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Grosse Pointe News

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Week ahead

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FRIDAY, AUG. 10

◆ The Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, 655 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts its 100th annual horse show 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments are available. More than 100 horses and riders are expected to compete in the Michigan Hunter Jumper Association sanctioned show.

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

◆ The Grosse Pointe Hunt Club hosts its 100th annual horse from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments are available.
◆ All Pointes outdoor movie begins at dusk and is on the Grosse Pointe South football field. Enter off Fisher Road. The movie is "The Lorax." Rain date is Aug. 18.
◆ West Park Farmers Market is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Kercheval and Lakepointe, Grosse Pointe Park.

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

◆ The Grosse Pointe Hunt Club hosts its 100th annual horse from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is free

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page 3A



Election and news
updates at
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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Three-of-four voting booths were occupied Tuesday afternoon at the Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall. The Grosse Pointe News held deadline for unofficial numbers. Final numbers are posted at grossepointenews.com and will appear in next week's issue.

Durant wins Pointes, concedes Senate race

THE GROSSE POINTES — If Grosse Pointe Republicans had their way, Clark Durant would be preparing for the November election for United States Senate.

Durant, of the Farms, won the Pointe portion of the Tuesday, Aug. 7, Primary Election with 3,308 votes. But, he conceded the statewide race to Pete Hoekstra.

Hoekstra took second in the Pointes with 1,979 votes. He faces Democrat Debbie Stabenow in November. She was unopposed in the primary.

All vote tallies are uncertified and do not include precincts other than in the five Grosse Pointes.

Congress

In the race for Congress 14th District, Democrat Gary Peters beat Hansen Clarke locally 2,994 votes to 1,900.

Republican John Hauler, running unopposed, received 4,329 votes.

State Rep. District 2

The Pointes' two-time state Rep. Tim Bledsoe, D-City of Grosse Pointe, won the Pointe portion of the primary for newly revamped District 2. The district includes the City, Farms and



Megan McCuen register at Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall to vote for the first time. She is a recent Grosse Pointe North graduate and heads to Notre Dame for college soon. McCuen won't miss a beat, voting by absentee ballot in November.

Park. It no longer includes the Shores and Woods.

Bledsoe, the first Democrat to represent the Pointes in the state House of Representatives, received 3,522 votes.

Challenger Alberta Tinsley Talabi, of Detroit, came in second in the Pointes with 261 votes.

See DURANT, page 9A



Gary Price files his completed ballot with the help of his 9-year-old daughter, Ashley. Price said he wants his daughter to understand how important it is to vote.

Thief told to stay out of town

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — A man guilty of stealing a bicycle in the Village has been banished one year from the City of Grosse Pointe.

Municipal Judge Russell Ethridge doesn't even want him to personally deliver monthly installments on his fine.

"Mail in your payments," Ethridge told him. "If you're seen in the City of Grosse Pointe in the next year, count on going downtown."

"OK," said Ronald Dean Anders, 49, of Detroit, convicted Thursday, Aug. 2, of stealing a bike belonging to a man dining with his wife at a restaurant in the central business district.

Ethridge, whose name is corrected by some spell check software as "Outrage," bordered on it in Anders' case.

"You created an issue in our commercial district, taking other people's property," Ethridge said in court the morning of

See TOWN, page 9A

Man dies jogging

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Police and medics spent the first half of last weekend not knowing the name of a jogger they tried to save on Grosse Pointe Boulevard.

The roughly 60-year-old man collapsed and died at about dusk Friday, Aug. 3, near the northwest corner of Hall Place.

"It appears it was cardiac arrest," said Detective Lt. Richard Rosati.

Late the next night, police determined the victim was Gerald F. Van Vliet, 64, of the Farms.

On Friday, a resident's 911 call at 8:50 p.m. sent officers to the scene.

"Officers shocked him with an AED (automated external defibrillator) and medics shocked him six times with their paddles," Rosati said, remaining at the scene two hours after medics took the man to St. John Hospital and Medical Center. "They couldn't have

See DIES, page 9A

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Above and beyond

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

It took 200,000 years of human evolution to reach the age of atomic warfare, and “Dutch” Van Kirk got us there within six seconds of schedule.

“Well, you get lucky once in a while,” he said.

Not quite.

Van Kirk made his mark on history with talent.

Paul Tibbets, pilot of the B-29 “Enola Gay,” which dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, 67 years ago Monday, Aug. 6, chose Van Kirk to navigate the world’s first atomic mission.

Tibbets said, “There just wasn’t anybody in the same class as Dutch when it came to accurate navigation,” according to an excerpt from the book, “Enola Gay,” by Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan Witts.

Tibbets always contended Van Kirk’s timing on the 6 1/2-hour flight to the drop point was 12 seconds off.

“His watch was never right,” Van Kirk said.

Military people often talk about building upon the legacies of those who sacrificed before them and laying a path forward for those about to serve. For Van Kirk, the legacy he’d like to leave is clear:

“Don’t have another war,” he said. “You do not win anything in a war.”

Theodore “Dutch” Van Kirk, 91, of Georgia, is one of those World War II guys who saw their duty, went above and beyond and got on with life.

“We went in, dropped the bomb and that was all there was to it,” he said.

After the war, he got out of the Army Air Corps and finished college.

“I worked for DuPont and retired as a vice president,” he said. “All in all, it was a very good life.”

Van Kirk is the sole surviving member of the Enola Gay’s 12-man crew.



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Theodore “Dutch” Van Kirk, 91, in wheelchair, the lone surviving crew member of the B-29 bomber that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, tours the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton. He also signed copies of his 600-page autobiography, “My True Course.”

“There’s not many people who remember these things,” he said.

Milk run

Van Kirk was a 24-year-old captain when Enola Gay, named for Tibbets’ mother, lifted off the South Pacific island of Tinian at 2:45 a.m. for Hiroshima.

The silver, four-engine Boeing B-29 Superfortress has a 141-foot wingspan, 21 feet longer than the Wright brothers’ first powered flight in 1903.

“Enola Gay” carried a single, 9,000-pound plutonium bomb. The bomb, nicknamed “Little Boy” and painted gunmetal gray, measured 10 feet by 28 inches in diameter.

Van Kirk sat at his navigation station on the left side of the cabin, directly behind Tibbets’ chair on flight deck and forward of the first of two bomb bays.

Unlike the flight deck and nose, which offered the pilots and bombardier panoramic views through more than two dozen Plexiglass windscreens, the navigator station had one porthole.

If something went wrong and Van Kirk had

to bail out, he could dive forward through a hatch or back out the bomb bay.

If Tibbets had to ditch in the Pacific Ocean, Van Kirk was to remove his parachute harness, give the radio operator the aircraft’s position and course, inform the pilot of surface winds, destroy classified documents, close the pressure door to the bomb bay, tighten seat belts, slide his seat forward and brace his head on the chart table at his lap.

The bomb was armed in flight. If the target was socked in and couldn’t be seen well enough for a good hit, there were procedures about that, too.

“If we could not drop the bomb visually, we were supposed to take it out and drop it in the ocean — do not bring it back to the base,” Van Kirk said.

The flight to target would have been routine if it hadn’t been done before.

“Over Iwo Jima, we started our climb to bombing altitude of 31,000 feet, as high as we could get,” Van Kirk said. “We would have gone higher if we could have got up there.”

In air warfare, there’s safety in altitude.

“No flack or fighters could reach us,” Van Kirk said. “The Japanese were a licked people before we dropped the atomic bombs. We’d practically burned Japan down. The atomic bombs did not win the war. It just gave Japan the excuse to get out of the war and save face.”

Boiling oil

In his navigator’s log, Van Kirk noted “bomb away” at 9:15 a.m. Tinian time. It was 8:15 a.m. Hiroshima time.

Tibbets immediately put the plane in a 60-degree bank, turning tail to the coming explosion.

“People want to know if that maneuver had a name,” Van Kirk said.

See ABOVE, page 7A



PHOTO BY KATHY RYAN

In court

Bob Bashara, accompanied by his new attorney Mark Kriger, pleaded not guilty at his arraignment Tuesday, Aug. 7, in Wayne County Circuit Court. Bashara has been charged with one count of solicitation to murder a witness. Prosecutors allege Bashara attempted to hire a hit man to kill Joseph Gentz, who confessed to killing Bashara’s wife, Jane. No date for a preliminary examination has been set. Gentz will be in court for a preliminary examination Monday, Aug. 13. He has been charged with first-degree murder and co-conspiracy to commit murder. No one else has been named in the co-conspiracy charge, and Kriger had no comment when asked if he expected additional charges to be brought against Bashara. Jane Bashara was found murdered on Jan. 25 after her husband reported her missing the night before.

Meth suspect arraigned

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — A redheaded babysitter with shoulder-length hair pulled back wore a blue dress and ruby flats to her arraignment Thursday, Aug. 2, for possession of methamphetamine.

“This is a felony punishable by up to two years imprisonment jail and/or a \$2,000 fine,” Municipal Judge Russell Ethridge told the defendant, Mary Elizabeth Novak, 21, of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Ethridge scheduled a preliminary hearing for 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 16.

“It’s a hearing where the prosecution has to show me two things: a crime was committed and there’s probable cause you committed that crime,” Ethridge explained.

Novak indicated she has little money left over from college expenses to hire defense counsel.

“I go to school and a I pay for all of it,” she told Ethridge. “I babysit.”

He said he’ll appoint her an attorney.

When deciding bond, Ethridge said he takes into consideration the safety of the community and the defendant’s odds of skipping court.

“She has one arrest for retail (fraud) third degree in Harper Woods (in) 2009,” Detective Sgt. Al Gwyn told Ethridge. “I don’t believe she’s a flight risk. I don’t believe she’ll continue this activity.”

Ethridge set a \$1,000 personal bond.

Conditions include: “No use of alcohol or drugs, unless prescribed by a physician,” Ethridge said. “You’re not to leave

Michigan for the next few weeks without talking to me first. You are to continue your educational activities.”

Novak was arrested at shortly after 2:30 a.m. Friday, July 20, during a traffic stop for running a red light on Rivard and Mack.

A search of her purse revealed a pill she described as “Molly.”

The arresting officer didn’t know the name was slang for meth until checking the Internet.

Novak said she lives with her parents.

“Are they aware of this situation?” Ethridge asked.

“No,” she answered.

“This might be something you might want to share with your parents,” he said, ending the hearing. “You have some paperwork to fill out. Take care.”



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Decorative pedals

Grosse Pointe Woods annual bike decorating contest drew a handful of children including Alex Abood and Elena Martin. Abood transformed his two-wheeler into an airplane and Martin added flowers to her bike.

Evan Bainbridge added a little crepe paper and a couple Mario dolls to his bike for the contest. To add his award-winning theme, Bainbridge dressed like Mario, right down to the mustache.



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A fairy tale land visit



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Top left, Aleda Miller of Romeo, right, didn't let her princess gown interfere with her sword fight against the knight, Emily Hering of St. Clair Shores, during Fairy Tales at Ford House, a Grimm Celebration. Top right, sisters Lucy and Anna Wujek of Grosse Pointe Farms were so excited to be greeted by Rapunzel. The fairy tale character was one of many who greeted guests Aug. 4, during the fairy tale festival, including Cinderella, Ariel and Little Red Riding Hood. Middle right, in her fuzzy-eared and tiara headband, Ava Cascardo of Dearborn has glitter applied to her lips after having her face painted like Princess Jasmine. At right, Leah Kutinsky of Franklin dressed as Tinker Bell for her visit. Above, visitors to the Ford House were able to greet Ariel, the mermaid, who was swimming in backyard pool.



All-Pointes movie night Aug. 11

THE GROSSE POINTES — All-Pointes outdoor movie night features "The Lorax," a computer-animated musical comedy based on the Dr. Seuss children's book.

The free show is at dusk (about 8 p.m.) Saturday, Aug. 8, on the Grosse Pointe South High School football field. Fisher Road gates open at 7 p.m.

Entry is by resident pass to one of the Grosse Pointe municipal parks. Pass-holders are allowed one guest.

"The Lorax," released this year, is 95 minutes long. The plot concerns a 12-year-old boy's search for a Truffula Tree in order to impress a girl. The Lorax is a grumpy creature who speaks for the trees.

Voices include Zac Efron as the boy, Danny DeVito as The Lorax, Taylor Swift as the girl and Betty White as Grammy Norma.

Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or

lawn chairs with bar supports, not chairs with legs that could gouge the artificial field surface.

Movie night is a joint production of the five Pointe recreation departments and Grosse Pointe

Public School System.

No alcohol or tobacco products may be consumed on school property.

This is the third joint program this year by the cities and schools.

Man arrested in Village waives prelim

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — No matter what name it goes by, the prosecution of a man accused of dealing heroin in the Village is proceeding to Wayne County Circuit Court.

Larry Owens Watson, originally identified in police and court records as Larry Watson Owens — but a 23-year-old resident of Detroit, either way — waived a preliminary hearing Thursday, Aug. 2, in City Municipal Court.

"When you waive your right to a preliminary examination, you're not giving up any other rights; you're not pleading guilty," Judge Ethridge told Watson at the prelim. "You're not doing anything except skipping this stage of the proceedings. Do you understand that?"

"Yes," Watson said.

He attended court wearing an oversized white T-shirt untucked over dark gray cargo shorts and shoes without socks.

Watson was arrested Thursday, July 24, on a Village sidewalk. Police said he possessed five bindles of heroin and about 25 small, empty bags. He faces a 20-year

felony.

"The case will be sent down to circuit court for further proceedings," Ethridge said.

Arraignment is 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 9.

Ethridge continued Watson's \$100,000, or 10 percent, bond.

Watson's attorney, Wyatt Harris, requested a lower bond.

"I set a pretty high bond," Ethridge said.

"I respect that," Harris said. "Mr. Watson has no prior felony convictions. This is a first offense."

Harris wanted bond cut to \$10,000 or 10 percent.

"The people oppose any bond reduction," said Gary Bresnehan, Wayne County prosecuting attorney. "The defendant's actions are pretty bold. He goes to a business district in Grosse Pointe and is found with 25 plastic dime bags and allegedly selling. Based on his actions, at this time there should not be any bond reduction."

Ethridge agreed.

"I'm concerned about drug use and addiction and the safety of the community," he said.

Unable to post bond, officers took him back to the Wayne County Jail, according to Detective Sgt. Al Gwyn.

Tennis courts receive upgrades

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — A tennis tournament will ensure that renovated courts at Osius Park are christened with love.

"We're planning a city-wide tournament," said Mayor Ted Kedzierski. "Check the pool office for the sign-in sheet and details."

Three of the park's four cracked and wavy courts were cleaned, patched, leveled, resurfaced and finished with three coats of paint.

"We'll have three playable courts,"

Wollenweber said.

The work costs \$19,800, or \$300 more than council members approved last month.

Anticipated private donations from the Shores Improvement Foundation covering half the cost didn't materialize, according to Councilman Robert Barrette, liaison to the foundation.

Instead, foundation members may fund construction of a splash pad at the park, according to Barrette.

"They put together a committee to evaluate that and also do fundrais-

See **COURTS**, page 7A

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WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

Continued from page 1A

and refreshments are available.

MONDAY, AUG. 13

◆ Chat with Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen, D-Detroit, from 9 to 10 a.m. in Grosse Pointe Woods Municipal Court room, 20025 Mack Plaza.
◆ Grosse Pointe Park city council meets at 7 p.m. in council chambers, 15115 E. Jefferson.

TUESDAY, AUG. 14

◆ St. Clair Shores Shoreline Blaze, a synchronized ice skating team, hold a fundraiser from 7 to 10 p.m. at TCBY, 20385 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.



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4A | NEWS

POINTER OF INTEREST

McNelis ready to dive for Yale

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's James McNelis is taking his diving to the collegiate level.

The 18-year-old graduate narrowed his choice to University of Michigan, Harvard and Yale. After taking his official visits, it was Yale all the way.

"I'm very excited about attending Yale and diving for a Division 1 school," McNelis said. "It's a great opportunity and I can't refuse."

McNelis' new head coach is Tim Wise, who led the Bulldogs to a 6-2 record a year ago. This is Wise's third season at the helm. One of Yale's assistant coaches is Chris Bergere, who was U-M's head coach for eight years and coaches several top-notch collegiate divers.

McNelis moves to Yale Aug. 26 and school starts soon after. His first collegiate meet is Oct. 27 at Colgate in a tri-meet with Lehig.

The long season continues through Dec. 1, then a month-long hiatus follows. When the holidays are over, McNelis and the Bulldogs continue the schedule competing against Ivy League foe Cornell at Ithaca, N.Y., Jan. 7.

The Ivy League Championships run Feb. 28 through March 2 at Providence, R.I., and the NCAA Zone Diving takes place March 8 to 10.

The NCAA Championships are set for March 21 to 23.

"Yale is the best fit for me with great coaches and teammates," McNelis said. "I have been training

hard during the summer to improve my diving and ready myself for NCAA competition."

He was the No. 1 diving recruit in the nation for Yale. He earned All-American diving status at North, plus made All-State in diving his junior and senior years. He missed earning All-State honors his sophomore year by less than one point.

His high school diving coach was Tom Mulhern, who also dove while at Indiana University. Other diving coaches who have been influential in McNelis' development are five-time Olympic coach and 43-year diving coach at U-M, Dick Kimball, as well as three-time Chinese Olympic diver and present U-M diving coach, KZ Li.

"I am fortunate to have such great coaches to push me to become a better diver," McNelis said. "I want to be the best I can and these coaches make sure I reach my potential."

During his senior year as captain of the North boys' swimming and diving team, McNelis finished fourth in the finals with 397.95 points. St. Johns' Brennan LaBar won the title with 453.10 points, followed by Berkley's Elliot Littman with 440.75 and Birmingham Groves' Aaron Harris with 421.70.

"The guys who finished ahead of me at states are very good divers," McNelis said. "It was a solid meet for me."

In the 2010 state finals, McNelis placed ninth with 356.10 points.

McNelis played other sports at North, including



James McNelis

football and tennis. He also played football in middle school.

However, when push came to shove, McNelis gave up other sports to focus on diving. The extra work paid off.

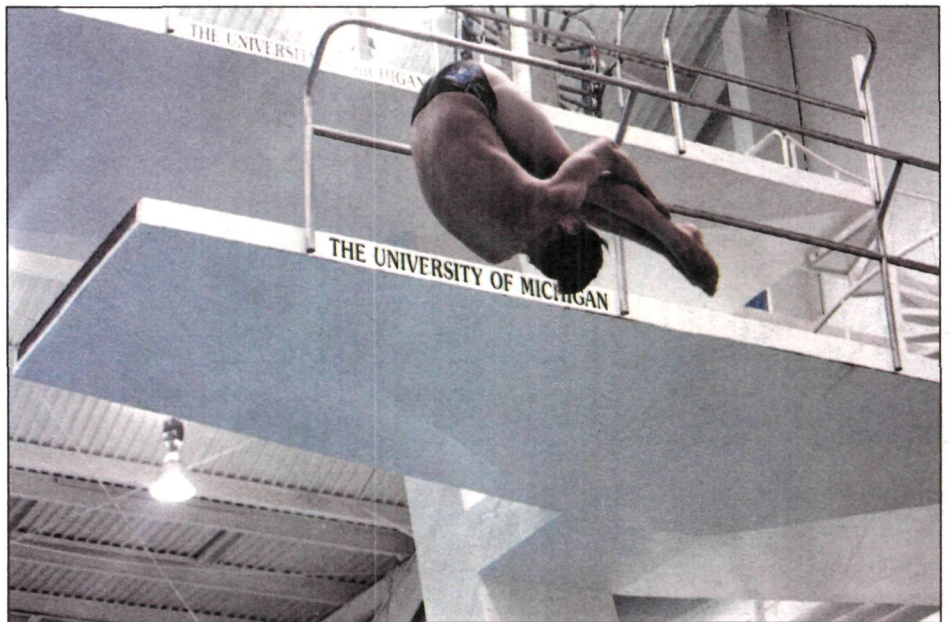
When he graduated from North, McNelis earned the U.S. Army Scholar Athlete Award, Scott Paavola Memorial Athletic Award and Scholar Athlete.

He competed at the USA Nationals in diving for Michigan Diving Academy, too.

His dedication also came in the classroom where he graduated with a 4.18 grade point average.

McNelis earned an AP Scholar award, GPN Parents Club Scholarship, 2011 National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing, scholarships to study art at Cranbrook Art Institute's 2010 and 2011 summer art programs, Grosse Pointe North Outstanding Achievement Award for Junior Level English and Grosse Pointe North Modern and Classical Languages Awards for Spanish IV.

Other awards he won include certificates, silver



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PHILIP MCNELIS

James McNelis has been an All-State diver at Grosse Pointe North and heads to Yale University to continue his athletic career.

keys and gold keys for drawing, along with several others in art. He was also a four-time winner of Great Frame Up Creative Self-Expression Award and William Mitchell Language Arts Award.

