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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 75, NO. 51, 32 PAGES
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DECEMBER 18, 2014
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Audit floats city's boat

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Let it rain, as far as city financial reserves are concerned.

The City of Grosse Pointe's rainy day fund floated on a high tide for another fiscal year, despite a tax base swamped for nearly a decade by a shriveling economy.

Results of the annual municipal audit show financial reserves, called unassigned fund balance, equal 21 percent of the subsequent year's budgeted expenditures.

"The targeted range is approximately 20 percent," according to the audit report by Plante Moran for fiscal year 2013-14, ended June 30.

See AUDIT, page 2A

Cottage getting new yard

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A verdant landscape with a trellis and shaded patio will replace the vehicle drop-off and short-term parking area in front of Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage on Kercheval.

A yard-like setting is intended to complement adjoining residential neighborhood.

"The level of finishes will seamlessly blend into the existing context of the hospital campus and the Grosse Pointe Farms vernacular," according to a written description on behalf of the hospital by Andrew Danaher, of Stucky Vitale Architects, of Royal Oak.

Construction includes:

- ◆ replacing a front canopy,
- ◆ eliminating an access drive off Kercheval,
- ◆ installing two pergolas — one along

See YARD, page 2A

Correction

The story, "Closing Arguments Next," on page 6A of the Dec. 11, 2014, Grosse Pointe News should have listed Andrew McSkimming as a witness for the defense, not Scott McSkimming.



Precious gifts

The Polar Express continues at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center through Saturday, Dec. 20. Trains leave the center and tours the Pointes' to view houses decorated for the holidays, while listening to the story of "The Polar Express." Guests make their way to the North Pole, where they have refreshments, sing carols and visit with Santa Claus. Above, Santa listens to the wishes of Maggie Mitchell. At left, he holds 1-month-old Grace Gray. Below, Genevieve Gauthier holds her Polar Express ticket, that has a snowflake punch showing she was a passenger at this year's event.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Robbery suspect found by Park police

By John McTaggart
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Officers apprehended a man who allegedly robbed a flower shop at gunpoint around 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, in the 15000 block of Kerchval.

The incident took place after the suspect ordered flowers at the shop, then produced a handgun when the clerk returned to the counter with the flower arrangement.

The suspect fled the scene on foot with the flowers and cash from the register.

The suspect was able to elude capture immediately after the incident, but the department was developing leads.

Uniformed Park officers were able to track down the suspect, a Park man, Sunday, Dec. 14, and take him into custody.

"This is just a great job by our uniformed officers and our detectives," Park Director of Public Safety David

Hiller said. "In just a little over 48 hours we were able to apprehend this suspect and get him into custody."

Hiller said the suspect is someone the department "has had contact with before," but would not elaborate.

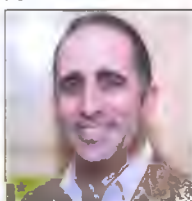
A search warrant has been executed, he added, and evidence has been turned over to the Wayne County Prosecutor's office.

"This is a very isolated incident," Hiller said. "I'm proud of what the officers did and how quickly they were able to apprehend the suspect."

Business 6A
Opinion 8A
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Health 6B
Classified ads 11B
Sports 1C
Schools 4C

Pointer of
Interest

See story, page 4A



John Bornoty

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
Age: 44 / Occupation: Founder &
CEO, The Big Salad
Family: Wife, Beth, son, John



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Totally cool new tool

By John McTaggart
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Repairing potholes and cracks in the road can be a frustrating, costly and laborious endeavor. The process of filling the potholes with cold patch isn't always the most effective remedy either. "The cold patch doesn't always work as well as you hope," public works department director Joe Ahee said. "Rain and other factors can cause that patch to dislodge and

you're back again filling the hole." Ahee and his department has found a better answer to potholes and similar road issues, he said. That device is a state-of-the-art machine known as the Total Patcher. "We're one of the first communities in the area to get this," he said. "It's a more permanent patch. It's more efficient and it's going to save money. We're very excited to have it." The machine cleans out the pothole, injects a tacky solution into the

surface of the hole, then applies an aggregate/emulsion mixture creating a patch that is more effective and more efficient than traditional cold patch. The Total Patcher costs about \$89,000, Ahee said. "We had money in the budget for a new tractor," he explained. "But, we were able to find a used one we bought from Grosse Pointe Shores and that saved us money. It made it easier for us to purchase this. Plus, it's going to save us a lot of money over traditional cold-patching."



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

The Total Patcher, the city's newest addition, is more efficient and more effective than traditional cold patching.

Auto related again

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — An empirical truism of architecture asserts that no matter how a gas station is converted or reused, it still looks like a gas station. Witness the vacant single-story, brick structure on Fisher at Maumee. From 1995 to this year, it served a second incarnation as the Grosse Pointe Athletic Club. But, with the facade and roof line begging the original interior layout of twin service bays and customer lobby, the clank of weight-lifting equipment never drowned out the building's gas station immortality and the echo of Craftsman tools. Thus it will be on Mack at the corner of Fisher in the City of Grosse Pointe, only to a greater degree. A vacant service station

will reopen by summer as an oil change business. The operation is owned by William Akkary, a Grosse Pointe Park resident and owner of Park Pharmacy. "Neighbors welcomed us and are excited we are going to clean it up," Akkary said. Without the building's gas station pedigree, the new business wouldn't be allowed. "Under the site's current zoning (as) the restricted office district, automobile service stations are not a permitted use," said John Jackson, the city's planning consultant. Yet, the new operation may remain auto-related, if not expanded or enlarged. "In this case, the applicant proposes to remove a section of the existing building, decreasing the amount of non-conform-

ing use," Jackson said. "It's a legal non-conforming continuation of a non-conforming use." The elimination of one of two driveways off Mack is expected to simplify traffic patterns. Most motorists will enter the property from Mack and exit onto Fisher, a one-way road leading back to Mack. There's also adequate on-site space for drivers to park and wait in queue for service, according to Jackson, citing municipal parking codes. The former station's gasoline pumps and underground fuel tank have been removed. "No automobile fueling is proposed," Jackson said. "The level of activity will be less than when the gas station was in peak operation." A new façade with gooseneck lighting is planned.

Manager approaches thief, asks for groceries

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — It's a temptation ethical people suppress: pretending to pay at the self check-out register. At Kroger in the Village, there's a practical reason not to do it. "The manager tells me his employees keep a good watch for people trying to leave without paying," said Al Gwyn, a detective with the City of Grosse Pointe public safety department. They partially thwarted one shortly before 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. A thin black woman,

just over 5 feet tall, rolled a shopping cart brimming with \$161.48 unpaid goods through self-check and out the back door. She had popcorn, Hostess Twinkies, Lysol cleaner, Clorox bleach, clam chowder, dishwashing detergent and more. The manager confronted her in the parking lot as she prepared to enter a navy blue Jeep. "Give me back my groceries," he said, according to police. She took a package of meat and can of soup and got in the Jeep, driven by a white male and occupied by two passengers.

The driver headed westbound in the east-bound-only alley toward Cadieux. "The Jeep attempted to strike the manager," said an officer. In the short time the manager returned to the store and called police, the suspects escaped the area. Also, some officers rushing to the scene in patrol cars were delayed by motorists failing to yield, according to Gwyn. Police traced the Jeep's license plate to a man living in St. Clair Shores. The manager said a photo of the vehicle's registered owner didn't match the driver.

