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Grosse Pointe News

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Vol. 65 • No. 49 • 40 pages

Grosse Pointe, Michigan

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December 2, 2001



12 Weeks until Feb. 22
School Millage Vote

WEEK AHEAD

Saturday, Dec. 4

Parcelle Middle School holds its annual bazaar.

For early admission from 9 to 10 a.m., early bird tickets may be purchased in advance in the school lobby during school hours from 2 to 4 p.m. Early bird tickets are \$4.

General admission is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. General admission tickets are \$3.

Christ Church Grosse Pointe holds its Gifts and Greens sale in the church undercroft from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and after its Sunday, Dec. 5, church services.

Sunday, Dec. 5

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church presents Christmas Through the Ages at 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. A reception follows the concert.

For more information, call (313) 882-5330.

Monday, Dec. 6

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association presents its holiday exhibition and gift boutique through Friday, Dec. 31, at its headquarters, 1005 Maryland in Grosse Pointe Park. An opening night party begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the door.

The exhibition is open and free to the public beginning Tuesday, Dec. 7.

For more information, call (313) 821-1848.

The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council holds a regular meeting at the Woods city hall at 7:30 p.m.

The Grosse Pointe Board of Education meets in the Wicking Library at Grosse Pointe South High School at 8 p.m.

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Photo by Robert McKean

Santa comes to town!

Mr. and Mrs. Claus were hailed as celebrities as they rode through the Hill and Village shopping districts last Friday, bringing up the rear of the 29th annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade.

Nearly 100 spots were filled by marching bands, cyclists, mini-van moms, clowns, banners and you name it as the parade traveled from Cottage Hospital on the Hill down to the lower Village.

Spectators lined the curbs along the mile-plus route. The weather was cool and crisp, ideal for football and parades.

For Santa's visitation schedule for good little girls and boys, see bottom of page 3A. For story and photos, see page 3C.

Shopping locally helps all

By Brad Lindberg
 Staff Writer

Village merchants look forward to lots of good cheer this holiday shopping season.

"Everybody seems to be getting into the spirit of things," said Ellen Durand, president of the Grosse Pointe Village Association and owner of the Village Toy Co.

She said holiday spirit started last Friday morning with the 29th Annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade. Crowds of watchers lined both sides of Kercheval and jammed the Village.

"The Village was packed and people stayed," Durand said. "I think they really are ready to get into it and make some great buys."

Dale Scrace, mayor of the City of Grosse Pointe, said recent enhancements to the Village, and the promise of more on the way, will help the business climate.

"We have a few more stores this year, and a lot more coming," he said.

When Jacobson's closed two years ago in bankruptcy — due to the chain's overall failure, not the perennially profitable Village store — the absence seemed to reinforce the importance of local merchants.

"People want to help support the locals," Durand said. "They're realizing how important it is. They want to stay close to home."

"We have to support all of our merchants, not just in the Village, but on the Hill, Mack Avenue and in the Park," Scrace said. "We have to support them and make them all grow."

Without the local business community, the Santa Claus parade wouldn't have been possible.

"Merchants are the ones who bring this to us every year," Scrace said.

"While you're thinking about Christmas shopping, please visit the Village and Hill and shops in other parts of the Pointes. They're all really important anchors to our communities, no matter how big or small they are."



Photo by Bonnie Caprara

Many local retailers like Sandy Gillespie, owner of Something Special on the Hill, have a cautious outlook on this holiday shopping season. "I do all my Christmas ordering in January, and I cut back my buying from last year by one-fourth," Gillespie said. "I don't know what to expect. The jury is out."

Local merchants having a wishful holiday season

By Bonnie Caprara
 Staff Writer

Like many area local merchants, Sandy Gillespie, owner of Something Special on the Hill, isn't sure what to expect this holiday season, so she planned for the holiday shopping season cautiously.

"I do all my Christmas ordering in January, and I cut back my buying from last year by one-fourth," said Gillespie, whose boutique consists of mostly gift items. "I don't know what to expect. The jury is out."

Down the street, Ellen Durand, president of the Grosse Pointe Village Association and co-owner of the Village Toy Co., is crossing her fingers for holiday business for her store and other stores in the Village.

"The sales have been a little off," Durand said. "People are buying differently; they're buying online. That's been like this all year and that's been the trend everywhere. I think people are waiting to do their shopping."

But to one trend watcher, a cautious outlook on the holiday shopping season does not necessarily mean things are on the downturn for area merchants.

"Shopping centers like the Village will do well," said Frederick Marx, founding partner of Marx Layne & Co., a public relations and marketing agency with several retail clients in the metro Detroit area. "People are looking for short cuts because we're so time restricted."

Marx also said that the improving climate of the stock market and favorable cold weather conditions should help boost holiday sales overall.

"You want this chilly weather if you want to sell sweaters," Marx said.

But merchants in the Grosse Pointes have their challenges, too, Marx said.

"In the Grosse Pointes, the market is continuing to go through the digestion of the former Jacobson's property," Marx said. "The absence of a big retailer like Jacobson's hurts; it was an attraction, but plans for other stores coming in is a positive thing."

Local retailer groups have been stepping up their efforts to create attractions to lure shoppers to the area.

The Grosse Pointe Village Association and the Hill Association both kicked off their holiday shopping seasons with the sponsorship of the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade on Friday, Nov. 26.

The Village has added to its efforts by its merchants taking turns hosting Santa's visits with children every weekend. Merchants are also tracking responses to coupons. There is also free parking in the municipal lots through the holiday season.

The Hill has teamed up with the Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods to host Holly Days, an event consisting of a silent auction of holiday wreaths and Sunday afternoon family activities on Nov. 21 and 28.

The Grosse Pointe Park Business Owners Association will be capitalizing on the shrinking number of tree lots. Shoppers will be able to buy fresh-cut trees at the corner of Jefferson and Lakepointe this weekend, Friday through Sunday.

"We want to capitalize on the success of the Farmers Market and to remind people we have an independent business district down here," said Scott Kilpatrick, president of the Grosse Pointe Park Business Owners Association.

POINTER OF INTEREST

Ken Potenga

Home: Grosse Pointe Park

Age: 22

Family: Parents, Ken and Marilyn Potenga; siblings Nicole Potenga, Gerald Rebeschini and Lisa Rebeschini

Occupation: Attends Western Michigan University, member of the U.S. Army National Guard

Quote: "I am a patriot at heart. I love my country."

See story, page 4A



Ken Potenga



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yesterday's headlines

50 years ago this week

■ History will be made, when for the first time, the Village shopping district on Kercheval is decorated and lighted for Christmas, beginning with the ninth annual Men's Night and lasting to Jan. 1, 1955.

■ The struggle to provide adequate off-street parking space in the Hill business district continues as a chief concern of Grosse Pointe Farms councilmen and administrators.

Businessmen of the district, against whom a special tax assessment is being levied to pay for parking improvements, continue their fight against payment. They say a new parking lot should be paid for by revenue bonds issued against parking meter revenue.

■ Grosse Pointe Woods police ponder why so many youths are being caught carrying zip guns.

The guns, which shoot .22 cal. bullets, are made from toy cap pistols.

25 years ago this week

■ For the second year in a row, stores in the Village will open for shoppers on the Sunday before Christmas because of a special resolution approved by the City of Grosse Pointe council.

Most City stores are prohibited by ordinance from

doing business on Sunday.

■ The first real test of solidarity in the massive Local 1 teacher's union may come later this week when membership in 15 districts, including Grosse Pointe, decide if they will walk out of classrooms to support 78 fired teachers.

Events leading up to the showdown are taking place in the tiny rural hamlet of Armada in northern Macomb County.

Seventy-eight teachers there have been on strike since October 22, keeping about 1,700 students out of school.

■ Grosse Pointe South High School's yearbook, "The View," wins first-class honors from the national Scholastic Press Association for the 1978-79 year.

The winning entry has color pictures of seniors and more copy.

10 years ago this week

■ A second, surprise suspect is charged in the two-year-old bus stop murder of Phyllis Ann Lenart, 32, of Grosse Pointe Park.

Although Park police say they'd been looking for two men in the robbery and fatal shooting of Lenart as she waited for a bus at Jefferson near Maryland, officers arrest Deborah McDonald for the crime.

McDonald, 36, is the girlfriend of Tony Raynell Hampton, 30. Hampton was arrested about six weeks ago for first degree murder, armed robbery and use of a firearms in the commission of a felony.

■ Grosse Pointe's story is told in "Tonnancour," a 215-page book representing five years of work by Fred Ruffner and Arthur Woodward.

"Tonnancour" begins with accounts of Father Louis Hennepin, who sailed across Lake St. Clair aboard the Griffin in August 1679 on his way to Green Bay.

■ The Grosse Pointe Historical Society wins a \$1,000 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The seed money is a matching grant that will be used to complete a historic structure report for the Provencal-Weir House, an 1819 farmhouse purchased by the society.

The report will serve as a master plan for restoration of the house, located in the Farms.

5 years ago this week

■ Grosse Pointe gift stores stock up on Beanie Babies, among the most sought-after toys for Christmas 1999 according to Playthings magazine.

Other popular toys are Brio Wooden Railway, Madeline dolls, Pokemon trading cards and key chains, Lego sets, music blocks, Thomas the Tank wooden railway system, Bendos and Beanie Buddies.

■ Mike Cox, a Wayne County prosecuting attorney, wins a case that finds

50 years ago this week



Eugenio makes All-State

Good things come in small packages, and Don Eugenio, Grosse Pointe High School's 150-pound bundle of dynamite, proved this adage when selected as a running back to the 1954 Class A All-State, All-Suburban and All-Border Cities League football teams. (Photo by Fred Runnells. From the Dec. 2, 1954 Grosse Pointe News.)

psychiatrist Dr. Richard C. Marcolini guilty of negligent homicide in the death of fellow Grosse Pointe Woods resident Earl S. Vogel, 83.

In March 1998, Vogel was riding a bicycle on Bramcaster at Stanhope when Marcolini struck him

down with his BMW Roadster sports car. During a trial in Circuit Court, several of Marcolini's neighbors testified they'd warned him to stop speeding and rolling through stop signs in the neighborhood.

Marcolini is sentenced to

90 days in Wayne County Jail.

■ Harmony House in the Village location, Chuck Papke, Harmony House senior vice president, says the record store chain is in "fine shape," and the store on Mack in the Woods will "definitely" stay open.

The victim of below-average sales, the final straw is five months of streetscape construction that cuts down on foot traffic.

Despite problems at the Village location, Chuck Papke, Harmony House senior vice president, says the record store chain is in "fine shape," and the store on Mack in the Woods will "definitely" stay open.

— Brad Lindberg

Survey winner

Thank you to all our readers to took the time to fill out our readership survey that ran in the Oct. 21 issue.

The opinions of our readers are very important to us and are taken into consideration when creating new and in evaluating current sections.

Mary Mitts of Grosse Pointe Woods is the winner of the drawing for a \$100 gift certificate to Something Special.

We will share some of our survey results in future issues of the Grosse Pointe News.

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Advertising copy for Sections "A" and "C" must be in the advertising department by 3:00 p.m. on Monday.

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Stock market on holiday while dollar tanks again

Thanksgiving reflects the biggest travel week of the year. While investors were on vacation, NYSE volume was only 4.4 billion shares vs. 7.3 billion the prior week.

Stock market prices, last week, weren't worth writing home about. The Dow gained 65 points, while the Nasdaq composite was up only 1 1/2 points.

But London markets were open all week for trading currency and gold. The U.S. dollar declined versus both

the euro and the yen, but especially the euro, which now costs \$132.94 U.S. for €100 euro, up an astonishing 2 percent last week.

The flip-side of the dollar is gold, which soared above \$450/ounce last Friday afternoon, with futures closing at \$449.30 on the Comex in New York.

The financial press has been all but ignoring the securitization of gold last Nov. 19, when the first gold exchange traded fund (ETF) began trading on the

Let's talk...
STOCKS

By Joseph Mengden



NYSE, symbol: GLD. Last week, 24.4 million shares were traded, each representing 1/10th ounce of gold.

If you were to purchase 100 shares of "streetTRACKS Gold

Trust," the trustee would invest your approximate \$4,500 cash by purchasing 10 ounces of gold bullion on the metals market, taking physical possession thereof.

This new demand for metallic gold never existed

before Nov. 19, and may or may not have a profound influence on gold prices in the future. The stock price tracks the gold, not vice versa.

Crude oil is back in the news again, topping \$50/barrel last Friday, before backing off to close at \$49.44.

Almost all homes in Grosse Pointe are heated by natural gas; so comments on heating oil usually fall on deaf ears around here.

Oil refineries, similar to the one off I-75 in Allen Park, "crack" crude oil into its major components, with predominantly gasoline produced in the spring and summer, and heating oil in the fall and winter.

But heating oil inventories this fall are only about three-quarters full. In New England, there are no natural gas wells and few gas pipelines, so most homes are heated by trucked-in heating oil or coal.

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Agency (no relationship to the "Farmer's Almanac") issued its final winter outlook on Nov. 18, forecasting "an enhanced likelihood of lower-than-average temperatures for the Eastern and Mid-Atlantic states."

Any prolonged freezer weather could shake up both the crude oil and natural gas markets, which are strongly related.

Stock Market
at a Glance

Friday Close, 11/26/04	
Dow Jones ind.	10,522
Nasdaq Comp.	2,102
S&P 500 Index	1,183
Euro	1.3294
Crude Oil (Bbl.)	49.44
Gold (Oz.)	449.30
3-Mo. T-Bills	2.19%
30-Yr. T-Bonds	4.88%

Social Security recipients had been advised in early October that their calendar 2005 payments would increase 2.7 percent, reflecting the CPI increase over the past 12 months ended Sept. 30.

Note that the monthly Social Security increase of 2.7 percent starting Jan. 1 is already "underwater" to October's 3.2 percent CPI increase and 2005 hasn't even started yet!

In recent years, the BLS has been dissecting the CPI components. By removing the highly volatile price sectors of food and energy, they now tout how the remaining "core group" of consumer prices have only inflated by 2.1 percent over the prior 12 months.

As if any family could even exist without food or energy for 30 days! This cost analysis mumbo-jumbo sounds like the accounting of the dot-com companies before the crash of the stock market bubble!

Joseph Mengden is a resident of the City of Grosse Pointe and former chairman of First of Michigan. "Let's Talk Stocks" is sponsored by the following Grosse Pointe investment-related firms: John M. Rickel CPA, P.C. and Rickel & Baun P.C.

Technology: Welcome to the 21st century

It's called instant gratification. I just couldn't save these for the New Year.

The following list of 20 items is called, "You know you are living in 2004 when..."

...you accidentally enter your password on the microwave.

...you haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.

...you have a list of 10 phone numbers to reach your family of three.

...you e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.

...your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.

...you go home after a long day at work, and you still answer the phone in a business manner.

...you make phone calls from home and accidentally dial "9" to get an outside line.

...you've sat at the same desk for four years and worked for three different companies.

...you learn about your redundancy on the 11 o'clock news.

...your boss doesn't have the ability to do your job.

...you approach your driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home.

...every commercial on television has a Web site at the bottom of the screen.

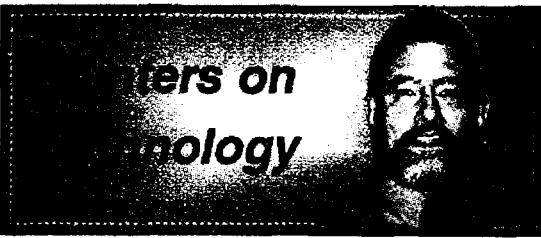
...leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic, and you turn around to go and get it.

...you get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.

...you start tilting your head sideways to smile. :-)

...you're reading this and nodding and laughing. Even worse,

...you know exactly to whom you are going to send this list.



...you are too busy to notice there are only 19 items on this list of 20.

...you actually looked back up and counted to see if there are only 19 items on this list. And now you are laughing at yourself.

OK, here is the challenge. If you can think of an item to add to the list, send it to me at mtmaurer@comcast.net, and I'll put it in my column. I'll even give you credit, unless it is something you did that is so dumb you don't want anyone to know. I have. Just ask my wife. She keeps a list.

Nearly half of all U.S. parents plan to give video games as gifts this holiday season, according to a survey last week conducted by the trade group representing the video game industry. In total, the Entertainment Software Association said 47 percent of adults with children plan to give a video game as a gift, and 37 percent of Americans expect to either give or receive a video game as a gift this holiday. The ESA represents the \$10 billion U.S. video game industry, which expects to have its best holiday season ever this year.

Which leads us to this: the proliferation of new video games with sex and violence.

Video games that have players shoot rival gang members, watch bare-breasted women and recreate the assassination of President Kennedy were criticized last week by a watchdog group that said, at the least, they should be

kept away from children. (And what mature adult would buy them?)

In issuing its annual report card on video games, the National Institute on Media and the Family urged the industry to educate parents better about ratings and asked retailers not to sell such games to younger teenagers.

Among those listed as the worst games of the year was "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas," a game in which the drug-trafficking "hero" vows to avenge his mother's murder and restore glory to his neighborhood gang.

Players rack up points by gunning down police, committing carjacking, burglarizing homes and dealing in other underworld activities. Like others on the group's list, the games are rated "M" for mature, which means retailers are not supposed to sell them to people under 17. The institute said some of

the games should be rated "AO" or "adults only," which would limit purchase to those 18 and over. Many stores will not carry games with that rating. Good places to shop, if you ask me.

Speaking of mature audiences...

It changed the lifestyles of a generation, but after a lingering death, the last rites have been sounded for the revolutionary VHS home video format. All over the world, VHS (Video Home System), or videotapes to you and me, is in headlong retreat as the DVD takes over.

Accepting the inevitable, Britain's biggest High Street electronics retailer, Dixons, has announced it was taking VHS video players off its shelves for good. In some countries, while the announcement wasn't seen as a blockbuster, it was still considered mammoth.

Sweet revenge for those of us who went with Beta a quarter century ago.

Have a tech question or subject you would like addressed in this column? Want to comment or add your two cents worth? My e-mail address is mtmaurer@comcast.net.

The Private Bank:
delinquency free

Of all the established banks currently operating in the U.S. only a handful were able to report zero loan delinquencies in each of the past two quarters. The Private Bank, headquartered in Bloomfield Hills is one of those banks and continues its 15-year record of overall excellent loan quality distinction.

"We are delighted, but not altogether surprised, to learn the news," said David T. Provost, chairman of the board of The Private Bank. "While it is rare for any bank to experience zero loan delinquencies in two consecutive quarters, we affirm the link between loan quality and client base. It is our clients' dedication both to the bank, and their private banker, that deserves the credit."

When asked about building banking relationships in the 21st century, Provost added, "When you build a relationship — any relationship — on mutual trust and

respect, a sense of honorable obligation to one another develops. We strive to meet clients' needs by providing great products and unparalleled service: they deserve it. In turn, they may feel a greater obligation to their private banker to keep their loans current.

"This type of old-fashioned banking, and the relationship that develops between a client and their private banker, is invaluable. It's what makes our clients more than just a customer."

The Private Bank, whose bank divisions and subsidiaries include The Bank of Bloomfield Hills, The Bank of Grosse Pointe, The Bank of Rochester and The Private Bank Mortgage Company, has operated as a Michigan-based private bank since 1989. It provides highly personalized service with an emphasis on meeting the unique financial needs of successful individuals.

Business people



Johnston

Amy M. Johnston has joined the Troy office of the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC as a senior attorney in the product litigation and torts, product safety and automotive groups.

Johnston is an experienced lead trial lawyer in multiple complex commercial, product liability, business and personal injury matters, primarily for corporate defendants. She has served as co-counsel or second chair lawyer in numerous product liability trials involving death, amputation, scalping or catastrophic losses, as well as commercial litigation cases concerning antitrust issues, the Robinson Patman Act, and Michigan regulation of motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and dealers.

Prior to joining Miller Canfield in September, Johnston was a managing attorney at Cardelli, Hebert & Lanfear PC of Royal Oak.

Johnston resides in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Colleen Kidd Dyer, Kim Dunn and Rodney Eddie have opened a Farm Bureau Insurance agency in the Kimberly Building located at 20311 Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods. The agency offers home, auto, life, health, annuities and commercial insurance.

John Patrick O'Leary, of the law firm O'Leary, O'Leary & Perry in Southfield, was selected to be included in the 2005-06 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

O'Leary, a resident of Grosse Pointe Shores, joins a select group of lawyers who have been included in the book for 10 or more years.

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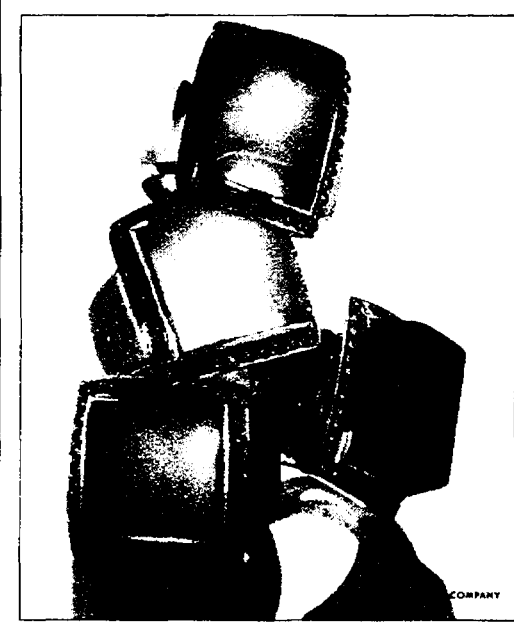


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Letters

From page 9A

election. Thank you for seeing the world as a much bigger place than your own back yard; bigger than your own wallet.

Thank you for fighting for the most basic tenets on which the country is based: equality for all, and separation of church and state.

Thank you for realizing that the Republican party has no monopoly on morality, that maybe the death of 100,000 innocent Iraqis is more immoral than a loving relationship between a gay couple.

Thank you for understanding that safety from the terrorism of radical religious zealots does not require embracing another kind of religious zealotry.

Thank you for seeing that global cooperation is the only way to fight what truly is a global war.

Thank you for choosing the planet's health over corporate bank accounts.

Thank you Grosse Pointe

Park for voting for John Kerry. We may be the only Pointe that did go for Kerry, but it is progress, and that is what is giving me hope on a day when little else is.

Laurie Burgoyne
Grosse Pointe Park

Fourth-grade curriculum

To the Editor:

The letters written recently to the Grosse Pointe News, "Curriculum change" and "Fourth-grade rotation" (Nov. 18), regarding the fourth-grade program at Richard Elementary School contained several misconceptions.

It is important to clarify that there was no change in the fourth-grade curriculum. There was a change in an instructional practice that has been implemented at Richard in the past and at other schools in the district for many years. It is the practice of departmentalization or teaming that allows students to receive instruction from more than one teacher. This is simply a

method of organizing for instruction. The Grosse Pointe curriculum and high standards remain in place without change.

Although all three fourth-grade teachers at Richard are qualified to teach all subjects, each has an endorsement in and is highly qualified in his/her subject area that is being taught to each class. The schedule change has allowed the teachers to share their deep knowledge of these subject areas across the entire grade level because students move to another classroom twice a day for instruction based on teacher expertise.

This change has been supported by the majority of parents who have expressed their support in surveys, e-mails, and letters. The Richard staff has communicated frequently with parents and students through letters, e-mails, conferences and surveys. Meetings with teachers and parents have been held in order to answer questions and clarify any issues. Much support and information has been provided to help the students and parents manage the change.

There has been no lack of resources, particularly with textbooks. Due to the availability of a math major to teach math and Richard's commitment to differentiation, the fourth-grade team has identified a record number of students to be accelerated to fifth-grade math.

As a consequence of this, there was a temporary shortage of fifth-grade math books for the fourth-graders. That was resolved when additional books were ordered by the district to meet the unexpected demand. In language arts, students had books available to sign out and take home whenever they needed them.

We have no reason to predict that MEAP scores will be affected by this change. About half of the district schools use this method of organizing instruction in the fourth grade. Almost all of them use it in the fifth grade and no pattern of success on the MEAP tests emerges that is attributable to this practice. (In fact, the one school cited, Defer, had higher MEAP scores in math last year than Richard.)

Richard students have adjusted very well to the instructional practice of departmentalization and they appear to be benefiting greatly from this method of instruction.

Mary MacDonald-Barrett
Principal
Richard Elementary School
Susan D. Allan, Ph.D.
Assistant
Superintendent
for Curriculum,
Instruction
and Assessment Grosse
Pointe Public Schools

FYI

From page 9A

your kindness and generosity. May the Lord bless you with peace.

"Your friend Always,
"Toti."

Money tree

Money does grow on trees if it gets a little help from a Japanese foreign exchange student at South High School named **Hiromi Suzuki**, 17, of the City of Grosse Pointe.

Delicately folded origami birds and a topping star all made with U.S. currency are parts of the 3-foot-tall tree at National City Bank on the Hill, where it is part of the HollyFest fundraiser for the Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods.

National City Bank executive **Kim Youngblood**, of the Farms, recruited Ms. Suzuki, a Rotary Exchange student, to decorate the tree.

There are 26 trees, table arrangements, wreaths and gift baskets at merchants on the Hill or Fisher Road all available for auction through this weekend, depending on

when the stores close. The money tree bids close on Friday afternoon when National City shuts its doors.

"It's fabulous what these folks have come up with to help us out," said Family Center executive director **Diane Strickler**, who says the program is in its second year. For more information, you may reach Strickler at the Barnes School at (313) 432-3832.

Strickler said **Sal Vitale** at Coliseum designed a tree decorated with feathers and birds. **Sandy Gillespie** at Something Special has a University of Michigan tree and a Michigan State tree, and **Pointe Pedlar** has a tree decorated with artificial pastries. Elegant trees, wreaths or arrangements can be found at the League Shop, Tassels, Leon's Salon, D.J. Kennedy's and Rielle Salon (the last has a wreath decorated with barrettes and hair clips).

Ben Burns of the City of Grosse Pointe is a professor in the journalism program at Wayne State University. He can be reached at burnsben@comcast.net or by phone at (313) 882-2810.

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248-393-6800

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(Twelve Oaks Service Dr.
North of Sears)
248-305-6600

PORTLAND
Twelve Oaks Mall
(Lower level play area)
PORTLAND/WATERFORD
454 Telegraph Rd.
(Across from Superior Place Mall)
248-335-9900

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(At Auburn Rd.)
248-853-0550

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586-777-4010

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Cellular Technology
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Authorized Cellular
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Foster Communications
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Wireless USA
248-395-2222

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Photo by Brad Lindberg
Dale Scrace, mayor of the City of Grosse Pointe, is about to light the Christmas tree during the annual tree lighting ceremony in the Village.

Village tree lights way for Santa Claus

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Christmas in the Village began Friday with an overture of marching bands and caroling.

Hours after thousands of onlookers clustered in the shopping district for the 29th Annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, a couple hundred reconvened during late afternoon for the Village Christmas Tree lighting ceremony.

Sam and Sera Stevens, grandchildren of City of Grosse Pointe Councilman John Stevens, helped Mayor Dale Scrace flip a switch lighting the official Christmas tree outside Damman Hardware at the corner of Kercheval and St.

Clair.

"Merry Christmas to everyone," Scrace said. "What a great day we've had in the Village."

Unlike last year, when rainy weather dampened attendance at the tree lighting, this year a large number of people gathered to join in holiday songs sung by the Authentic Dickens Carolers.

"Once again we're thrilled to have the Authentic Dickens Carolers here," said Lisa Rennell, owner of Rennell & Co. gifts and sponsor of the Carolers for the second year in a row. "Our family loves music. We're happy to be able to help bring a little of it to the Village."

"The carols add a wonderful festive thought to our pageantry," Scrace said.

Members of the Grosse Pointe Boat Club helped keep people warm by giving away hot chocolate.

"It's a popular event that has become a tradition," said Steve Sholtz, councilman and boat club commodore.

High turnout had boat club members scrambling for extra cups.

"We brought about 250 cups and ran out," said Tim Bledsoe, board member. "We had to get more."

"Having hot chocolate in fellowship — it's really great," Scrace said. "This is a highlight of the year."

Santa wows 'em at Shores Village Hall

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

'Tis the season of peace and goodwill, but the days of peace and quiet might be about to end at the Miatto household in Grosse Pointe Shores.

"I want a drum set for Christmas that my brother and me can play on," said Michelle Miatto, 9.

She said so Sunday night sitting on the lap of Santa Claus. Perhaps it was the reindeer antlers Miatto wore, or maybe it was the red Rudolph nose she adapted from a clown costume, but Miatto seemed to be making an impression as good as her behavior during the year.

"Ho, ho, ho," Santa said.

Santa was in a good mood at the Shores' 12th Annual Lighting of the Village ceremony.

He gave his reindeer the night off and hitched a ride to the Shores atop one of the

public safety department's fire trucks. Sirens, flashing lights and everything.

"My next favorite thing from riding in a sleigh is a nice, red fire truck," Santa said to a crowd of at least 200 children and adults gathered on the steps to Village Hall.

"How did you like my grand entrance?" Santa called.

Children cheered. Adults, too, many of whom Santa remembered from their youth. Including Shores President Dr. James Cooper.

"Little Jimmy, it's so nice to see you," Santa said, shaking President Cooper's hand. "I remember when little Jimmy would sit on my lap and ask for things like a house on Lakeshore and to be president of Grosse Pointe Shores."

"I welcome you all to the start of our holiday season," Cooper told Santa and fellow

residents.

