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FEATURES

Spinning yarns

Pointers of all ages are knitting their way to relaxation **PAGE 1B**

SPORTS

Signing on

Several Pointe athletes choose their colleges **PAGE 4C**

Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 68, NO. 7, 38PAGES
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FEBRUARY 15, 2007
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Week ahead

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THURSDAY, FEB. 15

♦ The Pointer Bridge Club meets at 11 a.m. for lunch and bridge in the Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Alger House.
♦ The Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts University of Michigan professor Ralph Williams at 7:30 p.m. to discuss Ludovico Ariosto's "Orlando Furioso" in Grosse Pointe South High's auditorium. For more information, call (313) 343-2074, ext. 204.
♦ "The Maps of Our Destiny" will be presented by Robert Taylor from 7 to 9 p.m. as part of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Lifelong Learning series. The cost is \$20. For more information, call (313) 881-7511.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

♦ Louisa St. Clair Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution holds its annual American History Month Awards Luncheon at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. For more information, call Susie Scheiwe at (313) 881-3367.

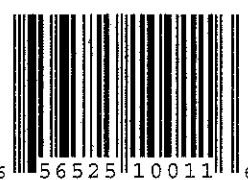
MONDAY, FEB. 19

President's Day
♦ All Grosse Pointes municipal offices will be closed for the day, as will federal, state and county offices.
♦ Trash pick-up will be delayed a day in Grosse Pointe Shores and the City of Grosse Pointe; however, the City's recycling will be on schedule. Trash pick-up will be on schedule in the other Pointes.
♦ The City of Grosse Pointe regularly scheduled council meeting has been moved to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26.
♦ Grosse Pointe Woods regularly scheduled council meeting has been moved to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

♦ The Grosse Pointe Art Center holds an open studio from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the art center, 1005 Maryland, Grosse Pointe Park. It is free to members and \$5 for non-members. For more information, call (313) 821-1848.
♦ The Grosse Pointe Central Branch building committee meets at 7 p.m. in the Ewald Branch in Grosse Pointe Park. The public is welcome to attend.

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GROSSE POINTE SHORES

Harbor, shore examined



PHOTO BY JOHN MINNIS

Planned renovation of the Grosse Pointe Shores municipal marina is being closely watched by residents upstream, who claim their accretion problem is being caused by the harbor wall that was erected in the late 1960s. Shores officials, however, attribute much of the buildup to residential activity.

GROSSE POINTE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Their legacy may undo custodians

Privatization may come about due to high retirement (legacy) costs

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Freewheeling retirement costs are threatening to derail the futures of district custodians.

Mandated pension payments highballing toward \$1 million per year mean the 78-member Grosse Pointe public schools custodial staff faces replacement by private contractors whose retirement parachute isn't a district concern.

Payments this year rose to more than \$750,000.

Pointe schools could save nearly \$800,000 per year by supplanting custodians with contractors, according to Board of Education President Brendan Walsh.

Walsh, speaking at Monday night's school board meeting, said savings would come from

eliminating custodial pension and healthcare contributions, not salaries.

"The custodial issue is a microcosm of the financial problem our district faces and every district in the state faces," Walsh said.

Walsh cited as the main culprit the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPERS).

All of the district's 918 full time equivalent employees — custodians, teachers, administrators — are entitled to MPERS benefits, 96 percent of which the district is required to fund. Employees provide the remaining 4 percent, Walsh said.

District payments are mandated by the state at a rate greater than 17 percent of each employee's salary. Based on the district's average salary of \$68,324, the retirement ante is \$12,257 per employee.

This year, total district retirement contributions approach \$11.3 million.

Of that, custodians are due a total of \$756,346 in MPERS

payments.

Administrators have tried to stem the tide by reducing custodial staff.

"Despite staff decreases of 11 percent (during the last four years), total (MPERS) contribution has increased 29 percent," Walsh said. "We're not keeping pace with the problem."

Staff cuts backfired due to resulting overtime.

"This year we budgeted about \$530,000 for overtime," Walsh said. "Overtime is particularly painful from a financial standpoint. As you reduce staff and increase reliance on overtime, there may be some financial benefit for reduced staff, but you pay for it elsewhere."

Since 2002, an \$8.8 million increase to the district in state education funding has been more than wiped out by a one-two punch of \$5.6 million in salary increases plus \$3.8 million greater MPERS contributions.

"It's been getting significant-

See LEGACY, page 2A

Shores marina renovation now in the state's hands

By John Lundberg
Staff Writer

The ball is now in the hands of the state Department of Environmental Quality about whether Grosse Pointe Shores can proceed with harbor renovations at Osius Park.

At a public hearing Feb. 8 at Parcels Middle School, representatives from the DEQ heard opinions and positions from state and county officials, along with local residents voicing either their support or opposition to the plan.

The tone of the hearing was generally conciliatory, and many residents who objected to portions of the proposal agreed that the harbor is in need of upgrades.

The most common concern

What's next

The DEQ will accept written comments about the application until Tuesday, Feb. 20. Comments can be mailed to Jeremy Richardson, MDEQ Southeast District Office, 27700 Donald Court, Warren, MI 48092-2793.

was how the project would affect the accretion buildup north of the harbor.

"This (accretion problem) has been going on forever," said Wayne County Commissioner Ted Killeen, D-Detroit. "We know what the genesis of the problem is. I want to see the Shores modify the project. And I strongly urge the DEQ to give

See SHORES, page 3A

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

Power woes spark critics

DTE sheds light on poor service

By John Lundberg
Staff Writer

Representatives from Detroit Edison were probably glad there wasn't a whipping post nearby following the criticism the company received for its "disappointing" performance responding to power problems in Grosse Pointe Farms over the last 14 months.

City officials and residents alike took turns voicing their displeasure with what they considered slow response times and contact problems with the company at the council's Feb. 12 meeting. The com-

pany has taken days, and sometimes weeks to repair malfunctioning street lights. Also, the 800 phone number for the company has left residents shaking their heads over the lack of assistance they receive when using it.

"I have been very frustrated (with the phone system)," said Ed Russell, a local real estate developer. "I've had girls in my office in tears waiting on hold for an hour or 1-1/2 hours waiting for a response."

"Changes need to be implemented. For a developer, this is terrible."

DTE officials attributed recent problems on retirements within the company and bud-

See DTE, page 3A

POINTER OF INTEREST

'What interests me about Grosse Pointe Memorial is its real depth of commitment.'

The Rev. Peter Henry



Home: Grosse Pointe

Age: 37

Family: Wife Shawn, kids

Atticus, Whittier and Haven

Occupation: New pastor of

Grosse Pointe Memorial

Church

See story on page 4A

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Yesterday's headlines

1957
50 years ago this week

◆ **10 CANDIDATES SEEK FARMS COUNCIL POST:** In the first time in more than 15 years, Grosse Pointe Farms will have a primary election to select four councilmen from a field of 10.

The four incumbents, William Connolly, George Lang, Neil McEachin and Richard Maxon face a challenge from Henry Bodman II, Paul Eagen, W.J. MacLeod Jr., Joseph McQuillen, Henri Petri and J. Lawrence Buell Jr.

The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes will serve four-year terms; the fourth highest vote getter will serve for two years.

◆ **BOTH DRIVERS BLAMED IN CITY CRASH:** Two drivers were ticketed following an accident that injured three people at Jefferson and Cadieux.

Police said John Boughner, of Detroit, was traveling west on Jefferson when his car struck a car making a left turn onto Cadieux from Jefferson, driven by Elwood Ellison, also of Detroit. Police said both cars ignored amber lights at the intersection.

The injured, both drivers and a passenger, were taken to an area hospital for treatment. There were no serious injuries.

◆ **GROSSE POINTE RESIDENTS ENDORSE HIGHER TAXES:** More than 1,200 Grosse Pointe residents have formally endorsed the proposed 4-mill additional operating levy to go before voters in March.

Public support for the school board's proposal to raise teachers salaries and complete the building projects continues to grow daily.

Every Grosse Pointe P.T.A. has also endorsed the 4-mill tax increase.

1982
25 years ago this week

◆ **SERIOUS CRIME DROPS IN THE POINTES:** Serious crime in Grosse Pointe Farms, Park, Shores and Woods showed a 7.6 percent decrease in 1981 compared to the year before.

Part I crimes, which include murder, rape, larceny, robbery, burglary, assault and auto theft, were reported in the four cities 2,020 times in 1981 as compared to 2,188 reported in 1980.

The decrease in the Part I rate was partly attributed to increased awareness by resi-

dents and prevention programs initiated by police, said public safety officials.

Of the four municipalities, only Grosse Pointe Park showed an increase in some Part I crimes.

◆ **BOARD TABLES SWIMMING POOL ADVISORY VOTE:** Because of questions regarding the cost of a feasibility study, the Grosse Pointe board of education tabled action on an advisory vote asking residents if they would support a \$3.5 million bond issue for a new enclosed community pool.

The cost of the study as it reads on the current ballot is \$75,000. However, a complete feasibility study, which includes precise plans, specifications and bidding conditions, could hike that figure to as high as \$200,000, said Ronald Dalby, board trustee.

◆ **FORD HOUSE TO APPEAL TAX EXEMPTION RULING:** Representatives for the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House on Lakeshore indicated they will contest the Michigan Court of Appeals ruling that the estate is not a tax exempt institution.

In December 1981, the court ruled the house did not meet the standard definition of charitable institutions exempt under state tax law.

At stake is \$107,000 in 1981 taxes due to Grosse Pointe Shores, Lake Township and the South Lake School District. The Ford house paid its \$83,000 tax bill under protest.

1997
10 years ago this week

◆ **LAKE ST. CLAIR WATER LEVEL RISING:** Officials believe conditions are right for Lake St. Clair water levels to reach record highs in 1997.

John Love of the Army Corp of Engineers, which monitors lake levels, said that 1996 was an unusually wet year, with eight of the 12 months receiving above average levels of rain. That along with the fact that 1996 was also uncommonly cool, resulted in less evaporation of lake water and higher levels.

The Corps have met with state and county officials to develop emergency management plans in preparation for record water level incidents.

◆ **RONEY & CO. MOVES TO THE PUNCH:** In a move that will double its office size, Roney & Co. will occupy the first floor of the Punch & Judy building at 15 Kercheval, the former location of interior designer D. J. Kennedy & Co.

The brokerage firm, which started its Grosse Pointe office in 1986 with four stockbro-



PHOTO BY KAY BROWN

A league of their own

Members of the committee on local affairs of the League of Woman Voters have been gathering information on water supply and waste disposal facilities for members. From left are Mrs. Richard Barnett, Mrs. Edward Gehrig, Mrs. Edgar Cooper and Mrs. M.L. Van Dagens, who heads the committee. (From the Feb. 14, 1957, Grosse Pointe News.)

kers, has grown to 14 stockbrokers and 11 support staff. It is one of Michigan's oldest and largest brokerage firms and the state's longest-standing member of the New York Stock Exchange.

2002
5 years ago this week

◆ **AN EXPLOSION LEVELS HOME, DAMAGES ANOTHER:** An explosion in a garage which ignited a massive fire, leveled a house and damaged a neighboring home on Sunnysdale in Grosse Pointe Shores.

The explosion, which took place at 11:30 p.m., was tended to by public safety units from the Shores, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Woods and Harper Woods.

The 5,000 square foot home burned to the ground within hours, and the house next door sustained major fire damage.

There were no injuries reported. Shores fire crews were sent out the next day to put out

hot spots, which ignited when winds picked up that morning.

◆ **LOCHMOOR CRASH HEARING DELAYED:** The pretrial conference for Anthony Miles Pierno, charged in a 2001 car crash on Lochmoor that killed three passengers, has been rescheduled for March 1.

Pierno, 18, of Grosse Pointe Woods, was at the wheel of a sport utility vehicle that went

off the road at an estimated 70 mph into a stand of trees on the street's median near Fairway.

Dead at the scene were Anthony Antonelli, 18; Brett Bentley Crawford, 19; and Marianne Akre, 18.

Pierno has been charged with three counts of second-degree murder and one count of leaving the scene of an injury accident.

LEGACY:
Private firms
ready to hire

Continued from page 1A

ly more expensive every year at a pace that exceeds our revenue growth," Walsh said. "Those two categories (salaries

and MPSERS) alone have outstripped revenue we've received from the state. And we haven't even talked about health care yet. The issue of health care is a discussion for another day."

Fallout over privatizing district cafeteria workers in 2005 has contributed to making the custodian issue one of the hotter topics at school headquarters.

"The amount of communication the board has received on this issue has been significant," Walsh said. "We are in formal discussions with the custodial bargaining unit to see what, collectively, we can do to impact this problem."

He said a private contractor could provide custodial service at a savings comparable to the district's MPSERS tab.

"We'll pay \$765,346 in MPSERS cost this year for (custodians)," Walsh said. "There's no surprise why a third party could do this. We don't have a choice (about paying retirement costs). If they are our employees, we must pay MPSERS."

If custodians were provided through an outside agency, "they wouldn't have access to MPSERS," Walsh said. "They in all likelihood would be offered a 401(k) retirement savings plan."

Contractors vying to provide custodial services reportedly cited reduced overtime costs as a selling point.

"Their proposals (say) they would reduce our reliance on overtime, most likely by adding more staff because they're not encumbered by some expenses we have," Walsh said. "The only way we're going to get out from underneath that significantly increasing (MPSERS) expense is through an arrangement such as this."

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan
CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF THE 2007 ASSESSMENT ROLL: Notice is hereby given the Board of Review of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Wayne County, Michigan, will be in session in the Community Center of the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, on

**TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2007
TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2007**

from 9:00 a.m. to noon, 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST, for reviewing the 2007 Assessment Roll. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by their assessment, or who have any questions or comments, may make an appointment to appeal before the Board of Review by contacting the Tax Department (phone 313 343-2440 Ext. 215) between February 28 and March 12, 2007. Resident taxpayers must appear in person or send an agent to appeal their assessment.

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SHORES: Input to DEQ due Feb. 20

Continued from page 1A

this project a broader look.”

Accretion is the buildup of sediment and other organic matter. It is also the home to an invasive species of dense bamboo-like high grass known as phragmites.

And, as shoreline residents can attest, it causes an unsightly view of the lake and claim it has significantly reduced their property values.

The accretion problem has been sourced by residents to the decision of Grosse Pointe Shores to transform its harbor structure to a closed harbor in the late 1960s. The modification disrupted the natural shoreline currents, which resulted in the buildup, they say.

But Shores officials have countered that claim by saying that the fill added by residents north of the harbor and low lake levels are just as much responsible for the accretion than anything else.

In a letter to the DEQ in response to protests at the hearing, Shores city attorney Mark McInerney cited a scientific report compiled by Wetlands and Coastal Resources Inc. which stated: “Based on review of aerial photographs and profile data, it is concluded that the ... associated fills, and cross-shore transport are the main causes for accumulation of material north of the peninsula and not a change in the north breakwall of the harbor in the 1960s.”

The present plan will provide for two 36-inch flow-through tubes to allow currents and sediments to pass through the northern breakwall. But some believe it doesn't go far enough to alleviate the accretion encroachment.

“Flushing tubes will not halt (the buildup) and decrease sediment,” said Joanne Ross, attorney for the Ross Law Firm PLLC. “(I hope the DEQ) does not take such a myopic view of this permit application.

“Now is the time for this agency (DEQ) to insist the harbor incorporate an adequate sediment transport system.”

John Booth, of the Neighbors Concerned About the Lake Front organization, said that while he understands the harbor needs improvements, stressed the importance of implementing more “substantial flow-throughs.”

“We think we have a feasible alternative (that is) cost efficient,” he said. “We should not have to come back (later) and undo things. It would be a waste of taxpayers' money.”

Jim Cooke, Shores parks and recreation director, said earlier that some well sizes will be altered to accommodate larger vessels. He added that the Shores is “leaning” toward replacing the existing docks in the outer harbor with floating docks.

“The (outer harbor) will be completely reconfigured,” Cooke said. “The footprint will remain the same.

“Our main focus is on the further east harbor. We will (create) new docks with a new alignment.”

Under the plan, the number of wells, now a total of 205, will likely decrease to 177, but Cooke said that will not have a negative affect on the harbor.

“We don't need that many wells for a community our size,” he said.

Before the Shores can proceed with its renovation plans, it must receive permission from the DEQ and the Army Corps of Engineers. The corps tentatively approved the application last December and now it is up to the DEQ.

Regulators are charged with ensuring proposed construction won't harm the environment or contribute to problems that may already exist in the area.

Andrew Hartz, district supervisor for the DEQ, said the agency should reach its decision within 60 to 90 days.

The DEQ will accept written comments about the application until Tuesday, Feb. 20. Comments can be mailed to Jeremy Richardson, MDEQ Southeast District Office, 27700 Donald Court, Warren, MI 48092-2793.



A wider view of the municipal harbor at Grosse Pointe Shores Osius Park shows the point in the middle ground and the Nine Mile tower to the north.

PHOTO BY JOHN MINNIS

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

Morgan Stanley finds new home on the Hill

Developer Ed Russell was granted a parking exception for 11 spaces at the Grosse Pointe Farms Feb. 12 council meeting.

Morgan Stanley is consolidating its two Farms offices into the building at 130 Kercheval, the former home of Kennedy & Co. The firm's other offices are currently located

at 77 and 114 Kercheval.

Parking demands are calculated by using square footage of office and showroom spaces to be used by a business. According to Councilwoman Therese Joseph, the Farms relies on a “conservative” calculation when determining how many parking spaces can be allowed for a particular business.

Currently, parking spaces are determined in an office building allowing for one for every 200 square feet of office space.

“(Calculations) can go over 250 square feet,” Joseph said. “We just choose to stay with this (formula).”

Kennedy & Co., an interior

designer which is relocating in the Village in the City of Grosse Pointe had a showroom. Parking spaces were calculated by allotting one space per 800 square feet. The negative balance of available parking spaces was created because the parking space formula changed to that of an office environment.

Russell will pay \$7,000 per space. He also agreed with Councilman Louis Therios' requirement that Morgan Stanley employees park in leased public parking on the Hill.

Morgan Stanley is expected to occupy the building by early June, Russell said.

—By John Lundberg

GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Council approves license for deli business on wheels

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Turkey on white with mayo and pastrami on rye will be served by Steve Zuccaro, owner of Lunchbox Deli.

Grosse Pointe Woods' city council approved Zuccaro's vendor's permit to do business within the city limits.

“We have been in business for 14 years and deliver to individuals who can't get away

from their desk for lunch,” said Zuccaro, a Grosse Pointe Park resident.

People who work in area businesses, schools and Woods city hall regularly order lunch from Lunchbox Deli. Zuccaro

makes sandwiches, salads and other noontime meals.

“Just because someone complains I don't see why he (Zuccaro) needs to get a permit to do business here in the Woods,” councilmember Darryl Spicher said.

One business owner griped about Lunchbox Deli, saying the style of doing business was taking away from his clientele, Zuccaro said.

“We have been tightening up vendors just to know who is going around our city,” Mayor Robert Novitke said. “Mr.

Zuccaro needs a license according to our city rules, but overall, I don't see any reason why we shouldn't give him the permit.”

Deputy Director James Fowler approved the application for consideration by the council. Fowler received a copy of the permit from the Wayne County Health Department and performed a criminal and warrant record search.

Fowler found no records and recommended permit approval.

G.P Democratic Club to meet

The Grosse Pointe Democratic Club will hold its February general membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at the Children's Home of Detroit, 900 Cook in Grosse Pointe Woods.

The meeting will feature Marianne McGuire, State

Board of Education treasurer. McGuire will discuss current issues facing education — finances, consolidation, and the No Child Left Behind Act.

McGuire's background in education began as a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher in Grand Rapids and the Detroit

Public Schools. Elected to the State Board of Education in 1996, and re-elected in 2004, she currently serves as treasurer.

The meeting is open to the public regardless of political affiliation. For more information, call (313) 885-3123.

DTE: Farms light system old, costly

Continued from page 1A

getary constraints.

“I apologize for this happening,” said Mark Slater, supervising engineer for community lighting. “We have worked hard behind the scenes (to correct the problems). We are identifying the (street light) circuits that need to be replaced.

“We are moving forward.”

But that wasn't enough for the council.

“I've heard you (blame this on) retirements and budget,” said Councilman Terry Davis. “That explanation doesn't cut it.”

City officials and DTE representatives met 14 months ago to sort through problems. The council now wants an action plan from the company, and it is not willing to wait another year.

“I would like to see what has happened over the last 14 months,” said Councilman Louis Therios. “I would like to see a checklist (by April of what the company plans to do.)”

The Farms street light system is old by most standards. Newer systems are constructed so that when one light goes out, it doesn't shut down surrounding lights, like the system in the Farms. But costs to replace these older systems are significant, something that DTE cannot do overnight.

“I'm frustrated not just because the lights go out, but

we're talking about a safety factor here,” said Tom McCleary, Farms resident.

“There's no excuse for street lights being down for five or six weeks.”

Slater is planning to provide the city with a updated list of company contacts in case of malfunctions. He also said DTE would provide the Farms with its list of priorities by April.

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4A | NEWS

POINTER OF INTEREST

The Rev. Peter Henry, recently named the pastor of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, is looking forward to leading his flock of caring parishioners, following his March installation.

Pastor stresses relationships

By Carrie Cunningham
Special Writer

One of the seminal aspects of the Presbyterian faith is to nurture a connection between God and each other.

As the new pastor of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, the Rev. Peter Henry hopes to hone these types of relationships.

"We recognize that God in sometimes mysterious, and certainly gracious, ways calls people to be together and to live out God's grace and unconditional love with one another," he said.

Henry grew up in Wheaton, Ill., where he attended the University of Illinois and Wheaton College, an evangelical liberal arts college. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in English.

Henry was uncertain about his life's future path, but prominent people from his church encouraged him to attend seminary and become a pastor. Business people and church leaders believed in his ability to both listen to people and to make the Bible and thoughts about faith applicable to everyday life. Henry took their advice to heart and decided to dedicate his life to serving God through ordained church leadership.

To become a minister, Henry attended Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, N.J. He is about to complete a doctorate in practical theology from the school to better prepare himself for pastoral ministry.

His original thoughts were to lead a church in New England because his wife, Shawn, a former English teacher, has family in the region. However, Henry was guided by Presbyterian friends and clergy to Grosse Pointe Memorial. The Pastoral Nominating Committee chose him, and Grosse Pointe Memorial accepted him for the role of pastor.

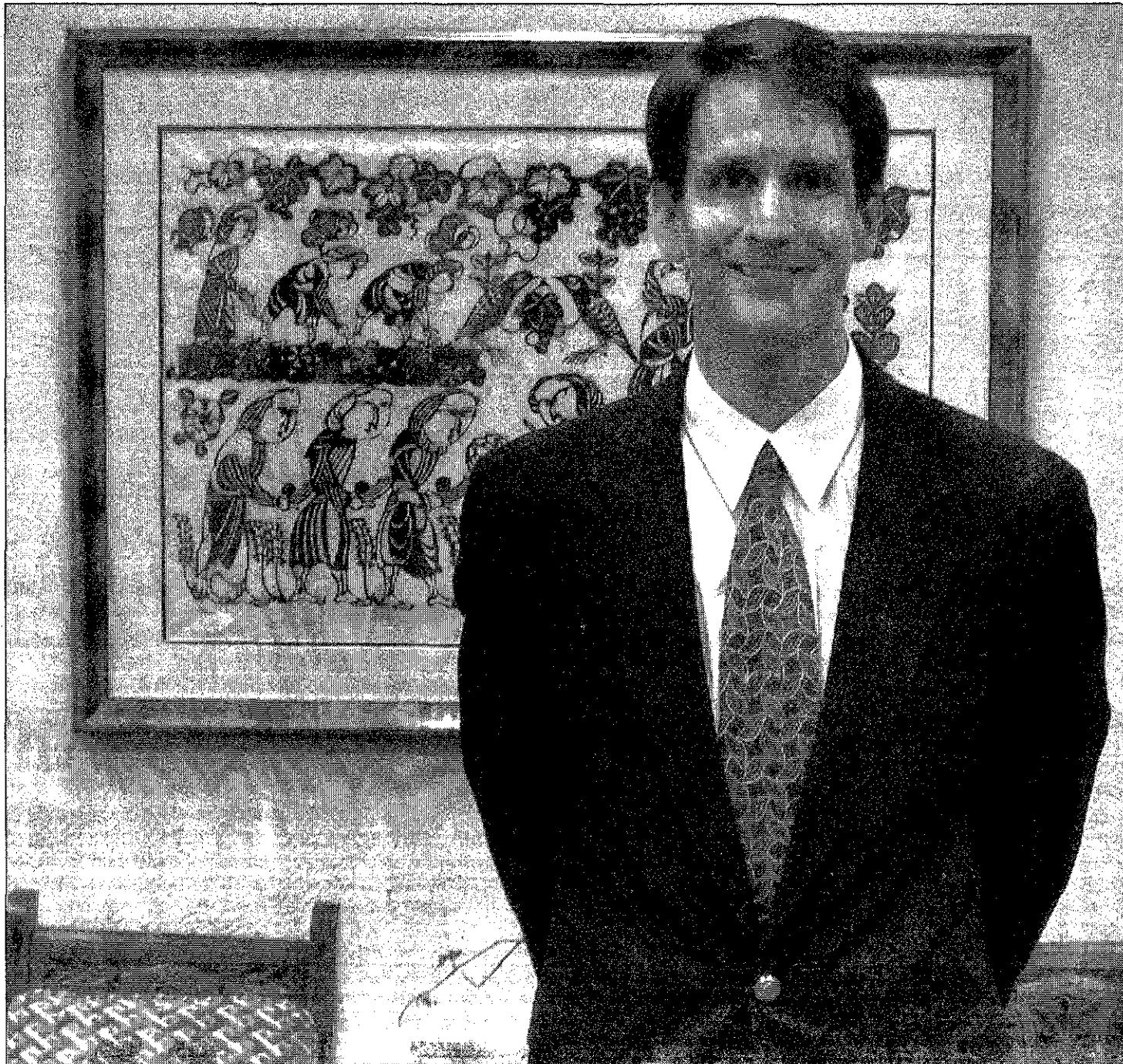


PHOTO BY CARRIE CUNNINGHAM

The Rev. Peter Henry is the new pastor of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and a native of Wheaton, Ill.

"One of the things that interests me about Grosse Pointe Memorial is its real depth of commitment," he said. "People care about their church and have great skills and gifts for helping this place continue to be vital."

Henry began at Grosse Pointe Memorial in early January and will be officially installed in March. While he is

still settling into his new role, he has a vision about faith that he hopes will continue an appreciation of God and relationships among parishioners.

The Presbyterian Church is distinguished from other Protestant denominations by its church governance structure.

Jesus Christ is head of the church.

Parishioners take part in service.

The pastor's primary role is to interpret the meaning of Scripture in sermons.

The session of elders is responsible for most other facets of the church.

Henry says the inner workings of the Presbyterian Church's faith, derived in part from the example of Martin

Luther and the ministry of John Calvin, is for followers to establish a love of and relationship to God and to have compassion for one another. Sin can be forgiven and there are no barriers between humanity and God, he explained.

Henry extols the existing programs and ministries at Grosse Pointe Memorial. A

group is going to Mississippi this spring to help Hurricane Katrina victims and parishioners also work at a soup kitchen and give gifts to children whose parents are in prison.

A group called "Logo" involves Bible study for youth.

A particularly successful program according to Henry is Habitat for Humanity in which Grosse Pointe Memorial members build houses with the poor.

"Habitat continues to be a strength in this congregation," he said. "We have some wonderful people who are carrying that torch."

The notion of aiding those that need help reflects the Presbyterian and Christian ideals of people being one with one another through God, he said.

In his first couple of sermons, Henry talked about his initial perceptions of the church and stressed the concept of openness.

He said he is eager to delve into church development and looks forward to working with the governing bodies of the church.

"One of our goals is that this would be a place of welcome and connection to God, that people would join and be a part of our ministry," Henry said.

Aside from his wife Shawn, who has relinquished her teaching career to be a stay at home mom, Henry's family includes sons Atticus and Whittier and daughter, Haven, who comes from China.

Currently looking for a home in Grosse Pointe, Henry is enthralled with his new life.

Henry said his own beliefs about God take on two forms: he realizes that some type of relationship exists with God in the afterlife and that during his life on Earth, his relationship with God frees him from sin and enables him to try and live into what God has called him to be.

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

American Cancer Discovery Shop to close in June

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

The American Cancer Society's Discovery Shop in the Hill shopping district in Grosse Pointe Farms will close its doors when its lease expires June 30.

Four other Discovery Shop stores have already closed.

The four were located in Rochester, Livonia, St. Clair

Shores and Sterling Heights.

In addition to the Farms store, the remaining two, in Plymouth and Birmingham, will close when their leases end.

"It was not an easy decision to make," said Doris Fatur, director of the American Cancer Society Metro Detroit region.

"We built up a solid and loyal customer base at all of our locations, but the cost is too

high to keep the Discovery Shops open compared with the limited amount of funds that are made."

Fatur also cited stricter reporting of donated goods on tax forms and difficulty with the Discovery Shops trying to compete with larger retail stores as additional reasons for the stores' closures.

The store offered both clothing and home decor items.

Despite the Discovery Shop's demise, people can still donate to the American Cancer Society, which raised \$929.6 million last year for cancer research and education.

"We know the end is near and it is very unfortunate to lose these stores," Fatur said. "It all boils down to money and the fact that it costs too much to keep them open."

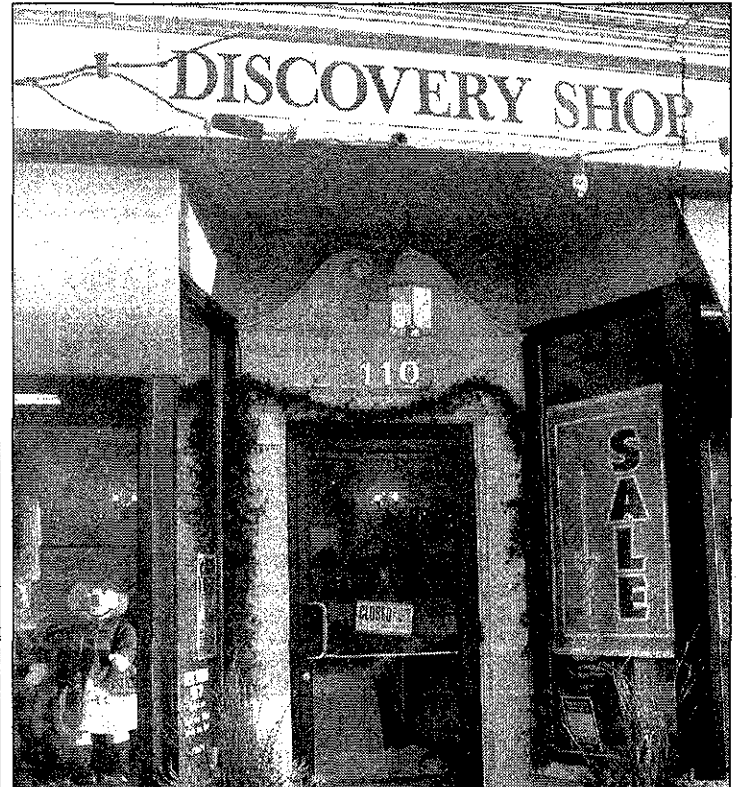


PHOTO BY BOB ST. JOHN

The American Cancer Society's Discover Shop, above, in the Hill shopping district in Grosse Pointe Farms, will be closing its doors at the end of June.

Council approves members

Grosse Pointe Park's City Council approved the reappointments of 17 commission members.

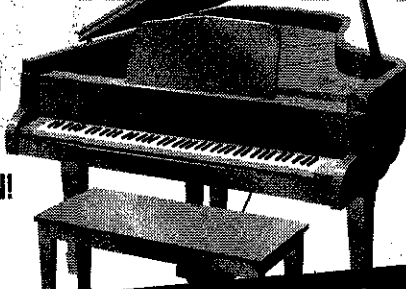
Robert Ramsey, Barbara Miller, Sue Hanson, William D.G. Balance, Dee Cimini, A. Pat Deck, Roger Garrett, Shellie Hansen, Mary Kravutske, Albin Mazur, Robert Nye, Jan Ramsey and Frank Romano were reappointed to the Beautification Commission.

Tax Increment Finance Authority reappointments were given to James Odell, Patrick Mann and Peter D'Angelo. This is a four-year term.

Stacey Jarvis was named to the Recreation Commission, with a term to expire in November.

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ST. CLAIR SHORES

Shores theater renovation ready to go?

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

This summer's hottest movies will hopefully be seen at a theater near you — the Shores Theater.

More than a year ago St. Clair Shores city officials said no to Grosse Pointe Shores businessman Bob Liggett and expansion of his two-screen theater to an eight-screen complex, saying it was too big for the area.

Months of replanning created a new five-screen theater complex that will extend the current building back by approximately 90 feet. The renovation is expected to cost \$3 million.

"This new project fits perfectly in the Nine Mile and Mack business area," said Bruce Ferguson, CFO of Liggett Management, LLC. "St. Clair Shores city officials liked this proposal much better and we still have strong support from South Lake High School officials and area merchants."

Liggett and Ferguson received proposal approval from St. Clair Shores' planning commission, city council and zoning board. A variance to allow the Shores Theater to create 58 new parking spaces was also granted, which was thought to be the final hurdle Liggett Management needed to clear.

However, owners of the Travis restaurant across the street from the theater and LaHood Properties, which owns the buildings adjacent to the theater, aren't happy with the city of St. Clair Shores because officials granted the variance.

"We have been talking with representatives of LaHood



DRAWING BY PARADIGM DESIGN INC.

This is a sketch of what the new Shores Theater will look like. The front will have a 1950's look, while the inside will be state-of-the-art.

Properties and we're still trying to negotiate a deal," Ferguson said. "When that is completed, we will be in good shape."

The expansion increases the number of theater seats from 440 to 507. Each of the five theaters will have stadium seating and patrons will have the opportunity to buy the usual popcorn, pop, candy and other items.

"This will be a top notch theater with state-of-the-art everything on the inside and the facade will have a nostalgic look to it," Ferguson said. "We were never really close to a deal on that initial proposal, but we're very close to getting this proposal up and running."

Ferguson said the renovation will be extensive on the interior and will need the majority of work.

"We have received dozens of e-mails from local residents asking us when the theater will reopen," Ferguson said. "We don't have an answer yet, but if the proposal is officially accepted, we can give them an approximate opening date."

Liggett Management is hoping to get the ball rolling in time for the theater to open in time to show the summer blockbuster movies such as

"Shrek The Third," "Spiderman 3," "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," "Ocean's Thirteen," "Fantastic Four" and the "Silver Surfer," "Evan Almighty," "Live Free or Die Hard," "Ratatouille," "Transformers," "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," "The Simpsons Movie," "The Bourne Ultimatum" and "Rush Hour 3."

