dresses" by Mary Pflum Peterson, "The Glass Castle" by Jeanette Wells and "God Grew Tired of Us" by John Bul Dau. In each of these books, the writer overcomes unbelievable obstacles. It just proves to me over and over again that anything is possible.

### Favorite quote:

Be the person your dog thinks you are.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Hunger heroes

"Be a Hunger Hero" read the sign in the hallway, reminding students to bring in canned, boxed and wrapped food for the food drive sponsored by Richard Elementary School's student council. The drive, held Dec. 1 to 16, yielded more than six large boxes filled with donations from Richard families for Gleaners Community Food Bank in Detroit.

Pictured, from left, are Richard student council representatives Francis Blake, Al Allotta, Henry Doyle, Sofia Boddy, Lily Wodzisz, Elizabeth Walsh and Sloane Rosati.

# the meaning of inclusion

## Mason celebrates inclusive schools week

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

The topic for Mason Elementary School's December town hall meeting was inclusiveness and caring. Principal Roy Bishop talked to students about how classmates are like family.

"Look to your right, that's your brother. Look to your left, that's your sister," he said.

He went on to discuss how it feels to not be included, describing different recess scenarios the children could relate to. He also talked about what it means to be caring.

First-grade teacher Anna Collins followed up the town hall meeting with her students later that afternoon. She began by reading a book called "The Big Book of Families" by Mary Hoffman, with pictures by Ros Asquith. The book demonstrated "how families look from house to house," Collins said, helping students make what she called "text-to-self connections."

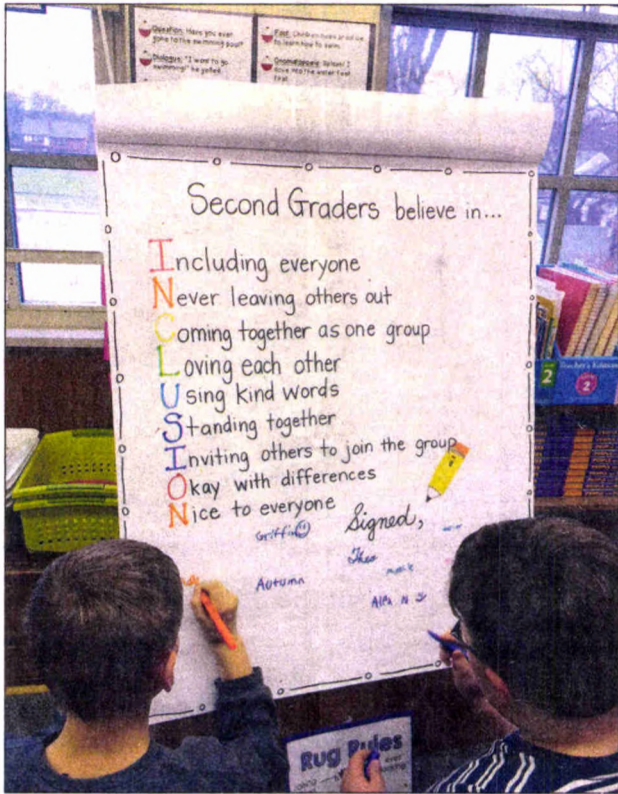
Children also brainstormed things they could do to make sure everyone feels included.

"Share your things," said one student.

"Use kind words," suggested another.

Other ideas were to look to be a buddy and invite friends to play.

"What if you're in the middle of your game and someone says, 'Can I play?'" What is something you can do?" Collins asked.



COURTESY PHOTO



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

### A definition

According to Principal Roy Bishop, inclusion is when all learners are fully accepted and embraced members of the school community through involvement, empowerment and empathy. At Mason, students are provided the opportunity to foster a love for learning through a sense of belonging, valuing each other's strengths and differences, and respecting the talents, beliefs and backgrounds of the entire school community.

"Say wait until this game is over and you can play in the next one," one student responded.

After reading the book, students broke into pairs for a buddy activity. Given an ink pad and a sheet of paper with a poem titled "I am thumb-one special," students pressed their thumbprints on the paper as a symbol of

how no two people are the same.