Children, many holding hand-written Christmas lists, lined up to sit on Santa's lap in a high-backed chair near a Christmas tree in the village lobby that was transformed for the occasion with holiday decorations and the smell of hot chocolate.

Meanwhile, Santa's helpers worked overtime at their North Pole workshop.

"The elves are putting in 12-hour days, sometimes 18 hour days," Santa said. "We're working very hard because we have a lot of toys to make for good little boys and girls and big boys and girls, too."

Miatto's cousins, Jennifer and Kimberly Cusmano of the Shores, hope those elves know something about electronic equipment.

"Me and my sister want a TV in our room," said Jennifer, 10.

"I want an American Idol

for Playstation 2," said Kimberly, 9.

Cooper thanked members of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation, Village staff, DPW employees and the Beautification Commission for arranging the evening, setting up decorations and providing hot chocolate.

Members of the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus, including Shores Trustee Rose Garland Thornton, sang carols, beginning with "White Christmas" and including "Jingle Bells," known to be one of Santa's favorites.

"Thank you very much for welcoming me," Santa said. "This is one of my favorite places in the world. I have the luxury of seeing the most beautifully decorated houses in the world. You have some of the more beautifully decorated. Ho, ho, ho. Merry Christmas to you all."



Photo by Brad Lindberg
Michelle Miatto, 9, of Grosse Pointe Shores, dons reindeer garb to visit Santa Claus during the 12th Annual lighting of the Village ceremony Sunday evening at Village Hall.

Hill restaurateur wants liquor license

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

A Grosse Pointe Farms man with more than 25 years restaurant experience is first in line to receive a liquor license for a cafe he's planning on the Hill.

Edward Barbieri Jr., who with his father in 1978 opened DaEdoardo restaurant in Grosse Pointe Woods, wants a Class C liquor license for his Cafe DaEdoardo being built at 98 Kercheval.

Barbieri projects a menu of about 30 items, mainly light meals such as plain or

specialty sandwiches, salads made to order, soup, desserts, coffee and soft drinks.

The exact nature of the restaurant depends on whether he can serve liquor.

"If the license were granted, it would be more of a full-service restaurant than a coffee house," Barbieri said. "Right now, it exists as a little more than a coffee house but a little less than a restaurant."

The Farms has only one more available liquor license. No other requests are filed at the city clerk's

office.

"I would be opposed to giving our last remaining liquor license to an upgraded coffee house," said Councilman Terry Davis. "It prevents us from, in the foreseeable future, attracting another upscale restaurant on the Hill."

Yet Davis voted with his council colleagues Nov. 15 to place Barbieri "above all others" for consideration of a liquor license. The designation is required under Michigan law before applicants can apply for a license from the Liquor Control Commission.

"This is a first step," said Shane Reeside, city manager.

If the LCC approves the request, which can take three months, Farms officials re-enter the process.

"Upon completion of their investigation they will request the Farms department of public safety to conduct an investigation of the applicant and premises as it relates to local ordinances," said Robert Ferber, public safety director.

"We have to approve the final site plan for the building itself," Reeside added.

Barbieri's restaurant in the Woods has never received a liquor violation. Neither has his family's restaurant in Grand Blanc, opened in 2000, or a restaurant that opened in 2001 in the Fox Theater building in downtown Detroit.

"I have enjoyed your restaurant on Mack," Davis said.

Cafe DaEdoardo's proposed seating capacity of 34 patrons meets the municipal parking ordinance requiring one parking spot per 100 square feet of usable floor space.

Four of six businesses currently holding liquor licenses in the Farms are allowed to provide outdoor service.

If Barbieri wishes outdoor seating, he'll need approval from the LCC plus a Farms variance.

"I believe outdoor liquor sales would have to be fenced in," said Terry Brennan, head of public service.

William Burgess, city attorney, said outdoor seating "would be regulated through (the public safety department) and our control of the right-of-way, the sidewalk."

Santa's schedule

Santa Claus wants children to give him their Christmas lists while he visits the Village district of the City of Grosse Pointe.

He will be at Damman Hardware this weekend, Dec. 4 and 5.

On Saturday, Dec. 11, he'll

be at Madi Lu & Ethan Too!

On Sunday, Dec. 12, Santa will be at Posterity: A Gallery.

Santa appears at Hickey's Walton Pierce on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 18 and 19.

For more information, call (313) 886-7474.

Circle of Honor on Ch. 22

The Grosse Pointe Woods Memorial Day 2004 celebration will be televised on Tuesday, Dec. 7, and Saturday, Dec. 11, on local cable Channel 22 at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

This annual ceremony, sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission, takes place at the Circle of Honor (Mack and Vernier) with nearly 500 people in attendance.



The owners of Cafe DaEdoardo, being built at 98 Kercheval, are requesting Grosse Pointe Farms' last unused Class C liquor license for the small, 34-patron eatery to open soon on the Hill.

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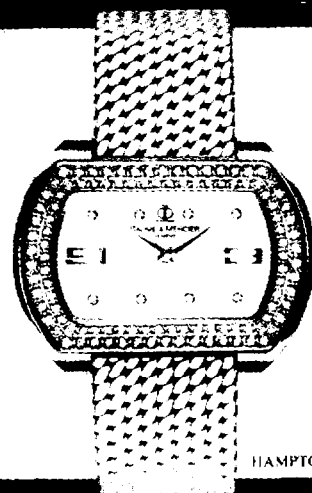
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Patriot puts college on hold to serve in Egypt

By Jennie Miller
Staff Writer

To his peers, Ken Potenga is just your average 22-year-old.

An organizational communication student at Western Michigan University, he lives in an off-campus apartment with friends and plays intramural soccer. He likes music, plays video games, and is close to his family in Grosse Pointe Park.

But he's unlike the vast majority of those he passes on his way to class each day because of a special loyalty he has toward his country.

"I'm a patriot at heart," Potenga said of his decision to join the U.S. Army. "I did it for the flag. I love my country."

He joined because he felt it was his duty and because of the line of family members who have also stepped forward. His grandfather proudly served in the U.S. Navy, and his brother, whom Potenga calls his hero, has built a career in the army.

He joined through Western's program with the National Guard, hoping it would help him financially with his college education, but also to seek adventure and to see the world.

What he didn't anticipate was that after his training was complete, the army would immediately interrupt his education and deploy him to the other side of the world.

"I didn't know it would happen right away," he said. "I wanted to graduate college first, and I was in the middle of my senior year. It turned my world around."

POINTER OF INTEREST

The army was sending him to Egypt to be a part of the Multinational Force of Observers, an organization made up of 11 different nations which has focused the last 22 years securing the border between Egypt and Israel. It was a peace-keeping mission, and Potenga was to spend seven months in a tower overlooking the Sinai Peninsula, observing the land, sea and air to make sure no unauthorized vehicle, boat or plane comes into view.

"There were a few tense situations, but nothing ever happened," he said.

While the watchman duties were mostly uneventful, Potenga also spent time, a great deal of time, on training missions with soldiers of other countries, which he especially enjoyed.

"We shot live rounds at targets in the desert and trained on the ground with the Italian Navy and the Colombian, Uruguayan, Filipino and French infantrymen," he said. While some spoke English and others used translators, Potenga said the Spanish classes he took at Grosse Pointe South High School came in handy.

On downtime, Potenga was able to travel to places he'd never dreamed of going.

"I went to Israel and visited Jerusalem, where I saw the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and Jesus' tomb, and the hole where the crucifix was placed in the

ground. I put my arm down into the hole. It was amazing. I saw the exact spot where Jesus was nailed to the cross, and I saw the Wailing Wall. There was so much history.

"I went scuba diving; I went swimming in the Dead Sea; I went to Cairo and saw the pyramids. I ate a ton of Arabic food — it was amazing."

Potenga also made plenty of friends with his fellow soldiers, one of which is currently his roommate in Kalamazoo.

But throughout the excitement, Potenga missed home very much. He missed the simple things like school and holidays that he thinks many people take for granted. One friend had a baby while he was gone. Mother's Day passed, and he was on the other side of the world, wishing he could hug his mom. He spent the Fourth of July in another country — proud to be an American, but wishing he could see more red, white and blue.

"It was strange and difficult, but you get through it, day by day," he said.

Having since returned and settled back in school, Potenga is prepared for the possibility that he'll be sent out again.

"It doesn't freak me out. I knew what I was getting into when I signed on the dotted line," he said. "I'm just going to go back to living my normal life."

Woods residents may get extra sense of security

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

With the favorable response to the availability of lock boxes for commercial buildings, Grosse Pointe Woods will be testing a similar program for its residents.

The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council is expected to give the city's public safety department the go-ahead to purchase two to five temporary lock boxes for residents to use upon request.

The lock boxes are small vaults that hang on an exterior door by a metal clip. The lock boxes will provide public safety officers with instant access into a house in case of an emergency if the resident is not home or doesn't respond.

"It's a very secure system," Public Safety Director Michael Makowski said. "It's been used in several communities. It would expedite our response time to an emergency. Now, we have to sit there, literally, with a car until a property owner shows up, or if we have to break in, we have to sit there until someone shows up to secure the building."

The department will have access to the lock boxes through one master key. Access to the key is tracked by a security code used by selected public safety officers.

The lock boxes would be available by request.



The Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety will likely get the OK to purchase two to five residential lock boxes. The lock boxes will be lent to residents at request to allow public safety officers rapid entry to a house in emergency situations.

However, they would not be the first recommended means for public safety officers to gain entry into a house.

"The first resource should be leaving a key with a neighbor and notifying our department (if a homeowner is out of town)," Makowski said.

If the council formally agrees to allow the public safety department to purchase the lock boxes, their

use and effectiveness will be studied to determine if residents would be allowed to purchase and register permanent lock boxes.

A formal recommendation to purchase the lock boxes is likely to come before the council at its Monday, Dec. 6, meeting. The request came from Councilwoman Patricia Chylinski, who has a lock box installed at her cottage in Amherstburg, Ontario.

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Awkward
ages

A few weeks ago I achieved a certain age which includes the number 4. I don't feel as if I'm over the hill, instead, I feel more like a teenager.

It's not that I feel or look young, I don't think as if I know everything, and I don't believe I'm invincible, but my age is an awkward age.

I'm at an age at which I get called "Ma'am" more often than I'm asked to show my ID when I buy a bottle of wine at the market, and yet I still get called "Dear," mostly by women old enough to be my mother.

As I did when I was a teenager, I hate being called "Dear" by others than a significant other.

I'm still young enough to rock 'n roll yet I find myself asking my youngest son to "turn down that noise."

I take that back. Perhaps I'm not old enough to rock 'n roll. I can barely afford concert tickets!

There are some clothes that would probably fit me that I just simply shouldn't wear at my age: skirts above the knee, anything from Bebe or anything too pink. Then there are some clothes I can't because they don't look good on any female, regardless of age, who are 25 pounds over perfect: belly shirts, low-rider jeans and tank tops. But that doesn't mean I have to wear what a friend of mine calls "sensible shoes," or button-down shirts with crew neck sweaters that hide any skin or shape I may still have.

Tattoos, no matter how fashionable they are these



days, are out. I never would have gotten a tattoo as a teenager either. The thought of eventually being a grandmother or great-grandmother with a tattoo has always horrified me as much as it has amused me.

I'm old enough to wear bifocals, although I'll never resort to wearing reading glasses. I take a lot more medication now than I did when I was a teenager, but I figure my daily dose of baby aspirin levels out the more adult things I take now.

Although most women at my age can still bear children, I just don't see pregnancy and caring for an infant fitting in with my lifestyle now, especially as a divorced single woman. The same goes for teens.

Besides, for all the energy I had in my 20s and early 30s for caring for infants, I have just as much patience now for teens of my own.

Perhaps that's the key to my purpose in life in this point in time: Who better to deal with offspring at an

awkward age than a parent who has attained an awkward age herself?

Unlike many teens, I don't believe I know everything, especially when it comes to raising two teens of my own. Luckily, teens now come with instructions.

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods recently released "Navigating the Adolescent Years: A Road Map for Parents."

In its few years of existence, the Family Center has put on many successful programs for parents, children and families in the area but has had the most difficulty reaching the parents of teens. The Road Map is an ideal vehicle.

Designed much like a AAA Trip Tik, the Road Map readily and concisely answers questions many parents have about raising teens.

Want to know what age-appropriate behavior is for your teen? What would likely happen to your teen if he or she tests positive for consuming alcoholic beverages at an unsupervised house party? What are the consequences if the party is at your house? What does your teen need to know about sex?

The Road Map has been a labor of love for Family Center Executive Director Diane Strickler, especially in the work she put into recruiting the people required to assemble the Road Map: counselors, social workers and law enforcement officials.

The Road Map is a must-have for all parents of teens. Cost is not a roadblock to owning the book; it's free, and available from high school counselors and at the Family Center at Barnes School.

Grosse Pointe News
December 2, 2004, Page 9A

The Op-Ed Page



Visit the Grosse Pointe Dogs website: <http://gpdogs.keenspace.com>

Streetwise

Question of the Week:
People watching the 29th annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade were asked, "What do you want for Christmas?"



Kaitlyn Vreeken

"A kitten."
Kaitlyn Vreeken, 9
Grosse Pointe Farms



Pasha Vreeken

"A Burmese mountain dog."
Pasha Vreeken, 7
Grosse Pointe Farms



Skye Vreeken

"I like Princess jammas."
Skye Vreeken, 4
Grosse Pointe Farms



Kelley Vreeken

"A deep freezer." She's also considering a Burmese mountain dog and kitten.
Kelley Vreeken
Grosse Pointe Farms



Sera Stevens

"A gift certificate to the Limited II."
Sera Stevens, 7
Birmingham



Sam Stevens

"An ESPN NBA 2K5. It's a video game."
Sam Stevens, 8
Birmingham

If you have a question you would like asked, drop us a note at 96 Kercheval on The Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or email to editor@grossepointenews.com

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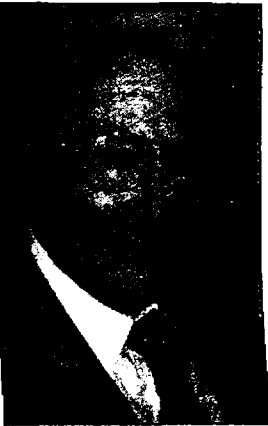
by Ben Burns

Ciao! Mr. Toti

Salvatore Palazzola, 80, bade farewell Sunday to the customers who have frequented his 17221 Mack Ave. Toti's Salon beauty parlor for the past 44 years. They packed the four-chair place and wished him a happy retirement. Some of them had been coming to him for four decades and are still wondering where they will go next.

They signed his guest book as daughters Caterina (Cathy) Vitale and Serafina (Sara) Palazzola and wife Benedetta (Bina) greeted them.

They said things like: "I'll miss our monthly conversations. God bless you, my beautiful friend." (Not present was daughter Giuseppina (Josie). Known as Mr. Toti, which is a version of an Italian nickname for Salvatore, Palazzola came to the Grosse Pointes when he was 37 with very little English. He remembers a cold February day trying to get to the Pointes by bus. "It was 15 degrees out," he said. "The bus driver gave me a newspaper to wrap over my head when I got out on Conner to transfer. It was a long wait, and a bus didn't come. I stamped my feet. A car came by and the driver saw me, and he backed up and took me to Conner and



"Mr. Toti"

Jefferson. He bought me a cup of soup at a place there. I was so cold, I couldn't speak, and when I could, he was gone. People were nice to me."

Toti recalled how "Mr. Maier" of Maier-Werner on Fisher Road, taught him to wash hair and keep his hair designs "simple." And he reminisced about the customer who got out of the chair with her hair full of suds and called her banker husband to help him (Mr. Toti) secure a loan to open his own shop after other bankers had turned him down.

He remembered how one customer put two dollars in his breast pocket as a tip years and years ago and said, "Get yourself a drink." Instead he put the two dol-

lars in the bank to save for his daughters' college educations, and all three earned degrees, and Josie earned her master's.

Toti offered this philosophy in his guest book on Sunday:

"To those I loved and those who love me. Every day of life is a gift. Don't squander it. Don't waste it by being angry with anyone. Don't let it slip away by feeling sorry for yourself. Be grateful for this precious gift of life and spend it by being thankful and as 'Happy as you possibly can.'"

"He has been a constant in our lives," said Helen Papaionau. "We will all miss him."

Mr. Toti, a small man with a big heart, handed out little scrolls of pink paper to the guests he greeted as old friends. The scrolls read:

"In the many years of our friendship, I have learned a lot. You have made the path of life known to me. It is like a shining light. What remains is a suitcase filled with good memories reminding me of your gentle, warm hearts and expressions of your love."

"I will never forget those years of our long-time friendship. I am very happy that you gave me the opportunity to serve you. This separation breaks my heart. I love you all. Thank you for

See FYI, page 10A

Points about the Pointes
Eyeball-to-eyeball communication skills and the future of our kids.....are they connected?



Last night, I searched the Internet for a combination sit down/stand up workstation system for the digital image ordering area we are installing at Speedi Photo. Instead of making dozens of phone calls as I would have in the "pre-Internet" days, I did a search and found just what I wanted on the web site of a library furniture manufacturer in about twenty minutes. I filled out their information request form and received a quote for the workstations via e-mail this morning!

Our children's knowledge of the Internet will dwarf ours. They will graduate high school with advanced degrees in Internet acronyms and search engines. The downside of this new Internet, e-mail and chat room society is that our children no longer discover the need early in life of developing the finer skills of persuasive, eyeball-to-eyeball communication.

When our graduates are applying for the same job (all other things being equal), the applicant who can look the interviewer straight in the eye and persuasively communicate rather than stare at the floor and stumble through the interview will get the job. They will also be the ones who get the sale, whether they ultimately end up selling legal services, houses or elective plastic surgery.

Our seniors graduating today will hold five or more jobs in their careers. Sixty percent of them will be employed in a field that doesn't even exist today. The only skill we can teach them that will not go out of date is the power of persuasive, eyeball-to-eyeball communication. If we start teaching this skill to them early in life, they are sure to succeed no matter what career path they choose.

.....Ahmed Ismail (ahmed.ismail@comcast.net)

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Virginia M. DiDomenico

Former Grosse Pointe resident Virginia M. DiDomenico, 77, died on Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2004.

Mrs. DiDomenico contributed significantly to the success of the family beauty salon, Bart Edmond Inc., and was known for her sincere love and generosity.

She is survived by her children, Loretta (Tom) Meek of Rochester Hills, Ralph (Teresa) DiDomenico of Eben Junction, Carol (Keith) Miller of Traverse City, and Tom (Mary) DiDomenico of Grosse Pointe; six grandchildren, Rafe DiDomenico, Raquel Machtemes, Andy Meek, Rob Meek, Jenny Meek and Nicole DiDomenico and 2 great-grandchildren, Xerxes Machtemes and Joslyn Machtemes.

Following cremation, a memorial service will be celebrated at Roselawn Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of Traverse City, 1105 6th St., Traverse City, MI 49684.

Olga M. Gilbert

Grosse Pointe Park resident Olga M. Gilbert died on Sunday, Nov. 28, 2004, from complications after surgery.

Mrs. Gilbert was born on Dec. 4, 1921, in Detroit. She married Donald R. Gilbert on Feb. 5, 1941. She was a wife, mother and homemaker.

A parishioner of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, she supported may Catholic



Olga M. Gilbert

charities and volunteered in numerous community organizations, including transcribing for the blind and delivering meals to seniors. She enjoyed traveling and spending time at her second home on the AuSable River.

Mrs. Gilbert is survived by her three children, Dyan (Robert) Manion, Michael and David (Cyndi); her five grandchildren, Christopher, Belinda, Alexandra, Devyn and Spencer; her brother, Mickey Miotto; her sister, Virginia Schweikhart and many nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her husband, Donald Gilbert.

Visitation will be at Chas. Verheyden, Inc., Grosse Pointe Park on Thursday, Dec. 2, from 1 to 9 p.m. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 3, 2004 with a gathering prior to the Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe

Park. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Ambrose Parish, Outreach Ministries to the Poor, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230.

Virginia Downer Howard

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Virginia Downer Howard, 81, died on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2004.

Born Oct. 9, 1923, in Detroit to Dr. Ira G. and Jessie A. Downer, Mrs. Howard attended the Liggett School and Ward-Belmont College.

Mrs. Howard served in the U.S. Marines as a sergeant. She was head camp counselor at Camp Bryn Aeon. She was a member of Tau Beta Association and the Junior League of Detroit.

She had numerous interests including golf, tennis, field hockey, bridge and knitting. She enjoyed spending time at her summer home in Canada.

She is survived by her husband, E.J. Howard Jr.; her daughters, Barbara H. Greenwood, Mary H. Johnson (Stafford); her son, Peter J. (Cherie); her grandchildren, Stafford Johnson, Jennifer and Lindsay Howard and her sister, Jean D. Hodges (Theodore).

She is predeceased by her brothers, Sgt. Ira G. Downer Jr. and Harry A. Downer.

A memorial service was held on Nov. 5 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. Interment is in Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit.

Memorial contributions may be made to Tau Beta Association, c/o 317 Belanger Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

John A. Moss

Grosse Pointe Woods resident John A. Moss died on Friday, Nov. 19, 2004.

Born Nov. 7, 1919, in Detroit to George and Catherine Moss, he attended Cooley High School and graduated with a degree in business from the University of Detroit. In 1942, he married his high school sweetheart, Roberta D. Bohn.

Mr. Moss was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his participation in the Battle of the Bulge.

Mr. and Mrs. Moss were "pioneers" of Lathrup

Village when they moved there in the mid-1940s. They moved to Grosse Pointe Woods in 1972.

In 1965, he took over the ownership of Tappan and Associates Realtors which he owned and managed until his retirement in 1992. During his career, he was very active with the Grosse Pointe Real Estate Exchange. In 1984, he served as the president of the Detroit Board of Realtors.

After his retirement, Mr. Moss and his wife moved to Florida, where they resided until 2003, when they returned to Michigan to be closer to their family.

He is survived by his wife, Roberta; his daughters, Kathi and Debi; his son, John and five grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Beaumont Foundation, c/o Beaumont Hospice Fund at William Beaumont Hospital, 3601 West 13 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073-9952.

Markus Schmidt

Markus Schmidt, 76, died on Sunday, Nov. 28, 2004, in his Grosse Pointe Shores home.

Mr. Schmidt was born in Yugoslavia to Jakob and Margaretha Schmidt in 1928.

He served in the United States Army from 1953 to 1955. During his service he was involved with the development of defense missile systems.

Mr. Schmidt was a mechanical engineer, and the owner of Atlas Tool Inc.



Markus Schmidt

in Roseville. He founded the company in 1962. Atlas Tool is a leading supplier of automotive tooling and does machining work for the aerospace industry, including NASA.

In 1955, he married his wife Elizabeth. They shared many philanthropic interests. Their main focus was education, and they have endowed scholarships for students ranging from the elementary level through graduate school.

He was a member of Our Lady Star of the Sea parish, the Engineering Society of Detroit, the Lochmoor Club and the Detroit Athletic Club. His interests included tennis, chess and golf.

Mr. Schmidt is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; his son, Mark R. (Susan); his daughter, Linda (James) Selwa; his grandchildren, Nicholas, Matthew and Katherine; his brother, Hans M. Lettang (Betty); his sister-in-law, Eva Mueller

and his nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents; his sister, Magdalena; and his brother-in-law, Paul Mueller.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m., preceded by instate at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 2, at Our Lady Star of The Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Children's Home of Detroit, 900 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Lillian Marie Wilcox Whims

Former Grosse Pointe and Troy resident Lillian Marie Wilcox Whims, 92, died on Monday, Nov. 22, 2004.

Recently, she was a resident of Coral Springs, Fla. She was of the Protestant faith.

She is survived by her two daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Jerry Finch of Coral Springs, Fla., and Nancy and Larry Schiller of Jupiter, Fla.; her 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Vene Whims.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, Nov. 27, at the White Chapel, 621 West Long Lake Road, Troy, with the Rev. Mary Lynch Mallory officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to a hospice of the donor's choice in her memory.

City clerk first in county

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Julie Arthurs finished first on election night.

She was the first city clerk to register election results in Wayne County the night of Nov. 2.

"They said I win the prize," said Arthurs, clerk of the City of Grosse Pointe.

The prize, if any, remains undetermined.

Of the City's 78 percent voter turnout on election day, 24 percent voted by absentee ballot. Only 54 percent voted in person, which helped lighten the load at the city's two precincts.

Absentee ballots are restricted to registered vot-

ers who either can't make it to the polls on election day or would have a difficult time doing so.

"I'm an advocate of no-reason absentee voting, but they haven't amended the laws to that effect," Arthurs said. "It gives you enough time to look over the ballot and take your time voting."

Registered voters more than 60 years old can have an absentee ballot application mailed to them prior to every election in the City, except school elections which are held through the school system.

During the recent presidential election Nov. 2, Councilman Richard Clarke went to the polls at Maire Elementary School at about 11:30 a.m. The City's two precincts are both located at Maire, but Clarke noticed a longer line of voters at Precinct Two.

"For a good portion of the day while I was there, there was a lop-sided balance between the two precincts," Clarke said. "Precinct One one hardly had a line a lot of the day. At Precinct Two peo-

ple were lined up down the hall and almost out the door."

Arthurs said both precincts have about the same number of voters. Lines at Precinct Two were due to more people voting in person rather than absentee.

"There are more absentee voters in Precinct One than in Precinct Two," Arthurs said. "At 7 and 11 a.m., the lines were pretty equal in length. After that time, it was significantly less in Precinct One."

To apply for an absentee ballot for municipal elections, City residents should call (313) 885-5800. For absentee ballots for school elections, call Grosse Pointe public schools at (313) 432-3000.

Absentee ballot applications must be submitted by 2 p.m. of the Saturday preceding an election.

To register to vote in the City, apply in person at City Hall or a local Secretary of State office no later than 30 days prior to an election.

1940s boiler gives out at water plant

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

As winter nears, a broken boiler could turn Grosse Pointe Farms water plant employees into a bunch of Chilly Willys.

"We've had problems with the boiler — it's not operational," said Shane Reeside, city manager.

Failure has presented an opportunity to improve the heating system, which dates to the 1940s.

"We are recommending radiant heaters as opposed to boiler replacement," said Scott Homminga, water superintendent.

The nearly \$50,000 investment could start paying off its first day of operation.

"Not only is there a reduction in installation cost, it is expected the radiant heaters will reduce monthly heating bills by approximately 40 percent or more," Homminga said.

The percentage translates

to \$6,000 per month, he said.

"It makes good sense economically," Reeside said. "This is a system we've had experience with."

Radiant heaters were installed several years ago at the Farms sewer plant and public works garage on Kerby at Chalfonte.

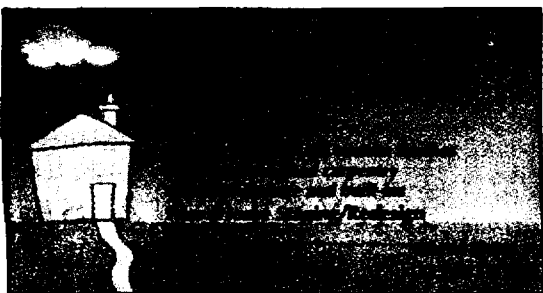
Homminga said radiant heat is more efficient.

"It heats the metal and concrete of the building," Homminga said. "It holds the heat."

Byrne Mechanical submitted the lowest of three bids to install the units.

Byrne's price of \$49,834 beat the second-place bid by \$7,050. The top-bidder wanted \$16,100 more than Byrne, which has done work with the Farms for years.

The company most recently completed installation of a low-bid heating/air conditioning system in city hall.

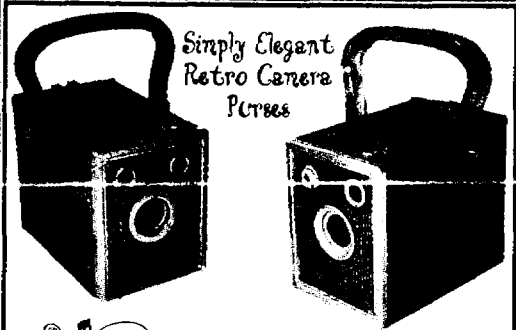


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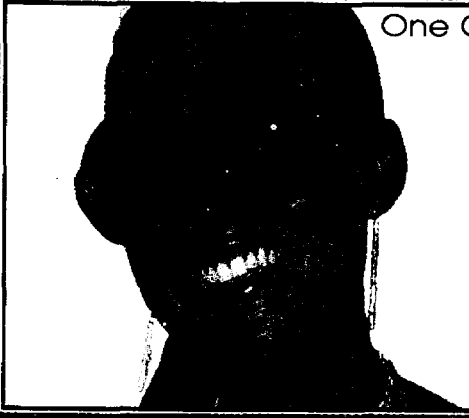
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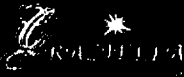
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Santa ushers in holiday season

Grosse Pointe merchants were hoping for a rosy Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, but reviews are mixed.

While the rest of the country is basking in a rebounding economy, we in the Detroit area and Michigan haven't decided yet whether it will be a good year or just so-so.

But the holiday season is a time of great joy and optimism, and we encourage all our readers to say bah, humbug! to pessimism and get out there — shopping!

There are good signs. Chrysler-Jefferson is working seven days a week, as are other car manufacturers. Home sales are picking up, and jobs are being added.

Interest rates are still a bargain; it's a great time for investing in a home, income property or a new or expanded business.

The presidential election is behind us for another four years — albeit campaigning will begin long before. We re-elected George W. Bush, which

Opinion

is good news for business. Investors prefer the status quo of change or uncertainty.