"We would love nothing

more than to open in time for moviegoers to have a chance to see the summer blockbusters at our theater," Ferguson said. "Theaters should be packed this summer and I hope we can accommodate our fans."

Liggett closed the two-screen theater Nov. 12. "Happy Feet" and "Santa Claus 3" were the last two movies viewed at the "old" Shores Theater.



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GROSSE POINTE PARK

Paving project approved

A fresh coat of asphalt is ready to be delivered to Windmill Pointe Park to repave the east parking lot.

A \$99,730 bid by Nagle Paving Co. was accepted by the Grosse Pointe Park city council during Monday night's meeting.

Orion Asphalt Co. (\$111,850) and The Jeffrey Co. (\$104,686)

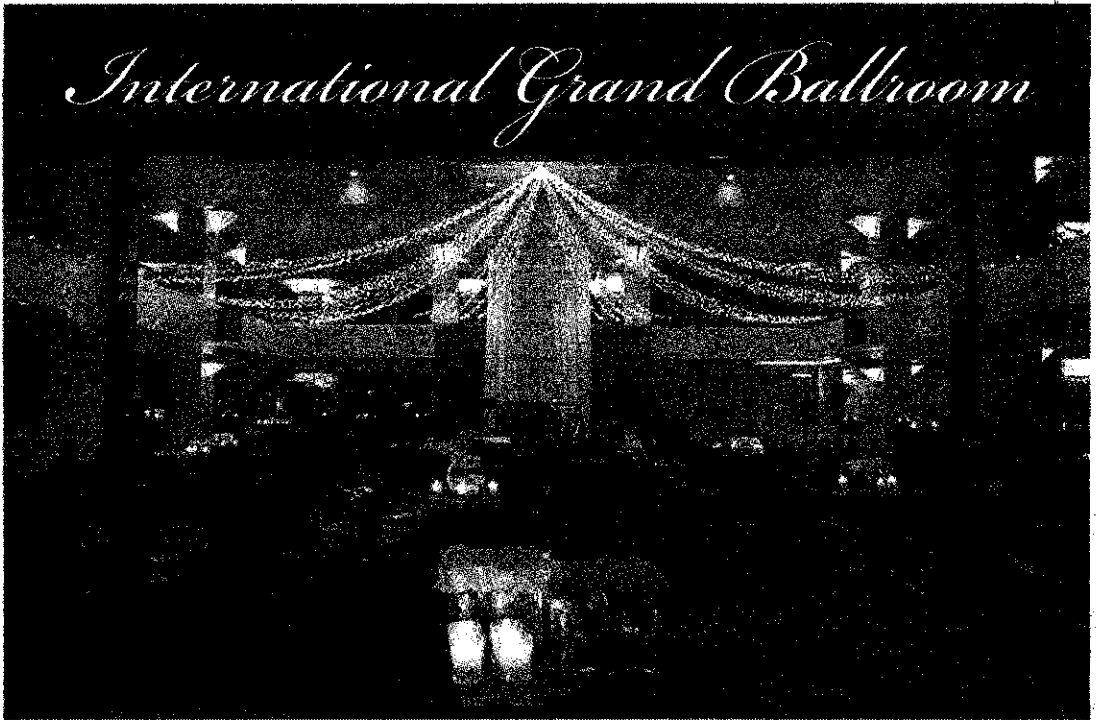
also submitted bids to Park Director of Public Services, Chris Reimel.

"We have had limited funds in recent years, but it was time to act on this and repave the parking lot," Park City Manager Dale Krajniak said. "Nagle is comfortable they can get the job done in the time frame we provided them."

Nagle will have two weeks in early May to complete the repaving of the parking lot in front of the Tompkins Center.

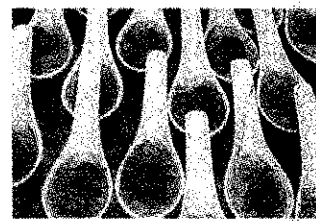
"The parking lot is in rough shape and needs to be repaved," Reimel said. "The project will be completed in time for the opening of the park for our residents."

— Bob St. John



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PHOTO BY KARL MANTYLA

Candlelight vigil held

More than 65 Grosse Pointers joined in a candlelight vigil on Jan. 1 in remembrance of the 3,000 U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq and the thousands of other victims of the war in that country. A bell tolled as each name of a partial number of the deceased was read by a participant in the vigil. Among the names recited in memorial were soldiers from communities and states ranging from Grosse Pointe Park to Kansas. The civilian victims ranged in age from 6 months to 91. The vigil was organized by Pointes for Peace and was held at Kercheval and St. Clair.

Employee flu leads to time lost

Statistics show that 15 million working days are lost to influenza each year.

According to the Occupational Health Department, it takes an average of 3.5 days for employees to resume normal activities after a bout of the flu.

Not contacting influenza is the key to staying productive at work through the winter months when many employees are inside more often than not.

"Time lost by employees due to influenza can have a significant impact on business, but not nearly as much as it would have if the sick employee came to work and infected others," said Louis Saravolatz, MD, chief of infectious disease at St. John Hospital and Medical Center.

"I would strongly encourage employers to try to plan for the flu season as much as possible. When flu season hits, you can be sure someone will be absent, either because they are ill or they need to care for a sick loved one."

Each year, approximately 226,000 people in the nation are hospitalized with complications from the flu and an average of 36,000 die from the virus and its complications.

The American Lung Association's "Faces of Influenza" educational initiative is designed to put a face on influenza in the country and show the seriousness of this potentially deadly virus.

"If an employee is sick or has had a known exposure to influenza, make the necessary accommodations," Saravolatz said. "For employees that have been exposed but are not visibly ill, if possible, let them telecommute until all chance of infection has passed."

"Everyone who has been exposed or suspects that they have contracted the flu should consult their doctor within the first 36 hours of flu symptom onset or exposure for treatment. There are medications that can shorten the duration of the flu, helping the employee recover and return to work faster."

The Occupational Health Department says the best way to reduce the effects of influenza is through annual vaccination. Businesses who encourage their employees to get vaccinated will surely get a return on their investment.

"Prepare your business by providing plenty of hand sani-

tizers and sanitizing wipes for telephones and keyboards," Saravolatz said. "Emphasize flu prevention in memos and internal newsletters. Provide employees an opportunity to receive a flu vaccination, if possible. Prevention is the best defense during flu season."

Combined with pneumonia, influenza is the nation's seventh leading cause of death, according to the Web site face-sofinfluenza.org.

The Web site also says that other common respiratory and stomach infections are often mistakenly referred to as "the flu." However, symptoms of influenza include fever (usually high), headache, extreme tired-

ness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches. Stomach symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, also can occur but are more common in children than adults.

Complications of influenza can include bacterial pneumonia, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma or diabetes. Children may also experience sinus problems and ear infections. Influenza viruses spread in respiratory droplets caused by coughing and sneezing. They usually spread from person to person, though sometimes people become infected

by touching something with influenza viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

— Bob St. John

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

Dog park gone?

Grosse Pointe Farms city officials are looking to find a permanent location for a dog park within the city boundaries.

The old dog park, located at Brownell Middle School, closed after resident complaints of dogs escaping and running loose out of the park.

Councilman Terry Davis wants the council to act quickly to establish an area where residents can unleash their dogs to run freely within a contained area. He pointed to St. Clair Shores, which recently constructed a dog park using snow fencing.

But in order to operate a secure park, the council must construct a totally contained area where dogs are restricted from venturing out while not on a leash.

Councilman Louis Theros, who lives by Brownell, said he received frequent complaints from neighbors of dogs running freely. He said Brownell did not meet the criteria of a dog park because it is not fully enclosed. Theros added that a dog park location is still being sought for resident dog owners.

— By John Lundberg

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Grosse Pointe News

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EDITORIAL

Tax increases not acceptable

In order to balance this year's hemorrhaging state budget and to increase spending in the next fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, Gov. Jennifer Granholm is asking the Legislature to enact a 2 percent sales tax on services and to create new taxes on businesses to replace the penal Single Business Tax, which expires this year.

Gov. Granholm promised a \$178 per-pupil increase in school spending next year if lawmakers approve the services tax. She warned that without the services tax, there would be "incredible and deep cuts to public education."

If you feel like you have a gun to your head, you are right. Further, Michigan's school aid fund is already \$377 million in the red this year, and the governor is praying for a speedy enactment of the services tax in order to balance that budget before the new fiscal year begins. She hopes to have sales tax revenue on services pouring into the state by June 1.

While the governor is planning \$400 million in cuts, that only amounts to 1 percent of the state's total \$43.4 billion budget. A quarter the cuts will be achieved by releasing elderly and nonviolent inmates from state prisons. However, overall the state's discretionary spending (\$9.5 billion) will grow by 3.5 percent and exceed the rate of inflation (2 percent).

The winners under the governor's budget would be universities and K-12 school districts, human services, state police and local communities, which would not see a decrease in revenue sharing funds. The losers would be small state agencies, including agriculture, civil rights, environmental quality and natural resources.

On top of all this, Gov. Granholm is proposing new taxes on businesses that would raise \$1.5 billion to offset much of the \$1.9 billion lost with the expiration of the Single Business Tax.

True, the state of Michigan, due to an anemic economy, loss of jobs and residents fleeing the state, is bringing in less money. But so are individual families and businesses.

But by insisting that the Small Business Tax and declining revenue must be replaced, the governor and her backers are making the assumption that the state is spending its money efficiently and that all the services it provides are equally necessary.

The government can't be all things to all people. Something has to give.

We fear that once the floodgate of taxes on services is opened — at least more than in the past — then the state will want to tap the service sector for more and more funds. Government is insatiable. The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce also opposes the services tax, which would affect 75 percent of local businesses, including insurance agencies, real estate companies and banks.

Also onerous is the tax on businesses or, more accurately, the penalty on investment.

Business taxes increase costs to consumers, jeopardize jobs and punish business owners and investors. An increase in taxes does nothing for the business owner. It increases the cost of goods but not net income. In fact, due to market forces, higher costs of goods due to higher taxes means fewer goods will be sold — including services if they are taxed.

At a time when Michigan is losing businesses and residents to other states, where manufacturing jobs are moving overseas, should we be raising taxes? Would that not send the wrong message and hasten the state's decline?

Do we really want to push the entire state into free fall?

Our goal should be to make Michigan a business- and consumer-friendly state. Rather than raise taxes on goods and services, we should be lowering or eliminating them. Rather than looking for ways to collect taxes on Internet sales, we should welcome the job-creating buying power of online consumers worldwide.

How do we make up for lost revenue, especially the nearly \$2 billion from the Small Business Tax?

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy, mackinac.org, has come up with a list of 15 easy ways the state could save \$1.885 billion.

But if these cuts are so apparent, why haven't the governor and Legislature made them? The answer, according to the Mackinac Center's Jack McHugh, is because "that's not the way we've done it in the past."

"We've always done it that way" is a common refrain, not only in government but also in business. Unfortunately — or fortunately in the long run — businesses are learning to look outside the box and are changing the way they do things. Business as usual is no longer good business in a global economy.

Likewise, the same old same old is no longer acceptable for government at both the state and federal levels. Lawmakers cannot continually go back to the same well. In Michigan, the well is dry.

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LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. Longer letters may be edited for length and all letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include a daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday.

Cold weather closes schools

To the Editor:

I may be in the minority on this one, but I felt compelled to write to express my opposition to the Grosse Pointe Public Schools being closed for, at least, two days this week due to cold weather.

I have lived in Grosse Pointe all of my life and attended public schools. I've had children in the Grosse Pointe Public Schools for nearly 12 years. And this is the first time I can remember school being canceled due to cold weather.

Granted, it has been ridiculously frigid outside. But I think that most Grosse Pointe kids can find a ride to and from school if absolutely necessary. Many of them are already driven to and from school or, in the case of high school juniors and seniors, drive themselves. So we're talking about closing school because it's too cold for kids to walk from a car to the building?

This isn't a community that relies on bus transportation for their students. The kids aren't standing out in the cold waiting for transportation to show up. And the burden bestowed upon parents to find child care at a moment's notice is a huge one. Luckily, my company allows me to work from home. Otherwise, I don't know what my wife and I would've done these last couple of days.

I'm also a little bit disappointed at the late notice about the schools being closed. I know on Tuesday there had been no announcement as of 12:30 a.m. when I went to bed. I made a special effort to check the Grosse Pointe Board of Education's Web site and there was no mention at all of school being closed on Tuesday, Feb. 6. It wasn't until I woke up and checked the Web site again that I discovered the news.

Wouldn't it make more sense to have an automatic phone call or e-mail sent out?

I know my kids will think I'm an ogre for writing this letter to the editor, but so be it. And isn't it ironic that as I sit in my family room typing this letter, the neighborhood kids are all outside playing in the snow and cold air when they could be inside a warm school — learning.
DEAN DAUPHINAIS
City of Grosse Pointe

Thanks for help

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe and AAUW of Grosse Pointe conducted a political leadership workshop for high school girls on Friday, Jan. 26 at the Ark at St. Ambrose titled "Running and Winning."

The first annual workshop was well attended by students from Grosse Pointe North and South. Dr. Suzanne Klein, su-

perintendent of the Grosse Pointe Schools, encouraged the students to participate in the annual event and enthusiastically supported the event now and for the future.

In spite of the weather, yet contributing to the successful event, the following elected officials are commended for their time and efforts by sharing their experiences in politics with the young women: Justice Maura Corrigan, Supreme Court of Michigan; Kym L. Worthy, Wayne County prosecutor; State Senator Martha Scott; State Representative Pan Godchaux; Cassandra Ulbrich, State Board of Education; Municipal Judge Lynne A. Pierce, Grosse Pointe Woods and Shores; Jean Weipert, Grosse Pointe councilman; Therese Joseph, Grosse Pointe Farms councilman; Vicki Granger, Grosse Pointe Woods councilman; Cheryl Costantino, Harper Woods councilman; and Grosse Pointe Board of Education members: Joan Dindoffer, Angela Kennedy and Alice Kosinski.

They provided their personal view of politics and encouraged the students to consider a career in politics.

CHRISTINA SCHLITT
Vice President, League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe

Fight moratorium and Proposal A

To the Editor:

In response to "pop-up" tax moratorium:

The proposed "pop-up" tax moratorium is not the solution for the current property tax and schools funding crisis in Grosse Pointe (and the state of Michigan). A wholesale change to Michigan Proposal A is required.

I challenge the readers of this article to state one positive created as a result of Michigan

Proposal A in 1994 (other than allowing senior citizens to stay in their homes without significant increase in property tax, which could have been accomplished through focused tax credits or rebates for senior citizens only).

The "pop-up" tax moratorium is not a good solution for the following reasons:

- ◆ Creates further "unequal taxation," which by most standards is illegal. Those "Proposal A'd" over the last 12 years will experience a diminished home value compared to their neighbors who have not been "Proposal A'd." If you are a home buyer, all else equal, would you purchase a home with property taxes of say \$5,500 or would you rather pay \$11,500 in taxes? Disparities like this exist in every neighborhood in Grosse Pointe. If you purchased a home in Grosse Pointe over the last 12 years, you could be selling your home against a neighbor with property taxes that are literally half the amount of yours. Which house would the buyer pay more for?

- ◆ Places more burden on the seller with an elevated real estate transfer tax. This is a tax amount due at closing that the seller often doesn't factor in to their finances.

- ◆ After the 18 month moratorium expires, what is our next trick? At the end of this moratorium, home sales will likely fall back off. Potential home buyers may sit back and wait for the next "incentive." It could become much like selling cars, customers will sit back and wait for the next rebate, incentive or low interest rate offer. This could be a slippery slope.

- ◆ What is the impact on school funding? Under Proposal A, nearly 100 percent of school funding comes from

See LETTERS, page 19A

Chill factor or just a snow job?

Charlie Brown would say "good grief," and I would agree. Yikes, we've just had another weather alert flash on our television screen, and the local Storm Team is advising us that we had better prepare for 1 to 2 inches of snow. Wow. Batten down the hatches; buy plenty of ice melt, and prepare for another school closing.

What could this mean to the average family? For starters, mom or dad will have to take a day off from work, unless a grandparent or sitter can be summoned or inconvenienced at the last minute. If there are too many snow days, vacation plans may have to be adjusted to accommodate make-up days at the end of the school year. The fallout from a school closing can wreak havoc with family scheduling if young

children are involved.

Just a few of the reasons we have been given for school cancellations are that the youngsters, which include babies up to 18 years of age, might get cold on the way to school. The crossing guards would most assuredly freeze, and it would just be a huge inconvenience to everyone to battle the elements for a mere education. At this point, I might suggest the education in self-confidence, discipline and the beauty of nature might outweigh what the student learned in a classroom that day. I might also note that, to my knowledge, no building problems were evident that would cause a reasonable school closing.

So, what did the kids think of the closings? What would we have thought at their ages? I just lucked out and didn't

have to take that test today; I can cruise the malls, the village or just hang out. Hooray, I'm going sledding or ice skating, not too cold for the fun things.

You knew you were going to hear the grandparent weighing in on how things were in my day. I went to Richard from kindergarten through the sixth grade. We lived six long blocks from school, and I can count on one hand how many times I was driven to school in seven years. Our parents gave us hot cereal to fortify our tough little bodies and layers of sweaters, mittens, galoshes, hats and scarves and sent us out the door.

We met our friends on the corner and groups of us played our way to Richard. There were snowball fights along the way and lots of giggling. When it rained, we splashed each

other and stomped in puddles along the way. We had a ball. We were the crossing guards, and it was a big honor. No adults supervised us. I would suggest if the welfare of the guards is an issue in the future, concerned parents could volunteer to be on hand to help or pass out cocoa.

To those who are responsible for these types of decisions, I would strongly suggest they take another look and see the bigger picture. Let's allow the children to be kids and experience what kids do. Heaven knows we are blessed with fairly temperate climes in this part of the country. If a child has a particular need for transportation, fine; there are always exceptions. But to close an entire system down? Ridiculous! I wonder what the people in Oswego County, N.Y., would think of us.

I SAY By Beth Quinn

Nice to know versus need to know



Monday, Feb. 5, will be fondly remembered by thousands of Grosse Pointe Public School students. For the first time in years, they had a day off due to inclement weather.

Since most of you reading this are Grosse Pointers, I don't have to explain the reasons why our public school students rarely get a chance to experience the beloved snow day that many of their counterparts in the rest of state are lucky enough to have at least once a year.

I can remember past winters when my little boys would peer wide-eyed out the window during major snowstorms.

"Do you think we'll have a snow day tomorrow?" they would ask with the hope re-

served for only the young and naive.

I felt badly when I would have to answer, "Probably not," knowing that mothers in other school districts would get to say, "Most likely."

I would tell my boys to pray for a major ice storm that snaps tree limbs and topples power lines if they wanted school to be canceled.

That's why I, like many Grosse Pointers, was totally surprised our public school administrators deemed conditions last week warranted schools be closed for not one but two consecutive days.

Both my husband and I wanted to see the reactions of our two sons to the news that for the first time in five years they get to sleep in.

We knocked gingerly on our oldest son's bedroom door and peeked our heads inside. We heard a growl coming from a twisted mound of sheets, blankets and comforters.

"You don't have school today," my husband said.

"What?" the mound grunted.

"School's been called off today because it's so cold outside," I said.

"Great," was the response. "Well, I'll say 'goodbye' now because I'll be away today," my husband said.

"I'll be at work," I said. "I'll be sleeping," the mound said.

When we told the news to our younger son, who on most school days practically needs ice water thrown on him to wake up, he immediately sat up and looked out his window expecting to see ice-laden trees and downed power lines.

Being one not to take anything at face value, he asked how we knew, as he peered outside for a second time in disbelief.

After he was confident we had the correct information from reputable sources, he happily went back to that far away place he calls sleep.

I have to admit if my husband had been away on a business trip that morning I would have been completely oblivious to the school closing and would

have sent my children to school.

Figuring that there are other parents like me who don't listen to the radio or watch TV in the morning, I said to my husband, "I bet some people won't know about the closing and will send their kids to school."

Sure enough, a few minutes later I answered a phone call from the mound's friend looking to hitch a ride because his car wouldn't start.

"You don't have school today," I told him.

"What?" he said. "You don't have school today because it's so cold," I said.

"No way! You're kidding me," he said. "I can't believe it."

"No, I'm not kidding, you don't have school today," I said. "Turn on the TV or go online to check."

"This is great! Thanks, Mrs. Quinn," he said as he hung up.

While I felt great hearing the joy in his voice, I felt badly because I just knew other kids would soon be braving the cold for naught.

Sure enough, the man who

drove my husband to the airport that morning told him he had just seen a father drop two children off at Maire Elementary School. As the father was pulling away the children were met at the school's door by a staff member who obviously told them school was canceled. The kids immediately turned around, and started running, yelling and waving their hands trying to get their father to stop. The father saw what he most likely thought were his children's demonstrative goodbyes and waved back as he sped off.

As funny as these little anecdotes are, I am dismayed school administrators chose not to use the automatic telephone fan out or robo-call to alert families that school was canceled. Other districts, such as St. Clair Shores, did. It was my understanding the purpose of this computerized phone tree was to communicate important information in a timely manner.

When I read in last week's paper the school system chose

not to use robo-call to save a whopping \$450, I had to scratch my head. If you ask me, spending roughly 5 cents per pupil is a very cost-effective way to communicate emergency information to families.

In the past, we have received robo-calls from the school district for much less important and timely messages. We were reminded to vote and invited to school social functions. Just a few weeks ago, the principal of my son's middle school sent out an automated phone message alerting parents grades were given out that day.

While I commend the principal for wanting to communicate with his constituents, I am angry as a parent and taxpayer that robo-call wasn't used when we really needed it.

If given the choice of the school district spending money on the nice to know news about report cards, versus the need to know news about school closings, I'll take the need to know any day.

And I sure bet that Maire father would agree with me.

STREETWISE By Renee Landuyt

Should Central Library be expanded or torn down?

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 e-mail to editor@grossepointenews.com



'Neither one. Renovation would be the best.'

MAX MARL
City of Grosse Pointe



'I don't think they should be tearing down the building just for the sake of building something new.'

MARYBETH MITCHELL
City of Grosse Pointe



'Why not keep some of the more historical buildings in Grosse Pointe? Why tear it all down?'

MONIQUE CHASE
Eastpointe



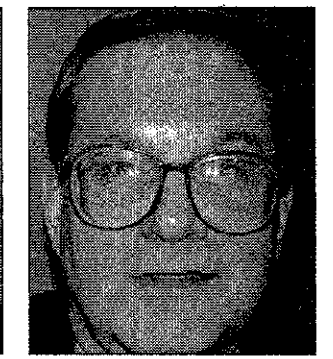
'I think expanding it would be the best idea and good for the community.'

SHIRLEY O'SHEA
Grosse Pointe Shores



'I think it should be expanded because it would be preserving part of what Grosse Pointe is and keeping the older building around would still allow for growth.'

DONIA SHETLER
Grosse Pointe Woods



'It's a tough call. In either case our taxes will go up, so my vote is whichever is the most economical for the city.'

GEORGE NEGRI III
Grosse Pointe Farms

FYI By Ben Burns

A moving experience for McMillan Bros.



It took 300 semi-trucks to move McMillan Bros. Inc. furniture from Royal Oak to Warren on 11 Mile.

The four brothers from the Grosse Pointes continue to fly in the face of the trend toward big-box chain stores.

Their billboard at I-696 and Hoover touts their motto: "Taking Care of Unfurnished Business."

In late January, 300 friends, family members and customers turned out for the grand opening of the store that is twice the size of the Royal Oak facility.

The McMillan formula for competition is to offer personalized service. They will go to a customer's site and offer ad-

vice on space planning, design, carpet and wall coverings. Their senior designer, Linda A. Benson, will even do a feng shui analysis of a customer's location. (Feng shui is defined on the Internet as the Chinese art or practice based on the belief that positioning furniture in certain configurations can have a positive or negative energy flow.)

"Many of our clients have become long-term friends," explains Steve McMillan, a past president of the Grosse Pointe Rotary who lives in the City. All the owners — Joe, Steve, Marty and Tim — have lived in the Pointes for almost half a century. Joe, of the City, is a past president of the Detroit Rotary and a past president of the Detroit Athletic Club; and Marty is president of the Royal Oak Lions Club.

"We strongly believe in giving back to the community, and we strongly encourage our employees to be active with charitable organizations,"

Steve said, explaining the McMillan philosophy. "It's been said that people who volunteer are happier, healthier and more productive. Most of our employees are active with something."

Oh, there is one other McMillan who works at the store: Ann McMillan Salinger, but she lives in Beverly Hills. Perhaps she wanted to escape all those brothers.

Underdogs

During the Clinton I administration, Bill was asked by a 17-year-old woman on MTV, the question: "Boxers or briefs?" Jonathan Alter, a Newsweek columnist reported that after expressing "momentary surprise," Bill Clinton answered, "usually briefs."

The question came up again when 2008 presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, a son of Michigan, made his first policy speech to the Economic Club of Detroit last week.

Since all the questions pre-

sented at the Cobo Hall event were written out, that one was probably scripted for the former Massachusetts governor.

Club board member John Rakolta reportedly said something like, "Here is a last question, boxers or briefs?"

Romney responded that he would go with former GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole's answer: "Depends."

B-ball rumor

The rumor circulated that Chris Webber, the newest Detroit Piston, had purchased a lakeside home in the Pointes. When I asked several real estate sales agents whether they had heard anything about it, figuring they would know the inside info, all said they hadn't heard an inkling of the tale. However, all of them volunteered that they would be happy to show houses to the Fab Five alum.

However, when I talked to one of the most senior real estate folks in the Pointes, Paris DiSanto, he confirmed that Webber had purchased a Windmill Pointe lakefront manse a year ago.

B-ball fact

Adam Hess, 25, the best basketball player to come out of South in decades, is playing the professional round ball game in Germany.

The Detroit News' David Goricki reported that Hess, the son of Doug and Kathy Hess, who graduated in 1999, spent a year at Eastern Michigan and then starred academically and athletically at William & Mary. He is the leading scorer in the Bundesliga League with 22.3 points a game playing for the Artland Dragons of Quackenbrueck.

Hess still hopes to make the

NBA, Goricki reported Jan. 20. Hess shot 64 percent from the field and made 50 percent of his 3-point attempts playing for the Phoenix Suns during the NBA Summer League last year, but he wasn't offered a contract.

Hess plans to play in the NBA Summer League again this summer with hopes someone will pick him up in the fall.

Mort Crim

News out of Florida is that Mort Crim, a former Grosse Pointer and long-time local favorite as a WDIV Channel 4 anchor before he retired in the late '90s, is recovering from

colon cancer surgery and is completing a follow-up round of chemotherapy.

He told his anchor friend Carmen Harlan on air recently, "I have a couple days every 14 when I'm fatigued and just want to lie around, but the other 12, I'm normal."

Think good thoughts about Mort and his wife, Renee, two of the nicest people you would ever meet.

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



McMillan Bros. (and sister) at their new store's grand opening, from left Marty, Joe, Ann, Steve and Tim.

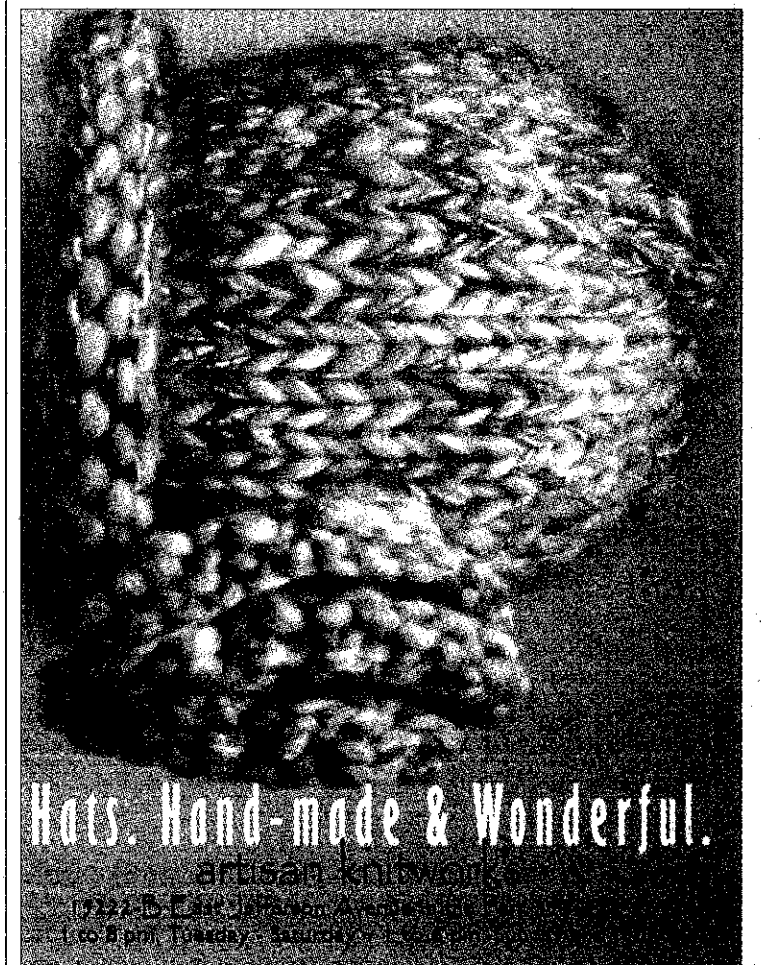




PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Expansion complete

The Kroger supermarket on Kercheval in the Village shopping district in the City of Grosse Pointe completed its expansion last week. Kroger moved into the former Bath & Body Works store on the corner of Notre Dame and Kercheval, adding 2,700 square feet to the supermarket. The expanded area will house beer, wine and soft drink products.

NAWBO awards night scheduled for mid-March

Farms' Perry-Mason to earn 'Giving Spirit Award'

The National Association of Women Business Owners Greater Detroit Chapter will honor the "Top 10 Michigan Business Women" Thursday, March 15, at its 13th annual awards luncheon.

The event will take place at Petruzzello's Banquet and Conference Center, 6950 Rochester, Troy.

Registration and exhibits open at 10 a.m., followed by the awards luncheon.

The following women will receive Top 10 Michigan Business Women awards:

◆ Marian Ilitch, Ilitch Holdings, Detroit, "Pinnacle Award"

◆ Ronia Kruse, OpTech, LLC, Detroit, "Diversity Champion Award"

◆ Lizabeth Ardisana, ASG Renaissance, Dearborn, "Rainmaker Award"

◆ Anne Doyle, Anne Doyle Strategies for Leaders, Auburn Hills, "Breakthrough Award"

◆ Elizabeth M. Blondy, Canine to Five/Detroit Dog Daycare, Inc., Detroit, "Up and Coming Award"

◆ Karen Smith Kienbaum, Karen Smith Kienbaum and Associates, P.C., Detroit, "Words of Wisdom Award"

◆ Lynda DePlaunty Earhart, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services, Pontiac Red Tape Buster Award

◆ Lisa Stern, Big Communications, Inc., Ferndale, "Warrior Award"

◆ Joanne Ulnick, Ducker Worldwide, Troy Global Business Award

◆ Gail Perry-Mason, Money Matters for Youth, Grosse Pointe Farms, "Giving Spirit Award"

In addition, the group will recognize the leadership of Debbie Dingell, vice chairman, General Motors Foundation and executive director, public affairs and community relations with the "Greater Good Award."

This special award recognizes a woman or man whose activities and actions have a lasting impact on the quality of life and business in metro Detroit, southeast Michigan and the state of Michigan.

National City Bank and Corp! magazine are the sponsors for this event. There will also be a business-to-business showcase with exhibitors. Tickets are \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members for the luncheon.

Table sponsorships and program ads are also available. To register, or for more information, visit nawbogdc.org or call (313) 961-4748.

The group will also hold a business forum about taxes Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Troy Community Center.

BUSINESS NEWS By Toni DiClemente

President spreads news

Hello Members; our 2007 newsletter is out. Please take a moment to read what we are working on. Everything we are doing is for your benefit only.

If you have any questions, e-mail us back or call Lucy at (313) 884-1045.

Thanks for your support, Toni DiClemente, president of the Grosse Pointe Business and Professional Association of Mack Avenue.

GP group plans activities

Coming up with new ways to promote the Mack Avenue business district is the main focus of the Grosse Pointe Business and Professional Association.

Bringing in new members also tops the list, according to association president Toni DiClemente.

This year, the voluntary board is already brainstorming "Professional Day" to recognize health-related businesses

that operate on Mack. While still in the conceptual stage, DiClemente said the idea is to hold the event in conjunction with the Grosse Pointe Presbyterian Church's blood drive planned for Thursday, May 17.

"Retail businesses fill Mack Avenue, but we would like to focus on the professional dentists, doctors, chiropractors, optometrists, and dermatologists -- and even spas are all welcomed," she said. "We would like to have the city of Grosse Pointe Woods and our professional members pulling together for another community event focusing on the health of our community."

While details are being worked out, DiClemente said everything is in place for the 10th annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 31.

"We have in the past filled 3,000 to 4,000 eggs for this event. The turnout of families is overwhelming," she said, adding up to 800 children participate annually.

DiClemente said business

owners can lend a hand by donating candy, small toys, coloring books, bubbles, toothbrushes and toothpaste as well as monetary contributions.

In the past, some businesses have given away coupons, she said. Those wishing to help can send an e-mail to gpbusinessmack@yahoo.com or call (313) 884-1045. DiClemente said new members are always welcome.

"If you're not involved with an organization that puts you in touch with other businesses and lets your business stand out from others with special promotions, then join us," she said.

"We need your help with planning new promotions and ideas. We can't do this without people who have a business on Mack Avenue."

The group meets at 7 a.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the Lake Front Room of Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall.

For more information on the association, call (313) 884-1045 or e-mail at gpbusinessmack@yahoo.com.

AARP offers free tax assistance to seniors

AARP Tax-Aide offers free tax counseling and tax preparation assistance throughout Michigan for people of middle and low incomes, with special attention given to those aged 60 and up.

The community service program will run through April 15, the deadline for filing 2006 tax returns.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are trained in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service and offer help with personal income tax returns at locations throughout Michigan.

"Many Michigan residents are unaware of the possible credits that are extended even to those residents who do not owe taxes," Cal Strom, Tax-Aide state coordinator, said. "The Michigan

Homestead Credit and the Michigan Home Heating Credit forms can be completed even if no state income tax is owed.

Additionally, millions of dollars in credits go unclaimed in Michigan when qualified residents fail to claim the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit.

"AARP Tax-Aide volunteers encourage residents to make appointments at the nearest AARP Tax-Aide center and have their individual circumstances assessed. Volunteers will be glad to address individual tax situations."

All AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are IRS certified and many tax centers have e-filing capability. Where available, e-filing is free, as are the services of the AARP Tax-

Aide volunteers.

Last year, more than 932 Tax-Aide volunteers filed more than 59,966 federal and state tax returns at 218 sites across Michigan, including senior centers and libraries. The Tax-Aide service is available for homebound individuals when possible.