He is in the North

Academic Hall of Fame for earning a grade point average above a 4.0 and a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

McNelis is working out in preparation for his freshman year of diving at Yale and ready for the

tough academic standards of the Ivy League institution.

He is also spending quality time with his parents, Philip and Julia, and brother, William, before leaving for New Haven at the end of this month.

City-Farms Fishing Rodeo set Saturday

GROSSE POINTE FARMS AND CITY — Organizers of the Grosse Pointe Farms and City Family Fishing Rodeo could be on to something.

The rodeo is 64 years old Saturday, Aug. 11, at Farms Pier Park on Lakeshore and the foot of Moross.

Founded in 1948, the rodeo is for Farms and City residents ages 17 and under.

Admission is free. Prizes are awarded each entrant, whether they catch a fish or not.

The schedule is:

◆ 8 to 9 a.m.: Registration and free breakfast of doughnuts, juice and coffee.

◆ 9 to 10 a.m.: Fishing competition.

◆ 10 a.m.: Free lunch of hot dogs, chips and pop.

◆ 10:30 a.m.: Awards ceremony, free prizes for all, free mountain bike raffle and drawings of prizes for parents.

Contestants provide their own fishing poles.

Prizes and trophies are awarded to catchers of

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6A | NEWS

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Two for one

Two women, both in their 30s, from Oak Park and Southfield, were arrested at 1:17 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, for possession of marijuana.

They were caught during a traffic stop. Police said the Oak Park woman was driving a white 2011 Land Rover 60 mph on eastbound Jefferson at Fisher.

"While requesting license, registration and insurance, (I) detected a very strong odor of marijuana coming from the interior of the vehicle," said the officer. "When informed that the K-9 unit would be called to the scene, the driver and passenger removed containers of suspected marijuana from their respective purses."

The driver was held on a warrant from Miami-Dade County, Fla.

Runs light

A 57-year-old man from Indiana was arrested at 10:16 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1, for drunken driving on eastbound Jefferson near Alger Place.

He had a .22 percent blood alcohol level, according to the arresting officer.

The patrolman pulled over the man for driving through the intersection of Jefferson and Lakeland four seconds after the traffic light changed red.

B&E foiled

A woman living in the 900 block of St. Clair re-

ported stopping a burglary at 3:48 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1.

"(The victim) stated she was on the couch in the downstairs living room," said a public safety officer. "She heard a creaking sound upstairs."

Upon investigating, she saw an unknown man at the top of the stairs.

"The perpetrator ran by her out the rear sliding door," said the officer.

The man got on a bicycle and rode northbound on St. Clair. He turned eastbound on Mack and southbound on Grosse Pointe Court, according to police.

The suspect wore a plaid shirt, blue jeans and a dark cap.

"(The victim's) purse was dumped onto the bed in the main bedroom and rifled through," said police.

—Brad Lindberg

If you have any information about these or other crimes, call the City of Grosse Pointe public safety department at (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe

Farms

Stop until green

There's Michigan turns and Detroit stops.

One's legal, the other's not, especially when drunk.

A 64-year-old Detroit man was pulled over for allegedly committing two of the later a few minutes before 1 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 5.

A patrolman saw the man stop a minivan for a red light on westbound

Kercheval at Moross, then proceed before the light turned green.

"The vehicle then did the same thing at Kercheval and Kerby," said the officer.

The driver reached 50 mph before stopping at Moran, the officer added.

"He stated he did not know he ran the lights," said the officer.

The man had .12 percent blood alcohol level and as arrested for drunken driving, according to police.

Help, police

At about 9:15 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1, a 58-year-old Detroit woman with a suspended driver's license disregarded initial attempts by a Farms patrolman to pull her over on westbound Mack near Bournemouth.

The officer said she was operating her red 2000 Ford pickup at night without headlights.

She eventually stopped on Moross above Mack in Detroit.

"(She) was hysterical and took a few minutes to calm down," said the officer. "(She) stated she did not want to be pulled over by a Grosse Pointe Farms officer and was looking for a Detroit officer to help her."

Officers cited her for the traffic violation and impounded the pickup.

Purse gone

A 14-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods girl left her purse on the Grosse Pointe South High School bleachers at about 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 31.

It was gone when she returned.

The brown purse contained a Vera Bradley wallet, white iPod and \$20 worth of makeup, she told police.

Burglary

Someone burglarized a house in the 200 block of Vendome between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1.

Residents found the kitchen door and rear gate open.

A 17-inch Dell laptop computer was missing from the kitchen. Two jewelry boxes, normally upstairs, had been moved to the kitchen counter.

Missing jewelry consisted of a man's palladium wedding band and a silver wedding band with diamonds all around.

Neighbors told police of an older white van and blue conversion van in the area at the time of the incident.

Phonenapping

Between 4 and 4:20 p.m. Monday, July 30, someone took a \$300 Apple iPhone from a Farms woman's baby stroller on the Hill, she told police.

On camera

It was any Port-A-John in a storm for an 18-year-old Farms woman accused of shoplifting liquor at a drug store on the Hill shortly before 9 p.m. Tuesday, July 31.

Detailed behind the photo counter and questioned by the manager about a \$19.99 bottle of Absolut Citron vodka inside the suspect's yellow bag, the suspect ran away, according to police.

"(She) jumped over the photo counter half door, (and exited) out the back toward the parking structure," the manager told police.

Officers and hospital security guards found her in a fourth-floor portable toilet.

The store manager reported watching the attempted theft from behind one-way glass in an office located at one end of the liquor aisle.

According to security video, the suspect bagged the vodka at 8:45:03. The manager interceded at 8:46:20. The suspect fled 22 seconds later.

Vicious dog

A white German shepherd named Nitro, owned by residents of the 100 block of Ridge, blew it last week by charging out the front door and biting a 25-year-old female jogger from the Farms.

The bite punctured the jogger's right calf, police said.

"Due to prior incidents with the animal, (I) impounded Nitro, who has been declared vicious by Farms court," said a public safety officer.

Upon arriving at the house, no one responded to knocks on the door, according to the officer.

"(I) could see Nitro looking out a second story window," said the officer.

Police contacted the owner, who muzzled the animal and turned it over to authorities.

The dog will remain at a veterinarian until cleared by the court or detectives, said the officer.

Likely story

Late afternoon Tuesday, July 31, police didn't believe a man claiming someone ran into his 1999 Jeep on westbound Lakeshore between Deeplands and Woodland Shores in Grosse Pointe Shores.

"(His) voice was slow and slurred," said a Farms patrolman, questioning the 21-year-old Eastpointe resident.

Officers came upon the man standing beside his Jeep, with a flat left front tire and missing hubcap, on Provencal off Lakeshore.

"(He) was unsteady on his feet," the officer added. "(He) claimed a blue vehicle sideswiped his Jeep on the driver-side and pushed him to the curb, causing the blowout to the front driver-side tire."

Officers found 60 Vicodin and Xanax pills in the Jeep. They also backtracked the man's route on Lakeshore.

"A hubcap was located on the median, but officers could not locate the point of impact with the curb," said a Shores officer.

No one's immune

Someone during the night of Monday, July 30, smashed the driver-side door of Farms Mayor James Farquhar's delivery van, parked at his florist and greenhouse in the 100 block of Kerby.

Jewelry missing

Two tenants living in the 100 block of Mapleton are implicated in the theft of \$5,000 worth of their landlord's jewelry.

Reported missing Monday, July 30, were a:

- ◆ \$1,000 14 karat gold necklace with oval garnet,
- ◆ \$1,000 14 karat gold wedding band and
- ◆ \$3,000 14 karat gold ring.

It has three diamonds on each side and a large oval garnet center stone.

—Brad Lindberg

If you have any information about these or other crimes, call the Grosse Pointe Farms public safety department at (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Shores

GPS, not AA

When officers responded at 1:03 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 5, to a report of "intoxicated teens" in a 2006 Toyota Scion parked in the driveway in the 900 block of Lakeshore, they encountered a 37-year-old woman and 31-year-old man, both from Ann Arbor.

The woman was in the driver seat.

"The driver was asked if she knew where she was and stated 'Ann Arbor,'" said the officer.

She registered a .09 percent blood alcohol level and was arrested for drunken driving, said police.

The male passenger had a .17 percent blood alcohol level, police said.

"His appearance and actions suggested a much higher intoxication level, leading me to believe that he was also under the influence of another unknown substance," said an officer. "His pupils were fixed and dilated, unresponsive to light. His speech was slurred. (He) randomly made incoherent statements."

Officers took him to a hospital for examination.

Limb down

A tree service contractor was called last weekend to clear a fallen branch blocking North Edgewood near Ballantyne.

Shortly before 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 5, public safety officers closed the area to traffic and blocked it off with barricades, cones and caution tape.

—Brad Lindberg

If you have any information about these or other crimes, call the Grosse Pointe Shores public safety

department at (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Drug arrest

A 31-year-old Ohio resident was stopped at 2:35 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 5, for driving with a burned out headlight. She was unable to provide identification and when police noticed her slipping something under the seat, she was asked to exit the car. A check of the car found a small amount of suspected heroin, narcotic paraphernalia and prescription pills. She was placed under arrest while her companion, a Washington Township resident, was released.

Take the hint

A few weeks ago, a former employee of a restaurant on Mack walked into the establishment to complain about being fired. He was ordered to leave by police and told not to come back. At 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3, he returned and police were called again. This time, he was arrested and charged with trespassing.

Tires gone

The owner of a 2007 Lincoln parked on Lennon overnight Thursday, Aug. 2, came out at 6:30 a.m. and found his car on blocks and all four tires and rims missing.

Suspects caught

Police were called to Mack and Bournemouth at 9:40 a.m. Monday, July 30, on the report of suspicious activity in a parking lot by two young males near a Chrysler Town and Country van. The owner of the van told police he found his door lock and steering column had been tampered with, and pointed out the suspects as they walked down Bournemouth. The two young men, ages 14 and 17, were stopped, and screwdrivers were found nearby. The suspects matched the description of two juveniles wanted in similar incident in Harper Woods.

Re-potted

An officer on routine patrol at 11:50 p.m. Tuesday, July 31, noticed several flowers had been ripped out of pots in front of a jewelry store on Mack and thrown into the street. The officer attempted to replace the flowers and the owners of the jewelry store are reviewing surveillance tape to see if the culprits can be identified.

—Kathy Ryan

If you have information on these or any crimes, call Grosse Pointe Woods public safety at (313) 343-2400.

GROSSE POINTE PARK

Bad week

Overnight Tuesday, July 31, a catalytic converter was taken from a 2004 Pontiac Grand Am parked at Beaconsfield and Jefferson.

That same night, a catalytic converter was taken from a 2002 Chevy Venture parked at Fairfax and Westchester.

At 4:45 a.m. Friday, Aug. 3, the owner of a 1986 Chevrolet pickup truck parked in the 1000 block of Bishop heard his truck being started. By the time he got outside, the truck was gone.

—Kathy Ryan

If you have information on these or any crimes, call Grosse Pointe Park public safety at (313) 822-7400.

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'Saint Peter' restored

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS — Centuries conspire against the preservation of art.

It is against this impertinence of time that Alfred Ackerman and his small team of conservators at the Detroit Institute of Arts are defending a 350-year-old painting from further decay.

"One does the best one can," said Ackerman, head of the conservation department.

He's nearly finished restoring a 17th century oil painting to near original condition.

"We're not total reconstructionists," Ackerman said. "We like to let a fair amount of age and character remain."

Still, when a weeping, life-size "Saint Peter Repentant," circa-1650 by Spanish master Juan de Valdes Leal, receives a final coat of varnish and is hung in the Cracchiolo gallery of Baroque works, it will appear more lifelike than in five lifetimes.

A thorough cleaning clarified background figures and details soiled by dirt and grime. Chipped paint and other signs of water damage were filled and matched.

Ackerman brewed a special recipe of solvents to clean the painting.

"Ethanol, alcohol, isopropanol are the basis of these solvent systems," Ackerman said.

Work progressed in stages, one section at a time.

"Particularly in a paint-

ing that's had some glazing, I tend to do little area to get some sense if there's solubility issues of the original paint," Ackerman said.

Each section received individual attention.

"Solvents can effect the original paint differently," Ackerman said. "Hardier areas where there's white lead — the highlights and flesh — can withstand a stronger solvent. Darker areas, where there might be some glazing, are more susceptible."

Seen clearly for the first time in a long time are background figures and details previously dimmed by dirt and grime.

So are Leal's characteristically aggressive brush strokes. The same with contrasting, airy textures evidenced in Saint Peter's open, upturned palm.

Both qualities revive a sense of immediacy to Leal's technique.

"You can actually follow traces of the brushes," said Salvador Salort-Pons, head of the museum's department of European art.

The painting, as a whole, is to be seen from a distance.

"When you get close to it, it's kind of sketchy," Salort-Pons said. "Once you step back and see the painting as an altarpiece, it comes together."

Leal's confident style conveys conviction in his abilities.

"It was painted with, as the Spanish say, 'a la brava,' with no drawing; just directly with color and brushes onto the canvas," Salort-Pons said.

Restoration took two years.

Work included matching modern pigments and synthetic resins with the painting's aged oils predating the Spanish Armada's thwarted action against England.

"This painting has been very difficult to match," he said. "It's tricky trying to get that translucent look to the paint film. I have to build it up in layers."

Mimicking an artist's brush strokes can be half the battle.

"We often do that in an underpayment because we can't get the really thick, pasted paint with a lot of lead in it that the old masters used," Ackerman said. "Often, texture is critical because of the way it catches light."

Restoration extended to mounting the painting in a Spanish frame of the same period.

The conservation department occupies first-floor, formerly curatorial offices in the museum's Cret building, dating to 1927.

North light passes through a row of tall windows into a climate-controlled, but not hermetically sealed, rectangular room with white walls and oak paneling.

Table tops hold tools familiar to hobbyists: brushes of various dimension and long-stemmed Q-tips. Magnifying headsets hang from hooks on the walls.

"It's a nice, quiet environment," Ackerman said.

About a dozen restorations are on the docket concurrently — perhaps

sculpture, decorative arts, graphics and textiles, such as Native American costumes and Islamic tapestries.

"Often, I'll play music related to the period (of a restoration project) just to kind of get in the mood."

It's all part of trying to maintain a work's authenticity by identifying with its artist.

"Although, you have to snap out of it and not to go overboard," Ackerman said.

Ackerman has artistic training, but doesn't call himself an artist.

"In the past, a lot of artists were restorers," he said. "They tended to embellish their restorations. We try to contain restoration to actual areas of loss."



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

"Saint Peter Repentant," by Juan de Valdes Leal circa 1650, awaits framing in the Detroit Institute of Arts conservation department.

COURTS: Committees mull improvements

Continued from page 3A

ing," he said. "They're looking at over \$100,000 to do that work. They also approved a rack for six kayaks. That should be coming shortly."

Court repairs continued with the city paying the full cost.

"We're proceeding with this improvement because it is important," Wollenweber said.

He continues seeking financial assistance up to \$2,000 from the municipal insurance carrier.

A fourth court at the park needs more extensive repairs than are afforded this summer.

"It will have to be taken up with the finance committee for money to finish

that in a year or two," Barrette said.

Splash pad

Members of the Ambassador Committee, which Kedzierski established to promote the city and boosts its housing stock, support recreation improvements.

"The tennis courts, in their current condition, are not exactly enticing to people to people to come to the Shores," said Councilwoman Kay Felt, committee chair.

"A splash pad would be a real plus," added Gloria Anton, committee member.

Realtors on the committee proposed an additional, "more controversial" enhancement to the park, Felt said.

They suggested the city "should be more open to having food available at the park," she said. "I think we're going to want community opinion on that issue."

Marina

Shores officials are dissatisfied with aspects of the new municipal marina, totally rebuilt a few years ago.

Artificial wood deck planking is cracking and peeling in spots.

"We made it clear (to the contractor) that this is not acceptable in terms of the so-called lifetime, 10 to 15-year contract to fail after three or four years," Wollenweber said.

Shores officials are going after the contractor to make repairs at no cost.

ABOVE: 'You have to have the guts to win it'

Continued from page 2A

"Hell yes, it's called 'getting away from the bomb.'"

A blast equaling 20,000 tons of TNT killed 70,000 people. A roughly equal number died later from radiation poisoning. A huge shock wave hit the B-29.

"It rattled everything," Van Kirk said. "Tibbets said, 'Is the plane still flying?' Yes, it was, by God. We got away with it."

They circled around to see what happened.

"We saw a large, white cloud way above our altitude, about 50,000 feet already," Van Kirk said. "At the base of the cloud, the entire city of Hiroshima looked like it was covered with thick, black smoke. It reminded me of a pot of boiling oil. We flew a little bit and turned for home."

Van Kirk thinks the Japanese believed America had only one atom bomb.

"That's why they did not react when we dropped the bomb on Hiroshima," he said. "It wasn't until the second one was dropped on Nagasaki that they figured we could make more than one."

Japan's surrender Aug. 15 allowed the U.S. to cancel invasion plans.

Van Kirk, a veteran of 58 missions in a B-17 Flying Fortress in Europe prior to being tapped for Tibbets' group, knew the atom bomb would kill civilians.

"You regret that," he said.

Yet, Japan was trying to build atomic weapons.

"I wish we had one of our own," Japanese Vice Admiral Matome Ugaki, organizer of the kamikaze

corps, wrote in his diary the day after Hiroshima's destruction.

"If you're in a war you have to have the guts to win it," Van Kirk said. "If we would have had to invade Japan, we were going to incur lots and lots and lots of casualties. Dropping the atomic bomb was the lesser of two evils."

Not long afterward, Van Kirk and Tibbets went to Nagasaki.

"The minute we landed, a Japanese officer came out and presented his sword," Van Kirk said.

In the destroyed city, a defeated Japanese soldier stepped down off of a bus. "He was looking for his home," Van Kirk said. "It could have been me looking for my home. He had no home left. It was gone. And everything else. That is the reason we should prevent war."

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GUEST OPINION By Rich Lowry

Thank you,
National Rifle
Association

In America, we are supposed to like constitutional rights. One would think that an organization that vigilantly — and effectively — safeguards a constitutional right would be honored as a kind of national jewel. Yet the National Rifle Association gets only obloquy. It's practically branded an accessory to murder whenever a lunatic shoots people. It's labeled a nefarious special interest that lobbies Congress into submission. It's all that is wrong with our system.

The nation's highest-profile champion of gun control is a mayor who presides over a metropolis where guns are basically prohibited and yet hundreds of people are killed by them each year.

No one can doubt the NRA's enormous clout. But the group comes about it the right way. It represents millions of members, including lots of union members and rural Democrats. Its supreme act of influence is defeating officeholders in free-and-fair elections. And its signature victory has been a sea change in public opinion on gun control. Its influence is a function of its success in the art of democratic persuasion. In short, the NRA won the argument. In 1959, Gallup found 60 percent of people supported banning handguns. Now, Gallup doesn't even show majority support for banning assault weapons. The case for gun control collapsed on the lack of evidence for its central contention that tighter gun regulations reduce crime. Federal gun laws are unrestrictive. Forty-one states have right-to-carry laws, up from 10 in 1987. Some 80 million people own guns, and about 8 million have conceal-and-carry permits. Nonetheless, violent crime is at 40-year lows. If the proliferation of guns caused violence, the country would look like Mogadishu. The nation's highest-profile champion of gun control is a mayor who presides over a metropolis where guns are basically prohibited and yet hundreds of people are killed by them each year. If that hasn't made New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg stop and think, nothing will. After the massacre in Aurora, Colo., Bloomberg and his allies rushed to plug their favorite gun-control ideas, evidently caring little whether the measures would have stopped James Holmes. Highly intelligent, methodical and determined to kill, Holmes the person constituted the elemental danger. Guns, even frightening-looking guns formerly banned by Congress, do not go on killing sprees on their own. By the standards usually set for our politics, the NRA is a model organization. We say we want people more involved in the process. The NRA's more than 4 million members are highly engaged. We say there's too much partisanship. Single-mindedly committed to its cause, the NRA endorsed about 60 House Democrats in 2010. And we say we value the Constitution. Gun-control advocates, though, treat the Second Amendment like an "inkblot" — to borrow Robert Bork's famous phrase for the Ninth Amendment. They consider it an unfortunate lapse by James Madison, a forlorn leftover from the 18th century. They were all duly shocked when the Supreme Court ruled, in its 2008 decision District of Columbia versus Heller, that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to bear arms. No one, during fair political weather or foul, has been as unstinting in its protection of that right as the NRA. For that, we should be grateful. Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced and signed. Longer letters may be edited for length and all letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include a daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday. Letters to the Editor can be e-mailed to jwarner@grossepointe-news.com.