AUDIT:

Continued from page 1A

"Unassigned fund balance remained relatively consistent year after year," Daniel Block, one of the firm's CPAs, told the city council Monday, Dec. 15. The pension system also is strong. "We were 118 percent funded for our pension system," said Peter Dame, city manager. The city remains financially healthy despite a nearly 20 percent cumulative decline in its major revenue source, property values, since 2007. "It's going to take a long while to recoup

that," Block said, citing state restrictions on the rate of property tax increases. Although values are rebounding, they won't translate into equal percentage growth of property tax revenue due to limits on hikes prescribed by the Headlee cap and Proposal A. Laws limit annual rate increases to 5 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. Assuming 2 percent inflation, it will take 20 years for the city to return to revenue levels prior to the recession, Hill said. In the meantime, nothing limits costs. "Keep that in mind," Block advised the council, "You have made really good strides in control-

ling costs throughout the year." "You've been able to maintain the fund balance level and your bond rating," added Pamela Hill, Plante Moran audit partner. "You're doing the same, if not more, with less." Some \$4,031,831 in property tax receipts represented 71 percent of municipal revenue during the year, about 4 percent more than the year before. Public safety represented 48 percent of expenditures, followed by: ♦ general government operations, 29 percent, ♦ recreation and culture, 9 percent and ♦ public works, 7 percent.

YARD:

Continued from page 1A

the building façade, the other next to the Kercheval sidewalk and ♦ seating and umbrel-

las. New landscaping and steel pergolas with dark bronze finishes also are intended to reduce the building's scale and mask existing infrastructure. "It frames an entryway into the park-like setting we are creating," said John Vitale, of Stucky Vitale. "The project will improve pedestrian walkability of the site, improve safety by reducing vehicular conflicts along the Kercheval sidewalks,

improve lighting (and) give the corner of the building a lighter, less obtrusive and updated architectural aesthetic," according to Danaher's description. Hospital officials also won permission to place a sign facing Kercheval. Permission was required because the hospital is located in the community service district, in which signs aren't allowed, unlike the business district across Muir on the Hill.

Grosse Pointe News

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Correction

On page 8A of the Dec. 11, 2014, edition of the Grosse Pointe News, a letter by Kirkland W. Garey should have read, "This conduct by Park public officials and employees flies in the face of recent comments by Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce President Sandy Baruah at the Grosse Pointe Chamber's Business Expo last month that we should be promoting regionalism and working together to move beyond the Detroit bankruptcy."



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Move made

The controversial farmers market sheds at Kercheval and Alter in Grosse Pointe Park were moved aside Monday, Dec. 15. Here, workers move what many have called an attempt to keep Detroiters from coming into Grosse Pointe Park.



PHOTO BY KATHY RYAN

Grant gets most of new truck

By John McTaggart
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The city's Department of Public Works has a new addition — a 2015 International 10-yard tandem axle dump truck. The vehicle is a welcomed addition to an aging fleet of vehicles in the department; it's slated to replace a truck that has been around since the early 1990s. "This is going to replace a 10-yard tandem dumptruck," public works director Joe Ahee said. "And that truck was purchased in 1992." Like most cities, budgets have shrunk, but with some creative thinking and hard work, the city was able to pay



The Woods' new truck is ready for winter, if it gets here.

for bulk of the new truck thanks to a CMAQ grant they received. "It was a \$147,000 truck," city administrator Skip Fincham said. "And the grant was for \$116,000. We took delivery about three weeks ago." The truck is a multi-purpose machine for the department, Ahee said, and it's ready to roll. "We've got a salt spreader on the back," Ahee said. "The plow is in front, too, so it's ready for winter. Then we can convert it for leaves in the fall, so we can blow leaves into it during those months. And, during the summer it'll be used for hauling and other purposes like that. It's going to get plenty of use and it can really be used for whatever we need it to be used for." The vehicle also is more efficient and more environmentally friendly than older vehicles, he said.

Bashara's health delays trial

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

DETROIT — Judge Vonda Evans on Monday suspended jury deliberations in the Bob Bashara murder trial after Bashara was admitted to a hospital for undisclosed health issues. The case was sent to the jury Thursday, Dec. 11. The jury was able to deliberate all day Friday and resumed deliberations Monday before Evans ruled she would not answer any questions from the panel without Bashara being present in the courtroom. There was some confusion in the court when it was discovered Monday

morning Bashara was not in the holding area with other prisoners. His attorneys, Michael McCarthy and Lillian Diallo, weren't notified he would not be in court. The best they and Evans could determine was Bashara had taken ill Sunday night and was being seen by a doctor. It was not confirmed until Monday afternoon he had been hospitalized at Detroit Receiving Hospital and would be undergoing tests on Tuesday. Neither the nature of those tests nor his condition was revealed. "We're hearing about this at the same time you are," McCarthy told reporters on Monday. "We received no prior notice." When it was discovered that Bashara would not be in court, Evans directed the jury to keep deliberating, but ruled if jurors had a question that needed to be discussed in open court, she would not convene the court without Bashara present. At approximately 11:20 a.m., the jury sent a note to the judge with a question, and at that point, Evans announced Bashara would not be present in court, and dismissed the jury for the day. Prosecutor Lisa Lindsey told Evans she would be reviewing case law to determine if a defendant was required to be in court when juror questions were being discussed. Evans told her it would not make any difference in how she was going to proceed, and she would not allow any questions without Bashara present. Now in its 11th week, the trial has been halted on two other occasions for Bashara's health issues. One delay was for eye surgery. The jury, comprised of nine men and three women, is determining Bashara's fate on five counts, including first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder, solicitation of murder, witness intimidation and obstruction of justice.

Jury has Bashara case

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

DETROIT — After 10 weeks of a trial, attorneys for both sides in the Bob Bashara murder trial sent their cases to the jury as closing arguments were delivered Wednesday, Dec. 10. Prosecutor Lisa Lindsey wrapped up the People's case against Bashara by describing the former Grosse Pointe Park resident as someone who created separate worlds for himself. One world involved his life as a family man and community volunteer, while the other world involved a secret life of mistresses and alternative sexual practices. "When those two worlds collided, Jane Bashara died," Lindsey said. She outlined the evidence against Bashara, citing the multiple girlfriends, his immersion in a BDSM lifestyle, the financial problems and testimony from several witnesses he was attempting to hire someone to kill a "tenant." She described how he "courted" Joe Gentz, setting him up in an apartment in Grosse Pointe Park and paying for his utilities. Phone records were used to collaborate a relationship between Bashara and Gentz, including dozens of phone calls Bashara made to Gentz in the days leading up to Jan. 24, 2012, the day Jane Bashara was murdered in the garage of the Bashara family home on Middlesex in Grosse Pointe Park. Gentz pleaded guilty to the murder, but said he committed the crime at the behest of Bob Bashara. Lindsey said it was Bashara's obsession with his girlfriend, Rachel Gillett, that caused him to want to kill his wife. He and Gillett were buying a house together on Kensington and were supposed to close the sale on the property just

See JURY, page 4A

When there's a verdict ...

When the verdict is announced, the Grosse Pointe News will post a story at grossepointenews.com and follow with another story in the next issue of the paper.