For more information about Tax-Aide and locations of Tax-Aide sites in Michigan, call toll-free at 1-888-AARP-NOW (1-888-227-7669) or visit the AARP Web site at aarp.org/taxaide.

A list of sites by county is also available through the Michigan AARP office (1-866-227-7448; miaarp@aarp.org; the Michigan Department of Treasury and the Michigan State University Extension Service Web site.

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PEOPLE



HEIDI MUCHERIE is the new executive director for Community Legal Resources (CLR).

She was promoted from pro bono program manager. With a background in policy analysis, Mucherie has been involved in CLR's advocacy efforts in land redevelopment and transportation issues with the city of Detroit. She received her master's degree in public administration from Wayne State University and was an urban planner with the city of Detroit's planning commission. Mucherie is a Grosse Pointe Park resident.



JUDI ZIELKE, R.N., CDE, has joined Rochester-based Medical Network One as director of Diabetes Self Management Programs.

As director, Zielke will lead Medical Network One's community-based diabetes self management programs which are designed to enhance the health and quality of life for individuals with diabetes. Prior to joining Medical Network One, Zielke, a certified diabetes educator, was a diabetes nurse educator at Mount Clemens General Hospital for more than 10 years. Her experience in the diabetes education field is extensive and includes facilitating diabetes support groups, private counseling to teach diabetes self management, and creating and delivering continuing education programs for nurses and dietitians. Additionally, she has served as a columnist for the American Diabetes Association's magazine, "Diabetes Forecast" and the Macomb Daily newspaper. She is co-author of the book, "Diabetes Management in the School: a Toolkit." She is past president of the Michigan Organization of Diabetes Educators and a member of the American Diabetes Association. She holds a nursing degree from the Harper Hospital School of Nursing in Detroit and is currently pursuing her BSN through the University of Phoenix. Zielke is a Grosse Pointe Woods resident.



DOUGLASS FOX was recently elected to the position of vice president of the Detroit Auto Dealers

Association (DADA), one of the nation's largest dealer organizations. The announcement was made by DADA Executive Vice President Rod Alberts.

Fox is president of Ann Arbor Automotive, which represents five exclusive import franchises in Ann Arbor, including Ann Arbor Acura, Hyundai, Kia, Mitsubishi and Nissan. He is actively involved on both automotive related boards and committees and in the community. In addition to his DADA board position, Fox is a member of the Regional Acura Triad Advertising Board, the Hyundai National Dealer Council, the Mitsubishi Dealer Council, the Michigan Automobile Dealers Association, the Auto Dealers of Michigan State Legislative Board and the American International Automobile Dealers Association. He also serves on the Scio Township Development Board. He is a graduate of the University of Arizona, and began his career in sales and management at Stark Hickey Ford in 1972. After moving to Wood Motors in 1982, where he oversaw a multi-line dealership, Fox purchased his Acura franchise in 1990.

Since then, the franchise has been the Detroit market leader 10 of the past 16 years. Fox acquired the Hyundai franchise in 1992, Mitsubishi in 1999, Nissan in 2001 and Kia in 2005. Fox is a Grosse Pointe Farms resident.

◆ ◆ ◆

VERNE C. HAMPTON II, of Dickinson Wright PLLC, has received national attention in "The Best Lawyers in American 2007" and "Michigan Super Lawyers 2006."

He is a consulting member of Dickinson Wright's Detroit office and is part chairman of the Business Law section of the State Bar of Michigan, a panel chairman of the Attorney Discipline Board and an arbitrator with the National Association of Securities Dealers. Hampton is a Grosse Pointe resident.

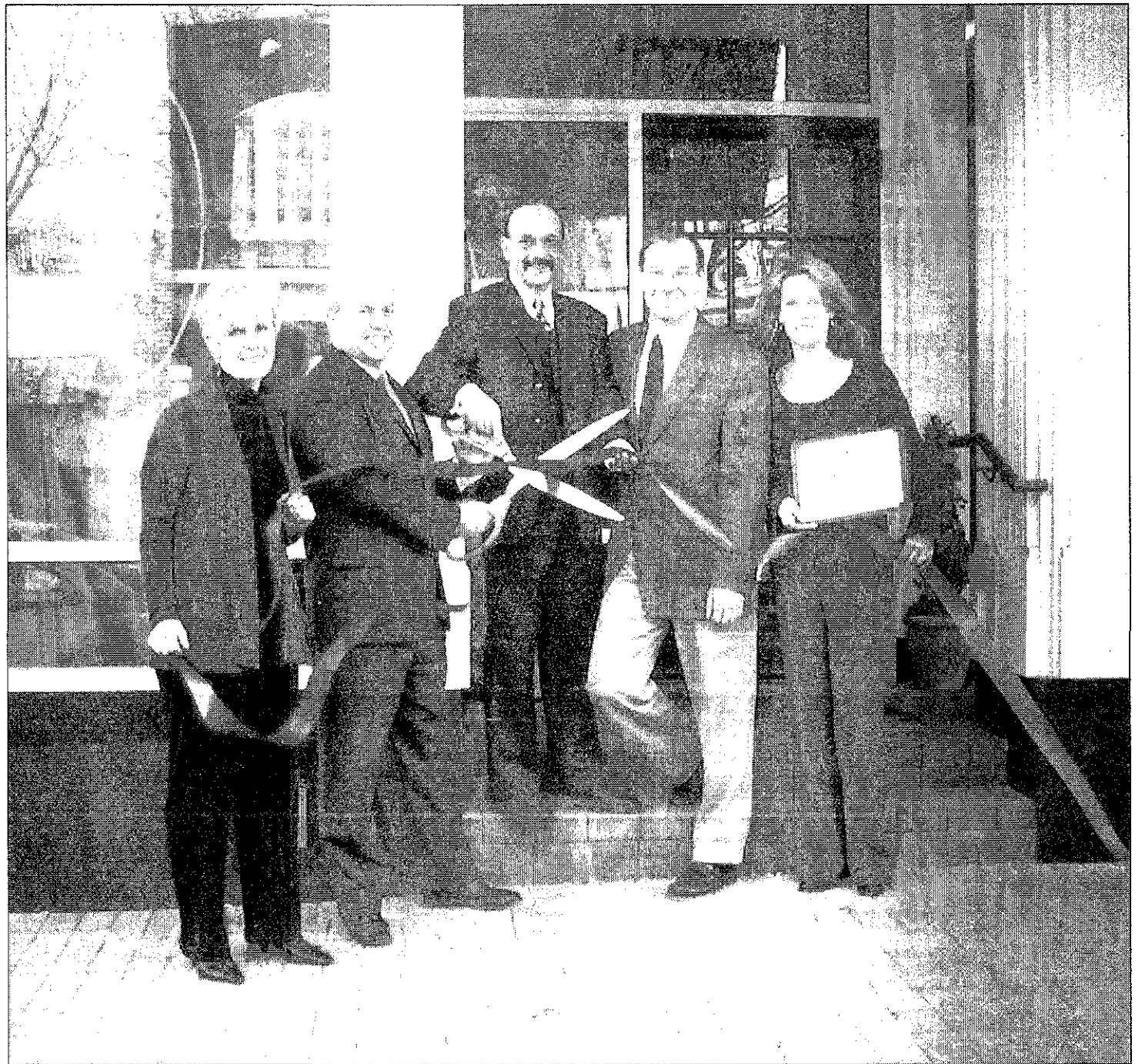


PHOTO BY BOB ST. JOHN

Green with envy

Greenhouse Salon reopened its doors after undergoing several renovations the past few months. The salon, located at 117 Kercheval, opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week. Participating in the ceremony were from left, Mary Huebner, Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce executive director; Louis Theros, Farms Mayor Pro-Tem; Tom Biondo, salon owner; Shane Reeside, Farms city manager; and Jenny Boettcher, Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce director of member services.

Funds spur projects

Grosse Pointe Park residents in the Mack and Jefferson and Wayburn and Beaconsfield area will receive protection from flooding and savings for water treatment.

Chris Reimel, director of public service, will use some of the city's CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds from Wayne County to separate storm and sanitary drains in the alleys of the four-block area that have not been separated.

The funds for the drain project total \$45,000 and another \$5,000 will be used for street enhancement. Other CDBG funds (\$22,000) will go to SOC

(Services for Older Citizens) to assist with minor home repairs, and a modular bus for rail services and Access on Wheels. The funds are estimated and CDBG grants must identify and benefit community development or housing needs for low and moderate-income residents.

— Bob St. John

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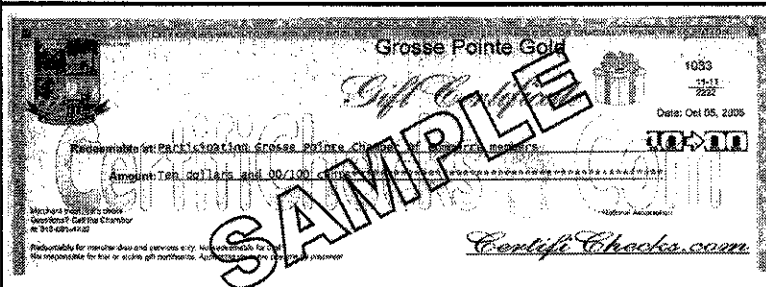
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To the families and the community we serve,

In the coming months, a transition in ownership is anticipated for the hospitals and other facilities that comprise Bon Secours Cottage Health Services.

Although the Sisters of Bon Secours have found it necessary to leave Michigan and concentrate their efforts on the East Coast, the Bon Secours Cottage Medical Staff wants to assure you that we as a group are deeply committed to the mission and legacy they began here nearly 100 years ago. We will honor their tradition of providing "good help" by continuing to serve the people of this community with exemplary health care, right here on the Eastside, for many, many years to come.

Sincerely,

The Bon Secours Cottage Medical Staff

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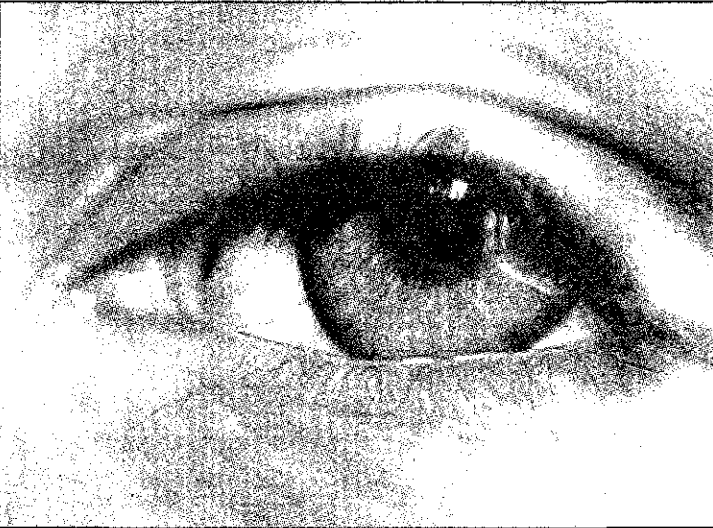
NEWS II

PUBLIC SAFETY

Hit and run

Wrong way driver on Lakeshore arrested for leaving crash scene **PAGE 20A**

13-15A SCHOOLS | 16A OBITUARIES | 17A AUTOMOTIVE



Art show through Sunday

Award-winning artwork by students at Grosse Pointe North and South high schools and Brownell Middle School is currently showing in the Southeast Michigan Regional Exhibition of the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. The exhibit is open through 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at the College for Creative Studies, Walter B. Ford II Building, 201 East Kirby, Detroit. Hours are weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and weekends noon to 5 p.m. Among works displayed are, left, "My Eye," a charcoal drawing that earned Nadiya Nacorda a Special Award and tuition for a class at College for Creative Studies. At right, Stephanie Semmler won a Gold Key Portfolio award for her charcoal drawing, "Untitled." Brownell students working with teacher Margaret Rose won two Certificates and four Silver Keys. North students working with teachers Sue Forrest, Peter Signorello, and Robert Thies won 11 Certificates and nine Silver Keys. South students working with teachers Kit Aro, Marcy Carbone, Barbara Gruenwald, and Tom Szmrecsanyi won 15 Certificates, eight Silver Keys, eight Gold Keys and one Gold Key Portfolio.

Maire readers seek book sponsors

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Maire Elementary's participation in the March of Dimes Reading Champions. Since 1998, the Maire community has raised nearly \$60,000 for the March of Dimes through reading. Last year Maire students read more than 8,500 books/chapters during the month of March.

February 28 kicks off the 2007 reading champions competition during which children seek sponsors and read as many books as they can during March, which is National Reading Month. Grosse Pointe Park author Rob Lyle will be the keynote speaker at the kick-off assembly. Lyle created Dream

Publishing to teach children about understanding health, acceptance and tolerance. His interactive picture books have been found to be fun and emotionally appealing to children. After reading an article on Lyle in a local magazine, Maire student William TomHon thought it would be a great match to have an author who writes about children with

physical challenges kick off an activity that raises money for children born with those challenges. The mission of March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth physical challenges kick off an activity that raises money for children born with those challenges. The mission of March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth

See BOOKS, page 14A

Pointes beat language standards

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Tougher state standards for high school English language arts education have a familiar ring around Grosse Pointe schools. "A review of new state guidelines revealed (that) the current Grosse Pointe curriculum, approved in 1998, was ahead of the state," according to an analysis by Susan Allan, assistant superintendent of curriculum. New state criteria, being studied by Pointe school board trustees, must become part of high school teaching in time for students to face revised state-standardized tests beginning in the spring of 2009. Most objectives outlined in a 2006 state curriculum update already are in place in the district. Administrators suspect the state went to school on the community. "We are gratified to see that a lot of literature the state chose to work on was literature from our curriculum," said Christine Kaiser, district language arts curriculum specialist. "Although I can't be sure about

it, when the project manager from the state called me and said, 'What literature do you use in your district?' it is interesting that these titles have become state models." Kaiser has been working on curriculum improvements as one of 27 members of a language arts committee. Members include administrators, teachers and parents. "The committee again decided to exceed state expectations," Allan said. District representatives proposed higher standards for student writing, grammar and advanced placement. A genuinely new aspect to state language arts revisions calls for students to widen their world and introspective views by employing skills derived through studying literature. This enhanced goal goes beyond the Pointes' existing standard, which sets literary analysis as to itself. "Grosse Pointe has focused on literary analysis," Kaiser said. "The state has taken it one step farther (and assumes) kids can analyze literature."

See Language, page 14A



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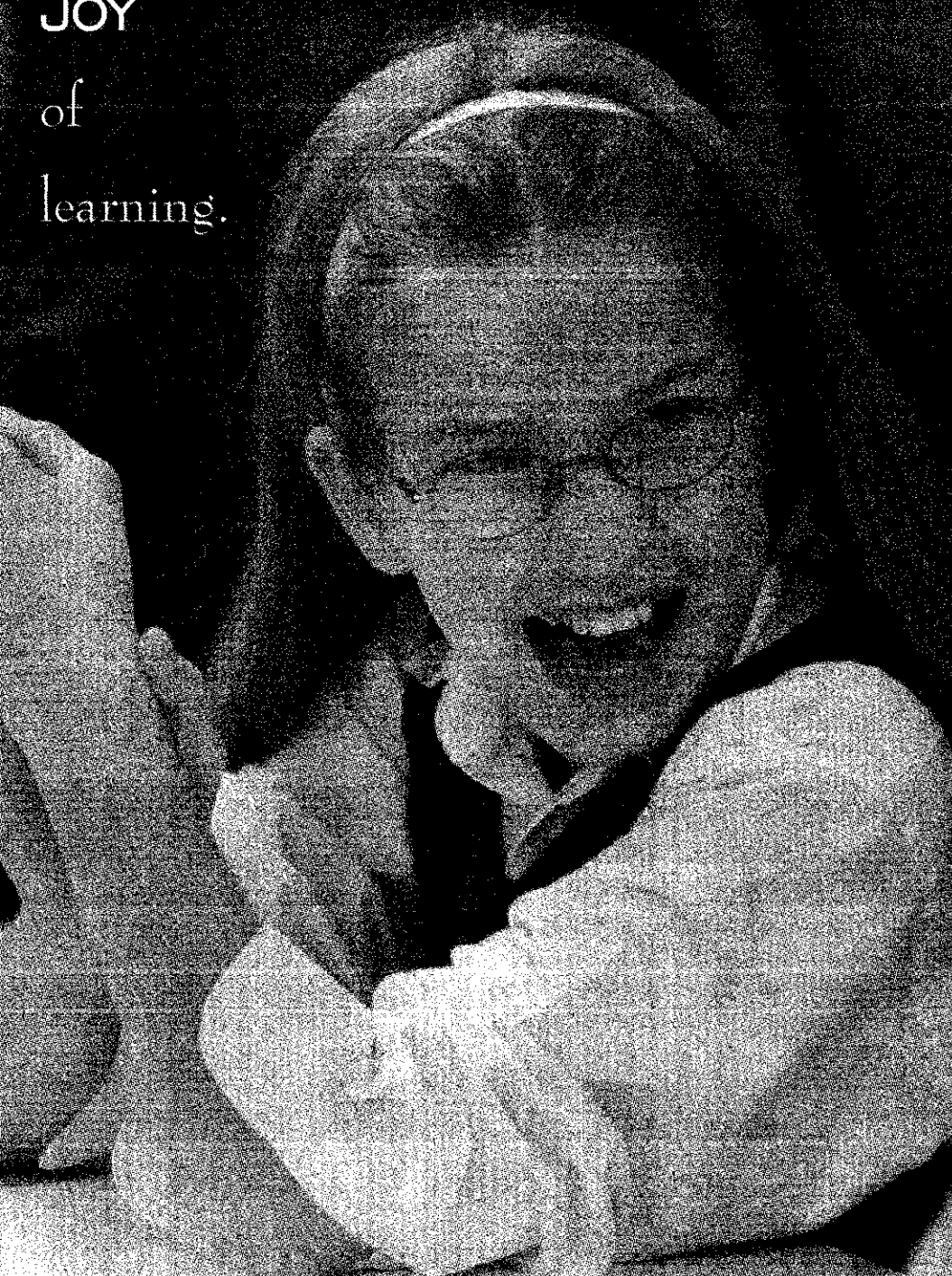



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Manager named for pool construction

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Final costs for construction of a 12-lane swimming pool at South High are expected next month.

Costs have been a major part of recent discussions between representatives of the Grosse Pointe public school district and Barton Malow Co., which was retained as project construction manager.

"They had preliminary cost estimates and cost projections," said Chris Fenton, district assistant superintendent of business affairs. "They're going back and meeting with the architect over the next couple weeks to bring us a final cost estimate."

Cost estimates have hovered around \$10.7 million for a large natatorium to replace the school's original indoor pool dating to the late 1920s and rated too short for modern high school competitive standards.

Construction will be paid from a \$63 million bond that voters approved in 2002 and which is due for refinancing at a savings forecast at \$1.8 million.

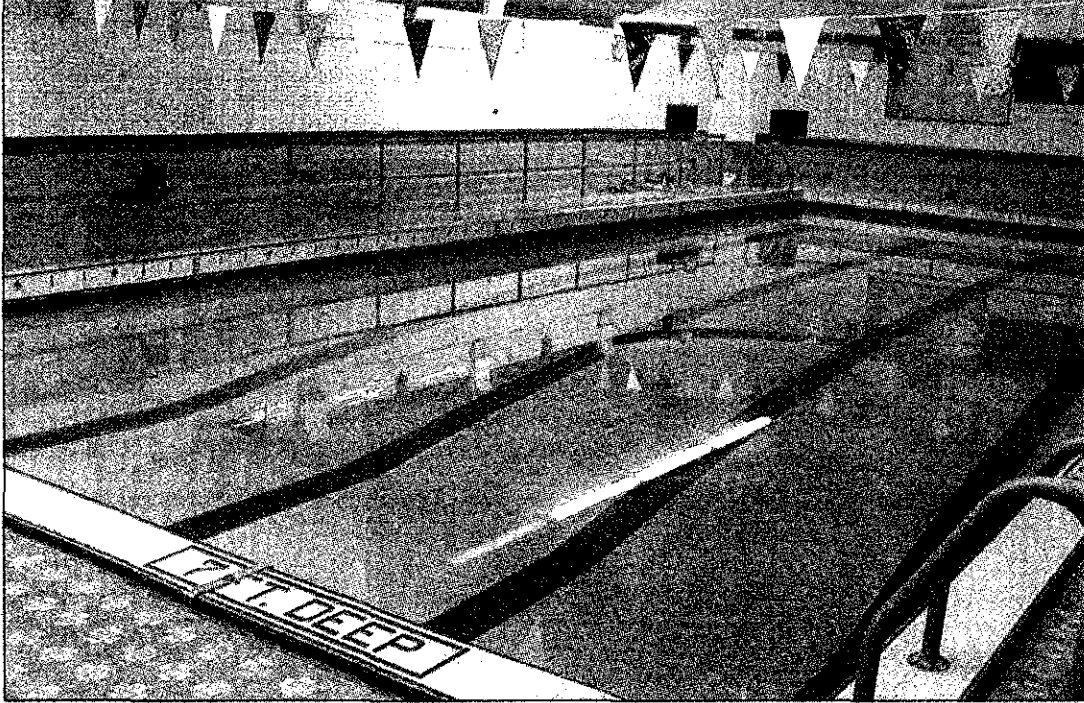
At last count, about \$300,000 in private funds had been raised for pool construction, Fenton said last fall.

The forthcoming structure has been designed by architect Ehresman & Assoc. of Troy to match the main school building's neo-Georgian brick and stone column facade. Features include lanes 25 yards long, a diving well, gymnasium, locker rooms and seating to accommodate an estimated 400 viewers.

Ground breaking on the natatorium is expected this spring to replace the school's communication and technology building, a mainly subterranean and bunker-like facility on Fisher near St. Paul containing television studios and rooftop tennis courts.

Following at least 15 months of construction, the pool and related facilities will be used for expanded academic and competitive athletics, including expanded girls' sports and possibly water polo. The South Blue Devils swim team will no longer have to practice across town at North High's larger pool and would likely host regional and district meets.

Elimination of tennis courts atop the technology building isn't expected to cause disruption. The courts are in disrepair



South High's original swimming pool will be replaced by a larger facility to supplant the low-slung communication technology building on Fisher.



PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

and seldom used. Members of the South tennis team will continue using courts at the Neighborhood Club.

Barton Malow submitted a fee of \$673,298 to manage construction.

District officials opted to hire a construction manager as opposed to a traditional general contractor.

"I don't think there's a world of difference between the two," said Board President Brendan Walsh. "However, two things convinced me that construction manager was the way to go. One is you have a better up-front estimate of what the project will cost. That's particularly important here. As we wind down the bond, we have to know what we're in for before we award bids."

He said the second reason was to avoid an inherent pitfall of dealing with general contractors.

"A general contractor with a fixed bid can be positioned as a fixed benefit," Walsh said. "However, that sets you up in an adversarial relationship with your general contractor because he's going to find any possible way to maximize his profit by reducing cost. Who knows what that general contractor does to derive those cost savings. Whereas, a construction manager is an owner advocate and passes on those savings to you."

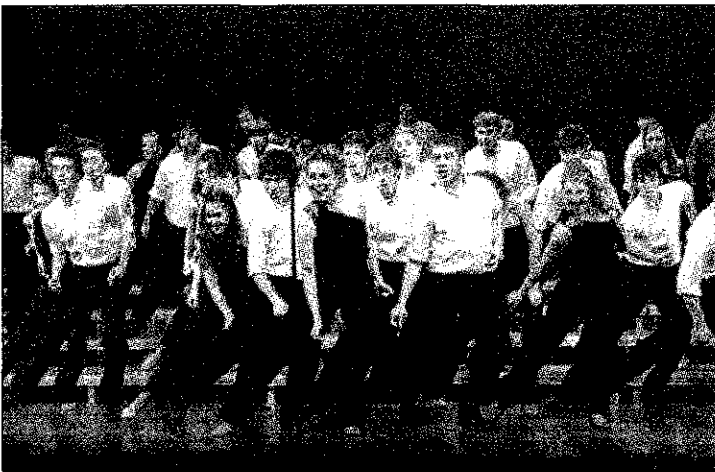
Barton Malow is based in Southfield and has a professional staff of more than 1,500, according to company statements. Annual revenues exceed \$1 billion.

As construction manager, the firm will provide pre-design and preconstruction planning plus field management.

"Depending upon the options our clients choose, we can hold trade contracts and guarantee the final price," said Anne-Marie Poltorak, company public relations manager.

She said construction managers fit well into projects that overlap, have an aggressive construction schedule and require full preconstruction services.

See POOL, page 15A



Concert benefits Showstoppers

It's a story out of a 1930s matinee starring Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland: high school crooners and hoofers hope to strut their stuff in an out-of-state talent show but can't afford the trip. What to do? "Golly guys and gals, let's put on a show and raise money by selling tickets!" Receipts from a Grosse Pointe South Choir "Showstoppers Review Benefit Concert" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10 will support the group's trip to Showstoppers National Show Choirs Competition in Orlando, Fla. The choir is also scheduled to host the national competition at Walt Disney World's Epcot Center, as well as compete, March 14-18. The benefit concert will be at the Grosse Pointe Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. Tickets range from \$25 (main floor center with an invitation to attend an afterglow at the center) to \$5. Tickets are available at Posterity: A Gallery in the Village of the City of Grosse Pointe. Featured performances will be numbers for Showstoppers from the South choirs. Special guests will be select choirs from Brownell and Pierce Middle Schools. At right, Carrie Fisk, Jane Kellet and Grace Denton will be part of the girls group traveling to competition. At left, Ali Long, dance captain for the Grosse Pointe South High School Pointe Singers, leads the group in preparations for the benefit concert.

LANGUAGE: Setting the standard

Continued from page 13A

Now we want them to show how it's relevant to their lives."

New curricula will build upon increasingly sophisticated levels of literary interpretation — including the writer's purpose, technique and language resources — which students will apply to broader aspects of their lives.

Objectives, grade-by-grade will be:

- ◆ Grade nine: interrelationships and self reliance. Students will be asked, essentially, how a text of literature

makes a difference, if any, in their lives and how literature helps them understand relationships.

For instance, ninth-graders are assigned to read "To Kill a Mockingbird" as an anchor text to which other works, from novels, nonfiction, editorials, song lyrics or pieces of art, are related.

Kaiser said the goal is for students to "find relevance in their own lives from this literature and the linking texts."

- ◆ Grade 10: critical responses and stance; or, how the study of literature helps students judge the work and actions of others, and how they make decisions in their own life based on what they read and observe.
- ◆ "That's a good fit with the American Lit course," Kaiser

said. "The recommended text for that from the state are the same texts we now use in American Lit."

- ◆ Grade 11: Transformational thinking; or how students can apply what they've learned about literature and language to set relevant goals in life. Or, as Kaiser put it, "How can I synthesize all the things I've read."
- ◆ Grade 12: Leadership qualities; or how students can identify and fulfill their responsibilities to themselves, family and society.

Committee members are recommending five improvements that go beyond new state goals.

Kaiser, speaking on behalf of the committee, recommended that students be schooled in how to approach written por-

tions of standardized tests, including the Michigan Merit Examination and WorkKeys.

"When you write for a test, you write in a very different way than you do for a classroom assignment," Kaiser said. "We want to ensure that our students were ready to write in a test-taking genre."

Administrators recommended teaching composition for test-taking, using state and national tests as models for impromptu writing.

The same goes for reading exams.

"We think if we use this throughout the year, our kids will be in good stead to take those exams," she said.

Other additions concern specific goals for grammar, usage and standards for advance placement English.

BOOKS: Reading for a good cause

Continued from page 13A

defects and infant mortality.

People interested in contributing to Maire's March of Dimes Reading Champions can contact the school office at (313) 432-4300.

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School board weaves more Web upgrades

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

A communications blitzkrieg is being launched from public school headquarters.

"Our communications mantra this year is 'push,'" said Alice Kosinski, Grosse Pointe school board trustee and liaison to the district communications committee.

District representatives are taking to the air to keep the community informed about current events.

"We have a new program on Grosse Pointe Educational Access Channel 20 called 'School Talk' produced by our local TV production classes," Kosinski said.

Rebecca Fannon, the district communications relations specialist, hosts the half-hour chat-o-rama airing daily at 11 a.m.

and 7 p.m.

Fannon interviews residents, students and school employees. Recent guests included Al Diver and Tim Bearden, principals of South and North high schools, respectively, who outlined ongoing research into cost-saving alternatives to the current high school class schedule.

Other guests discussed full and half-day kindergarten options and registration. Another program featured Lee Warras, district executive director of curriculum, assessment, instruction and technology.

Warras spoke about a potential collaboration with Wayne State University to develop an elementary school program that would enhance student understanding of the Chinese language and culture.

"It will be either a lunchtime,

after school (or) summer program," Warras said. "It's an introduction to what we hope will be something bigger and greater. Wayne State will provide volunteers (and) training."

He said there would be no initial cost to the district.

"The Chinese government has given Wayne State a considerable sum to get started," Warras said. "We think it's the program to get our feet wet with Chinese language and culture."

Warras addressed plans to institute foreign language instruction in fourth and fifth grades.

"Last year parents said, among their top three choices of special subjects, foreign language was right up there," Warras said. "There's a great deal of interest in moving this forward."

The topic isn't new. In 1997, the then-board of education approved an elementary curriculum featuring foreign language.

"Unfortunately two things have gotten in the way," Warras said. "One is finances. The second is scheduling. We don't want to take away from reading, writing and arithmetic to bring in foreign language."

A change to elementary school block scheduling removed the scheduling problem. Administrators determined they could draw time from library instruction for foreign language.

"School Talk" doesn't end with the airing of each episode.

"Interviews are transcribed and posted to the Web, where we eventually will have a 'frequently asked questions' section," Kosinski said.

'Foreign language was right up there.'

LEE WARRAS,
District administrator

Efforts to beef up the district Web site, gpschools.org, are ongoing. Changes and additions, such as posting board meeting agendas and related material, are credited in part to public participation in a recent online survey.

"We had many suggestions for improvement as well as compliments on improvements we've already made over the last year," Kosinski said. "It's a high-tech world and Grosse Pointe wants to lead the pack."

She encouraged district residents to contact the board by e-

mail at schoolboard@gpschools.org; by letter to 389 St. Clair, City of Grosse Pointe, MI, 48230; or by telephone at (313) 432-3004.

Fannon said the next edition of "School Talk" will include an interview with Diane Strickler, executive director of the family center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods.

Fannon said she plans "a quick blurb on the TV production program, and the usual chat with the superintendent (Suzanne Klein)."

Fannon encourages questions for her and Klein. Questions can be submitted to rebecca.fannon@gpschools.org or regular mail to district headquarters at the address given above. For schedules, check the district Web site, gpschools.org and seek School Talk.

Changes due to middle school

A new curriculum for the district's three middle schools has been approved for implementation next academic year.

Starting with the 2007-08 calendar, algebra will be incorporated into lower grade levels in accordance with tougher statewide mathematics and computer standards and high school graduation requirements set by Michigan education officials.

Comprehensive math changes range from sixth-graders tackling algebraic variables, formulas and simple equations to teaching seventh- and eighth-graders computer skills and spreadsheets, according to Susan Allan, Grosse Pointe assistant superintendent of curriculum.

Foundation courses in math and reading that the district piloted last year for struggling students will be implemented at all three middle schools, Allan said.

Interactive software will offer students, such as seventh-graders dealing with proportional reasoning, online tutorials and quizzes for purposes of providing feedback to reinforce classroom learning at home.

Students in eighth grade will face tougher algebraic concepts, including:

- ♦ rational and irrational numbers,
- ♦ polynomials and functions, and
- ♦ solving algebraic equations to determine probability.

Students enrolled in honors sections will factor linear and quadratic equations among other topics.

Teachers are planning seventh and eighth grade honors science and social studies courses. A comparative essay and memoir will be required for eighth-grade honors English.

The option of exploratory French and Spanish will be continued to smooth the transition to instituting elementary foreign language proposed for 2007. In addition, grade eight students entering high school will have a chance to take selected high school classes for credit during summer school.

POOL: Manager approved

Continued from page 14A

General contractors, on the other hand, hire and supervise subcontractors.

Suitable projects involve design and construction phases that are sequential rather than overlapping, where work is performed under a single, lump-sum construction contract based on completed design documents, Poltorak said.

Ewald scholarship deadline 3/1

The H.T. Ewald Foundation is accepting applications for its 2007 scholarship program.

Awards range from \$500 to \$3,500 based on the financial need of the recipient.

Completed applications must be postmarked by March 1.

The number of scholarships varies per year, but have ranged between two and 18.

Eligible applicants must be a graduating high school student living in metropolitan Detroit and entering college full time in the fall.

Scholarship winners will be chosen based on their overall scholarship record, leadership abilities, community work,

character and financial need. There are no examinations to take.

Award winners may attend any accredited college, and must attend full time at least 12 hours per semester. The scholarship is for a maximum of four years.

Qualification is based on the following:

- ♦ Financial need. Applicants must be able to utilize all of the scholarship award, but aid may be substituted wholly or in part for loans or work study.

- ♦ Overall scholarship record as determined by grades, test scores (SAT, ACT, etc.) and participation in activities such as school newspaper, yearbook, Glee Club, co-op job, band, varsity sports, volunteer work, National Honor Society, student government, language club, class officer and awards earned.

- ♦ Character of applicant as indicated through letters of recommendation and outside activities, including any jobs held, interests and hobbies.

Applicants should be in the top half of their class and be recommended by the principal or assistant principal of the high school.

Scholarship winners must be present to receive their award. Scholarship renewals should be made in late summer by the student, provided a satisfactory grade point average is main-

tained, financial need still exists and at least 24 credits attained.

The H.T. Ewald Foundation was founded 79 years ago with endowments by H.T. Ewald, founder and president of the Campbell-Ewald Advertising Company.

To request a scholarship application, see ewaldfoundation.org or write, call or fax the

foundation office at: H.T. Ewald Foundation, 15450 E. Jefferson, Suite 180, Grosse Pointe Park, MI, 48230; telephone (313) 821-1278 or fax (313) 821-3299.

Winners will be notified in mid-June and announced at the annual awards luncheon in August. No awards will be made after that date until the following year.

Students can bone up on the ACT

Two workshops have been scheduled beginning this month to help prepare students for the ACT test and the Michigan Merit Exam.

Students will learn the best strategies for taking these tests and will take practice tests to prepare for each section of the big exam.

Workshop organizers said the best method for scoring well on the ACT/MME is being knowledgeable and well-prepared.

Workshops are sponsored by the Grosse Pointe schools Department of Community Education and presented by staff from Skills Development Inc. Workshops will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.:

- ♦ Tuesday, Feb. 27, at South High, 178, and

- ♦ Thursday, March 1, at North, Room B-103.

The fee for each workshop is \$84, which includes a manual to take home. Students are asked to bring a calculator and a watch with a second hand.

Workshops are open to all students who live in the Grosse Pointe school district.

Students who don't reside in the district can pay a \$10 non-resident fee in addition to the \$84 workshop fee.