Frederick Marx, founding partner of Marx Layne & Co., a public relations and marketing agency with several retail clients in the metro Detroit area, is optimistic about Grosse Pointe.

"Shopping centers like the Village will do well," he told reporter Bonnie Caprara. "People are looking for short cuts because we're so time restricted."

Marx said that the improving climate of the stock market and favorable cold weather conditions should help boost holiday sales overall.

"You want this chilly weather if you want to sell sweaters," he sagely pointed out.

Let it snow; let it snow; let it snow!

Sandy Gillespie, owner of Something Special Gifts in the Hill shopping district in the Farms, has been ready for Christmas since last January when she does her holiday

purchases — a year ahead of time. Talk about faith!

(As an aside, Department 56 collectors may want to rush over to Something Special, as well as to The League Shop across the street, and check out the buys there!)

Ellen Durand, Grosse Pointe Village Association president and co-owner of the Village Toy Co., is hoping for a good holiday season for her store and others in the City.

She said sales are a little off, but many people may be shopping online, which is a growing trend, she said.

But as Christmas draws near, shopping locally is the best way to go. Our merchants stock the best merchandise, and they are close by. You can get in and out and avoid the maddening crowds of the big-box stores.

Whether it is special gift packages, clothing, wine, shoes or restaurant gift cards, that gift you want can be found right here.

And along with the Hill and the

Village, don't forget the great shopping districts on Mack, Fisher, Charlevoix and Jefferson in the Park.

When preparing for the Christmas Day meal or New Year's Eve party, don't go far from home. Village Foods on Mack in the Farms has a long history in providing Grosse Pointe families with all their holiday needs.

Lastly, we would like to commend all those who made the 29th annual Santa Claus Parade an unqualified success.

Durand, of the Village Association, told reporter Brad Lindberg that the holiday spirit was ushered in last Friday morning with the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade. She noted that crowds of watchers lined both sides of Kercheval and jammed the Village.

"The Village was packed and people stayed," Durand told our reporter. "I think they really are ready to get into it and make some great buys."

Everywhere we went, people commented on how good the parade was this year, and we agree.

Just one suggestion: Let's get Santa's sleigh and reindeer back. Somehow, Mr. and Mrs. Claus arriving in a horse-drawn wagon doesn't fit the season.

But that is just a small complaint. The main thing is that Santa arrived and the holiday season has officially begun!

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Bush's ethnic revolution

By Michael Goodell
Grosse Pointe Farms

By selecting Alberto Gonzales and Condoleezza Rice to replace, respectively, departing Attorney General John Ashcroft and Secretary of State Colin Powell, President George W. Bush furthered the racial and ethnic revolution he began in his first term.

Assuming they are confirmed, Gonzales will be the first Hispanic attorney general, and Rice, by virtue of her status as fourth in presidential succession, will become the most powerful woman in the history of U.S. government. (Although Madeleine Albright served as secretary of state in the Clinton administration, she was a naturalized citizen and therefore not eligible to serve as president.)

Bush has carried out his social revolution with a minimum of acclaim because he selected these individuals not on the basis of their race or ethnicity, but because he trusts and relies upon their judgment. They haven't been appointed out of some desire to assemble a cabinet "that looks like America."

Another reason for the stealth revolution is that the mainstream media are loathe to give Bush any credit for his historic achievement. If he were a Democrat, he would be praised to the heavens for his appointments.

Democrats must necessarily denigrate the achievements of any member of what they consider their captive constituents — blacks, Hispanics and women — who align themselves with the enemy: conservatives and Republicans.

With Powell, they claimed he "wasn't really black." With Rice, they portray her as an incompetent.

Ironically, if Rice were a Democrat, she would be hailed as a paragon. She would have been elevated in the political firmament to the stature of Illinois Democratic Sen. Barack Obama.

The Democrats' position is inherently built on race, but that is understandable in light of their need to retain the loyalty of ethnic and racial minorities in order to win high office.

In the aftermath of the last election, much has been made of the dichotomy of red and blue states. What is rarely remarked by the blue-state elitists is that they won most of the few counties they did by virtue of the fact that black

Americans, unique among any demographic subgroup in the country, continue to vote as a monolithic, Democratic bloc.

The Democrats had high hopes for similar party cohesion by Hispanics, which is why Democrats felt constrained to distort Senate rules in order to prevent Miguel Estrada's pre-election appointment to the federal bench.

However, the election demonstrated that Hispanics are not a monolith. Though they leaned Democratic, there was a substantial Republican minority. This is good news for Hispanic Americans as it represents their commitment to fully participate in the American economy, but bad news for the Democrats.

The appointment of Gonzales as attorney general represents the death knell to any remaining hopes Democrats had of creating a new, quiescent, wholly captive voting bloc.

Moving forward, Democrats must do whatever is in their power to retain their hold on African-Americans. This is the main reason Obama has become the poster child of the new Democratic Party. Contrast him with the denigration of Rice, and you have the picture of a party whose leaders will do anything to deny African-Americans their right to participate in American society as equal partners.

They will seek instead to deliver the message to blacks that they are not capable of competing on a level playing field. They will continue to preach by word and congressional act that African-Americans can progress only through governmental largesse that will come only from the Democratic Party.

A competent, effective tenure as secretary of state will position Rice as a likely Republican vice presidential candidate in 2008. Perhaps if she is so nominated, black Americans will open their eyes and recognize that the path to fulfillment lies not in continued enslavement to Democratic Party statism, but in Republican meritocracy.

Because the stakes are so high, Rice can anticipate challenges not just from American enemies, such as French President Jacques Chirac and U.N. General Secretary Kofi Annan, but from the opposition in the Senate, the House and the mainstream media.

But, regardless, she will be there on merit, not quotas.



Address comments to cartoonist Phil Hands at phands@grossepointenews.com or go to www.philtoons.com

This is all very interesting since the federal government's own Centers for Disease Control (Web site, cdc.gov) admits that the flu vaccine may provide protection against some strains of influenza.

Since the vaccine is designed a year in advance, they admit there is no way of accurately predicting which strains will be around come flu season. Even if they could, these viruses frequently mutate into more virulent forms, rendering the vaccine as a "shot in the dark" at best.

In addition, the National Vaccine Information Center (Web site, nvic.org) reports that vaccine manufacturers use thimerosal as a preservative which contains 25 times the amount of mercury the EPA allows for human consumption. So why are babies and pregnant women recommended to be high priority for the shot?

The best defense against the flu, or any other infectious disease, is to eat well, exercise and drink plenty of water. That and washing your hands frequently would seem to me to be better than taking the risk of a flu shot!

Gary A. Shoemaker,
D.C.
Grosse Pointe Farms

issue other than what appears here.

My husband retired after 32 years of service with the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety. As with all retirees from the city of Grosse Pointe Woods, we have just learned that a decision was made this year not to invite the retirees to the city Christmas Party.

How were they going to let the retirees know that they were not invited this year? I was told that when we didn't receive our invite, we would "assume" that we were not invited.

Diane Crook
Chesterfield
Formerly of Grosse Pointe Farms

I urge the board to reconsider and reschedule all voting matters for the June election. It seems irresponsible to do otherwise.

Penelope Swanson
Grosse Pointe Woods

Condos needed in Grosse Pointe

To the Editor:

Grosse Pointe needs more condos. When elderly people in Grosse Pointe sell their homes, they don't want another home, but rather a condo in Grosse Pointe.

At the present time these people can't find an appropriate one in Grosse Pointe, so they buy in St. Clair Shores or "Points North," and Grosse Pointe loses the revenue.

I hope the condos proposed along the Grosse Pointe War Memorial strip will be approved. The lake view would be fantastic.

There are other potential spots, such as the old Jacobson's store, which call for condos.

The only way such condos will be approved by the various councils is if people call or write their councilmen and persuade them to vote in favor of them.

Grosse Pointe needs new options and growth.

Rankin P. Peck
Grosse Pointe Shores

Letters

Flu shots

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the Grosse Pointe News front-page article of Nov. 25, "Police officers' flu shots

may have been illegal."

It seems that even our Department of Community Health may have fallen prey to the media-induced frenzy on flu vaccinations. Who would have thought that our

Honorable

To the Editor:

For openers: What's ethical?

I'm sorry but I cannot find the answer to my question on the Grosse Pointe News Web site. I would like to direct a letter to the editor via e-mail regarding an

election?

Second, if we are having another election in June, why must the taxpayers pay for a separate election in February, when it would cost the taxpayers half as much to do it all in the June election?

Thank you, Park voters

To the Editor:

Thank you Grosse Pointe Park. Thank you for giving me some solace and some hope in the wake of this

See LETTERS, page 10A

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Election for millage renewal set for February

By Beth Quinn
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe Public School System will ask voters to approve three separate millage proposals in a special election to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 22.

The first proposal is a renewal of the combined homestead "gap" and technology millages. The second and third pertain to the renewal of the Non-homestead millage. The current millages will expire on June 30.

Voters will be asked to approve a "gap" millage rate of 8.074 which includes funding for technology.

The school board has not finalized the details for the non-homestead millages.

The board will approve all three proposals for the ballot at the Dec. 13 board

meeting. It will discuss the proposals at the Dec. 6 work session.

Both millages would be renewed for five more years. Under Proposal A, Grosse Pointe is one of 52 districts in Michigan designated as Hold Harmless districts. These districts had the highest per pupil revenue in 1995 when Proposal A was passed.

Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent for business affairs, coined the word "gap" millage to describe the purpose to the Hold Harmless act. It is the amount that can be collected from property taxes to help fill the gap, or difference, between the maximum state funding and actual expenses the district incurs.

The Homestead Hold Harmless legislation man-

dates that the school district can only collect from taxpayers a maximum of \$1,893 per student. This amount has remained the same since 1995. It is not adjusted for inflation or increases in expenses such as health care rates.

"We're not asking for additional money; we're just doing this to keep the status quo," Fenton said.

Fenton stresses that the Homestead Hold Harmless millage is completely driven by student enrollment.

"This millage is based solely on enrollment in the public schools, and not on taxable value of property," Fenton said.

In 2004-05, the budget per pupil in Grosse Pointe was \$11,005; the state foundation grant was \$7,068 thus creating a difference of

\$3,937.

To make up the \$3,937 gap, the school district uses the funds from the millages and from various federal and state grants.

"Simply stated, districts where the enrollment increases, taxes go up to fund the addition to the

enrollment," Fenton said.

Based on enrollment figures from the past few years, it is projected that Grosse Pointe enrollment will remain flat, somewhere around the current 9,013 pupils.

This problem is not limited solely to Grosse Pointe.

"It is a tri-county problem in metro Detroit," stated Fenton.

Other Hold Harmless districts, such as Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and South Lake, are faced with the similar problem of funding the difference between state funding and the school dis-

It takes a class to build a village



Students in Mrs. Maison and Mrs. Pierson's job share third grade created cardboard replicas of the Village business district's buildings. Standing behind one block, from left to right are Joseph Toth, Dominique Williams, Anthony Carrier, Jenna Roby, Elle Keys and Molly Clextan.

The students in Mrs. Maison/Mrs. Pierson's third grade at Maire were assigned in September to create small shoe box replicas of the different businesses in the Village along Kercheval.

This was done as a review of the second grade social studies curriculum in which the students studied the economy and geography of their community.

The class walked through the Village, jotting down

their observations, taking photographs and drawing sketches of their assigned storefronts. They noted different shapes and colors of various architectural features of the buildings' facades.

The students were given about three weeks to work on their projects at home.

After all the models were completed, the class set them up along a small scale of Kercheval. Then they mapped out the village and

made a map key.

The merchants in the Village were thrilled with the students' project.

"The retailers thought it was a clever project, and it was just wonderful that our kids consider the village to be an important part of their lives," said Ellen Durand, president of the Grosse Pointe Village Association.

The miniature village is currently on display in the front window of the former Harvey's Luggage store.



Photo by Justin Linne

School board honors student scholars

At its November monthly meeting, the Grosse Pointe School board honored the 2005 National Merit and the Advance Placement scholars from both North and South High Schools. Those in attendance were, in the front row left to right, Karen Koski, Tereza Schaible, Emily Samra, Kat Carmody, Alexandra Dickson, Carlin Benck, Jessica Odgen, Alice Walker and Maria Saliccioli; in the back row left to right are, John Joseph, Ryan Lutz, Alex Hands, Ana DeRoo, Brock Jackman, Jay Jackson and Samantha John.

Somewhere In Time Gallery & Custom Framing

Nestled along Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods, Somewhere In Time Gallery & Custom Framing beckons you in to experience the world of art.



Sunset at Riverbend Park



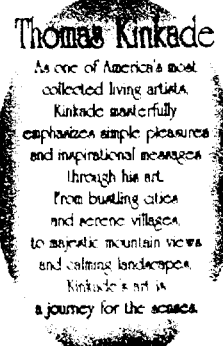
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Two new G.P. libraries are moving forward

By Beth Quinn
Staff Writer

At the Nov. 22 Grosse Pointe Library Board meeting, updates were given on the progress of the two new libraries.

Construction has started on the foundation for the Grosse Pointe Woods Library, and the design for the interior is on the drawing board.

The Carolyn and Ted Ewald Memorial Branch Library in Grosse Pointe Park will open its door to the public in January.

"We are on schedule," said Cynthia ZurSchmiede, Grosse Pointe Library assistant director.

The moving process has already started with the current installation of the shelving units. Movers will deliver desks, chairs and other pieces of furniture during the week of Dec. 6. The books will be taken from the Grosse Pointe Park branch and set-up in their new home starting the week of Dec. 13.

The library's interior has

25-foot ceilings, a reading area with a fireplace, a teen center, a pre-school room with a story-time area and three quiet areas for studying and reading. The 15,000 square-foot facility also houses space for computers and a 75 seat program room.

An opening ceremony is planned for Sunday, Jan. 8.

At the meeting, architect Jim Mumby of Fanning Howey Associates presented an interior design overview for the Grosse Pointe Woods Branch Library.

Brick and stone accents will be used throughout the inside to reflect the exterior's facade.

The two-level building is configured into three separate sections.

"Each piece has a totally different feel to it," Mumby said.

Facing Mack Ave. is the area which refers to the past. It looks like a traditional library with dark cherry wood and patterned carpeting. The lower level will be for staff, and the

upper level will contain the adult reading area.

The youth section will face Parcels. Mumby called it the future piece — it looks toward the school and its students. The feel is more contemporary than the adult area. It will be finished in light maple woods, primary colors, and white metals such as aluminum and stainless steel.

The youth reading area will be located on the first level with the homework center on the second floor.

Off the main entry on Vernier, will be the "community house," which alludes to the present. It will have a welcoming feel to it. The floors and display cases will be maple. There will be exposed wooden trusses. The fireplace in the second floor periodical area will have a tile hearth.

The first floor will house the DVD and CD collections in addition to a small bookstore.

The fabric color board will be on display at the Wood's

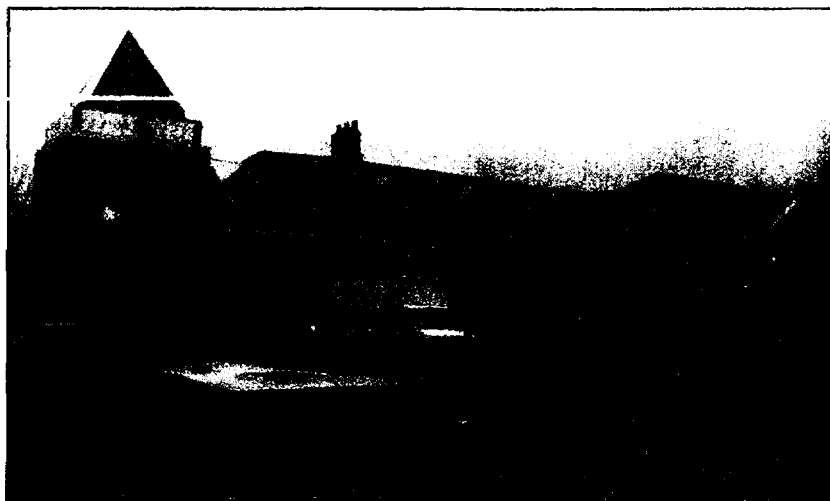
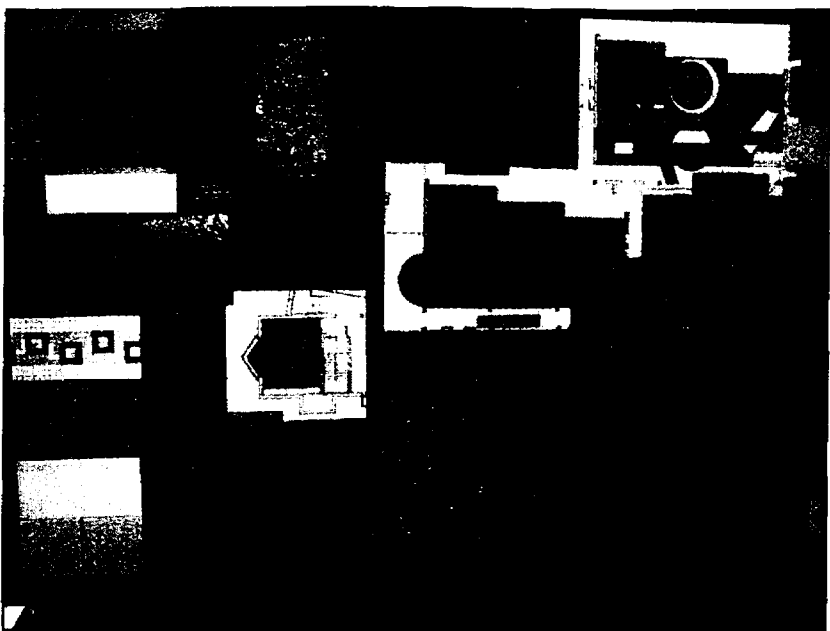


Photo by Beth Quinn

Moving trucks are poised to unload shelving and furnitures into the Ewald Branch Library in the Park, above. Swatches of proposed fabrics for the Grosse Pointe Woods Branch Library will be on display at the current library.



South singer named to honors choir

Myciah Artis, '05, a Grosse Pointe South High School choir member has been selected to be a member of the 2004-2005 Michigan School Vocal Association District Honors Choir.

She will perform with 100 select students on Saturday, Dec. 4, 2004.

At that time, she will audition for the State Honors Choir at the University of Michigan.

She is the daughter of Dr. John and Julie Artis of the City of Grosse Pointe.

RECYCLE

Grosse Pointe school volunteers honored

The organizers of the Disability Awareness Workshop were recognized by the Grosse Pointe Board of Education at its Nov. 8 meeting.

The Workshop committee members are Mary Ann Cafagna, Jill Leone, Annie MacAskill, James Goolsbee, Nick Woods, Despie Markus, Joan McCarty and Laura O'Connor.

The workshop was conducted for every fourth-grade class in the district.

Its purpose was to heighten awareness and understanding about what it is like to be disabled.

Students learned about various disabilities as they participated in activities that simulated a given impairment. They also reflected from time to time with their classroom teachers and peers about the var-

ious disabilities and discussed how they could help someone who has a disability.

At the board meeting, Grosse Pointe Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Klein read aloud reflections from the workshop's volunteers about which they are thankful. She read, "I am thankful for..."

• Getting the last space at the back of the parking lot because that means I can walk.

• The woman who always sings off key during services because that means that I can hear.

• The mess I have to clean up after a party because that means I have many friends.

• The glare from the sun as I ride in a car because that means I can see."

GPS roads finished

For all practical purposes, repaving is nearly finished on Hawthorne, Renaud and Oxford roads in Grosse Pointe Shores.

"There are some driveway approaches that need to be wedged and manhole covers adjusted," said Dr. Brian Hunt, trustee.

"That should be done by

the end of next week."

Next comes sewer lining. Village officials have requested contractors to submit bids for the job.

"We'll review (bids) and, hopefully, at the (December) council meeting have some numbers," Hunt said.

— Brad Lindberg

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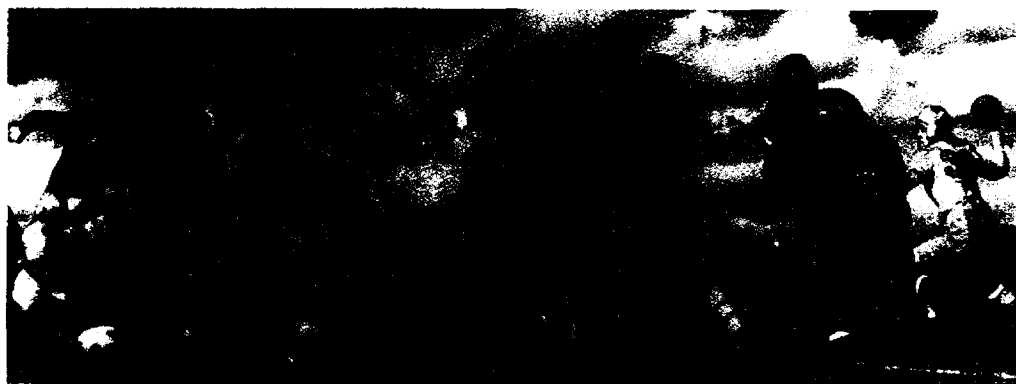
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Saturday, December 4
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Thieves busy while G.P. Farms family sleeps

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Detectives think car thieves were casing eastside suburbs Sunday morning when they stumbled into something big in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Thieves got their cars, but also more than \$8,000 in electronic equipment and computers during a home

invasion.

The incident happened in the 200 block of Fisher the morning of Sunday, Nov. 29, between 5:30 and 7:40 a.m.

Police think car thieves happened to be cruising the community when they saw family members with luggage exit the dwelling for transport by a limousine service to Metropolitan

Airport.

"It's possible they observed the family leaving, assumed they were going on vacation, and no one would be home," said Detective Mike McCarthy.

They were wrong. The house was still occupied. People seen leaving were members of an extended family heading home after

visiting relatives for Thanksgiving. Other out-of-town guests remained in the house, as did the owners, on the second floor.

"Everybody was home sleeping," McCarthy said.

Thieves crawled through an unlocked window, searched the first floor and basement, stole electronic equipment, car keys, a black

2004 Jaguar X-type and black Ford Escape in the garage.

"Total loss is in the thousands of dollars, not including the missing vehicles," McCarthy said.

Thieves were brassy enough to take nine Corona beers from a 12-pack in the basement.

A resident reported the crime at 7:59 a.m.

"She went downstairs to her kitchen and discovered her purse emptied out," said PSO Mike Buckley. "While looking to see if other things were stolen she noticed a side window had been forced open."

"Several fingerprints were

recovered from the point of entry and will be processed at the Michigan State Police crime lab," McCarthy said.

Nearby residents weren't aware of the crime.

"My dog did not make any sounds during the night," said a neighbor.

Stolen items include three Dell computers, Canon and Pentax cameras, a Palm Pilot, Toshiba DVD player, Verizon and T. Mobile cellular telephones and more.

Electronic equipment is easy to fence.

"We've notified area police departments of the incident and will be following up with area pawn shops," McCarthy said

Safety

From page 22A

Student steals

A high school assistant principal in Grosse Pointe Farms told police a 14-year-old female student stole a classmate's purse on Wednesday, Nov. 17, between 10 and 11 a.m.

Upon return, the \$20 purse had been drawn on with a marker. Missing contents included about \$20 worth of makeup.

Here's the beef

On Sunday, Nov. 21, at about 8 p.m., a Grosse Pointe Farms grocery store security guard chased down and handcuffed a 44-year-old Detroit man for shoplifting nearly \$80 worth of beef.

The guard, employed in the 18800 block of Mack near Moross, said the thief stuffed four packages of beef down his overalls. Police said the man was wanted in Detroit on two unspecified warrants totaling \$210.

Speed & drink

A 42-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man was arrested for drunken driving on Lakeshore in Grosse Pointe Shores on Wednesday, Nov. 24, at 11:19 p.m.

A test recorded the man's blood alcohol level at .110 percent.

— Brad Lindberg

Drinking and crashing

A 24-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man was arrested for drunken driving after he crashed a Volkswagen into a tree on Marter south of Anita in the Woods at 4:22 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 20.

The driver, who claimed he did not know who owned the crashed automobile, claimed a person he didn't know was giving him a ride

Time for 'snowbirds' to renew plates, licenses before heading south for winter

Michigan residents who leave for warmer climates during the winter should remember to renew their license plates and driver's licenses beforehand, said Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land.

Seasonal residents — commonly called "snowbirds" — should check the expiration dates of their driver's licenses and plates before leaving Michigan.

This will save them the trouble of renewing while they are out of state and helps to avoid possible late fees.

"We're always looking for ways to serve customers with greater speed and convenience," said Land.

Driver's licenses and license plates registered to an individual for certain vehicles can be renewed up to six months prior to expiration.

Plates that can be renewed early are:

- Individually owned or leased vehicles.
- All pickup trucks and vans, regardless of weight.

Customers renewing plates six months early must do so at a branch office. They can, however, take advantage of the department's online plate renewal process up to 45 days before the expiration

home. It was later learned that he was a frequent driver of the car, which belonged to his girlfriend. A set of keys with a VW key ring, was found in his pocket.

Officers recorded the driver's blood alcohol levels at 0.08 percent and 0.09 percent.

Stolen cars recovered

Grosse Pointe Park public safety officers recovered two stolen cars during separate traffic stops.

A 1985 Oldsmobile Cutlass reported stolen since March 31 out of Oak Park was recovered during a traffic stop at Mack and Cadieux at 7:43 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23. A 21-year-old Detroit man was arrested.

Officers recovered a 1994 Lincoln Town Car reported stolen out of Detroit when they pulled it over for expired plates at the corner of Mack and Cadieux at 9:04 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 27. A 51-year-old Detroit man was arrested.

Wallet stolen

A woman reported her wallet was taken from a lab room of a professional building in the 19700 block of Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods sometime between 6:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24.

Shoplifter

Grosse Pointe Park public safety officers picked up more loot from a 43-year-old Detroit man with a history of committing retail fraud.

Officers saw the man in the area of Maryland and Kercheval at about 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24. He was apprehended after a short foot chase. He was found carrying a bag of merchandise stolen out of the City of

Grosse Pointe.

Broken window

A Grosse Pointe Woods public safety officer on patrol reported a broken front window in the 19400 block of Mack at 8:33 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 25.

There was no suspected entry into nor any other damage reported on the building, which is currently vacant.

Attempted car theft

Somebody tried to steal a black 2004 Dodge four-door that was parked in the street in the 2000 block of Hunt Club in Grosse Pointe Woods between 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 25, and 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 26. Damage to the driver's side door lock was reported.

Homeless birds

Someone took a wooden birdhouse from in front of a business in the 15000 block of Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park sometime during the night of Friday, Nov. 26.

Stolen car

A silver 1995 Lincoln Continental parked in the street on Maryland near Mack in Grosse Pointe Park was stolen sometime during the night of Friday, Nov. 26.

Pumpkin projectile

A pumpkin was thrown at a car parked in the street on Helen at Lochmoor sometime between 5:30 and 11:15 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 27.

The pumpkin caused damage to the car's rear tail light.

Mom posts bond for two

A Grosse Pointe Woods mother of two daughters, 18 and 20 years old, posted bond for them in the early morning of Saturday, Nov. 27.

The youngest daughter was a passenger in the car that was being driven by an 18-year-old St. Clair Shores woman, who was arrested by a Woods public safety officer for drunken driving at Harper and Allard at 4:30 a.m. The passenger identified herself to officers as her older sister, whom the officers discovered had an out-

standing warrant for being a spectator at a drag race in Detroit.

The passenger was arrested for falsifying information to a police officer when her mother confirmed her identity to the officers when she came to the public safety station to post the bonds.

Eluder caught

A 43-year-old Grosse Pointe Park man compounded his problems after he was caught trying to flee from Park public safety officers on Saturday, Nov. 27.

The man tried to flee after officers tried to stop him in his 1991 Cadillac two-door. He was stopped after his car hit a curb in Detroit. Officers used a Taser to subdue the driver, who was resisting arrest.

The driver was driving with a suspended license.

Wallet returned

A Grosse Pointe Woods officer, who came to a Woods resident's house to take a report of a missing wallet on Sunday, Nov. 28, found the wallet on the resident's front porch.

Everything in the wallet, including \$42 in cash, was accounted for upon its return. The wallet went missing at a school in the 700 block of Vernier in the Woods between 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 27.

Car scratched

While shopping in a store in the 20400 block of Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods, someone scratched a Woods woman's silver 2004 Honda between 6:45 and 7 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 28.

A two-foot scratch was left behind the driver's side rear door, and a one-inch scratch was left on the driver's side front door.

— Bonnie Caprara

Drop off Toys for Tots at GPS hall

Christmas is a time when children and toys go together even more than usual.

Except sometimes children are from families where there's not much ability to afford gifts during the giving season.

"It's always nice to give something to somebody who needs it," said Rhonda Ricketts, finance officer in Grosse Pointe Shores.

Ricketts is coordinating the Shores' Toys for Tots campaign.

Sponsored by the U.S. Marine Reserves, Toys for Tots asks the public to donate toys for distribution to boys and girls of needy

families.

Toys are distributed to families in the same general area they are collected.

Ricketts has already collected a few toys in a bin in the main lobby of Village Hall.

"We're collecting through Dec. 17," she said.

Ricketts said last year's collections did better than the year before.

"Each year we get a little more toys," she said.

Donated toys should be new and unwrapped.

Last year, Marines distributed 15 million toys to 6.5 million children.