School residency policy

To the Editor:
This is in regards to the letter, "Protecting your investment," printed in the Aug. 2 Grosse Pointe news. The letter-writer states that due to economic conditions, people are finding it necessary to lease their home, at times, on a monthly basis. Theoretically, it is a pos-

sibility to have a new family enrolled in the school system every month at the same address. As a landlord in Lakeshore Village, we are required to have a one-year lease in place at all times. A cooperative agreement between the cities and landlords should be in place to prevent abuse of the residency policy. JANICE C. ANDERSON Grosse Pointe Woods

GUEST OPINION By Bill Kalmar

Yearly high school reunions



Perusing the area's newspapers reveals a number of schools are celebrating reunions. Most seem to center around the 25th or 50th year although every now and then you will see some high schools celebrating a 10th reunion. It has been my experience reunions in the higher numbers are the most enjoyable because graduates are no longer interested in showing off the spoils of their lifestyle or prancing around like proud peacocks. Then, we don't have to endure stories of fancy cars, estates in a seaside resort

or the latest promotion to a seven figure job with a Fortune 500 company. And frankly, guys who are almost septuagenarians rarely visit the Hair Club For Men. Pompadours may have been in vogue at the 10th reunion, but today bald is in. Once you gather to celebrate your 50th reunion, discussion most often turns to personal ailments, favorite doctors, home downsizing, assisted living home recommendations, grandchildren and the care of aging parents. Perhaps not the excitement of discussing a drive on the Autobahn in a Maserati — but not as mind numbing. We older graduates have mellowed considerably and our lives are now more settled and rewarding.

Recently our 1961 graduating class of Servite High School, headquartered in Detroit, celebrated a 51st reunion. We were so interested in gathering the class, we couldn't wait for the 50th reunion so we held a 47th. And when the 50th reunion was held last year, everyone agreed meeting every year should be the goal. Our 51st reunion saw close to 60 graduates attend for an evening at a local restaurant where we had a private room. As luck would have it, the restaurant was featuring "\$1 hamburger night." And while many of us eschew calorie-laden meals in favor of something healthier, I saw lots of burgers and onion rings on the plates — an evening for reliving not only memories, but perhaps recalling those

late night high school dining events after a movie where burgers and onion rings were de rigueur. What also makes this class of 1961 unusual, is most of the graduates are still married to their high-school sweethearts. The nuns and priests at our school would be proud, although there was talk some former priests and maybe a nun or two were themselves married — go figure. So if your school is celebrating a reunion in the near future, be sure to attend. It will be a return to those carefree days many of us wish we could relive today. And if you get a chance, order up a plate of onion rings! Kalmar is the former director of the Michigan Quality Council and a former resident of Grosse Pointe.

I SAY By Kathy Ryan

Are we there yet? Ask Edna



"God is my co-pilot," so the saying goes. Well, it's time for the Big Guy to meet Edna. Edna lives somewhere in the dashboard of my new car, and she's only a pushbutton away. I think Edna's real name is Global Positioning System, but Edna suits her better. The thing I can't figure out is how Edna knows exactly where I am and exactly where I'm going, which definitely gives her an edge, as I seldom know exactly where I am and I never know where I'm going. Edna is like a trusted servant. She's been with me for several years, seldom seen, but always lingering in the shadows of the dashboard. She didn't mind portable accommodations and being stuck to the windshield for a few years before she was able

to take up permanent residence in the dashboard — her window to my world, a touch-tone screen. And when she's not needed, she recedes into the shadows, hidden behind the screen that gives me all the information I need to know about what song is playing on the radio. I'm not sure where she goes, but apparently she's back there scouring maps and atlases to make sure I get to an obscure address in Novi or Lake Orion. For the life of me, I don't understand why people don't want to live in a city where everyone knows exactly where the 1200 block of a certain street is, or that an address with less than three numbers is on the lake side of Jefferson. But I digress. When you are forced to leave your zip code, all I can say is thank goodness for the Ednas of the world and what did we ever do before them? Of course, I remember glove boxes filled with maps that would never refold correctly and

dozens of scraps of papers with addresses and directions scribbled on them. Left at the light to 2nd stop, R then L at tree, 3rd mailbox on R. More often than not, it got us there. But not always. Years ago, we were supposed to be meeting friends for a picnic someplace in Brighton. I had the directions in my hand as we were flying down the freeway. But with three kids in diapers lined up in car seats in the back seat it wasn't all that unusual to have to occasionally roll down a window. As I did, the directions went flying out of my hand. We turned around and went home. Fast forward to cell phones and Ednas, and the chances of getting lost are nil. Well, almost nil. A few years ago, I was traveling with a friend and two 7-year-olds. We were in Kentucky, in some obscure little town, late at night, trying to find our hotel. Oh, we knew where we were supposed

to be, at least one of us did. The other adult, who shall remain nameless, put in the wrong address in her GPS, aka Petunia, and Petunia got us to that address, which was a public works yard in the middle of nowhere. As we're following Petunia's directions, we're telling her that this just doesn't look right, but Petunia kept talking, I kept questioning Petunia and my friend kept driving. We finally figured out we were hopelessly lost. At that point, one of the 7-year-olds in the back seat burst into tears and yelled, "If you were nicer to Petunia, she wouldn't have gotten us lost!" We agreed then to always be nice to Petunia, Edna or whatever her name is. Because while God may tell us to stay on a straight and narrow road, Edna can actually get us to the corner of Delano and Davidson Lake Roads. And gents? Did you notice she's a girl? Just sayin'...

DURANT: Carried Pointes

Continued from page 1A

Republican candidate Daniel Corrigan Grano of the Park ran unopposed. He earned 2,827 votes.

State Rep. District 1
The local race to repre-

sent the Shores and Woods in state House District 1 came down to Republican Dan Schulte of the Shores and Democrat Brian Banks. Banks' 385 votes beat his nearest rival, Scott Benson, by 26 votes.

Wayne Commissioner District 1

In the contest for Wayne County Commissioner District 1, incumbent Tim Killeen, D-Detroit, beat challenger Frank Accavitti Jr. of the

Shores 3,643 to 643. On the Republican side, Robert Sheehy beat Shirley Hanna Nagel 2,500 to 1,087.

Arts millage

Voters in each Pointe favored a millage funding

the Detroit Institute of Arts. The measure passed the community 6,911 to 2,187. Likewise, Wayne County voters backed renewal of the jails millage 6,911 to 3,209.

Macomb millages

Voters in the Macomb County portion of the Shores supported the arts millage 17 to 4. They also voted for a county veterans millage 16 to 3. —Brad Lindberg

TOWN: Man apologetic after taking bike

Continued from page 1A

Thursday, Aug. 2. "That's not something we can tolerate here."

Additional penalties are a \$125 fine, one year non-reporting probation and a 30-day suspended sentence in the Wayne County Jail.

Ethridge said sending Anders to county jail at this time wouldn't be useful.

"You would be out by the time I got home for lunch," Ethridge told him. Ethridge is letting Anders pay the fine at a rate of \$25 per month.

Anders said he's unemployed, lives in an east-side Detroit adult foster care home and takes medication for a disability.

"Without medication, I get depressed," Anders said. "When I get depressed, I get suicidal."

His monthly Social Security checks leapfrog directly to the home for room and board. A left-over stipend is enough to buy things like hygiene

products, Anders said. The court session began as a preliminary hearing. With Anders' guilty plea, it ended with sentencing.

"I'm going to plead guilty because, you know, it's true," Anders said.

He said taking the bike was wrong, but explained he wasn't himself that day. "New medication clashed with old medication that was still in my system," he said.

The victim, Jay Lytle, of Grosse Pointe Farms, stopped Anders trying to ride away.

"He immediately apologized and said it was a dumb thing to do," Lytle said.

There was no resistance.

"I do not want to see him (go to) jail," Lytle said. "I just don't want him in the community and given the opportunity to steal."

"(Anders) has been cooperative and apologetic," said Detective Sgt. Al Gwyn.

Anders' criminal record includes serving 35 days of a 90-day sentence 10 years ago for possession of marijuana in Lincoln Park, according to Gwyn.

In 2007, Anders was convicted for larceny in Melvindale, Gwyn added.

Anders explained he was homeless at the time and stole a case of beer from a CVS store.

"I wasn't thinking," he said.

DIES: Tragic night in Farms

Continued from page 1A

done more."

The victim was a clean-shaven, 5-foot-10 white male with gray hair. He weighed about 170 pounds and appeared to exercise regularly.

"Joggers don't carry I.D.," Rosati said.

Farms police solicited other law enforcement agencies for reports of missing persons.

"Someone's eventually going to call," Rosati said.

Rosati and an officer on the afternoon shift, fresh from evidence technical school, worked into the night documenting the area.

"As a precautionary measure, we take pictures of the scene to make sure there isn't something that comes up later," Rosati said.

Darkness caused officers to "paint" the area with flashlights and digital camera.

"We put the camera on a tripod and set the shutter speed, in this case, for 25 seconds," Rosati said, slowly sweeping a flashlight on the road. "We brush the area with light, like painting. If you leave the shutter open long enough, the picture looks like daylight."

Despite checking fingerprint records, appealing to media outlets for leads and distributing a sketch of the man drawn by a state police artist, the victim remained unknown through most of Saturday.

During the afternoon shift, the city's youngest patrolman used old-fashioned methods to identify the jogger.

Rosati's 24-year-old son, Officer Richard Rosati, 24, virtually gumshoed on and around the lower boulevard to trace the victim through motor vehicle and driver registrations.

"I was just doing my job," Officer Rosati said. "My shift commander, Lt. Andrew Rogers, asked me to check the area for

suspicious vehicles or vehicles that hadn't been moved in a while."

Officer Rosati compiled license plate numbers into the evening.

"On my way back to the station, I saw a vehicle that hadn't moved all day," Officer Rosati said. "I gathered that plate. I had so many, one more wouldn't hurt."

At headquarters, he ran plates of about 12 vehicles within the investigation's parameters. The driver's license photos of registered owners were compared with a post mortem photo of the victim.

Van Vliet's license matched.

On Saturday at about 10 p.m., Officer Rosati, Detective Rosati, Rogers and the evidence technician went to Van Vliet's house, not far from where he'd collapsed.

"At the scene, (I) observed a note on the door stating, 'Van, call your wife as soon as possible she is concerned,'" Officer Rosati reported.

"That's when we knew we were on to something," Detective Rosati said.

They entered through an unlocked door.

"On the kitchen island were a man's glasses and watch," Detective Rosati said.

"We were thinking he took them off and went for a run," said Officer Rosati.

Rogers found a Rolodex containing the name of the man who signed the note. He lives in the City of Grosse Pointe, police said.

Officers contacted him and showed him the post mortem image.

"He said it was his friend," Detective Rosati said. "The victim's wife lives in Maine during the summer. They check in with each other every day."

Detective Rosati contacted the victim's wife. He e-mailed her the picture.

"She called back and said it was him," he said.

BANKRUPTCY BRIEFS

Myth: Bankruptcy Will Destroy Your Credit

By Kevin F. Carr

A common misconception about bankruptcy is that it completely destroys your credit for 10 years. This is simply not true. Just because bankruptcy is reported on your credit report for 7-10 years does NOT necessarily mean that it will have a negative effect on your credit standing. Here's why. By the time you need to see a bankruptcy attorney, your credit is usually pretty poor already. This being the case, you have no credit for bankruptcy to hurt. In fact, filing bankruptcy has an immediate positive effect on your credit because all accounts will show a \$0 balance; improving your debt-to-income ratio. Of far more importance is what your post-bankruptcy income and credit shows about your ability to pay.

In my experience, if you have not re-established good credit within 2 years after you received your bankruptcy discharge it most likely has nothing to do with the fact that you filed bankruptcy. Instead, it is likely to do with your credit experiences after you file for bankruptcy. Missed payments on new debt, or post-bankruptcy payment defaults, are the biggest killers of post-bankruptcy credit.

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NEWS II

AUTOMOTIVE

2012 Dodge Charger

Charger R/T successfully blends past with present **PAGE 7A II**

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FILE PHOTO

In June, Sodexo Food Services General Manager Michelle Knotts hosted an A to Z Salad Bar at Mason Elementary School. Students tested 26 varieties of fruits and vegetables during the event, which educated students about healthier foods.

Board extends Sodexo contract through 2012-2013

By A.J. Hakim
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education approved extending Sodexo Food Services one more year before federal law requires that the district re-bid its service.

"We were required to receive quotes again because of change in the current federal law, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, the HHFKA, that has to do with the quality of lunches and the type of foods that're served," deputy superintendent of business affairs

and operations Chris Fenton said during the board's July 23 regular meeting.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, championed by First Lady Michelle Obama and signed into law December 2010, is a national reform against childhood obesity. It grants the USDA the authority and responsibility to establish national nutrition standards for all food served in school, which include:

- Offering fruits and vegetables daily;
- Substantially increasing offerings of whole grain-rich foods;

•Offering only fat-free or low-fat milks;

•Limiting calories based on a child's age to ensure proper portion size; and

•Increasing the focus on reducing amounts of saturated fat, trans fat and sodium.

With the new requirements, Sodexo raised lunch prices a quarter for the 2012-2013 school year, increasing elementary pricing to \$2.75 and middle and high school to \$3.25.

Sodexo has maintained the district's food services since July 2005, when administration approved

outsourcing the program to reduce district spending. Before Sodexo, the district employed 15 full-timers and 37 part-timers. It considered the program a "break-even" deal, though oftentimes it actually suffered financially (about \$25,000 in 2004-2005) in its annual operating costs.

But by contracting Sodexo, which all but guaranteed annual \$100,000-plus profits to the district, that changed. As did the variety of foods offered and the amounts of each food, some of Sodexo's biggest criticisms since it started seven years ago.

"When this service was outsourced to Sodexo, before I was even on the board, it was running at a roughly \$100,000 loss annually," treasurer Brendan Walsh said during the meeting.

"It's been running at roughly \$100,000 surplus annually coming into this year. So, it's been a \$200,000 financial benefit, granted nobody goes home skipping and dancing about how great the food is."

Which is why, with the required rebidding due next year, administration is keeping its options open, seeking additional feedback from students, parents and staff about Sodexo's services and its compliance with the USDA's established menu. In January, the district plans on conducting

See SODEXO, page 2A II

Administration hires candidates, concludes three of four searches

By A.J. Hakim
Staff Writer

Searches for three of the four positions made available this summer concluded officially last Friday. During a special meeting of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education Aug. 3, the board approved the human resources report that included hires for Maureen Bur's, Stephen Cross's and Ellen Bowen's replacements.

One opening remains — an interim principal for Grosse Pointe North High School.

Bur vacated her position as Kerby Elementary School principal in June for a new role as the GPPSS Director of Pre-K/Elementary Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology. Her replacement is Melanie O'Neil, of Lake Orion Community Schools.

While at LOCS O'Neil held positions as Orion Oaks Elementary School principal, Early Childhood Director, classroom teacher for fourth and fifth grades and, most recently, Autism Spectrum Disorder teacher at Blanche Sims Elementary School.

"So she has a broad background and a real strong focus on both instruction and relationships," deputy superintendent of educational services Jon Dean said during Friday's meeting. "We're excited to have her."

O'Neil earned her Bachelor of Science degree in education from Central Michigan University, a Master of Educational Administration degree from Michigan State University and an endorsement in ASD from Oakland University. She was selected from a pool of 107 applicants.

Band and choir

The two other positions filled Friday, Stephen Cross's and Ellen Bowen's, became available after

See HIRES, page 2A II

Christmas In August



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2A II | SCHOOLS



South students greet guests before DSO concert

Before the Detroit Symphony Orchestra made the stage at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House for the groups' third annual collaboration July 13 and 14, Grosse Pointe South High School students greeted and treated guests to music from Bach and Mozart.

Detroit Children's Choir, under Carol Shoch's direction, sang as well.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, the South quartet of Hannah Adams, Erica Arora, Janey Degnan and Spencer Korejwo play music from Mozart for guests. Arora graduated in June and will attend Grand Valley State University in the fall. The others are all juniors.

Right, Grosse Pointe South High School graduate Brian Hall, attending the University of Notre Dame in the fall, greets VIP guests at the front door with a performance of Bach on cello.



HIRES: Takis and Pratt take over for Cross and Bowen, respectively

Continued from page 1A II

Cross was fired and Bowen placed on paid administrative leave. Administration is currently seeking Bowen's termination. Their replacements are, respectively, Christopher Takis, of Van Dyke Public Schools, and Christopher Pratt, of Center Grove High School in Greenwood, Ind.

Takis assumes the role as Pierce Middle School and Grosse Pointe South High School band teacher.

As director of bands, choirs and guitar class at Lincoln Middle School since 2005, Takis doubled student participation and brought numerous awards and achievements to the program. He also worked as drumline instructor for Rochester Public Schools and as pit orchestra instructor at Williamston Community Schools near East Lansing.

He graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor of Music Education degree and received K-12 music certification from Michigan State University, while on scholarship at MSU's School of Music.

"We had parents and staff and administrators interview a variety of people," Dean said. "We had all the candidates we were really interested in work with a group of students in almost a festival sort of environment. The feedback we received almost unanimously said Mr. Takis would be the right fit for this program."

gram."

Pratt steps in as South's choir teacher, a position Bowen solidified the past 26 years. Bowen's choirs performed more than 60 times with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, routinely earned highest honors at the Michigan State Solo and Ensemble Festivals and Pointe Singers at national show choir festivals, and took bi-annual trips across the United States and Europe.

Himself a decorated choir teacher, in his 13-plus years teaching in both Indiana and Illinois, Pratt earned Outstanding First Year Teacher in the Danville District #118 in Illinois in 2001, Service Award Recipient from Center Grove Community School Corporation in 2007 and was featured in Choral Directors Magazine as its Featured Choral Director in 2011.

At Center Grove he managed about 400 students in nine choral ensembles and two piano classes.

His choirs have won more than 75 Grand Champions awards and several other national titles during competitions in New York City, Chicago, Orlando, Branson and Indianapolis.

"I think the thing that struck the committee the most was," Dean said, "when we talked to him about his program, the first thing he talked about was the value of his program — he puts academics first and a focus on giving kids the relationships and a place, something to be a part of in high school — and that really impressed the committee."

Pratt earned a music education degree from Millikin University, a Bachelor of Science degree in music education from Ball State University and a Master of Education in educational leadership and administration degree from Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis.

"Mr. Pratt's background is extensive, he has extensive show choir experience as well as experience," Dean said. "His choirs are also technically sound, coming from the state of Indiana. He has built an amazing program."

Meeting Brief

•Also included in the human resources report, Debra Higgins, new assistant principal at South. Previously, Higgins was assistant principal at the high school and middle school levels at Brighton Area Schools.

She has an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College, a Bachelor of Arts degree from Madonna University, Master of Arts in teaching from Marygrove College and education specialist in supervision and administration degree from Wayne State University.

•The board also recalled several teachers from layoff. About four of the original 13 remain on layoff.

SODEXO: Board encourages students, parents to take notes on food service

Continued from page 1A II

a survey for feedback on the upcoming bid.

"I would just encourage people to try to keep good notes and make sure the administration and even the board is aware if there's an opportunity or things that have just not come forward well in the Sodexo program," trustee Tom Jakubiec said, "so we

can be cognizant of that as we go through the negotiation process next year."

Added president Judy Gafa: "I'm going to look with interest at if we really are getting healthier food options. I think we need to make sure we start at a young age getting our kids healthier. I think this district and community as a whole tends to go up to-

wards healthier food options, so I think we need to make sure we're servicing our families that way too."

School breakfast

Also at the July meeting, the board approved operating a school breakfast program at Defer, Mason and Poupard elementary schools and Parcels Middle School.