For more information, call Grosse Pointe Community Education at (313) 432-3880 or see page 21 of the Community Education brochure at gpschools.org.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 4, 2006

SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2007

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 January 17, 2007 and furthermore, receive and file the minutes of the Library Board meeting held on December 21, 2006, the Board of Trustees Employees Retirement System meeting held on January 22, 2007, the Local Officers Compensation Commission meeting held on January 24, 2007, and the Planning Commission meeting held on January 24, 2007.
- 2) To schedule a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on March 5, 2007, to consider a request from the Archdiocese of Detroit to split lots 617C1A and 617C1B1A1 of Private Claim 617 at 19360 Harper Avenue and 20955 Bournemouth, the former Trinity High School Property, for the purpose of selling the property to a charter school.
- 3) To adjourn to the Conference Room for the 2007 Goal Setting Session.
- 4) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) Approve the Accounts Payable listing for Check Numbers 79379 through 79615 in the amount of \$716,918.06 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 Statewide Security Transport in the amount of \$5,189.25 for prisoner lodging and maintenance for the month of December 2006. (3) Approve payment to Bob Schomer Tree Service in the amount of \$5,685.00 for trimming trees on Lochmoor in conjunction with the ongoing tree trimming project. (4) Approve payment to Wayne County Department of Public Health in the amount of \$7,138.00 for inspection services in the Cross Connection Control Program for the period July through September 2006. (5) Approve payment in the amount of \$23,308.44 to Grosse Pointe Woods for the City's pro-rata portion of the operating and maintenance of the Torrey Road Pumping Station for the period July 1 through December 31, 2006. (6) Approve the request from the Shamrock Cab Company for taxicab licenses covering the cabs listed on the attached application for 2007.
- 2) To accept the lowest qualified bid submitted by Hastings Air Energy Control, Inc. in the amount of \$46,548.00 for the purchase of a fire station exhaust system with FEMA grant funds, and further that the city will be responsible for 5% or approximately \$2,300.00 of the total cost.
- 3) To accept the proposal submitted by Advanced Air Services, Inc. in the amount of \$8,950.00 for the replacement of the steam converter on the city hall boiler system.

Kenneth A. Poynter,
Mayor
Published: G.P.N.: 2/15/2007

Mickey D. Todd,
City Clerk

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS 2007 PAVEMENT JOINT AND CRACK SEALING PROGRAM IN DISTRICT NO. 8 AEW PROJECT NO. 160-302

RECEIPT OF BIDS

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods will receive sealed bids until **10:00am local time on Tuesday, March 6, 2007** at the offices of the City Clerk, City of Grosse Pointe Woods, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

The approximate quantities involved in this work are as follows:

Cleaning and Sealing Existing Pavement Joints and Cracks in Concrete and Asphalt Capped Streets 106,500 LF

together with related surface preparation, sweeping, and restoration.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications are on file and copies may be secured on **Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at 1:00 pm**, at the offices of Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc., 51301 Schoenherr Road, Shelby Township, Michigan 48315. A fee of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) will be required for each set of proposed plans and specifications and will not be refunded. A mailing fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) to cover handling and postage will be charged to anyone wishing to receive the plans and specifications via United Parcel Services. Specifications and plans are also on file for viewing at the office of the City Clerk

BID SECURITY

A certified check, bank draft, or satisfactory bid bond, executed by the bidder and a surety company, payable to the City of Grosse Pointe Woods Treasurer, in an amount at least equal to five percent (5%) of the bid amount, shall be submitted with each bid.

WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of **sixty (60)** calendar days after receipt of bids.

AWARD OF CONTRACT

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in bidding. The successful bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory performance, maintenance and guarantee, labor, and material bonds and insurance certificates.

LISA HATHAWAY, CITY CLERK
City of Grosse Pointe Woods

20025 Mack Plaza

Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236-2397

G.P.N.: 2/15/2007

OBITUARIES

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

Pauline Bachleda

Former Grosse Pointe Woods resident Pauline Bachleda of Aberdeen, N.C., died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007.

Mrs. Bachleda was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her children, Paulette A. (Raymond) Winke and George P. Bachleda; grandchild, Derrick P. Winke; great-grandchildren, Hadley and Griffin Winke; and sister, Kathleen Grabda.

Mrs. Bachleda was predeceased by her husband, George Bachleda.

Private funeral services were held.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Health Hospice Care, 5 Aviemor Dr., Pinehurst, N.C. 28374 or National Kidney Foundation.

Kay Healy Moquin

Kay Healy Moquin, 69, formerly of Grosse Pointe, died Thursday, Dec. 28, 2006 surrounded by her family at home in Bellingham, Wash., due to a virus following cancer treatments.

She was born Aug. 16, 1937, in Detroit, to Byron and Dorothy Carse. She graduated from Kingswood High School and earned a bachelor's degree in History of Art from the University of Michigan in 1959. She had previously earned an associate's degree at Bennet Junior College in New York. At each institution, she was a student leader.

Encouraged by her father, she traveled solo around the world before leaving college. The adventure heightened her social consciousness and self-reliance.

After marrying Robert H. Healy in 1960 and moving to Grosse Pointe where they raised their two children, she served as the president of the Junior League of Detroit and as a director of The Association of the Junior Leagues of America. Following a period of racial violence in Detroit, she helped drive redevelopment projects in the city.

She married D. Andrew Moquin in 1986 and they traveled extensively abroad. In 1990, the couple relocated to Washington State for its natural splendor.

Mr. and Mrs. Moquin helped found the Bellingham Festival of Music in addition to their other community and philanthropic roles. Mrs. Moquin's work with the Bellingham Arts Commission earned her the Mayor's Arts Award. Her own art was exhibited in Bellingham during



Kay Healy Moquin

January 2007.

Having owned and run thriving interior design businesses in Grosse Pointe and Bellingham, Mrs. Moquin demonstrated she was both creative and productive. Her publicly recognized residential work improved hundreds of lives.

Mrs. Moquin will be remembered for colorfully celebrating any and every occasion with a child's enthusiasm. The variety and longevity of her many friendships is a testament to her boundless love of people and life itself.

She is survived by her husband, D. Andrew Moquin;

daughter, Julia Healy; son, Robert (Amy) Healy; grandchildren, Wren and Ann, all of Bellingham, Wash.; and sister, Barbara (Frank) Seichter of Rochester Hills.

A memorial service was held on Friday, Jan. 12, in Bellingham, Wash.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Episcopal School, 3000 Northwest Ave., St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2117 Walnut St., Bellingham, WA 98225; Bellingham Festival of Music, 1300 North State St., Bellingham, WA 98225; or Whatcom Hospice, 800 East Chestnut St., #1-C, Bellingham, WA 98225.

Share your thoughts and memories with the family at their online guestbook at www.molesfuneralhomes.com

Dorothy M. Spilos

Former Grosse Pointe Farms resident Dorothy M. Spilos, 72, of Melbourne, Fla., died Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007.

She was born March 10, 1934, in Grosse Pointe Woods, to Cecil and Margaret Patterson and graduated from Grosse Pointe High School.

Prior to becoming a mother

and a homemaker, she worked in the claims department of the Automobile Association of America (AAA) and later in the accounting department at Jacobson's Department Stores.

Mrs. Spilos's interests included painting, gardening, needlework and other crafts. She enjoyed spending time with her friends.

While living in Grosse Pointe Farms, she was active in a local craft club and Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church restoration association. She was a member of the Emmanuel United Methodist Church Peace Circle group in Melbourne, Fla.

She is survived by her husband, Ernest Spilos Sr.; son, Ernest Spilos Jr.; daughters, Cheryl N. Steffen and Starlene C. Burns; and seven grandchildren living in Florida, California and Michigan.

Mrs. Spilos was predeceased by her sister, Mary Duster; and brother, Pat Patterson.

A funeral service was held in Melbourne, Fla.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 2800 West Eau Galle Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32935.

February lake levels

The following lake levels as of Feb. 9 are offered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Currently, Lake Superior is 13 inches lower than it was a year ago. Lake Michigan is at the same level it was this time last year, while the remaining lakes are 4 to 7 inches higher.

During the next month the water level on Lake Superior is expected to drop 2 inches. Lakes Michigan, Huron, St. Clair and Erie are nearing their seasonal low levels, and are predicted to remain at the same level over the next 30

days. Lake Ontario is forecasted to rise 1 inch during the same period.

Over the next few months, Lake Superior is predicted to remain well below last year's water levels, while lakes Michigan, Huron, St. Clair, Erie and Ontario are forecasted to remain at or above the levels of a year ago.

Flow in the St. Marys and St. Clair rivers was below average in January and is predicted to be below average for February. Outflow from the Detroit River is predicted to be near average

for this month. Flow in the Niagara River, as well as the St. Lawrence River, is expected to be above average.

Due to abnormally dry conditions on the Lake Superior basin over the last six months, its water level is currently below chart datum and is expected to remain below datum through July. Users of the Great Lakes, connecting channels and St. Lawrence River should keep informed of current conditions before undertaking any activities affected by changing water levels.

FairTax public forum

The Eastside Republican Club will hold a forum at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Guest speaker is Ron Babin, Michigan's volunteer deputy director of Americans for Fair Taxation.

Babin is a businessman who has observed the effects of the current income and payroll-based tax system on employers and employment. As a result, he favors replacement of the IRS with the revenue-neutral tax called the "FairTax."

"Please come, ask questions, and learn how these proposals work, and how they would af-

fect you individually, or your business in Michigan," said Babin.

Babin describes FairTax as a progressive, simple and efficient national retail-only consumption tax that would replace all federal taxes that are now based on income, including the funding of Social Security and Medicare.

"The present income tax system is substantially to blame for the thousands of jobs we have lost to international competitors," said Babin.

More information can be found at MIFairTax.org.

Babin advocates enactment of HR25 in Congress. That bill, known as the FairTax Act, cur-


rently has three times more cosponsors in the U.S. House of Representatives than any other reform proposal.

In Michigan, the Legislature is considering the Michigan version of FairTax as a possible tax reform/replacement for the eliminated Single Business Tax, and Michigan's tax system as a whole.

Babin grew up in Port Huron and has worked in small businesses since he was 13. He graduated from Central Michigan University in 1987, and went to work in accounting and management for a private multi-company manufacturing group based in metro Detroit.

In 1996, Babin earned a master's degree from Walsh College. He has since been self-employed assisting small businesses with their administrative functions such as internal accounting, database programming, spreadsheet, word processing and Internet utilization. He also teaches software classes at St. Clair County Community College.

The Eastside Republican Club Forum is held on the third Tuesday of the month from September through June. Admission is free and the public is welcome.



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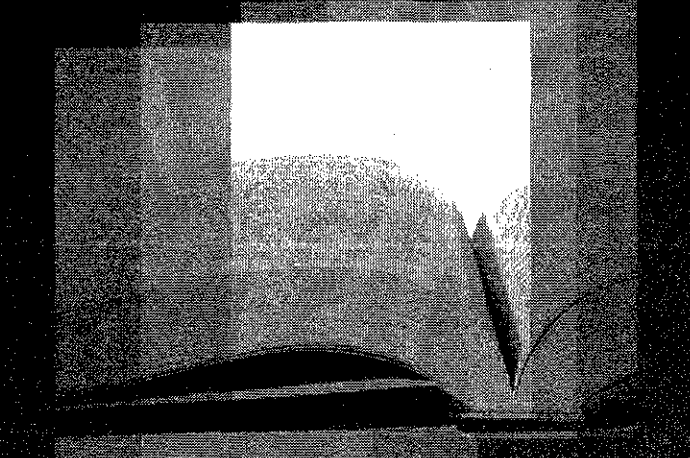
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Please send me more information.

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17728 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
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AUTOWIRE.NET By Derek Price

Sophisticated and modern conveniences grace every inch of the **2007 Mercury Mariner Hybrid**. This car has it all with style, comfort and impressive EPA numbers estimated at 32 miles per gallon.

Mariner Hybrid marks a sea of change

The Mercury Mariner Hybrid looks almost exactly like the normal Mariner but is more environmentally friendly. The only noticeable difference is a Hybrid badge on the sides and rear of the SUV.

Inside, unique gauges and an LCD screen set the hybrid Mariner apart from its gasoline-only counterpart. They feel very similar from the driver's seat, which is a good thing.

If you've noticed environmentalists have gotten a little more timid when they gripe about SUVs, this might be the reason. Sport utility vehicles, long criticized for their gluttonous appetite for gas and dirty emissions, are turning greener thanks to hybrid technology. Among these Earth-friendly SUVs is a new hybrid version of the 2007 Mercury Mariner, which offers better fuel economy and cleaner emissions with virtually no drawbacks.

Just as the groundbreaking Toyota Prius and Honda Civic Hybrid cars, the Mariner Hybrid uses a small, four-cylinder engine in conjunction with an electric motor to deliver great gas mileage, low emissions and decent performance. It accelerates similar to the V6 Mariner, but it gets about 33 miles per gallon on the highway compared to the V6's 24 mpg.

The differences between the hybrid Mariner and its conventional counterpart are subtle. From the outside, the only way you can tell the hybrid apart from any other Mariner is by looking for a few special badges and a small air vent.



PHOTO BY WIECK MEDIA SERVICES

2007 Mercury Mariner Hybrid

Even from the driver's seat it's easy to forget you're driving a hybrid because it feels so similar to the regular SUV.

The biggest difference is the transmission. Whereas most Mariners have a run-of-the-mill automatic transmission, the hybrid version uses a continuously variable transmission that never shifts. It constantly adjusts to find the perfect combination of performance and economy.

Like all hybrids, it uses big batteries and a powerful electric motor to supplement a relatively small gas-powered engine. The batteries recharge

every time the vehicle brakes, so it never has to be plugged in.

In addition, the gas engine shuts down every time the vehicle stops to save more fuel and cut down on emissions. As soon as you lift your foot off the brake, it starts right back up.

The Mariner's hybrid system doesn't feel quite as refined as either the Prius or Civic Hybrid. It's difficult to tell when the engine starts and stops in both those cars because they run so smoothly and have been engineered to start up so effortlessly. In the Mariner Hybrid, though, the engine rumbles and shakes a little when it

starts back up, making the start and stop of the engine quite obvious at each red light.

Inside, the Mariner's gauges aren't quite as polished and flashy as either the Prius or Civic Hybrid. It has a small LCD screen on the dash, probably the smallest one available in a car today, that doubles as an efficiency gauge and a navigation system.

Other than having much better gas mileage and a different transmission, the hybrid Mariner is virtually identical to the standard version. That means it has a comfortable interior, decent cargo capacity

and a smooth ride, all factors that have made the Mariner and its Ford cousin, the Escape, a hot seller.

The biggest disappointment is that the hybrid technology is not available on lower-end equipment packages. While a traditional Mariner starts at \$22,870, the hybrid model is \$27,895. Compared to the base Mariner, that kind of a price premium quickly eats up any money you could save at the pump.

What was tested? The 2007 Mercury Mariner Hybrid Four-wheel Drive with a base price of \$27,895. Options: Premium

package (\$3,795), power moon roof (\$585). Price as tested including a \$615 delivery charge: \$32,275.

Why buy it? It has everything that makes the Mercury Mariner a good SUV — comfort, maneuverability and versatility — along with eco-friendly hybrid technology.

Why avoid it? It costs several thousand dollars more than a regular, non-hybrid Mariner, so it's not likely to save much money on gas unless oil prices skyrocket. On the other hand, \$5,025 is a small price to pay for feeling good about taking care of the environment.

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18A | AUTOMOTIVE

TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

All new from headlights to taillights, the sport-oriented 2007 Hyundai Elantra SE brings more refinement, safety and class-leading interior space to the compact car segment.

The all-new 2007 Hyundai Elantra SE



This week, we're driving the all-new 2007 Hyundai Elantra SE, a roomy sedan that delivers 28 miles per gallon city and 36 mpg highway — base price: \$16,695; price as tested: \$16,780.

Now in its fourth generation, Elantra has come a long way since it first began dotting America's highways back in 1992. With stiff competition from Japanese flagships Honda Civic, Nissan Sentra and Toyota Corolla, and the fact that Elantra was a Korean-built black sheep amongst the breed, sales weren't too promising. However, with attention to correcting mechanical flaws, reacting to customer surveys and introducing a novel 100,000 mile warranty — that other manufacturers now deemed appropriate — Hyundai grew into a respected and award winning manufacturer.

Today, Hyundai dealerships are regular stops for car shopping consumers, as many are situated in the midst of "big-three" dealers who have become official Hyundai merchants.

Elantra for 2007 is indeed new, with a longer exterior design, spacious interior dimensions and updated suspension.



2007 Hyundai Elantra

Outwardly, the curved design immediately catches your glance, featuring integrated fog lights, forthright hood design, chrome accent grille, heated mirrors, distinctive headlights, lower air intake and smartly styled roofline.

The wheelbase has stretched from a first generation 98.4-inches to its present

104.3, which is 1.6 inches longer than last year's third generation model. Because of this growth, the EPA now classifies Elantra as a mid-size car, although it is still built to battle the same Japanese contingent from 1992 that has likewise grown in size.

Inside, we really like what Elantra offers. An adjustable

driver's seat combined with telescoping steering results in attaining the ultimate in driving position and view. The seats are comfortable and all gauges and amenity buttons are easy to operate. There are numerous compartments and cup holders, although the glove box is a bit on the small side. Hyundai didn't forget about the rear passengers, with comfort and room aplenty. Although listed as a five-passenger sedan, we all know that three in the rear is tight, regardless of manufacturer.

In addition to its new design, safety is a paramount feature and worthy of special note. Specifically, there aren't many cars on the road that start at base price of \$13,395 (our SE is a more expensive Elantra) that feature enhanced safety as standard equipment. Included are dual front air bags, front side air bags, side curtain air bags and 4-channel ABS 4-wheel disc brakes — no drums here. We applaud Hyundai for this lineup of features.

Under the hood sits a 138-

horse 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine hooked to a four speed automatic transmission. With 136 pound-feet of torque, you won't win any drag races, but you're sure to travel farther on a tank of fuel. Still, acceleration and passing abilities are acceptable.

Our initial driving impression came via Elantra's steering wheel, which evoked a "too light for me" response. Personally, I favor the heavier steering wheel experience that relays more information to the driver as to "feeling" the road — German brands are good at this. Still, we again applaud Hyundai for its tweaked and better-designed suspension, thanks to a fully independent design with McPherson struts up front and a rear multi-link setup with stabilizer bars at both ends. According to Hyundai, Elantra features a near 50-percent increase in body stiffness over the previous model that helps navigation in every road situation. Elantra SE's 16-inch tires also assist in handling, and are mated to nice alloy wheels.

Now, if Hyundai can relate this suspension stiffness through the steering wheel, all the better.

Important numbers include a curb weight of 2,747 pounds, 14.2 cubic-feet of cargo space, 14 gallon fuel tank, 33.9 foot turning circle, and 1,500 pound towing capacity. The only option consisted of \$85 floor mats and Hyundai does not charge for delivery or destination.

I checked with the Web site edmunds.com for some 2007 Elantra owner input, and wasn't surprised to find near perfect forum ratings. That's always a good indicator of how popular a new car will be.

Thus, we rate Hyundai's new Elantra a strong 9 on a scale of one to 10, and expect it to be a real winner at the showroom.

Likes: Design, 100,000-mile warranty, suspension, best value for dollar spent.

Dislikes: No traction control, engine loud at higher RPM, light feeling in steering wheel.

Greg Zyla is a syndicated auto columnist.



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2007 Cadillac CTS

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2007 Cadillac SRX

GM Employees 24 Month Smartlease \$359⁰⁰ <small>per month*</small> \$2,999 Due at signing. 24 Month One-Time Lease Payment \$10,682⁰⁰	Non GM Employees 24 Month Smartlease \$439⁰⁰ <small>per month*</small> \$2,999 Due at signing. 24 Month One-Time Lease Payment \$12,493⁰⁰
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Stock#119667, V6, AWD, Luxury Package
rinkecadillac.com/cadillac_srx_special.aspx



Stock#118664, Chrome wheels, Luxury II Package.
rinkecadillac.com/cadillac_dts_special.aspx

2007 Cadillac DTS

GM Employees 39 Month Smartlease \$343⁰⁰ <small>per month*</small> \$2,980 Due at signing. 24 Month One-Time Lease Payment \$10,841⁰⁰	Non GM Employees 39 Month Smartlease \$389⁰⁰ <small>per month*</small> \$3,047 Due at signing. 24 Month One-Time Lease Payment \$12,600⁰⁰
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*Payments based on 10,000 miles per year. 25 cents per mile over. Subject to approved credit. Payments based on 24 or 36 mo. lease, 10,000 miles per year. Program expires 02/28/07.

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CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN

2007 PARTIAL DEPTH REPAIR PROJECT

AEW PROJECT NO. 160-305

RECEIPT OF BIDS
The City of Grosse Pointe Woods will receive sealed bids until **10:30am, local time on Tuesday, March 6, 2007**, at the offices of the City Clerk, City of Grosse Pointe Woods, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236-2397, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK
The approximate quantities of work for this project are as follows:

Concrete Joint Repair	3,000 LF
Latex Modified Concrete	37.5 LF

together with related appurtenances as well as clean-up and restoration.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
Plans and specifications are on file and copies may be secured on or after **Tuesday, February 20, 2007, after 1:00pm** at the offices of Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc., 51301 Schoenherr Road, Shelby Township, Michigan 48315. A fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) will be required for each set of proposed plans and specifications and will not be refunded. A mailing fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) to cover postage and handling will be charged to anyone wishing to receive the plans and specifications via United Parcel Services. Plans and specifications are also on file for viewing at the offices of the City Clerk, City of Grosse Pointe Woods, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236-2397.

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A certified check or the included Bid Bond, executed by the Bidder and a surety company, payable to the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, in an amount at least equal to five percent (5%) of the bid, shall be submitted with each bid.

WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS
No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) calendar days after the receipt of bids.

AWARD OF CONTRACT
The City of Grosse Pointe Woods reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any or all bids and/or to waive any irregularities in bidding. The successful bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory performance, payment, and maintenance and guarantee bonds and insurance certificates.

LISA HATHAWAY, CITY CLERK
City of Grosse Pointe Woods
20025 Mack Plaza
Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236-2397

G.P.N.: 2/15/2007

LETTER: Two classes of ownership?

Continued from page 8A

the state of Michigan (via collection of LOCAL property taxes). Local school districts are restricted (under Proposal A) from raising excess funding for schools. Will this create an additional shortfall in per pupil funding? We need more disclosure in this area.

◆ Simple solutions to complex problems almost never work! This is placing a bandage on a very complex and important issue. Our real estate values and quality of schools hang in the balance.

◆ Efforts should be focused on changing Proposal A, not pursuing temporary stop-gaps that could create more harm than good.

◆ Lansing could create an incentive to purchase real estate in the short-term without altering an already flawed plan.

◆ Proposal A does not serve the Grosse Pointe community well. If you agree, you should contact the state representative who serves the taxpayers of Grosse Pointe (Ed Gaffney) to go to work for you to initiate positive change in this area.

One point to clarify from the editorial on "pop-up" moratorium. Your property taxes will go up by the lesser of 5 percent or the rate of inflation, regardless of the increase/decrease in home values for that year. This year real estate values declined and your property taxes will most likely increase. This is mandated in Michigan Proposal A (as stated in the editorial). It has little if anything to do with a two-year lag in the city assessor's sales figures.

Proposal A does not serve the Grosse Pointe community well for the following reasons:

◆ Helped to cause a depressed real estate market and "gridlock" in sales activity.

◆ Triggers elevated property taxes for new buyers, while the funds do not stay local (go to the state for distribution elsewhere).

◆ Loss of control over our schools. The state controls and caps our per pupil state funding and limits what we can raise locally for Grosse Pointe schools.

◆ Our schools (the jewels of our community) will be pushed down to mediocrity, providing one less reason to move to Grosse Pointe and pay the elevated taxes.

◆ Created "unequal taxation" within our community. This is unacceptable.

Michigan voters adopted Proposal A in 1994 for what appeared to be very sound reasons. This method of taxation and school funding has not served us well, and is not sustainable for our community. Contact the folks in Lansing who serve the taxpayers of Grosse Pointe and ask that they initiate positive change today.

Call or write Rep. Ed Gaffney (517) 373-0154 (e-mail: edwardgaffney@house.mi.gov) and state Sen. Martha Scott, (517) 373-7748 (e-mail: SenMScott@senate.michigan.gov) today and let them know you do not support this temporary moratorium, but that you want them to start working immediately on a Proposal A reform.

BOB RIETH
Grosse Pointe Woods

'Pop-up' tax found amusing

To the editor:

I am always mildly amused when I read letters or editorials that rail about the pop-up tax "problem."

First, if we had no Proposal A, we would have no pop-up tax "problem," which is to say that the current owners would also pay property taxes at the higher SEV rate. The crucial fact that all those critics fail to note is that the new owners would still pay the same taxes with or without Proposition A. I guess the logic is that they just wouldn't be so shocked!

Well, I have a solution. Why don't all parties involved, including Realtors, MLS systems, mortgage people, ap-

praisers, etc., just be more honest and ignore the current tax and treat it as a fiction since it only applies to the current owner. That way there is no pop-up tax shock. Now if you want to argue that property taxes are too high, well that's a separate point, but as I recall, that was the reason we have Proposal A in the first place.

Secondly, the House Speaker Dillon idea would effectively create two classes of home owners. The long term owner — say 10 years or more — and the new owner with the higher rate. If they both want to sell their homes in a competitive real estate market, with all else being equal, which house would sell for more, the one with the higher property tax or the one that saves the new buyer thousands of dollars and reduces his payment by hundreds? As a long-term owner I'm all for that idea, but from a philosophical standpoint, I don't favor laws that pick winners and losers.

DON ORTENBURGER

Grosse Pointe Park

Editor's note: Prior to Proposal A, everyone's taxes went up evenly. Thus, home buyers did not face disproportionately higher tax bills unless they were buying a much more expensive home. Certainly they would not face paying more taxes for down-sizing as often happens today under Proposal A. Also, Proposal A has already set up an even more onerous two-class system of home ownership. Long-term homeowners enjoy much lower taxes for the same services than do their neighbors who have moved in to the neighborhood recently and pay taxes at the maximum rate. Why has that not been challenged as unfair and unconstitutional?

Medicare Part D concerns

To the Editor:

The comments in the letter to the editor in the Jan. 18 Grosse Pointe News, "VA Medicare Part D model is flawed," highlight what is needed: a full and open debate on the merits of various programs, including those in other countries, to assist people with prescription costs.

I do not know all the details of the (Veterans Administration) program. What I do know is that VA prescriptions cost \$8 per prescription per month. How is this achieved? I would expect it came about through negotiation by the VA; Medicare is prohibited from negotiating.

Those on Medicare represent a very large group, many times larger than the VA, that could have considerable bargaining power in negotiations.

As for the drugs covered, not all of the plans under Medicare D will cover all prescriptions. Some plans do not cover certain brand-name drugs while others will cover them for a higher copayment.

Some of the plans have what they call a step program: they require a generic drug first, and only if this does not work for the insured can another drug be allowed. Some plans require prior authorization, i.e., the physician must show that the drug is medically necessary.

In some cases, there are quantity limits. All of these rules must be investigated before signing up for coverage because then you are locked in for the year.

The "doughnut hole" is reached when prescription coverage reaches what it "costs" the insurer to provide the drug plus the amount the insured pays. How do we know what it costs the insurer? Is it possible that they negotiate a lower price than what they say it costs them?

I am afraid that I do not feel confident that Medicare clients are treated fairly as to when coverage must decline. I wonder if the insurer's books are open to inspection by Medicare.

Perhaps the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program has a better program as suggested by the letter writer. If so, why was not such a plan, already in place, adopted for Medicare? Curiously, though, the letter writer's description does fit the Medicare D program: he says it "relies on

multiple competing companies to provide both low prices and a wide choice of important medicines."

As for multiple competing companies, the Medicare Prescription Drug Plans in Michigan alone includes 19 companies, which offer a total of 54 plans. The 19 Medicare Health Care Health Plans in Michigan have a large variety of options, some depending on the county in which one lives. A comparison would be helpful.

I hope that Congress takes a fresh look into possibilities for a simpler, more equitable, better prescription program. I also hope that people let their senators and representatives in Congress know their concerns.

ANN KONDAK

Grosse Pointe Woods

Detroit sailing sport

To the Editor:

This is in regard to the article, "On Sail," printed in the Feb. 8 Grosse Pointe News, about the Mackinac Changes.

So glad that the Grosse

Pointe News finally recognizes sailing as a "real sport."

The assumption in the article is that the "Shore Course" is considered a cruising course as it hugs the scenic shoreline, and the 'Southampton Course' for the mainly bigger, more serious racers who like it a little further off shore." Of course, aside from the obvious grammatical error about "the bigger racers" such as the second clause of the sentence implies, I am sure the intention was to say "bigger boats." But perhaps the writer forgot to consider that size does not necessarily determine the level of seriousness experienced on the sailboats which race on the Shore Course.

Many of the boats on the Shore Course are there because there is a PHRF/IRC limit on how fast/slow the boats can be and there are size restrictions.

I do not think that Seawise, the 2006 overall winner, a 27 foot Bristol which had to take a 6 point penalty just to compete in the race, is any less serious than any boat that races on the Southampton Course. I can

think of more than a few big boats on the Southampton Course that are far less serious than boats that are found on the Shore Course.

Also, the writer's assertion that the Shore Course is "considered a cruising course" is ill founded. Out of the 10 classes that compete on the Shore Course, five are Cruising, and five are full-blown racers.

In addition, just because a boat may be in a cruising class, that does not make them any less serious either. Many of them chose to be in a cruising class because they did not wish to switch to IRC after the changes last year. This is not a reflection of their sailing skills, but merely their choice to race with different types of sails.

Everyone is out there to win, everyone is there to have a good time, and racers are equally serious in both the Shore and Southampton courses.

Just some food for your own thought as you formulate your own opinions on what Detroit sailing is all about.

DAVID KEYS
Grosse Pointe Park

Save the library

To the editor:

In 1953, the generous Ferry family gave us our main library designed by famous architect Marcel Breuer.

Marcel Breuer taught in the Bauhaus, an architectural school in Germany, with Walter Gropius and other famous architects and is well-known in parts of the world just as our own Frank Lloyd Wright is here.

The Central Library building should be classified as a historic building. It must not be destroyed.

The parking must be improved to comply with Grosse Pointe standards. Valet parking would do that. For a few dollars, the problems of inclement weather, handicaps and other issues would be solved. There are also plenty of parking spaces along Fisher Road.

We must not allow this unelected library board to rip out the soul of Grosse Pointe by destroying this generous Ferry family gift.

S.E. GIRARDIN
Grosse Pointe Farms

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734-844-0481
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24417 Ford Rd.
(just west of Telegraph)
313-278-4491
Fairlane Mall
(3rd floor next to Sears)
313-441-0168
DETROIT
14126 Woodward
(Model T Plaza)
313-669-7382
FARMINGTON HILLS
31011 Orchard Lake Rd.
(southwest corner of Orchard Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)
248-538-9900

FENTON
17245 Silver Pkwy
(in the Sears Plaza)
810-629-2733
FT. GRATIOT
4129 24th Ave.
810-385-1231
LAKE ORION
2531 S. Lapeer Rd.
(Orion Mall 2 miles north of the Palace)
248-393-6800

MONROE
2161 Mall Rd.
(in front of Kohl's)
734-241-4099
NORTHVILLE
Three Generations Plaza
20580 Haggerty Rd.
734-779-0148
NOVI
43025 12 Mile Rd.
(Twelve Oaks Service Dr., north of Sears)
248-305-6600
Twelve Oaks Mall
(lower level play area)

PONTIAC/WATERFORD
454 Telegraph Rd.
(across from Summit Place Mall)
248-335-9900
ROCHESTER HILLS
3035 S. Rochester Rd.
(at Auburn Rd.)
248-853-0550
ROYAL OAK
31921 Woodward Ave.
(at Normandy)
248-549-4177
ST. CLAIR SHORES
26401 Harper Ave.
(at 10 1/2 Mile)
586-777-4010
SOUTHFIELD
28117 Telegraph Rd.
(south of 12 Mile Rd.)
248-358-3700
STERLING HEIGHTS
45111 Park Ave.
(M-59 & M-53, Utica Park Plaza)
586-997-6500
Lakeside Mall
(lower level, Sears Ct.)
TAYLOR
23495 Eureka Rd.
(across from Southland Mall)
734-287-1770
Southland Mall
23000 Eureka Rd.
(in the JC Penney wing)

TROY
1913 E. Big Beaver Rd.
(Troy Sports Center)
248-526-0040
Oakland Mall
(inside Main Entrance, next to food court)
WESTLAND
35105 Warren Rd.
(southwest corner of Warren & Wayne Rds.)
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TAYLOR
TROY
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Cellular Technologies
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Communications USA
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Cellular Source
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FARMINGTON HILLS
Cellular City
248-848-8800
FERRISDALE
Communications USA
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Wireless Solutions
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GROSSE POINTE
Authorized Cellular
313-417-1000

MACOMB
Authorized Cellular
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Herkimer Radio
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HERKIMER TOWNSHIP
734-364-7001
MT. CLEMENS
Authorized Cellular
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NORTHVILLE
Cellular Cellutions
248-349-8116
OAK PARK
Cellular Cellutions
248-284-0091
OXFORD
Wireless Network
248-628-6400
PLYMOUTH
Ann Arbor Wireless
734-456-3200
ROSELVILLE
Authorized Cellular
586-293-6664
ROYAL OAK
Cellular Cellutions
248-582-1100
Fusion Communications
248-549-7700

SOUTHFIELD
Wireless USA
248-395-2222
STERLING HEIGHTS
Authorized Cellular
586-795-8610
TAYLOR
Cell Phone Warehouse
734-374-4472
TROY
The Wireless Shop
248-458-1111
UTICA
Mobile2/Mobile Wireless
586-739-9977
WARREN
MultiLinks
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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Grosse Pointe Park

Attempted theft

On Sunday, Feb. 11, at 12:29 a.m., Grosse Pointe Park police officers on patrol observed two suspects raising a black Cadillac with jacks attempting to steal the wheels. The car was parked in the driveway of a home in the 800 block of Harcourt.

The officers interrupted the larceny and pursued the suspects who were driving a silver Jeep Commander. The pursuit ended at Burns.

Stolen Jeep

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 8 a.m., a 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe was stolen from the driveway of a home in the 1300 block of Three Mile in Grosse Pointe Park.

The vehicle was running.

Attempted theft

Overnight on Friday, Feb. 9, an unknown person tried to steal a 2004 Saturn after forcibly breaking into the garage of a home in the 1300 block of Wayburn in Grosse Pointe Park.

The vehicle would not start.

Busted

On Thursday, Feb. 8, at 7:05 a.m., a silver 2003 Audi A6 was stolen from the driveway of a home in the 1300 block of Yorkshire in Grosse Pointe Park.

The vehicle was left running

to warm up.