— Brad Lindberg

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To All Grosse Pointe City Residents

Your Police Officers & Fire Fighters Need Your Support

The city has twice denied the following information to be brought to your attention!

Currently the City of Grosse Pointe and its Department of Public Safety employees are in contract negotiations. The City administrators want to change the current 24 hour shifts to 12 hour shifts which could negatively impact the residents. The city states that this change will increase manpower and provide more office space for the administration.

HERE ARE THE TRUE FACTS:

Manpower will be reduced 30% on a 12 hour shift. Currently 7 officers work during a 24 hour period. The city's 12 hour shift will only provide a maximum of 5 officers per shift. There is also a possibility of increased operating costs with 12 hour shifts.

While the city believes it can provide more patrol visibility on 12 hours shifts, we are providing this now without added cost.

Public Safety Officers are concerned that minimum safety requirements will not be met in emergencies and that current mutual aid pacts with the other Grosse Pointes will be threatened.

Former City Manager Kressbach began 24 hours shifts 30 years ago to increase manpower and be cost effective. It has been a proven success in this community and we see no reason for this to change.

*****Show your support by contacting your city council, police and city administrators, or attend your next council meeting.**

Thank you!!!

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Two-bit crime

During the night of Tuesday, Nov. 23, unknown perpetrators entered an unlocked garage in the 700 block of Notre Dame in the City of Grosse Pointe and stole a small amount of coins from the center console of a parked 1992 Toyota.

Embezzler

On Wednesday, Nov. 24, at about 5:30 p.m., City of Grosse Pointe officers executed a \$500 warrant on behalf of Richmond police by arresting an 18-year-old

woman at her home in the 800 block of Neff.

The suspect faces a felony charge of embezzlement.

Three warrants

While on patrol at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23, a City of Grosse Pointe officer saw a gray 1990 General Motors car being driven on eastbound Mack near St. Clair with an expired temporary license tag.

The driver, a 35-year-old Detroit man, was wanted on three warrants. His driver license had been suspended 11 times.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Warrants consisted of failure to appear in Wayne County Circuit Court on an unspecified felony charge, a \$300 warrant in Livonia for breaking parole and a \$100 traffic warrant in Detroit.

Brother's keeper

A 38-year-old Detroit man told City of Grosse Pointe police last week that his brother had assumed his

identity to dodge medical bills at a local hospital.

(The victim) states his brother is a drug user," police said. "When his brother gets in trouble or is unable to pay bills, he uses his name and personal information. The most recent was Oct. 5. (He) received a bill for (an) emergency visit" to the hospital."

Caught between

On Saturday, Nov. 27, at 2:45 a.m., a 22-year-old St. Clair Shores woman was caught speeding through the Hill and arrested for drunk driving.

Grosse Pointe Farms police said she had a .137 percent blood alcohol level.

"(She) stated she is new to the area and knew (she) was going too fast," police said.

During a field sobriety test, police asked the driver to list a number between 19 and 20.

She hesitated to answer, but her 21-year-old female passenger from the Farms answered "20."

The passenger walked home to the 200 block of Ridge.

Boy wolfs his pet dog's drugs

A 16-year-old male who stole his dog's medicine was found unconscious in bed at his Grosse Pointe Farms home on Friday, Nov. 26, at 12:50 p.m.

Police took him to an east-side hospital for treatment. The teen recovered and reportedly admitted taking phenobarbital, which had been prescribed to treat the family dog's seizures.

The boy's father reported about 100 missing phenobarbital pills.

Officers searched the youth's bedroom and found plastic containers of a "white powdery residue," razor blades and Zoloft pills.

"While searching the (boy's) room (I) noticed a large amount of cash in small bills in (his) back pack," said an officer.

The money totaled approximately \$200.

I.D. theft

A Detroit man learned on Tuesday, Nov. 23, that someone had withdrawn \$5,900 from his Grosse Pointe Farms bank account. No one was authorized to make the transaction.

The victim is filing a claim against the bank.

Beer and shots

A 25-year-old Detroit man investigated for drunken driving last week in Grosse Pointe Farms admitted consuming alcohol.

"Two beers, two shots; it's all the same to me," he reportedly told police Tuesday, Nov. 23, at 1:52 a.m.

Officers said the man was



Photo by Brad Lindberg

Feeding the force

Larry Stocking, left, a Grosse Pointe Farms fire specialist, gets high marks for cooking Thanksgiving dinner for fellow officers of the public safety department. Dinner came with stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, cranberries and rolls.

"He did a great job," said Dottie Deneau, communications officer, being served with Chris Fontaine. "It was scrumptious."

Officers had their choice of dessert. "Pumpkin pie, apple pie or a little of both," Deneau said. She credited Cheryl Wotciechowski, a medic with Medstar assigned to the Farms, for organizing the meal.

"We're going to have plenty of turkey noodle soup as leftovers," Stocking said.

weaving and speeding a gold-colored 2003 Ford Taurus on eastbound Mack from McKinley to Kensington in Grosse Pointe Park.

The man registered a .181 percent blood alcohol level.

Suspended

A 21-year-old Grosse Pointe Park man was caught driving in the Farms less than three weeks after his license had been suspended indefinitely.

On Tuesday, Nov. 23, at 12:21 p.m., a patrolman saw the man operating a silver 1998 Dodge Ram pickup on southbound Moross near Country Club.

Police said the unilluminated license plate wasn't

registered with the Secretary of State.

"(The driver) claimed he misplaced the vehicle's documents," police said.

Officers impounded the pickup.

Account tapped

An identity thief has stolen more than \$1,200 from a 74-year-old Grosse Pointe Farms woman.

On Monday, Nov. 22, the victim learned the unknown female thief had written checks on her account at department stores, an electronics store and pet supply store.

The thief claimed to be from Georgia.

See SAFETY, page 23A

G.P. Farms police collect Toys for Tots

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Sometimes a job's too big even for the Marines.

This holiday season, the Corps is asking the public to help make the annual Toys for Tots campaign a success.

"There is a higher request for toys this year because of the economy," said Rick Good, a Grosse Pointe Farms detective.

Good set up collection boxes for toys in the lobbies of public safety headquarters and City Hall on Kerby between Kerchaval and Grosse Pointe Boulevard.

Toys collected locally are donated to families facing financial hardship in the Detroit area.

"It's a great charity to help unfortunate children," Good said.

Donations are due by Dec. 17.

"That way they'll have time to distribute toys to individuals requesting them," Good said.

Toys for Tots began in 1947 when Marine Reservists in Los Angeles gave toys to about 5,000 needy children. The drive has become a nationwide effort.

Over the 56 years of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, more than 313 million toys have been distributed to 151 million children.

Nationwide, Toys for Tots had its greatest success in 2003. Marines distributed 15 million toys to 6.5 million needy children.

People wanting to contribute this year are asked to donate new, unwrapped toys. Toys can be for boys or girls of any age, from small child to teenager.

Good coordinated last year's toy collection in the Farms.

"It was very successful," he said. "We did extremely well."

If people want to donate cash, do so by writing a check to Toys for Tots. Send the check to the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department, 90 Kerby, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, 48236, attention Detective Rick Good.

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Women working at three shops on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Farms and



City last week reported stolen purses.

A suspect has been described in one case but not the others.

All incidents occurred on Saturdays, beginning Nov. 20. A City woman working in the 16800 block of Kercheval in the Village noticed her purse missing from a desk drawer at 4:30 p.m.

She remembered placing it in a desk drawer upon returning from lunch at 2:30 p.m.

The black Coach purse contained a green leather

wallet containing about \$30 cash, several credit cards and eyeglasses costing \$300.

Farms police have a description of an unknown man suspected last weekend of stealing the purse of a 17-year-old Eastpointe youth while she worked at a gift shop on the Hill.

The man is dark skinned, about 30 to 40 years old, 5-foot-10, unshaven with dark hair pulled into a short ponytail.

He was last seen wearing dark pants and a dark, heavy winter jacket.

The man is suspected in a theft on Saturday, Nov. 27, between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.

"(He) entered the store, looked around and peeked into store rooms on both the first and second floor," store employees reportedly told police.

The man left without purchasing anything. The shopkeeper suspects he was "casing" the store.

He returned near closing time but was refused entry.

The missing purse is large, orange and contained a red wallet with \$8 cash and keys to the store, the victim's house and car.

Farms officers notified Eastpointe police who are giving the victim's house special attention.

Also on Nov. 27, a Harper Woods woman working in the 17000 block of Kercheval in the Village said her purse was missing from an unsecured employee room between 6 and 7:30 p.m.

The missing black leather \$400 Coach Ergo purse contained a \$200 wallet and \$70 change purse of the same manufacture and description.

The victim lost \$22 cash, a \$407 paycheck from a woman's clothing store in the Village, and a clothing store Master Card.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE TO BIDDERS: CARPETING: Sealed bids will be received by the City at the offices of the City Clerk, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan until 3:00 p.m., Friday, January 28, 2005, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing the following item as follows: TAKE-UP OF EXISTING CARPET AND INSTALLATION OF NEW CARPET THROUGHOUT THE GPW COMMUNITY CENTER. Copies of specifications and bid sheets may be obtained from the City Clerk. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities in the bidding and to accept any proposals it deems to be in the best interest of the City.

Louise S. Warnke,
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 12/02/2004

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on MONDAY, December 13, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. by the City of Grosse Pointe City Council in the Council Chambers, 17145 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230 (telephone 313-885-5800) for the purpose of:

• Approving a transfer of 2003 Community Development Block Grant Funds from Planning Programs to Public Service (SOC). Funds total \$15,235.09.

The City invites its citizens to submit comments concerning the proposed programs.

GPN: 12/02/2004

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 15, 2004

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenneth A. Poynter at 7:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held November 1, 2004, and furthermore, receive and file the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held October 27, 2004.
- 2) To reconsider the proposed extension of the Refuse Collection Contract with Waste Management.
- 3) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) Approve the Accounts Payable listing for Check Numbers 72193 through 72349 in the amount of \$357,334.90 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) Approve payment to Bodman LLP in the amount of \$8,996.18 for professional services in conjunction with the Library Bond issuance. (3) Approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$7,879.95 for professional services during the month of October 2004 for the following projects: 2004 Concrete Pavement Repair, #180-081 and the Library Renovation Project, #180-086. (4) Approve payment to Statewide Security Transport in the amount of \$8,170.25 for prisoner lodging and maintenance for the month of September 2004.
- 2) To approve payment to Turner Construction-SPD in the amount of \$68,761.00 for various fees relative to the Library Renovation Project.
- 3) To approve the request from the Housing Inspector to raise the Certificate of Occupancy Inspection fee from \$65.00 to \$100.00 effective December 1, 2004.
- 4) To approve the Contract for Community Development Block Grant between the Charter County of Wayne and the City of Harper Woods for the period July 1, 2004 through July 1, 2009 and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the contract.
- 5) To approve a three-year extension of the refuse collection contract with Waste Management of Wixom, Michigan in the annual amounts as follows: Effective September 1, 2004 \$366,000, Effective September 1, 2005 \$376,000, Effective September 1, 2006 \$386,500.

Kenneth A. Poynter,
Mayor

Mickey D. Todd,
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 12/02/2004

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission, under the provisions of Michigan Statutes, Section 125.584, et al. and Section 5.2934, et al. and Chapter 98, Zoning, Article XV, Administration, Section 98-440, Special Land Use Approval, of the Grosse Pointe Woods 1997 City Code, will meet in the Council-Court Room of the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, on MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. to hear the petition of St. John Hospital, 19231 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods, which seeks approval to construct an underground material management center in the north parking lot of the St. John Hospital property located at 19231 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods, which property is the subject of a special land use request and in accordance with the 1997 City Code, requires a public hearing. As specified in Section 98-243(4), Permitted special land uses, hospitals and accessory uses located in the C-2 High Intensity City Center Zoning District are subject to the standards set forth in Section 98-244 and 98-245 of the City Code. The subject file folder is open for public review. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting to the City Clerk at 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 13, 2004. All interested persons are invited to attend.

G.P.N.: 12/02/2004

Louise S. Warnke,
City Clerk

House repeals state helmet law

A bill designed to repeal Michigan's mandatory motorcycle helmet law was passed by the State House of Representatives last month in an apparent bid to take advantage of a lame duck legislature — with 36 House members leaving. The final vote was 69-37 in favor with four members passing.

House Bill 4325, sponsored by Rep. Leon C. Drolet (R-Clinton Township), would remove the mandatory helmet requirement for all riders and passengers 21 years of age or older, but does not require motorcycle riders to carry Personal Injury Protection (PIP) insurance coverage.

"It is well established that motorcycle helmets decrease the severity of injury, the likelihood of death and the overall cost of medical care," said

Richard J. Miller, manager of community safety services for AAA Michigan. "Motorcycle riders are much more at risk than persons driving or riding in a passenger vehicle."

Miller cited National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) data, which shows that, in states where the mandatory helmet laws are repealed or weakened, motorcycle fatalities increased substantially.

Nationwide, motorcycle fatality rates have been rising. The total number of fatalities is up 73 percent between 1997 (2,116 deaths) and 2003 (3,661 deaths).

In addition, the fatality rate per 100,000 registered motorcycles is up — from 55.3 in 1997 to 65.3 in 2002.

House Bill 4325 will move to the Michigan Senate for a vote and must

pass the Senate and be signed by the governor before becoming law.

Motorcycle facts

- In 2003, there were 3,187 motorcycle-involved crashes in Michigan in which 76 riders were killed and 2,644 injured.
- Helmets are 67-percent effective in preventing brain injury.
- The average paid catastrophic motorcycle claim in Michigan is \$402,386, up from \$377,830 in 2001.
- By an overwhelming majority (81 percent), Americans favor state laws requiring motorcyclists to wear helmets.

Sources: Michigan State Police Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP), Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA), Lou Harris.



Be bop your way into the holidays

The Grosse Pointe South Jazz Band and Jazztet and the Wayne State University Jazz Ensemble guarantee that "Yule Be Boppin" during their Holiday Jazz Concert on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. in South's cafeteria.

Lake levels low for November

The following lake levels as of Nov. 26 are offered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

All of the Great Lakes except Lake Ontario are 6 to 8 inches above last year's levels. Lake Ontario is 9 inches below its level of a year ago. Lakes Superior, Michigan-Huron and St. Clair remain below their long-term averages by 2, 13 and 4 inches, respectively. Lake Erie is 1 inch above its long-term average and Lake Ontario has dropped below its long-term average by 4 inches.

The Lake Superior outflow through the St. Marys River into Lake Huron is expected to be above average during the month of November. Flows in the St. Clair and Detroit rivers are expected to be below average in November. The Niagara and St. Lawrence River flows are projected to be near average for the month of November.

Lake Superior and

Michigan-Huron are in their seasonal declines and the levels are expected to fall 4 and 2 inches, respectively, over the next month. Lakes St. Clair, Erie and Ontario are continuing their seasonal decline and expected to drop by 1, 1, and 2 inches, respectively.

Alerts: Users of the Great

Lakes, connecting channels and St. Lawrence River should keep informed of current conditions before undertaking any activities that could be affected by changing water levels. Mariners should utilize navigation charts and refer to current water level readings.

'V' is for volcano at G. P. Academy



Fifth-grader Akeem Taylor sets off his volcano during "V-Day" at The Grosse Pointe Academy.

The end of October was a blast for The Grosse Pointe Academy fourth- and fifth-graders — literally! Students set off a total of 69 volcanoes during science class. The children made the volcanoes at home with the help of on-line tips, their parents, baking soda and vinegar and several secret ingredients.

One of the strengths of the project was the amount of flexibility given to each student, allowing for endless

creativity. "Our philosophy is that the children don't need kits," said fifth-grade teacher Bob Lapadot. "They have vivid imaginations. Why not let them run with it? And the results were spectacular — volcanoes of every size, color and shape imaginable. We even had one volcano made of faux fur! It got the prize for most fashionable."

Suggestions were given for creating the structure, such as using chicken wire,

papier mache and a container for the magma. Other than basic instructions, however, the students were on their own — with a little help from their parents.

"Every successful school counts on parents to be actively involved in the education of their children," says fourth-grade teacher Barbara Markus. "This was a prime example of how enriching it can be for a child to spend one-on-one time with his or her parent."

City of G.P. buys Cushman carts

It takes City of Grosse Pointe public service crews about 10 years to wear out a Cushman cart.

"We use them until they're driven into the ground," said Paul Weitzel, department director.

The City has nine Cushman carts. "Typically, we buy one per year," Weitzel said.

It's that time again. This week Weitzel ordered a four-wheel Cushman Turf-Truckster from the W.F.

Miller Co., of Novi. Miller's low bid of \$22,991 came with optional heated cab, removable doors, a tow hitch and snow tires.

The bid undercut the next offer by \$508.

— Brad Lindberg

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News

Farms higher credit rating lowers cost of recreation bond

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Christmas came early to the Grosse Pointe Farms finance department and, by direct extension, to city taxpayers.

Officials learned hours before putting \$4 million in bonds on the market that the city's securities rating had been raised from AA- to AA+.

That little plus sign is like a star on the city's forehead, signifying financial soundness and creditworthiness. The increase almost assures easier access to less costly capital to fund such things as municipal improvements.

Shane Reeside, city manager, called the rating increase "excellent news."

The rating came last month from Standard &

Poor's. According to the company's analysis, the city scored high in multiple categories.

"Grosse Pointe Farms finances are strong, evidenced by historical operating surpluses, available tax raising flexibility and healthy reserves," the report said.

News came the afternoon before city council members were scheduled to consider 12 competitive bids on bonds to finance enhanced recreation facilities and essential infrastructure.

"This is the bond the council was seeking for Pier Park improvements as well as water plant improvements," said James Farquhar, mayor.

A low bid of 4.09 percent

won the purchase for Chicago-based bond traders Griffin, Kubic, Stevens and Thompson.

"To give you an idea of how good that is, the Bond Buyer Index currently stands at 4.58 (percent)," said Bob Bendzinski, a municipal bond finance adviser retained by the Farms. "You're almost 50 basis points, or one-half of 1 percent, below the national index."

Reeside had anticipated a 4.7 interest rate, but that was before the shift to AA+.

Standard & Poor's rates from D (lowest) to AAA. AA signifies "very strong capacity to meet financial commitments."

Bendzinski elaborated on how the city qualified for

improved standing.

"Some of the reasons are high wealth level coupled with very low unemployment; and low debt burden coupled with future capital needs that are limited to quality of life issues," he said.

Some \$2.5 million from the sale of bonds will pay for a new community center already under construction at Pier Park.

"They're erecting the walls," Reeside said. "You can actually have a sense of the building's scale. The hope is to have the roof by the end of December so they can begin working on the interior after the first of the year."

The \$1.5 million balance from the sale is for long term

improvements to the municipal water filtration plant.

"Work will begin this spring with new windows, valve replacements and so on," Reeside said.

Such preparations occur 50 years after Farms officials expanded the plant's filtration capacity due to increased demand from a growing community. Two additional filtration pools were built outside the structure for use during high-peak summer months.

Money from the bond issue will allow the pools to be fully enclosed, rather than just covered with lids.

"We're covering them so they're not exposed to the elements, to help maintain them and provide additional security," Reeside said.

'To give you an idea of how good that is, the Bond Buyer Index currently stands at 4.58 (percent). You're almost 50 basis points, or one-half of 1 percent, below the national index.'

Bob Bendzinski
Municipal bond
finance adviser

28 houses, 2 businesses in G.P. Park awarded for beauty

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

Twenty-eight homes and two businesses were honored at the Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission's awards presentation on Nov. 4.

Wayne E. Nemeth of J&W Tree Artisans was given a civic award for donating 30 autumn blaze red maple trees when he discontinued his nursery business. The Park planted the trees in the median of Middlesex in April.

Civic awards are given to those who enhance the appearance of city property or who otherwise contribute to the overall beautification or well-being of the Park through community volunteer work.

"It was a very generous gift to our reforestation pro-

gram," said Beautification Commission member Bob Ramsey.

A commercial award was given to the Jefferson and Barrington Branch of Standard Federal Bank.

Commercial awards are given to businesses for improvements that enhance the appearance and functioning of the business community through landscaping, preservation, maintenance, renovation, restoration and architectural design.

The owners of 28 residences received the commission's residential awards which are given to those who enhance their properties through landscaping, floral displays, renovation, restoration, preservation, maintenance and new additions. Winners include:

- Dawn M. Gontko,
- Mark and Sandra Landuyt,
- John McCormick,
- Sean M. Day,
- Kenneth and Cheryl Korejwo,
- Linda W. Palmer,
- Steve and Sandra Beckett,
- Michael Mulier and Mary Murphy,
- Doug and Priscilla Carlson,
- Donna D. Reed,

- David and Helen Landuyt,
- Mark Manardo,
- Philip and Alice Osburn,
- John and Jane Blahut,
- John and Mary Kettler,
- James Bertakis,
- James and Diane Martin,
- Mr. and Mrs. Blair Simmons,
- John and Sue Glover,
- Dr. and Mrs. Donald Garver,
- Mary Kosmalski and

- Jeff Woolstrum,
- Robert and Barbara Heide,
- Rick and Joan Berg,
- Mary Margaret and Elizabeth Eckel,
- Mary Louise O'Loughlin,
- Dolores J. Serra,
- Nancy Kujawski and L. Kiley.

Ramsey, who oversees the residential awards, said the commission has limited the

number of residential awards each year to no more than 30 to make the awards more meaningful.

"It pleases me when I see homes listed for sale that are advertised as Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission award winners," Ramsey said. "It's astounding to see how well people take care of their homes in the Park. It's actually a community gift."

G.P. Woods honors 30 for beautification

After a summer long showcase of shining businesses and houses in Grosse Pointe Woods, the best of the best were honored by the Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission at its award ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 11.

Eleven businesses and 19 homeowners were awarded with four different awards by the commission.

Little Tony's Lounge in

the Woods was given the

Landmark Award.

Dr. Theodore C. Hadgis received the Business Renovation Award.

Curves for Women, Da Edoardo, Edwin Paul Spa, General Funding Corp., George Koueiter and Sons Jewelers, La Moda Salon, Dr. David C. Secord, String-Beads and Summit Oral Surgery were awarded busi-

ness certificates.

Winners in the residential award category included Joseph and Stacey Agius, Eugene Baratta, Sabina Baroni, Ed and Patricia Bourke, Dirk and Marybeth Drieberg, John and Helen Finkelmann, James and Patricia Harrington, Ervin and Helen Jara, Mark and Mary Lamphier, Douglas and Beverly Luttenberger,

John and Anne Marten, Andrew and Roselyn Perri, Joseph and Sally Polgar, Mark and Cynthia Raymond, Jason and Heather Roth and Jeff and Molly Thompson.

Steve and Laura Benard, Anthony and Jennifer Sabatini and Anthony and Kristin Schena were named Renovation Award winners.

— Bonnie Caprara

Neff Park fingerdocks due for manicure

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Some fingerdocks at Neff Park Marina are going to be stiffened before next boating season.

Workers will be paid \$10,000 to reinforce the slender docks at the new marina's dozen or so 34-foot wells.

"The longer fingerdocks sit on a pile," said Mike Overton, City of Grosse Pointe manager. "By the time you get out on the end of it, it gets a little wobbly. You could fall off the dock."

Forty-foot wells were stiffened prior to the marina's grand opening last spring.

"In all honesty, we didn't

have time to correct (the 34-foot wells) before people were supposed to put their boats there," Overton said.

Workers will shore-up the docks by bracing each pier with supports.

"They're going to pull the finger pier off and drive two more piles — one on either side of the existing pile — weld the three together and have a very rigid structure to support the finger pier," Overton said.

The new marina features adjustable docks that can be raised and lowered in league with fluctuating water levels. Docks can be set at three heights nine inches apart for an overall range of 18 inches.

es.

Because Lake St. Clair is recovering from below-normal levels, the docks will be raised accordingly.

"Water is almost returning to normal," Overton said. "We want to move (docks) to the center adjust-

ment, which is where it should be for normal water conditions."

City officials have approved spending \$7,500 to raise the docks, bringing marina-related work to \$17,500.

Planning continues for Osius marina

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

The municipal harbor at Osius Park closed for the season Nov. 15, but work continues on designing a

marina for the future.

"The harbor will be reconfigured within the current footprint," said Karl Kratz, Grosse Pointe Shores trustee and chairman of the park and harbor committee.

The goal is to have wells that are wider but not necessarily longer.

"Most new boat designs are wider," Kratz said. "That is the direction boat designers are going."

He said three firms have been selected to create design concepts for a renovated facility.

"The companies have done work in the Great Lakes area," Kratz said. "That is why we chose these three companies. They have done a lot of research on design and will give us good direction on how the harbor should be configured."

Village officials have provided the firms with harbor specifications. Designers will present their ideas in competition to the harbor committee.

"We'll choose one out of the three," Kratz said. "They will be doing all the preliminary drawings. They will take all the information we've gathered for the last year and come up with a drawing that meets our wish list."

In the meantime, the existing harbor is being prepared for winter.

"We're getting ready to huddle that when weather turns for the worst," said Jim Cooke, park director.

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Forget the halls... deck the car this holiday season

(ARA) — Despite unpredictable gas prices, millions of Americans take to the roads during the holidays. Given the tremendous advances in mobile electronics, many of these road warriors discover every year that making the road trip as smooth as possible is key to avoiding holiday blues.

Best Buy offers drivers the following solutions for turning tiresome road trips into fun excursions:

- Replace the atlas with a GPS device — A portable or professionally installed GPS (global positioning system) makes it easy to find your destination. A simple display can provide electronic road maps and spoken, step-by-step instructions and easily reroute the holiday caravan if road construction or an itinerary change gets in the way, as well as tap 24-hour traffic reports. Plug-and-play models include two portable options: the Magellan RoadMate 700 and Garmin STP2620.

- Improve sight and safety — Bluetooth-enabled cell phones allow drivers to answer cell phones hands-free through the car's audio system. The AudioVox rear-view mirror camera also gives drivers a view of back-seat activities or behind-the-car obstacles.

- Professionally installed and portable DVD players, ranging in size from 5 inches to 10 inches wide, can keep

kids entertained with this season's favorite movies like "Spider-Man 2" and "Shrek 2." Video system-installed Microsoft Xbox or new, thinner Sony PlayStation 2 systems also allow kids to bond over games like "Shrek 2: The Game" or "DreamWorks' Shark Tale." Wireless headphones make for a peaceful ride for other passengers, too.

- Reduce the number of

break stops by packing a portable, 12-volt-adapted cooler with healthy favorites. For even more fun, plan themed treats like tree-shaped cookies with eggnog.

- Carol your car away — Start a family tradition by caroling during the car ride. Sing along to XM or Sirius satellite radio with more than 120 channels of music,

sports, talk and traffic/weather reports. Holiday favorites such as "Jingle Bells" and "Silent Night" sound even better in digital quality sound, and the lack of commercials is sure to help raise everyone's spirits.

- An MECP-certified mobile installation expert can help find the products

that fit a family's travel needs, while making sure everything is installed in the vehicle properly," says Mike Manske, mobile electronics expert at Best Buy. "Outfitting the vehicle with the latest navigation, safety and entertainment products can go a long way toward improving spirits for the season."

Cell phone safety

(NAPSI) — Make it home for the holidays — pull to the side of the road if you need to dial a number on your cell phone while driving.

If you talk on the phone while driving, experts recommend you:

- Remember your headset — Use a hands-free device that lets you answer a ringing phone with a voice command.

- Use voice mail — Only take calls that are neces-

sary. The less you talk on a cell phone while driving, the safer you will be.

- Keep it light — When driving, avoid distracting calls that are emotional or intense.

- Text later — Always refrain from other distractions such as sending and receiving text messages while driving.

- Play it safe — Pull over to the side of the road to dial or if a call requires too much attention.

LeSabre

From page 20A

new LeSabre were surprised to hear it was a 2004 model because it looked so similar to Buicks from the early-to-mid-1990s. Rather than making sweeping changes to the body over time, Buick only added subtle differences through the years to leave us with today's pleasant and functional design.

While it has a fairly classy look and feel, especially inside, the LeSabre isn't intended to be a luxury car. Some fancy options can

bring it awfully close, though, like XM Satellite Radio, dual-zone automatic climate control, a big power sunroof, and a "heads-up" digital display that projects the car's speed onto the windshield for easier viewing.

Best of all, it doesn't have a luxury-car price. Our test car, a loaded Limited model with all the bells and whistles, cost under \$35,000. Standard models, still packed with features, start around \$25,000.

Overall, it's easy to see

why Buick has sold more than 6 million LeSabres since the car was introduced in 1959. Although it's not meant to steal the automotive spotlight, it has lots of interior and trunk space, acceptable performance, a soft ride, and a price only slightly higher than that of a mid-size car.

For those of us with traditional tastes, that's a recipe for success. Why buy it? Its interior is incredibly roomy and comfortable, and the price is right.

— AutoWire

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Prius is this decade's cream of the hybrid crop

By Bruce Hotchkiss

In my humble opinion, the Toyota Prius may be the most important vehicle of the decade, or maybe the Millennium. The problem with that is the original

Prius was introduced in the last decade. Regardless of the time line, the Toyota Prius is a very important vehicle.

Back in 1998 I drove a Prius; a right-hand drive

Prius brought over to tour the United States as a preview. Toyota was cautiously optimistic about the Prius then, unsure how it would sell. They did not need to worry — demand has far outstripped availability.

Much has been written about whether the Prius loses or makes money. Critics say that Toyota uses the Prius as a sort of loss leader. Toyota says they make money on every Prius that is sold. They admit that they do not make as much per vehicle as on other Toyota vehicles. I tend to believe Toyota but really, the financial side is of little interest to me. The Prius is a landmark vehicle that has changed the way we think about vehicles.