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Mark Schott



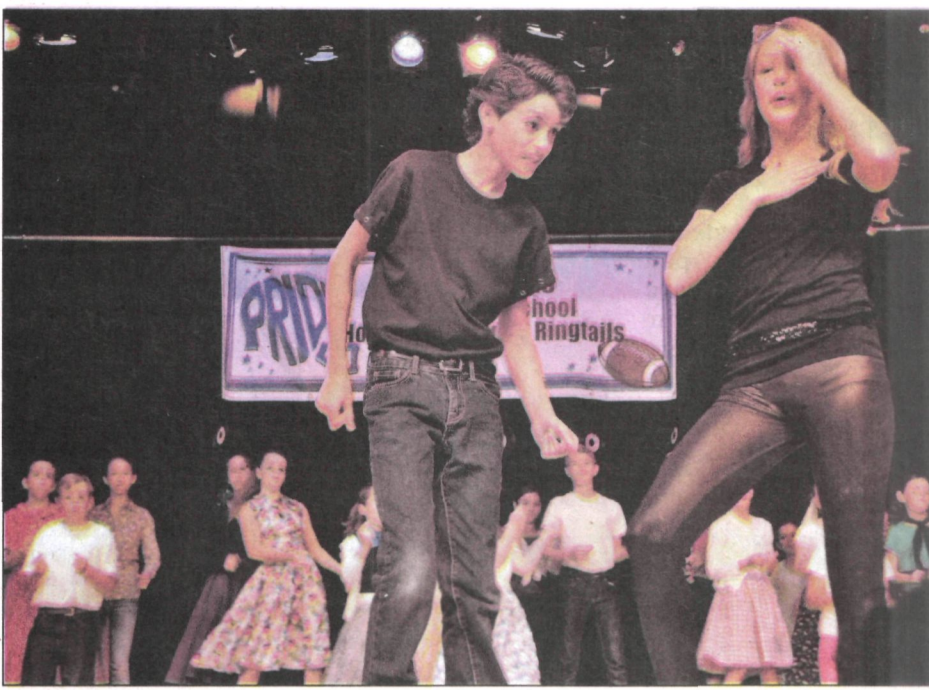
Mark Schott, an undergraduate student at Wayne State University, was one of two physics majors to recently receive the "Professors Henry Bohm and Melbourne Stewart Endowed Undergraduate Scholarship" for academic excellence.

On March 29, 2012, Wayne State hosted the Vaden W. Miles Memorial lecture with guest speaker, (also pictured), Colonel Terri Virts, NASA astronaut, pilot and lead robotic operator of Space Shuttle Mission, STS - 130. Prior to the lecture, Mark was given the award.

During the summer of 2011, Mark participated in a 3-month internship at Fermilab, located in Batavia, Illinois. His research was in particle physics and he presented his findings at an APS meeting this past April in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mark was accepted and is currently involved in a physics internship at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. He is working with a team at the NASA - Langley research center in Hampton, Virginia.

Mark attended the Grosse Pointe Academy, Grosse Pointe South, and UC Santa Cruz. He is in his final year at Wayne State. He is the son of Bobbee Schott (Grosse Pointe City) and the late Michael B. Schott.



Antonio Cipriano, left, and Brooke White played the lead roles of Danny and Sandy, respectively. Above, the duo performs the "Grease" classic, "You're the One that I want."

Musical theatre camp students perform 'Grease'

The 60-some children in the Summer Musical Theatre Camp at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial recently starred as the rebellious, thrilling teens of Rydell High in a one-night, two-show performance of Warren Casey's 1971 musical, "Grease."

Production marked the conclusion of the two-week camp, which ran from June 18 to July 3. Led by instructors Heather Albrecht (music director) and Michelle Stackpoole (director), the camp challenged children to take risks and to learn self-discipline and collaboration.

Albrecht and Stackpoole also taught dance, drama, music, script exploration and character development, among other aspects of musical theater.

The following children, all ages 8 to 14, performed in the camp production held at the Fries Auditorium: Antonio Cipriano (Danny); Brooke White (Sandy); Phelan Johnson (Rizzo); Allison Frazer (Frenchy); Lily Kubek (Marty); Sarah Galbenski (Jan); Jerome Manning (Kenicke); Eion Meldrum (Doody); Andrew Backer (Roger); Brendan Linn (Sonny); Alexandra Dean (Patty); Kendall Volpe (Cha-Cha); Noah Dean (Eugene); John Francis (Vince Fontaine); Anthony Dasaro (Johnny Casino); Lucas Pesek (Teen Angel) and Sarah Buttiglieri (Miss Lynch).

Chorus members included: Bridgette Backer; Max Backer; Katherine Bsharah; Julianna Brenner; Meredith Bruni; Sarah — Charbonneau;

Vincent Cracchiolo; Piper Eschenburg; Kate George; Grace Guthrie; Erin Haggerty; Leah Haggerty; Joe Hamouda; Sarah Hamouda; Annelise Hofmann; Caroline Hopper; Ellie Kaess; Shannon Kerr; Caroline Kubek; Lauren Leach; Emma Leonard; Caroline Mancus; Lily McLauchlan; Maria Mirkazemi; Maya Mirkazemi; Olivia Mlynarek; Josie Monahan; Anne Muawad; Madison Murray; Sydney Murray; Alexander O'Hare; Betsy Oliver; Isabella Schena; Marcella Staricco; Hannah Thompson; Madeline Thompson; Victoria Treder; Porter Turkal; Adriana Weinkauf; Isabella Welke; Audrey Whitaker; Emily Widgren; Abigail Wilson and Kaileigh Wu.

Five schools earn state's top designation

Five Grosse Pointe Public School System schools earned designations as Reward Schools for either their high student achievement or substantial progress in student achievement, according to the Michigan Department of Education's recently released statewide report cards.

The five — Brownell Middle School (99 percentile) and Kerby (98), Maire (98), Monteith (94) and Richard (99) elementary schools — are among 286 other schools in Michigan to receive the designation. Reward Schools rank within the top 5 percent of schools in the state according to the MDE's Top-to-Bottom list.

The designation is one of three new ones this year, the result of the United States Department of Education granting Michigan flexibility to the No Child Left Behind Act.

"We applaud the hard work and achievement of the educators and students in our Reward Schools because they are zeroed in on improving learning," state superintendent of public instruction Mike Flanagan said via press release.

"We need to instill that goal in so many more schools, in order to help all kids be career- and college-ready and successful in life."

MDE recognized five other GPPSS schools — Defer, Ferry and Trombly elementary schools and

Parcells and Pierce middle schools — as Focus Schools, the 10 percent of schools with the widest achievement gaps between the highest and lowest achieving students.

Grosse Pointe North and South high schools and Mason and Poupard elementary schools weren't listed, meaning each school met state expectations for achievement, growth and gap analysis.

No school received the Priority Schools designation, which includes the bottom five percent in the rankings and any high school with a graduation rate less than 60 percent for three straight years.

Along with the Top-to-Bottom rankings, the statewide report cards included Education Yes! report card grades and Adequate Yearly Progress reports.

Ed Yes! is the state's system of school accreditation and measures a school's decision-making process, its attention to data, its community agencies, diversity of population, curriculum and other characteristics.

Schools receiving an 'A' grade include: Kerby, Maire, Mason, Monteith, Richard and Trombly elementary schools and Brownell.

Those schools with a 'B' are: Defer and Ferry elementary schools, Pierce Middle School and South high school.

And those graded 'C' are: Poupard Elementary School, Parcells Middle School and North high school.

All GPPSS schools made Adequate Yearly Progress. This is the last year of AYP, as the new No Child Left Behind Flexibility and Improvements Act will issue a new accountability scorecard for Michigan next year. Instead of grades, the scorecard uses five different colors to recognize levels of achievement for each school.

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Grosse Pointe News

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.

Gus Anton

Restaurateur Gus Anton passed away Wednesday, July 25, 2012. He was 85.

Mr. Anton was the owner of New Hellas Café in Detroit. Founded in 1901 by his father, New Hellas Café was among a number of Greek restaurants and businesses in the Greektown district of Detroit. Also known as "the one on the corner," the restaurant was a place many patrons and friends considered their home away from home. It was featured twice on the Food Network and has also been a stop for many visiting celebrities, including comedian Bob Hope, celebrity chef Emeril Lagasse, and actress Lainie Kazan.

Easily spotted in a crowd by his iconic hand-lebar mustache, Mr. Anton was friendly, warm and kind. He loved the restaurant business and New Hellas Café was his heart and soul. Nightly, he could be seen greeting customers with a hearty "Hello" and a big smile. He took pride in serving the community and he considered each customer to be among his friends. He cared deeply for those less fortunate than himself by providing meals to the homeless as well as those who simply couldn't afford to pay.

One of Mr. Anton's biggest successes was the introduction of the saganaki, or flaming cheese appetizer. He heard about this flaming dish from patrons who visited Chicago's Greektown. He personally made the trip to Chicago and brought saganaki to Detroit. Today, saganaki is known as Greektown's signature dish.

After spending more than 60 years feeding and entertaining family, friends and patrons, Mr. Anton and his wife retired March 23, 2008, closing the doors of New Hellas Café.

Mr. Anton is survived by Zoe (Dallas), his wife of 60 years; daughter, Georgia (Peter) Malliaras; and grandsons, George (Lana) Malliaras and Gus Malliaras.

He was predeceased by his son, James.

John G. Crowley

John G. "Jerry" Crowley, 90, died Saturday, July 21, 2012.

He was born Sept. 3, 1921, to Edward and Mabel (nee Ready) Crowley and raised in Detroit. Following his graduation from Catholic Central High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served with the 879th Airborne Engineers in the Burma campaign during World War II.

Returning from the war, Mr. Crowley married his sweetheart, Dorothy Martin, and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Lawrence Technological University. He retired after 32 years with Chrysler Corporation and then was called back to work an additional two years as a consultant.

Raising his family in Grosse Pointe, Mr. Crowley took pride in his children's and grandchildren's accomplishments, and was often found lending a hand, or in the cheering section, at area schools, gyms, ice rinks and swimming pools. Family was at the heart of his activities and, coupled with his love of history, guided his genealogy research. Each of his children has a book of family history, a result of his countless hours spent in Detroit's Burton Historical collection and travels to Ireland and Scotland.

Mr. Crowley loved to travel and was an avid boater. Whether it was his first boat, a Chris-Craft Sea Skiff 12-footer he built himself, or the cabin cruiser still moored at the time of his death, he considered a day spent on the water with his family a great day.

During those travels and boat trips, Mr. Crowley, an artist with work displayed in 39 states, had a sketchbook close at hand. Much of his art centered around a maritime theme, with historically accurate details. Often, awakening with an inspiration, a new painting would begin with a bedside table sketch. Many of his paintings were displayed in a one-man art show at the

Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle. He also was commissioned to do local paintings throughout the metro area.

Mr. Crowley was a member of the American Society of Marine Artists, Scarab Club, Grosse Pointe Artists Association, Grosse Pointe Veterans Club, Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club, and the International Shipmasters' Association. He was the past president of Detroit Lodge No. 7 of the International Shipmasters Association and a director of the marine advisory group for the Detroit Historical Society.

Mr. Crowley is survived by his beloved wife of 63 years, Doty; children, Kathy Steele (Joe), Tom Crowley (Bernadette), Patty Marantette (Tom) and John Crowley (Kathy); grandchildren, Megan and Brian Steele, Rachel, John and Robert Crowley, Danielle, Debra, Kelly and Thomas Marantette and Michael, Anne and Jennifer Crowley.

A funeral Mass was celebrated July 25 at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Donations may be made to Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207 or St. Paul Catholic School Scholarship Fund, 170 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or the charity of the donor's choice.

Roland Samuel Evans Jr.

Roland Samuel Evans Jr., 83, passed away Tuesday, July 31, 2012.

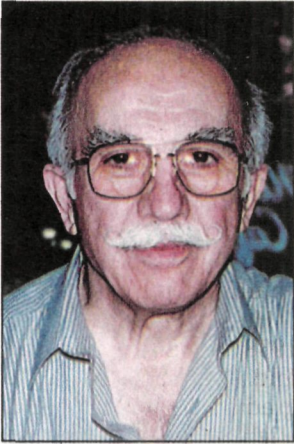
He was born in Oxford to Roland "Mimi" Schreel Evans and Roland Samuel Evans Sr.

Known as Mike, many in the area may remember him as the cherubic-faced pharmacist in commercials for Arbor Drugs as well as in hundreds of other commercials, industrial films and regular theatrical films. Among his films were "Gran Torino," "Home Run Showdown," "High School," "Judicial Consent" and "One Day in Dallas." His television credits included "Walker Texas Ranger," "The Young and the Restless," and "The People's Choice Awards."

A member of AFTRA, SAG and Actor's Equity Association, Mr. Evans appeared at Michigan Opera Theatre, the Attic Theatre, Actors' Renaissance, Goodman Theatre in Chicago and Seaside Playhouse in Oregon. During the 40 years he worked with Grosse Pointe Theatre, he appeared in more than 50 roles, from his first show, "A Funny Thing on the Way to The Forum," to the hilarious Alfred P. Doolittle in "My Fair Lady," the mean-spirited Bumble in "Oliver" and the intense and troubled Willie Loman in "Death of a Salesman." He enjoyed himself no matter what he did in the theatre. He served on the theatre's board of directors and he won several awards.

Mr. Evans served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1956 as a military intelligence NCO. He was a noted speech pathologist in private practice for many years.

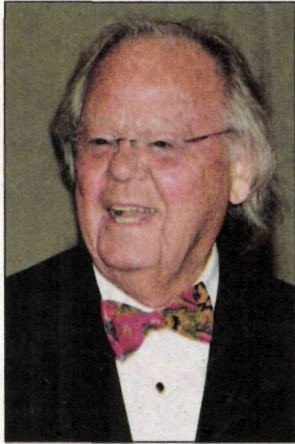
He will be remembered



Gus Anton



John G. Crowley



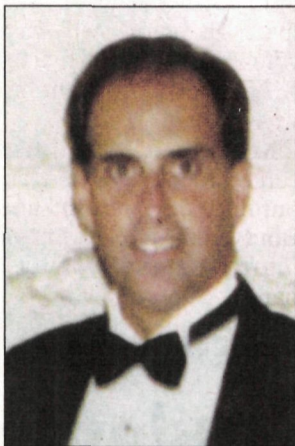
Roland Samuel Evans Jr.



Renee Bommarito Serventi



Gerald F. Van Vliet



Carl Hess Wilson

Carl Hess Wilson

Grosse Pointe Park resident Carl Hess Wilson, 65, died Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, at Henry Ford Hospice in Warren.

He was born in Detroit, graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1964 and attended Wayne State University. He formed and owned a textile productions company.

Mr. Wilson enjoyed restoring and racing hydroplanes, hockey, baseball, collecting art and was an avid Red Wings fan. He was a member of the Detroit Yacht Club and the American Power Boat Association.

Mr. Wilson is survived by his wife, Rebecca Wilson; stepdaughters, Lisa Roddis, Sarah Roddis and Lauren Roddis; father, Arthur L. Wilson; stepmother, Edicta Wilson; sister, Sue Crane (Dave); brothers, Tom Wilson (Laura) and Bill Wilson (Judy); sisters-in-law, Mary Lee Kuhn and Nancy Edmisten (Keith) and brother-in-law, Henry Kuhn.

He was predeceased by his mother, Betty Hess-Wilson.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Visitation begins at 10 a.m. at the church.

Donations may be made to Henry Ford Health System, Hermelin Brain Tumor Center, c/o Office of Philanthropy, 1 Ford Place, Suite 5A, Detroit, MI 48202.

Christine A. Swords

Former Grosse Pointe Farms resident Christine A. Swords, nee Bardy, died peacefully Saturday, July 14, 2012, in her home in Columbus, Ohio, after a lengthy illness. She was 76.

"Tina," as she was known to family and friends, was born Aug. 14, 1935, in Detroit to Stephen and Anna Bardy. She was a graduate of Grosse Pointe High School and Wayne State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. She married Wendell S. Swords of Columbus, Ohio, in 1959 and had two children.

Mrs. Swords is survived by her husband; son, Randall, his wife, Marcia and their children, Nathaniel and Eva; daughter-in-law, Kathryn and children, Sara and John; and sisters, Deanna Bardy and Audrey Bardy, both of Grosse Pointe, and Audrey's children, Anne Michelle Pettit and Christopher B. Pettit.

She was predeceased by her son, Bruce.

Continued on page 5AII

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OBITUARIES: Loved ones remembered

Continued from page 4AII

Robert B. Hamlin

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Robert B. Hamlin passed away Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, at home where he lived 42 years with his wife. He is survived by his wife, Joanne, to whom he was married 56 years.

Mr. Hamlin started his career in the newspaper business at a young age. Born in Kentucky, he moved to Detroit with his parents as a young boy and as soon as he was old enough, started working his first newspaper route, not knowing this would turn into his lifelong career.

He was hired by the Detroit News as a district manager and was promoted to circulation manager. He worked for the News for 25 years. During the mid-1980s, with the start of USA Today, he was hired by Gannett Company Inc. and became its first general manager responsible for the distribution of the USA Today throughout Michigan and Ohio. He retired from Gannett in 1997 after 15 years in management.

Mr. Hamlin served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War from 1953 to 1955. During this time, he was selected to play for the Army baseball team playing to large crowds in Seoul Stadium.

He will be greatly missed by his large family and the many friends who knew him.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 4 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Mary Carleton Dickinson Herbert

Lifelong Grosse Pointe resident Mary Carleton Dickinson Herbert, 89, died Saturday, July 21, 2012, at St. John Hospital and Medical Center following a brief illness.

She was born March 24, 1923, in Detroit to Selden S. and Marian D. Dickinson, attended Grosse Pointe Country Day School and graduated from Emma Willard School in 1940. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1944 and received a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan in 1948.

Choosing to retire from the workforce to raise her family, Mrs. Herbert was an active member of the community, serving on

committees and boards and volunteering through her association with Sigma Gamma, the Junior League of Detroit, the Wellesley Club of Detroit, the Great Lakes Lace Group, Crescent Sail Yacht Club, Services for Older Citizens, the Association of Michigan Basketmakers and many others organizations.

She was an avid reader and conversationalist. Music also played a large part in her life. Mrs. Herbert sang in numerous choirs, the most recent being the Christ Church Chorale. She played the piano as well as folk and classical guitar and was part of Christ Church's English handbell choir.

She taught and demonstrated knitting, lace making, tatting, basket weaving, chair seat weaving and many other handicrafts for the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, The Henry Ford, the Michigan Renaissance Festival, Mount Clemens Bath Days and the Michigan State Fair. Drawing on her degree in botany from Wellesley, she also enjoyed gardening. As an equally accomplished figure skater and ice dancer, she taught beginning skating to children for many years at both University Liggett School and Grosse Pointe Community rinks.

Mrs. Herbert especially enjoyed the more than 80 summers she spent in Siasconset, Mass. As her family was extremely important to her, she delighted in the company of her sister and brother and their spouses, as well as that of her many nieces and nephews and their children who summered there. She was active in the community there as well.

Mrs. Herbert is survived by her husband of 63 years, William P. Herbert; daughter, Miranda Herbert Ferrara of Grosse Pointe and her family, Peter, Margaret and William; son, William D. Herbert of Plantation, Fla., and his family Joan, Lauren and Allison; Lauren's fiancé, Sergey Krupsky; sister-in-law, Jeanne R. Dickinson of New York City; 12 nieces and nephews and their families; and numerous friends.

She was predeceased by her daughter, Deborah Farrand Herbert; parents Selden and Marian Dickinson; sister, Elizabeth Dickinson Benchley and brother, Selden Jerome Dickinson.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Donations may be made in her name to the charity of the donor's choice.

Gerald Albert Zahler

Gerald Albert Zahler, 73, of Grosse Pointe Park, succumbed to ampular cancer on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2012. He died peacefully in his home with his wife and son by his side.

He was born Aug. 27, 1938, in Detroit, to Albert and Rita J. Zahler. He graduated from Mumford High School in 1956 and attended Lawrence Technological University and the University of Michigan before receiving an anthropology degree from Wayne State University in 1978. After seeing all three of his sons through high school, he went back to school at WSU and received a second degree in civil engineering in 1988, where he was a member of the National Civil Engineering Honor Society Chi Epsilon. He was a civil engineer for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

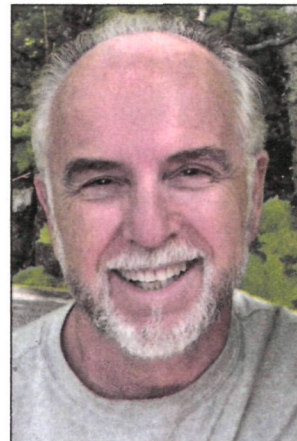
Mr. Zahler loved playing his classical guitar, chess, reading and engaging in intense philosophical and political discussions. He spent the last 22 years of his life with his wife, Mary Kasiborski Zahler, with whom he shared a passion for classical music, hiking, their grandchildren and each other. They enjoyed backpacking throughout the United States and through several foreign countries. He also spent quality time with his



Robert B. Hamlin



Mary Dickinson Herbert



Gerald Albert Zahler

grandchildren, teaching them chess, reading to them and playing with them at the Grosse Pointe Park pool. He enjoyed taking them to Starbucks and then Borders. He and his wife also took their grandchildren to Toronto, Stratford, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and other cultural venues.

Mr. Zahler is survived by his wife, Mary Kasiborski Zahler; his mother, Rita "Judy"; the mother of his children, Judith Anne Debol; his children, Erik Zahler (Lisa), Anthony Zahler, Scott Zahler, Steven Kasiborski (Andrea), Beth Kasiborski and John Kasiborski (Mary Kay); siblings, Rosemarie Cowlin (the late Douglas), Susan Petersen and Richard Zahler (Patricia Petrat); and grandchildren, Karly, Elizabeth, Adrianna and Ryan Zahler; Reilly McNamara; Adelle, Jonah, Calvin, Cole and Liberty Kasiborski and Nicholas and Sara Kasiborski.