The ACTION task force (a team of officers from Wayne County cities, including the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods that handle auto theft) located the car on East Warren and after a vehicle and foot chase, the perpetrator, a 15-year-old Detroit teen, was caught and arrested near Cadieux and Harper.

Assisting

On Sunday, Feb. 11, at 12:09 p.m., Grosse Pointe Park police officers assisted St. Clair Shores public safety officers in pursuing a stolen Dodge truck.

The pursuit moved into Detroit and eventually a 21-year-old Detroit man fled into a home in the 800 block of Kitchner.

With the help of Detroit police officers, the man was arrested.

Those with information on these or any crimes should call the Grosse Pointe Park police department at (313) 822-6200.

— Bob St. John

Grosse Pointe Woods

Warrant arrest

On Friday, Feb. 9, at 10:44 p.m., a 22-year-old Highland Park man was observed traveling on Harper with a broken taillight.

The driver gave the Grosse Pointe Woods police officer his driver license, registration and proof of insurance.

His license and insurance were expired.

A LEIN (Law Enforcement Information Network) check revealed the man had three current license suspensions and three misdemeanor warrants out of Detroit for failure to appear in court on traffic violation citations.

The man was arrested.

Running a red light

On Thursday, Feb. 8, at 1 a.m., a 19-year-old Detroit woman was observed by a Grosse Pointe Woods police officer disregarding a red light on Vernier and Mack.

The woman told the officer she didn't have a license. A LEIN check revealed the woman had an expired learner's permit.

She was arrested for driving without a license. The driver's 22-year-old passenger took possession of the vehicle.

Pick up

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 1:10 a.m., a Grosse Pointe Woods police officer picked up a 28-year-old Detroit man who was arrested by Clinton Township police after a traffic violation led to a LEIN check.

The check revealed the man had a warrant out of the Woods for urinating in public, which carried a \$500 bond. The man also had a warrant out of Lansing.

The Woods officer transported the man back to police headquarters for processing.

Threatening calls

On Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 8 a.m., a 23-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods woman reported to police she was receiving threatening telephone calls from an unknown man and woman.

The calls have been coming in during the past two weeks.

Expired plate

On Monday, Feb. 5, at 9:47 p.m., a 44-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man driving a gray 2004 Ford Freestar was stopped after a police officer noticed his license plate tab was expired.

A LEIN check revealed the man had a warrant out of the Woods for failure to appear in court on a previous expired license plate tab citation.

The man was arrested.

Those with information on these or any crimes should call the Grosse Pointe Woods police department at (313) 343-2400.

— Bob St. John

Grosse Pointe Shores

Ran a red

A 60-year-old City of Grosse Pointe man was arrested following a traffic stop at Lakeshore and Vernier at 9:41 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10.

Police initiated the traffic stop after observing the vehicle ignore a red light at the intersection.

When questioning the man, police said a strong odor of intoxicants was detected coming from his facial area. After the man failed field sobriety tests, he registered a .14 on a breath test.

The man was arrested and his vehicle impounded.

Failed to inflate

Police arrested a 32-year-old Roseville woman following a traffic stop on Lakeshore near Fairlake Lane at 10:12 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7.

Police stopped the vehicle after observing its rear tire was flat. When questioned, the woman said she was aware of the flat but was attempting to make it to her destination.

A LEIN (Law Enforcement Information Network) check revealed the woman was wanted for a driver license suspension out of Roseville.

She was also ticketed for driving without a driver license, having no vehicle registration or proof of insurance.

She was arrested and released after posting bond.

Wrong way

A 57-year-old Detroit man was arrested for drunken driving and leaving the scene of an accident following a traffic stop at Lakeland and Jefferson at 12:39 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7.

Police stopped the vehicle after receiving numerous reports that it was seen driving northbound in the southbound lane of Lakeshore. The vehicle was also reported to have struck a vehicle on Lakeshore and proceeding on.

When questioning the man, police said a strong odor of intoxicants was detected coming from his facial area. Police also observed evidence of a recent accident on the driver's side door and mirror.

Due to the cold weather, the man was transported to the police station where he registered a .17 on a breath test.

He was arrested and placed in a cell. His vehicle was impounded.

Those with information on these or any crimes should call the Grosse Pointe Shores police department at (313) 881-5500.

— By John Lundberg

Grosse Pointe Farms

Wrong plate

Police detained a 21-year-old Detroit man following a traffic stop on Mack at 9:29 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9.

Police stopped the vehicle after observing its license plate was hanging by just one bolt and its tag expired. A LEIN (Law Enforcement Information Network) check revealed the plate belonged to a 1983 Chevrolet, not the vehicle the suspect was driving.

The man was cited for having an improper plate and driving without a license. The vehicle was legally parked.

Windows smashed

Police are investigating vandalism to a home in the 400 block of Colonial Court reported at 6:09 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9.

Police said two storm windows and one interior window were broken by vandal(s) using rocks, which were found on the floor under the windows.

Police also believe the suspect(s) attempted to ignite a window shade after observing it having a small burn hole and finding used matches between the two window panes.

The victim told police the damage occurred between Jan. 31 and that day. The house was put under a special watch.

Larceny

Police are investigating the theft of an iPod music player from a vehicle parked in the K lot of Grosse Pointe South High School reported at 4:14 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8.

Police said the suspect smashed the driver's side window with a slab of concrete and took the music player. The theft occurred between 7:45 a.m. and the time it was reported.

Drinking and drugs

Two Detroit men, a 25-year-old and 27-year-old, were arrested following a traffic stop at Lakeshore and Fisher at 1:26 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7.

Police stopped the vehicle for speeding and, when questioning the driver, noticed a strong odor of suspected marijuana coming from the vehicle. Police then observed a small bag of the suspected substance on the rear seat, which they confiscated.

A LEIN check revealed the two men were wanted on various warrants and they were arrested.

Police discovered two bottles of open malt liquor when searching the vehicle.

Another passenger was driven home. The vehicle was impounded.

Those with information on these or any crimes should call the Grosse Pointe Farms police department at (313) 885-2100.

— By John Lundberg

City of Grosse Pointe

Drunken driving

Police arrested a 31-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods woman for drunken driving following a traffic stop on Charlevoix at 4:39 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 11.

Police stopped the vehicle after observing it ignore a red light at Cadieux and Charlevoix. When questioning the woman, police said a strong odor of intoxicants was detected coming from her facial area. After failing field sobriety tests, the woman registered a .14 on a breath test.

She was arrested and the vehicle was released to a sober passenger.

Alleged thief caught

Police arrested a 42-year-old Detroit man for alleged car theft at 2:15 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10.

Police detained the man after observing the vehicle he was driving stalled on Mack near Washington.

A LEIN (Law Enforcement Information Network) check revealed the man was wanted on several warrants and he was taken into custody.

After he was picked up by Southfield police, the Detroit Police Department contacted City police saying the suspect fit the description of one of three suspects who stole a car at Seven Mile and Chalmers earlier.

Southfield police were contacted and the suspect was returned to be picked up by Detroit police.

Erratic driving

A 49-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods man was arrested for drunken driving following a traffic stop on Fisher near St. Paul at 2:10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8.

Police stopped the vehicle after observing it weaving over the center line on Jefferson before turning onto Fisher.

When questioning the man, police said a strong odor of intoxicants was detected coming from his facial area.

After failing field sobriety tests, the man registered a .20 on a breath test.

He was arrested and the vehicle was released to a sober passenger.

Those with information on these or any crimes should call the City of Grosse Pointe police department at (313) 886-3200.

— By John Lundberg

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council will be considering the following proposed ordinance for a second reading at its meeting scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building. The proposed ordinance is available for public inspection at the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The above Council meeting is open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Chapter 98, Zoning, Article VIII C-2 High Intensity City District
Section 98-242(1)(g), Permitted Uses
To Allow Establishments Licensed by the Liquor Control Commission
To Obtain A Dance Permit

Lisa Kay Hathaway,
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 02/15/2007

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council will be considering the following proposed ordinance for a second reading at its meeting scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building. The proposed ordinance is available for public inspection at the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The above Council meeting is open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Chapter 50, Liquor Control Ordinance by
Adding Section 50-15 Regulating Issuance of a
Liquor Control Commission Dance Permit
In the C-2 Zoning District

Lisa Kay Hathaway, CMC
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 02/15/07

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
HARPER WOODS SECONDARY SCHOOL
FURNITURE BID PACKAGE**

The City of Harper Woods School District will accept sealed and labeled bids for Furniture until 2:00 p.m. local time on March 01, 2007 at Harper Woods School District Office, 20225 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, Michigan 48225, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bidding documents will be available February 06, 2007 at the offices of the Architect, Wold Architects and engineers, 901 Tower Drive, Suite 325, Troy, Michigan 48098. (248) 879-9888.

The Owner will receive separate bids for each category of the Furniture Package.

World Architects and Engineers will provide complete sets of the Bidding Documents to prospective bidders.

Make proposals on the bid forms supplied in the bid package. No oral, telegraphic or telephonic proposals or modifications will be considered. A bid security of five percent (5%) of the total bid is required.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent of the School District. The Board of Education will not accept a bid that does not include a sworn and notarized familial relationship disclosure statement.

Bids may not be withdrawn within thirty (30) days after the scheduled time of opening bids, without the consent of the Owner. The Owner reserves the right to accept any bid or to reject any or all bids, or parts of such bids, and waive informalities or irregularities in bidding.

The Owner requires Substantial Completion of the project on or before August 13, 2007.

Sue Hedemark
G.P.N. 2/8/2007, 2/15/2007
Secretary, Harper Woods Board of Education

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - RUBBISH BAGS: Sealed bids will be received by the City at the office of the City Clerk, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, until 9:30 a.m., Friday, February 23, 2007, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing the following item: 15,000 Sleeves (50 Bags/Sleeve) of Rubbish Bags over a one-year period. 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.

Lisa Kay Hathaway, CMC
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 02/15/2007

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
CITY COUNCIL
19617 HARPER
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225**

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Harper Woods City Council will be holding a Public Hearing on Monday, March 5, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building City Council Chambers located at 19617 Harper, for the purpose of obtaining public input and comment on a request from the Archdiocese of Detroit to split Lots 617C1A and 617C1B1A1 of Private Claim 617, at 19360 Harper and 20955 Bournemouth (Trinity High School), for the purpose of selling the property to a Charter School. A copy of the proposed lot split is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office during normal business hours, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their comments in writing to the City Clerk's Office on or before March 5, 2007.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS

PUBLISHED: February 15, 2007
POSTED: February 6, 2007

MICKEY D. TODD,
City Clerk

**G.P. WOODS
Dance to be held March 17**

Mothers and sons are invited to the Grosse Pointe Woods "Mother & Son Speedin' Celebration" Saturday, March 17. It will be held at the Community Center.

Mothers and their sons ages 4 to 7 will participate in the event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and boys ages 8 to 11 and their mothers can participate from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

A large screen viewing of the movie "Cars" will be shown.

Each mother receives a keepsake photo.

Refreshments will be served.

This is a free event for Grosse Pointe Woods residents.

Register by March 15 by calling (313) 343-2470 or by e-mailing Lake Front Park at parks@gpwwmi.us.

City of **Grosse Pointe Farms**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Monday, March 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., a Public Hearing will be held at Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, for the following variance: To permit parking by other than occupant on a portion of:

71 Radnor Circle

Plans are available at City Hall for review. Written comments will be accepted till noon, on the Friday before the hearing, or you may appear at the above scheduled date and time.

Matthew Tepper,
City Clerk

GPN: 2/15/07

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE

City promotes two of its police officers

City of Grosse Pointe public safety officers, Alan Gwyn and John Alcorn have been promoted to sergeant.

In their new position, they will assume supervisory positions on the night shift.

"I am pleased to promote these two fine officers" said Al Fincham, public safety director. "Over the years they have shown the dedication and commitment required to serve this community with honor, integrity and distinction."

Both sergeants have been decorated multiple times in their careers.

Gwyn graduated from Western Michigan University and from the Kalamazoo Valley Police Academy in 1995.

He began his law enforcement career with the City of Hudson in 1995 and was named Police Officer of the Year in 1996. Gwyn was hired as a public safety officer for the City of Grosse Pointe in 1997. He has held many duties, including detective work, which he has done for the past year.

Gwyn is currently trained in many aspects of high technology crime including being a computer forensic examiner, cell phone forensic examiner and computer-related crimes investigator.

Gwyn attended Eastern

Michigan University for this training and has secured approximately \$25,000 in Federal grants for computer crimes training over the past two years.

His other duties include vehicle accident reviewer and

drug shot system administrator. During his tenure in Grosse Pointe he has received department citations commendations and the Chief's Merit Award.

Alcorn is a second generation police officer, following his father, who was a Detroit police

officer. Alcorn graduated from Central Michigan University and the Oakland Police Academy. Alcorn joined the City of Grosse Pointe Department of Public Safety in 2001. His primary functions have been patrol and firefight-

ing duties. However, for the last four years Alcorn has acted as a detective, assisting the bureau when needed.

Alcorn is also responsible for the department's CPR and first aid training, and in that role helped secure a grant for auto-

matic external defibrillators to be used by the department.

Alcorn has also received department citations and commendations as well as the Chief's Merit Award. In his off time, Alcorn is an instructor at the Oakland Police Academy.

G. P. WOODS

A week of class

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Woods City Administrator Mark Wollenweber is going back to school, but just for a week.

He received a \$1,750 scholarship from Michigan Local Government Management Association President Randall Byrne to attend the ICMA (International City/County Management Association) Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Va., June 3 through June 9.

The scholarship will help cover the \$3,500 registration fee, airfare, and incidentals.

"This is a unique opportunity offered by the University of Virginia to spend some quality time with some of the top city officials from around the country," Wollenweber said.

The class offers participants one week of intensive, interactive learning designed for senior local government managers. The curriculum centers on the needs and concerns of the top local government executive.

Wollenweber will learn about motivation and tools to energize the organization; effective team management skills; interpersonal skills to enhance the quality of the multitude of relationships in his professional and personal life; and to redefine and ignite his own personal goals and aspirations.

Leadership skills will also be honed, as well as the essence of public service, team development and self-assessment.

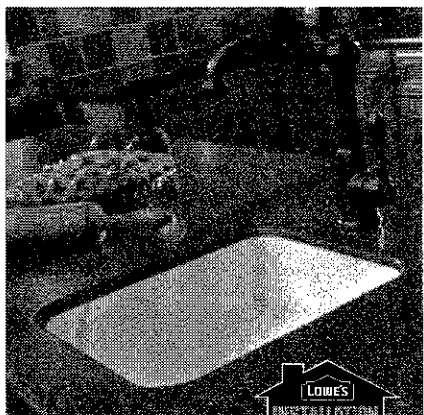
Mayor Robert Novitke said funds set aside in the city budget for city officials to attend seminars will be used to cover the remaining costs.

Officers named

Grosse Pointe Woods' Mayor's Beautification Advisory Commission's 2007 officers were recently named.

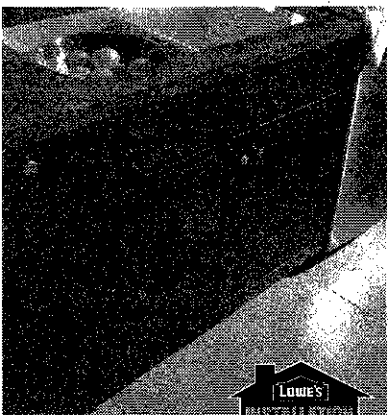
They are Linda Ireson (recording secretary), James Kedich (treasurer), Deborah Mathews (Department of Public Works representative), Pamela Barnwell (corresponding secretary), Mary Beth Nicholson (chairperson), William Allemon (vice chairperson) and Allen Dickinson (city council representative).

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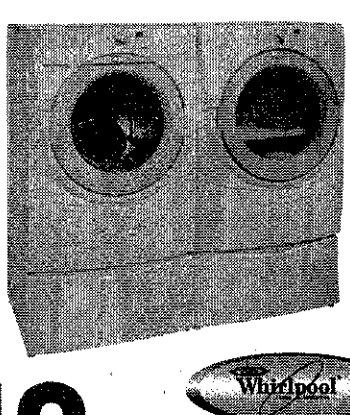
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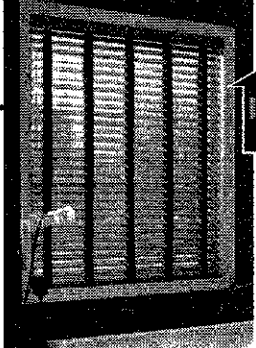
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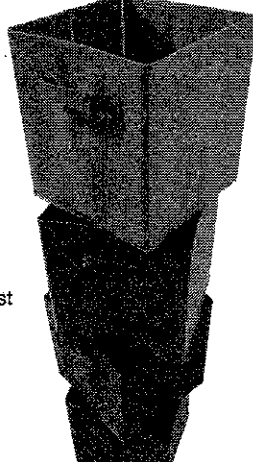
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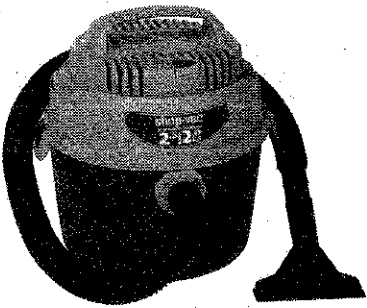
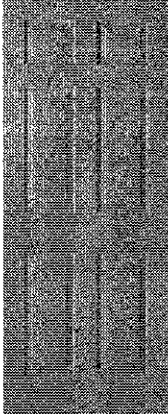
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FEATURES

HEALTH

Sleepless in G.P.

There are ways to fall asleep without the aid of drugs. PAGE 5B

4B CHURCHES | 5B HEALTH | 6B SENIORS | 7-8B ENTERTAINMENT

Knit one; purl two: Grosse Pointers of all ages love a good ribbing and a long and colorful yarn as they take up long or curved needles and **knit** their way into relaxation.

Spinning a yarn

By Margie Reins Smith
Special Writer

Janet Ferguson of Grosse Pointe Farms learned to knit while she was in college. Her mother, an avid knitter, taught her and her two sisters.

When it was time for Ferguson to break the news to her mother of her first pregnancy, she did it with knitting.

"We were out to dinner and we gave her a gift, a kit for a baby sweater. It took her a minute or so to put two and two together. She was thrilled.

"My youngest daughter-in-law told us that she was pregnant in the same way."

The popularity of knitting has surged in recent years. The Craft Yarn Council of America's survey for the year 2005 found some 53 million crocheters and knitters nationwide. Knitting and crocheting projects were up by 13 percent from the year before and most knitters were found to be women under age 35 or over age 55. The council also noted a 15 percent increase in sales of fashion yarns for that year.

Celebrities do it too. According to the Craft Yarn Council of America's Web site, Vanna White, Julia Roberts and Cameron Diaz are avid knitters.

Ferguson said knitting is relaxing. She usually has two or three projects going at the same time. She knits while riding in the car, watching television or listening to music, and sometimes at meetings. She always takes a knitting project along when traveling and often listens to books on tape while knitting.

Jean Rudolph of Grosse Pointe Farms taught herself to knit while in college. She's been knitting ever since. Recently, she's knitting more than ever, "because of all the new products and techniques that are available now," she said.

She also likes the social aspect of knitting. She has taken classes and has even gone to a knitting retreat in Mount Clemens.

"A group of knitters and spinners went away for a weekend of knitting, shopping and eating," she said. "We had a great time." She will attend another knitting retreat later this year in North Carolina.

"I love the creative aspect, too," she said. "I love fibers. There are so many more kinds of yarn than when I learned to knit 30 years ago. Now you can choose hand-dyed, hand-spun yarns."

Rudolph knits in the car, while waiting in lines or in doctors' offices and while watching TV.

Her favorite knitting project was a sweater coat in shades of teal, black and purple. She has created sweaters, shawls, mittens, hats, socks, a mohair coat — even a bowl.

Mary Garlough of Grosse Pointe Park also taught herself to knit when she was in college, but she still classifies herself as a beginner.

"For me, it's all about the process, not the product," she said. "Knitting is therapeutic. I love going to a knitting store and picking out yarn and buttons and patterns. The yarns and the colors allow such creativity.

"I love sitting and actually doing it," she said, "but I've created some hideous disasters."

Garlough prefers mindless knitting, easy patterns using knit and purl stitches, so she can carry on a conversation or watch "Law and Order" while she's doing it. She often knits while she's a passenger in a car.

Many knitters struggle with the temptation to knit while attending meetings, especially long meetings.

"I've often wondered if it's rude to knit at a meeting," Garlough said.

"I guess — yes — I think it's rude."

"I'm into buttons," Ferguson said. Buttons can either put a dramatic touch on a completed garment or inspire the creation of a new one. She made a child's sweater with stripes of tomato soup red and bright green yarn, then finished it with metal elephant-shaped buttons.

She also knitted a periwinkle blue sweater after being inspired by a set of ceramic tile buttons decorated with flowers in shades of blue, purple and green. For her 9-year-old granddaughter, who's currently into horses, she made a sweater with horse-shaped buttons.

See **KNITTERS**, page 2B



Ellie Shirk and Arianna DerManulian are students at Defer Elementary School. They also live next door to each other and often knit together.



PHOTOS BY MARGIE REINS SMITH

Above, Janet Ferguson works on a prayer shawl for the outreach program of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church's women's group. She has knitted more than 60 shawls. Below, Jean Rudolph works on one of several knitting projects that she currently has in progress.



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We're in the home stretch of our renovation, but while we're working to give great art a new start, there's still plenty for you to enjoy in the galleries this weekend.

THIS WEEK'S GREAT ART

in celebration of Black History Month

Friday, February 16

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Saturday, February 17

Try your hand at drawing in the galleries or make your own book at the drop-in workshop!

Sunday, February 18

Celebrate the life of Rosa Parks through storyteller Tonya Dallas' "Get on the Bus."

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2B | FEATURES

KNITTERS:
They get the point

From page 1B

buttons.
Ellie Shirk, 9, and Arianna DerManulian, 11, learned to knit from Jenni Shirk, Ellie's mother.

They knit baby hats, which they donate to local hospitals and Ellie made a poncho for herself, a hat for her mother, and two purses.

Arianna made a hat for her brother, Mark, as a birthday gift, a scarf, and ear warmers. She's currently working on a scarf.

"It's relaxing," Arianna said. "It helps keep your mind off your worries."

Both girls help Ellie's mother teach Defer Elementary School first-, second- and third-graders how to knit during a lunchtime enrichment program.

Ferguson also knits shawls for an outreach project of Presbyterian Women, a women's group at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. The organization's Prayer Shawl Ministry is a 9-year-old nonde-

nominal, nationwide knitting and crocheting project which was introduced at a Presbyterian Women's meeting two years ago.

"The making of a shawl is a spiritual practice that embodies the knitter's thoughts and prayers for the receiver," Ferguson said. "Shawls are knitted with small yarns on size 13 needles and they're made in every color imaginable. They're machine washable and can be dried in a dryer. The completed shawl is always given away; never sold."

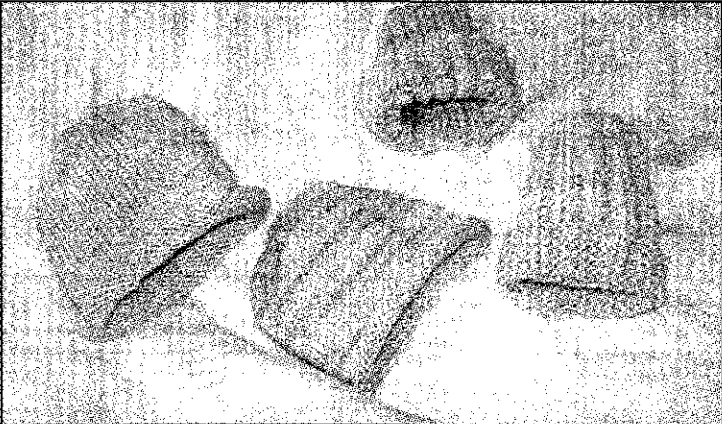
Shawls have been given to people who are ill, undergoing medical procedures; dealing with loss; and or going through difficult times. Prayer shawls are also given to celebrate marriages and births; they're presented to caregivers; or they're given as a gesture of goodwill and friendship.

"(The shawl) uses a three-stitch seed pattern, symbolic of planting peace, healing love, comfort and hope into the shawl by the maker - for the receiver," Ferguson said.

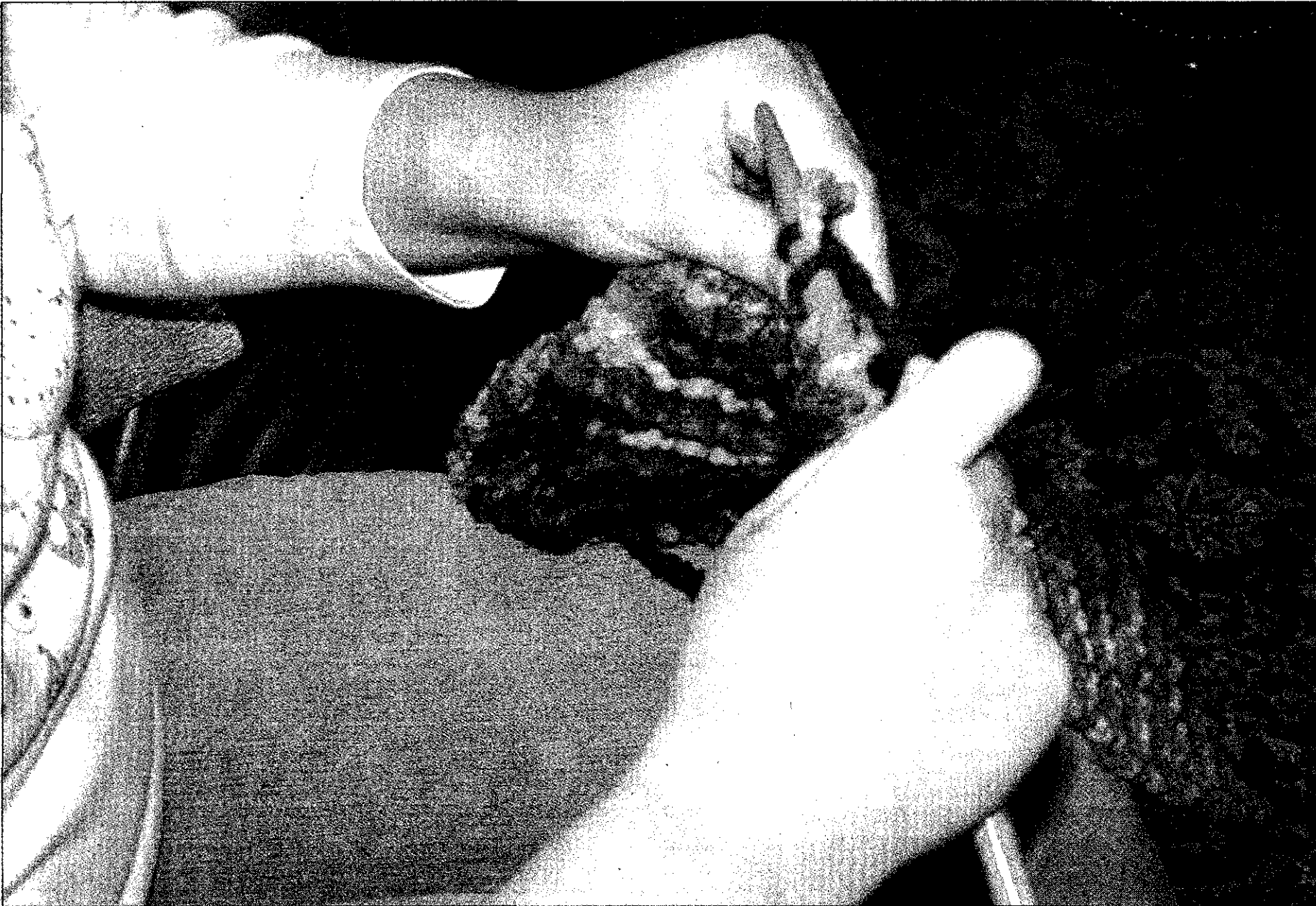
"Each shawl comes with an attached laminated bookmark with a prayer written by one of the founders of the Shawl Ministry."

Ferguson estimated that she has completed more than 60 shawls.

"Psychologists have confirmed that repetitive small motor movements increase the amount of serotonin in the brain," Rudolph said. "Serotonin is a mood stabilizing hormone. I guess you can throw away your Prozac if you knit."



Mary Garlough, Ellie Shirk and Arianna DerManulian knit hats for premature babies and donate them to local hospitals.



PHOTOS BY MARGIE REINS SMITH

Prayer Shawl

This is the prayer on the bookmark that is attached to each Prayer Shawl.

Prayer of Blessing

May God's grace be upon this shawl ... warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.

May this mantle be a safe haven ... a sacred place of security and well-being, sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.

May the one who receives this shawl be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace and wrapped in love.

Blessed Be.

Janet Bristow-2000
shawlministry.com

Arianna DerManulian, 11, a fifth-grader at Defer Elementary School, said knitting is relaxing.

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Store hours; Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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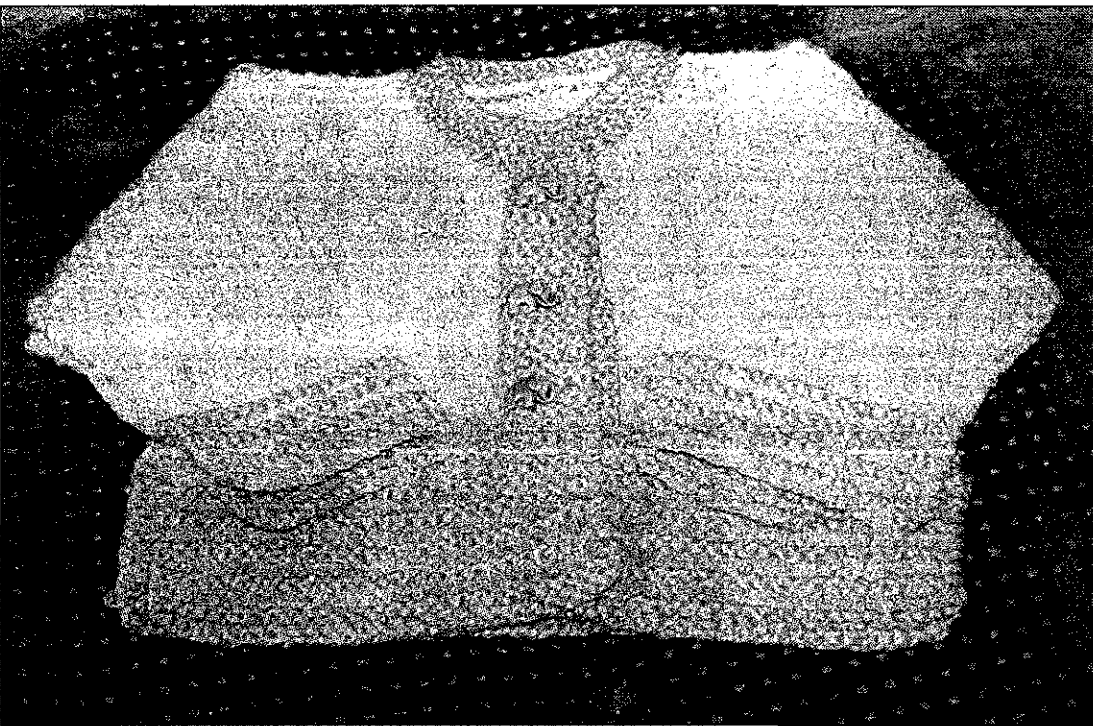
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To advertise in this column call (313) 882-3500 by 12:00 pm Fridays



Janet Ferguson put pewter elephant buttons on this child's sweater.

Tablescapes benefit DSO

"Prelude to Summer: Tablescapes at the Alger House," a major fundraising event planned to benefit the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will take place from April 26 through 28, at the Alger House at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Additionally, a house-full of delightful summer-themed tablescapes created by some of the Detroit area's leading designers and shops, other special activities are being planned.

A Thursday evening preview gala and auction will include opportunities to bid on unique DSO experiences, such as an after concert wine wrap-up session with a first-chair DSO musician.

Also that evening the raffle ticket will be drawn to determine the winner of a wooden birdhouse, hand-crafted in the image of Orchestra Hall.

A Friday morning breakfast

and talk by interior designer Dan Clancy of Perlmutter-Freiwald Inc. will be followed by Friday and Saturday book signings by Mary Carol Garrity, columnist and author of "Neil Hill's Entertaining in Style."

Ticket outlets and other details will be announced shortly. Chairman of the event is Marie De Luca, Grosse Pointe Farms. President of the Volunteer Council is Debra Partrich, Bloomfield Hills. For further details, call (313) 576-5154.

A Friday morning breakfast

Pros offer bocce tips at fundraiser

Get tips from the pros and help out the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan by participating in the "Bocci for Bucks III" fundraiser from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 22, at the Palazzo di Bocce in Orion Township.

The event features an afternoon of indoor bocce ball tournament play, professional instruction from World Cup Bocce players, an Italian buffet and silent auction.

No prior experience or equipment is needed.

Proceeds will benefit the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan which provides home health care and hospice services to 9,500 residents of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Livingston and Washtenaw counties.

The event is sponsored by Complete Infusion Services.

Tickets are available with the following benefits:

- ◆ \$100 Guest ticket includes bocce play, Italian buffet dinner, beer, wine, desserts, silent auction and exit gift.
- ◆ \$150 Patron ticket in-

cludes all of the above plus expert bocce instruction from World Cup Bocce Players one hour prior to event start.

◆ \$200 Benefactor ticket includes all of the above plus an invitation to a "Private Benefactor Reception" which includes hors d'oeuvres, wine and brief discussion on how to purchase fine art and sculpture at 6 p.m., Sunday, March 25, at Park West Gallery in Southfield.

For more information, call (248) 967-8324 or visit vna.org.