For those who don't know, the Prius is a hybrid vehicle — a gas-electric hybrid. The whole idea of the Prius is low emissions and high fuel economy. The low emissions are proven — in California and other states adopting California's rules — the 2004 Prius is certified as an Advanced Technology Partial Zero Emissions Vehicle (AT-PZEV). Cutting to the chase, this means the Prius is one of the cleanest vehicles available.

The fuel economy is subject to debate. The Prius is rated at 60 miles per gallon city and 51 mpg highway. There has been grumbling from some early 2004 Prius owners that they cannot get anywhere close to those figures. All I can say is that I drove the Prius in my normal style, cruising at 80 mph on the highway and I averaged 40 mpg. I see no reason why someone could not reach 51 on the highway driving at the posted

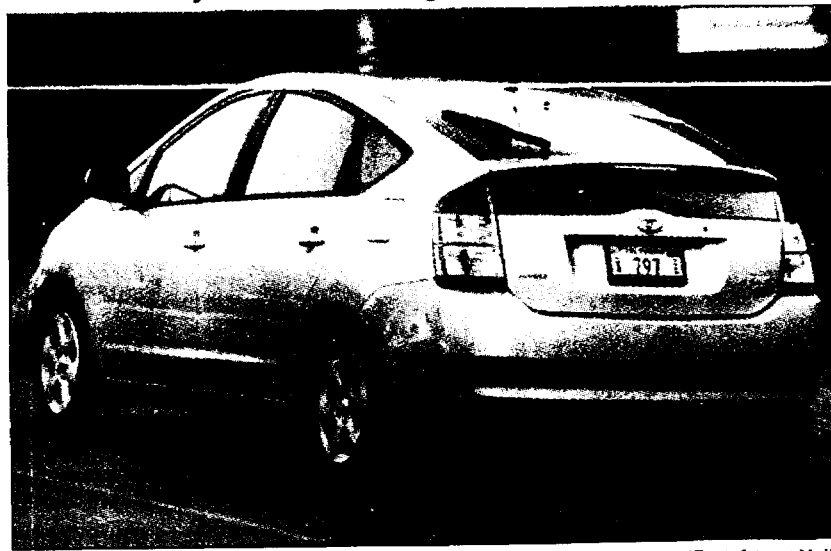


Photo courtesy of Toyota Internet Media

The 2004 Toyota Prius

limits. The city rating can be reached if you change your style of driving. There is a computer screen that should help you do that — it "banks" saved energy to show you when you are driving conservatively.

The 2004 Prius is a much different looking vehicle than the previous car. It is also very slippery, cutting through the air with a 0.26 coefficient of drag (Cd). Besides aiding highway fuel economy, a low Cd helps to minimize wind noise, which makes for a quieter cabin.

The 2004 Prius is also larger than the first generation. The wheelbase is almost six inches longer, there is seven cubic feet more interior space, more rear leg room, and a huge 16.1 cubic foot cargo space behind the seats.

One of the biggest changes I noticed about the 2004 Prius was that it now seems so luxurious. The previous Prius was not a stranger but neither was it as comfortable as the new one. The new Prius could very well be sold as a Lexus, it is that well appointed.

Standard features include regenerative anti-lock brakes (charges the battery while braking), traction control, front air bags, remote keyless entry, heated side mirrors, audio and HVAC

controls on the steering wheel, air conditioning (electric so that it is not affected by the on/off cycling of the powertrain), multi information display, power windows/locks, AM/FM radio with CD player, and cruise control. There are also nine option packages from rear intermittent wipers to side air bags, garage door opener, auto dimming rear view mirror, alarm package, Smart Entry and Start, navigational system, super sound system with six-compact disc changer, Vehicle Stability Control, and fog lamps.

The Prius I drove had the full-tilt boogie-package including the Smart Entry and Start thing. It was neat. Just put the key in your pocket, grab the outside door handle, the computer unlocks the door, climb in, push the "start" button on the dash, (yeah just like the old days) and you're off. You never have to fumble for keys in your pocket or purse.

Is there a downside to the Prius, or to any hybrid for that matter? The concern I hear from some is the cost of replacing the battery pack. There is no doubt that a battery pack will be expensive, yes very expensive. According to Toyota

the number of battery failures has been extremely low, and don't forget that the Prius has been on the market since about 1996 in Japan so there is some history to back up their claim. I guess the 3,778 people who bought a Prius this past March feel the way I do.

One thing I have trouble getting used to, and this is not specific to the Prius but all vehicles with a CVT (continuously variable transmission), is a transmission that does not shift. A CVT keeps the engine in its most efficient power range but in operation it sounds like a slipping clutch. I would imagine that nontechnical types would not even notice. I know the darn thing works, and I understand the technology, but it confuses me.

Even with all the bells and whistles the 2004 Prius I drove was only \$26,202 including delivery taxes and license. That's a lot of money for a car that concerns you, and if you're worried about the environment, the Prius is the car for you. I prefer the Prius over the other hybrids on the market because the Prius is the cream of the crop.

—AutoWire



TWO BIRDS, ONE STONE

Some automobiles have timing belts with limited life spans. If so, the owners' manual will recommend that they be replaced about every 60,000 miles to avoid the possibility of serious engine damage or engine failure. At the same time the timing belt is being changed, it is usually a good idea to replace the water pump as well. As the reasoning goes, because 90% of the labor to change the water pump has already been done to replace the timing belt, you might as well replace the water pump. Most water pumps may last longer, but replacement is good insurance, in light of the fact that water pump failure at a later date can be a relatively expensive repair.

Perhaps the most critical engine component these days is the timing belt, so it's important that it be replaced before it breaks. Serious engine damage can occur if the belt breaks. Whether you are driving across town or across the state for the holiday season, it's important that your car run smoothly. Call MEADE LEXUS OF LAKESIDE at 586-726-7900 to schedule a routine maintenance check. Parts and service departments open at 7:30 am for your convenience. We are located at 45001 Northpointe Blvd., on the north side of Hall Rd. between Van Dyke & Schoenherr. Browse meadelexusoflakeside.com to learn more about us.



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HINT: The job of the timing belt is to turn the camshaft, which causes the valves to open and close in concert with the crankshaft moving the pistons up and down in the cylinders.

City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OCTOBER 11, 2004

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Farquhar; Mayor Pro-Tem Davis II; Councilmembers Roby, Joseph, Theros, Leonard, Waldmeir.

Those Absent Were: None.

Also Present: Messrs. Burgess, City Attorney; Reeside, City Manager; Tepper, Assistant City Manager; Brennan, Director of Public Service; Ferber, Director Public Safety.

Mayor Farquhar Presided at the Meeting.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 11, 2004, were approved as submitted.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held November 1, 2004, were approved as submitted.

The Council approved the low bid for the General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds — Series 2004.

The Council, acting as a Zoning Board of Appeals, approved the Minutes of the Public Hearing held Oct 11, 2004; the appeal hearing for Josephine Collins of 203 Lakeview was withdrawn by the applicant, at this time; granted the appeal of Rick Slowinski of 418 Moran.

The Council adjourned the Public Hearing of the Erosion Control Ordinance to Monday, December 13, 2004 at 7:30 p.m.

The Council approved the "FROGS-FUR-FRIENDS-CAMPAIGN", as requested by the Hill Association.

The Council approved the request from Edward Barbieri, Jr. to be considered for "Approval Above All Others" for a Class C Liquor License.

The Council scheduled a Public Hearing for Monday, December 13, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to consider the Planned Unit Development Designation Overlay — 50 & 50 Lake Shore Road.

The Council approved the following from the Consent Agenda:

- Statement of Attorney's Fees— Dickinson, Wright.
- Approval to purchase 2005 Ford Ranger 4x4.
- Low bid for the 2004 Shrub & Tree Program.

The Grosse Pointe Farms DPS-Marine Division-2004 Boating Season Summary was received by the Council and ordered placed on file.

Upon proper motion made, supported and carried, the Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2004 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 90 KERBY ROAD, GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MICHIGAN 48236. THE MEETING IS PUBLIC. INTERESTED PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITY ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

YOU MAY VIEW THE FULL AGENDA & OFFICIAL MINUTES ON THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT: www.grosse-pointe-farms.us/

James C. Farquhar, Mayor

Shane L. Reeside City Manager/City Clerk

GPN: 12/02/04

LeSabre is wonderfully competent

By Derek Price

Need proof that cars don't have to be flashy to sell? Just look at the Buick LeSabre.

While the 2004 Buick LeSabre looks like one of the most boring new cars available today, its terrific practicality and relatively low price make it a hot seller.

You'll never see the new LeSabre on the cover of car magazines, and little boys aren't going to spend class time daydreaming about one. It's not that kind of car because — I'll try to say this nicely — it's as boring as being an aircraft controller in Antarctica.

Yet, despite its very conservative look and feel, it's been the best-selling full-size car in America for the past 11 years. People are drawn to the LeSabre because it's the quintessen-

tial American sedan that focuses on the real-world, practical aspects of driving. It's not a sports car, and it doesn't pretend to be one.

Competent is the best way to describe it. Everything the LeSabre does is perfectly acceptable, from its proficient acceleration on freeway on-ramps to its roomy and comfortable interior. Even its suspension leaves little to complain about, unlike Buicks of yesteryear with their mushy, sloppy ride.

Above all, it's the LeSabre's interior that makes it a winner in the showroom. Seemingly endless leg and shoulder room, a muted color scheme, and ample insulation from road noise make it a calm and comfy place to spend hours on the highway. Its only downsides are a slight lack

of headroom and the overuse of hard, cheap-feeling plastics on the dash.

Acceleration is good, not fabulous, with Buick's 3.8-liter, V6 engine, which is smooth and quiet as it pulls the big sedan with its 205 horsepower. An electronically controlled, four-speed transmission provides but-tery shifts in virtually all conditions.

Its soft suspension seems to smooth over potholes and bumps while not allowing too much body roll. Just like the rest of the car, it's not designed to give a sporty ride and great handling, instead leaning toward the soft, supple end of the ride spectrum.

Exterior styling is understated, to put it nicely. Several people who saw the

See LESABRE, page 21A



The 2004 Buick LeSabre

Ordinance may turn things down a notch in the Woods

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

In the future, it may be against the law to rock the house — from the inside of one's car.

The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council has asked City Administrator Mark Wollenweber and Public Safety Director Michael Makowski to draft an ordinance that would restrict the volume of car stereos.

"We've had several complaints (of loud car stereos)," Makowski said. "It's not really a problem; it's more of an irritation. We can usually identify a kid with an offending car."

The Woods currently has an ordinance in place that restricts noise volume after 10 p.m. Enforceability of the ordinance is contingent upon use of a sound meter, which is impractical in the normal course of duty during traffic patrols.

"Having a (car stereo) ordinance would make enforceability a lot easier than carrying around a

'We've had several complaints (of loud car stereos. It's not really a problem; it's more of an irritation.'

**Michael Makowski
G.P. Woods Director of Public Safety**

sound meter," Makowski said.

The car stereo volume problem just isn't a nighttime problem.

"We're on a street the kids use to cut through to Mr. C's at lunch time," Councilman Allen Dickinson said. "It's a daily occurrence."

"Sometimes at (school),

it's a parent who pulls up in the parking lot, and it goes on for about 30 minutes," Councilwoman Lisa Pinkos Howle said.

A proposed ordinance may cover more offenses other than offending car stereos.

"It could cover any kind of noise — even a car racing its engine," Makowski said.

Car noise ordinances have been popping up in cities across the nation so quickly that the U.S. Department of Justice has released a newsletter on drafting and enforcing such ordinances. Such ordinances typically restrict how far away from a car its stereo can be heard.

Makowski, who will consult with Municipal Judge Lynne Pierce on drafting the ordinance, said he was not certain if the enforceability of such ordinances have been tested in the courts.

Locally, cities such as Livonia and Redford have recently passed ordinances restricting the volume of car stereos.

Shores elections changed to Sept.

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Half of Grosse Pointe Shores officeholders will serve extended terms due to new changes in Michigan election laws.

Three trustees and the Village clerk, previously up for reelection in May 2006, will serve an additional 16 months.

"The next election for the village will now be September of 2007," said Mike Kenyon, village manager.

From then on, elected officials, including president,

six trustees and clerk, will be chosen to serve four-year terms — doubling the present two-year length — in staggered elections held every two years in odd-numbered years.

The new calendar affects trustees Dr. Brian Hunt, Karl Kratz and Glenn Peters.

Changes result from a new state law requiring cities to schedule elections in either September or November. The Shores had held elections in May.

Trustees chose September because it allowed staggered

terms, unlike the November option.

Staggered terms allow continuity as rookie and veteran office-holders come and go.

Dr. James Cooper, president of the Shores, preferred September elections. He said local issues could be lost on a November ballot, where state and national issues often dominate.

Trustees unanimously supported the September switch at their meeting last month. The vote followed a public hearing at which no one from the public spoke.

AAA December holiday travel tips

According to AAA, more than 79 million people traveled by vehicle over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays last year alone.

To help cope with heavier-than-normal traffic volumes and heightened airport security, AAA recommends that travelers allow plenty of extra time to reach their destination.

Check-in requirements for commercial airlines can result in loss of reserved seating for travelers who do not arrive on time (contact each airline directly for check-in rules and regulations).

AAA recommends arriving at the airport at least two to three hours before scheduled departure times. Other travel tips:

- Confirm flight schedules. Check with your airline either online or through a toll-free number to confirm flight schedules one week prior to departure and the day before departure.

- Print your boarding pass at home. Many airlines provide e-ticket services that allow you to print your boarding pass at home, complete with seat assignments. If you are checking luggage, you will still have to wait in line. If you have carry-on luggage only, you may proceed directly to security check-in.

- Be aware of airline carry-on luggage requirements. The size and number of carry-on items may be limited. Don't wait until you board the plane to find that an item needs to be checked in.

- Expect heavy congestion in front of the terminals around curbs. Curbs will be reserved for active loading and unloading only. Drivers dropping off or picking up passengers will not be allowed to wait. Park in short-term parking and meet your party in the baggage claim area.

- Airport security measures mean more hand-searches of checked and

carry-on baggage, which may cause slowdowns at check-in and screening checkpoints.

- All passengers are required to have photo identification at the ticket counter and checkpoints. This is true regardless of the type of ticket issued (paper or electronic). Travelers heading outside of the North American continent need a valid passport.

- Wrap gifts after you arrive at your destination. Security personnel may request that gifts be unwrapped at screening checkpoints.

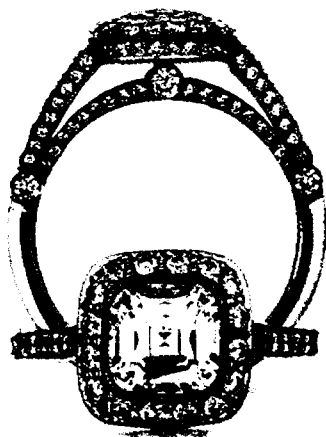
- Stay calm in lines and

during inspections. Don't make jokes or take actions that may be construed as threatening.

- Consult airport Web sites for maps and information on parking availability.

A large deer herd, combined with large numbers of cars on the road, creates a high probability for collisions. In 2003, 67,760 deer-vehicle crashes were reported. Eleven people were killed as a result of these crashes and 1,913 more were injured.

AAA Michigan urges all motorists to avoid alcohol, buckle up, be well rested, and drive defensively.



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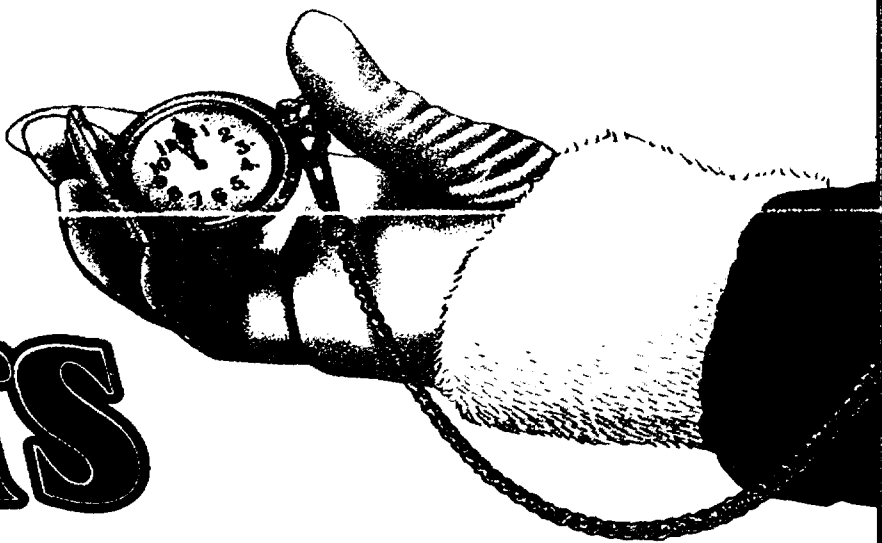
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Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

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h these Area Merchants



From page 1B

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-Eastside is selling holiday cards, gifts and note cards for the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD). The artwork is done by artists whose lives have shared the common bond of mental illness.

A variety of cards is available ranging from \$10 to \$15 for 25 cards. Card imprinting is also available.

To place an order, call Carol Scripps at (313) 881-5429. Proceeds are used for research.

St. John Senior Community

Each year the residents of St. John Senior Community's watercolor class participate in a contest to design a Christmas card. The 2004 winner was Gertrude Materne whose card features the message: "Wishing you joy to fill your holidays and love to fill your heart."

The price is \$16 for 20 cards. Cards can be purchased at the Senior Community, 18300 East Warren, Detroit, Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Proceeds from the sale of the cards

support programs for the residents. Call Elaine Guzik at (313) 343-8931.

Special Kids Inc.

The Special Kids cards are decorated with a simple triangle Christmas tree adorned with glittering red stars. All proceeds from the card sales benefit speech, occupational and physical therapy and individual tutoring for special needs children. A 15-pack of cards is available for \$10, with free delivery, and may be ordered through Special Kids Inc., 1241 Blairmoor Ct., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 or by calling (313) 881-7575 or visiting spe-

cialkids.org.

TopKid

A patriotic theme and a message of peace adorn the TopKid holiday card.

TopKid is a national not-for-profit organization that supports our nation's troops by providing scholarships to their kids. One hundred percent of each sale stays with the charity.

The cards are \$25 for 20 cards; shipping is included. To place an order, send a check or money order to TopKid, 15005 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230. For more information call, (313) 824-8500 or visit TopKid@topkid.org.

Tuesday Musicale presents concert on Tuesday, Dec. 7

The Tuesday Musicale of Detroit will present a holiday concert at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods.


Jan Purdy, a coloratura soprano, will sing Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" and "O Holy Night" by Adam, accompanied by Stephanie Nofar on the organ. Lauren Erickson (flute) and Noriko Ernst (pianist) will accompany Purdy in "Charmante

Oiseau (La Perle du Bresil)" by Felicien David.

The program will include the Tuesday Musicale Choral Ensemble directed by Ruth Brennan and accompanied by Patricia Fletcher on the piano.

Honorary member Dr. Huw Lewis will perform selections on the organ. Guest harpist Lydia Cleaver and Lauren Erickson (flute) will perform "Four Medieval Dances" by Lauber. Lydia Cleaver, the 1991 Tuesday Musicale scholarship recipient, University of Michigan, will perform "Rhapsodie for the Harpe" by Grandjany. Lauren Erickson (flute) and Noriko Ernst (piano) will perform "Cantabile" by Enesco and "Tambourin" by Gossec.

Admission is free. A donation of \$5 is suggested. For more information, call (248) 848-9930.



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Richard Brian's Hair Designs

Nail technician, Becky McGarvah would like to remind the busy stay at home moms and working women of today to stop and take time out for themselves this Holiday Season. Enjoy a relaxing pedicure and manicure at a special holiday savings now through January 1st. Gift Certificates available ...at 21427 Greater Mack, in St. Clair Shores, 586-773-2620.

Nitsa's Interiors

Cordially invites you to "SHOP WITH THE STARS"

Nitsa's Interiors Holiday Extravaganza Thursday, December 9th 11:30 am - 8:00 pm

Browse Oprah's "O" List Favorites

Brad Pitt & Jennifer Aniston's Home Fragrances, Brooke Shields' Witchy Pooh Sugar Scrub, Unique Holiday & Gift Accessories. Serving holiday favorites & beverages.

Nitsa's proudly presents its exclusive collection of *handcrafted* breast cancer awareness bracelets. Proceeds to be donated to the Nitsa's Breast Cancer Fund.

Private Trunk Shows: OWSphinx Rugs- 12:00 pm; Lee Jofa/Kravet- 2:00pm; Schumacher- 4:00pm; Scalomandre- 6:00pm. ...at 28983 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores, (586)772-1196.

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Looking for something special and unique for the Holiday season? *Salon Daniele* is your one stop shop! We provide customized gift baskets that will dazzle anyone's holiday wish. Ask our stylists to prescribe the perfect products for any hair type. *Salon Daniele* brings the personal touch back into gift giving. ...at 18546 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Farms, 313-882-4246



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Thursday, Friday & Saturday December 2nd, 3rd & 4th.

3 days only 20% - 70% off

On All Merchandise.

Layaway plan available. ...at 21027 Mack Avenue, (North of 8 Mile) Grosse Pointe Woods, (313)886-5043.

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Mens Night Out Thursday, December 9th 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Find something unusual for your lady. Gifts for the home. Handbags, scarfs, jewelry, jewelry boxes and much more. Complimentary gift wrapping, refreshments served ...at 21035 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Woods (313)417-0884.

Holiday Hours:
Monday -Saturday, 10:00 - 5:00 pm
Sunday, Noon - 4:00 pm

To advertise in this column call (313) 882-3500 by 2:00 pm Fridays

Features

December 2, 2004

Section B

Churches.....page 2
 Faces & Places.....page 3
 A la Annie.....page 5
 Meetings.....page 6

Send holiday cheer to friends, families, charities

By Beth Quinn
 Staff Writer

Christmas and holiday cards can double their greeting capacities. They can offer good wishes to friends during the holiday season, and they can benefit local and/or national charities.

Here are some samples of cards that will not only send your holiday message in festive styles, but also help less fortunate people, senior citizens and children of service men and women.

or emailing jbirnbryer@gcfb.org or visiting gcfb.org.

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan is selling holiday cards to support services for children and families, senior adults and persons with disabilities throughout lower Michigan. The cards are being sold in a pack of 12 with four designs created by young people affiliated with LSSM.

Each package costs \$12 and can be purchased by calling (313) 823-7700, from 9 to 5 p.m. weekdays or by visiting LSSM.org.

Make-A-Wish Foundation

Holiday Magic Greeting Cards which are packaged 10 cards/10 envelopes for \$10. There are several other greeting alternatives including:

• Giving Certificates — These cards double as a greeting and a gift as they let the recipient know a donation has been made in their honor this holiday season. Cards are available for \$5 each or 12 for \$50. Each card comes with its own envelope.

• Giving Inserts — These professional vellum inserts will fit into most holiday greeting cards and are a nice gesture to let those on your holiday card list know that you are donating on their behalf. These inserts are 75 cents each.

• Send A Wish cards — These one-of-a-kind cards will let the recipients know a donation has been made on their behalf to make a specific child's wish come true. The cards are available for a \$20 donation per card and include a special insert highlighting details about this child's wish.

Holiday greetings may be purchased by downloading an order form at their Web site, wishmich.org/holiday_magic.asp, by calling 800-622-WISH, or by stopping into a Make-A-Wish office in Livonia, Lansing or Grand Rapids.

National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression

See CARDS, page 8B



St. John Senior Community



NARSAD

Peace on Earth



TopKid

Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary

An embossed gold foil design adorns the front of the holiday card offered by the Children's Hospital of

Michigan Auxiliary.

A box of 15 cards for \$18 is available by calling (313) 745-0962. They can also be purchased at Tassies at 84 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Card and envelope imprints are also available.

Gleaners Community Food Bank

Two designs are available from Gleaners Community Food Bank: one is the traditional colonial pineapple, a symbol of good tidings, and the other is a glossy contemporary photo of star fruit with a happy New Year's message. Special "in honor of" donation gift cards are also available.

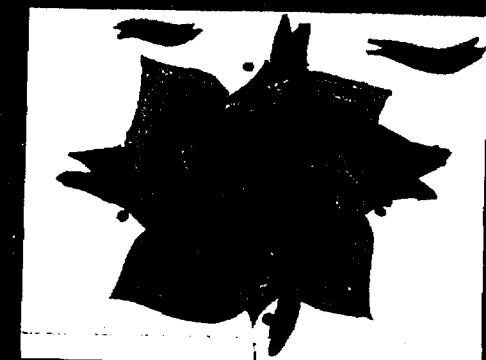
Cards are \$10 for a package of 10 and are available by calling Julie Ptasznik at (313) 923-3535, ext. 245.



Special Kids Inc.



Children's Hospital of Michigan



Lutheran Social Services of Michigan



Gleaners Food Bank

Allen-Edmonds Trunk Show

Step into a good business decision.

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Time's a-wasting

By the Rev. John Corrado
Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church

It's the kind of book I'll buy on a whim. At a rummage sale. If it's really cheap. It's the kind of book that can be helpful at best, demonic at worst, and most likely, worthy of the fantasy section of the library. It's a book about saving time; about turning hours into 90-minute entities.

Sure. Did I say this is the kind of book filled with unintended humor?

What's not funny is how popular books and seminars and programs on time-saving are. If you take them seriously, they can make you feel guilty about being a time-wasting clod: wasteful, inefficient, slothful. What's the matter with you? Get out your Palm Pilot; grab the "time saver" (whatever that is) you got at CVS; become a one-minute manager, a one-minute parent, a one-minute spouse, and multi-task, multi-task, multi-task! Don't you care? Don't you want to do more? Accomplish more? Be more?

In the book I (unfortunately) rescued from the rummage heap, the author actually suggests such time-saving strategies as hiring college students to bring in your newspaper, wash your dishes, and (even!) pick up your clothes.

Uh-huh. And just what are you going to do with all the minutes you save? Write the great American novel? Discover a cure for life? Exchange them for a new life?

Yes, time is precious. There isn't enough of it to do the things we like with the people we love. Yes, most of us actually do waste time, or at least don't fill the unforgiving

hour with 60 — or 90! — minutes of high productivity.

And? And two colleagues once talked about what they did while waiting in lines (something Mr. 90-Minute Hour would pay someone else to do). One said he balanced his checkbook. The other said she meditated and let her mind wander.

Shocking!

St. Exuperey says, "It's the time you have wasted on your rose that makes your rose special." Time wasted? Is St. Exuperey all wet, or moments inefficiently filled, with nary a multi-task, the stuff that make us real?

"What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare . . . stare as long as sheep or cows," wrote William Henry Davies in a poem which has appeared in the last two hymnals our church uses.

What's the matter with him? "A man must buy carrots and turnips, must have barn and woodshed, must go to market . . . and be inferior and silly," Emerson wrote. Emerson?

And Gandhi, who certainly should have had better things to do, insisted on spinning cotton like a peasant. He considered it a spiritual discipline. It kept him in touch with the common man.

Shall we consider Gandhi a man who blew his chance to utilize his time to become someone "more?" What's a person to believe?

I'd try to answer that question, but I'm torn between writing this while listening to a book on tape as I ride a stationary bike or walking out to the back yard and staring at the stars.



St. Paul Festival Choir

The Festival Choir of St. Paul Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms will present "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols," at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the church, 157 Lakeshore.

The program will include Scripture readings and choral selections with a Christmas theme focused on prayer for peace in the world. The Festival Choir is comprised of the three choirs of St. Paul and is directed by Lawrence R. Przybyss.

A free will offering will be taken.

'Christmas Through the Ages' at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore in Grosse Pointe Farms, will present "Christmas Through the Ages" at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the church. The concert is the second event of this season's music series sponsored by Music at Memorial.

The concert will feature The New Cranbrook Singers and members of the Memorial Church Choir under the direction of Charles Raines.

The choirs, brass quintet and organ will perform a variety of Christmas music.

Of special interest will be music by 17th century German composer Michael Praetorius

who wrote works for several choirs and groups of instruments — the original surround-sound. Brass, choirs and

organ will also lead the audience in familiar Christmas carols.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission;

\$5 for students and seniors. A reception will follow the concert. For more information, call (313) 882-5330.

Sunday Afternoon at the Movies, part II, is Dec. 5

The Lay Theological Academy will present "Sunday Afternoon at the Movies, Part II," at 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

The movie, "Brother Sun, Sister Moon," is a Franco Zeffirelli film about the life of Francis of Assisi. Tom Donahoo, a lay Catholic campus minister, will lead a

discussion about the movie and its meaning for Christmas preparations.

A free will offering will be taken. For more information, call the church at (313) 882-5330.

VECC offers talk on handling stress

Handling holiday stress will be the focus of a free community education night from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Van

Center at St. John Hospital and Medical Center.

Mary Natschke, RN, manager of the Valade Healing Arts Center in the VECC, will present tech-

niques for relaxation and meditation that can help reduce stress around the holidays and beyond. For more information or to register, call (866) 246-4673.

Christ Church Grosse Pointe

Gifts & Greens Sale

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Dec. 5th, Noon-2pm



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FELC's annual Carol-Along

First English Lutheran Church will hold its 24th annual Carol-Along at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the church, 800 Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods. The event is part of the church's Open Door series and will include music by the church's vocal choirs and bell choirs. Robert Foster will be the organist. Santa will visit.