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The Week Ahead

THURSDAY, DEC. 18
◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board meets at 7 p.m. at the Woods branch, 20680 Mack. An agenda can be obtained by visiting gp.lib.mi.us.
◆ Holiday packages can be wrapped free from 5 to 9 p.m. at Grosse Pointe Public Library, Central branch.
◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre presents "Irving Berlin's White Christmas" at 7:30 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Tickets cost \$24. Call (313) 881-4004 for more information.
FRIDAY, DEC. 19
◆ Finish it Fridays is from 9 to 11 a.m. at Grosse Pointe Public Library, Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Bring unfinished handmade projects to complete.
SUNDAY, DEC. 21
◆ First day of winter.
◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre presents "Irving Berlin's

White Christmas" at 7:30 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. To reserve tickets costing \$24, call (313) 881-4004.
MONDAY, DEC. 22
◆ An American Red Cross blood drive is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pointe Fitness and Training Center, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods. For an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code healthy or call Beth at (313) 550-3870.
◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre presents "Irving Berlin's White Christmas" at 7:30 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. To reserve tickets costing \$24, call (313) 881-4004.
◆ Grosse Pointe Park city council meets at 7 p.m. in council chambers.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24
◆ Grosse Pointe News office is closed.
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◆ City of Grosse Pointe municipal offices are closed.
◆ Grosse Pointe Farms municipal offices are closed.
THURSDAY, DEC. 25
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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Giving back by teaching

By Joe Warner
Editor

John Bornoty is like many Grosse Pointe business owners. He wants to give back to the community that gives so much to him.

Successful with his chain of restaurants, The Big Salad, Bornoty and the staff at his original restaurant, on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods, have partnered with Grosse Pointe North High School for a unique project.

Working with North business teacher Michelle Davis, Bornoty launched a "reality-based learning" project allowing students to create, design, test and market a new product for the Woods location.

The project lasts one quarter and a class of 30 students are split into six groups of five students.

Each group has a list of the menu items and equipment and they're challenged to develop a product.

Bornoty discusses all aspects of the business, including marketing before each group gets their own day and evening to sell their new

menu creation.

The most successful group in sales gets bragging rights with a huge "Seal the Deal" trophy and a semester with their menu item offered and their names on the wall as developers of the winner.

Bornoty, 44, grew up in Clinton Township and attended Notre Dame High School and Wayne State University. He has built a career in sales, marketing and Internet solutions, before his restaurant career began in 1998, "the worst possible time we could have done it," he said.

He served as president of iWerk for six years before founding Bornoty Holdings, LLC, and The Big Salad, where he serves as CEO.

"We have six stores and we're growing," Bornoty said.

The project, and working with the schools in Grosse Pointes, isn't a real surprise.

His wife, Beth, a lifelong Grosse Pointer, is a teacher at Grosse Pointe South High School, where their son, John, is a student.

The art on the walls is



The Big Salad Founder and CEO John Bornoty sits with students, clockwise, Joe Guido, Hayden McGraw, Dan Palmer and Anaijah White, discussing a marketing strategy for the team's project.

PHOTOS BY JOHN MCTAGGART

provided by Monteith Elementary School.

"It's a natural way to give back, by working with the schools," Bornoty said. "We wouldn't be here if this community didn't embrace us. It's just a very unique community. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else."

Bornoty said he hopes to continue the project with North and look for other schools in the Pointes and in towns with The Big Salad locations.

"This has been the longest job of my career," he said. "It's been the most rewarding, even though it's been less money and much more work."

"It's worth it to enjoy your career and being able to share with the students gets them out of the classroom and gives



them a little taste of what it's like. I'm enjoying this and I think many of them are, too."

"I absolutely love it," said student McKenzie Obermok. "It's really a lot of fun."

Obermok and fellow classmates Joe Guido, Hayden McGraw, Dan Palmer and Anaijah White spent the day Tuesday, Dec. 16, at The Big Salad.

Bornoty was there for

support as they marketed their creation up and down Mack Avenue.

"You have to apply a strategy," McGraw said. "It's a lot of work."

And for Bornoty, a lot of fun.

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JURY:

Continued from page 3A

two days after Jane Bashara's body was found in the backseat of her Mercedes SUV in an alley in Detroit.

In fact, Bob Bashara picked up the closing packet from the Realtor the afternoon of the murder.

Defense attorney Michael McCarthy, in his closing argument, challenged that notion.

"The prosecution says Mr. Bashara needed Jane dead in order to close on the house, but that is not true. In fact,

Mr. Bashara had no intention of closing on that house, he was just stringing Rachel along. He knew he could sweet talk Rachel and she would be fine."

McCarthy said the Realtors involved in the transaction testified against Bashara because, "they had a legitimate beef against him because he never closed on the house" and they never received their commission.

In fact, McCarthy said, Bob Bashara did not want his wife dead because, "she was his golden goose." He cited the large discrepancy in their incomes, with Jane earning nearly \$95,000 in 2011 against Bob Bashara's \$20,000.

"Bob was living a great comfortable life while being supported by Jane," McCarthy said. "He's got it good and she

gave it to him. This gave him leisure time to do his good deeds with the Rotary, St. Michael's Church and Grosse Pointe South."

McCarthy said Bashara never had any intention of marrying Rachel Gillett.

"He would continue to live his double life, and Rachel would go along with it, just as she always had," he said.

McCarthy said there was a rush to judgment in naming Bashara a suspect in his wife's death.

"The police wanted him and they wanted him bad," McCarthy said. "Why? Because he lied to them. He didn't tell them about his girlfriend or the BDSM lifestyle. Why? Because he was embarrassed. He wasn't thinking clearly."

The murder of his wife caused, "a huge problem he didn't create."

In June 2012, Bashara was arrested for attempting to hire a hitman to kill Gentz. While prosecutors allege Bashara wanted Gentz dead so he could not testify against him, McCarthy said that Bashara wanted Gentz dead as revenge for murdering his wife. He also feared Gentz was going to frame him.

Bashara continued in his efforts to have Gentz killed, even after he was incarcerated at the Oaks Correctional Facility in Manistee, allegedly soliciting the assistance of his then-cellmate.

Not so, according to the defense, explaining payments Bashara made to his cellmates's jail account were for other reasons.

"Bob, a white man from Grosse Pointe, found himself in a dangerous place at the Oaks," McCarthy said. "The money put on his account from Bob was to buy Bob protection."

Prosecutor Robert Moran challenged both the idea that Bashara wanted Gentz dead for revenge and out of fear he was going to be framed.

"Joe Gentz couldn't frame a picture, let alone Bob Bashara," Moran said in his rebuttal remarks.

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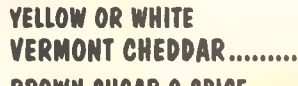
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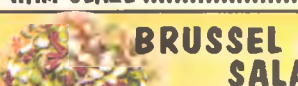
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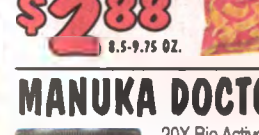
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LB.



\$2.99
LB.



5/\$5



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EA.



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LB.



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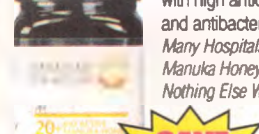
2/\$3
12 OZ. BTL.



\$2.88
12 OZ. BTL.



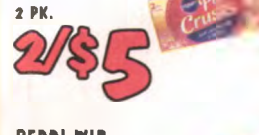
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12 OZ. BTL.



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LONG BOX



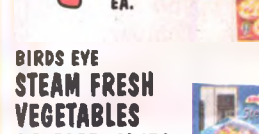
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8.5-9.75 OZ.



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\$3.99-\$19.99



2/\$5
2 PK.



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5-8 OZ.

2/\$7
48 OZ.

\$3.99
2-6 PK.

\$5.99
LB. CHUNKS

\$12.99
LB.

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6A | BUSINESS

Bluefin Sushi Bar to double in size

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A restaurateur on Mack is gobbling up adjoining property to double the size of his Bluefin Sushi Bar.

Expansion into former office space provides room for nearly 60 patrons.