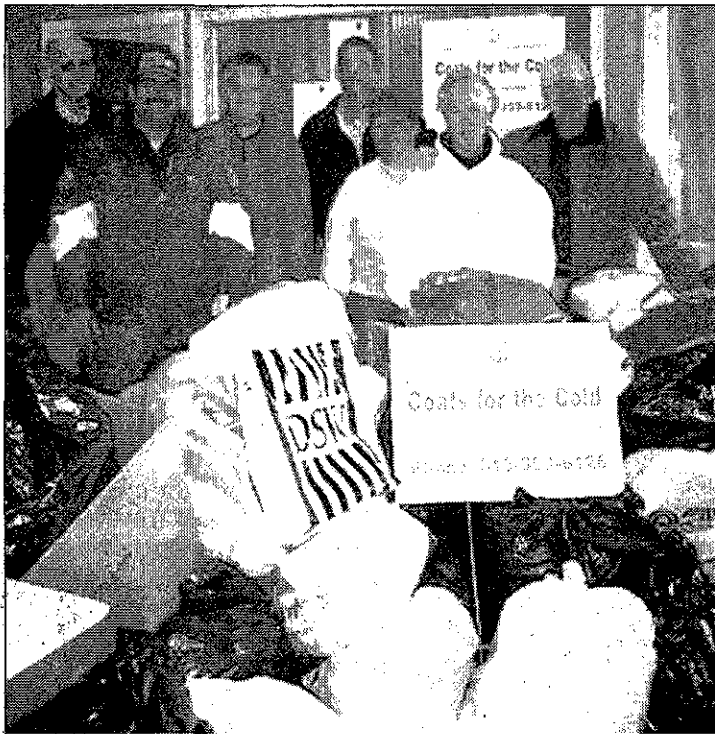


PHOTO COURTESY KENT COMMER

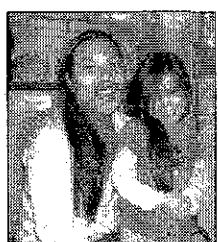
Coats galore

Members of the Lakeshore Optimist Club of Grosse Pointe held their annual "Coats for the Cold Community Clothing Collection" on Dec. 2. Donations restocked My Father's Business Outreach Ministry and the Children's Home of Detroit. Greater participation led to an increased amount of donations this year. Volunteer Optimists, from left, included Jeff vonSchwarz of Grosse Pointe Farms, Krys Schroeder of Grosse Pointe Woods, Dave Fries of the City of Grosse Pointe, Jim Krausmann of Grosse Pointe Park, Deb Moffat of the City of Grosse Pointe, Nancy Grose of the City of Grosse Pointe and Doug Cordier of Grosse Pointe Farms.



Hair cut

A Grosse Pointe North student, Olyvia Brown, 14, donated three 10-inch ponytails to Locks of Love on Jan. 13. After seeing a television program in which a child was a recipient of a wig, she asked her hairstylist Toni Manzaroli at Trent David Salon to cut her blond hair. Brown holds some of the hair cut for Locks of Love.



Edge trim

Tamara Lie Fobare and her 4-year-old daughter, Greta, have big hearts and short hair. Both donated their hair to Locks of Love. It was Greta's idea to have 14 inches of her hair cut by Martha Lucander of Grosse Pointe Farms, said her mother, who has donated twice. Greta was accompanied by her aunt and Fobare's sister, Natasha Lie, of Grosse Pointe Park, who had 13 inches cut. Fobare is a former Grosse Pointe Park resident who now lives in Royal Oak. Pictured from left are Lie and Greta Fobare.

Raised to high standards

A hero has his roots in Grosse Pointe.

Leader Dog Travis was raised by a Grosse Pointe Park family and is credited with saving his visually impaired master's life.

The companion of Charlie Robinson of Detroit, Travis alerted Robinson of a fire.

Robinson had turned on a space heater in his apartment on Eight Mile and Telegraph and went into the kitchen to make coffee at 5:30 a.m.

According to Pat Paterno, manager of media relations for Leader Dogs for the Blind, Travis was "acting anxiously." Robinson thought Travis wanted to play and the dog enticed Robinson into the living room where he detected a burning odor.

The electrical outlet and the heater's cord fried and the carpet burned.

The fire had not yet moved to the curtains.

Robinson is alive due to Travis's warning, Paterno said.

Leslie Miller of Grosse Pointe Park knew when she saw the black Lab on a local television station's 11 p.m. news teaser it was Travis and called her family together.

"He was smart," Miller said.

"He was a great dog."

Travis came to the Millers as an 8-week-old puppy in 2004. Daughter Alexis, now a Michigan State University student, named the dog Travis after singer Travis Tritt.

The family became attached to the Leader-Dog-in-training, taking him on walks in and around the Village and to church. They housebroke him and kept him off furniture and fed him only dog food, nothing from the table, in preparation for his life's work.

"He wasn't skittish," Miller said. In fact, she said, he was quite friendly and the family thought that might be his downfall.

"He was incredibly friendly," Miller said.

The Millers — father Gary, Alexis and son Garrett — took Travis to the Leader Dogs for the Blind and hoped he would be a washout in the program so they could adopt him and he could remain a companion to their 10-year-old Brittany spaniel.

However, Travis had a purpose, Miller said. He's not only a Leader Dog but a life-saver.

— By Ann L. Fouty

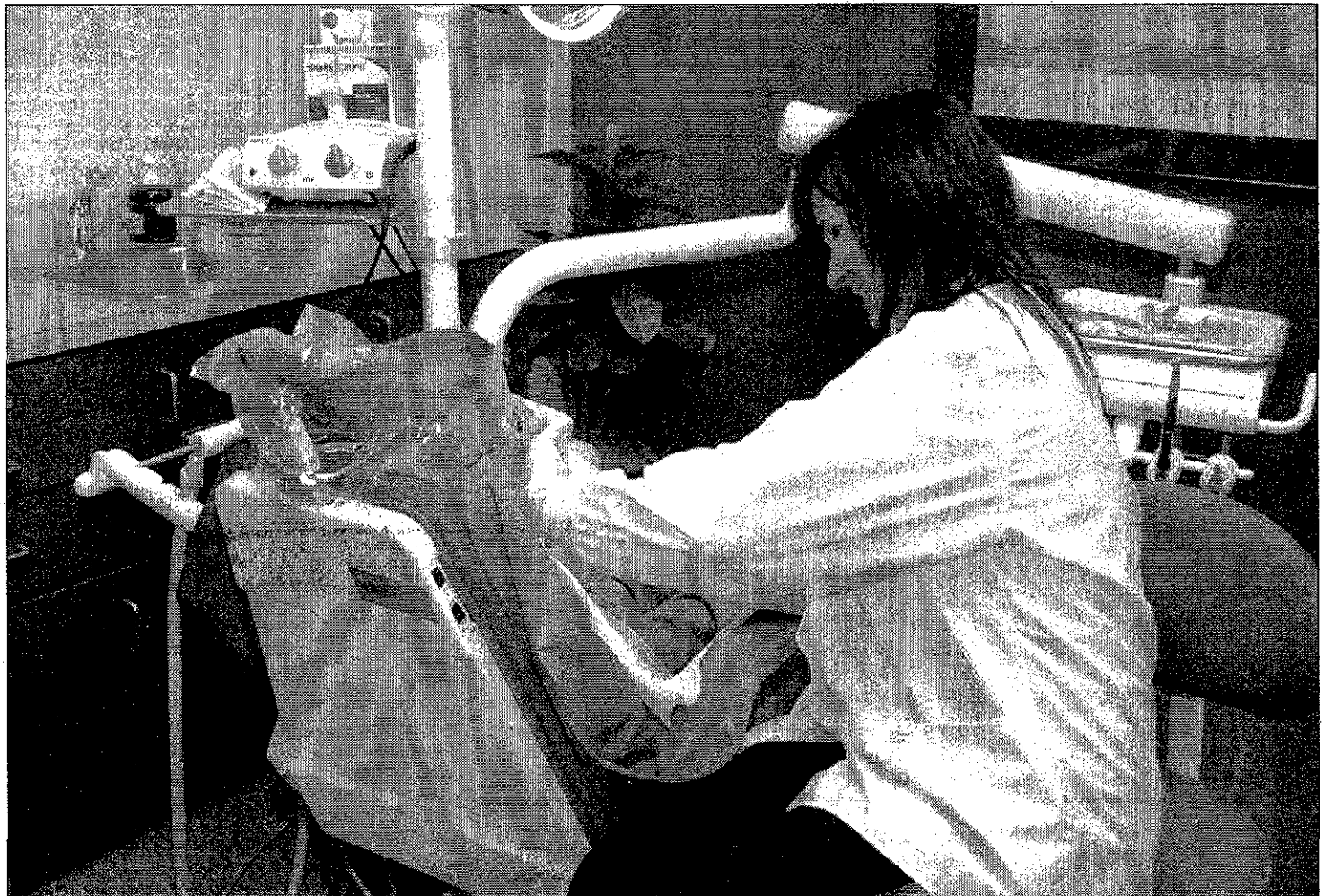


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Heartfelt Project

The staff of dentist Kevin Prush, D.D.S. of Grosse Pointe Woods, spent a Saturday morning doing their jobs to benefit the Heartfelt Project. This was the eighth consecutive year, Prush and his staff, Lydia Prush, Rose Sesta, Kim Bate, Jacki Losinski, Corinne Stonick and Melanie Jacobs participated in the project. They saw 16 young Macomb County patients who do not have access to dental care due to lack of insurance or Medicaid. They assessed the patients, at no charge, as part of the project sponsored by the Macomb County Dental Hygiene Association. The association receives names of patients from the children's respective schools. "It is a very small way I can make a difference," Prush said. Here Bate, of Grosse Pointe Farms, examines the teeth of a young St. Clair Shores boy.

CLUB MEETINGS

Chamber music

The Grosse Pointe Chamber Music sponsors a program at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Featured on the program will be "Concerto for Bassoon in B-flat Major, K. 191" by W. A. Mozart performed by Roger Maki-Schramm, principal bassoonist of the Flint Symphony Orchestra, and Edward Maki-Schramm on the piano; "Trois Pieces Breves" by Jacques Ibert; "Three Shanties" by Malcolm Arnold with the Detroit Woodwind Quintet; and "Concerto for Flute and Harp in C Major, K. 314" by W. A. Mozart performed by Laura Larson (flute), Amy Ley (harp) and Wesley Fishwick (piano). Terese Edelstein and Gerta Jarulaitis are the hostesses.

Vision support group

The Friends of Vision Support Group meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 19, at the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, 15415 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Another group meets from 1 to 2:15 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 19, at St. Lucy Catholic Church, St. Clair Shores.

For more information, call Nancy Pilorget at (313) 824-4710, extension 225.

La Leche League

La Leche League, a mother-to-mother breast-feeding information and support group, meets at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, in Grosse Pointe. For more information, call Jennifer at (313) 821-9196 or Shannon at (313) 882-9801 or e-mail Dana at joesmom8@hotmail.com.

Women's Connection

The Women's Connection of Grosse Pointe meets Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Lochmoor Club. This month's topic is "Amazing! Miraculous! Handy Hints from the Marvelous Maven of Macomb" with Ellie Kaye. Socializing begins at 6 p.m., dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and the program is from 7:45 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$27 for members, \$29 for non-members and \$5 for the program only.

For more information, call Marcia Pikelek at (313) 884-4201 or Nancy Neat at (313)

882-1855.

Woman's Club

Cameron D. Hosner, president and CEO of Vista Maria, will explain the goals and achievements of Vista Maria's nonprofit residential and community-based agency to the Woman's Club on Wednesday, Feb. 21, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Vista Maria is dedicated to serving neglected, abused and challenged girls and was founded by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in 1883 in downtown Detroit. The agency's mission is to heal and restore Michigan's abused, neglected and poverty-stricken women and children to help them transform into a productive and healthy adulthood.

Reservations should be called into Hospitality Chairman Beverly Zimmermann (313) 881-6251 by Saturday, Feb. 17.

For more information about the club, call membership chairman Beverley Pack at (313) 882-5397 or President Pam Zimmer at (313) 882-9087

Pointe Knitters

Pointe Knitters meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Children's Home of Detroit, 900 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The program will be a project using the modular technique. For more information, call (313) 885-9034.

Women of Wayne

The Grosse Pointe Chapter of Women of Wayne, a constituent group of the Wayne State University Alumni Association, presents its annual "Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show" on Saturday, March 10, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Models on the runway will feature the fashions of Coldwater Creek.

A silent auction and two vendors, jewelry by Tidings of Love Inc. and T-shirts by See Jane Run, will be available while complimentary mimosa is served.

Registration begins at 11 a.m., followed by the luncheon at noon and the fashion show at 1 p.m. The cost is \$29. Reservations must be made by March 1 by sending a check payable to W.O.W. G.P. to Santina Miller, 20202 Van Antwerp, Harper Woods, MI 48225.

For multiple reservations, include names of guests.

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial is located at 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

President of Women of Wayne Grosse Pointe is Laura Kystad of Grosse Pointe Woods. Members of the board are Joan Wright of Harper Woods, Theresa Lorio of Roseville, Rose Hauck of Harper Woods, Arliss Zink of Eastpointe, Georgina Imbriaco of St. Clair Shores, Jean Wright

of Grosse Pointe Park, Santina Miller of Harper Woods, Jane McGraw of Grosse Pointe Farms, and Marti Miller of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Proceeds from the event provide scholarships for women returning to Wayne State University to earn a degree.

G.P. Audubon

Grosse Pointe Audubon presents "Bird Migration Along Lake St. Clair" Monday, Feb. 19, in the Community Room at Children's Home of Detroit, 900 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Social hour begins at 7 p.m. and the meeting is at 7:30 p.m. Lake St. Clair is a vital link along the migratory path of thousands of waterfowl and songbirds.

Metro Beach Metropark naturalist Julie Champion will explain why Lake St. Clair has been designated as one of the globally important bird areas. The meeting is free and open to the public.

For more information, call (313) 885-6502.

Pops concert honors Henry Mancini

In celebration of a career that created film and television music themes, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra performs the music of composer Henry Mancini during its next pops concert series.

"Mancini at the Movies" features the composer's daughter, Monica Mancini, who will appear as solo vocalist, sing a

number of her late father's hits, including the theme from "Moon River" and "The Days of Wine and Roses."

Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15; 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16 and Saturday, Feb. 17; and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18. For ticket prices and more information, call (313) 576-5111.

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4B | CHURCHES

CHURCH EVENTS

30-hour famine

The youth at First English Ev. Lutheran Church are signing up for the service and fellowship project called "30 Hour Famine" to raise money to send to World Vision.

The young people begin to fast at noon on Friday, Feb. 23, and an all-night lock-in to raise money and awareness for the world's hungry children.

They will learn what youth in other areas of the world are doing to survive every day of their lives.

At 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, the hungry group will eat. One of the featured activities of the event will be a game of Lazer Tag. Neighborhood young people are welcome to join in the fun.

Contact Nancy McCarthy, director of the Board of Youth, at (586) 779-0191 or the Rev. Jerry Elsholz, associate pastor, at the office at (313) 884-5040 with inquiries.

First English is located at 800 Vernier at Wedgewood in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Spaghetti dinner

The youth at First English hosts an Ash Wednesday Spaghetti Dinner for the congregation before the 7 p.m. service on Wednesday, Feb. 21.

Help is needed at 5:30 p.m. to set up, cook and serve.

In April a Road Rally is planned, in May a concert will be held in The Luther Center.

First English is expanding camp opportunities to include community youth.

On June 17 to 22 the Senior High Work Camp takes place in Grand Rapids; July 8 to 13 features Junior High Catechism Camp to be held at Michi-Lu-Ca in northern Michigan; on July 22 to 27 Leadership Training School is conducted; on July 27 to 29 Elementary Camp Weekend for grades 3 through 6 takes place at Stony Lake Camp and

on Aug. 3 through 6 Bass Lake Festival will conclude the summer's activities.

Musicale

The Tuesday Musicale of Detroit presents a concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Featured will be the works of Ingelbrecht and Giraud, performed by soprano Ruth Lapeyre, accompanied by pianist the Rev. Edouard Perrone.

Flutist Brandon LePage, the winner of the Hanna Lahti Flute Scholarship, will perform works by Gossec and Charles-Marie Wido, accompanied by pianist Joan C. Haggard. The winner of the Janet Young Piano Scholarship, Natalka Podstawka, will also perform.

Xiao Dong Wei Hottmann will play Chinese music on the guzheng (Chinese harp).

For more information, call (248) 932-0840 or (248) 848-9930.

Lenten services

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21, the holy season of Lent begins at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. with Holy Communion and traditional Imposition of Ashes.

After the morning service, a freewill offering sandwich luncheon will follow at 11:30 a.m. Before the evening service, a free will offering spaghetti supper will be served at 6 p.m. by the youth of the church.

The Lenten meals continue after the Wednesday morning services and before the evening services every Wednesday through March 28; at regular Sunday services the ongoing Lenten theme is continued.

The schedule is as follows: Sunday, Feb. 25, Jesus' birth;

Wednesday, Feb. 28, Jesus' younger years; Sunday, March 4, Jesus' Ministry — The beginning; Wednesday, March 7, Jesus' temptation; Sunday, March 11, Jesus and his disciples; Wednesday, March 14, Jesus' teaching; Sunday, March 18, Jesus' miracles; Wednesday, March 21, Jesus' call to discipleship; Sunday, March 25, Jesus' cleansing of the temple; and Wednesday, March 28, Jesus' transfiguration.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, April 1.

Ash Wednesday

The Choir of Girls and Men will sing at the 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, service at Christ Church, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., including the Ash Wednesday motet, "Miserere Mei" by Allegri. Other 17th century English anthems are included in the service. The public is invited.

Ash Wednesday

The Lenten period begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21, and Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, will hold a special service at 7 p.m.

All are welcome to attend the service, which will include the imposition of Ashes and Communion.

Lenten series

Five prominent women theologians will give their perspectives regarding the impact of faith and religion on today's society during a Lenten lecture series at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays.

"The feminine voice of theology allows us to experience the full breadth of the image of God," said the Rev. Brad

Whitaker, rector of Christ Church. "We felt it particularly appropriate to hear from women this year as the Episcopal Church elected its first female presiding bishop at our general convention last summer."

The series is entitled "The Purple Perspective," named for the liturgical color of the season of Lent.

Diana Butler Bass will speak on Tuesday, Feb. 27. She is the author of "Christianity for the Rest of Us," called the most important book of the decade about emerging Christianity and the renewal of mainline congregations. Her book summarizes a three-year study funded by the Lilly Endowment and offers hope and challenges for traditional churches.

Phyllis Tickle will speak March 6. She is an authority on religion in America and a lecturer. She has authored more than two dozen books including best-seller "Stories from the Farm in Lucy."

On March 13, Rima Meroueh, an Arab-American Mideast expert, will speak. She has conducted academic research at Wayne State University on the Arab-American experience and is an activist representing Arab-Americans in our community. She has found medical care for children from Iraq and Sierra Leone who could not be treated in their own countries, organized voter rallies to encourage high voter turnout among Arab-Americans in Michigan.

Shannon MacVean-Brown, the new rector at St. Matthew's-St. Joseph's Church in Detroit, will speak on March 20.

She is a graduate of Seabury-Western Seminary.

Julia Dempz, the rector of Nativity Episcopal Church in Bloomfield Township, will speak on March 27. She has served in churches in the area for 18 years.

Travel with First English for Alpine adventure

Dr. Walter A. Schmidt, senior pastor of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, leads his 10th journey abroad, this time featuring an Alpine Adventure.

On July 10 - 23, Schmidt will lead a tour to Salzburg, Innsbruck, Oberammergau, St. Moritz, Lucerne, Grindelwald, Zermatt and Montreaux.

The tour features round-trip airfare from Detroit, first-class accommodations at first-class select hotels in rooms with private baths and twin beds, most meals, services of a professional tour director, comprehensive sightseeing throughout. Additionally, there will be a \$100,000 automatic flight insurance.

All hotel service charges and local tax are included.

In addition, all admission fees, train rides and cable car costs are included.

The cost of the tour is \$4,099 from Detroit.

A \$300 deposit is in order

soon; call Schmidt at (313) 884-5040, with inquiries or to request a full-color brochure.

An orientation meeting before the date of travel will offer an opportunity to meet the other travelers and become acquainted with rules of travel including tips on making the trip more enjoyable and books and maps of the travel area to peruse.

The Alpine Adventure begins in Munich, Germany, and concludes in Geneva, Switzerland. The tour offers the opportunity to visit Linderhof Castle, Neuschwanstein Castle, the Glacier Express train, 14th Century Kapell Bridge, Lion Monument, Truemmehbach Falls, Aletsch Glacier, two nights in a resort in the shadow of the Matterhorn, 14th Century Chateau de Chillon, the Garmisch area, Interlaken, Jungfrauoch, Kleine Scheidegg, Gornergrat and numerous cathedrals.

NEW ARRIVALS

Anna Clare Melroy and Charlotte Melroy

Sarah and Mike Melroy of Savannah, Ga., are the parents of twin daughters, Anna Clare Melroy and Charlotte Melroy, born Jan. 22, 2007.

Maternal grandparents are Marshal and Martha Lakis of Tampa, Fla., formerly of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Paternal grandparents are Judy and Donald Melroy of Savannah, Ga.

James Connell Doherty

Anne and Jim Doherty of Chicago, Ill., are the parents of a son, James Connell Doherty, born Jan. 24, 2007.

Maternal grandparents are Arlene Connell of Grosse Pointe Farms and the late Harold Connell.

Paternal grandparents are Cecilia and James Doherty of Toledo, Ohio.

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HEALTH COLUMN By Jeff and Debra Jay

Should sleep come in the form of a pill?



Dear Jeff and Debra: I am a 60-year-old woman who suffers from insomnia. I've resisted taking sleeping pills, but my doctor assures me that today's sleep medications are quite safe. Both of my parents were alcoholic, so I've avoided alcohol and addictive drugs my entire life. Yet, I'm thinking about taking the pills just to get some relief. Should I be worried?

-SLEEPLESS IN GROSSE

Dear Sleepless:

It's always best to search for non-drug remedies to relieve sleeping difficulties. Begin by exploring the possible causes for your insomnia:

- ◆ Are you depressed or experiencing high levels of stress?
- ◆ Is noise in your environment keeping you awake?
- ◆ Is your bedroom too warm or too cold?
- ◆ Is your mattress contributing to the problem?
- ◆ Is sleeplessness a side effect of a medication you are taking?
- ◆ Are health problems contributing to your insomnia?
- ◆ Are you drinking caffeinat-

POINTE

ed beverages?

- ◆ Do you smoke cigarettes before bed?
- ◆ Are you napping during the day?
- ◆ Do you eat, talk on the telephone or watch television in bed?

Take the necessary steps to take care of conditions that could cause insomnia. Get a thorough physical and treat any physical or psychological problems. Lessen stress using various techniques: regular exercise, biofeedback, yoga, meditation, breathing exercises, warm baths, massages, journaling, visualization, counseling.

Stop drinking caffeinated beverages after 2 p.m.

Continue to avoid alcohol, which can contribute to insomnia. Maintain a regular bedtime and get up early.

Sleep in a well-ventilated, cool room. Don't keep an illuminated clock in the room. Turn the television off before bedtime. Use earplugs or invest in a white noise machine to block noise pollution.

Visit your local health store and ask about teas and aromatic oils that promote sleep. Maintain overall good health to reduce insomnia and try to expose yourself to an hour or two of sunshine every day. Research tells us that the home remedy of drinking a glass of warm milk (add some honey) before bed really does work.

So do small servings of yogurt or cheese.

Sleeping pills help in some cases, but they aren't a cure. They only provide temporary relief. Use them for no longer than 10 days.

Taking these pills regularly can cause rebound insomnia. In other words, once you quit taking them, your insomnia comes back.

Furthermore, most sleeping pills carry some risk of dependency.

In addition, people who are 60 years and older have an increased probability of experiencing negative side effects. Research shows that these medications harmed one out of six older adults who used

them. There is greater risk of daytime sleepiness, memory problems and falls. So give non-drug techniques time to work and think twice before asking for a sleep medication.

Jeff Jay and Debra Jay are co-authors of "Love First: A New Approach to Intervention for Alcoholism and Drug Addiction," and Debra Jay is the author of "No More Letting Go: The Spirituality of Taking Action Against Alcoholism and Drug Addiction."

Jeff and Debra Jay are professional interventionists who live in Grosse Pointe Farms. They may be contacted with your questions at (313) 882-6921 or their Web site love-first.net.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Mary Ellen Brayton

Answering middle school questions



This week we received two great questions that are answered by Susan Fell, student assistant specialist at Brownell Middle School and a member of our Program Planning Committee.

Q: Do you believe a child sets themselves up to be a victim? If so, how?

A: Children and adolescents need to take appropriate risks, fail and practice creative solutions in order to build self-esteem.

Well-meaning parents who regularly come to their children's rescue with sibling disagreements and friendship issues may unknowingly be taking away important learning experiences that promote healthy self-esteem.

These children may seek out adult aid as their first option when experiencing an uncomfortable peer situation.

For many children and adolescents, this increases their belief that they cannot handle situations on their own and the "victim" mentality grows.

Parents need to help children brainstorm multiple solutions to uncomfortable situations, role play ways to respond to peers, help children recognize that they have choices when it comes to choosing friends, and allow the child to feel uncomfortable for a while as he/she finds a solution.

Q: All girls need to be part of groups to belong.

Other than cliques, how can a parent(s) encourage and assist in creating groups that are

safe? Is there such a thing as a good clique?

A: Humans seek out others who support them and make them feel special. While most adults have experienced feeling left out of their group — be it a work-related team, sorority, fraternity, club, church or community group or even family events — groups, cliques and clubs themselves are not bad.

Young people as well as adults must learn to be assertive and know when a club's philosophy or member beliefs are not consistent with their own.

When this occurs, tough decisions need to be made — either spearhead change within the group or leave.

While it would be nice if parents could "create" safe groups, the reality is all relationships can become conflictual from time to time.

People disagree, are misunderstood, get hurt feelings and even intentionally act mean from time to time.

Parents can increase their child's success in groups by encouraging participation in multiple peer groups, through school, community, church and family.

They can also assist their child in working through conflict, not by blaming others, but by using effective problem solving and negotiation and communication strategies.

The views of the writer are independent and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or official position of The Family Center.

Mail your questions to: Mary Ellen Brayton, Program Director, The Family Center, 20090 Morningside, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236; or call (313) 432-3832; or e-mail Info@familycenterweb.org.

Bon Secours support group hosts March girls night out

Grab a girlfriend, your mom and your sister, and join members of the Bon Secours Hospital Assistance League for their Woman for Woman dinner theater fundraising event on Thursday, March 22, at The Ark at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, off Maryland, in Grosse Pointe Park.

The evening includes a wine and appetizer reception and silent auction at 6 p.m., a fabulous dinner prepared by the Ark's own chef at 7 p.m. and a performance of music and monologues celebrating the spirit of womanhood at 8 p.m.

If you missed seeing

"Menopause the Musical," here's your chance to enjoy a similar evening of friendship and entertainment performed by members of the Fox Creek Underground and other trained actresses who are graciously donating their talents.

Reservations for Woman for Woman are \$50 per person (\$20 is tax deductible).

Call Bon Secours Assistance League member, Mary Weathers, (313) 882-7888, for reservations before March 16, as seating is limited.

Reservations will be held at the door under your name.

There will be no tickets sold at the door.

Acupuncture may treat hot flashes

Henry Ford Hospital is conducting a study to test the effectiveness of acupuncture for reducing hot flashes experienced by breast cancer patients receiving hormonal therapy.

Researchers hope that the traditional Chinese practice leads to a new treatment option for patients.

"This study has the potential to dramatically decrease the incidence of hot flashes in hormone-treated breast cancer patients," says radiation oncologist Eleanor Walker, M.D., the study's lead investigator.

As part of the study, Walker works with acupuncturist Beth Kohn. Patients can choose to participate in the study at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit or at Henry Ford Medical Center in Novi.

Breast cancer patients who are treated with chemotherapy and/or anti-estrogen hormonal therapy commonly experience hot flashes and other symptoms of premature menopause.

An estimated 65 percent of breast cancer patients experience hot flashes, and in many cases the symptoms are severe.

Hormone replacement therapy "estrogen and progestin" is used to treat hot flashes in many women. However, HRT is not used in breast cancer patients who have hot flashes because of evidence that it poses a high risk of cancer recurrence.

Walker says the antidepressant drug Effexor is one of the most common therapies for treating hot flashes in breast cancer patients. Prozac and Paxil also have shown to be effective.

These drugs work to control various neurotransmitters in the brain, some of which are believed to be associated with hot flashes, including opioids. Acupuncture releases endorphins in the body that may affect opioid levels.

But many breast cancer patients don't take Effexor because of its side effects — sexu-



Eleanor Walker, M.D.

al dysfunction and nausea are a couple — among them or because they don't want more medication on top of what they're already receiving, Walker said.

Seventy of the 140 patients enrolled in the two-year study will be randomly assigned to receive acupuncture for 12 weeks. The other half will receive Effexor over the same time period. Data will be col-

lected at quarterly intervals in the first year.

Researchers will test the effectiveness of acupuncture for reducing hot flashes and if it has fewer side effects than Effexor.

Eligible participants are:

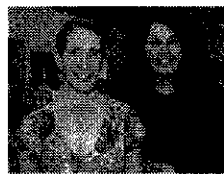
- ◆ Pre- or postmenopausal breast cancer patients receiving hormonal therapy with either the anti-estrogen drug Tamoxifen or Arimidex.
- ◆ Patients who experience 14 hot flashes a week.
- ◆ Patients who completed chemotherapy.
- ◆ Patients on hormonal therapy for at least four weeks.

Henry Ford researchers, along with Walker, include Robert Levine, Ph.D. and Alba Rodriguez, Ph.D., who were awarded a \$250,000 grant from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to conduct the study.

To enroll in the trial, patients are asked to call (313) 916-3938.

The Helping Hand

Simple Tools can make life easier



Written By:
Kathryn Pring, Senior Occupational Therapist
Amy Emerson, Senior Physical Therapist

Did you ever think getting your socks and shoes on would be such a chore? Or stepping in and out of the bathtub would make you feel so nervous? What about reaching down to pick up a paper you dropped? These are a few obstacles that can be avoided by using simple tools, called adaptive equipment, that can be a big help with everyday tasks.

There are many different types of adaptive equipment available such as a sock aide (to assist getting your socks on with ease), a reacher (to help reach objects or items on the floor or high in a cabinet), a leg lifter (to help facilitate a weak leg in/out of bed or the tub), a long handled sponge (to reach your back or feet), or a long handled shoe horn. There are also many things available to help you feel and demonstrate safety in the bathroom such as a tub seat or a tub bench, which allows you to slide into the tub without having to step over the edge of the

tub. Raised toilet seats or commodes are also available. If you are currently using a walker, walker baskets and walker trays are available to help keep your hands free while moving things from one place to another. It is very important to keep both hands on the walker for proper stability. The baskets or trays work very well in the kitchen and they also allow you to keep a phone or remote control at hand.

Typically adaptive equipment is issued during a hospital or rehab stay, but now it is available to you through your local medical supply company. A few companies in the area are Mystic Medical Company, Binson's Medical Supply, or Wright & Filippis. A representative at any of these companies will be happy to assist you with any questions or obstacles you may be facing at home. After all, it is better to be proactive with safety at home to prevent a fall or injury resulting in a hospital stay.



A passion for healing seniors

ST. JOHN SENIOR COMMUNITY

The Helping Hand is a quarterly column about healthy living and other health issues important to seniors written by experts at St. John Senior Community. If you have additional questions for the authors of this article or if you'd like more information about St. John Senior Community, call us at 313-343-8000.

6B | SENIORS

SENIOR SCENE By Ruth Cain

Lake St. Clair's health is our responsibility



Scientists have pretty much proven that global warming is not just a threat but a reality. The sad thing is there's nothing we as individuals can do to reduce the danger, other than joining groups whose mission is a cleaner environment.

But there is one small piece of our Earth that we can help save. I'm talking about Lake St. Clair, a lake we consider our own, has given us so much pleasure and provided such necessities as water and food. There have been major ef-

forts to clean up all the lakes and rivers in our state, and they have achieved much, but not as much as necessary. How often in past years have we read of our beaches being closed because of unsafe E. coli levels.

There is, however, a role for us. We can't solve the problem, but we can contribute to solving it. Some of these efforts are easy, others require a bit more effort.

Stormwater pollution is a major problem and all of us contribute to it without knowing it.

Stormwater picks up litter, car oil, pet waste, fertilizer, grass clippings and other materials left on sidewalks and streets before it's washed off by rain and enters a catch basin. This polluted runoff can

wash from catch basins straight into Lake St. Clair without being treated.

◆ Clean up after your pet to prevent waste, both on grass as well as on sidewalks, from washing into sewers.

◆ When it's raining, try to conserve water by not showering or using washing machines or dishwashers.

The water we use goes into pumping stations. If the incoming water is greater than the pumps can handle, the water goes into retention basins. If the basins overflow, the excess untreated water discharges directly into the lake causing E. coli levels to rise and become dangerous.

◆ Adopt environmentally friendly cleaning and fueling habits with boats, personal watercraft, mobile homes, cars

and other vehicles on land.

◆ Wash your car on the lawn or go to a car wash. When fueling, avoid topping off. Fuel expands as it warms up in the tank.

◆ Boat owners should avoid pumping any bilge water that is oily or has a sheen.

The way we take care of our lawn and gardens is another menace, and not just from the dangerous chemicals we use on them.

◆ Sweep grass clippings and fertilizer back onto the lawn. Use composted lawn clippings and leaves to fertilize your lawn and gardens. Aerate the soil and leave clippings on your lawn.

Those monitoring lakes find that phosphorus levels spike during the spring and fall when fertilizers are most used.

There are fertilizers on the market that have much lower levels of phosphorus.

The cleaning and sanitizing products we use inside our homes can be dangerous by releasing poisonous toxins during their application. These poisons can eventually reach Lake St. Clair.

◆ Never pour toxic household chemicals down either bathroom or kitchen drains or on the ground.

That includes never throwing partially empty cans or bottles with poisonous contents into the trash.

Instead take them to hazardous waste collection centers. Call the county health department for location.

◆ Minimize the use of toxic products in your home. Read labels. Even if you don't recog-

nize which of the ingredients are dangerous, labels that warn of using only in well ventilated areas, or to protect eyes, to wash hands thoroughly after use, or to keep from children or pets, are messages that tell us the product contains hazardous materials.

This information was obtained from the St. Clair Shores Waterfront Advisory Committee.

The commission urges people to participate in river, lake and beach cleanups. It also encourages awareness of non-point source pollution (this means it comes from many different sources not often recognized by users) among family members, neighbors, friends and co-workers.

Reach Cain at her e-mail: ruthcain@comcast.net.

Macular degeneration takes toll on eyes, mind

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) affects the vision of more than 15 million Americans and is the leading cause of visual impairment among those ages 50 and older, studies say.

AMD-related vision loss usually involves the "central" or "straight ahead" vision. This loss can be slow or fast and may be permanent. But AMD doesn't just take its toll on the eyes. It also has proven to be not only a financial burden but can affect the patient's mental health as well, researchers say.

In a recent report issued in the Archives of Ophthalmology, researchers found that as a nation, Americans spend \$35.4 billion

related to visual disorders, including medical expenses and loss of productivity. Of that number, \$575 million was directly attributed to AMD costs. Because of the large aging population, the number of AMD cases is estimated to balloon in the near future, possibly creating a devastating financial impact, the report states.

But beyond the dollar amounts comes an even higher price tag - the emotional toll that AMD often takes on patients and those that care for them. A study from AMD Alliance International concluded that AMD patients suffer higher rates of depression and report a profoundly nega-

tive impact on their quality of life. Patients who lose their ability to drive, read a newspaper or even see the faces of their loved ones begin to feel a significant loss of independence which can lead to emotional distress and often depression, the study says.