He was predeceased by his father, Abraham Zahler.

A funeral was held Sunday, Aug. 5, at the Hebrew Memorial Funeral Home in Oak Park with burial in Beth Abraham Cemetery. The family is sitting Shiva at their home, from 3 to 8 p.m., through Friday, Aug. 10. Family and friends may visit during this time.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Chamber Music Society of Detroit, 31731 Northwestern Highway, Suite 259W, Farmington Hills, MI 48334 or a charity of the donor's choice.

Ethel Gaspar

Ethel Gaspar, nee Seech, passed away peacefully Friday, Aug. 3, 2012, at the Farmington Hills Inn - Farmington Hills. She was 107 years old. She was a former resident of Maidstone, Ontario, Canada.

She was the beloved wife of John Gaspar, who predeceased her in 1989 and daughter of the late Joseph and Anna Seech.

She is survived by her son, Edward J. Gaspar, his wife, Roberta, and their children, Kyle, Carson and Alicia; sisters-in-law, Agnes Broderick (the late Frank), Annie Downey and her husband, Weldon, and Angela Gaspar (the late Ernie); nieces and nephews, Carson Krol (Judy), Karen Pelletier (Lionel), Barbara Seech, Virginia Schmidt and Ronald Seech of Windsor. She also is survived by many nieces and nephews of the Gaspar family.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Margaret Krol and brother, Joseph Seech.

Mrs. Gaspar was a former member of St. Mary's Parish in Maidstone. She was a devoted homemaker all her life who also had a green thumb, growing her own vegetables and flowers.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 7 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Maidstone.

Relocated

Crowther Carpet & Rugs relocated to 19483 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods, and celebrated with a ribbon cutting. Crowther Carpet & Rugs offers flooring installation and flooring options for home and office.

Cutting the ribbon at the new location, are from left, MaryJo Harris, director of administration, Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce; Grosse Pointe Woods city administrator Al Fincham; Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Robert Novitke; owner Kevin Crowther; sales associate Kelly Maher; and Jennifer Boettcher, Grosse Pointe



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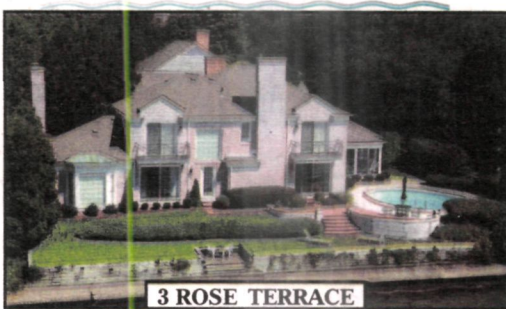
annuals are looking lank and loose, go ahead and give them a hard haircut. After you give everyone a trim, be sure and feed with your favorite water soluble fertilizer and do so consistently - follow directions on the box. Attending to the plants now in the heat of summer will bring them back with new fresh growth and vigorous flowers that you will enjoy into the fall. Love your pots!

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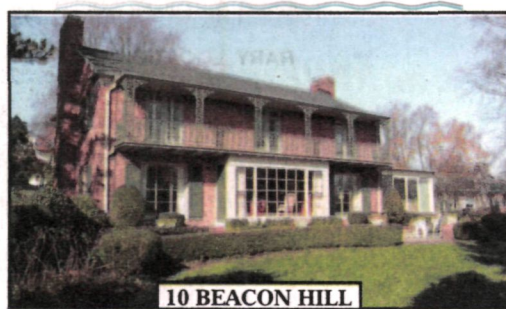
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6A II | NEWS

1-year-old elephant lives the life

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

TOLEDO ZOO — Lucas, a 1-year-old African elephant, runs on tiptoes, as light as an 800-pound feather.

"He can be a mile a minute," said Ben Whitebread, interim elephant manager at the Toledo Zoo.

Just as suddenly, Lucas lays down and takes a nap.

He celebrated his birthday June 3. A few weeks earlier, he stole the show during the grand opening of the zoo's new elephant exhibit, Tembo Trail. Tembo is Swahili for elephant.

Entering the nearly 38,000-square-foot outdoor portion of the en-

sure, Lucas ran to investigate a low-hanging banner thanking Lucas County taxpayers and zoo donors for funding the \$15.2 million facility.

"When he hit it, it went over his head," said Andi Norman, zoo director of marketing and public relations. "He spun around and ran at it, got hold of it, pulled it down, spun around and got it all around him. He was having a blast."

Lucas makes Norman's job easier.

"He's on the move all the time," she said.

Lucas is the younger brother of Louie, 9. Louie acts his age, too. His 4,690 pounds of rambunctiousness often makes his keepers' job harder.

"He breaks stuff and



Renee checks on her son, Lucas, carrying a reed and in training for the jungle patrol. Below, Renee is matriarch of elephants at the Toledo Zoo.

likes to play with toys," Whitebread said. "We're in the process of replacing a rootball log that used to pivot 360 degrees until he broke it a second time."

The brothers are sons of Renee, 33, orphaned in Zimbabwe 20 years ago. She conceived her calves through artificial insemination.

The family is zoomates of Twiggy, a 27-year-old female elephant formerly owned privately by a party that could no longer give her proper care.

She's the shyest of the herd and has taken a liking to Lucas. They often share food.

The four together weigh 20,060 pounds.

Tembo Trail refers, generally, to the African wildlife exhibit. Animals include:

- ◆ a slender-snouted crocodile,

- ◆ three Nile hippopotamuses, Emma, Herbie and Bubbles,

- ◆ an African spotted-necked otter,

- ◆ a colony of 40 naked mole rats living in something comparable to a giant Uncle Milton Ant Farm,

- ◆ two white rhinoceroses, Sam and Lulu,

- ◆ male and female one-humped camels, Abdul and Zee,

- ◆ a mob of meerkats and

- ◆ three white lions — Wisdom, Courage and Legend — on loan from Siegfried and Roy.

The trail also describes a winding pathway visitors walk through the exhibit.

The path borders more than half of the elephants' outdoor enclosure, built of soft earth contoured with mild hills, valleys and a pond.

The enclosure was designed to promote an elephant's physical fitness, and with its mind in mind.

"Things out there are there intentionally," Norman said.

More than 20 overhead feeders hang from enrichment trees spotted



throughout the exhibit. Keepers raise and lower feeders in various locations to make the animals walk from place to place.

"It keeps them physically active," Norman said.

Tires and barrels contain food. So do portholes in walls which elephants search with their trunks.

"Elephants have to figure out how to get food out of those contraptions," Norman said. "It keeps them mentally stimulated. Also, they roll tree stumps under feeders. They can stand up on a tree stump and reach even higher."

Sometimes, keepers mix treats, including popcorn, with hay in plastic pipes attached to a hanging barrel.

"Elephants learned to get the popcorn out by blowing in the bottom of those pipes," Norman said. "Popcorn comes out the top like confetti."

The same type of enrichment options are part of the elephants' 8,970-square-foot interior enclosure.

Anytime is playtime for Louie and Lucas.

"Louie's broken a swivel log at least twice," Whitebread said. "We've had it repaired and reinforced. The exhibit gives him ways to release a lot of energy."

Lucas is still nursing.

"He imprints on his mother so much," Whitebread said last week. "Just this afternoon, when we let them out after their bath, Renee started kicking dirt and dusting herself, just to get dirty again after a nice bath. Lucas did the exact same thing. He starts kicking dirt and doing exactly what mom does."

Whitebread has worked with elephants nearly 12 years.

"I grew up as the kid bringing reptiles home and asking mom if I could keep them," he said. "She said no."

If he could talk to the elephants of Tembo Trail, he'd ask what he could do to make their lives better.

"What would you like more of or less of?" he said. "That's what it would be. It wouldn't be trivial."

A major part of the zoo's mission is helping people understand and appreciate wildlife.

"With that understanding usually comes the desire to preserve or conserve wildlife," Norman said. "That's our whole goal."



PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

Renee uses her trunk to draw water for drinking.



Lucas is about to check for treats behind a porthole at Tembo Trail.

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TEST DRIVE By Greg Zyla

2012 Dodge Charger R/T Max AWD



We recently drove the all wheel drive version of Dodge's 2012 Charger R/T, a full size sedan that competes in a heavily populated segment — base price \$32,145; price as tested: \$40,645.

With an aggressive front end mimicking the Ram grille, Charger R/T successfully blends the past with the present.

The modern day Dodge Charger consumer still has mild to wild engine options to choose from. The base Charger SE, \$25,495, comes with a 292 horse 3.6 liter V6; while our mid-line R/T, starting at \$29,995, features a pow-



With an aggressive front end that lends a hint of the muscle car that shared its name, the Dodge Charger R/T Max AWD is roomy, practical and comfortable for 2012.



erful 370 horsepower 5.7 Hemi V8. For those who still demand the most, hold on to your hat as an unbelievable 470 horsepower 6.4 liter Hemi propels the high dollar SRT Super Bee, \$42,495.

All 2012 Dodge Chargers come in rear drive format until you get to the AWD package, which is not available on the base SE or SRT models. As for transmissions, there are no manuals

available, and the standard unit is a 5-speed automatic. Chrysler's 8-speed is optional on the non-Hemi engines, which puzzles me a bit as the high-tech 8-speed lifts the V6 highway

mileage from 27 with the 5-speed automatic to a stout 31 in the SXT package.

Our R/T came with a bevy of standard features, including remote start, all speed traction control, brake assist, hill start assist, performance 4-wheel ABS disc brakes, high intensity headlamps, all the air bags, heated seats, 276-watt stereo CD XM Satellite system, all the powers, climate control and much more.

The \$6,000 Charger Max option adds Garmin navigation with forward collision warning, blind spot with rear cross path detection, 8.4 inch touchscreen display, Uconnect Touch, remote USB, power adjust pedals, heated back seats, heated steering wheel, driver and passenger power lumbar assist, rear camera, park assist, stability control, 506 Watt 9-speaker stereo upgrade and several other nice

touches.

Handling is good, thanks to 19-inch tires, the AWD grip and fully independent 4-wheel attributes with stabilizer bars. It may be listed as a large sedan, but Charger R/T handles well.

The interior is well designed, has beautiful gauges, easy to operate features and more than enough room, front and rear, for 5-passengers. The rear seat is a 60/40 split, allowing access to the roomy trunk.

Important numbers include a wheelbase of 120.2 inches, 15 city/23 highway miles per gallon, 19.1-gallon fuel tank, 15 cubic feet of cargo space and 4,450 pound curb weight.

Likes: Hemi V8, great ride, interior, exterior, handling.

Dislikes: Transmission availability, pricey option packages, fuel mileage.

Zyla is a syndicated auto columnist.

AUTOS By Jenny King

For Regal, 'GS' equates 'HP'



Buick has a tradition of bulking up its sporty Regal. The most current version is the 2012 Buick Regal GS.

Powered by a 270-horsepower Ecotec 2.0-liter turbo four with direct injection, the Regal GS finished in second place in the 135 mph class of the recent Nevada Open Road Challenge, Buick says.

A six-speed manual and six-speed automatic are transmission choices in the GS. Regal's interactive drive control system offers standard, sport and GS modes.

Standard equipment includes push-button start, Bluetooth phone connectivity, front and rear ultrasonic parking assist, 19-



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

2012 Buick Regal GS

inch wheels and eight air bags that include rear-seat thorax side-impact bags.

You can order a power sunroof, upgraded audio system with seven-inch color touch screen display, GPS navigation, 20-inch wheels and premium paint for white, red and black exteriors.

Guess we missed the alert from the front sensor; we returned the red Regal GS with an abrasion on the point of the front bumper. There have been complaints the driver can't tell in many cars where the vehicle ends and a parking structure wall begins. Buick's sensitive alert system should discourage one from get-



ting too cozy with immovable objects front or rear. And no more parking by ear.

In our few days in a

2012 Regal GS, we felt some disappointment in its refined manners when it came to acceleration. And it did have a harsh-but-sporty ride. We found the transmission noisy.

EPA fuel economy ratings for the GS with automatic are 19 miles per gallon city and 27 mpg highway. The base price of the 2012 Regal GS with automatic transmission is \$34,835.

As for the 135 mph, all we have to say is, "Kids of all ages, please don't try this at home."

King is an automotive writer who lives in the City of Grosse Pointe.



PHOTOS BY JENNY KING

New Prius V a cargo carrier

The 2012 Prius V is a kind-of station wagon and kind-of mini van. This newer body style was introduced a year ago and has been on the market now for several months. The Prius V may be a little hard to spot: it looks a lot like the standard Prius liftback sedan but is longer. And it's not as fuel-efficient. The sedan is rated at 50 miles per gallon while the Prius V is down to 44/40 city/highway.

With the second-row seats folded forward and flat, there is ample room for hauling, though the height of the rear opening was around 30 inches.

The Prius V is available as Prius V Two, Prius V Three, Prius V Four and Prius V Five, with the Five the most heavily equipped. Prices start at \$26,550 for the Two, running to \$30,140 for the Five.

The Prius V, with second-row seat backs folded and seats forward, measures 67.3 cubic feet. With those seats up and in a normal position, the rear compartment measures 34.3 cubic feet compared with 21.6 cubic feet in the back of the Prius liftback. The Prius V is five inches longer than the Prius liftback.



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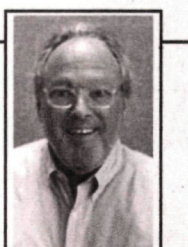
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8A II | PRESCHOOL GUIDE

Much to consider when choosing a preschool

Choosing your child's childcare center or first school is both an exciting and daunting prospect. Regardless of the qualities you're looking for, it's wise to start researching early and apply to multiple programs, because space is often limited. Here are questions to ask, and things to look for to ensure that this school will be right for your child and you. Be sure to call in advance to arrange a tour. You may want to arrange an initial visit without your child and a follow-up visit with her to observe how she functions in the program.

Before You Go:

Ask yourself "What kind of childcare or school environment am I looking for?" Do you picture your child in a busy, active place with lots of other children, or are you looking for a small, nurturing environment with just a few kids? Are you looking for a particular educational philosophy? What kinds of specific needs does your young child have: toilet training, napping, socializing? Do

you want a school located near your workplace or your home? If the preschool is private, are the fees within your budget? What kinds of needs do you have regarding your schedule?

When You Get There:

Consider if this school is a good fit for your child — and you. Can you picture your child thriving here? Will this school engage his interests? How will he do socially in this environment? "Nobody knows your child the way you do," said Judi Gilles, Program Director of Fruit & Flower, a preschool in Portland, Ore. "So you have to be able to picture your child in this setting and make sure your child will be comfortable and you will be too."

Spend time observing. Schools will often conduct thorough tours. Watch silently in the classroom and observe the interactions. Ask yourself, "Is this the kind of environment I can see my young child thriving in?"

What is the educational philosophy? How does this school approach



learning? Some philosophies are play-based, some introduce reading and math earlier than others, and many schools incorporate multiple philosophies. Some preschools follow specific educational models such as the Montessori Method, the Waldorf approach, Dr. Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences, Dr. Mel Levine's All Kinds of Minds strategies for children with learning differences, the Reggio Emilia system and more.

How large are the classes and what is the

teacher-child ratio? Class size ratios in childcare settings vary by state. Ask your school what the mandate is. Most childcare centers range from 1:3 or 1:4 adults to children or infants, and then vary by age as the child gets older. The important thing to consider is how your child's needs and your own will be met by this equation.

What is the look and feel of the school? Does it feel warm and inviting? Or is it cold and institutional? Is it clean and organized, or messy and chaotic? What kind of

work is up on the walls? Do you see original art, or posters and worksheets? Is the work placed at eye level so young children can see it? Are the facilities old or new? Do they have a gym or play yard? How often do they use it?

Is the atmosphere exciting? Do students seem happy? Do they look busy or bored? Are they having positive interactions with each other, the staff, and the teachers? Do the teachers seem like they enjoy teaching here? Would your child be happy here? Would you?

What kinds of activities are children doing? What is happening in the art corner and the block area? Are children working cooperatively, individually, or both? Are the projects controlled or open-ended, enabling children to do many different things with the same materials? Are there opportunities for dramatic and fantasy play? Do

children have lots of free time to run around?

What is the focus on reading? If this is a preschool, ask if it focuses on teaching early literacy skills and at what age. Does this approach seem right for you and your child? "The range of readiness for reading activities among young children is enormous," says Jane Katch, M.S.T., kindergarten teacher at the Touchstone Community School in Grafton, Mass. "Some want to learn to read and are looking at print, trying to figure it out. Others are not ready, and if pushed too soon may think they are bad at reading."

A good preschool program should make all of these children feel successful. Remember that if children are pushed too soon, they can get turned off to reading — and this attitude could stay with them for years."

From PBS.com.

Getting children ready for school is fun

A study released by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement shows that the type of preschool a child attends at 4 years old, will affect how he or she learns at 7. The study, the largest of its type to date, followed 5,000 preschoolers in 1,800 schools across the world.

So what type of

preschool is best? Larry Schweinhart, president of the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation, and a researcher on the study says, "Early childhood educators contribute to children's development when they emphasize child-initiated activities, limit the use of whole-group instruction, and provide abundant materials in the

classroom."

In other words, allowing preschoolers to choose freely, for as much of the day as possible, rather than corralling them into too much circle time, is the best way to create successful first graders. Over the past few years, U.S. preschools have been moving in the exact opposite direction — towards academic programs that incorporate pre-reading and math curriculum.

Whether or not this study reverses that trend, the researchers are clear on a number of points:

Language performance at age 7 improves when:

1. Most of the activities available to preschoolers are free choice, rather than academic — dramatic play, physical activities that allow kids to practice their gross and fine motor skills, crafts, music.

2. Their teachers have a higher level of education.

Thinking skills at age 7 improve when:

1. Preschoolers spend less time in whole group activities proposed by the teacher, like songs, games, group story-time, and pre-academic activities.

2. The number and variety of equipment and materials for preschoolers to choose from increases.

In a nutshell, children become better thinkers when they're active participants in their own learning. The tricycle may not seem like an advanced learning tool, but it develops gross motor skills.

Negotiating over toys helps kids practice communication. And deciding who will play which part in the pretend post office allows them to practice planning and negotiation. What they learn in the sandbox will affect them long after they've outgrown their pre-K clothing. And getting them ready for grade school may be more fun than we thought.

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Seniors just wanna have fun

By Ann L. Fouty
Features Editor

Senior citizens are invited to have some fun and participate in seminars at the seventh annual Senior Fun Day, Wednesday, Aug. 15, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. The day's topics focus on keeping the brain fit.

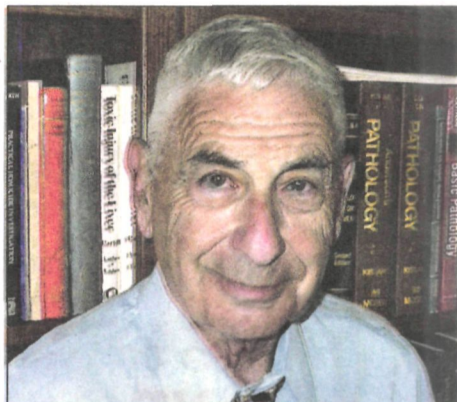
"Three years ago, the sponsors determined that our 'role' was providing a forum to help seniors keep the mind and body healthy," said Julie Corbett, who sits on the event's planning committee. "Since its inception, the educational event was planned to provide safety guidance for seniors. In the first years presentations focused on Internet safety, elder law, Social Security information, home safety and yearly shredding of personal documents as a way to prevent identity theft."

The 2012 event offers the following topics on brain fitness: an update and advances in memory disorders, nutrition and the mind and brain aerobics with Beaumont Health System staff members, Dr. Paula Kim; Peggy Kurza, community education coordinator; and clinical dietitian Shellie Dimovski.

These individuals make up a panel to advise seniors on the latest information, exercise and nutrition for keeping



Seniors will learn how to keep their brains fit during a day set aside for learning and fun.



Keynote speaker Werner Spitz M.D.

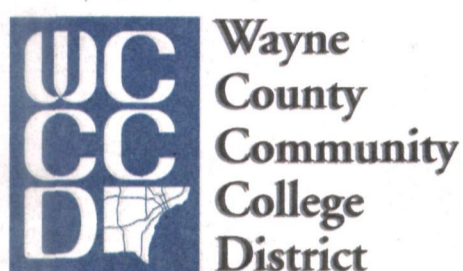
minds healthy, said Suzy Berschback, in Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe's community affairs and advocacy department.