Investing in the restaurant, in the 18500 block of Mack between Touraine and Calvin,

benefits the neighborhood and Grosse Pointe Farms at large, according to supporters.

"We will increase foot traffic along Mack," said David Draper, an attorney representing Bluefin owner Joel Radu, of the Farms. "It's a significant investment, which should raise the tax base (and) property values of neighbors, whether homeowners or businesses along the block."

Radu's plan required

city council approval to count nearby on-street parking toward the larger business' minimum parking needs.

Farms parking standards require one space for every two people allowed in the business under maximum occupancy.

"Maximum occupancy for the proposed restaurant is 59 people," according to a report by the city's planning consultant, McKenna Associates. "The required parking is 30 spaces."

"There are 49 on-site and off-street public parking spaces available within 300 feet of the building," according to a parking survey by Terry Brennan, Farms public service director.

"The parking committee felt there was sufficient parking," said Councilwoman Therese Joseph, chair of the parking and traffic committee.

The survey also concluded peak demand for the restaurant, 6 to 7 p.m., doesn't conflict with peak parking demand for adjacent retail and offices uses, which is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Municipal approval wasn't open-ended.

Terms require the restaurant maintain a clean refuse enclosure, provide adequate outdoor lighting behind the building and improved landscaping in front.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Cornwall Bakery

Cornwall Bakery, 15215 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park, uses natural ingredients in its made-from-scratch artisan breads and European pastries. Staff can design custom specialty and wedding cakes. The business offers soups and sandwiches for dining in or to go, coffees, teas and juices. Gluten-free items also are available. At ribbon cutting ceremonies with the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce are, from left, chamber board member Joe Hebeke, Park city councilwoman Laurie Arora, Park city planner Fred Rotach, owner Megan Gunnell, Hannah Gunnell, owner Freeman Gunnell, Elliott Gunnell, Park city manager Dale Krajniak, Park city councilman Jim Robson, Park city councilman Bob Denner and chamber executive director Jenny Boettcher. For more information, call (313) 264-1938.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Clairepointe Family Chiropractic

Clairepointe Family Chiropractic, 18720 Mack, Suite 120, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers chiropractic adjustments, digital X-rays, massage therapy, nutrition expertise and assists people to better health. Celebrating ribbon cutting ceremonies with the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce are from left, Farms city manager Shane Reeside, chamber executive director Jenny Boettcher, owner Lori Shoemaker, Farms mayor James Farquhar, owner Dr. Gary Shoemaker, Katie Marquardt, Sarah Catanzaro, Marla Antone, Jenny Utley and Amy Stopczynski. For more information or an appointment, call (313) 886-8030 or visit clairepointe.com.

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Career criminal's day in court

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Frederick Alex Schmerheim arrived to municipal court a little sooner than expected mid-morning Wednesday Oct. 22.

His preliminary hearing on a home invasion charge wouldn't start for a few minutes.

Until then, officers bringing him from the Wayne County Jail sat him at the defendant's table, wrists cuffed.

He wore faded and worn, forest green county pants, jail-issue grayish-white slippers and a white T-shirt from his father.

Short sleeves exposed tattoos on his right arm of a mermaid, wizard and girls and, on the left, another wizard.

A preliminary hearing is when prosecutors must convince a judge a crime was committed and the defendant probably did it.

If not, that's it. Prosecution over.

Schmerheim killed time by kibitzing with Grosse Pointe Farms Detective Bryan Ford about the Detroit Lions' surprising come-from-behind victory the preceding Sunday against the New Orleans Saints.

"It's about time they did something," said Schmerheim, a 38-year-old habitual criminal from St. Clair Shores.

"I was listening on the radio," Ford said, standing a few feet to Schmerheim's right.

His tone was noncommittal.

"They made a field goal," Schmerheim said.

"Yeah," Ford said, resting his right palm on an elevated desk that doubles during trials as a witness stand.

"All rise," interrupted the bailiff, announcing the entrance of Farms Municipal Judge Matthew Rumora.

"Here's some paperwork on him," Ford told the judge and court clerk.

A lull of several minutes followed while Rumora left the courtroom to review the case.

Schmerheim is accused of breaking into a woman's house Sept. 8 in the 300 block of Chalfonte and stealing \$17,650 worth of her possessions, including jewelry and a pink rain coat.

Police traced him from fingerprint evidence at the scene.

Schmerheim is a drug user. His high of choice is from heroin.

Except for some gray-ing at the temples, he hasn't aged much since last being in Farms court Feb. 6, 2013, for a preliminary on a car theft.

He waived that hearing, pleaded guilty shortly thereafter in Wayne County Circuit Court and served a minimum one-year sentence.

This time, he was arrested Thursday, Oct. 9, by Michigan Department of Corrections officers for failing a drug test while on parole from an attempted theft in July of landscaping equipment from a truck parked on Mack in the City of Grosse Pointe, across from Detroit.

Farms police tracked him down the next day at MDOC's Ryan Reentry Center, formerly the Ryan Correctional Facility.

"I was at a treatment center," Schmerheim told Ford. "If they had just gotten me in that treat-

"They got me out at Sacred Heart," Schmerheim said, reciting recent residences as a guest of the state. "That's a nice place. They brought me to Ryan and to you guys."

The pecking order of detention facilities puts city jails at the bottom for comfort.

Prisoners generally favor state prisons over county jails, both of which are relatively well-appointed and have better food than the Farms holding cell, a pink cinderblock room with a cement bench covered by a thin mat, stainless steel

sink and toilet, pay phone and green Izod alligator painted mockingly on the wall.

"Yeah," Ford said. "Well, it would be nice if you could work it so you could go back to MDOC."

"That's really not going to make a difference," Schmerheim said.

Soon after his arrest, Farms police suspected he committed nine overnight burglaries plus numerous additional larcenies from parked cars since September.

Investigators soon realized, however, he was responsible for only the one on Chalfonte.

Home invasion normally carries a 15-year maximum penalty.

Because Schmerheim is a habitual offender, he

faces life in prison.

He asked Ford about the investigation into

See COURT, page 10A

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The benefit information provided is a brief summary, not a complete description of benefits. For more information, contact HAP. Limitations, copayment and restrictions may apply. Benefits, copayments/coinsurance may change January 1 of each year.

Grosse Pointe News

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

LETTERS

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.

Issues with DTE Energy

To the Editor:
While I was reading the license that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued for the Fermi 3 nuclear reactor to be built, I could not help but think about Nazi Germany issuing new laws before they committed their crimes. Everything they ever did was legal.
And now it will be legal for DTE Energy to rapidly increase the algae blooms that Fermi 2 and DTE's coal fired are now causing. It will be legal for more cooling towers to suck in live fish and millions of fish larvae and fish eggs, and then heat the waters to attract more invasive species.
During construction of Fermi 3, it will also be legal to block the entrances where fish and eels swim inland to spawn. It will be legal to store all the high level radioactive waste onsite forever. It will be legal to kill Lake Erie.
So, now that the government will license Fermi 3 – and the extension of Fermi 2's operating license will be coming shortly, one would think Citizens' Resistance At Fermi Two (CRAFT) would just stand down and

give up the fight. However, our whole region is endangered; therefore we have no option but to continue doing our part to save it.
JESSIE PAULINE COLLINS
Redford

Accountability for police officers

To the Editor:
As a Christian, I believe we are all made in the image of God – and that means every life matters and that all life deserves respect and certain civil rights.
However, our justice system is currently sending black people the message that their lives do not matter the same way that others do.
Unarmed blacks are being killed by police at a much higher rate than whites, and this is unacceptable.
Fear and distrust of people who don't look like us is all too common, and it's a sin. We can and must do better.
Because of my faith, I add my voice to those boldly proclaiming that black lives matter.
New levels of accountability for police officers and justice for their victims is required if anything is going to change.
SHERYL SMITH
Livonia

Editor's note:

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Dec. 25 edition of the Grosse Pointe News will be delivered on Wednesday, Dec. 24.
The online version of the paper also will be posted a day early.
The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19.