Ophthalmologists say the most frightening aspect of the disease is that it progresses painlessly, with many patients not aware they are having problems. Once symptoms begin to appear, permanent vision loss may have already occurred. And, if left untreated, studies show that who diagnosed with "wet" AMD (a more rapidly progressing condition than "dry" AMD) will

become functionally blind within two years.

"Although there is still no cure for AMD, new and promising medications and treatment options are continuously being developed and researched," said Dr. Timothy Stout, a retinal specialist and researcher at the Casey Eye Institute in Portland, Ore. "Being diagnosed with AMD is the first step to saving vision, so we need to make everyone aware of the disease and get them into the eye doctor to get a complete exam."

In conjunction with February as "Age-related Macular Degeneration Awareness Month," this year "Prevent Blindness America"

launched a dedicated online resource to learn more about the disease. The Web site, preventblindness.org/amd, offers a variety of tools and information on everything from risk factors, treatment options, and even a downloadable Amsler Grid, (a tool that can help identify vision abnormalities linked to AMD).

"We can't stress enough how important it is that everyone make an effort to visit their eye doctor regularly, even if they don't think they have a problem," said Daniel D. Garrett, senior vice president of "Prevent Blindness America." "The New Year is already under way and we challenge all Americans to make an ap-

pointment for themselves and their loved ones to ensure healthy vision for years to come."

Although only a doctor can make the diagnosis, the following are possible signs of AMD:

◆ Straight lines such as telephone poles, the sides of buildings or streetlight poles, look wavy.

◆ Written text and/or type can appear blurry.

◆ A dark or empty spot may block the center of your vision.

For free information on AMD or a free copy of the Amsler grid, visit Prevent Blindness America at preventblindness.org/amd or call 1-800-331-2020.

50-plus workers see a new age for possibility and purpose

They are seen as dependable, caring, experienced and wise. So, it's no wonder more and more smart companies are turning to older workers to get the job done right.

Findings from AARP indicate that many of today's workers want to continue to work and want viable work options later in life. Nearly 70 percent of workers who have not yet retired reported they plan to work into their retirement years or never retire. Almost half indicated they envision working into their 70s and beyond.

"An enhanced set of work ethics can be seen in the 50-plus worker because their experiences allow them to distinguish better the relative importance of things," said Tom

Kimble, executive council volunteer for Economic Security and Work for AARP in Michigan.

"Employers should take advantage of these assets as a way to increase earnings and provide staying power in today's markets. Having employees that have a clear purpose, a meaningful mission and shared values provides age great opportunity to succeed."

Michigan-based AARP National Employer Team members are working with AARP Michigan, the Wayne County Community College District, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Michigan Works!, Michigan Office of Services to the Aging and Michigan Small

Business & Technology Development Center to host a free informational forum to take a comprehensive look at opportunities for employers and workers from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at Wayne County Community College District - Downtown Campus, 1001 W. Fort, Detroit.

During the forum, attendees will learn what businesses and individuals should know about national workplace trends, why employers value mature workers, secrets of successful career changes, finding purpose through civic engage-

ment, free employment search and training resources, what a 21st century worker needs to know and more.

For more information or to register, call (877) 926-8300. There is free parking on all campus lots.

A rapidly growing number of people more than 50 are thinking of retirement not as a time to quit work entirely, but as a chance to switch to work that better suits them and is more fulfilling.

Many of them crave work that allows them to share their accumulated wisdom and stay

engaged while paying some bills.

Baby boomers are looking for what Marc Freedman, founder of Civic Ventures — a think tank working to help society achieve the greatest return on experience — calls "encore careers." Encore careers are paid positions in social change and community service that promise to make the best and highest use of people's passion, talents and experience.

"After retirement, I gained a new perspective on the meaning of purpose," Kimble said.

"It was no longer confined to what I would really like to do with my life or what should I be doing with my life, but instead it became a much broader, more inclusive, and more immediate like, what needs doing now? This new meaning demanded that I pay attention to my surroundings and the ripple effects of my actions. I am now of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and I am privileged to do for it whatever I can. Volunteerism with AARP and working with 50-plus workers helps me fulfill that passion."

Most seniors eligible for special refund

One of the most important changes affecting elderly Americans this tax season is the one-time refund of telephone excise tax paid on long distance service.

Senior citizens can request a refund of tax paid for long distance or bundled service billed between March 2003 and July 2006 regardless of whether they have filed a tax return during that time.

"We simply want to ensure that everyone who paid this tax gets a refund," said Luis D. Garcia, spokesperson for the IRS in Michigan. "Senior citizens who have not filed a tax return in years might think that this refund is not for them when in fact it is."

The IRS offers the following information to assist seniors in claiming the refund:

◆ Refunds can be requested on any 1040 tax form, online through the IRS e-File at irs.gov/efile/article/0,,id=11850,8,00.html or Free File at irs.gov/efile/article/0,,id=11898,6,00.html.

◆ Those that don't normally have to file a tax return can use the new Form 1040EZ-T to request the refund.

◆ Seniors who don't have to file a return because their income is below the filing requirement may still be able to get the refund, even though

they don't have to file a tax return.

◆ Taxpayers may request the standard amount that ranges from \$30 to \$60 and is based on the number of exemptions noted on the tax return document.

A refund of the actual amount paid can be requested by filling out and submitting Form 8913.

◆ Those seeking assistance can turn to senior centers and IRS volunteer sites that offer free tax help.

To find the nearest senior tax aid site call, 1-888-227-7669 or for an IRS volunteer site, call 1-800-829-1040.

The IRS offers answers to the following questions:

◆ Who has to file a return?

Those single and 65 or older that have at least \$9,700 in gross income; married filing jointly with one spouse being 65 or older with at least \$17,900 in income; or both spouses being aged 65 or older with \$18,900 in income.

◆ What about Social Security?

How much, if any, Social Security benefits are taxable depends on total income and marital status.

Generally, if Social Security benefits were the only income, benefits are not taxable and there may be no need to file a federal income tax return.

A one-time telephone excise tax paid on long distance service can be refunded on federal tax.

If income was received from other sources, benefits will not be taxed unless the adjusted gross income is more than the base amount for that person's filing status.

The following quick computation will determine if Social Security benefits may be taxable:

◆ Add half of the total Social Security received to all other in-

come, including any tax exempt interest and other exclusions from income.

◆ Compare this total to the base amount for your filing status: married couples filing jointly, \$32,000; single, head of household, \$25,000; married filing separately, zero.

For additional information on the taxability of Social Security benefits, see IRS Publication 915.

All IRS tax forms and publications are available on the IRS Web site at

irs.gov or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (829-3676). The IRS offers assistance through its toll free line at 800-829-1040.

Lifetime of health for women

A Lifetime of Health for Women: Learn to Live Well at Any Age will be presented from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Assumption Cultural Center, 21800 Marter Road, St. Clair Shores.


Dr. Edward Pazuchowski M.D., and Angela Collinson N.P. of St. John Center for Wellness & Family Medicine and other guest speakers will talk about hormones and menopause, weight loss and

what to eat, the future health of your family and the right skin care treatments.

Learn how to exercise for the best outcomes, improving communication, managing stress and vitamins/supplements are important.

A healthy continental breakfast, light lunch, vendor displays, prizes will be available for a \$20 cover charge.

For more information call (888) 440-7325. Seating is limited.




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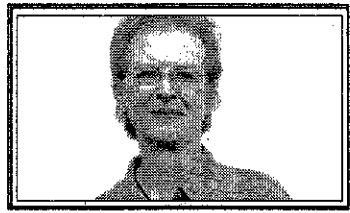
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DOWN TO EARTH By Kathleen Peabody

Taking care of what's under ground



During this frigid weather, I've looked outside at the soil in the garden which is not totally covered with snow.

It's so bitterly cold but underneath that snow, organisms live and are preparing for our spring plantings. As I stared at the garden, much of the soil was covered with mulch. But what about the bare soil?

Whether it's growing a "newspaper garden" or covering your soil with peat moss, covering the top soil with some sort of mulch is a good idea for any season. Mulch helps protect the soil from temperature extremes, keeping the ground warmer in winter and cooler in summer.

If you mulched the gardens last summer or fall, come spring the mulch can be worked into your soil. This helps the soil warm up a little more quickly. Returning the mulch materials to the soil allows water and microbes to break down the organic materials into plant food.

Another option is to leave the older mulch in place to decay on the surface of the soil and replenish the garden's protective covering. Leaving the mulch is probably the closest imitation of natural fertilization that we as home gardeners can.

During wet seasons, molds often appear on mulches, especially where the mulch is compacted and ventilation is not good. It does not harm plants. Come spring, simply stir up the mulch to reduce compaction and increase aeration in the mulch, and the mold should disappear.

In spring, some gardeners

pull the mulch away and put it back once the plant begins to grow. Whichever way you choose, the mulch itself is a great leap toward rebuilding the soil and replenishing the nutrients for the growing season. It's a good idea to wait until late May or early June before mulching to allow the soil to warm up and dry out.

Two inches of mulch is sufficient to reduce moisture loss from the soil, moderate soil temperature, and suppress weed growth. Greater depths could cause problems for plants by keeping the soil too wet or too dry, or reducing oxygen availability to root systems. And leave some space around the plant for air to circulate.

Which mulch is best?

A number of different types of mulches are available to the home gardener. Here are just a few of the good, the bad and, sometimes, the ugly:

◆ Bark nuggets or shredded bark contrasts or blends with the growing plants; pine and cedar bark is fragrant; has good weed control and water will penetrate; stays in place and lasts

◆ Hulls and nut shells are rich in nitrogen and potassium; improves soil structure as they decompose; lasts

◆ Newspaper or other uncolored papers do a great job of suppressing weeds but need another mulch on top. Great to use with topping to eliminate grass in a certain area.

◆ Plastic or other woven materials may suppress some weeds but do not let water through unless holes are made through it; no nutrients come from this source.

◆ Peat moss is useful in our alkaline soil to help break down the clay. This organic matter remains in the soil longer than most other sources but the nutrient content may not be as high as others.

Find useful information on many other types of mulches at www.gardenguides.com

Mulching trees

A tree's best friend, mulch insulates soil, retains moisture, keeps out weeds, prevents soil compaction, reduces lawn-mower damage, and adds an aesthetic touch to a yard or street.

Remove any grass within the mulch area, from 3 to 10 feet in diameter, depending on tree size. Pour wood chips or bark pieces 2 to 4 inches within the circle, but not touching the trunk. Two inches of mulch is plenty for any tree. The 10 to 12 inch mounds will damage the tree.

Remember to live in the moment and enjoy this season as it is. But as your mind starts to wander toward spring, think of the living things beneath the earth.

Kathleen Peabody is an Advanced Master Gardener

who lives (and gardens) in Grosse Pointe Woods. Reach her online at kpeabody@grossepointe-news.com.

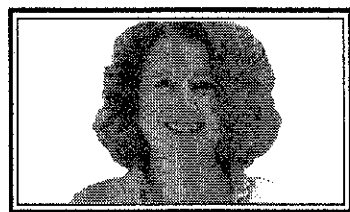
What's going on?

◆ Botanical Treasures of Wayne County Parks with Suzan Campbell, Sun., March 4 in the Belle Isle Nature Zoo Auditorium. This is the Detroit Garden Center annual luncheon meeting and program. A photographic journey and historical overview will highlight the diversity of flowers and trees in Wayne County's natural areas. A 12:30 p.m. luncheon begins the event, followed by a 2 p.m. program. Luncheon and program, \$25; program only, \$5. Call the Detroit Garden Center at (313) 259-6363 or e-mail detroitgardencenter@yahoo.com for reservations.

◆ How to Grow Beautiful Hydrangeas with Mill Anthony Hurley at 7 p.m., March 6, in the Harper Woods Library. This is sponsored by Harper Woods Gardeners. Free admission. Call Irene Coermann at (313) 268-3965 for details.

A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

Observe 'Fat Tuesday' with a simple meal



Next Tuesday is Fat Tuesday. Mardi Gras! Party down! Eat one of those really heavy doughnuts that you can find only once a year. Or, celebrate the day with a simple meal that is as traditional to New Orleans as the parades that lead up to the big day. Every restaurant in New Orleans serves up red beans with rice.

Each may be different from another, but the basic recipe always includes red beans, pork of some sort, and spices, slow cooked and served over rice.

The following rendition comes from my sister Christine Maccio who did her graduate studies at LSU (many years ago). It's a favorite of her three teenage sons.

She adapted the recipe for a slow cooker, but it is one that you can leave unattended for several hours. It is, however, a meal that requires very little effort.

New Orleans Red Beans and Rice

1 lb. dry red kidney beans
1 medium-large onion, chopped
4 bay leaves
1 heaping tablespoon Cajun seasoning

1 lb. smoked turkey sausage
Cooked rice for serving

Place the beans, onion, bay leaves and seasoning in a slow cooker. Cover with water to 1 inch above beans. Stir. Cover and cook on high for an hour or 2, checking the water level and adding water as needed. Turn to low and cook another 2 hours or until the beans are soft. As time goes on, add less water as the beans will become soaked.

The beans will form a natural, thick gravy. Cut the sausage into 1-inch slices and add to the beans.

Cook on low for another 30 minutes then serve over hot, cooked rice.

I chose smoked turkey sausage in an effort to keep the meal heart smart. Use your favorite smoked sausage in this stick to your ribs southern treat.

Party on.

Society seeks cruise ship memories

A generation of Detroiters knows that "cruising" didn't start on Woodward or Gratiot or Grand River. It started on the Detroit River, from the foot of Woodward, Griswold, or Wayne.

In the days before highways and hemis, dozens of beautiful cruise ships called at the port of Detroit, carrying passengers to cities and sites around the Great Lakes.

The vessels were floating palaces as grand as anything on the salt seas. Their interiors were elegant examples of an architectural style termed "steamboat gothic," with lofty atriums and salons, sitting rooms, dining rooms featuring

decorative plates and silver specially designed for each ship, and ballrooms that hosted the finest bands and the latest movies.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum will be revisiting the glorious days of 'cruise ships' with a new exhibit called "Era of Elegance" set to open in March.

Part of the installation is to include the memories of who traveled or worked on the lake boats.

The Detroit Historical Society is looking for people who have taken a trip on the South American, the City of Detroit III, or any of the fancy ships of that era?

"The era of elegant steamship travel on the Great Lakes ran from the 1880s through the Gatsby era, and ending rather suddenly with the growth of the interstate highway system about 1960," said Joel Stone, curator of this exhibit at the Dossin Museum.

"Unfortunately, the number of people who remember traveling on these boats is disappearing almost as quickly as the fleet did. We hope to capture their stories and memories to show younger visitors that the glory seen in the movie 'Titanic' is closer to home than they may have imagined.

"People from around the world traveled here to see the

splendor of the Great Lakes on sumptuous cruise liners. This is our history. We need to interpret it for a new generation."

Send these memories to "Cruising," Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202.

Photos are appreciated, and will be considered a donation and will not be returned.

Due to space constraints, not all memories may be used in the exhibit, but will be saved for future use.

Include a name, address, and phone number, so the society can send thanks for submissions.

Deadline submission is Monday, Feb. 26.

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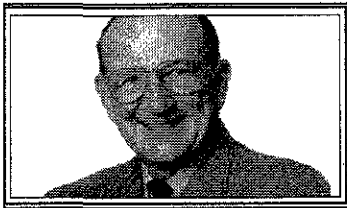
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8B | ENTERTAINMENT

STATE OF THE ARTS By Alex Suczek

The Hilberry Theatre is 'On the Verge'



Easily the most unconventional show in the repertory at Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre this winter is Eric Overmyer's "On The Verge."

This romp through late 19th and 20th century history is a cavalcade of symbols of change that soared like meteors across the cultural horizon between the 1890s and the near present. To do this, Overmyer's script uses a flash-forward technique that comes across as the meta-physical, sci-fi experience of three very unlikely ladies.

As this intrepid trio, Morgan Chard (Mary), Megan Callahan (Fanny) and Tiffanie Kilgast (Alexandra) portray

three Victorian women who shocked society by taking off unaccompanied on trips to primitive, wilderness adventures.

Dressed in their voluminous gowns and petticoats, and armed with bunchy umbrellas which they unfold against tropical rains, they are prepared to hack their way through jungles with machetes.

While the author was inspired by the descriptions in their diaries, his drama departs from their literal experiences. Instead of sharing the real experiences recounted in their diaries, he catapults the three travelers forward in time to discover the future.

He captures their spirit of adventure through encounters with cultural icons of the century ahead of them, icons most of us still recognize today.

Headline events from the terms of presidents ranging

from Garfield and McKinley to Nixon jog controversial memories. A recurring theme is the trio's effort to decipher the identity of Ike, when fate curiously puts an "I like Ike" button in their hands. Far ahead of their time they are enticed by products and entertainments like Ovaltine, Cool Whip, trousers for women, a disco night club and a gypsy fortune teller.

Their introduction to popular cliché which are major discoveries to the explorers of the future, seem humorous to us and bring back memories. For a contemporary audience, being reminded that "life is just a bowl of cherries" or that "rock around the clock" was a watershed in pop music, brings wistful smiles of Proustian remembrance.

But this play has a cast of four and its fourth member gives a standout performance.

James Kuhl appears in eight different cameo roles which

enliven the trio's dance through the wilderness of time and speed them on their way. Some of these roles are fanciful indeed. Kuhl first appears as a kind of a tour guide but with every succeeding bit his identity becomes more bizarre. His costume as a baby yeti (Abominable Snowman) in Tibet is a hoot emphasized by the barrage of snowballs he showers on the travelers. As a troll, he rescues them from the perils of a swinging bridge across a gorge. We visualize the mountainside plantations of Colombia when he appears as Mr. Coffee and chuckle skeptically at his insightful fortune telling as Madame Nhu.

When the time frame reaches the 1950s, Kuhl appears as, overall clad attendant at an Esso station and directs the bewildered but still game ladies to the glamour and romance of a nightclub called Nicky's Paradise.

There they meet Kuhl once again, this time as the slick proprietor. Romance ensues and the three adventurers go separate ways. Meanwhile, Kuhl's impersonations have been so distinctive and well handled that it is difficult to remember that they are all played by the same actor.

Not having a cohesive plot to develop, the three leading ladies have a more difficult task. While their characters are colorful and entertaining, maintaining a fast pace of the action is a challenge.

The play is divided into 22 episodes and even though there is continuity between some of them, the transitions sometimes stall the action. Chard, Callahan and Kilgast are successful at developing their individual characters' personalities but have not yet reached a flowing pace of delivery of the script's often interesting and colorful dialogue that keeps things mov-

ing without pause.

Given their obvious expertise one could expect this to come about in future performances.

In the meantime, there is plenty of interest and humor to their probe of the future by means of the measured revelation of cliché, stereotypical icons of our culture that provide the thread of substance. It is worth noting that the script is special, verging sometimes on the poetical and always interesting in its use of the language with even an occasional play on a Shakespearean quote.

"On The Verge" plays through April 7 in rotating repertory with "Side Man" by Warren Leight, "Amadeus" by Peter Shaffer and "The Elephant Man" by Bernard Pomerance. For tickets and more information call 313-577-2972, visit the Box Office at 4743 Cass Ave. or visit hilberry.com.

The World War II generation will be honored

The Macomb Cultural Center, Macomb County's new place for discovery, is presenting a three-month-long series of experiences: A Legacy of Service and Courage: The World War II Generation.

The program kicks off at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, a free, community program honoring those who served both on the war and home front during World War II, featuring guest speaker Chuck Gaidica of Channel 4 News, live Big Band music of the era and the opening of exhibits.

The majority of the events are free to attend and include exhibits, activities, music, performances and presentations by authors, as well as series of talks from those who lived it — soldiers, sailors, aviators, nurses and children caught in the war as well as those on the American home front.

The series concludes on Armed Forces Day, Saturday,

May 19, with a ceremony honoring World War II veterans.

Highlights of some of the more than 75 events and activities scheduled to explore this defining touch point in American history include:

◆ Feb. 24 at 2 p.m.: Doug Stanton, author of New York Times bestseller "In Harm's Way: The Story of the U.S.S. Indianapolis," recounts the story of World War II's worst naval disaster and the heroism of the survivors.

◆ March 3 at 2 p.m.: Baseball historian William Anderson discusses the sport during wartime and chronicles the Tigers' up-and-down journey through the 1940s.

◆ March 17 at 4 p.m.: In World War II "Road Show," personal collector Larry Wallach will share the ins and outs of flea market and garage sales hunts, and then evaluate World War II memorabilia brought in by those attending.

◆ March 25 at 2 p.m.: Lewis Erenberg, author of "The Greatest Fight of Our Generation: Louis vs. Schmeling," discusses culture and society during the time.

◆ March 31 at 10 a.m.: Personal collector Ken Hoover will host a panel discussion on becoming a collector, with a special focus on World War II artifacts.

◆ April 3 at 7 p.m.: Presidential historian and Pulitzer prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin provides a unique historical perspective of American presidents during times of war. Tickets are \$20; \$15 for veterans and students.

◆ April 4 at 1 p.m.: Katie Cavanaugh, assistant director for the Michigan Historical Women's Center & Hall of Fame, profiles the contributions of Michigan women in the military during World War II in support of the opening of

the exhibit, Michigan Women Who Served in WWII, which runs through the May 19.

◆ April 12 at 10 a.m.: Co-producers Michael Pfendner and Tom Coulter discuss their PBS documentary, "Two Jima Diary," which features the journal entries and cartoon drawings of former U.S. Marine Edward "Mort" Denell.

◆ April 21 at 2 p.m.: John Pepin and Jackie Chandonnet, producers of the documentary "The Enemy in Our Midst," recount the largely unknown story of the POW camps in Michigan's UP; former German POW Ernst Floeter who later returned to Michigan to live also provides perspective.

◆ April 25 at 1 p.m.: Bill Trevarthen, Michigan Government TV executive producer; Charles Palmer, professor, Cooley Law School;

and Dr. Iwao Ishino and wife Mary (both of whom were interned) discuss the documentary Defining Moments, which focuses on the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

◆ April 26 at 1 p.m.: Art Pope brings General George S. Patton to life, providing an overview of the controversial general's life and highlights of his relationships with other leaders of the time.

◆ April 29 at 1:30 p.m.: Aviation historian Philip Handleman will offer a brief overview of aviation during the time and will be joined by retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Lucius Theus, Lt. Col. Harry Steward and Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson, members of the Tuskegee Airmen, to talk about their unit's contributions and the Congressional Gold Medal to be awarded to the unit in early 2007.

The presentation will be followed by a 2:30 p.m. flyover of an authentic World War II B-17 from the Yankee Air Museum.

A living history cabaret, "War Bonds: The Songs and Letters of WWII," will be presented at 3 p.m. at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, adjacent to the Macomb Cultural Center. Tickets for War Bonds range from \$10 to \$35.

A Legacy of Service and Courage

For a full schedule of the 13 events and information about "A Legacy of Service and Courage: The World War II Generation," call (586) 445-7348 or visit macombculturalcenter.com. Admission to events vary from free to \$35.

Grosse Pointe War Memorial's

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February 19 - February 25

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8:30 am Vitality Plus (Aerobics)
9:00 am Musical Storytime Jamboree
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 Out of the Ordinary
11:30 am Tech Pointes
12:00 pm Economic Club of Detroit
1:00 pm Senior Men's Club
1:30 pm Great Lakes Log
2:00 pm The John Prost Show
2:30 pm The Legal Insider
3:00 pm Things to do at the War Memorial
3:30 pm Affordable Style
4:00 pm Vitality Plus (Tone)
4:30 pm Musical Storytime Jamboree
5:00 pm Positively Positive
5:30 pm Senior Men's Club
6:00 pm The Legal Insider
6:30 pm Who's in the Kitchen
7:00 pm Vitality Plus (Step/Kick Boxing)
7:30 pm Things to do at the War Memorial
8:00 pm Positively Positive
8:30 pm Tech Pointes
9:00 pm Affordable Style
9:30 pm Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 pm The John Prost Show
10:30 pm Great Lakes Log
11:00 pm Out of the Ordinary
11:30 pm Tech Pointes
Midnight Economic Club of Detroit
1:00 am Senior Men's Club
1:30 am Great Lakes Log
2:00 am The John Prost Show
2:30 am Tech Pointes
3:00 am Affordable Style
3:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
4:00 am The John Prost Show
4:30 am Great Lakes Log
5:00 am Out of the Ordinary
5:30 am The Legal Insider
6:00 am Things to do at the War Memorial
6:30 am Affordable Style
7:00 am Vitality Plus (Tone)
7:30 am Musical Storytime Jamboree
8:00 am Positively Positive

Who's in the Kitchen?

Lisa Stavale - Chicken Dumpling Soup

Things to do at the War Memorial

Pruning; Absolutely Core & Yoga; Homer's Penelope & Babysitting Course

Out of the Ordinary

Gail Schmidt - Micro Current Pace Therapy

TechPointes

Real Estate, PDA's & Smart Phones

Economic Club of Detroit

Ben Verwaayen, CEO, British Telecommunications Group, "Gaining a Competitive Edge in the 21st Century - A Global Perspective"

Senior Men's Club

Denise Jenkins - Nomads Inc.

Great Lakes Log

David Howell - Friends of the Detroit River

The John Prost Show

Al Thomas, Ted Everingham & Mathew Spicer - Senior Men's Club & Business in China

The Legal Insider

Tim Stoeper & Andrew J. Hartz - Wet Lands

Affordable Style

Barb Bierbusse

Did you know?...

Sponsorship is an effective and very affordable way for a business to show community support and gain recognition. For more information on how to become a sponsor, call Kermit Potter at the War Memorial, 313.881.7511 ext. 131.

Schedule subject to change without notice.
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SPORTS

SPORTS

Signing time

North, South, ULS athletes to continue sports in college PAGE 4C

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SOUTH BOYS HOCKEY

Blue Devils are alone in first



South goalie Trevor Sattelmeyer and defenseman Scott Maxwell make sure a De La Salle player doesn't get back into the action.

Sattelmeyer turns away 30 shots in 3-0 victory against De La Salle in Metro battle

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South's hockey team took a big step toward a Michigan Metro Hockey League East Division championship last weekend.

However, the Blue Devils' 3-0 victory against De La Salle might have implications that reach even farther.

"It was a huge win for us against a very good team," said South coach Bob Bopp. "Now we need three points in our last two games (against Dearborn and Riverview) to win the league. The game also gave us the confidence that we can beat De La Salle, because we're going to face them in our first playoff game."

South dropped a 5-4 overtime decision to the Pilots in their first meeting of the season.

"I was very impressed with our intensity and our passing," Bopp said. "It was the best we've passed the puck all season. All of the passes were right on people's sticks. I didn't think we played well against them the first time, but we were still in the game right to the end. This time I could tell

the players were ready on the bus ride to Fraser."

De La Salle goalie Shaun Fantaro was outstanding in the first period, turning back all 11 shots that the Blue Devils fired at him.

The second period was a parade to the penalty box for South. The Blue Devils took seven straight penalties in the second and third periods. Three times the Pilots had 5-on-3 advantages but were unable to score.

"A lot of the credit has to go to Geoff Osgood and Tim Shield, along with our defensemen," Bopp said. "That's two games in a row that Osgood has done a great job when we've been two men short. After the Divine Child game last week, we used the tape of his play on the 5-on-3s as an example of the way we want to play in those situations."

"He's one of our fastest skaters, and sometimes that can be a detriment killing penalties but he's patient and uses his speed to his advantage. He can put pressure on the puck and still get back into position."

Before the penalties started coming for South, the Blue

Devils took advantage of a DLS penalty to score the game's first goal. Shield scored the power-play goal at 5:08, assisted by Arthur Griem and Ryan Abraham.

Shield also scored South's next goal while the Blue Devils were shorthanded at 11:50, and that was a thing of beauty. Shield took a pass from Scott Maxwell, and as he was being hauled down by a Pilots defender, shot the puck toward the net and beat Fantaro.

"That goal took away any momentum De La Salle might have had with all the power-play opportunities they were getting," Bopp said.

DLS had an 18-5 shot advantage in the second period, but goalie Trevor Sattelmeyer stopped everything the Pilots threw at him. Sattelmeyer finished with 30 saves.

"He was at his best," Bopp said. "He really gets focused for the good teams like this. Everybody who stepped on the ice for us played well, but Trevor was the No. 1 star in this game. When he's focused like that, he's tough to beat."

The penalty parade contin-

See SOUTH, page 3C

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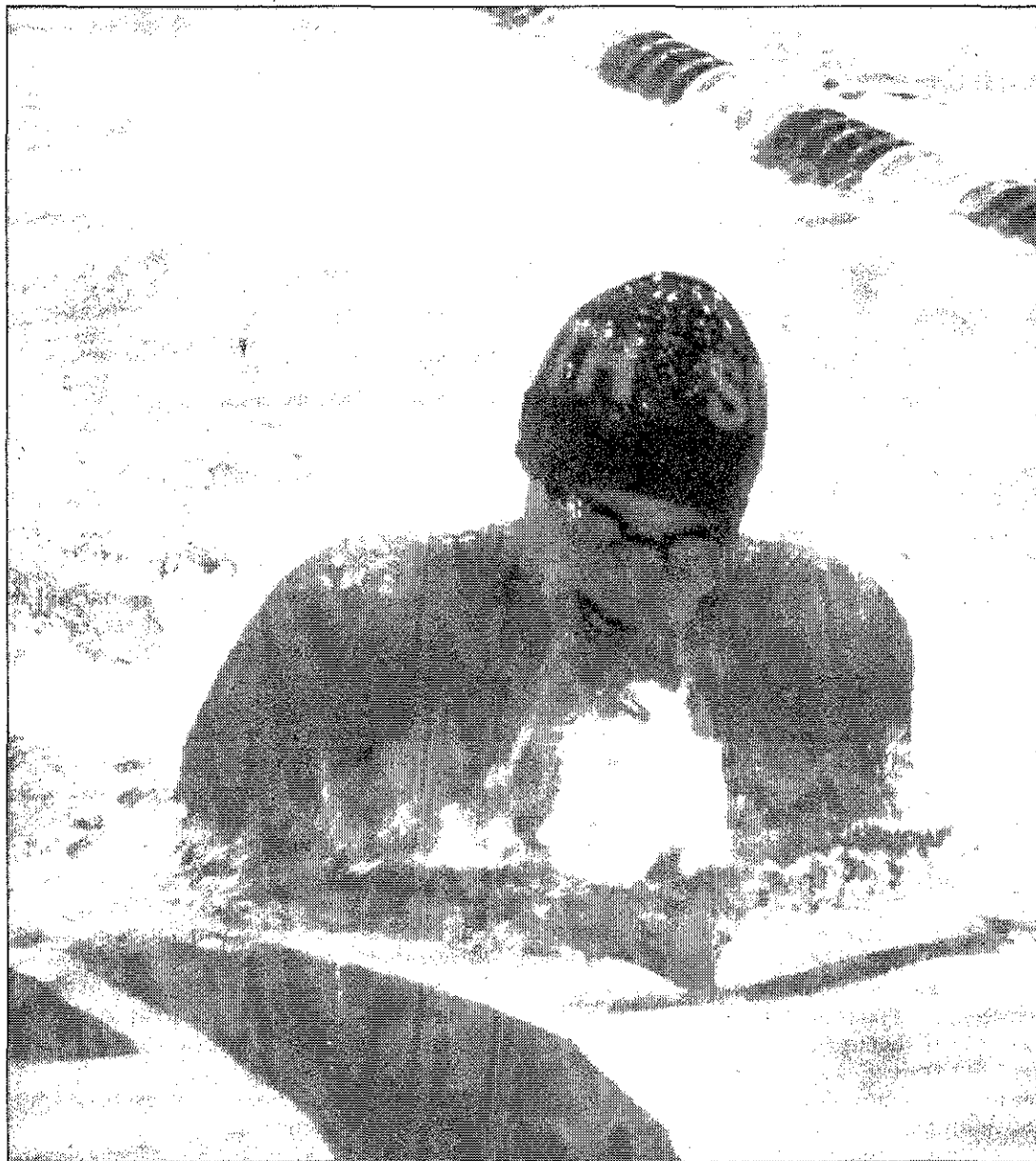
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South wins swim showdown



David Cockell led a Grosse Pointe South sweep in the 100-yard breaststroke against L'Anse Creuse.

PHOTO BY MARK BASILE

It was the perfect ending to the Macomb Area Conference Red Division dual meet swimming season for Grosse Pointe South.

In a battle of undefeated league powers, the Blue Devils defeated L'Anse Creuse 95-88 to capture the dual-meet title.

"We waited all season for this meet, and everyone was fired up to win it," said South coach Eric Gunderson.

"With our division dual meet title on the line, our depth was very important. Everybody contributed to the win."

The meet was exciting from start to finish and featured many close battles.

Each team won six of the 12 events, but the Blue Devils' depth showed up in the second-through fifth-place finishes that gave them the edge in the point total.

L'Anse Creuse started strong with a solid win in the 200-yard medley relay. South's A team of Matt Schmidt, Michael Manos, Brad Kaminski and Tim Dinan took second place and the B relay of J.P. Lang, Fares Ksebat, David Cockell and Joe Hessburg finished third.

South senior Danny Basile won the 200 freestyle with a personal-best time of 1:50.65. Alex Wagenhals from L'Anse Creuse and South's Michael Shook battled for second place with Wagenhals touching just ahead of Shook in 1:53.27.

The Lancers took the top two spots in the 200 individual medley. Cockell was a close third in 2:11.91 and Lang was fourth with a personal-best 2:20.41.

Less than half a second separated the top four finishers in the 50 freestyle.

L'Anse Creuse senior Mike Grice touched first in 24.24. Hot on his heels were South's Manos (24.30) and Matt Mandel (24.40).

L'Anse Creuse entered the diving competition with a six-point lead, but South's Jordan Long and Danny Gerow finished first and third, respectively, to bring the Blue Devils within a point of the Lancers.

L'Anse Creuse surged ahead with first and third places in the 100 butterfly. South freshman Kaminski took second place behind the Lancers' Mark Lucia.

South responded with a 1-3 finish in the 100 freestyle. Basile touched first in 51.83. Mandel was third (53.26) behind the Lancers' Grice.

Shook took an easy victory in the 500 freestyle with a time of 4:58.29. Schmidt was fourth with a personal-best 5:18.21.

With only a few points separating the two teams, South's 200 freestyle team of Manos, Dinan, Mandel and Basile stepped up to the blocks to battle a strong L'Anse Creuse relay team.

South edged the Lancers at

the end of the race, winning in 1:36.33. South's B relay team of Joe Hessburg, Lang, Kaminski and Shook took third.

L'Anse Creuse bounced back with a 1-2 finish in the 100 backstroke, led by Patrick Alfes, who won in 1:00.79. South's Lang and Schmidt took the next two spots.

South swept the 100 breaststroke. Cockell took first place with a personal-best time of 1:07.31, edging Manos, who was second in 1:07.72. Ksebat had his best time of 1:10.70 to finish third.

L'Anse Creuse finished the meet with a victory in the 400 freestyle relay but the Blue Devils' depth was advantageous once again. South's A team of Mandel, Joe Hessburg, Schmidt and Basile was second, while the B quartet of Jack Hessburg, Dinan, Kaminski and Shook was third.