Keynote speaker is Werner Spitz M.D., former Wayne and Macomb counties chief medical examiner.

Spitz has practiced forensic pathology for more than 50 years and is a consultant in forensic pathology and toxicology. He is a professor of pathology at Wayne State University School of Medicine and an adjunct professor of toxicology at the University of Windsor, Canada. Spitz has served on committees investigating the assassination of Pres. John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr., as well as testifying in cases involving Jenny Jones and O.J. Simpson.

Choosing speakers, like Spitz, is critical to the committee.

"Another key element is the selection of speakers which serve as role models for seniors," Corbett said. "A 'Face to Face with Facebook' workshop will be led by Dr. Barbara Ciaramitaro accompanied by her parents, who have learned to use Facebook safely. Spitz, another outstanding role model for seniors, will speak about keeping fit ac-



tively by continuing to work at one's job or a community project."

Ciaramitaro is an assistant professor at Ferris State University.

Registration is required for the Ciaramitaro presentation.

Senior Fun Day began with 100 attendees and every year the event has grown in popularity, addressing topics based

Seventh annual Senior Fund Day

9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 15
Grosse Pointe War Memorial
9:30 to 10:15 a.m. - registration
9:45 to 10:15 a.m. - workshop
Friends + Family = Facebook
Dr. Barbara Ciaramitaro
9:30 to 11 a.m. - Document shredding
10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. - Brain fitness 101
panel discussion by Beaumont Hospital health experts update and relay advances in memory disorders, nutrition and brain aerobics
noon - lunch and entertainment by The Shades
1 to 2 p.m. - keynote speaker
Werner Spitz M.D.
To register, call (313) 882-9600



The day's sponsors are: Wayne County Community College District, Services for Older Citizens, Beaumont Hospital Health System, Shore Pointe Village Assisted Living Facility and Nursing Center, Ferris State University, General Shredding and Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

on survey feedback from attendees, Corbett said.

"While all comment on how much fun the event was with zumba, yoga, free lunch with live entertainment and ice cream at the end of the day," Corbett said, "the surveys also indicated seniors are very interested in how the mind and body ages and ways to sustain mental and physical mobility."

Thus over the years senior fun days partnerships have evolved to include Wayne County Community College District, Services for Older Citizens, Beaumont Health System, Shore Pointe Village Assisted Living Facility, Shore Pointe Nursing Center, Ferris State University, General Shredding and the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

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AREA ACTIVITIES

ART Center

The Grosse Pointe ART Center hosts a sidewalk chalk day from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, at the back and front of the center, 17501 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

Senior Men's Club

The Senior Men's Club of Grosse Pointe lunch is at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The cost is \$10. Faye Nelson, president and CEO of Detroit RiverFront Conservancy, speaks on "Detroit RiverFront Conservancy — History and Vision."

Men, retired or past the age of 55, from any community can attend. Jackets are suggested.

For more information, call Ken Van Dellen at (313) 821-5706.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, in the cafeteria of Brownell Middle School, 260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms.

For more information, call Wendy Bradley at (313) 884-1184 or Ron or Marcia Pikelek at (313) 884-4201.

Henry Ford Cottage

Henry Ford Medical Center - Cottage Wound Care Center, 131 Kercheval, Suite 301, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers an ostomy clinic from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. This is open for patients with a temporary or permanent ostomy.

Clinic personnel treat lesions around the ostomy site, problems with



PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

Professor Donald Haase discusses the Grimms' fairy tales Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House.

pouch fit or leakage.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (313) 640-2478.

Ford House

Grimms' Fairy Tales: The Real Story, an adult program, is hosted by the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House as part of its fairy tale celebration, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16. Wayne State Professor Donald Haase reveals the truth about the Grimms' fairy tale collection and how the stories became the famous tales of today.

The cost is \$10. Ford House members pay \$7.

From 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Aug. 18, fairy tale quests are offered. Youth, ages 8 through 12, can use creativity and problem solving as they engage in mysteries and battle enchanted creatures on the Ford House grounds. The cost is \$10 and \$7 for members.

For reservations to the programs, visit fordhouse.org or call

(313) 884-4222.

War Memorial

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial hosts an animal show from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17. The cost is \$3.

Lou's Pet Shop provides a 40-pound tortoise, a large frog, a talking parrot, 12-foot boa constrictor, a Flemish giant rabbit, a hairless guinea pig, scorpions and tarantulas.

For more information, call (313) 881-7511 or visit warmemorial.org.

Lake House

It's a statistical fact the shoreline communities of Lake St. Clair experience an abnormally high incidence of cancer. What's not known, is why.

Jadranka Dragovic, M.D., radiation oncologist and senior staff physician at the Josephine Ford Cancer Center, Henry Ford Health System, explores the current evidence and theories in a free community education program "Potential Environmental Causes of Cancer" at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 21, at The Lake House, 26701 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores. Reservations are appreciated, but not required. Call (586) 777-7761.

Dragovic is a member of the advisory board of LocalMotionGreen. She attended medical school at the University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and received her master's degree from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She completed her post-graduate training at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Dragovic is board certified by the American Board of Radiology: Radiation Oncology and FRCPC.



PHOTO BY PATTI THEROS

From left, retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. James Lee and director of Detroit Public School's department of military science; Tmani Fenderson; Maracle Fitzpatrick; Terynee Bradshaw; Sakina Thomas; Ivory Price; Jameisha Gates; Sharice James; Sakaria Ayers; Perla Rodrigues; U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Tomcat Squadron from Selfridge Air National Guard base; Lt. j.g. Jerry VandeVyver; Jennifer Martinez; and U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Tomcat Squadron cadet Lance Ostby. Not pictured is Brittany Cooper.

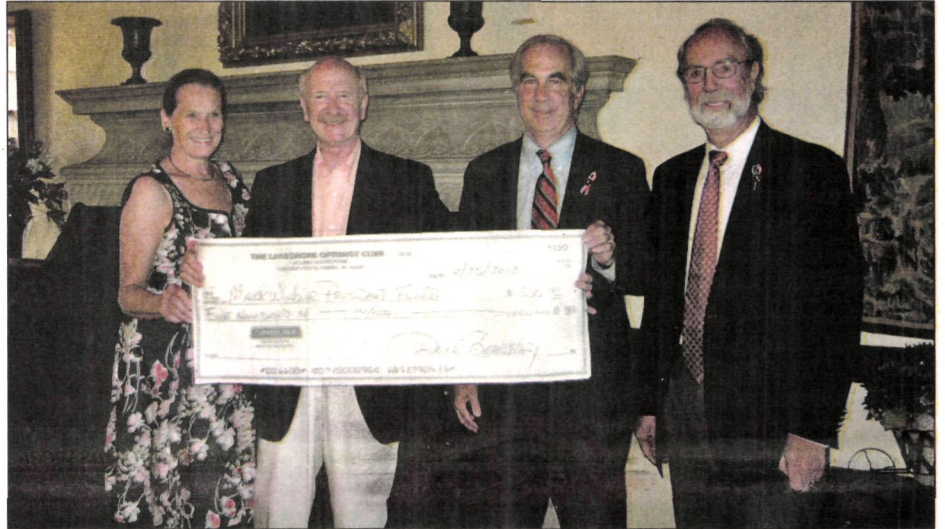
DAR chapter awards JROTC medals to cadets

The Louisa St. Clair Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution awarded bronze medals to members of the Detroit Public Schools Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets April 21 at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

These awards for outstanding ability and achievement have been given out by the DAR since 1967. One student from

each graduating class of a participating program is selected by professors of military science.

Recipients must have demonstrated loyalty and patriotism, earned a record of military and scholastic achievement during their participation in a JROTC program and be in the upper 25 percent of their classes in both the military and academic subjects.



Optimist donation

Grosse Pointe Optimists made a donation to the Mark R. Weber President's Fund at Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan to benefit the Grosse Pointe War Memorial June 26. The presentation was attended by, from left, War Memorial vice chairwoman Susan Davies, Douglas Cordier of the Optimists, War Memorial president Mark Weber and War Memorial chairman William Jennings. The president's fund assists the War Memorial's mission to honor the military service of veterans and members and its work as a community resource.

Gala provides funds for museum programs

The annual June Dossin Great Lakes Museum gala raised more than \$18,000. Proceeds provide educational programs and exhibits at the museum.

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Chope sponsored the Great Lake history portion, while maritime tour sponsors were Doug and Diane Dossin, Marianne Endicott and Jim and Ann



Jenny and Bill Chope of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Nicholson. Model ship sponsors were Michigan Marine Terminal, Flame Heating & Cooling, the Sidonie Dossin Brown, Lewis & Munday, P.C., and Alan and Kim Whitman.

Honorary host committee members for the event were Charles and Joan Bayer, David and Julie

Breen, Catharine and Kevin Broderick, Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Brodie, Sidonie Dossin Brown; Detroit Historical Society president Thomas Buhl and Lindsey Buhl; Detroit Historical Society CEO Bob Bury and Mary Ann Bury; the Chopes; the Dossins; Endicott; Robert and Ann Greenstone; Scott A. Gregory; Dr. and Mrs. Steven Gerkin; John and Cynthia Jamian; Mr. and Mrs. Martin A. Krall; Dennis and Melissa Levasseur; U.S. Sen. Carl Levin; Patty and Tim McCarthy; Sandy and Mimi McMillan; the Nicholsons; Roy B. Norton, Consul General to Canada to Michigan; Lisa and Greg Nowak; U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow; Alan and Kim Whitman and Jeff and Norma Jean Zaleski.



PHOTOS BY ELAYNE GROSS, COURTESY DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From left, Bob and Pam Montgomery of Grosse Pointe Farms and Sandy and Mimi McMillan of Grosse Pointe Farms.

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That's a lot of Girl Scout cookies

By Ann L. Fouty
Features Editor

Shontarra Wilkins, a Defer Elementary fifth grader, sold a multitude of Girl Scout cookies during the 2012 selling season. Her sales of 3,000 boxes landed her in fourth place in the southeastern Michigan region.

That's a lot of cookies. "I sold cookies to anybody who wanted to buy them — my mom's co-workers, family, my teacher, but mostly to people I don't know," she said in an e-mail.

She found her cookie-buying customers everywhere.



"I set up cookie booths at our church, banks, grocery stores, my mom's job, the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, the dog show and wherever my mom went she had cookies in her car," Wilkins said.

In her fourth year of selling the perennial favorites, Wilkins sur-

passed last year's sale by 1,000. Boxes sell for \$3.50.

During her first year of being involved in the scouting program out of Greater Christ Baptist Church in Detroit, Wilkins sold more than 600 boxes. Following that first successful year, Wilkins said she set goals for herself.

"The second year, I sold over 1,000 boxes. Last year over 2,000 boxes," she said. "My top selling cookie this year was the Samoas. I probably sold close to 1,000 of them. The second top seller was Tag-A-Longs and I probably sold about 700 of them."

Wilkins said Tag-A-Longs are her favorite, which have a crunchy cookie and dollop of peanut butter encased in milk chocolate.

"I like selling Girl Scout cookies because I get to spend more time with my troop and all the cool prizes we earn," she said.

"Shontarra is not a natural sales girl," said Wilkins' mother, Trasonya Felton, who is the troop's co-leader. "She gets excited when she sees something she wants. For such a young girl, she shows great tenacity."

Director of Public Relations for Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan Yavonkia



PHOTO COURTESY
TRASONYA FELTON

Shontarra Wilkins of Grosse Pointe Park sold 3,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies, earning the fourth spot as top cookie seller in southeastern Michigan and the youngest among the top five.

Jenkins said, Wilkins, like other top sellers, earn prize incentives such as trips to a local water park and electronics. Wilkins also earned camp credit to help her attend two Girl Scout camps in August. Money earned from cookie sales provides funds for troop activities.

The list of her prizes is lengthy:

- ◆ peace sign wall deco-

Greenfield Village hosts Girl Scout celebration

In recognition of Girl Scouting's 100th anniversary, Greenfield Village hosts "A Journey through Time: Girl Scouts Past, Present and Future," 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 18.

Visitors can experience life similar to how Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low lived as a young woman growing up in Savannah, Ga.

"We created a special immersive self-guided tour itinerary for the centennial event that girls and adults can use to explore historic buildings, artifacts and stories in Greenfield Village that will contextually connect to many important events in the life of Juliette Gordon Low," said Paul Gangopadhyay, chief learning officer at the Henry Ford.

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan hosts Girl Scout events on the green including a sing-a-long and rededication ceremony. Girls who complete the tour and other activities receive a commemorative patch.

ration,

- ◆ composition book and shoe pen,

- ◆ giraffe print duffel bag,

- ◆ two tickets to a local water park,

- ◆ Glamour girl soccer ball and sports bottle,

- ◆ fleece blanket with carry wrap,

- ◆ four Michigan Adventure Amusement Park & Wild Waterpark tickets and a \$50 gift certificate,

- ◆ Nook eReader and a \$100 gift certificate,

- ◆ \$400 camp credit and

- ◆ \$40 cookie dough (credit for Girl Scout merchandise).

The latter, Felton said, was spent on preparing for another year as a Junior Girl Scout, purchasing a book and scout clothing.

Wilkins was edged out by three boxes for the third place among 23,612 girls who participated in the campaign raising \$8 million.

The top cookie-selling Girl Scout was Kayla Wright, 15, of Southfield, who sold 5,419 boxes; Alexandra Renaud, 14, of Dearborn Heights sold 3,348 boxes and Gabrielle Jarosz, 11, of Clinton Township, sold 3,003 boxes.

Girl Scout history

March 12, 1912 — Juliette Gordon Low gathered 18 girls to register the first troop of American Girl Guides. The following year, the name was changed to Girl Scouts.

June 10, 1915 — The organization was incorporated as Girl Scouts, Inc., under the laws of the District of Columbia.

1930s — The Girl Scout program was divided into three groups — Brownie, Intermediate and Senior.

— The first sale of commercially baked Girl Scout cookies took place.

1940s — Girls collected 1.5 million articles of clothing that were shipped overseas to children and adult victims of the war.

1950s — The Girl Scouts of the USA were reincorporated under a Congressional Charter.

1980s — A new Daisy Girl Scout age level for girls 5-years-old or in kindergarten was introduced.

1990s — Girls Scouting experienced a renewed emphasis on physical fitness with the inauguration of health and fitness national service project in 1994 and the GirlsSports initiative in 1996.

2000s — There are 30,717 girls in the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan district and 9,885 adults.

A LA ANNIE

By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff



PHOTO BY VIRGINIA O. MCCOY

Nothing says summer — all year round — like homemade jam.

Summer's blueberries saved for winter

It's August and that means fresh local berries will be gone soon. I grabbed some blueberries after I saw this easy, tasty recipe for blueberry jam. A snap to prepare, there's just four ingredients. You can freeze the jam in small portions and enjoy the taste of summer long after the season is gone.

Summer Blueberry Jam

(Louisiana Cooking)

5 cups fresh blueberries, rinsed and drained
1/2 cup sugar
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon course salt

Combine berries with sugar, lemon juice and



salt. Bring mixture to a hearty simmer (low boil) while mashing berries with a potato masher. Lower to a medium simmer and cook and stir for 25 minutes or so, until mixture has thickened. Cool completely then transfer to small containers that are freezer safe.

Enjoy blueberry jam on a toasted English muffin, fresh from the griddle pancakes or even over vanilla ice cream. Yummy.

This delicious made-from-your-kitchen jam will be good for 30 days in the refrigerator or up to a year in the freezer.

Yesterday's Headlines

1962

50 years ago this week

◆ **AMAZING CRIME TALE TOLD:** A 17-year-old Shores boy, whose crime career began at age 13, confessed to a number of burglaries and larcenies in the Pointe and other communities in the Detroit area.

The youth's confession cleared burglaries and larcenies in all five Pointes, Detroit, St. Clair Shores, East Detroit, Clawson and Marshall.

The young man, who has since been committed to an institution, was arrested with four other teenagers by Park police officers after a complaint by a Park resident who reported a suspicious car in his driveway, with five boys in it.

◆ **GLIB BURGLAR FAILS TO FOOL POLICE OFFICER:** A 68-year-old Detroit resident picked the wrong family to talk about when he was stopped by a Woods police officer who was suspicious of his actions. The Detroit resident ended up being arraigned before Woods



FROM THE AUG. 6, 1987, ISSUE OF THE GROSSE POINTE NEWS

1987: Lakeside

A diver, who works for the Farms, looks on as two workmen pull a 1987 Lincoln Town Car from Lake St. Clair near the foot of Kerby Road. A City of Grosse Pointe resident was pulled from the vehicle as it was sinking. An 18-year-old East Detroit man is credited with saving the driver's life.

Judge Don Goodrow on a charge of breaking and entering in the nighttime.

Officers on patrol around 5 a.m. noticed the man walking north on Holiday at Sunningdale, carrying a suitcase and his pockets bulging.

When officers asked him where he was coming from, he mentioned he left the home of a Sunningdale resident intending to meet the fe-

male head of household at St. Clair Beach. The officer was a personal friend of the family and knew the family was away at their cottage for the weekend.

Police took the man to the station for questioning.

◆ **FAIRFORD ROAD RESIDENTS BITTER OVER ISLAND PARK:** Residents of Fairford road arrived at the Woods council meeting to protest

See HEADLINES, page 4B

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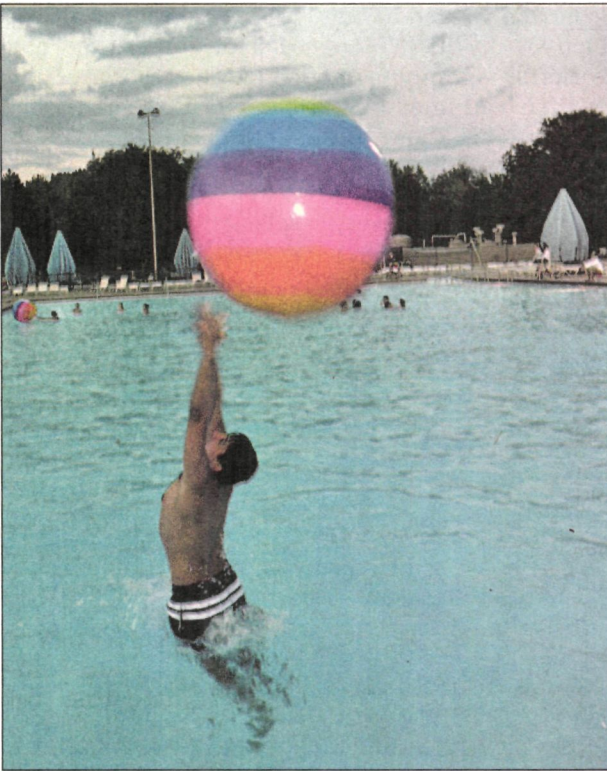
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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Splish splash

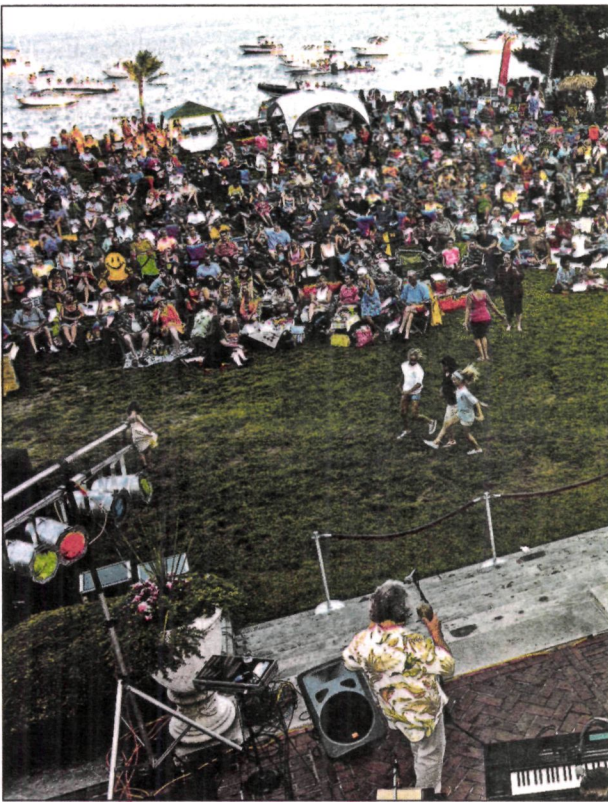
Grosse Pointe Woods pool was off limits to parents and little brothers and sisters June 22 so teens could have an evening to themselves. Above, from left, Mary Kutharski, Maddie Mancus, Joey Stemmler, Maria Coureur and Madison Vallan will all be high school freshmen in the fall. Right, swimmers were provided with beach balls to play with in the pool. Above left, Andrew Shenkosky, who attends Grosse Pointe North, cannon balls into the pool.