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GUEST OPINION By Greg Zyla



Texting and driving: A national nightmare

Last week, I reported again on the sad story of "The Saga of Young Joe," a vibrant 21-year-old who lost his life in an alcohol related single car accident. This week, we follow up with how Joe also became a statistic in the National Highway Safety Administration group of fatalities and crashes directly related to cell phone and texting use behind the wheel.
If you recall last week's "Saga of young Joe" column, Joe was also interrupted and distracted by his cell phone when he failed to negotiate the sharp curve at high speed. This new statistic shows cell phone use and texting while driving causes somewhere near 20-percent of all accidents reported, not just the fatal ones.
The NHTSA recently unveiled its new "distraction-affected crashes" data and it's troubling. The organization lists "distracted driving" as any driver who texts, uses a cell or smart phone, eats and drinks, talks to passengers, grooms oneself, reads, uses a navigation system, watches a video or adjusts a car stereo system, CD or MP3.
However, NHTSA stresses that sending and receiving text messages requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention, and is by far the most alarming distraction drivers engage in on a regular basis.
Further, NHTSA says 71 percent of teens and young people say they have composed/sent

messages while driving and 78 percent of teens and young adults say they have read a message while driving. These statistics are extremely troubling as just about every driver on the highway nowadays has seen people texting and weaving on the road.
With most every state banning the use of hand held texting while driving, it is important to look at how texting has affected the way people communicate in the modern era. As of December 2013, monthly averages of 153.3 billion text messages were sent in the United States. The year prior, an estimated 421,000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver, which is a nine percent increase from the estimated 387,000 people injured the prior year. As sobering as these numbers are, expect the numbers to go higher when the latest numbers are released as more and more young drivers join the driver database.
According to the NHTSA, the age group that produces the highest number of distracted drivers is the under-20 age group, where 16 percent of all drivers younger than 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported to have been distracted while driving. Of those drivers involved in fatal crashes who were reportedly distracted, the 30- to 39-year-olds had the highest proportion of cell phone

involvement.
Here are more extremely disturbing facts compiled by NHTSA, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Occupant Protection Use Survey.
1. Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55mph, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded.
2. A quarter of teens respond to a text message once or more every time they drive, and 20 percent of teens and 10 percent of parents admit they have extended, multi-message text conversations while driving.
3. At any given daylight moment across America, approximately 660,000 drivers are using cell phones or manipulating electronic devices while driving.
4. Engaging in visual-manual subtasks (such as reaching for a phone, dialing and texting) associated with the use of hand-held phones and other portable devices increased the risk of getting into a crash by 300 percent.
5. Drivers in their 20s make up 27 percent of the distracted drivers in fatal crashes.
6. Currently, 44 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands ban text messaging for drivers of all ages; 12 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands prohibit drivers of all ages from using hand-

held cell phones while driving and 37 states and Washington, D.C. ban all cell phone use by novice drivers.
7. Perhaps the worst statistic of all, nearly 50 percent of high school students text while driving. The CDC says that parental supervision is needed up front, and hopefully will offset the "it's not going to happen to me" or "teens are invincible" line of immature thinking.
In summary, texting while driving has become as serious a problem as driving while intoxicated. More and more campaigns, starting in grade school, should be implemented to help curb this obsession with the cell phone and texting. Educators are urged to contact the NHTSA as campaigns and videos are available to get to the problem before students receive their driver permits.
Further, auto manufacturers should consider eliminating "distractions" such as options that impact driver awareness like confusing touchscreen video/stereo displays, cumbersome climate and navigation systems and other ancillary entertainment systems.
As we all enjoy these holiday weeks, please drive safely, and have a very happy New Year. Thanks also to NHTSA, distracted.gov website and all the other organizations that provided important statistics for these annual Saga of Young Joe and Distracted Driving columns.

Send us Santa photos

Just in time for Christmas, send us your Santa photos. We'll publish some of the best we see in the next edition of the Grosse Pointe News. Whether it's Santa with your children, grandchildren, pets or spouse, send a large image (nothing from Facebook, etc., please), to jwarner@grossepointenews.com. Include the name of those with Santa, along with a hometown.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Aiden Marentette, Santa's helper, was making out his Christmas list when he was surprised by Santa, who wanted to see this list.

City of Grosse Pointe

Grab 'n' go

An unknown man took a five-finger discount last week on a \$1,000 Microsoft Surface Pro 3 tablet at a store in the 17400 block of Mack.

The theft was reported at 1:04 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10.

"(A witness) stated the suspect was looking around the store for several minutes," said a public safety officer. "He ripped the tablet out of the display and ran out the front door across Mack (into Detroit)."

The man wore a black vest, black shirt over a white shirt, blue jeans and black knit hat.

He entered a black car in an alley.

"The car fled westbound out of sight," said the officer, referencing a witness. "The (store) manager provided us a copy of the surveillance tape, which shows the suspect entering and exiting the location."

Caught

A City detective and female public safety officer went to a residence in the 900 block of Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods shortly before 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, to arrest a 24-year-old woman for violating probation.

"(A) search of the subject found drug paraphernalia in (her) bra," police said.

Officers confiscated a glass pipe, crack spoon and syringe, they said.

Out of it

A 33-year-old woman from Georgia gave a bad first impression during a drunken driving investigation on Waterloo near Lincoln at 2:26 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9.

"She had a blank, disassociated, sleepy stare

and mumbled and slurred her words," said the arresting officer.

The officer pulled her over for weaving a white 2011 Chevrolet Cruze and nearly hitting two vehicles parked on Notre Dame.

She reportedly smelled of alcohol and failed a series of sobriety tests.

She refused to take a Breathalyzer test, prompting officers to obtain a search warrant for her blood to be drawn and tested for alcohol content, they said.

Say cheese

City police often refer to evidence recorded by their body cameras when citing or arresting offenders.

At 3:34 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Officer Joe Adams went to a house in the 500 block of St. Clair regarding a 26-year-old man's alleged repeated calls to 911 for non-emergency reasons.

The man wanted a ride to the hospital for detoxification, according to police.

"(He) is the same subject officers have been dealing with all weekend," Adams said.

Police reportedly warned him several times of consequences for calling 911 falsely.

"(He) understood and admitted into (my) bodycam that he was receiving (a) citation because he continued to call 911 approximately a half-dozen times," Adams said.

—Brad Lindberg
Report information about these or other crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Department at

(313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

In custody

A Farms patrolman went to Harper Woods police headquarters Saturday, Dec. 13, to take custody of a 17-year-old Macomb Township man on suspicion of committing larceny from an automobile.

Fingerprint evidence tied him to bicycle thefts and attempted auto thefts on Fisher early Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Drunk & wanted

A 47-year-old female motorist, wanted on "a few misdemeanor warrants" in her hometown of Detroit, was arrested on Mack at Fisher shortly after 12:30 a.m. Friday Dec. 12, for driving drunk, according to Farms police.

Her blood alcohol level measured .169 percent, police said.

Wrecker

A drunken male driver caused a wreck last week on the Hill, according to police.

Officers arrested the man, 52, of Chesterfield, shortly before 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, in the 300 block of Kercheval.