According to Bishop, teachers championed inclusiveness in their classrooms throughout the week with a variety of activities "to help students gain empathy for others and better understand that our unique abilities, strengths and differences are our greatest assets."

Above left, second-graders pledge their belief in inclusion with an acronym poem. Above, Anna Collins reads "The Big Book of Families" to her first-graders.



Above left, Tala Mazzorana and Megan Huizdos see how unique each of their thumbprints are. Above right, Alexandra Blosser shows off her red thumbprint.

## Toys for tots

The Grosse Pointe North High School boys' varsity hockey team got into the Christmas spirit of giving by collecting toys for Toys for Tots, a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve. The players wanted to give back to the community and provide an opportunity for other children to have a great Christmas, according to their coach, Mike Maltese.

"The Norsemen would like to personally thank Dr. Wesley, a team supporter, for providing the drop-off site at Wesley Orthodontics," Maltese said.



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## Unsung heroes

The Grosse Pointe South football coupon book has been around for more than 10 years, but many residents who purchase it each year and take advantage of deals with local merchants may not

realize its long history or the fact several former Gridiron members who started the coupon book have remained active even though their sons are no longer involved with the football program.

Created by the Gridiron Club under the leadership of John Steinger and Jim Saros, with the support of members and coaches, the coupon book has raised nearly \$600,000 for the program, relieving the financial burden from players' families and the school athletic budget. Steinger and former Gridiron member Roger Basse have served as co-chairmen for fundraising since the book's inception.

South football players sell and distribute the coupon books to residents in the fall.

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City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

SPECIAL NOTICE  
RUBBISH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE  
FOR CHRISTMAS 2016 & NEW YEARS 2017

There will be NO residential RUBBISH or RECYCLING collections on Monday, December 26, 2016 and Monday, January 2, 2017.

All collections will be the day FOLLOWING the regular residential collection schedule for the week December 26 - December 30, 2016 and for the week January 2 - January 6, 2017. Monday's route will be collected on Tuesday, Tuesday's route will be collected on Wednesday, Wednesday's route will be collected on Thursday, Thursday's route will be collected on Friday.

Thank you for your cooperation.

City of Grosse Pointe  
Public Works Department

GPN: 12/15/16 & 12/22/16



COURTESY PHOTOS

South was invited to present its fall production of "Lost in Yonkers" as the opening production of the Michigan Thespian Festival. Pictured is the cast and crew.

## North and South thespians excel at festival

Grosse Pointe North and South High schools participated in the Michigan Thespian Festival at Saginaw Valley State University Dec. 2 to 3.

Highlights of the festival, sponsored by the Educational Theater Association, included the opportunity for students to compete in individual event competitions and audition for scholarship opportunities in front of college and university recruiters, including the opportunity for national recognition at the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Neb.

More than 1,200 students competed in individual events created to

give students a chance to showcase their talents in acting, musical theater and technical prowess in every aspect of production, playwriting, film and dance.

South's Thespian Troupe No. 49 was invited to present its fall production of Neil Simon's play, "Lost in Yonkers," as the main stage, opening production. Actors played to a packed house of more than 1,700 thespians, educators and professionals, receiving a standing ovation, according to Poite Players Director Meaghan Dunham.

Cast members included Tommy Thams, Andrew

Fleming, Sean Gates, Julia Rapai, Zaria Aikens, Peter Lianos, Liesel Lagrou, Elyse Tazzia, Gino Calisi and Lashun O'Rear. Production team members attending were Jack Campau, Grayson Kennedy, Tony Attard, Dani Dulworth and Sam Hermon. Tech crew included Antonina Cinnamon, Calyx Turco, Carolyn Shrader, Cinderella Ksehati, Donald Vercruyse, Hailey Martin, Jerome Manning, Jessica Boehmer, Mary Reinman, Morgan Wilson, Muriel Steinke, Owen Clextion, Samantha Savage, Tiffany Furicchia, Virginia Cinnamon and Luke Bove.