Outdoor music

Grosse Pointe War Memorial's concert featured Air Margaritaville last week. The music was so moving it got Jeidus DeSeranno of the City of Grosse Pointe on his feet dancing. According to his father, DeSeranno practices his dance moves at home to use them during the weekly concerts.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



HEADLINES: News from yesterday

Continued from page 3B

what they feel is a deplorable condition of the parkway in their road. A petition signed by 26 Fairford residents asked the council "To take immediate action to clean, renovate, trim trees and cut the grass on the Fairford road islands." The petition also stated many non-residents of Fairford bring their dogs to walk the parkway to use it as a dog-walk, causing a sanitation problem.

1987

25 years ago this week

MORATORIUM ON LOT SPLITS WILL HOLD: Farms officials say the city will stand firm

on its moratorium on lot splits and subdivision requests for the Lakeshore district properties, despite a request by the Higbie family to subdivide their estate at Lakeshore and Moran.

CONTRACT TALKS GO INTO HIGH GEAR: Teachers and administrators are plunging into a heavy schedule of negotiating this month in an effort to get a contract settlement before September. After the traditional July hiatus, negotiators face almost daily bargaining if they expect to accomplish their goal.

Both sides say there won't be a strike.

DAYCARE QUESTION SENT TO COUNCIL FOR INTERPRETATION: In an orgy of par-

liamentary procedure, the Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission passed the home daycare issue to the council. Backers of an ordinance amendment to allow residents to care for a limited number of children in their homes were told to petition council for a change which would be prepared by the planning commission.

The issue arose when the city received complaints from neighbors of a Shoreham resident that she was operating a daycare center in her house. Neighbors complained traffic from parents dropping off their children disturbs them.

—Compiled by Karen Fontanive

Grosse Pointe War Memorial's

WMTV

Channels
Comcast 5 & 915
A.T.&T. 99
WOW 10

August 13 to August 19

- 8:30 am Vitality Plus (Aerobics)
- 9:00 am Musical Storytime
- 9:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
- 10:00 am Shine a Light
- 10:30 am Things to Do at the War Memorial
- 11:00 am Out of the Ordinary
- 11:30 am Senior Men's Club
- 12:00 pm Economic Club of Detroit
- 1:00 pm Two in the Kitchen
- 1:30 pm Great Lakes Log
- 2:00 pm The John Prost Show
- 2:30 pm Legal Insider
- 3:00 pm Things to Do at the War Memorial
- 3:30 pm Art & Design
- 4:00 pm Vitality Plus (Tone)
- 4:30 pm Musical Storytime
- 5:00 pm In a Heartbeat
- 5:30 pm Two in the Kitchen
- 6:00 pm Legal Insider
- 6:30 pm Shine a Light
- 7:00 pm Vitality Plus (Step/Kick Boxing)
- 7:30 pm Things to Do at the War Memorial
- 8:00 pm In a Heartbeat
- 8:30 pm Senior Men's Club
- 9:00 pm Art & Design
- 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 Senior Men's Club
- Midnight Economic Club of Detroit
- 1:00 am Two in the Kitchen
- 1:30 am Great Lakes Log
- 2:00 am The John Prost Show
- 2:30 am Senior Men's Club
- 3:00 am Art & Design
- 3:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
- 4:00 am The John Prost Show
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- 6:30 am Vitality Plus (Tone)
- 7:00 am Musical Storytime
- 7:30 am In a Heartbeat
- 8:00 am In a Heartbeat

Featured Guests & Topics

- Things to Do at the War Memorial**
Middle School Dances, Iyengar Yoga, CardioCore and Ballroom Dancing
- Out of the Ordinary**
Michelle Marie
Holistic Harmony
- Senior Men's Club**
Mike Tenbusch, V.P., United Way
Education Programs of United Way
- Economic Club Detroit**
Stephen Steinour, Huntington Bank
"Is the Midwest Leading the Economic Recovery?"
- Two in the Kitchen**
Grilling
- Great Lakes Log**
Patrick Livingston
Discovery Cruises
- The John Prost Show**
Pam Yaris, Sherry Allen and
Shell Jones
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and
Play Place for Autistic Children
- Legal Insider**
Jane Ellen Gillis
Circuit Court Judge Candidate
- Art & Design**
Monis Schuster
London Art Gallery
- In a Heartbeat**
Robert Chapman, MD
Henry Ford Cancer Institute

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Associate pastor helps people find their talents

By Ann L. Fouty
Features Editor

It is part of Christina Veres' goal to help people find and disseminate their natural talents.

"Part of my goal is always to help other people discover what their strengths are," she said.

Everyone has special talents and she said it is her commitment to help guide them to use those talents to benefit the church or community.

"Especially helping youth, to

keep them interested in the church, seeing their gifts and where they can be used both for them and the community," Veres said.

As First English Evangelical Lutheran Church's new associate pastor, the mother of three grown children and grandmother to one, took on her duties in mid-July.

Ordained July 14, she was installed at First English July 29. She is working with parish education, fellowship and social action, with a special emphasis on youth and

confirmation ministries. Veres, who is called Pastor Chris, will also share hospital and homebound member calling with Rev. Walter Schmidt, as well as preach about a third of the Sundays. Veres can preside at baptisms, weddings and funerals.

A native of Corning, N.Y., she was raised in the Missouri Synod until switching to Evangelical Synod, with her husband, Robert, a retired engineer from Ford Motor

See PASTOR, page 6B

PASTOR'S CORNER

By Jason Coplen

Big questions answered

I have three children. As any parent knows, that means I get a lot of questions. And when I say a lot, I mean a lot.

I think my 6-year-old alone asks somewhere between 279 and 336 questions every day. Some are simple like, "are we there yet?" Others are a bit more involved like, "why do I have to eat my vegetables if you don't?"

Asking questions is not something we outgrow. If anything, it is something we grow into. I am convinced that as we grow older, the "big" questions we begin to search out answers for begin to define our lives.

I believe people are searching for answers to questions of purpose like, "why am I here?" We also deal with questions of reason like, "why do bad things happen?"

And we certainly deal with questions of meaning like, "what am I supposed to be doing with my life?"

Some try and ignore these questions. They set them aside like a bill they want to forget. But just like a bill, these questions don't disappear because

you choose to ignore them. At some point and at some level, we all have to deal with these questions.

As a follower of Jesus, I have found many of the big questions in life find their answer in knowing and following after Jesus Christ. I believe the answers Jesus brings are for everyone, not just pastors, not just religious people, and certainly not just for people who think they have answers to life's questions.

If you are interested in exploring the Christian answer to these questions, I would like to invite you to join me for a series of meetings beginning at 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, at Grace United Church of Christ on Kercheval at Lakepointe. We hope anyone interested in exploring the Christian answer to these questions will consider attending these meetings.

If you are interested in knowing more about this opportunity, visit face book.com/CrosspointeInThePark.

Coplen is the associate minister at Crosspointe Christian Church.

CHURCH EVENTS

First English

First English Lutheran Church sponsors "Bring Your Wheels" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, in the church's parking lot, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Residents can decorate and display any vehicle with wheels such as vintage automobiles, special autos, tractors, golf carts, trailers, pedal cars, bicycles, tricycles and wagons.

Admission is free. Food is available for purchase. Donations are accepted to benefit Lutheran Foster Care.

Assumption nursery school

Assumption Nursery School and Toddler Center is accepting enrollment for the 2012-13 school year. Half day and full day programs, with the opportunity for extended hours for child care, is available Monday through Friday.

The curriculum is aligned with the State of Michigan Early Childhood Standards of Quality.

Located at 22150 Marter Road, the school calendar follows Grosse

Pointe Public Schools. For more information, visit assumptionnursery.org. Contact school for openings available at (586) 772-4477.

GreekFest

The annual Assumption GreekFest is Aug. 16 through 19 at 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

The event is open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Thursday and Friday with opening ceremonies at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 16. It is open 11 a.m. to midnight Saturday, Aug. 18, and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, with the raffle drawing at 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

Prizes are a two-year prepaid lease on a 2012 Cadillac CTS and second prize is two airline tickets to anywhere in the

continental United States, plus cash prizes.

Admission is free for families from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17. Cass Community Social Services' choir, the Ambassadors, sing at 2 p.m. Friday. Rubber mats made from tires collected and created by the social services' clients are available. Funds benefit the organization.

The event offers Greek food and pastries, gift shops, live entertainment by the Hellenic Society for the Performing Arts and bands, the Levendes and Oniero, children's rides, games, pony rides, a petting zoo, a cultural exhibit and taverna.

Free parking and shuttle service is available.

For more information, either call (568) 779-6111 or visit assumptionfestival.com.

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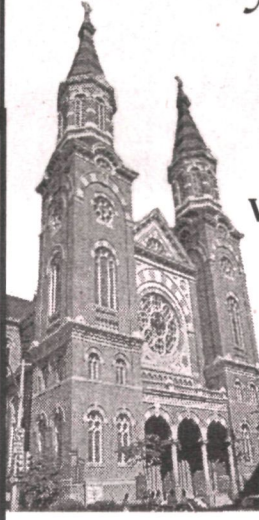
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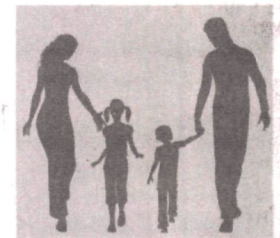
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6B | SENIORS/HEALTH

SOC's fall schedule

Services for Older Citizens September and October offerings include bingo, birthday celebrations, movies and lectures.

Bingo is at 10 a.m. and noon, unless otherwise designated. Lunch is served at 11 a.m.

"Jet Setting" bingo — Tuesday, Sept. 4. Necklaces, bracelets, earrings and pins are prizes.

Medicare bingo and presentation — 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 5. Deborah Wagner, Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance program counselor and SOC volunteer discusses Medicare information.

"We've got it Covered" bingo — Tuesday, Sept. 11. Prizes are blankets, quilts and sheets.

September birthday celebration — 11 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 12. The cost is \$3. Those observing September birthdays receive a piece of cake topped with a candle, will be serenaded in at least three languages, provided photo and a free lunch.

"Fresh Flower" bingo — Tuesday, Sept. 18. Fresh flowers in a vase are the prizes.

"Gift Card" Bingo — 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 25. Win gift cards from Trader Joe, Nino Salvaggio, Kroger, Rite Aid and CVS.

"A Matter of Balance" workshop — 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept., 25 through Oct. 18. The cost is \$15. The program is designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. To register, call Susan Kopf at (313) 882-9600, ext. 242 by Sept. 10.

"War Horse" — 11 a.m.,

Wednesday, Sept. 26. The cost is \$5. Lunch consists of salad, pizza, dessert, beverage and a box lunch to take home. The movie is based on the Tony award-winning Broadway play, and set during World War I.

Reservations are necessary.

"Fresh Flower" bingo — Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2012. Prizes are fresh flowers.

Oktoberfest — 11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 3. John Needham provides the musical entertainment. The cost is \$6 and the venue is at St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillan, Grosse Pointe Farms. Lunch is bratwurst, German potato salad, sauerkraut and dessert plus beverages and a box lunch to take home.

Reservations are necessary.

"Oktoberfest" bingo — Tuesday, Oct. 9. Prizes are German related.

October birthday celebration — 11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 10. The cost is \$3. Those observing October birthdays receive a piece of cake topped with a candle, will be serenaded in at least three languages, provided with a photo and a free lunch.

Elder law - free legal presentation and legal assistance — 11:30 a.m., Monday, Oct. 15. Katie Graham of Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan provides services for Wayne County residents, 60 years and older. Following the legal presentation and then sign up in advance for a free consultation. To receive free legal assistance with regard to guardian-

ship, conservatorship, wills, trusts, powers of attorney, nursing homes, assisted living, senior housing, Medicaid and Medicare, call (313) 882-9600 for an appointment. Attendance at the general presentation is required before your private consultation.

"Spa" bingo — Tuesday, Oct. 16. Win prizes spa-type products.

"Halloween" bingo — Tuesday, Oct. 23. Halloween treats and decorations are prizes.

"The Descendants" — 11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 24. The cost is \$5. Lunch is salad, pizza, dessert, beverage and a box lunch to take home. George Clooney portrays Matt King, a middle-age Hawaiian who runs a trust responsible for millions of dollars worth of untouched real estate passed down to him and various cousins.

He is preparing to sell the area, and make millions for everyone in the trust, when his wife suffers severe head trauma during a boat race. Reservations are necessary.

Halloween party — 11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 31. Musician Don Stidham provides the entertainment. The cost is \$7 and the venue is St. James Lutheran Church, lower level. Come in a costume or just as you are. Following lunch of submarine sandwiches, there will be a costume contest and certificates will be awarded for the top three best costumes. A raffle and a box lunch to take home complete the day. For reservations, call (313) 882-9600.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Jill Wrubel

Stressed out? Time to connect to calm



Q. Last week at lunch, I noticed how my coworkers and I were very anxious and talking about how busy and overworked we were feeling and that even at home most of us are unable to relax and have any sense of peace. What can we do?

A. Have you noticed the most popular conversation has become how we are stressed out? Many succumb to the notion that it is next to impossible to avoid stress. Current studies say 90 percent of disease is stress-related. The National Institute of Health has determined managing stress improves health.

So what do we do? Good question.

How can I fit anymore into my already over-scheduled day?

Reality: How can I afford not to?

It's important to remember our human body is a living, pulsing energy field that is continually expanding and contracting. We are energy. Our thoughts and feelings are always a match and our body and spirit essence are components that are intimately connected to how we

think and feel.

BALANCE is for what we must strive, with the daily practice of simple methods that will invoke the relaxation response.

In doing so we boost our immune system. Without this, every time we feel not happy: worried, anxious, depressed, fearful — we are compromising our immune system, knocking down our adrenal glands and creating DIS-EASE on some level of our well being; the fight or flight response. My favorite methods for reducing stress and invoking the relaxation response include:

◆ **Breathing:** Purchase a dozen pinwheels. Have one handy everywhere — in the car, bed side, desk, locker, garage, kitchen, laundry room. Fully breathe in and out to see it spin. Full belly breathing induces the relaxation response and boosts the immune system.

◆ **Breathe:** Keep one hand on the low belly. Every time you are sitting at your desk, in a car, meeting or class notice when you are not breathing. Then breathe full, big and slow.

◆ **Meditate:** Do this every morning because this sets the tone for the day. You will be clearer, focused and accomplished with optimal results. There are many techniques offered in books and CDs.

Google: free guided meditation.

◆ **Gratitude:** Every bedtime write down five things for which you are grateful during your day. Dig deep for the smallest and simplest things as it will bring you into the moment and pave your path for a restful night's sleep.

Wrubel is a holistic wellness professional and a healing arts practitioner through a program approved by the Michigan Department of Education and is training to become an ordained inter-faith minister in the State of Michigan. She can be reached at rev.jillwrubel@gmail.com or by calling (586) 306-7114.

The Family Center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, serves as the community's centralized hub for information, resources and referral for families and professionals.

To view more Ask the Experts articles, visit familycenterweb.org.

E-mail questions to info@familycenterweb.org. To volunteer or contribute, visit familycenterweb.org or call (313) 432-3832, or write to 20090 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

PASTOR:
Hidden talents found

Continued from page 5B

Company. The couple's three children live in Chicago, Arizona and California.

One of her first duties at First English is to accompany the church's youth to a musically-oriented camp in northern Macomb County.

"I've always lived with music. I love to sing, but I'm not professionally trained," she said.

Veres said she is happy to be at the Grosse Pointe Woods church.

"I'm feeling privileged to be called to this congregation," she said. "I'm looking forward to bringing the ministry and sharing ministry with Pastor Schmidt."

Veres has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in psychology. Knowing she would always return to academia at some point, Veres began pursuing a theology track because, she said, she has always been involved with her church in various capacities.

She attended Ecumenical Theological Semin-



PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

Rev. Chris Veres is the new associate minister at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Veres attended the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, graduating May 13, with a Master of Divinity degree.

ary in Detroit part time while caring for her mother, whom she had moved to Michigan from New York.

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SPORTS

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The Cobras' girls' softball team plays in state tournament **PAGE 2C**

2C DIAMOND TEAMS | 3C LITTLE LEAGUE | 4C MICHIGAN BULLDOGS | 5-7C CLASSIFIEDS

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Polished Brush off to Middlebury



FILE PHOTO
South graduate Somers Brush, left, is taking her soccer talents to Middlebury College.

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Somers Brush has said goodbye to high school and hello to college.

The Grosse Pointe Park resident graduated from Grosse Pointe South in June and Aug. 30 begins her freshman year at Middlebury College nestled in Vermont's Champlain Valley.

"I actually visited Middlebury twice and the second time I really knew this was the campus for me," the 18-year-old Brush said. "I have family out east and my sister, Emma, is close to me at Dartmouth."

"I'm a little sad to leave Grosse Pointe South and a little nervous about leaving for college, but I know I'm ready for this challenge."

She enjoyed a highly successful senior year academically and athletically. She finished high school with a 3.85 grade point average.

Her list of honors and awards is lengthy. They include being a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Quill and Scroll International Honor Society, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, AAA for Success and Superior Rating for

Piano Performance.

In the fall, Brush put together a strong volleyball season for head coach Ryan Welser. She earned First Team All-Conference, plus was voted the 2011 Blue Devil Player of the Year, the Captain's Award and Blue Devil Tough Fitness Gold Award winner.

She also won the Tough Fitness Gold Award the previous three years, as well as All-MAC, All-Region and All-State Academic honors. She was a co-captain on the team her senior year.

"I enjoyed volleyball and I'm kind of surprised I did so well since soccer is my better sport," Brush said. "I worked hard and had a lot of fun playing volleyball at South."

"Beating (Grosse Pointe) North this year was definitely a highlight since it has been years since one of our teams beat them. I wish we could have beaten them in the districts, but we came up a little short."

Her leadership role extended beyond the athletic field and into the classroom. She was managing editor of South's "Tower" student newspaper, as well as the newspaper's business manager. She was also secretary of the French Club.

She didn't play a school sport during the winter, but participated in travel soccer teams.

The extra work on the fields relayed into a solid high school soccer career. She was a motivating factor for the Blue Devils' program under head coach Gene Harkins.

Brush, a midfielder, played on the Blue Devils' 2011 state semifinal squad and the team this spring that lost a tough 1-0 game to Troy in a regional final.

"I've had some great times playing soccer at South," Brush said. "I'm confident I can play well at Middlebury. I feel I'm ready for the next level of soccer."

Brush will play for head coach Peter Kim in the fall. Her first day of collegiate soccer is Aug. 30 and her first game is 2 p.m. Sept. 8 at home against Tufts.

"It's an exciting yet nervous feeling," she said. "I finally get to play at the level I've worked so hard to achieve."

She is undecided on a major.

During her final month at home, Brush is going to spend as much time as possible with family and friends before leaving for Vermont.

GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Solak back on field

Kelly Solak, 12, of Grosse Pointe Woods, is part of a very athletic family.

She has played for the Grosse Pointe Soccer Association since fourth grade and also plays ice hockey. Her worst enemy, however, was not someone from the opposing team, but the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury she suffered last November at the age of 11.

ACL injuries result from a tear in one of the knee ligaments that join the upper leg bone with the lower leg bone. This type of injury is common in soccer, skiing, football, and other sports with lots of stop-and-go movements, jumping, or weaving.

Her mom, Maureen Solak, said at the time of the injury there was no contact with another player, but she was clearly hurt.

"She was dribbling the ball, made a cut to get by an opponent, and suddenly heard a 'pop' coming from her left knee," she said.

Maureen and her husband, Ken Solak, took her to a local private clinic where doctors suggested she wait more than a year until she receive treatment because she was so young.

"I had been injured myself and wasn't comfortable with that recommendation since I knew further injuries can occur if the knee is not stable," said Maureen.

The family decided to receive a second opinion at DMC Children's Hospital of Michigan and consulted with Walid Khaled Yassir, MD, associate chief of orthopaedics.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOLAK FAMILY

Kelly Solak is back on the soccer field after suffering a knee injury nearly a year ago.

"The difference was night and day. I instantly felt I was in the right place for my daughter. I definitely feel if you have a pediatric injury, you need to see a pediatric specialist," she said.

Yassir recommended Solak have surgery the next month. Since the initial recovery takes a couple of weeks and he did not want her to miss so much school, they scheduled the surgery right before the holiday break.


"Kelly's injury is all too common in our practice, part of the epidemic of ACL injuries in young female athletes," Yassir said. "Our surgeons at the Children's Hospital of Michigan have performed hundreds of these operations on young women like Kelly, and we're glad we were able

to put the family at ease and grateful for the terrific recovery that Kelly has made."

Solak had to undergo physical therapy for six months on her left knee to get it back in shape. She successfully completed the therapy and looks forward to returning to her pre-injury activities in the fall.