He had a .205 percent blood alcohol level and two empty wine bottles in his 2013 Dodge Journey, police said.

Bad helper

A middle-aged homeless man of unconfirmed name is accused of steal-

ing a black 2013 Dodge Dart four-door rented in Detroit by his benefactor, a 61-year-old Detroit man.

The theft was reported shortly before 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage in the Farms.

The benefactor told police he met the man 24 hours earlier panhandling at the intersection of 8 Mile and I-75 in Detroit.

The Detroit man reportedly hired him as a personal assistant for \$50 per day.

Duties included accompanying the Detroit man to a medical appointment at Cottage.

Told to park the car, the homeless man stole it, the victim told police.

The car contained two checks for \$14,400 and \$4,400, the victim's "second wallet" and a large supply of pain medication, he reportedly told police.

Drugs & beer

Police cited two 19-year-old women from Macomb County for drug and alcohol possession during a traffic stop on westbound Mack near Shelbourne at 10:11 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8.

Citations included possession of 1.4 grams of marijuana, a grinder, bong and 24 cans of beer.

—Brad Lindberg
Report information about these or other crimes to the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department at (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Shores

Up in smoke

A patrolman reported "an overwhelming odor (of) burnt marijuana" coming from the passenger compartment of a car operated by a 23-year-old Detroit man, pulled over at 10:17 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, for a traffic violation on northbound Lakeshore at Hawthorne.

"(The driver) stated there's only a tiny bit (of marijuana) left," said the officer.

The driver explained he and a 23-year-old female passenger from Detroit "smoked the rest," according to the officer.

Police arrested the man for violating two driving suspensions.

They cited the woman for possessing an open bottle of vodka in a motor vehicle.

Crash injury

Medics treated a 53-year-old Roseville man involved in an auto accident at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at the intersection of Lakeshore and Vernier.

Police cited him for

careless driving.

His 2013 Ford Escape wound up through the iron fence of Osius Park.

Medics stabilized him and took him to a hospital.

2nd incident

Police learned last week someone two weeks earlier entered an unlocked car parked overnight Nov. 26, in the driveway of a house on Willow Tree Place.

Nothing was stolen, the owner reported to police, but a disposable cigarette lighter was left behind.

"(The victim) handled the lighter since the incident, so it was not held for (finger) prints," reported an officer.

The incident happened the same night a South Deeplands homeowner determined someone entered his unlocked SUV parked in the driveway. He detected cigarette ash on the driver's seat and a faint odor of cigarette smoke.

Nothing curious about that, except: "The owner does not smoke," said a public safety officer at the time.

Well done

A rib and bratwurst barbecue near the activities center garage at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford

See REPORTS, page 10A

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Grosse Pointe News

10A | NEWS

COURT:

Continued from page 7A

other home invasions.

"Are you having more problems with that one case? The night crawler?"

"Yeah," Ford said. "I was working last Monday night. I didn't get anything."

"It's going to be hard to do, man," Schmerheim said. "You have to figure out where is he crossing from Detroit."

"He can only come from one way," Ford said.

"He's probably walking right, across Alter," Schmerheim said.

"Yeah, you never know," Ford said. "You can speculate all you want, but you're not going to know the truth until it comes."

A court-appointed defense attorney, Kimberly Novak, a former staff attorney with Legal Aid and Defender, consulted with Schmerheim about waiving the preliminary hearing and taking the case downtown to circuit court.

Ford asked Schmerheim about his father dropping off extra T-shirts to wear instead of jail garb.

"He's not taking it too well," Schmerheim answered.

"Yeah, well, I don't



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Sitting at the defendant's table, home invasion suspect Frederick Alex Schmerheim, chats with Grosse Pointe Farms Detective Bryan Ford in Farms Municipal Court.

think any father would," Ford said.

"I brought all this on myself," Schmerheim said.

"You're owning it, man," Ford told him.

"Stupid," Schmerheim said. "Such a waste."

"You're 38," Ford said. "You can turn around. Now, if you were 50-something..."

"It just seems pretty grim right now," Schmerheim said.

Ford's heard it before; a longtime offender mouthing regret when cornered into paying the piper.

"You're almost retired, man," Ford said, recount-

ing out loud his conversation with the 50-something. "Not you," he assured Schmerheim, "but this other guy I was telling. The same crap."

The defense attorney asked Schmerheim how to pronounce his name.

"Is it 'smear-hime?'" she asked, sounding it out.

"SCH-mear-hime," he confirmed.

She stood to his left. They conferred about waiving the prelim,

pleading guilty in circuit court and being sentenced to drug treatment.

"They want you to come in monthly for treatments," Novak said.

"Seeing as how I don't have any violence or anything like that ..."

Schmerheim said. "If you have something violent in your history, most times they don't accept you into that type of program," she said.

"All rise," interrupted the bailiff, announcing the return of Judge Rumora.

"The People vs. Frederick Schmerheim," Rumora announced.

"Good morning, your

honor. Prosecutor Blair Moody for the people," Moody said.

"Good morning, your honor. Kimberly Novak on behalf of Frederick Schmerheim. I've discussed this matter with my client, explained to him his rights and the purposes of a preliminary examination. At this time, he has decided to waive his right to a preliminary examination and have this matter waived up to circuit court."

"Is that correct, Mr. Schmerheim?" Rumora asked him.

"Yes, sir."

A few questions and answers later, Rumora continued Schmerheim's \$100,000 cash-only bond and scheduled his arraignment in Wayne County Circuit Court. Wednesday, Oct. 29.

"OK, that would conclude the hearing," Rumora said.

Call leads to drugs

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Evidence compiled against an alleged wife-beating cocaine user includes white residue up his nose.

"(He) lifted his head and had a white powdery substance inside his right nostril, which appeared to be cocaine," said Grosse Pointe Farms Officer James Lebeau, booking resident Robert Anthony Ermanni, 37, at headquarters early Friday, Dec. 12.

Initial charges included possession of less than 25 grams of cocaine, a four-year felony; and domestic violence, a misdemeanor.

Ermanni spent the weekend in the Farms holding cell until being arraigned Monday afternoon, Dec. 15.

The domestic violence charge never came through because his wife, 36, requested it be dropped, according to Detective Lt. Richard Rosati.

Ermanni only faces the felony possession charge.

His wife summoned officers to their house on Kerby Court at 1:44 a.m. to report a domestic assault in progress, according to police.

"(She) stated her husband is highly intoxicated off alcohol and cocaine," Lebeau said. "(She) advised (me that he) hit her in the nose with a closed left fist and

continued to hit her repeatedly."

Lebeau noted a "bump" on the right side of her nose and a bleeding foot.

She refused medical transport, police said.

The alleged assault reportedly happened in the presence of their son, 8; the wife's adult female friend and her son, 7.

"(The wife) said (her husband) has assaulted her many times and it's a recurring issue," Lebeau said.

"It's the second time he's been arrested for assault," Rosati said.

"The first time, a few months ago, she wanted to drop the charges."

Police investigating Friday's incident said Ermanni denied hitting her.

She turned over his cocaine supply (.3 grams) and a rolled-up \$5 bill, Lebeau said.

Another patrolman on scene, Richard Rosati, the detective's son, searched Ermanni.

"(I) located a small bag with white powder inside of it and rolled-up \$5 bills, in the shape of a tube, with white powdery residue on the inside of them," Officer Rosati said.

"(I) located the evidence in (the) top left inner pocket of his tan suit coat."

The bag's content weighed .7 grams and, like all suspected cocaine confiscated during the initial investigation, tested positive for the drug, police said.