North's Troupe No. 5781 also participated in the festival. Lolly Duus became the first member of the troupe to receive a \$500 Thespian Scholarship, reserved for the top 10 performers in the state after auditioning in front of the judges panel with a song, monologue and portfolio presentation. Duus also auditioned for more than 20 colleges as part of the scholarship competition. Called back to four, she received a \$16,000 scholarship offer to Ohio Northern University to study musical theater at one of the premier programs in the country, according to drama teacher Sean Kifer.

South's troupe No. 49 received six superior honors and eligibility to compete at the international level. Senior Luke Bove earned two superior honors and seniors Jerome Manning and Mary Reinman each earned one in duet musical theater. Seniors Cinderella Ksehati and Calyx Turco earned superior honors in solo musical theater. Sophomore Grayson Kennedy earned excellent honors in the monologue competition.

From North, senior Lee Daniel received a superior in playwriting and junior Kitt Clark received a superior in solo musical theater. Junior Caitlin Mayernik received an



Poite Players Director Meaghan Dunham was inducted into the Michigan Educational Theatre's Hall of Fame during the closing ceremonies of the Michigan Thespian Festival.

excellent in solo musical theatre and sophomore Katie LoPorto received an excellent in monologue acting. Juniors Hazel Lyman and Mac Fradeneck received a good in duet acting and senior Matt Lombardi received a good in monologue acting.

"This was the largest group we've taken to festival and the best results we've had," said Kifer. Another highlight was the induction of Dunham into the Michigan Educational Theatre's Hall of Fame during the closing ceremonies.



COURTESY PHOTO

Kirsten LeBlanc

## St. Paul teacher named finalist in math and science award

Kirsten LeBlanc, a teacher at St. Paul Catholic School, was named a finalist for the 2016 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

This award is the highest recognition a K-12 teacher can receive for outstanding science or mathematics teaching in the United States. Recipients of the award receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States, a paid trip for two to Washington, D.C., to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation.

As a finalist, LeBlanc's application has been forwarded to a national selection committee composed of mathematics educators, teachers

and past awardees who will meet virtually or in Washington, D.C., to select awardees at the national level. The announcement will be made in spring.

Finalists are honored at home as well, according to Betty Crowder, MSTA past president. LeBlanc will be among other Michigan finalists recognized by the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics at its annual conference and the Network of

Michigan Educators annual banquet.

In addition to recognizing outstanding teaching in math or science, the program provides teachers an opportunity to build lasting partnerships with colleagues across the nation. This growing network of award-winning teachers serves as a vital resource for improving science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and keeping America globally competitive.

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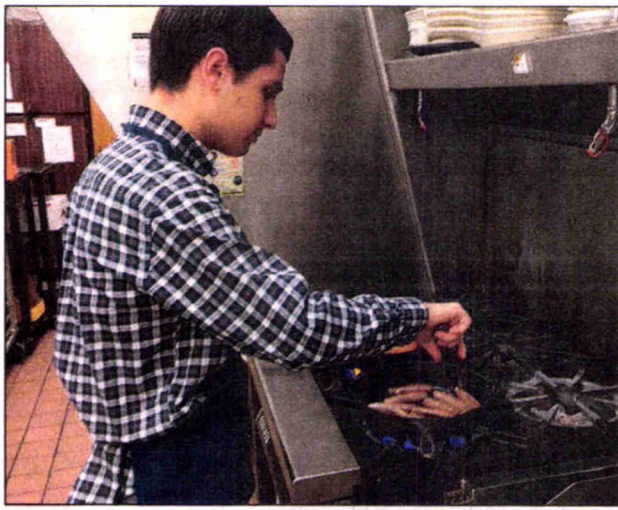
Continued from page 1D

Democrats is their avenue for doing so.”

The mission of the Young Democrats of America is to advocate for progressive issues, Baer said.

“Our students are beginning to explore ways they can be socially responsible as well as respect the viewpoints of others. The kids are in the process of exploring activities they can participate in that will make a positive impact on our community.