For other parents with young women who are participating in sports, Maureen suggests that warm up and specific exercises be done to help prevent ACL injuries in the first place.




"More and more girls are getting these injuries which can lead to surgery and a long recovery," she said. "Anything you can do to prevent it from occurring in the first place should be a priority."



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2C | SPORTS

SOFTBALL

GP/HW 10U softball enjoys state run

By Curt Sylvester
Special Writer

The girls of the Harper Woods Grosse Pointe Little League all-star softball team came within two runs of making it to the final four before bowing out of the 9-10 year old state tournament.

The girls, who adopted the nickname Cobras, saw their title hopes snuffed out in a well-played 5-4 quarterfinal loss to Grandville, with the potential tying run at third base.

Although they were disappointed and shed some tears in the moments immediately after the game, the team was heartened by the fact it had progressed deeper into the state tournament than any other Harper Woods Grosse Pointe had gone previously.

"We've never had a team go to the championship round," said Harper Woods Rec Director John Bobak, who directs the HWGP Little League girls program. "To get beyond pool play is really exceptional."

The Cobras earned their trip to the state tournament in Wyoming by taking the District No. 6 title with three consecutive wins in early July and advanced to the eight-team championship segment of the 16-team tournament by winning two of three games in pool



PHOTO BY NICOL BRUMME

Players and coaches of the Cobras soaked up the moment of playing in the state championship tournament at the end of July.

play.

Third baseman Rachel Liagre singled and scored, giving the Cobras a 1-0 lead against Grandville in the second inning, and outfielder Jenna Hummel singled and scored on a base hit by pitcher Grace Haynes in the fourth inning.

But the Grandville team responded with three runs in the third inning, one in the fourth and one in the fifth to take a 5-2 lead.

The Cobras rallied with two runs in the bottom of the fifth when first baseman Sydney Brumme and outfielder Isabella Cusumano drew walks

and scored, and it appeared they would tie the score when Haynes hit a ground ball sharply up the middle.

The Grandville centerfielder fielded the ball smoothly, however, and got the third out on a force at second base.

The Cobras came close to tying the game again in the sixth inning when Brumme hit a two-out triple but they couldn't push the run across.

The loss ended a four-day tournament run for the girls, who got off to an inauspicious start in pool play by dropping a 13-1 decision to Freeland in a game initially de-

played, and later interrupted, by rain. Another loss would have virtually eliminated any championship hopes but the Cobras beat District No. 11 champion Negaunee, 5-2, and then handed District No. 15 champion Three Rivers its only loss of the tournament, 15-6, to move into the championship segment of the tournament.

Grace Haynes gave up just three hits and struck out 12, and shortstop Natalie Wietechte had a single, two walks and scored two runs in the victory over Negaunee. Rachel Liagre and Sydney Brumme had key

hits in the game-winning four-run rally in the sixth inning.

Three Rivers grabbed an early 5-0 lead in the third and final pool game but the Cobras stormed back with a single run in the third, five runs in the fourth and nine runs in the fifth.

Kendall Volpe had a single, two walks and scored three runs; Kayla Kettler and Cusumano had key RBI hits; and pitchers Kayla Sylvester and Brumme teamed up to quiet the previously booming Three Rivers bats.

The team was comprised of 13 players from

the four Harper Woods Grosse Pointe Little League teams — Sydney Brumme, Isabella Cusumano, Grace Haynes, Erin Kane and Kendall Volpe from Cuzie Hummel; Jenna Kettler, Rachel Liagre and Vivian Liagre from NuAppearance; Julia O'Halla, Kayla Sylvester and Natalie Wietechte from the Lions Club; and Elizabeth Ziemba from the Jeepsters.

Bruce Haynes of Cuzie Customs was the Cobras' manager, with coaching assistance from Tim Kane, Brian Mull and Curt Sylvester.

SOFTBALL



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHRYN SURZYN

Diamonds sparkle

The Grosse Pointe Diamonds 16U Softball team recently won the Huron Park Stars and Stripes Softball Tournament. The girls won all five contests with Tabitha Adkins and Nicole Fitch winning two games apiece and Emily Surzyn winning one. Team members pictured above are coach Jessica Richardson, Nicole Fitch, Dana O'Donnell, Crista Nannini, Emily Alway, Izzy Kirch, Hannah Bielman, Nicole Haggerty, Ashley Taber, Tabitha Adkins, Emily Surzyn, Hannah Mathies, and Coach Robert Mlynarek. Not pictured is Josalyn Spears.

LITTLE LEAGUE



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRELL BURKE

District winner

The Grosse Pointe Farms City Little League 10U tournament team, left, won a District No. 6 championship before heading to Kalamazoo to compete in the state tournament. In the district title game, GPFC went extra innings to defeat Grosse Pointe Park. The squad made it to the quarterfinals in the state tournament before losing to eventual champion Midland. Team members were Zach Wollenzin, Weston Brundage, Connor Paull, Niko Post,

Miles Jamieson, Ryan Murphy, Cody Shook, P.K. Nugent, James Doerer, Carter Sales, Kevin McCarron, Carter Burke, Cam Mallegg, and coaches Mike Paull, Murray Sales and Paul Burke.

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LITTLE LEAGUE

Woods-Shores makes state title game

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The 2012 Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League International All-Star team ended an impressive tournament run July 28 in Vicksburg, losing 13-2 to North Saginaw in the state championship game.

By reaching the state championship game, the all-star team joined the American League squads of 1966 and 1974 and the National League teams of 1978 and 1979 as the only International All-Star teams in the Grosse Pointe's 59-year history to reach the title tilt.

The 1974 squad also finished runner-up.

This year's team included Joey Ambrozzy, Anden Armbruster, Christopher Cameron, Pete Ciaravino, Ryan Cullen, Dirk Drieborg, Michael Gassen, Anthony George, Billy Hoover III, Chad Lorkowski, Luke Muschong, Jimmy Shanley and Jordan White.

The team was managed by Dave Senter and



PHOTO BY HEATHER MUSCHONG

The 2012 Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores International Little League team, above, recently won a District No. 6 championship. Through team work and determination, the boys went on to reach great heights. Team members were, bottom row from left, Ryan Cullen, Chad Lorkowski, Pete Ciarvino, Dirk Drieborg and Anden Armbruster; and top row from left, Joey Ambrozzy, Michael Gassen, Luke Muschong, Jordan White, Billy Hoover, Jimmy Shanley and Anthony George; and back row from left, Chris Camerson, coach Aaron Senter, manager Dave Senter and coach Bill Hoover.

coached by Aaron Senter and Bill Hoover Jr. Many former Woods-Shores players and one Farms-City alumnus, volunteered to pitch batting practice.

In order to reach the state tournament, the team won a tough District

No. 6 tournament at Elworthy Field. Included in the field was defending 11U state champion Grosse Pointe Park.

The Woods-Shores team beat Grosse Pointe Park 8-5, merced L'Anse Creuse 13-0, merced Lac Saint Clair 18-2, defeated

Grosse Pointe Farms 9-0, lost to the Park 6-5, and won the title game over the Park 17-6.

It was the program's 13th district title in its history.

Highlights from the district tournament included two spectacular

throws on passed balls from Cameron to gun down speedy Park runners in the opening game; Cameron's flying off the mound in the game to catch a foul ball lost by the catcher; Cullen's game-ending leaping catch at the centerfield fence to rob the Park's Michael Lanson of a game tying three-run home run, and home runs by Ciaravino, 3; Cullen, 2; and Ambrozzy, Lorkowski and Cameron with one apiece.

Stellar pitching performances were turned by Lorkowski and Cullen against the Farms when they combined to throw a two-hit shutout, by Cameron retiring 12 straight Park batters in the first matchup; and by George's six innings of shutout relief in the championship game after the Park exploded for three homers and six runs in one inning.

During the state tournament, Woods-Shores merced District No. 7 champ

Emmett-Greenwood 13-0 in four innings; merced District No. 8 champ Gaylord 22-

10 in five innings; defeated Emmett-Greenwood in eight innings, 3-1; and merced District No. 3 title winner Dexter 17-5 in five innings, before bowing out to District No. 14 champ North Saginaw.

Cullen pitched a perfect game in the opener with Lorkowski blasting a 225-foot homer.

Cullen nearly did it again, coming one out from a perfect game in the semifinals, plus Armbruster blasted a 250-foot opposite-field homer in that game.

Muschong's squeeze bunt scored Cameron in the title game with Ciaravino and Cullen each hitting two homers. Lorkowski drilled one dinger in the tourney.

Five defensive gems were turned in during the state tournament with Ciaravino making two diving outfield catches. Lorkowski had two dramatic outs at first base and Cameron used his 6-foot frame to lead and rob a go-ahead homer while playing shortstop, snagging a line drive that was rising with each foot off the bat.

LITTLE LEAGUE



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE LUTFY

District champs

The Grosse Pointe Park 11U tournament team, above, recently won the District No. 6 championship with a victory over Harper Woods. Anthony DerManulian pitched a complete game shutout for the Park and Conor McKenna provided the offense with a three-run homer. The Park heads to West Branch to defend its state title. Team members are, front row from left, Mickey Walkowiak and Jacob Finger; middle row from left, Conor McKenna, Giovanni Lutfy, Jackson Lawrence, Ben Lemanski, Colin Mulcahy, Ryan Downey and Nate Budziak; and back row from left, coach Mike Downey, Anthony DerManulian, manager George Lutfy, coach Geoff Finger and Alec Azar.

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4C | SPORTS

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Power of nine speaks volumes

I had the pleasure of watching something in sports I don't think I will ever watch again. I've been a sports writer for 20 years and witnessed my share of upsets, state championships and plenty of peaks and valleys.

During the final week of July, I watched a group of nine young ladies either entering high school or remaining in middle school, put together a run for the ages in a NSA 14U Class B World Series in Highland, Ind.

The magical nine of Natalie VanDerHaegen, Emma St. John, Alex LaRue, Jordan Miller, Kelcie LaTour, Nicole Roeske, Hailey Reese, Emily Andrews and Jordan Bianchi never wavered through every battle fought in hot, muggy weather.

They battled back and won several one-run games. The ladies beat some very good softball teams during this epic trek. The support of head coach Mike Roeske and assistant coaches Jack LaTour and Steve Andrews helped pick up the girls when their backs were against the wall.

There was never talk of losing; just words of encouragement, fighting through it and believing in your teammates. The girls knew they had to win every game to make the finals.

"It was amazing how positive the girls remained throughout the tournament," Mike Roeske said. "This is a life lesson the girls will use for the rest of

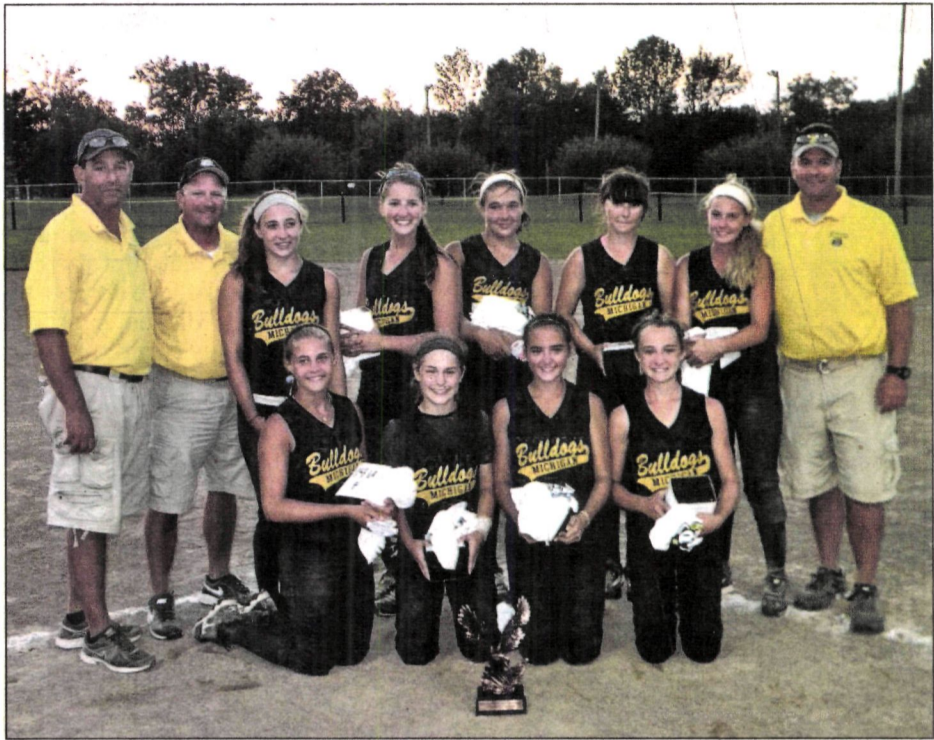


PHOTO BY TRICIA LATOUR

The team members of the 13U Michigan Bulldogs pictured above are, front row from left, Nicole Roeske, Emily Andrews, Jordan Bianchi and Natalie VanDerHaegen; and standing from left, head coach Mike Roeske, assistant coach Steve Andrews, Alex LaRue, Kelcie LaTour, Jordan Miller, Hailey Reese, Emma St. John and assistant coach Jack LaTour.

their lives. It's a remarkable story I will remember forever."

Opening ceremonies were Monday, July 23, in Valparaiso and games began the following day.

My daughter, Emma, and her teammates play for the 13U Michigan Bulldogs. After splitting two pool games, they unfortunately lost their first bracket game 7-6 to Valley Force, sending the team to the lonely place called the losers' bracket.

"We had confidence we could win and the girls never gave up, which was the key," Jack LaTour said. "It was our job as coaches to remain positive and see this through. Not only did

the girls continue to win, but they gained confidence with each victory. This is something that brings a smile to my face every time I think about it."

"I was blown away by the fact that although the odds were always against them moving forward, right from the start the girls never even spoke of losing," Steve Andrews said. "They played for the girls next to them. No one quit no matter how tired they were. They just kept getting up and going. They were the true definition of team."

Everyone knows heading to the losers' bracket is a death sentence in soft-

ball or baseball. One loss and the run is finished. In this case, it meant the season was finished for the girls.

Not only did the girls stay alive, but they won an amazing 10 straight games during a two-day span to put themselves in the championship against the Tennessee Xplosion.

The Bulldogs' 10-game winning streak started early the evening of Wednesday, July 25. They won 14-1 over Sherverville All-Stars.

First thing Thursday morning came win No. 2, 9-1 over the Stevensville Lakeshore Pirates, directly followed by a 4-3 victory over Team Mizuno for win No. 3.

After a two-hour break, the Bulldogs returned to crush the Titans 9-2, sending them home and advancing to yet another round in the losers' bracket. One of the biggest wins for the Bulldogs came against a very talented 12U Crown Point Bulldogs squad.

St. John pitched a strong game and LaRue's two-run first-inning double plated VanDerHaegen and St. John to make it a 2-0 game.

St. John singled to start the fourth inning and scored on LaTour's single to push the lead to 3-0. Crown Point scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth, but St. John retired the opposition one-two-three in the bottom of the seventh to preserve the victory.

Miller caught a popup for out No. 1 and Andrews caught a lightly hit line drive for the second out. Andrews fielded a ground

ball and threw a strike to LaTour at first base for the final out. It was win No. 5 in a row and one more game to play late Thursday evening.

With the lights on, the Bulldogs beat the Indy Edge Chaos 6-5, scoring five runs in the final three innings. LaTour drove in three runs with Miller, Reese and Bianchi driving in the other three to lead them to victory.

Bianchi had what turned out to be the game-winning hit in the top of the sixth inning.

The team had already made it to championship Friday. This was the final day of the tournament. The girls were confident they could continue the streak.

First was a 9-8 win over Team Nike and next was the Bulldogs blasting their way to a 10-0 lead over the Storm with the big bats of LaRue, Miller and LaTour driving in three, three and two runs to power the team to the huge lead.

However, the lead shrunk to one run as the Storm scored six runs in the bottom of the fourth and added three in the final inning, plus had runners on second and third, before St. John struck out the final hitter to earn the save.

Roeske made her first start on the mound in more than a month. She was forced into action as the team's other pitcher quit the day before. The Bulldogs had two players quit after the Crown Point game.

I won't print the names of the two girls, but it's a shame their parents had the gall to pull their daughters off the team because they were unhappy with the coaching staff.

It was OK because this actually made the remaining nine girls stronger. They bonded and played their best after the girls left the team, including Roeske, who looked confident with her new role of pitching in the biggest games of the year.

The Bulldogs pulled out a come-from-behind 6-5 win over a very talented Wisconsin Fox River Rush squad to advance to the final four.

In the top of the sixth inning, Roske led off with a single and was sacrificed to second by Reese. Andrews singled to put two runners on and Bianchi singled home Roeske with the tying run. VanDerHaegen singled home Andrews with what was the winning run.

In the semifinal against the Edwardsburg Flash,

Roeske started on the hill and pitched well before tiring. The Flash took a 5-0 lead and the end seemed to be creeping close.

The Bulldogs tied it with a five-run fourth inning.

In the fifth, LaTour singled with one out and Roeske singled to put two runners on. Reese followed with a two-run single to provide the winning spark.

Eighty teams began the tournament and now it was down to two. The underdog Bulldogs won 10 straight elimination games to put themselves in position to actually win the national championship.

The Bulldogs led the Xplosion 6-1 before falling behind 9-6 with one at-bat left. The Bulldogs had to win to force another game in the double-elimination tournament.

Have no fear, the Cardiac Kids did it again, scoring five runs in the top of the fifth to pull ahead 11-9. Reese doubled home two runs, VanDerHaegen drove in a run with a ground out and St. John singled home the winning run. Miller's single drove home an insurance run.

In the bottom of the sixth, two pop-outs were followed by a walk. A ground ball produced the final out and the Bulldogs ran their winning streak to 11 and was one game from winning the title.

The Bulldogs' gas tank hit empty in the final game of the season. They took a 1-0 lead in the first inning when Miller singled home VanDerHaegen with two outs, but that would be the beginning of the end for the girls.

Playing 11 straight elimination games left the girls drained. Playing with blistered feet and not an ounce of energy, the Xplosion took advantage and plated 12 runs.

On a positive note, the Bulldogs never quit and continued to score runs, but it wasn't enough. A very good Xplosion team won the rubber-game and the World Series.

We, as parents, applaud the effort. At the end, the Bulldogs had umpires, fans and coaches from other teams pulling for us to beat the Xplosion.

Losing to a very good team is nothing to hang their heads about and taking second under these circumstances is something VanDerHaegen, St. John, LaRue, Miller, LaTour, Roeske, Reese, Andrews and Bianchi will never forget.

—Bob St. John
Sports Editor

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474 Washington Grosse Pointe City. 3 interior designers having garage sale. Lots of great home goods, furniture, other miscellaneous stuff. August 16, 17, 18; 9am-3pm.

A giant sale! 21911 Chalon (between Mack & Helen), St. Clair Shores. Friday, Saturday, August 10, 11; 9am-2pm. Long-aberger, lots jewelry, Elvis records, much more!

A multi family moving sale. 1106 Bedford, Grosse Pointe Park. Saturday, 8-2:00. One day only, everything must go! Furniture indoor/outdoor. Bedroom set, patio set, chairs. Designer clothes, purses. Toys, children's items. Corner of Bedford and St. Paul.

AWESOME multi-family sale. Rain or shine. August 9, 10, 11. 9-4. 266 McKinley. Household, tools, kids, books, outboard engines galore! Become one of our many return customers!

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BEST sale- 9am-3pm, Saturday. 282 Fisher= deluxe treadmill, sofas, chairs, china cabinet, desks, TVs, beds, kitchenware.

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GROSSE Pointe City, 847 Washington. Friday, 9am-3pm. Large extension ladder, tools, college items, linens, miscellaneous, books.

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SATURDAY, August 11; 9am-4pm. Newberry Place (Grosse Pointe Boulevard). Household items, furniture, children's items.

ST. Clair Shores, 23006 Rosedale. Thursday-Friday, 9am-3pm. Multi family. Teaching supplies, furniture, kids stuff, miscellaneous.

410 HOUSEHOLD SALES

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GROSSE Pointe Animal Clinic: male blue Pitbull. (313)822-5707

505 LOST AND FOUND

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FOUND Harper Wood, July 31. Short-hair brown Tiger Cat, front declawed. Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, 313-884-1551.

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817 Beaconsfield- 4 unit building, upper 2 bedroom, hardwood floors, appliances. \$625 month. Angie, 586-212-0759, 248-288-4144

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Grosse Pointe News St. Clair Shores

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State and Federal housing laws prohibit discrimination that is based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age (Michigan Law), marital (Michigan Law) or familial status. For further information call the Michigan Department of Civil Rights at 800-482-3604; the U.S. Department of Housing and the Urban development 800-669-9777 or your local Fair Housing Agency.

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