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REPORTS:

Continued from page 9A

Estate triggered a fire

alarm at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

"Wind was blowing smoke from the meat into the garage, activating the fire alarm,"

according to a public safety officer.

Officers relocated the portable grill and aired out the garage with a fan.

"Shortly after turning on the fan, the alarm stopped sounding and appeared to reset itself," reported an officer.

— Brad Lindberg

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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Red and white are two colors of poinsettias visitors will see at the conservatory.

By Ann L. Fouty
Community Editor

A burst of color from 600 poinsettias in the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory on Belle Isle chases the day's gloom away.

Horticulturist Jeremy Kemp said it took two days to set out the seven varieties of poinsettias, the traditional Christmas flower. Cyclamen, with its upswep petals, provide one of the display's accents. A native to Europe, the cyclamen adds colors of hot pink, lavender, purple, and red to the holiday presentation in the show house room.

The poinsettia show is second only to the Easter lily show in popularity, said volunteer Jan Ellison.

"There are all different colors and sizes (of poinsettias). The volunteers from the (Belle Isle) conservancy decorated the 12-foot tree" in the vestibule, she said. Visiting the conservatory is a great family outing, Ellison added.

Jim Kemp of Royal Oak had driven a group of senior citizens from a midtown senior facility to see the array.

"To be in the presence of all this greenery at this time of year in Michigan," Jim Kemp said as he looked at a wall



Hundreds of poinsettias line three sides of the show house room at the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory on Belle Isle.

Nature's Christmas colors

banked with dozens of red, white and pink poinsettias, trees and a few orchids. "There is so much life here while our trees are sleeping. It's a breath of summer."

The poinsettia is native to Mexico and Pacific coast and doesn't like water on its leaves, Kemp said. Therefore, the watering process is done with a hose and water is sprayed under the leaves. The leaves rot if water gets on them, he said. It is the plant's leaves providing colors of deep red, cream, pink, green and marbled. The poinsettia's flower is relatively small, but the leaves are what attract the eye.

"This is festive without being gaudy," Kemp said.

Since poinsettias are short, height had to be added to the display. Kemp and his crew found three trees cut down as the Department of Natural Resources staff cleaned under brush. The leafless trees were hand-painted white and strategically inserted in the show house room's display.



A light pink orchid grows beside a red poinsettia.

Raised in the Detroit area, Kemp spent time as a horticulturist in New York and Lincoln Park, Ill. He is eager to improve the 110-year conservatory replacing plants with more manageable sized plants because branches have been

pushing glass ceiling panels out. He points to the banana tree that should be replaced, as well as a few citrus trees.

The heating system is another needed improvement. "The structure is OK. There are many heating issues,"



Recycled and painted trees add another dimension to the poinsettia display.

Kemp said. The former diesel-powered furnaces are being replaced for efficiency, to get rid of the diesel smell and stabilize the temperature for the plants and for the resident raccoon who lives under the foliage near the fountain of a girl holding a pan. She was recently refurbished and returned to her garden spot after an absence of five months.

The one-acre conservatory was designed by Albert Kahn and is surrounded by a 13-acre section of land that includes gardens with perennials and roses and a lily pond.

"It's a lot of fun and it's pretty," Ellison added. "The conservatory is unique to the area. Only two or three states have one."

The conservatory is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Christmas eve day and New Year's Eve day. Admission is free. The conservatory is closed Christmas day and New Year's Day.



Ann Jerome, left, and Pat Duerr consider a sparkly holiday top for Jerome to try on. Duerr is a Full Circle volunteer and teaches yoga. The shop is located at 17006 Mack, City of Grosse Pointe, providing Grosse Pointe students an opportunity to learn merchandising and retail sales. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Holiday shopping

Full Circle Foundation's resale shop hosted an open house Dec. 2 during which guests could select holiday clothing and decorations. The store is run by special needs students as a way to learn a life skill. William and Susan Presser get a raffle ticket from Byron Howard during the open house.



Trish Ament of Grosse Pointe Woods purchased seven magnets for her book club at Full Circle's open house. Ferry Elementary special needs students created the magnets. Nadiya Samhat, in back, is a special needs assistant.

Falling Oil and Gas Prices



Suzanne Antonelli, CFP®
Senior Portfolio Manager

As of December 15th the average price of a gallon of gas in Michigan had fallen to \$2.43 and crude oil prices fell to less than \$60 a barrel (over a 37% decline this year) for the first time since July 2009. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) announced last week that it will not slow production to raise the global price of oil;

there had been speculation that the organization would cut production in an attempt to bring the price back up.

For quite some time Sigma's Investment Committee has been discussing that North America was well on its way to energy independence. Domestic production of crude oil and natural gas is on the rise and there is a surplus of oil in the market, primarily from shale oil production in the United States. As investment advisors the short and long term affects of falling oil prices and increased production is monitored and analyzed to determine how markets and the economy will be affected.

In the near term, falling prices at the gas pump

provides an increase in disposable income for most consumers; the low prices provide a stimulus to the economy unlike any of the tax breaks we have seen in recent years. This is good news for retailers as recovering consumer confidence and increased spending should boost the economy. Other positive effects of low energy prices can be found on the bottom line of many companies whose cost of production or cost to transport their goods to market have decreased.

But what are the negative effects of lower oil prices? The S&P 500 Energy Index has had a negative 17.03% year to date total return, while the S&P 500 has enjoyed a positive return of over 8%. Energy

stock investors have seen significant declines in their wealth this year.

More importantly, retirees have been negatively impacted. The cost of living (COLA) increase for social security recipients is 1.7 percent for 2015. COLA is tied to the Consumer Price Index, the government's inflation measure, which assumes 9% of total expenditures are on energy. Meanwhile, since seniors likely do not commute to work each day, they may be less likely to enjoy the benefits of a decrease in gas prices. And according to the October 2014 report the index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.8 percent over the last 12 months.

The CPI assumes 7.6%

of expenditures are on medical care, a percentage which is likely higher for seniors. This year the cost of outpatient services has increased 3.95% and inpatient hospital services has increased 4.9%. The lower price of oil and gas has skewed the true cost of living increase for seniors who rely on their social security benefits, and now who likely will experience a lower standard of living next year despite the 1.7% increase in their social security payments.

Many were assuming that OPEC would cut production, however maintaining lower oil prices ultimately benefits OPEC because lower prices discourage exploration and expansion of production here in the United States

and globally. What is the equilibrium price of oil? That is difficult to estimate, but the nature of the oil business has changed and will continue to change. OPEC no longer holds sway over the market and likely gas and oil prices will remain lower long into 2015 and beyond.

Enjoy your holidays with family and friends!

Suzanne has over 20 years of experience in personalized portfolio management, tax and retirement planning, risk management, and estate plan execution and funding. She specializes in the unique financial needs of families, retirees, and women. Phone: 248-223-0122 Email: santonelli@sigmainvestments.com

2B | COMMUNITY

Local artist has one-man show

By Ann L. Fouty
Community Editor

Artist Carl Demeulenaere's one-man show runs through Jan. 4 at the Flint Institute of Arts.

Titled "Labyrinth: The Circuitous Life of a Miniaturist," the collection of 122 pieces includes drawings, paper folded ornaments, his correspondence with artists in the 1980s and amulets.

"It is a very strange and intriguing show," he said in an e-mail, "which chronicles my life as an eastside Detroit who paints and draws highly detailed works, often enclosing them inside large installations."

Demeulenaere graduated from Finney High School in 1974, attended Wayne State University and lives in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Some of the images on display are loans from Grosse Pointers Babette Pierce-Lumley, Vivian Day and John Stroh III and Andrew and Gayle Camden.