Christmas cookies will be served after the concert. For more information, call (313) 884-5040.

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December 5, 2004

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First English Ev. Lutheran Church

Vernier Rd. at Wedgewood Dr.

Grosse Pointe Woods 884-5040

8:15 a.m. Traditional Service

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

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10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Meditation "Hurry Up...and Wait!"
Scripture: James 5:7-10
Peter C. Smith, preaching

Church School Crib - 8th Grade

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9:30 a.m. Education Hour

11:00 a.m. Worship

Nursery 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
E-mail: gpwchurch@aol.com • Web site: www.gpwpc.org

Holiday cards: Good news, bad news

It's time to face that it's that time of year again. I don't just mean time to trim trees or hang lights or buy gifts. I mean that it's time to get out the gold pen and the holiday stamps and send out your annual holiday cards.

Make no mistake about it, choosing the right card takes a lot of thought. Are you the type who likes cuddly baby animals or do you like a religious theme? Do you prefer reindeer, Santa Claus or winter snow scenes? Or are you, like my friend Shirley, more of the Gingerbread Man type?

This year I've decided to bypass the agony of deciding what to choose and do what any typical, proud mother would do: find a picture of my family and turn it into a card.

I started by sorting through last year's batch of pictures. I was looking for one where the entire family looked happy, relaxed and well-tanned, preferably taken somewhere in nature. Not too much to ask, right? Shockingly enough, after

going through several stacks of pictures, I found not one single picture that fit these criteria.

So I went back through and tried to find a picture with three of us smiling and one of us with good hair.

Then I searched for a picture that had all four of us in it fully dressed at the same time.

Still nothing, except for one taken in the mid-90s on the day we brought my son home from the hospital. This would only shock and confuse people.

It was obvious from all this that we'd have to get a new picture taken just for the card. We all got into our good velvet clothes, and I called my neighbor Linda to come over with her camera.

"Quick," I hissed into the phone. "Come take our picture before one of us gets a running nose or sneezes or picks up the cat or something."

Linda is an avid picture-taker, so you'd think

chances are that one of her pictures would come out decent enough to be used as a Christmas card. YOU WOULD THINK.

Imagine my surprise then, when I got the pictures back and saw 24 pictures of a rather surprised looking red-eyed family standing in front of various household appliances.

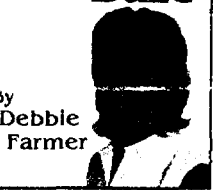
So I took matters into my own hands and moved on to plan No. 2: Take pictures of the kids outside among all of the festive holiday decorations.

Mind you, I use the term "festive" loosely, since all we had in front of our house was a string of colored light bulbs put up sometime in 1992.

Then I remembered the upscale neighborhood, three blocks away, where each year people go overboard decorating their front lawns.

It was a brilliant plan. "You can't take pictures of our children in front of strangers' houses," my husband said. "What will our friends think?"

Family Daze



by
Debbie
Farmer

"That we got a bigger house and trendier Christmas lights?"

"Very funny." The good news is that these pictures came out great. I had fabulous shots of my children posing in front of cutout wooden snowmen and reindeer and between the Three Wise Men in a miniature cardboard manger.

The bad news is that in the end, my husband was right. It just seemed deceitful to send those pictures out.

Instead, I chose a rather plain picture of the kids sitting on the living room floor holding an ornament.

But that's OK. You see, today I received a photo Christmas card from my old college friend Lisa who lives in a condo in South Florida. It was a lovely scene of her family gathered around a cozy fireplace mantel holding a cat.

Except... as far as I know, she doesn't own a cat or, for that matter, a fireplace. In fact, now that I take a closer look, I'm not even sure that's her real husband.

Somehow, that comforts me.

Debbie Farmer is a humorist and a mother holding down the fort in California, and the author of "Don't Put Lipstick on the Cat."

She can be reached at www.familydaze.com, or by writing familydaze@oasis-newsfeatures.com.

Players to present Wassailfest

The Players will present its annual fundraiser, "Wassailfest," beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10 and 11, at the Players Playhouse, 3321 E. Jefferson in Detroit.

The Renaissance Dance Company, directed by Harriet Berg, will perform traditional Elizabethan court dances. Other performers include mimes, magicians, singers and a Renaissance orchestra. Members promise an evening of drink, dinner and frolicking. Tickets are \$60. Call (313) 259-3385.

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The Memorial Church concert will feature The New Cranbrook Singers and members of the Memorial Church Choir under the direction of Charles Raines. The choirs, brass quintet and organ will perform a variety of Christmas music drawn from the vast choral repertoire from chant to music by living composers.

Of special interest will be music by 17th century German composer Michael Praetorius who wrote works for several choirs and groups of instruments - the original "surround-sound." Located in the three balconies of Memorial Church the singers and instrumentalists will perform several of Praetorius' Christmas settings. Brass, choirs and organ will lead the audience in familiar Christmas carols.

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

16 Lakeshore Drive

\$10 General Admission

\$5 Students/Seniors

313-882-5330



A Dickens of a Christmas

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society's prelude to the Christmas season, "A Dickens of a Christmas," will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Provencal-Weir House, 376 Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Farms.

The house will be decorated for the season by the Fox Creek Questers of Grosse Pointe. Catering will be by Lizzie's of St. Clair Shores.

Carolers will provide seasonal songs and Victorian ambience. Last year's carolers were, from left, Eric Kmetz, Lea Brown, Annie Chapman and Matt Shelton, all students at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Cookies, cocoa, and other refreshments will be served. To conclude the afternoon, all guests will be invited to go caroling on Lakeview, near the Provencal-Weir House. Wear a warm coat. For more information, call (313) 884-7010.

GPAA plans exhibition, gift boutique

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association will present its holiday exhibition and gift boutique from Monday, Dec. 6, through Friday, Dec. 31, at its headquarters, 1005 Maryland in Grosse Pointe Park.

An opening night party begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the door.

All items in the gift shop are handcrafted and priced under \$100.

The exhibition is open and free to the public beginning Tuesday, Dec. 7.

Gallery hours are Wednesdays through Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m.

For more information, call (313) 821-1848.

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The Detroit News

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Riesling puts the vin in this coq au vin

The holiday season is officially here. We'll be attending office parties and family get-togethers, but there's nothing like having a small, intimate dinner party to make this special time of year really special.

Enter coq au vin (kohk-oh-VAHN), a classic French dish that pairs chicken with bacon, onions and mushrooms. It is usually prepared with red wine. This version of coq au vin calls for Riesling wine, resulting in a lighter finish that will appeal to many. I clipped the following recipe from the New York Times.

Coq Au Riesling
8 oz. sliced bacon, cut crosswise into 1-inch pieces
3 medium onions, peeled and roughly chopped
10 chicken thighs, on the bone with skin
8 oz. mushrooms
2 large cloves of garlic, minced
1/4 cup chopped

Italian parsley, divided
3 tablespoons chopped fresh tarragon, divided
1 bottle of dry (or semi-dry) Riesling wine

Heat a large, deep (preferably nonstick) skillet over medium heat. Add the bacon and cook until some of the fat from the bacon is released. Add the onions and cook together for 10 minutes or so until the onions are tender. Using a slotted spoon remove the bacon and the onions and set aside. Place the skillet over medium-high heat and cook the thighs (in 2 batches) until brown on both sides. Set thighs aside.

Reduce heat to medium-low. Add the mushrooms, garlic, 3 tablespoons of the parsley and 2 tablespoons of the tarragon. Saute for 2 minutes or so. Return the chicken thighs (skin side up) to the skillet and the bacon mushroom mixture. Add the wine (yes! the whole bottle) and bring the skillet to a boil.

À LA ANNIE

By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff



Reduce the heat to a low boil, partially cover and cook for 1 hour.

Transfer the thighs to a serving platter and, using a slotted spoon, top with the bacon, onion and mushrooms. This will leave some of the fat (but not the flavor) behind. Sprinkle the thighs with the remaining chopped fresh parsley and tarragon.

The coq au Riesling can be prepared a day in advance. Cool, cover and store in the refrigerator overnight. Remove excess fat before reheating (in the same skillet) at a low heat

until completely reheated throughout.

My niece, Yvonne Metz, who was visiting from Santa Rosa, Calif., was my helper and guest at a last-minute dinner party I threw last week. We prepared the coq au vin in the morning then had the rest of the day for the rest of our preparations. Yvonne made a place card for everyone and helped serve each course: baby greens tossed with balsamic vinaigrette, coq au vin with herb rice and sugar snap peas. We finished with creme brulee.

I believe it was my niece's first experience with a meal served one course at a time. "My mom just puts the food down and says come and get it," she said.

Oh, Yvonne, you know how to make your aunt feel like a real chef.

The flavor combination of coq au Riesling turns everyday chicken thighs into something really special. And very delicious.

Meetings

Pettipointe Questers

Pettipointe Questers No. 243 will meet at 11 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 2, at the home of Barbara Malley. "A Dickens of a Christmas" is the theme of the meeting. A pub lunch will be served.

Members are asked to bring nonperishable food for the needy and one wrapped white elephant item to exchange.

Windmill Pointe Garden Club

The Windmill Pointe Garden Club met on Wednesday, Dec. 1, for a Christmas Tea at the home of Mrs. Charles Brown. Mrs. George Grenzke was the co-hostess.

The club will meet from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, for a Christmas cocktail party at the home of Mary Northcutt.

Valparaiso University Guild

The Detroit chapter of the Valparaiso University Guild will present its annual Christmas Tea and Musicals beginning at noon, Monday, Dec. 6, at Historic Trinity Church, 1345 Gratiot in Detroit.

An advent service in the sanctuary will be followed by a program featuring the honors choir from St. John Lutheran School. Tea and cookies will be served and

homemade cookies will be available for purchase. The offering collected during the service will benefit Valparaiso University. The community is invited and no reservations are necessary.

Women's Connection

The Women's Connection of Grosse Pointe will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at a private club in Grosse Pointe.

The program will be presented by Nancy Henk, a professional puppeteer. Social hour begins at 6 p.m.; dinner is at 6:30 p.m. For reservations or more information, call Nancy Neat at (313) 882-1855 or Marcia Pikielek at (313) 884-4201.

Optimist Club

The Lakeshore Optimist Club will meet from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

The speaker will be E.J. Rozek, executive director of the Macomb County YMCA. The club has served the east side for more than 20 years. Club members volunteer their time and fundraising efforts to contribute to youth-related organizations.

Guests are always welcome. Anyone interested in attending the meeting or learning more about Optimist activities should contact current club President Bill Murray at (800) 900-1639 for more information.

Grosse Pointe Classical Music League presents Christmas fantasy on Dec. 11

The Grosse Pointe Classical Music League will present a champagne luncheon and a program, "A Christmas Fantasy," beginning at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 11, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. The program will be

directed by Bob Barnhart and will feature soprano Gail Mitchell, 30 members of the Filarets Women's Choir, and a chance for audience participation singing Christmas carols from around the world.

Scholarships will be presented to three music stu-

dents. The organization's fundraising raffle will include a chance to win a Neiman Marcus package of lunch for four, valet parking and a beauty consultation.

Tickets are \$45 a person. For reservations, call Nancy at (586) 774-6803.

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December 6 to December 12

Featured Guests

8:30 am The S.O.C. Show
9:00 am Vitality Plus (Aerobics)
9:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 am Who's in the Kitchen?
10:30 am Things to do at the War Memorial
11:00 am Musical Story Time Jamboree
11:30 am Out of the Ordinary
12:00 pm Economic Club of Detroit
1:00 pm Watercolor Workshop / Senior Men's Club
1:30 pm Inside Art
2:00 pm The Legal Insider / Consumers Corner
2:30 pm The John Prost Show
3:00 pm Things to do at the War Memorial
3:30 pm Musical Story Time Jamboree
4:00 pm Vitality Plus (Step/Kick Boxing)
4:30 pm Young View Pointes
5:00 pm Positively Positive
5:30 pm Watercolor Workshop / Senior Men's Club
6:00 pm The Legal Insider / Consumers Corner
6:30 pm Who's in the Kitchen?
7:00 pm Vitality Plus (Tone Exercise)
7:30 pm Things to do at the War Memorial
8:00 pm Positively Positive
8:30 pm Young View Pointes
9:00 pm Vitality Plus (Step/Kick Boxing)
9:30 pm Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 pm The John Prost Show
10:30 pm Inside Art
11:00 pm Out of the Ordinary
11:30 pm The S.O.C. Show
Midnight Vitality Plus (Aerobics)
12:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
1:00 am Who's in the Kitchen?
1:30 am Things to do at the War Memorial
2:00 am Musical Story Time Jamboree
2:30 am Out of the Ordinary
3:00 am Economic Club of Detroit
4:00 am Watercolor Workshop / Senior Men's Club
4:30 am Inside Art
5:00 am The Legal Insider / Consumers Corner
5:30 am The John Prost Show
6:00 am Things to do at the War Memorial
6:30 am Musical Story Time Jamboree
7:00 am Vitality Plus (Step/Kick Boxing)
7:30 am Young View Pointes
8:00 am Positively Positive

The S.O.C. Show
Diane Bezy - Minor Home Repair
Who's in the Kitchen?
Debbie Caputo - Get the Party Started

Things to do at the War Memorial
The 29th Annual Grosse Pointe "Santa Clause Parade"

Out of the Ordinary
Dr. Jahangir Sarti - Homeopath

Economic Club of Detroit
Dr. Rosabeth Moss Kanter, Prof. of Business Management, Harvard Business School

Watercolor Workshop
Reflections of Autumn - Part II

Inside Art
Judge William J. Giovan - Photography

Consumers Corner
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The John Prost Show
Sharon Maier - Services for Older Citizens

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CHD, Project HOPE, Optimists plan benefits

The Children's Home of Detroit, Michigan's oldest provider of specialized services for children and families, is holding its annual Giving Tree through Monday, Dec. 20.

Holiday giving trees will be placed at more than 60 sites in the metro Detroit area, decorated with ornament tags that bear the name and age of a child from the Children's Home of Detroit. Participants select a tag, purchase a gift and return the unwrapped present, in a bag, to the site.

Republic Bank, 19683 Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods and radio station 106.7 The Drive will host a live remote from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, to support the Holiday Giving Tree. Refreshments will be provided by the Chocolate Gallery Cafe and Santa will visit.

Republic Bank encourages people to visit the Mack branch, choose a child's name tag and provide a gift.

Participants may also make a monetary contribution to help provide a memorable holiday season for a special child.

"Year after year, we continue to be impressed by the generosity of metro Detroiters and area businesses who have allowed us to host this event at their establishments," said Deborah A. Liedel, director of public relations and community services for the Children's Home of Detroit. "It is through their support that we can continue to fulfill the holiday wishes of these special children."

- Suggested gifts:**
- Winter hats, gloves or mittens, earmuffs and scarves;
 - Books, games, puzzles and activity books;
 - Craft items, crayons, markers, glue and stickers;
 - Portable mini stereos, radios and CD players;
 - Jewelry and watches;
 - Sports equipment;
 - Fun or sport socks;
 - Gift certificates;
 - Stationery
 - Stuffed animals.

Monetary donations should be sent to the Children's Home of Detroit — Holiday Giving Tree, 900 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods, 48236.

To make a Visa or MasterCard contribution, contact CHD Community Services at (313) 885-3510 or visit www.childrenshomeofdetroit.org.

Although the gifts are due to the participating sites by Monday, Dec. 20, contributions made after that date may be delivered to CHD's Grosse Pointe Woods Campus at 900 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods, 48236.

The Children's Home of Detroit has two campuses in Wayne and Macomb counties that provide specialized mental health residential treatment services. It is accessible to children from all over Michigan.

CHD's residential treatment services provide around-the-clock care so that children may overcome emotional and behavioral problems and return to their homes and communities.

For a list of giving tree locations or more information, visit www.childrenshomeofdetroit.org or contact CHD Community Services at (313) 885-3510 or send an e-mail to dliesel@childrenshomeofdetroit.org.

HOPE benefit: Project HOPE League will present its 15th Holiday of HOPE event at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

The afternoon includes champagne cocktails, dinner, a silent auction and door prizes. Entertainment will be by members of Grosse Pointe Theatre.

Guests should bring a gift for the boys and girls at the Children's Home of Detroit. Proceeds of the event will go to Project HOPE's humanitarian efforts in Grenada, where hurricane Ivan swept its deadly path. Project HOPE is committed to helping Grenadians regain access to vital medicines, medical supplies and health care services during this time of devastation.

Project HOPE's mission is "Go only where invited, and help others to help themselves by educating them to teach and treat their own people."

Identifiable to many by the S.S. HOPE, the world's first peacetime hospital ship, Project HOPE now conducts land-based medical training and health care education programs on five continents, including North America.

Co-chairmen of the benefit are Larry Marco of Grosse Pointe Woods and Jacqueline Kendall of West Bloomfield.

Tickets are \$65. To reserve a ticket, call (248) 538-0777.

Coats for the Cold:

The Lakeshore Optimist Club of Grosse Pointe will hold its 14th annual "Coats for the Cold" clothing collection for local ministries on Saturday, Dec. 4.

All types of clean clothing for children and adults will be accepted and forwarded to either the Grace Community Church's Outreach Ministry, "Our Father's Business," or to the Children's Home of Detroit.

"We typically collect a couple trailers of clothes each year," said Bill Murray of Grosse Pointe Woods, current president of the Lakeshore Optimists. "This serves a dual purpose: Eastside residents can clear out their closets and receive a tax deduction and the clothing is recycled to benefit those who can use it."

Call the Optimist hotline at (313) 359-6126 any time until Friday, Dec. 3 and leave your name and address as requested in its voice mail message. On the morning of Dec. 4, place your bags of donated clothing on your front porch. Optimist volunteer crews will pick up between noon and 3 p.m. and leave a receipt.

Those who prefer to deliver their bags of clothing may take them to 717 University Place, just south of Charlevoix in the City of Grosse Pointe, anytime between Wednesday, Dec. 1 and Friday, Dec. 3.

— Margie Reins Smith



Photos by Ellie Tholen

Nutcracker Luncheon

The annual Nutcracker Luncheon and Holiday Boutique on Nov. 15 drew a crowd of supporters for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The event was sponsored by the DSO Volunteer Council.

Mary Ann Washborn and Gloria Clark, both of Grosse Pointe Shores, are shown at the left. At the right, are Grosse Pointer Ann Parsons, president and executive director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Adel Amerman of Grosse Pointe Farms.



Photo by Wally Lubzik, courtesy of the Detroit Historical Society

Dossin Museum

The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority presented a \$20,000 check to the Detroit Historical Society.

The check represented proceeds from a September event to support the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle.

From left, are Douglas Dossin of Grosse Pointe Farms, vice president, Detroit Historical Society; Curtis Hertel of Grosse Pointe Woods, DWCPA's executive director; Bob Bury of Grosse Pointe Park, executive director, Detroit Historical Society; and Francis W. McMillan of Grosse Pointe Farms, president, Detroit Historical Society.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is dedicated to preserving and presenting the rich legacy of the Great Lakes. In 1949, the Maritime Museum of Detroit was opened on Belle Isle aboard the landed wood schooner J.T. Wing, the last commercial sailing ship on the Great Lakes.

Seven years later, the museum was closed due to the deteriorated condition of the J.T. Wing. The Dossin Family, a well-known name in the wholesale food and soft drink businesses, provided the funds for a new maritime museum.

The new facility, now named the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, opened on the Wing's former Belle Isle site on July 24, 1961, the 260th anniversary of Detroit's founding.

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Safety tips, cautions for senior drivers

(ARA) — Age alone does not determine a person's ability to drive safely; however, certain physical changes that are a natural part of the aging process do affect one's capacity to anticipate and react to dangerous driving situations.

More than 19 million people over the age of 70 are driving in the United States. According to The National Older Drivers Research and Training Center, this age group is the fastest growing segment of the country's population. Because of this, more attention is being focused on helping these drivers recognize their changing abilities and adapt their driving practices to stay safe on the road.

Statistics from the Web site helpguide.org show that mature adult drivers are more likely to be involved in multiple-vehicle accidents than younger drivers, including teenagers. They are also more likely to get traffic citations for failing to yield, turning improperly and running red lights and stop signs — an indication of decreased driving ability.

As people age, loss of visual acuity, diminished hearing and slower reaction times can all affect driving skills. In addition, mature adult drivers are more likely to be taking medication on a

regular basis, many of which can affect driving ability.

Even if vision is normal, their eyes lose some contrast sensitivity (the ability to detect sharp borders and slight changes in lighting), which is critical to driving.

Loss of contrast sensitivity can make it difficult — at night and on very bright days — to see road dividers and hazards in unlit areas. Likewise, hearing loss makes drivers less able to recognize important cues — honking horns, screeching tires and emergency sirens.

Despite these potential problems, mature adults value the independence and mobility that their cars provide. Many compensate by making changes in their driving habits. They may limit their driving to daytime hours, avoid driving in inclement weather or bypass expressways.

In addition, new technological designs of vehicle parts have made driving safer for all age groups. For instance, Wagner TruView headlamps provide a truer, whiter light that delivers exceptional forward visibility without creating the glare commonly associated with high-intensity discharge (HID) headlamps.

Technological advances that improve driver safety

coupled with extra precautions will ensure a more pleasant driving experience for people of all ages.

Here are some safety tips:

- Allow plenty of time to get to your destination, and know where you're going; map your route out ahead of time.

- Take a refresher driving course; for example American Association of Retired Person's "55-Alive" class teaches people 50 and over about defensive driving.

- Be alert and give your-

self plenty of room to react; a three-second safety cushion between you and the car in front of you is a good guideline to follow.

- If you are uneasy in heavy traffic, avoid driving during peak hours.

- Get regular check-ups for hearing and vision; ask your doctor about your medications' effects on your driving ability.

- Avoid potential distractions while driving (radio, cell phones, conversations with passengers, eating, etc.).

Handing down family heritage — one stitch at a time

(ARA) — Where do I belong? How do I fit in? These are questions kids start asking as soon as they're old enough for school. Grandma and Grandpa are the closest links to the past — and often the best source of information about your family's story.

Not only can connections be made with the past through stories and the sharing of photographs, but also with the passing down of bits and pieces of family history. Tell your family story one stitch at a time with a crazy quilt. Snuggle up with your grandchild under a quilt that tells the story that is uniquely his or hers.

Crazy quilts have a great deal of history in this country. In Colonial times, when old blankets and coverlets began to wear out, they were patched up — out of necessity — with whatever material happened to be around at the time: used clothing scraps, uniforms, and worn blankets. The practice led to the creation of quilts with a lot of history. Years later during the Victorian era, a time of prosperity, crazy quilts were made not out of

necessity, but as an art form that women took great pride in. They used silks, velvets and abundant embroideries to create quilts so beautiful, many ended up in museums.

In modern days, people have turned them into family keepsakes that bundle together memories.

In the old days, materials were sewn together by hand. Today, high-tech sewing machines — like Bernina's artista 165E Heritage Edition — do the work for you.

Many people use embroidery to personalize their quilts even further. Photos can be transferred to fabric and added to this historical piece, and permanent ink can be used to add personal touches — the signatures of older family members and finger or footprints of new babies.

Or take a small piece of your crazy quilted material and make a shadow box of memories of a single event such as a wedding or special trip. The crazy quilt piece can serve as the background. Photographs and larger mementos can be secured to the fabric.

'Picturing the Birth of Christ' will be topic of talk at SOC

Services for Older Citizens will present a talk, "Picturing the Birth of Christ," by Mary Lee O'Bryan of the Detroit Institute of Arts at 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at the Neighborhood Club. O'Bryan will explain how

early Christian and Renaissance artists from Italy and Northern Europe have depicted the birth of Christ and the events surrounding this story.

A hot lunch will be served before the talk, at 11 a.m.

Please recycle this newspaper

SOC Options

SOC's December trips

Services for Older Citizens offers affordable trips every Thursday during the month of December. Trips fill up fast and new trips are added each week. To keep current on where and when the trips are, call the SOC office at (313) 882-9600 or stop in the office at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Detroit's oldest steakhouse. A trip to Carl's for lunch will be offered on Thursday, Dec. 23. The package includes transportation, lunch and a box lunch to take home. The cost, which includes lunch, is \$28 for residents; \$31 for nonresidents.

Gem Theatre

"Forbidden Christmas" and "Menopause the Musical," will be presented on Thursday, Dec. 30, at the Gem Theatre in downtown Detroit. The trip includes round-trip transportation, tickets to the show and a box lunch to take home. The cost for attending "Forbidden Christmas" is \$38 for residents; \$40 for nonresidents. To see "Menopause" is \$40 for residents; \$43 for nonresidents.

Detroit

Historical Museum

A trip to the Detroit Historical Museum is planned for Thursday, Jan. 6. A special exhibit, "Enterprising Women," spans 250 years and highlights some 40 women entrepreneurs. The package includes transportation, a ticket to the museum and a box lunch to take home. The cost is \$9 for residents; \$12 for nonresidents.

For more information, call Services for Older Citizens at (313) 882-9600.

Home

for the Holidays

Ring in the holiday season on Thursday, Dec. 9, by attending a traditional Yuletide sing-along and a visit from St. Nick at Orchestra Hall. The trip includes transportation, a ticket to Home for the Holidays and a box lunch to take home.

The cost is \$43 for residents of the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods; \$46 for nonresidents.

Somerset Collection

SOC will transport guests to the Somerset Collection on Thursday, Dec. 16, for a morning of shopping at more than 180 stores in the Troy mall. The package includes round-trip transportation, time to shop and have lunch, and a box lunch to take home. The cost is \$8 for residents and \$11 for nonresidents.

Carl's Chop House

Carl's Chop House is

Reduce falls at home

By Matilda Charles

Falls in the home can cause some older people to go from leading active lives to invalidism, or even to an early death. Here are some suggestions on how to identify some of the more common hazards in the home:

1. Highly polished floors: Although many products claim to be "slip-proof," a polished surface by definition reduces friction, and that increases the slip factor. Also, badly fitting shoes or slippers, or slippers with smooth soles can become dangerous on slippery surfaces.

2. Inadequate kitchen work surfaces: You need enough space for meal preparation to keep pieces of food, e.g., vegetable peels, lettuce leaves, grapes, etc.,

from falling to the floor, where people can slip on them.

3. Step stools: We all need to be able to reach a higher shelf now and then. Using an ordinary step stool can be hazardous. They don't provide enough space to accommodate both feet solidly, creating an unstable stance. Some wheeled step stools can move when the climber moves. Look at an office supplies catalog and get a stool that has a wider surface on which to stand, and a locking device that keeps it in place when the climber is on board.

4. Throw rugs: Even if anchored securely, people can stumble on them and fall.

5. Anything that juts out, such as an open cabinet door, a chair leg that isn't tucked under a table, or a footstool, especially one that isn't where it should be.

6. Bathrooms: Glue anti-slip strips on the bottom. Install strong handrails.

7. Bright lights: Install fluorescent lighting in kitchens and bathrooms. Keep a light on in the bedroom at night to prevent stumbling over an unseen object if you have to get out of bed.

Write to Matilda Charles in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send an e-mail to letters.kfvs@hearstsc.com.

Grandparents class at BSC

Bon Secours Cottage Health Services offers a free Grandparents class to discuss current concepts of labor and delivery, breast and bottle feeding, holding or "spoiling" and how important grandparents are in the lives of their children and grandchildren.

Today's childbearing couples are being taught many things that seem to be the exact opposite of what the soon-to-be-grandparents were told when they became parents.

A Bon Secours BirthCare nurse educator teaches the session. For more information or to register, call (586) 779-7909.

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ences will keep our residents involved in the familiar routines that marked their lives: gardening, sewing, office work, setting the dinner table, and even folding laundry. It's all designed to focus on each resident's strengths and abilities as well as to help them return to the comfort of a time that brought them much joy.

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Know signs
of teen depression

By Dr. Wendy Vandemark
Special Writer

You're the parent of a teenager who lacks motivation, sulks around the house and is not paying attention to how he or she looks. Maybe your teen has become aggressive and grouchy, and he either sleeps all the time or not much at all.

To some this may sound like a typical teenager being tossed about by a tidal wave of adolescent hormones. But if this uncharacteristic behavior continues for more than two weeks, it could be a sign of clinical depression.

Parents may not recognize their teenager's uncharacteristic behavior as depression but instead chalk it up to teen rebellion. Symptoms of depression in teens may differ from those of adults.

Often adult depression is characterized by changes in sleep and appetite patterns. Teens, on the other hand, may become angry, restless or unmotivated. Teens' dark moods may be replaced with periods of excitement if, for instance, she gets invited to a special party, but she only returns to gloom when she gets home.

Signs of depression

Teen suicide is a national problem. In young people 13 to 24, suicide is the second or third leading cause of death, behind unintentional injury and homicide. Many of these deaths may have been prevented if parents, teachers and friends were able to recognize some of the warning signs of teen depression.

Any suicidal talk by a teenager, or even an adult, must be taken very seriously and not just regarded as attention-seeking behavior.

The symptoms of depression to watch for include:

- anger or aggressive behavior
- impaired school and social function
- loss of energy
- guilt and feelings of worthlessness
- sleeping a lot or not much at all

Some of these symptoms may be mistakenly interpreted as the result of drug or alcohol abuse. In many cases, depressed teenagers do use drugs as a way to escape their feelings. It is mainly through education that parents, teachers and even friends can learn the warning signs of depression.

Friends can be a valuable source of support, especially during the teen years when some teenagers build up emotional and communication roadblocks against their parents.