“Like all clubs at South, the group offers students a way to feel connected to each other and the school outside of the classroom,” she continued.



COURTESY PHOTO

Salvatore Cracchiolo fries sausage and hash browns for South's breakfast club.

Club members range from freshmen to seniors, with the older students acting as role models for the younger members.

“I am most proud of this,” Baer said. “The

group is perhaps the most mature and socially aware group of kids I have had the privilege to work with.”

Another advocacy club formed this year was

*‘The group offers students a way to feel connected to each other and the school outside the classroom.’*

KRISTIN BAER,  
Adviser for Young Democrats of America

Voice for Choice. According to Riley Lynch, one of the club founders, students decided to found the club “to provide a place for people to voice their opinions on the subject of abortions. The other founders and I realized there had been a pro-life club (Students 4 Life) for a number of years, but no pro-choice club. Our mission is to allow students to voice their opinions in a way they had not previously done before. In addition, we aim to donate to several charities that support women and support the right to choose.”

Other plans include conducting a diaper drive for an organization called Diapers in the D, which helps new mothers provide for their babies, and donating to other charities and women’s shelters. Other club founders are Sebastian Simon, president; Kate Gavagan, vice president; Maren Roeske, treasurer; and Charlotte Farrell, secretary, all juniors.

**Sports and recreation**

Students formed the recreational water sport- ing club to share their love of swimming and other water activities, according to English teacher Ericka Henk. Henk agreed to serve as adviser when two of her former students, Julia Turnbull and Lauren Thom, approached her.

“I was honored to say yes,” Henk said. “These two young women work

so hard to not only enhance their educational experience, but also to enrich others’. I am fortunate to work with so many cool kids.”

The club participates in fundraising to donate time and money to students from other schools who may not have access to pools and swimming instruction. Club members also organized and participated in a swim test at South’s pool to welcome members and share camaraderie, Henk said.

“It all started on our friend Ethan’s boat,” said Turnbull, club president. “I had originally thought of starting just a kayaking club, but after a discussion about all water sports, we decided to do RWSC and include everything so we can try new activities potentially.”

Turnbull said their goal is to get more people into water-related activities, promote water safety and showcase how there are benefits to water-related activities such as rowing, kayaking, canoeing, tubing and “just plain old swimming.”

Activities included a swim test for membership and they are planning an ice skating day in the next few weeks as a “winter water” activity, Turnbull said. Spring plans include a learn-to-row day with the Detroit Boat Club crew, kayaking, boating and possibly a fundraiser. The group meets every other Thursday morning. A

majority of members are swimmers, rowers or lifeguards, but a few are athletes participating in non-water related sports.

“We chose Ms. Henk because she has been my and Lauren’s favorite teacher of all time at South and in her class last year, I met Lauren,” Turnbull said. “She’s very encouraging, very organized and adventurous and our goal is to get her to go tubing with the members one day.”

Starting up in the spring is the Detroit Spike Dawgs club. The adviser is science teacher Stephen Kim and the club leader is junior Peter Buhl.

Spike ball is a newer sport that started to get popular in the last few years, Kim said. It involves a rubber ball the size of a Nerf basketball and a small, trampoline-like net.

“It’s typically played 2 vs. 2 and the goal is to spike the ball off the net so that your opponents can’t return it,” Kim said. “I’ve played a few times and it’s really fun. It’s really popular to play in the sand — typically at the beach — but the grass also works, as players are diving all over the place to save the volley. I can see why it has grown in popularity, because it gets addicting, especially if you’re competitive.”

Kim said he agreed to serve as adviser because the sport is an interest he has in common with the students.

“I really enjoy playing it, so I’m hoping others will too,” he said. “But also, I enjoy being involved with the students and I think they enjoy having me around — maybe.”

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**To all the children who entered the 2016 My Storefront Holiday Decorating contest.**

**Morgan M. - Age 10**

**Emeline R. - Age 11**

**Carina J. - Age 6**

The Winners received a Gift Card to Chocolate Bar Cafe in Grosse Pointe Woods.