Several South swimmers and one diver competed in the annual Michigan

Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association meet. The top 60 swimmers in each event are invited to the meet.

Long finished 10th in diving with a score of 337.10 for 10 dives.

Blue Devils who had season-best times were Basile and Shook in the 200 and 500 freestyle and Cockell and Manos in the 100 breaststroke.

Bad second half is South's downfall

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South's basketball team is going to need some help if there's a Macomb Area Conference White Division championship in its future.

That situation arose last week when Utica Ford II beat the Blue Devils 56-46 to take sole possession of first place in the MAC White.

Before the game, South coach Jay Ritchie stressed its importance.

"That's the biggest game South has played since the (Adam) Hess days," Ritchie said.

Unfortunately, the Blue Devils didn't come up with their best performance. The second half was especially disappointing.

"Offensively, in the second half we played in a panic," Ritchie said. "In the first half we established an inside game, but in the second half we scrambled around and panicked."

Ford's Steve Chojnacki scored on a putback with three-tenths of a second remaining in the first half to send the Falcons to the locker room with a 22-21 lead.

Ford maintained its lead through the third quarter, but only led 32-29 after a basket by South's Jimmy Saros in the final seconds of the period.

Disaster really struck for South in the fourth quarter.

The Blue Devils turned the ball over on three of their first four possessions and Ford took advantage with a basket by Nate King and two free throws from Kyle Hunt to go ahead 36-29.

The Falcons' dominance of the offensive boards was also a factor in the fourth quarter.

Ford scored five baskets on putbacks in the quarter with King and Chojnacki each getting two of them.

"We just decided to let P.T. (Shirar) do all of the rebounding," Ritchie said. "It wasn't his man who was getting the rebounds."

When Chojnacki got his sec-

ond putback of the quarter with 2:33 remaining, the Falcons had their biggest lead of the game at 50-36.

Another thing that hurt South was having Saros and J.C. Cruse, its top two defensive players, in foul trouble.

"J.C. played 25 minutes and Jimmy played 27, and they usually play all 32 minutes," Ritchie said. "That hurt us offensively and defensively."

King and Chojnacki led a balanced Ford attack with 14 points apiece, and Hunt had 13, all in the second half.

Shirar, who scored nine of South's 11 points in the first quarter, led the Blue Devils with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

Cruse had nine points and seven rebounds. Saros and Max Pearson each scored eight points for South.

The Blue Devils got back on the winning track in their next game, beating Port Huron 42-32 behind an 18-point performance by Cruse.

South is 8-2 in the MAC White and 11-3 overall.



PHOTO BY DR. J. RICHARD DUNLAP

North's Jerry Peoples scores over L'Anse Creuse's Chris Jarrett (3) and Nick Carri.

North stumbles twice in MAC Red

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

It's no secret that Dwight Van Hoesen provides Grosse Pointe North's basketball team with a good portion of its offense.

Other teams in the Macomb Area Conference Red Division know that, too, and they've been making every effort to contain Van Hoesen.

"Teams have us figured out," North coach Pat Donnelly said after the Norsemen's 49-40 loss to L'Anse Creuse. "They know that we have one shooter who's consistent and we're not a great post-scoring team. We rely on the jump shot and the transition baskets."

"When teams stop our primary break, our shooting percentage is much lower. We have to find ways to facilitate points. We have to go inside and try to get to the free throw line, if nothing else. We have to work the ball inside to create openings outside against the zone defenses people have been using against us."

Since the second half of the MAC Red season started, all four of North's opponents have played mostly zone against the Norsemen.

And North has lost all four games.

"Our defense has played well for the most part," Donnelly said. "Teams like Chippewa Valley and Romeo have been scoring in the 70s and 80s and we held them to 50 points. But we're only scoring 40. We have to cut down on the unforced turnovers and have better shot selection."

Donnelly has talked to several of his coaching mentors in recent weeks, and one of them pointed out an advantage that high school basketball has when compared to college and the NBA.

"One of my former bosses reminded me that we don't have a shot clock, so we should take advantage of that," Donnelly said. "Be patient and work for a good shot."

North's offensive struggles have affected the Norsemen's

See NORTH, page 3C

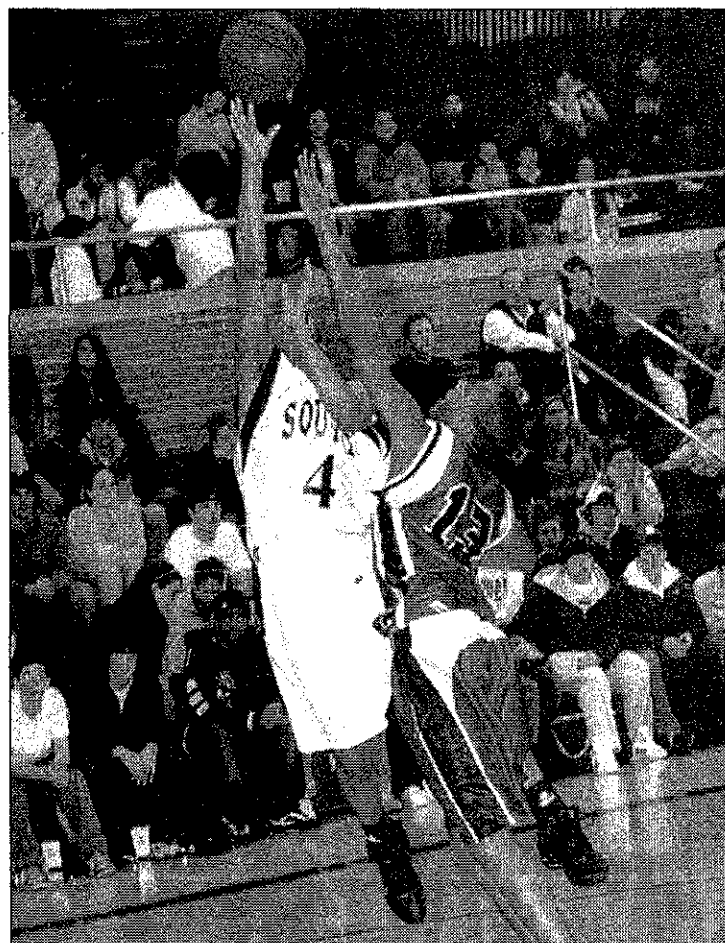


PHOTO BY DR. J. RICHARD DUNLAP

Grosse Pointe South's Jarvis Wise drives past Port Huron's Vince Buckles for a layup in the Blue Devils' 42-32 victory against the Big Reds.

ULS struggles with slow starts

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

It's been a rough season in the Metro Conference for University Liggett School's basketball team.

And when the Knights took a break from the league schedule this week, things didn't get any easier.

Monday, ULS played Sterling Heights Parkway Christian, which is ranked in the state Class D polls, and the Eagles rolled to a 75-40 victory.

"They deserve it," Knights coach Andy Dold said of Parkway Christian, which is coached by longtime Utica Ford II coach Jim Barker. "At one point in the game we said, 'who's hurting us?' so we could key on him, and we decided that all five guys were hurting us. And their backups are pretty good, too."

Slow starts have been ULS's problem for most of the season and Monday's game was no exception as the Knights gave

up 25 points in the first quarter for the second straight game.

"We can't afford to be digging ourselves those big holes early in the game," Dold said. "We use up so much energy trying to get back into the game that we don't have enough left to get over the hump."

Carlton Snyder led ULS with nine points, although he played only three quarters.

Joe Conway also had a solid game.

"Joe scored six points and had several rebounds," Dold said.

"He did that going against guys who were a lot bigger than he was. But that's been the case most of the year. Joe's undersized against other teams' centers, but he never stops working."

Earlier, ULS lost 82-48 to Harper Woods.

D.J. Henderson led the Knights with 15 points and Snyder added 11.

"Harper Woods is a good

team," Dold said. "They won't win the regular season, but they can make some noise in the (Metro Conference) tournament."

Lutheran Northwest foiled ULS's strategy in posting a 63-42 Metro Conference victory.

"We knew they had two good players and we keyed on them, but one of their big guys scored 18 points," Dold said. "We accomplished what we wanted to do — make somebody else beat us, and they did."

It was another slow start for the Knights who fell behind 16-0 in the first quarter.

Henderson and Snyder led ULS with 10 points apiece, and Conway had another good game going against a player who was six inches taller.

Hamtramck jumped out to a 25-17 lead after the first quarter and rolled to a 75-53 victory over the Knights.

Henderson finished with 15 points and Snyder and Patrick Gustine scored 10 apiece.

Norsemen get back on track

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe North's girls hockey team played its best game in nearly three weeks last week, blasting Ann Arbor 5-1.

The Norsemen have struggled to put the puck in the net in recent games and they were shut out the last time they faced Ann Arbor.

"The girls realized after our past few games that they have to work harder," head coach Scott Dockett said.

"They played with more energy today and it showed in the final score. I want the girls to play like this the rest of the season."

Kate Zemenick led the way, scoring a hat trick and assisting on the game's final goal in the third period.

"Kate is a big part of our offense, but not the only scoring option," Dockett said. "We

have several girls who can score goals; so we're not a one-dimensional team."

Zemenick got the home team on the board early in the first period and Rachel Lentz made it 2-0 at the 8:19 mark of the opening stanza.

"Getting on top early is a key to beating Ann Arbor," Dockett said. "(Clarice) Grantham is a very good goaltender and I'm glad we were able to get a few goals on her since she shut us out the last time we played."

The Pioneers scored a powerplay goal early in the second period to draw within a goal, but it was Norsemen after.

Zemenick, from Lentz, scored to make it 3-1. She also tallied an unassisted goal with only 21 seconds left in the second period to make it a 4-1 game.

"Kate's third goal really gave us some breathing room," Dockett said.

Alexa Quinlan put the finish-

ing touches on the offensive end of the ice with Marissa LaValley and Zemenick drawing assists on the tally.

Alexa Luchese, Sarah Hughes, and Lentz recorded assists on the Norsemen's earlier goals.

Earlier in the week, host North lost 3-2 to Livonia Ladywood, giving the Blazers a sweep of the two regular season games.

"We didn't play very well in the first two periods, but trailed only 2-0," Dockett said. "I'm glad the girls made a comeback, but to give up the winning goal late in the third period was a bad break."

Grosse Pointe North stands 11-5-1 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League and 13-5-1 overall.

The Norsemen can't finish in the league's top three spots, which means they will have to play a first-round playoff game Saturday, March 3.

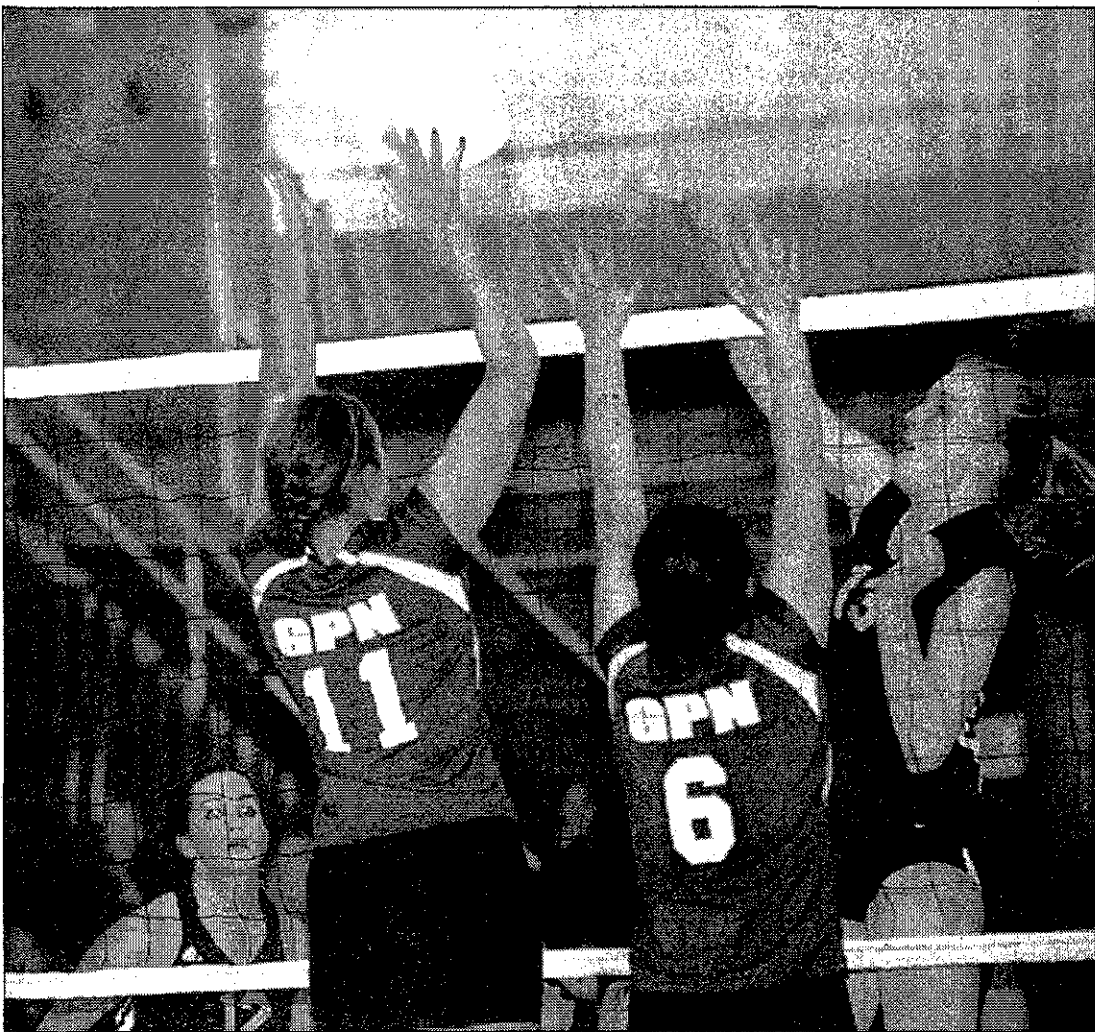


PHOTO BY DR. J. RICHARD DUNLAP

Grosse Pointe North's Christine Klein (11) and Bridget Reno (6) battle at the net with Grosse Pointe South's Nicole Stratelak. Waiting to help is South's Jessica Bashara.

North spikers beat Blue Devils

A record performance helped Grosse Pointe North's volleyball team beat crosstown rival Grosse Pointe South last week.

"Ariel Braker played a great game," North coach Kim Lockhart said after her team's

25-21, 26-24, 20-25, 25-20 victory. "She led the team with 11 kills and 14 blocks, which I believe is a school record."

"The ladies came out and played tough. Our blocking is improving and it showed, as well as our serving. Sarah

Perry has been playing so much stronger lately. She had 10 kills and six blocks."

Bridget Reno had 38 assists for North. Christine Klein had nine kills. Maddie Kent and Teresa Nagel each had six kills and 10 digs.

North battles back for tie

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North didn't win any games in the High School Hockey Showcase last weekend, but it was far from a lost weekend for the Norsemen.

"All in all, it was a good weekend," said North coach Scott Lock. "We played two teams that were ranked in the top 10 in the state and the college scouts got a look at some of our kids and liked what they saw."

North made its best showing in a 3-3 tie with third-ranked Traverse City West. That came on the heels of a 5-2 loss to No. 7 Brighton.

"We played our best game against the best of the two teams we played," Lock said. "All of the forwards played well and the defense was solid against Traverse City. We had contributions from every line,

and Eric Rohrkemper played well in goal."

The Titans scored twice on the power play in the first period. One of the goals was a rebound, the other came on a redirected shot.

Alex Davenport got one of the goals back for North on a power play, but the period ended with West leading 2-1.

The Norsemen had a lot of opportunities in the second period but the Titans scored the only goal of the period.

It was a different story in the third period.

"We dominated the third period and the overtime," Lock said. "We didn't score in the overtime but we hit two posts and Jeff Rohrkemper was stopped on a semi-breakaway."

North tied the game during the first five minutes of the third period on goals by Jon Ross and Steve Coates.

Lock wasn't as pleased with the Brighton game.

"I thought we played very poorly, especially at the start," he said. "They jumped out to a 2-0 lead and we kind of stood around and watched. We played well the first five minutes of the second period and had some good chances but then (Brighton) scored a power-play goal to make it 3-0. They played well all weekend. On Saturday they beat East Kentwood, which was ranked No. 1 in the state."

Scott Brown scored a goal for North to cut the lead to 3-1, but the Bulldogs answered with a goal to make it 4-1.

"It just wasn't our day," Lock said.

Jeff Rohrkemper scored the Norsemen's other goal.

"Tim Tibaud was our best forward," Lock said. "He played with a lot of energy. Jeff Rohrkemper played well at times and Doug Rahaim played hard. Otherwise, as a team we just didn't have it."

NORTH: Loses four straight

Continued from page 2C

play on defense.

"If we miss a shot, there's a tendency to get lax on defense," Donnelly said. "We have to guard against that because all of a sudden you'll go from three points down to nine points down, and with our struggles on offense, that becomes a big hole to climb out of."

In the L'Anse Creuse game, a back-and-forth first half ended with the Lancers holding a 24-23 lead. The score was tied 25-all with 6:47 to play in the third quarter, but L'Anse Creuse

went on an 11-1 run to take a 36-26 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Lancers increased their lead to 16 points before North cut the final margin to nine.

Dwight Van Hoesen led North with 15 points. Nick Carreri had 14 points and nine rebounds for L'Anse Creuse.

North's 61-51 loss to Eisenhower earlier in the week was similar to the L'Anse Creuse game.

The Eagles pulled away in the second quarter when they outscored the Norsemen 18-9 to take a 27-20 lead.

"Defensively, we tried a couple of things to get the tempo going and it turned out to be a bad move," Donnelly said. "By trapping, we allowed too many easy baskets. And Eisenhower did a good job of stopping our transition game."

"All they worried about was No. 24 (Van Hoesen) and almost dared everybody else to score."

Donnelly was encouraged by the play of some of his younger players.

"At one point we had four sophomores and a junior on the floor," he said.

"The Blunden brothers (Greg and Matt) got us some rebounds and steals, (Frank) Ferretti created some turnovers, and Paul (Bramos) and Darin (Willis) got a couple of baskets. We still think we can accomplish some things this season with our seniors, but you have to look to the future, too, and I like some of the things we see there."

Van Hoesen led North with 13 points, Bramos had 10 and Jerry Peoples finished with nine.

North wrestlers win three MAC White championships

Three Grosse Pointe North wrestlers took individual championships at last weekend's Macomb Area Conference White Division meet.

The Norsemen finished third in the team standings and had five wrestlers place in the meet.

Dan Evola took first place at 171 pounds, Arsenio Hall was the league champion at 140

and Josh Franklin took top honors in the heavyweight division.

"Winning leagues was definitely a highlight of my wrestling career," Evola said. "But now that it's over with, it's time to focus on districts."

The district round of the state team tournament begins on Thursday, Feb. 15. North will wrestle East Detroit in the

district semifinal at Grosse Pointe South, beginning at 5 p.m.

The winner will face the winner of the South-Roseville semifinal match.

North had a pair of third places at the division meet.

Nate Strickland won the consolation final at 215 pounds, and Roberto Davalos was third at 103.

South places four in MAC Gold mat meet

Winning the Macomb Area Conference Gold Division championship at 112 pounds was no easy task for Grosse Pointe South's Griffin Forton.

"He had two tough matches," said coach Jose Ramirez. "He won 14-10 in the final and he had an 8-6 victory in his first match."

Forton was one of four Blue Devils to place in the division meet last weekend.

Max Thomas (145 pounds) and T.J. Carter (171) both advanced to the championship match before losing.

"Max was one of the kids I was most pleased with," Ramirez said. "He got the most out of his ability and he beat a kid who had beaten him earlier in the year."

Carter lost to Lake Shore's Andy Lovins in the 171 final. The two wrestlers have split four matches this season.

Joey Konen took third place at 125 pounds.

"Joey has been out for about three weeks because of knee problems, so his timing and conditioning weren't quite where they should be," Ramirez said. "He was a little tentative in his first match, kind of testing the waters after being out, but he wrestled much better in his second match. That will help him get ready for the state tournament."

South will wrestle Roseville in the district semifinal the Blue Devils will host on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 5 p.m.

The winner of that match will face the winner of the Grosse Pointe North-East Detroit match.

Saturday, Feb. 17, South will compete in the individual district championships at Chippewa Valley.

SOUTH: Improves to 11-1 in league

Continued from page 1C

used in the third period for South, but at 3:51 the Blue Devils all but sealed the victory with a goal by Brian Auty. Griem broke up a 2-on-1 break by DLS and moved the puck up the ice. Some slick passing between Shield and Trevor John got the puck to Auty, who gave South a three-goal lead.

"One of the things that will help us in the playoffs is that we're three lines deep," Bopp said. "They didn't score, but the line of Peter Altshuler, Joel Patterson and Alex Marshall had a very good game. When you're in the playoffs, you need at least nine forwards because you have to get some rest for each of the lines."

South is 11-1 in league play and 15-4-1 overall. DLS dropped to 10-2 in the league.



2007 SPRING SEASON REGISTRATION

Registration begins
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All Registration for Grosse Pointe Soccer Association
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For more information please contact us at (313) 886-6790

Season will start around April 21, 2007 and end around June 3, 2007
Parents will be contacted by a coach no later than April 12, 2007

There will be no additional notices

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U7 (8/1/99 - 7/31/00)	\$75	Metro U12 (8/1/94 - 7/31/96)	\$105
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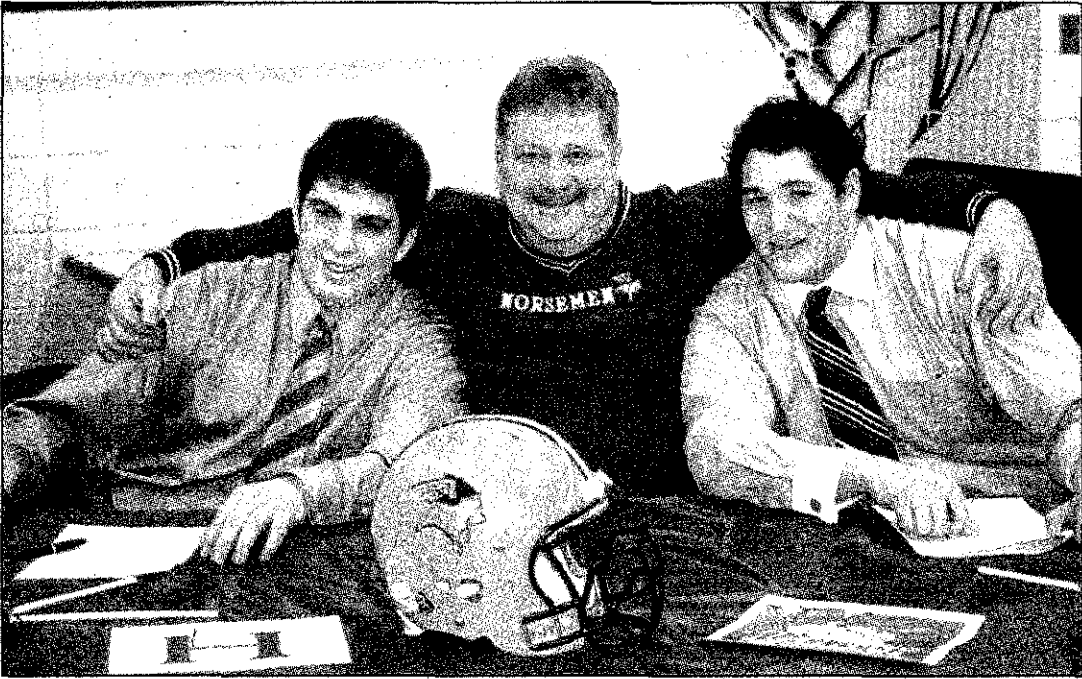
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REFUND POLICY
Before April 21, 2007 - Refund Minus \$10 Administrative
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For Questions Please Contact G.P.S.A.
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4C | SPORTS



Grosse Pointe North football coach Frank Sumbera hugs his two outstanding linemen, Ron Bedway, left, and Alex Ahee after they signed letters of intent to play football in college.

North pair will be collegiate rivals

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Alex Ahee and Ron Bedway hadn't even played a football game for Grosse Pointe North but coach Frank Sumbera was predicting a bright future for the two sophomore linemen.

"I can see them both playing football in college," Sumbera said that late summer day in 2004.

Last week the veteran coach's prediction came true as Ahee and Bedway signed letters of intent to continue their football careers at the next level.

Ahee will attend Grand Valley State University, which is arguably the best Division II football program in the country.

Bedway will attend Hillsdale College, which also has a rich football tradition but is now in the rebuilding stages.

"I knew they both had the potential to play in college," Sumbera said. "The rest was up to them, and they both did what they had to do. Both of them were very committed to improving as football players. They both worked hard during the off-seasons."

"They're both big and strong and good leaders. They were both captains last year."

Ahee and Bedway were both three-year varsity players at North, and the three seasons they were on the team were very successful ones for the Norsemen.

North qualified for the state playoffs all three seasons that Ahee and Bedway were fixtures in the offensive line and each of the three seasons, the

Norsemen advanced to the second round of the playoffs.

"When we got to the red zone (inside the 20-yard line) we'd line them up side-by-side and it was like plowing snow," Sumbera said. "They just cleared a path to the end zone. We've had 1,000-yard rushers every year, and those two deserve a big share of the credit."

North also won a pair of Macomb Area Conference White Division championships during Ahee's and Bedway's varsity careers.

This year, the Norsemen needed to hand Romeo its first defeat of the season to earn a share of the MAC White title. North won 24-17. That game ranks high among the fondest memories of their prep careers for both Ahee and Bedway.

"That was a big game, and we were supposed to lose," Bedway said. "But we got out to a big lead and held on for the win."

Another memorable contest was the playoff game against De La Salle this year. North lost that game 28-14. It was the final high school contest for the two standout linemen, but the whole experience wasn't a bitter one for either Bedway or Ahee.

"It was a game that we could have won," Bedway said. "And (De La Salle) went to the state championship game. That made us think that we weren't far from being there ourselves."

Ahee had a different reason for remembering that game.

"I almost went to De La Salle," he said. "A lot of the kids I played CYO football with went there, so it was fun play-

ing against them."

Both players also mentioned the three Grosse Pointe North-Grosse Pointe South games they participated in.

"It's always good to beat South, and we won all three years," Ahee said.

Academics and football played a big part in both players' selection of a school.

"You can't find a much better program than Grand Valley," Ahee said. "They've won the national championship four of the last five years. I like the size of the school, too."

Hillsdale had a 5-6 record in 2006. The Chargers have 17 starters returning, so there are some spots that will need to be filled in the next two seasons.

"The opportunity to play earlier was a factor in my decision," Bedway said. "I fell in love with the coaching staff, too. They all seem to be on the same page."

Each player gave North's coaching staff credit for their development.

"I really feel fortunate to have had such great coaching all through high school," Ahee said.

"All seven of them really helped me," echoed Bedway.

After being teammates for four years, Bedway and Ahee will be rivals.

And they might even be going head-to-head with each other. Ahee said that Grand Valley plans to use him on offense. Hillsdale is going to give Bedway a shot at playing in the defensive line.

"That's quite possible," Bedway said with a grin. "They're talking about switching me to defense."

Soccer standout selects UConn

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Sarah Stanczyk would like to close out her high school soccer career with a trip to the state championship game in June.

It would give Stanczyk and her Blue Devils teammates bragging rights around the Grosse Pointe South campus.

"We can't let the guys do better than we do," Stanczyk said after signing a letter of intent to play on the women's soccer team at the University of Connecticut.

"The boys had a great team this year, but we think we can do just as well — maybe better. The girls on the team saw what they did, and while we admired what they did, we've set some high goals for ourselves."

South's boys team advanced to the state semifinals before losing to eventual Division I champion Traverse City West.

Stanczyk, who has been a four-year starter on South's girls team, has been to the state semifinals. When she was a freshman, the Blue Devils made it to the state's final four before losing to Grand Blanc in

the semifinals.

Stanczyk chose Connecticut for several reasons.

"It was a perfect fit for me, academically and athletically," she said. "It's a program that will challenge me. And it's a program where we have a chance to win a national championship."

The Huskies' legacy in women's soccer impressed Sarah's father.

"All you have to do is look at their letterhead," said Matt Stanczyk. "Where it says NCAA appearances, it says 1975 and then there's just an arrow. The only school with more consecutive NCAA appearances is North Carolina."

Gene Harkins, who has coached Stanczyk all four years at South, said that he will hate to see her graduate.

"She's been a real leader for our team," Harkins said. "She leads by example. She isn't very big, but her size doesn't matter because she has as much heart and ability as anyone. She's very aggressive, and her quickness helps make up for her lack of size. She's one of the best defenders in the state."

Stanczyk enjoys playing defense, even though defenders rarely get a chance to score goals.

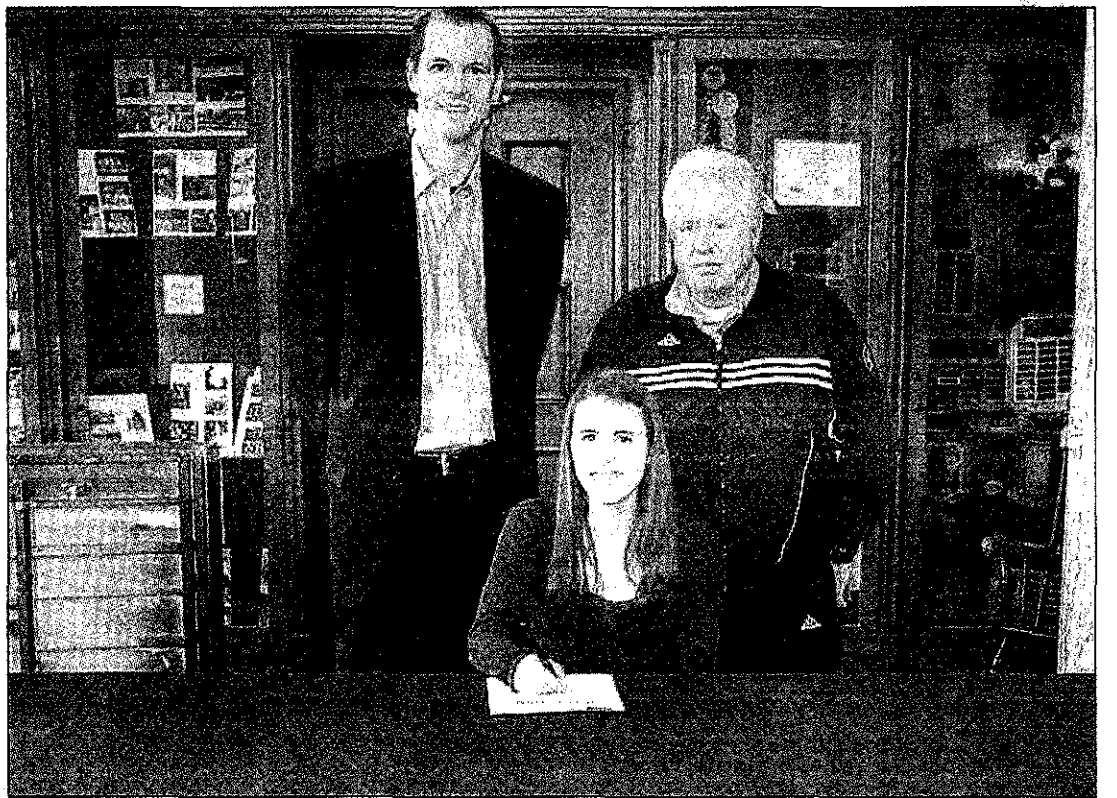
"Playing defense takes in every aspect of the game," she said. "You pass the ball. You dribble. You tackle. There's a lot of technique involved in playing defense, and that's a big part of my game. I like having the whole field in front of me. And I like being aggressive."

"I played some forward last year, and it was a nice change and a lot of fun to score some goals, but I'll be glad to go back on defense."

Among those who have helped Sarah's development as a soccer player are her parents, Matt and Sue Stanczyk, and her travel team coach, Andy Wagstaff.

"My parents have been big supporters ever since I started playing soccer at the Neighborhood Club when I was 5," she said. "They've always pushed me to do better so that I could play at the next level."

And she's moved right up the ladder without skipping a beat.



Grosse Pointe South athletic director Brandon Slone, left, and soccer coach Gene Harkins watch as Sarah Stanczyk signs her letter of intent to play on the University of Connecticut's women's team.



Rowing success

Four Grosse Pointe South students used their rowing ability to earn scholarships to continue the sport at the college level. Seated in front, from left, are Lauren Shook, Caroline Sweeney, Clare Vandelinder and Kathryn Switalski. Shook and Sweeney will row for the University of Virginia, Vandelinder for Michigan State University and Switalski for the University of Minnesota. In back, from left, are South assistant principal/athletic director Brandon Slone, Terry Shook, Molly Shook, Andrew Sweeney, David Vandelinder, Kathy Vandelinder, Carol Switalski, Tom Switalski and rowing coach Hans Doerr.

South girls peaking at right time

By Bob St. John
Staff Writer

It took more than half of the season, but it looks as if the Grosse Pointe South girls hockey team is playing its best.

Last week, the Lady Blue Devils beat host Port Huron 7-3 and lost 2-1 to the league's best team, Plymouth-Canton-Salem (PCS) on home ice.

"We're playing better hockey and I liked our effort against a very talented PCS squad,"

head coach Bill Fox said.

When the season began, Fox said it would take his young team time to gel. He said the Lady Blue Devils, the defending state champion, could make some noise in the state playoffs.

Against Port Huron, Liz McCaughey and Annie Shepard scored two goals apiece. Other goal scorers were Alex Rentz, Shami Entenman and Jenna Huitsing.

Recording assists were

McCaughey, Rentz, Erin Shook (two), Amanda Marsh, Sarah Auk and Kathleen McDonald.

South scored the game's first goal against PCS. Shepard, from Marsh, put South on the board at the 5:03 mark.

The Penguins' two goals came a little less than two minutes apart midway through the second period.

Katie Zimmerman scored at the 6:06 and 4:15 marks. Her second goal was unassisted.



Bound for BC

Jessica Leonard, who scored the winning goal for University Liggett School's girls soccer team when it won the Division IV state championship in 2005, has signed a letter of intent to play soccer at Boston College. Leonard scored 40 goals and had 13 assists as a sophomore in 2005, and last year finished with 24 goals and 10 assists. She has also played on several club teams in Michigan. Leonard is shown here with ULS soccer coach David Backhurst and ULS athletic director Michelle Hicks.

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Grosse Pointe News **Pointe Of Purchase**

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G. P. 255 sq. ft.
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	6					9	7	
3	4			2				
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			8			4		
9			2		8			
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	2	3					1	
7		1			2			5

E-3

Thursday 02-15-07

DIRECTIONS:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

VE-4 SOLUTION 02-08-07

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

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