The most important thing a friend can do for a teenager who may be depressed is to listen and be there for the troubled friend and get him in touch with someone who can help. This may be a parent, a trusted teacher or school social worker or even a therapist. It may be uncomfortable for a friend to intervene in this way, but the safety of the troubled teen is more important than a bruised friendship.

Therapy

The first step in therapy is for the trained therapist to perform a full psychological evaluation of the teenager. It's important for a therapist to gain the teen's trust; so the initial meeting is usually alone with the teen. The parents can then be brought into subsequent sessions, with or without their child.

It also is important to make sure the teenager has seen his or her primary care physician recently to rule out any medical cause for behavior changes. There are several treatable medical conditions that can mimic depression.

If the therapist makes the diagnosis of depression, a course of treatment can then be determined. This may consist of antidepressant medication alone, therapy without medication, or medication and therapy together.

The most effective treatment is to combine therapy and medication.

Last year, the FDA issued a warning that antidepressant medications like Prozac may increase a teenager's suicidal thoughts in the early weeks of treatment. But FDA officials admitted that no studies have shown a convincing link between drug therapy and actual acts of suicide. This warning simply underscored the importance of careful monitoring of patients taking antidepressant medications, especially in the critical early weeks of treatment.

Fortunately, the social stigma is decreasing for individuals seeking treatment for depression. Society has become more aware of the involvement of brain chemistry and genetics in the disorder.

Dr. Vandemark is a board-eligible Bon Secours Cottage psychiatrist at the Biological Psychiatry Center in Roseville. For an appointment, call (800) 303-7315.

Celebrate life, remember
lost loved ones with BSC

The Bon Secours Cottage Health Services Spiritual Care department invites members of the community who have experienced the

loss of a loved one to share a special evening of celebration, remembrance and story.

The free program begins at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore in Grosse Pointe Farms.

According to the Rev. Michael Rumble, Director of Spiritual Care at Bon Secours Cottage, "The evening will offer a different kind of holiday memorial for anyone who has lost a person close to him or her — even if it was a long time ago. We ask participants to bring an 8- by 10-inch photo of their loved one and a favorite candle to light. Participants will be invited to share a story or memory of the person they lost."

Special music, a harpist and an interpretive dance will be presented. Experience a time to relive memories, listen to and share with others. Arrive early to enjoy refreshments before the program begins.

Although the program is free, preregistration is requested. Call Marie Borsa at (313) 343-1656.

Families

Anonymous
offers support

Families Anonymous, a 12-step, self-help support program for parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who are concerned about and affected by a loved one's substance abuse or behavioral problem, meets from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays at Cottage Hospital, Lower Level, Board Room B.

Families Anonymous meetings are open to the public.

The forum is not intended for the individual with the problem, but for concerned friends and family members of a person who is abusing drugs or alcohol and displaying behavior that is destructive to the abuser and those around him or her.

Teens age 15 and older may attend. The group is not recommended for those younger than 15.

No dues or fees are required. First names only are used at meetings to preserve individual anonymity. Advance notice or registration is not necessary. Visitors and support persons are welcome.

For additional information, call (313) 882-1921.

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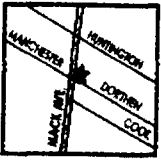


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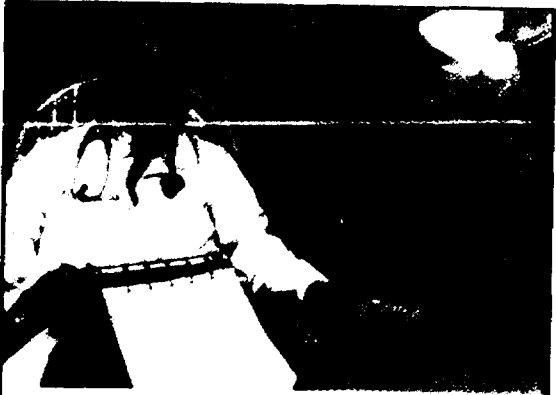
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by Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, MD



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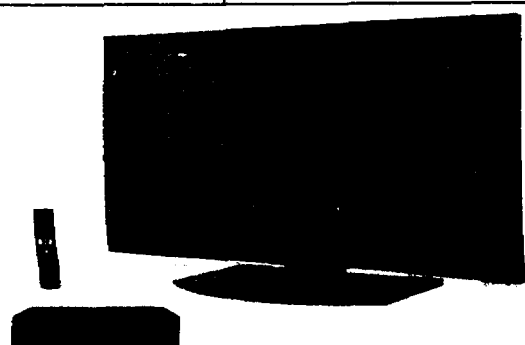
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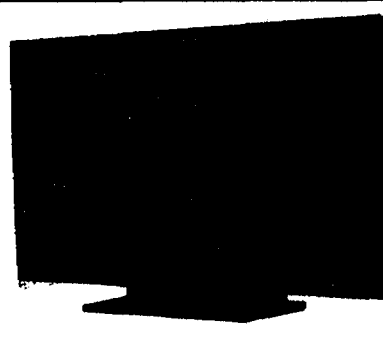
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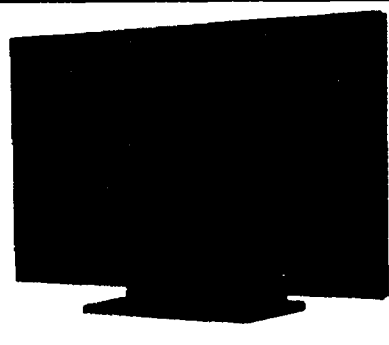
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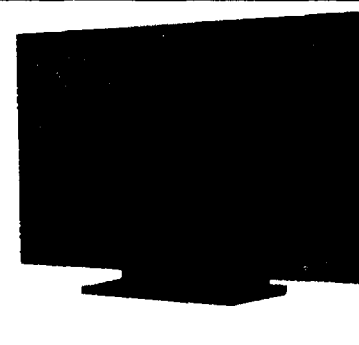
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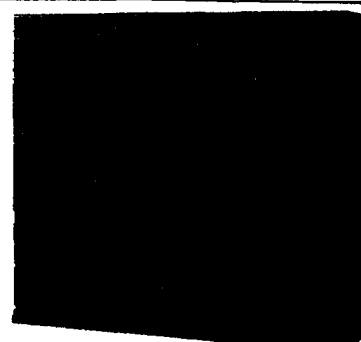
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December 2, 2004

Quintet of ULS tennis standouts make All-State squad



Photo by Terri Light

University Liggett School placed five players on the Division IV All-State girls tennis team. From left, are Katie Boccaccio, Allison Jones, Holly Huth, Chrissie Keersmaekers and Sam Troyanovich. Huth was the state champion at No. 1 singles. Keersmaekers and Troyanovich won the No. 1 doubles championship and Boccaccio and Jones were state runners-up at No. 2 doubles.

Team effort carries South to Big Rapids tournament title

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

It was difficult deciding on which three Grosse Pointe South players were going to make the all-tournament team at last weekend's Big Rapids Tournament.

The tournament directors could have thrown all the names in a hat, picked any three and wouldn't have been very far off the mark.

"So many players played well in both games for us," said coach Bob Bopp after the Blue Devils won the tournament for the third straight season.

Goalie David Hollidge, defenseman Anthony Swancoat and forward Taylor Ryan were the three South players named to the all-tournament team and Ryan was the tournament's most valuable player.

Bopp said that he felt South was the strongest team in the four-team field and the Blue Devils didn't let him down. They beat Notre Dame 6-0 in a game that also counted in the Michigan Metro Hockey League standings, and won the title with a 2-0 victory over host Big Rapids.

"We had some players out of the lineup so it was a good chance for some others to step up and play well," Bopp

said.

Two players who are making the most of extra ice time are Ryan and Frankie DeLaura.

"DeLaura didn't play that much last year, but he has taken advantage of his ice time this year," Bopp said. "He had a great tournament."

"I was expecting a lot from Taylor this season. It's his third year with the team and I think it's going to be his breakout season. I couldn't be happier with the way he's played in our first three games."

South played well from start to finish in the tournament opener against Notre Dame.

DeLaura opened the scoring less than two minutes into the first period, assisted by Sean Daudlin.

"Even though it was the only goal we scored in the period I was very happy with the way the team was playing," Bopp said.

The Blue Devils added two goals in the second period. Tom Porter scored unassisted at 6:44, and DeLaura got his second of the game on a nice shot off a pass from Swancoat.

"At that point, I knew we had the game under control," Bopp said. "The Notre Dame goalie had played

great and was keeping them in the game, but we had too much offense for them."

"Playing with only nine forwards, I knew how well the line of Jimmy Marshall, Tom MacEachern and Frankie DeLaura played would have a lot to do with how well the team did over the weekend."

Obviously the line played well and figured in most of the key goals the Blue Devils scored.

South added three goals in the third period, including a power play goal by Porter from Swancoat and Ryan. It was sandwiched around tallies by Ryan Abraham, assisted by Joey Parke, and Taylor Alaska, assisted by David Altshuler and D.J. Rentz.

Brad Allemen was in goal for the shutout.

Bopp told his players to expect a tougher game against Big Rapids, and the Blue Devils heeded his warning.

"We came out in the first period and played the best hockey we've played all season," Bopp said. "We were in midseason form. We looked quick and moved the puck really well."

"We missed two great chances from point-blank

See SOUTH, page 2C

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Sometimes bigger isn't always better.

University Liggett School's Holly Huth has always been a big hitter, but when she eased up on her serve a little bit this year she became an even better player.

Not that the ULS junior wasn't a good player to begin with.

She reached the finals at No. 1 singles in each of her first two seasons with the Knights, but this year she won her first championship.

Huth heads the list of five ULS players who were named to the Division IV All-State tennis team selected by the Michigan Interscholastic Tennis Coaches Association.

She is joined on the team by the Knights' first and second doubles teams — Chrissie Keersmaekers and Sam Troyanovich and Katie Boccaccio and Allison Jones.

"Holly played so well at the end of the season," said coach Chuck Wright. "On a given day, she's as good as anybody in any class. And she dominated our division."

Huth eased up on her serves while practicing with her coaches and teammates and it turned out to have a positive effect on her game.

"She has always been a big hitter, but at times she was a little inconsistent," Wright said. "Now she's not hitting as hard, and she has better control."

"The second thing that has helped her is that her mental game is stronger than it's ever been."

Huth, who finished 29-5, didn't lose a match after Sept. 30.

She won the No. 1 singles championship at the state meet in Grand Rapids with a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Mara Rendina of Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central.

"Those two have had some real close matches, but not this time," Wright said.

Huth didn't lose a game in her semifinal victory against Country Day's top singles player.

"Winning the state championship meant a great deal to Holly," Wright said.

It isn't only Huth's tennis ability that Wright admires.

"Players who are as successful as Holly can get pretty self-centered, but she isn't," Wright said. "Five minutes after losing her match for the state championship last year, she was back cheering on her teammates who were still playing. She's very supportive of her teammates."

Keersmaekers, a senior, and Troyanovich, a sophomore, played doubles together for the first time this year, and it was a perfect pairing as they won the No. 1 doubles flight at the state tournament.

Keersmaekers was a state champion at No. 2 doubles a year ago when she played with Callie Shumaker, but when Shumaker graduated, Wright figured that Troyanovich, who played singles in 2003, would be a good partner for Keersmaekers.

"They both have a terrific attitude, and they like each other," Wright said. "In fact,

all four of our doubles teams had great chemistry."

Keersmaekers and Troyanovich beat Country Day's No. 1 doubles team of Amanda Walker and Taejan Vemuri 6-7, 6-4, 6-3 in the championship match at the state tournament.

It was the third time they played Country Day, and they also beat them at the regional. All three of the matches were three-setters. ULS lost the first set in all three matches, but came on to win two of them.

"They make good adjustments," said Wright, who gave credit to assistant coach Ken Rychwalski for helping Keersmaekers and Troyanovich get through their regional and state matches.

"We had to mix it up against Country Day. They know when to close and when to retreat to the baseline. They listen so well."

Keersmaekers and Troyanovich impressed some of the parents of Country Day players with their demeanor.

"One of the mothers said to me, 'they're such good players and they're so nice to their opponents,'" Wright said.

Keersmaekers and Troyanovich finished 20-10 and their only defeats after Sept. 28 were to the No. 1 doubles teams from Cranbrook Kingswood and Grosse Pointe South.

It's unusual for a No. 2 doubles team to get All-State honors, and it's even more unusual when that

See TENNIS, page 2C



Grosse Pointe South's hockey captains receive the Big Rapids Tournament championship trophy from tournament director Renee Kent after a 2-0 victory over the host team in the title game. From left, are Joey Parke, Tom Porter and Anthony Swancoat.

North wins hockey opener

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

The NHL lockout could turn out to be a big boost for high school hockey in the Metropolitan Detroit area.

Especially if the preps provide entertainment like last week's game between Grosse Pointe North and Farmington.

"There were about 600 people who showed up on a

terrible night, but they got to see a great hockey game," said North coach Scott Lock after his team beat the Falcons 4-3 in overtime.

"I went to two other games over the weekend and there were good crowds for both of them, too."

Eddie Tropp's third goal of the game early in the overtime period was the winner for the Norsemen in their

season opener.

"We're off to a good start," Lock said. "We dominated the first two periods against Farmington, and we played well in our scrimmages against (Livonia) Churchill and CC (Catholic Central). We beat Churchill and lost by a goal to CC."

"I think this year's team

See NORTH, page 2C

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North edges Regina

There aren't any dull games when the girls hockey teams from Grosse Pointe North and Regina play each other.

Last week's contest was no exception as the Norsemen came away with a 3-2 victory.

Regina came out strong and the Saddlelites peppered North goal Angela Lee with 13 shots in the first period. Lee stopped them all.

So far this season, the second period has been North's best and the Norsemen got things started early when Emily Nelson gave them a 1-0 lead during the first minute. Steph Harlan assisted.

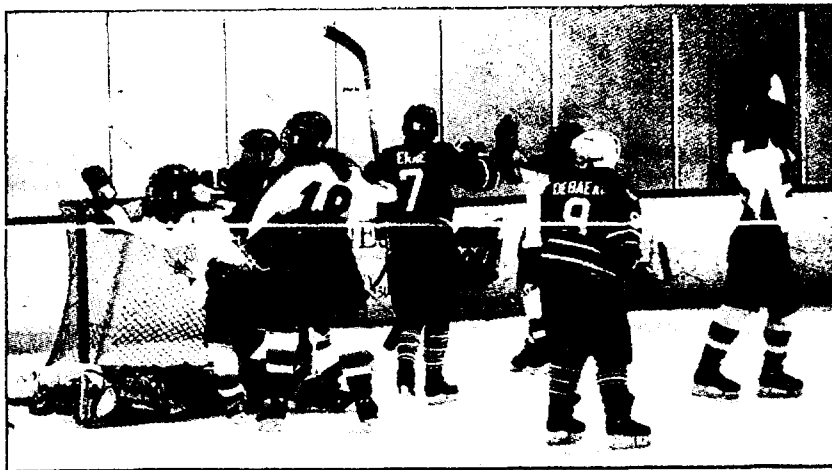
Regina tied the game at 11:24 on a goal by Brittany DeBaeke from Emily Blair, but North answered nine seconds later on a goal by Marissa LaValley, assisted by Nelson and Kate Zemenick.

Harlan made it 3-1 for North on an end-to-end rush in the third period, and that turned out to be the winning goal after Regina's Camilla Barkovic scored to cut the Norsemen's lead to one.

North finished with a 29-25 edge in shots.

South grad wins for Albion

Former Grosse Pointe South swimmer John Fodell took first place in the 100-yard breaststroke for Albion College in its 123-101 loss to



Grosse Pointe North's players celebrate after scoring a goal against Regina.

Another tournament win for Breakers

The Grosse Pointe Soccer Association Breakers '95A team won its third consecutive soccer tournament when it finished first in the 18th annual Troy Soccer City Classic.

The Breakers won all four of their games by shutouts, while scoring 29 goals.

Earlier, the Breakers won the Canton Cup and Jaguar tournaments and finished first in the under-9 division in the Michigan Youth Soccer League's Metro Spring league.

Team members are Emily Armbruster, Margaret Brennan, Francesca Ciaramitaro, Kim Cusmano,

Claire DeBoer, Danielle Karwowitz, Chrisa

Michigan Panthers schedule tryouts

The Michigan Panthers AAU girls basketball club will have tryouts for its 12-and-under and 13-and-under teams on Saturday, Dec. 11 at the St. Isaac Jogues gym in St. Clair Shores.

The school is located at 21125 Benjamin, near the northwest corner of Ten Mile Road and Harper.

Local player on state title team

Kara Trowell-Muhammad of Grosse Pointe Park and her Oakland Suns teammates finished fifth among 100 teams in the under-14 AAU girls national basketball tournament in Monroe, La.

The Suns also won an unprecedented fourth consecutive AAU state champi-

onship.

Trowell-Muhammad is a sophomore at Grosse Pointe South and was a key member of the Blue Devils girls basketball team this fall.

North — GPCHA house league highlights

From page 1C

will be better than last year. We have three real even lines, and our fourth line has some kids who were pleasant surprises in our tryouts. We have five returning defensemen and two solid goalies in Jordan Zielke and Evan Chase."

Chase, Julien Horrie and newcomer Michael Neveux, are hoping to carry on a tradition that their older brothers started as key members of North's back-to-back state championship teams in 2001-02.

North has played in the Division II regional championship game five straight seasons and the Norsemen have won three of them.

In the Farmington game, North had a 28-12 edge in shots during the first two periods but all the Norsemen had to show for their efforts was one goal by Tropp in each period.

"It was one of those games where you're leading by a goal or two and you feel like you should be up by five or six goals," Lock said.

Farmington came back to tied the game at 2-2 in the third period, but Colin Brown broke the deadlock with about five minutes left in regulation.

The Falcons pulled their goalie late in the period and tied the game with about 50 seconds remaining.

North didn't waste any time getting the lead back in overtime. Tropp made a pass to Brown that sent him in on a breakaway. He was hauled down from behind, but no penalty was called.

"Before the faceoff, we set up a play for Eddie coming out of the corner," Lock said.

It worked to perfection with Jeff Rohrkemper and Jim Solomon getting the assists on the winning goal.

Brown finished with a goal and two assists and Rohrkemper, a sophomore playing his first varsity game, collected three assists.

"Drew Davis and Andrew Tignanelli played well on defense, but a lot of people had good games," Lock said. Chase was in goal for the victory.

North played at Brother Rice on Wednesday, then the Norsemen travel to Muskegon for a pair of weekend games against Mona Shores.

Knights shine on offense in two wins

University Liggett School's hockey team didn't have any trouble turning on the goal light in its first two games this season.

The Knights opened with a 10-3 victory over Bishop Foley and followed that with an 8-0 romp over Flint Carman-Ainsworth.

Adam Rock scored four goals, while Jake Keith had three in the Bishop Foley game.

Rock and Keith also led the way against Carman-Ainsworth. Keith scored twice in the first period and collected a pair of assists.

Rock scored three times, all in the second period, and also had two assists.

ULS, which led 3-0 after the first period, also had two goals and an assist from Charlie Warren and a goal by Mike Burchi.

Stone Hazlett and Michael Thomas each had two assists, while Ryan Deane and Judd Demartini added one apiece.

Alex Brooks was in goal for the shutout.

In its latest game, ULS skated to a 2-2 tie with Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

Midwest Open tennis tourney breaks tradition

The edmund t. AHEE Midwest Open mixed doubles tennis tournament is breaking from tradition this year.

The tournament will begin this weekend at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club with single-elimination qualifying rounds that will feed teams to the main draw which will be held from Dec. 10 through 12.

The 31st anniversary Midwest Open will highlight local teams, teaching professionals and past and present professional tour players competing for the championship in the oldest and only United States Tennis Association-sanctioned

mixed doubles only event in the country.

When Sunday's matches conclude, the Grosse Pointe Cable Channel 5 Midwest Open preview show will also conclude. The final showing will be the 21st between Nov. 28 and Dec. 5.

Amy Frazier and Steve Herdoiza, who are looking for a fourth straight Midwest Open title, head a list of 21 teams who have committed to the tournament.

For more information on the tournament, contact the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club tennis house at (313) 882-4100.

Bantam Bulldogs win Grand Rapids hockey tournament

The Grosse Pointe Hockey Association Bantam A Bulldogs travel team opened its season in a winning way.

The Bulldogs won a tournament in Grand Rapids by outscoring their opponents 26-3 and winning all five of their games.

In round-robin play, the Bulldogs defeated the Ann Arbor Wolves, the Crystal Lake (Ill.) Leafs and the Cincinnati Junior Cyclones.

The Bulldogs finished

first in their division and beat Kensington Valley in the semifinals. The championship game was a rematch with the Ann Arbor Wolves, and the Bulldogs won again.

The goaltending of Steve Peck and Trevor Sattelmeyer was outstanding, while the defensive corps of Brandon Davenport, Danny Gerow, Billy Daudlin, Kelly O'Donnell-Daudlin and Garth Kassner kept the opposition in check.

Each of the Bulldogs' for-

wards contributed to the scoring and the group of Joe Smareck, Kyle Taylor, Johnny Hackett, Casey McLogan, Craig Henderson, Keith Sklarski, Billy Elkins and Andrew Paige posed a constant threat to the other teams' goalies.

The Bulldogs are coached by John Hackett, Rick Gram, Jim Davenport and Jason Christopherson. The managers are Steve Peck and Sue Sattelmeyer.



The Grosse Pointe Hockey Association Bantam A Bulldogs celebrate after winning a season-opening tournament in Grand Rapids.

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Thursday, December 9	6:30 PM to 8:00 PM	9th
Thursday, December 9	8:00 PM to 9:30 PM	10th/11th

Questions? Please call Jim Farber, Director, 313-881-8069

South —

From page 1C

range that resulted from some great cycling and passing."

However, as well as South was playing, it looked like the Blue Devils might not have any goals to show for their efforts until Parke made an outstanding play to score a shorthanded goal with 3:26 left in the period.

"He made a great effort to steal the puck, and then put a great move on the goalie to score a huge goal for us," Bopp said.

With 1:35 remaining, DeLaura made it 2-0 with an assist from MacEachern.

"I think Big Rapids had to be happy to get out of the period losing by only two," Bopp said.

Bopp was thinking that South would continue in the second period where it left off in the first but that wasn't the case. The Blue Devils took three straight penalties, then got another one late in the period, but the penalty-killing units of Porter and Parke and DeLaura and Abraham, along with the excellent goaltending of Hollidge, kept the Cardinals off the scoreboard.

South cut down on the penalties in the third period and started to play like it did in the opening period.

"In the third, there was a lot of confidence on the bench that we were going to win this game," Bopp said. Hollidge turned away 21 shots to record his second straight shutout. South returned 26 shots at the Big Rapids goalie.

The victory gave the Blue Devils a 3-0 record. South is idle until it plays Notre Dame again in the semifinals of the City Tournament on Dec. 12 at City Sports Arena.

In the consolation game at Big Rapids, Notre Dame beat Riverview Gabriel Richard 3-2 in overtime when Jim Gat scored his third goal of the game.

strong defensive play of James Shepard and Decker.

Chill 3, Icebreakers 1
Goals: Albert Ford 2, Erik Roche (Chill); Amy Henderson (Icebreakers).

Assists: Alex Krebs, Bobby Mitchell, Gregg Griffin, James Shepard, Alex Dane (Chill); Roy Lozon, Tyler Hazlett (Icebreakers).

Comments: The Chill upset the previously-unbeaten Icebreakers on the strong goaltending of Patrick Thomas and a strong forecheck. Clark Wells, Jordan Teets and Albert Ford had excellent games for the Chill, not allowing the Icebreakers to have many quality shots on goal.

Raptors 5, Chill 1
Goals: Donald Freeman 3, Stephen Soloway, Adam Point (Raptors); Gregory Griffin (Chill). Assists: Daniel Zito (Raptors); Albert Ford (Chill).

Comments: The Raptors took a one-goal lead in the second period and limited the Chill's quality shots. The Chill seemed to tire in the third period as the Raptors scored three unanswered goals. Erik Roche, Isaac Piepszowski and Jacob Swindell played well for the Chill.

Huskies 5, Chill 2
Goals: Eric Marshall, Thomas Shields, T.J. Livingston, Bradford Herron, A.J. Stalworth (Huskies); Albert Ford, Erik Roche (Chill). Assists: Livingston, Spencer Frick, Jeff Graves (Huskies).

Comments: The Huskies broke a 1-1 tie with four second-period goals, helped by a seven-minute power play and a two-man advantage. The Chill held off the Huskies for the first four minutes, but the Huskies poured it on in the final three minutes. Patrick Thomas played well in goal for the Chill. Clark Wells and Jacob Swindell also had strong games.

Tennis —

From page 1C

team is the state runner-up, but Boccaccio and Jones impressed enough of the voters to earn mention despite losing to Country Day's Kathleen and Mhoire Murphy 6-3, 7-6 in the championship match.

"In their three matches leading up to the final they didn't lose more than three games, and I think that impressed people," Wright said.

Jones and Boccaccio have played together for three seasons.

"They're both great competitors and they pull each other through the tough matches," Wright said.

"Allison has a great power stroke and Katie's backhand is outstanding."

Boccaccio is one of the most dedicated and durable players that Wright has coached.

"She hasn't missed a thing — practice or match — in three years," he said.

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Wednesday December 8th 9:00am-8:00pm
Thursday December 9th 9:00am-8:00pm
View The Entire Catalog On Our Website: Featuring Properties Of Helen Mouchelle & The Late Dr. Harvey Mouchelle, Ottawa Hills, OH; The Estate Of Josephine Storm, Farmington Hills; The Collection Of Helen M. Mouchelle, Phoenix, AZ, Formerly Of Detroit.
Fine Art: Paintings By Ivan G. Olinusky, Francis John Wyburd, Karel Appel, Zoltan Sepeshy, Albert Lynch, Francesco Coleman, Louise Nevelson, Charles Wollensperger, Leonard Reedy, Nicola Simbari, Terley, & Others; Paul Klee ink sketch.
18th-20th C. Furniture & Decorations: 18th C. Pennsylvania Pewter Cupboard, American Cherry Secretary Desk, Wing Back Chair; A Pewter Collection including A Tankard By John Bassett; MochaWare; Copper Weather Vans; Bronze Tables By Philip Lawrence; Estey Player Piano; Tiffany Studios Bronze Desk Set; Pairpoint Scenic Table Lamp; Moe Bridges Table Lamp; Fine jewelry; Oriental Carpets; China & Silverware.
Of Special Interest: An Important Collection Of Autographs And Documents, Including Napoleon, Abraham Lincoln, Oliver Cromwell, Thomas Jefferson, And Many More From A Martland, Mich. Collector.
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Rainbow Estate Sales
461 Saddle Lane, Grosse Pointe Woods
Fri., Dec. 3rd (9:00-3:00)
Sat., Dec. 4th (10:00-5:00)
Featuring: Heurdon, small dining set; several oil paintings; Victorian settee; Widdicombs sofa; Royal Doulton's; weathered; set of Lenox Orleans; china & glassware; ladies clothing; jewelry; figurines; old pot-belly stove; cash register; Dept. 56 & Keenecape; lamps; 3 violins; 2 bedroom sets; washer & dryer; kitchen items; crocks; German figurals clock; linens; Goebel Madonna and much more. LOADED!!!
Saddle Lane is off Cook Rd., next to The Rust Club.
Numbers @ 7:30A.M. Friday
Look For The Rainbow!!!
www.rainbowestatesales.com

HARTZ HOUSEHOLD SALES, INC.
313-886-8982
WHOLE HOUSE MOVING SALE
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD & 4TH 2004
10:00AM-4:00PM
306 MT. VERNON
GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MI.
Between Moran & Kerby, off Beaupre.
This sale features older and antique furnishings and accessories including a hard rock maple 1940's twin bedroom set with desk and chest of drawers. Fixed Reed sofa, love seat and swivel chair, cream floral sofa, antique Empire love seat, 1940's mahogany tables, antique ladies' Victorian chair, girls' white bunk bed with matching dresser and lingerie chest, Stikley cherry double bed, red paisley love seat, heavy oak kitchen table with pair of Stifel lamps with lions, framed antique prints, city of Detroit etching, brass sconces, antique oil landscape, crystal stemware, barware, storybook dolls in original boxes, costume jewelry, brass items & more. Collectibles include 1970's Barbie & Skipper dolls & accessories. Early 1800 Wooden Works Mantel Clock, old books, Antique Elmera, 1960's train set, boxes of Legos, Zenith Transoceanic radio from 1950's, silver plate, set of Syracuse Pinesse china, fireplace tools, Hepa air filter, cookbooks and more. For the gentlemen, we have a Black and Decker mower and blower, a Dremmel jigsaw, slide projector, games, electric edger, garden tools, old baskets, ping pong table, rec. room furniture, old records & books, blankets and more. All items priced to sell quickly and in great condition! You will be pleased.
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CALL THE HOTLINE 313-886-1410 FOR SALE DETAILS
STREET NUMBERS HONORED AT 9AM FRIDAY ONLY
OUR NUMBERS AVAILABLE 9-10AM FRIDAY ONLY

STEFKE ESTATE SALES, LLC
313-417-5039
MOVING SALE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4th
9:00am - 4:00pm
29350 JEFFERSON, ST. CLAIR SHORES
(Just South of 12 Mile Road - Water Side)
(Parking across the street)
This beautiful home features fine furnishings including antique walnut dining room set, blue uph. parlor set, walnut king size bedroom set, leather love seat, blue uph. wing back chair, mahogany end tables, antique camel back sofa, leather sofa, futon, pair of glass display cabinets, antique pump organ, walnut Chinese plant stand, oak washstand, and much more. Decorative items include hundreds of steins, etched glass stemware, Belleek luncheon set, Shelley demitasse and creamer, Price teapot, crystal, sets of dishes, Victor Vasarely print, J. Clay print, lots of framed artwork, carpets, boxes of PEWABIC blue tiles, linens, purses, Olympic cameras, ladies' clothing, everyday kitchen, and more.
STREET NUMBERS HONORED AT 8:30AM SATURDAY ONLY
Our numbers available 8:30am - 9:00am SATURDAY ONLY
stefkeestatesales.com

MARCIA WILK ESTATE SALES
313 881 2849
www.marcia-wilk.com
1313 BUCKINGHAM GROSSE POINTE PARK
FRIDAY & SATURDAY DECEMBER 3RD & 4TH
9:00 - 4:00
This whole house estate sale has something for everyone just in time for Christmas! WWI German Helmet, Doughboy Helmet, old Tiger baseball pennants, old fishing rods & lures, old toys including NHL Stanley Cup Hockey Game, Turbo Electric Baseball Game, Erector Set, HO trains with buildings, Hop Along Cassidy Thermos, old Halloween, Military items, antique chairs, organ, upright piano, five piece dining table with chairs, five piece Ethan Allen bedroom set, maple twin bed & dresser, cedar chest, desk, bookshelves, file cabinets, Regulator clock, stereo equipment, Royal Doulton, lots of etched & cut glass items just in time for entertaining, silverplate, teacups, set of Homer Laughlin "Cavalier" artwork, lamps, yarn, wood burning stove, Craftsman Radial Arm Saw and Drill press, lathe, tools, lawnmower, gas edger, rototiller, garden carts, chopper/ shredder, Weber grill, lots and lots of electronics, T.V., books, lots and lots more!

Bath City Estate Sales
December 3rd, 12-6pm
4th 12-6pm • 5th 12-4pm
22519 Barton
Just off Jefferson, between 11 and 12 Mile.
Who ever said nice things come in small packages, sure was right about this wonderful St. Clair Shores home! Antiques, vintage and retro. Great collectibles! Wow- something for everyone. I will list all I can to wet your whistle. Lets start with the fine items. Antiques include bar accessories of all kinds, primitive cork drivers, bottle openers, wooden keg taps. Antique phonographs, radios and early telephones that work! 1800's andirons, French figurals clock, bedroom sets, antique Belgium linens. Lots of cast iron items including banks, door stops, spittoons and Griswold. Highlighted are WWI and WWII items including a RARE Nazi home made flag and arm band, Trench art, shells and newspapers. Also a real BIG cast iron Bell from the original Armada Fire Department! Whew! Let me catch my breath... Then we must mention the collectibles, toys, smalls and retro.
Hope to see you call if you like, 586-817-0498

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The Classifieds
Totally Rad! Some things never change: the CLASSIFIEDS are still an awesome place to shop, dude.
Grosse Pointe News
313-882-6900 ext. 3

Santa Claus draws big crowd to parade



By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

The largest crowd in recent memory lined both sides of Kercheval last Friday to welcome Santa Claus to the Village.

"Hi everybody," Santa said, stepping down from a snow-colored horse-drawn carriage. "A very, very merry Christmas to everybody."

Santa's arrival last week, accompanied by Mrs. Claus and Christmas Carol, in the 29th Annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade marked the official start of the holiday season.

"The parade was spectacular," said City Mayor Dale Scrace. "It was the most people I've ever seen at the parade. It gets better and better every year."

It was the second year the parade included Grosse Pointe Farms. Through cooperation between the City,



Farms, Grosse Pointe Village Association and Hill Association, marchers began on Kercheval at Lewiston, then headed down Kercheval through the Hill and Village.

John Denomme, promotions manager for the Village shopping district, got a good look at the crowd while broadcasting the parade on Grosse Pointe War Memorial WMTV-5.

"Looking at it on the monitor, I made the comment that people were spilling into the streets," Denomme said.

He estimated the crowd along the route at 12,000 to 15,000.

"What a fantastic pleasure it is to be here in Grosse Pointe today," Santa called to a gathering of children and parents. "It's so good to see all of you again. I love coming back to Grosse Pointe every year to say Merry Christmas to all of you

and to tell you how much Mrs. Claus and I like to spend time in Grosse Pointe."

Grand Marshall Devin Scillian, WDIV-TV 4 news anchor and Grosse Pointe Park resident, said, "This is my second parade of the week, but this is by far the best. What a great turnout. It's more fun because it's my own neighborhood, my own community. Thanks for the invitation."

Ceremonies peaked with Scrace, speaking on behalf of the mayors of the Pointes and Harper Woods, giving Santa the Key to the Community.

"Santa, this is my favorite day to be mayor," Scrace said. "It's so fun to have you here. 'Santa, on behalf of all the boys and girls of all ages in the community, here is the key to all our hearts. M e r r y Christmas.'"

"Merry Christmas to you, Mr. Mayor," Santa said. "It's indeed a pleasure to accept it. All the elves in the North Pole look forward to me bringing the key to Grosse

Pointe. It's a true pleasure to be here."

He spoke to children gathered nearby.

"I look forward to seeing you come visit me while I'm in some of the stores in the Village over the next few weeks," Santa said. "Stop over; shop around. Very, very merry Christmas. Ho ho."

"What a wonderful change coming down through the Hill to the Village — all the wonderful Farms residents," Scrace said. "It gets bigger every year."

"The parade was awesome," said Lisa Rennell, a Village shopkeeper. "All the customers who came in after the parade were commenting how much they enjoyed themselves. It was nice joining with the Hill. People like that."

Ellen Durand, president of the Village Association, thanked people for attending.

She gave special thanks to the hard work of Terri Berschback, parade director, who recruited 99 groups and organizations to march in the big event.

"What a great crowd today," Durand said. "Thank you for coming."

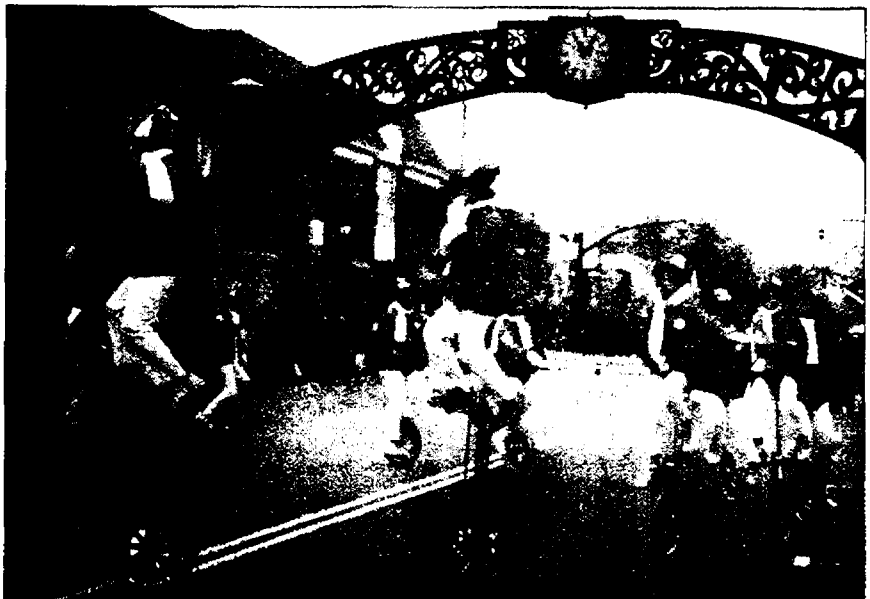


Santa Claus receives the Key to the Community from Dale Scrace, mayor of the City of Grosse Pointe, above. Clockwise, the parade featured sponsor banners, the Harper Woods Pioneer High School marching band, unicyclists, Willie the Worm, Detroit Fire Department Clown, Golden Retriever Rescue, Mini-van Moms and the Grosse Pointe North High School Norsemen Pep Band.

Photos by Robert McKean, except where noted



Photo by Beth Quinn



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137 Muir Road- 2 bedroom duplex. Air, 1 car garage. Immediate occupancy. \$950/ month, plus 1 1/2 months security deposit. No pets. 586-596-2084

1417 Beaconsfield, 2 bedroom upper flat, stove, refrigerator, heat included. Grosse Pointe Park, \$550/ month. Available January 1st. Contact Tom, (586)772-6703

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AFFORDABLE townhouse rentals in Grosse Pointe Woods. 2 or 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Clean, well maintained, central air, cable ready. No pets. Senior discount available. Call for appointment, (248)848-1150

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CARRIAGE house on Lakeshore: 7 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, garage, appliances included. \$1,200/ month. (313)884-2814

CARRIAGE house, Grosse Pointe Shores. Charming 1 bedroom, nicely furnished on the Lake, with pool. No pets. \$2,000 month, plus utilities. 313-510-0978

CARRIAGE house overlooking Lake. No pets/ smoking. Ideal for senior. \$1600. 313-884-5374

CARRIAGE house. Prime location in gorgeous English Tudor, brand new kitchen, Grosse Pointe Park, \$1,200/ month. Available December 1st. Send reply to P.O. Box 06093, C/O Grosse Pointe News, 96 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe, MI 48236

COMPLETELY furnished 1 bedroom apartment includes all utilities plus cable, \$750. Rivard off Jefferson. Non-smoking, no pets. (313)886-1834

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DUPLEX- Vernier. Nice, 5 rooms, appliances, separate basement/ garage, water, \$850. (313)885-2909

FARMS. 2 bedroom lower. Fireplace, hardwood, all appliances, new kitchen, garage. No smoking/ pets. \$900. (313)640-1857

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HARPER Woods, 1 bedroom apartment, newly decorated, secure parking. (586)772-4134

HARPER Woods, 1 bedroom, second floor apartment on Bourne-mouth, \$540. (313)884-0501.

HARPER Woods. Kingsville, Large 1 bedroom, carpeting, appliances, no pets, (313)881-9313

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NOTTINGHAM south of Jefferson, very nice 2 bedroom lower with wood floors in living & dining room, new bedroom carpet, refrigerator stove, garage. \$750/ month. (248)737-2941

PARK, 3 bedroom upper, air, water included. \$750/ plus deposit. (810)434-1264, (586)293-2735

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17214 ONTARIO. Very nice 2 bedroom duplex. \$650/ month. Section 8 okay! (313)881-1811

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**701 APTS./FLATS/DUPLEX
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803 Pemberton, Grosse Pointe Park. \$2,200/ month, 2,522 square feet, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath French Colonial in Windmill Pointe sub. Call Coldwell Banker Schweitzer. (313)885-2000

GROSSE Pointe Woods beautiful three bedroom bungalow. \$1,150. Kathy Lenz, Johnstone & Johnstone, (313)813-5802

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GROSSE Pointe 3 bedroom colonial, fenced backyard, 1 year lease, nonsmoking, \$1,450/ month. Call Vicki, Max Brook Realtors, (248)625-9300 (53STC)

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GROSSE Pointe Woods 3 bedroom- Brys/ East Eight Mile. Basement, air, appliances. \$995. (313)885-0197

GROSSE Pointe Woods, near Mack. 3 bedroom air, appliances, basement. \$1,250/ month. 586-864-5418

GROSSE Pointe Woods- 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 1,400 sq. ft. Basement, 2 car, air, \$1,400/ month. D & H Properties, (248)737-4002

HARPER Woods, 18723 Woodcrest. Nice 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, finished basement, appliances. Section 8 OK. \$995. 586-447-2214

HARPER Woods, 3 bedrooms, Grosse Pointe Schools. \$975/ month plus utilities. (586)739-7283

HARPER woods, Grosse Pointe Schools. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, approximately 1100 sq. ft. Garage, basement. Available January (maybe earlier). \$950/ month. (313)881-7086

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5745 Marseilles, 2 bedroom, basement, close to St. John hospital, very good neighborhood, \$850/ month. Credit check. (586)791-8077

EAST English Village. Beautiful 3 bedroom home for rent. \$1,000/ month plus utilities, security, references. Elaine, (313)300-9354

SEVERAL 2-4 bedroom eastside rental homes, near Grosse Pointe. Section 8 welcome. (313)492-0703

**707 HOUSES FOR RENT/
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10 Mile/ Harper, 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 car garage, large lot, \$700. (586)246-5479

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1 bedroom condo, Grosse Pointe City. All appliances, heat water, air included. \$700. (313)595-6073

2 bedroom townhouse, new everything, 100 yards from Starbucks & Kroger in the Village (downtown Grosse Pointe). \$700/ month, \$500 security deposit. 313-417-9895

26025 S. Lake Drive., Harrison Twp.- \$995/ month. Enjoy Lake views from this 1,100 square foot, 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo redone in September 2004. Call Coldwell Banker Schweitzer, (313)885-2000

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CONDOS FOR RENT**

GORGEOUS 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper condo on St. Clair Shores golf course, new carpet/ paint throughout. Attached garage, all appliances, must see. \$985. (586)530-3548

LAKESHORE Village townhouse, 2 bedroom with partially finished basement. New refrigerator, dishwasher & range; new floor & counters in kitchen; recently finished hardwood floors; new custom blinds throughout; newer washer & dryer included. \$105,000. Call (248)229-5021

LAKESHORE Village. 2 bedroom condo, hardwood floors, finished basement. New appliances. \$795/ month. (586)484-4424

ST. Clair Shores, 2 bedroom condo located on The Nautical Mile. \$725/ month, heat included. (586)415-0035

**712 GARAGES/MINI
STORAGE WANTED**

GARAGE space: I need to rent your garage space to store my sports car- December thru April. Leave message/ Rob 313-886-1763

**716 OFFICE/COMMERCIAL
FOR RENT**

1,000 sq. ft. office, for sale or lease, 25689 Kelly Road, between 10 & Frazho. Bright, cheerful, immaculate, brand new carpeting, divided offices plus executive office. Ample parking. Negotiable. 313-885-3781

17800 East Warren. 750 sq. ft. Tiled warehouse, large heated garage, several offices for rent. Call 313-882-5554.

21002 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe woods. Two adjacent offices in professional office building. Excellent location. Rent one or both. Many amenities including conference room, secretarial workstation, free photocopying, cable internet access, etc. (313)884-1234

Classifieds: 313-882-6900 x 3
Grosse Pointe News & Southfield Press

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLVED

ACROSS	1 King preceptor	4 Fluster	9 Buddhist sect
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716 OFFICE/COMMERCIAL FOR RENT 93 Kercheval- office suites, 2nd floor, various sizes, easy parking. First month Free. (313)268-7882	716 OFFICE/COMMERCIAL FOR RENT LEASE- 1,780 sq. ft. Next to Blockbuster in strip mall. 13/ Gratiot. 810-225-1177, 810-229-9411	716 OFFICE/COMMERCIAL FOR RENT PROFESSIONAL tenants wanted to cost share loft offices- Downtown Detroit. Innovative re-use of Historic 1919 tool & die shop. Classic iron beams & wood ceilings with natural light. Private, gated off-street parking minutes to Ren Cen. 313-585-4496.	716 OFFICE/COMMERCIAL FOR RENT SUITE or single room. Harper between 10 & 11. Excellent parking. (586)771-7587	721 VACATION RENTALS FLORIDA 1800 sq. ft. 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on beautiful canal, Fort Myers Beach. \$1200/ week or \$3800/ month. (313)910-4500	721 VACATION RENTALS FLORIDA ORLANDO. Westgate Lakes Resort (6 miles to Disney). Luxury time share, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. December 18- 25. \$550. (313)821-5706	723 VACATION RENTALS MICHIGAN HARBOR Springs cozy condo. Sleeps 8, near slopes. Holiday available. (313)823-1251.	726 WATERFRONT RENTAL ON Anchor Bay, near New Baltimore. Colonial duplex. Sunroom. No pets. \$1,300. (586)725-5923
A buck & a truck. \$1 for 1st month (\$200 after) moves you into an executive office with parking, lobby, kitchen. 20490 Harper. (313)881-4929	PROFESSIONAL office space, 15224 Kercheval. 350 per office or up to 2,500 sq. ft. (313)824-1177	THERAPIST/ counselor's office. 22811 Mack Avenue, convenient to Grosse Pointe. Fully furnished. Waiting room included. In professional office building. \$425 month. (248)224-2261	719 RENT WITH OPTION TO BUY THREE bedroom clean house for rent. \$990/ month. Immediate occupancy. Call (248)682-6398	FLORIDA sunshine and golf! Beautiful, new, tennis, large pool, all the amenities. Close to Ft. Myers and Sanibel beaches. Weekly \$800 or monthly \$2,900. Book your escape today. Call 248-608-9908, or visit http://www.greatblueheronenterprises.com	722 VACATION RENTALS OUT OF STATE PROVENCE St. Remy: 18C. Farmhouse, recently restored, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, sleeps 6- 10, gourmet kitchen, pool, poolhouse, garden. From \$1050/ week. 303-838-9570. MasCapon@msn.com	HARBOR Springs. Harbor Cove, luxury 3 bedroom condo. In deer pool. Close to Boyne Highland and Nubs Nob. Call 248-745-6823 for ski dates.	READ THE CLASSIFIED VACATION RENTALS & PACK YOUR BAGS!  Grosse Pointe News CONNECTION
HARPER Woods- 2 offices. Near freeway, Nice/ reasonable. Rod 313-886-1763		RECENTLY renovated for professional offices. On Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Farms. On site parking for 3 vehicles. 313-343-5588	720 ROOMS FOR RENT WINTER special. Clean Seniors room. \$75/ weekly & up. SSI OK. Call (313)884-4546			SKIERS/ snowmobilers- downtown Harbor Springs. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nightly/ weekly. (231)547-6367 www.cyberrentals.com/MI/thiesMI.html	
Classified Advertising an IDEA that sells! 							

313-882-6900 ext 3

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING INDEX

FAX: 313-343-5569

web. <http://grossepointenews.com>

DEADLINES
HOUSES FOR SALE
Photos, Art, Logos - FRIDAYS 12 P.M.
Word Ads - MONDAYS 4 P.M.
Open Sunday grid - MONDAYS 4 P.M.
(Call for Holiday close dates)
RENTALS
TUESDAY 12 NOON
GENERAL CLASSIFIEDS
TUESDAY 12 NOON
(Call for Holiday close dates)

PAYMENTS
Prepayment is required.
We accept Visa, MasterCard,
Cash, Check, Please note -
\$2 fee for declined credit cards.

AD STYLES:
Word Ads: 12 words - \$18.65;
additional words, 65¢ each.
Abbreviations/gtl accepted.
Measured Ads: \$30.90 per
column inch.
Border Ads: \$34.50 per
column inch.
SPECIAL RATES FOR
HELP WANTED SECTIONS.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS: Given for
multi-week scheduled advertising, with
prepayment or credit approval.
Call for rates or for more information.
Phone lines can be busy on Monday &
Tuesday Deadlines...
please call early.

CLASSIFYING & CENSORSHIP: We
reserve the right to classify each ad
under its appropriate heading. The
publisher reserves the right to edit or
reject ad copy submitted for publication.

CORRECTIONS & ADJUSTMENTS:
Responsibility for classified advertising
error is limited to either a cancellation of
the charge or a re-run of the portion in
error. Notification must be given in time
for correction in the following issue. We
assume no responsibility for the same
after the first insertion.

CALL FOR COLOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS
AN Artist's Studio. Murals, custom art work, custom painting. Plaster & drywall restoration. www.AnArtistsStudio.com Scott, (586)791-7486 Gift certificates available.

SPECIAL SERVICES

109 ENTERTAINMENT
CONSIDER live music to make the most of your holiday affairs. Your piano or mine. Call Penny, (313)824-7182

PREHOLIDAY special- 5 hours of professional DJ service, only \$190. Call DJ Scotty, (313)247-2052

119 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC
AIRPORT SHUTTLE!
Janet, John & Tony
586-445-0373

121 GENERAL SERVICES

HOW about Nancy? Need errands run? Driving to & from, tasks, shopping done? Decluttering tool! (313)204-9036 anytime

TIME To Shop, personal shopping services. Designer does your Christmas shopping! References. (586)775-5334

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL
APPLICATIONS being accepted for summer position of pool manager for private club. Must have life guard certification. Fax resume to 313-885-8587

BARTENDER wanted evening shift at The Village Pub. Must be honest, dependable and able to work alone. Call (313)881-6687

CASHIERS needed, afternoons & weekends. Apply in person: Mack/ Moross BP, 19100 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms.

CRAFT painters wanted to paint varied 16" tall metal figures. Mike, (313)884-1580

DEPENDABLE persons needed for snow removal service. No experience necessary. Will train. Earn \$11-\$15/ hour based upon performance. Timberline Landscaping (313)886-3299

TO PLACE AN AD
Call 313-882-6900 ext 3



200 HELP WANTED GENERAL
Customer Service Reps (Harper Woods office) needed. 5:30pm- 9:30pm Monday- Thursday/ 9am- 3pm Saturday. Good phone skills & sales background helpful. Will train. **Work at home is option.** 32 year old family business also needs **manager/ supervisor.** Excellent pay plan. Karen 313-886-1763.

EARN money for your home based E-Commerce business. Call 866-281-3439.

EXCELLENT Income. National Capital Funding Group now hiring court house researchers. Will train to work from home on your computer. No experience necessary. Call 1-800-440-7234

HAIR stylist & manicurist needed in beautiful new salon in the Renaissance Center with some clientele. (313)446-4000. Great opportunity! Percentage or booth rental.

HOSTESS. Now accepting applications, apply within. Original pancake House, 20273 Mack Ave.

KENNEL worker needed for busy Veterinary clinic. Hours 2- 8pm. Apply in person at 15135 Kercheval. Call (313)822-5707 for more information.

PART time Meter Enforcement Officer. Duties include parking enforcement, ordinance enforcement, school crossing guard. Must be able to walk extended distances, write violations and have a valid Michigan drivers license. Employee must be available to work 20- 30 hours per week. Starting pay/ \$12 per hour. Interested parties may apply at City of Grosse Pointe Municipal Offices, 17174 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230. (313)885-5800

PET shop needs 'Jack of all Trades' for sales & some maintenance duties. Must love animals. 2- 3 days per week. (313)881-9099

SALES/ receptionist- Strong inside sales, customer service, excellent phone skills required. Working a multi-line phone system. Appointment scheduling. Computer skills a plus. Must work Saturdays. Fax resume to 313-884-9153.

201 HELP WANTED BABYSITTER
EXPERIENCED nanny or licensed home care professional. 2 year old. (313)882-8671 after 7pm

NANNY. Full time. 4 year old in my home. Excellent pay. (313)886-5941

201 HELP WANTED BABYSITTER
INFANT care needed in my home. 2- 3 days per week. Prior experience caring for infants mandatory. Must provide recommendations. Excellent pay. Start immediately. (313)882-2208

NANNY for 2 kids ages 3 and 6. Full time with 3 year old, before and after school with 6 year old. Will entertain half day schedules. Jim, (313)882-5337

SEEKING child care for 12 month old daughter. 2 days week, beginning mid January. Please contact, (313)881-6278

202 HELP WANTED CLERICAL
ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant. Must possess strong organization & communication skills (verbal and written). Office Works computer skills required. Job entails answering phone, filing, accounts payable and receivable, project tracking. Great position for the right person. Flexible start and finish times possible. Pay and benefits based upon experience. Email letter and resume to: hr850@sboglobal.net

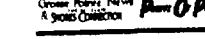
CONTROLLER- Near eastside medical facility. Requires "Shirt Sleeve" Controller to take charge of day to day accounting functions and provide monthly financial statement. Must understand GAAP & be computer literate in MS Word, Excel and related programs. Candidates must exhibit a "can do" attitude and work well with others. Qualified candidates only! Submit complete work and education resume including references to: SRCO, 20360 Harper Ave., Harper Woods MI 48225

WANTED auto biller for leasing company. Some experience desirable but not necessary. 3 to 4 days a week. Please fax resume to 586-779-8511

203 HELP WANTED DENTAL/MEDICAL
DENTAL Assistant and Hygienist are needed. Eastland Family Dentistry, 16068 East Eight Mile. (313)372-8580

RESIDENTIAL HOME HEALTH
A full service rapidly growing Home Health Company
All positions available for RN, LPN, PT, OT, SLP, MSW and Home Health Aides
Tri-county area
Call us toll free: 1-866-902-4000
Fax your resume: 1-866-903-4000
Benefits and sign-On Bonuses available

Classifieds: 313-882-6900 x 3



203 HELP WANTED DENTAL/MEDICAL
Are You Serious About A Career In Real Estate?
We are serious about your success!
*Free Pre-licensing classes
*Exclusive Success
*Systems Training Programs
*Variety Of Commission Plans
Join The No. 1 Coldwell Banker affiliate in the Midwest!
Call George Smale at 313-886-4200
Coldwell Banker Schweitzer Real Estate

207 HELP WANTED SALES
LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER?
Call and see if you qualify to earn \$50,000. We have the systems and the schooling to make your dream come true.
(Call Richard Landry) at 313-885-2000
Coldwell Banker Schweitzer G.P. Farms

208 H.W. NURSES AIDES CONVALESCENT CARE
LIVE in caregiver wanted for elderly woman in Harper Woods requiring unskilled care. (313)882-1056

SITUATION WANTED
300 SITUATIONS WANTED BABYSITTERS
ATTENTION: by MICHIGAN LAW DAY CARE FACILITIES (in-home & centers) must show their current license to your advertising representative when placing your ads. **THANK YOU**

302 SITUATIONS WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE
ABBIE HOME CARE SERVICES
Established 20 years Mature Caregivers Cooking, laundry, housekeeping, errands. Full/Part time-24 hours. Excellent References Licensed/Bonded (586)772-0035

ADULT & senior care.
Providing quality & experienced in-home care. References. (586)323-9626

WOMAN available to take care of elderly. Day & evening. In-patient care. Cook, clean, errands. 14 years experience. References. (313)885-7740

303 SITUATIONS WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE
ATTENTION: by MICHIGAN LAW DAY CARE FACILITIES (in-home & centers) must show their current license to your advertising representative when placing your ads. **THANK YOU**

304 SITUATIONS WANTED GENERAL
EUROPEAN Lady, 47, seeks a live-in position with either an elderly couple for cooking, etc., or a family with school age children, interested in being tutored in the German or Russian language. Available mid January. (586)776-7058

305 SITUATIONS WANTED HOUSE CLEANING
AAA Cristal Clean Cleaning Service. Honest, dependable, reliable. For free estimates. (313)527-6157

AFFORDABLE house cleaning by Polish lady. Honest, dependable, detail oriented. Grosse Pointe references. (313)729-6939

AMIALE, reliable housecleaning. Servicing Grosse Pointe for 20 years. References. Maria, (586)725-0178

AVAILABLE to clean your home every other Tuesday or Friday. Lisa, (586)445-1490

DOMESTIC Engineer. Residential cleaning and organizing. Done with perfection. 10 years experience. Excellent references. (586)872-1219

302 SITUATIONS WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE
AT Home Caregivers- Experienced caregivers providing housekeeping, laundry, bathing assistance, transportation, 24 hour service and much more. Insured and bonded. Call (586)774-8490. Chris.

CAREGIVERS, licensed & bonded. Excellent references. Affordable. (734)945-1346

EXPERIENCED care giver for elderly. Available 24 hours/ 7 days. Daphne (313)527-1681

I'M an experienced certified nursing assistant. Flexible, dependable, references. Call Brenda, (586)773-0251

A+ Live-ins Ltd.
Companion Caregivers provide Personal Care, Cleaning, Cooking & Laundry. Hourly & Daily Rates. Insured & Bonded. Dee Allen - Grosse Pointe Resident
881-8073

303 SITUATIONS WANTED DAY CARE
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306 SITUATIONS WANTED HOUSE CLEANING
HAPPY HOLIDAYS Expect The Best From The Professionals. Superior Customer Service. Give Us A Try & You Will Be 100% Satisfied. Housekeeping, Laundry, Party Assistance Since 1985. We Speak Your Language. (313)884-0721 Free Estimates

HOUSE cleaning and laundry services. Polish ladies with very good experience, excellent references. We speak English! (313)881-0259, (313)319-7657

HOUSE work got away from you? Spruce up to deep clean. Grosse Pointe resident. (313)881-6407

POLISH lady available to clean your house. Honest, references. After 5:00pm. (313)645-5044

YOU finally found us! Women who actually like to clean. Thorough, reliable. References. 8 years experience. Homes, offices, parties. 313-550-2890, (313)824-6881

312 ORGANIZING
NEED help for the Holidays? Fresh Start Home Organizing and Estate Sales. Member of NAPO. Serving the Grosse Pointe area since 1997. Call Cynthia Campbell at (313)882-7865

SIMPLIFY your life through clutter reduction. Call in Perfect Order, (313)885-7393. Unique Christmas idea!

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400 ANTIQUES/COLLECTIBLES
Adducci Dumouchelle Estate Buyers International Auctioneers
CASH PAID
We Are Buying Estate: Jewels, Diamonds, Colored Stones, Gold, Silver, Platinum, Watches.
We Are Also Buying: Antiques, Paintings, Silver, Hardware, Holloware, Tea Sets, China, Porcelain, Oriental Rugs, Calligraphies, Select Furniture, Crystal, Consigned items available.
Call NOW for a Free Evaluation.
Joseph Adducci, G.D., Metinda Adducci, G.D.
17 Kercheval (Punch/Judy Lobby) Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
313-300-9166 or 80