The exhibit in a rectangular room, measuring 43-by-23-feet, includes three tables covered with Plexiglas to house the ornaments, letters and amulets.

The institute is located at 1120 E. Kearsely, Flint.



Artist Carl Demeulenaere



This drawing, with a touch of gold leaf, is on loan from Babette Pierce-Lumley of Grosse Pointe and is titled "Scarlet Ibis, 2009." It is set in a 100-year-old frame and measures 3 1/2 inches high.



PHOTO BY JOHN MINNIS

Happy birthday

Pete Higbie observed his 90th birthday Dec. 8 and was feted by his fellow Grosse Pointe Rotarians. A slice of cake topped with a lit candle and a serenade by Rotary members were part of the lunch time celebration. Higbie has been a Rotarian for 49 years and served as its president in 1975-76. He and his wife, Joan, live in Grosse Pointe Farms.

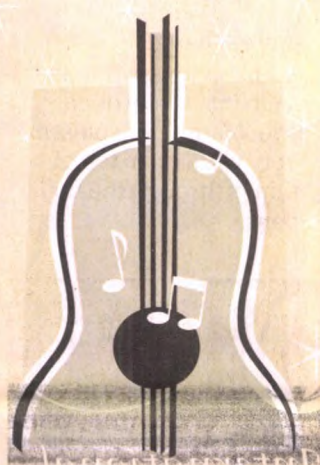
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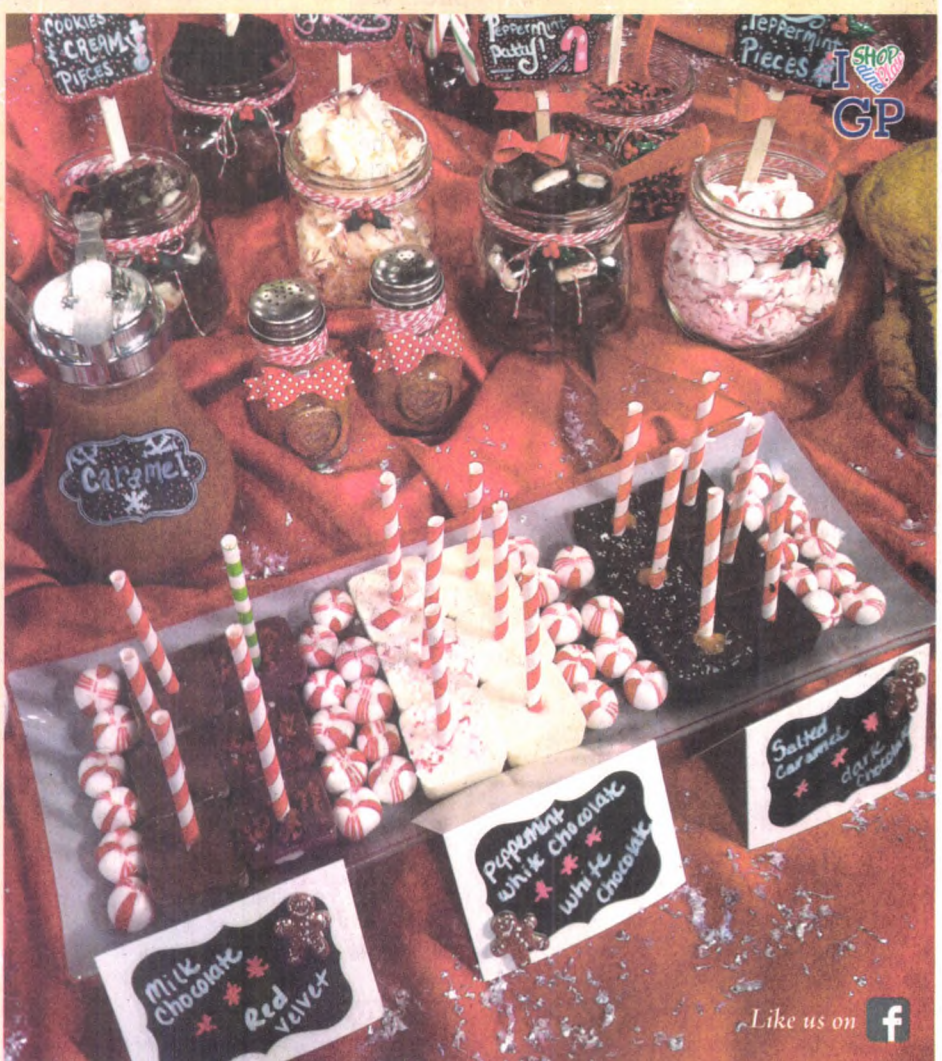


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AREA ACTIVITIES

BNI

Business Network International meets at 7 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20388 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Contact Ryan Marier at (313) 638-7526 for more information about this business-oriented group.

SOC

Volunteers are needed by Services for Older Citizens to deliver meals at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 25.

To volunteer, contact Heidi at huhl@socservices.org.

Blood drive

An American Red Cross blood drive is from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at St. John



Los Angeles Philharmonic principal cellist Robert deMaine.

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To make an appointment, visit redcross.org and use the sponsor code stjoh13. For more information, call Cindy at (313) 343-3680.



New board

Fine Arts Society of Detroit's board members are, from left, Lisa Lechniak of Grosse Pointe Park, Gary Miller of Grosse Pointe Shores, Diana Jones-Kirby of Grosse Pointe Woods, Dave Wojtan, president Bill McCarthy, Eric Rettig, Donna Ridella, Steve Shrader of Grosse Pointe Park and Patti Phillips. The organization was founded in 1906 to promote the arts. For more information, visit fineartsdetroit.org.

War Memorial

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial hosts violinist Hai-Xin Wu, pianist Zhihua Tang and cellist Robert deMaine at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28.

The cost for concert and dinner following is

\$50. To make a reservation, visit warmemorial.org.

DeMaine is the Los Angeles Philharmonic's principal cellist. Wu is the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's concert mas-

City foundation

Grosse Pointe City Foundation, in partnership with The Hill

Restaurant, hosts a hockey game between high school hockey and former Detroit Red Wings players from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, at the Grosse Pointe Community Rink.

An all-star team made up of members of the Grosse Pointe South High School girls and boys hockey teams will skate against former Red Wings players.

Advance tickets cost \$15 and may be purchased at Fifth Third Bank, 66 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, Adlhoeh & Associates, 19515 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods or South's athletic department or coaches.

Tickets at the door cost \$20.

Proceeds benefit the Grosse Pointe City Foundation and South's ice hockey teams.

A LA ANNIE By Annie Rouleau-Scheriff

Share some, save some biscotti



PHOTO BY ANNIE ROULEAU-SCHERIFF

Michigan dried cherries make this a special biscotti to be shared.

For the past several years decorated sugar cookies have been my Christmas cookie of choice. This year I've decided to switch things up and bring biscotti to the annual exchange. My biscotti is packed with Michigan dried cherries and pecans. This not so sweet treat makes a perfect "dunker" for fresh brewed coffee or tea.

Michigan Biscotti with Dried Cherries and Pecans

2 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup white cornmeal
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup pecan pieces
1 cup dried cherries
2 eggs plus 2 egg whites
1 teaspoon EACH vanilla, almond and orange extract
2 tablespoons melted butter

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease one large or two small baking sheets and set aside. In a large mixing bowl combine flour, sugar, white corn meal, baking soda, salt, pecans and cherries.

In a small bowl combine eggs, egg whites, vanilla, almond and orange extracts with melted butter. Add to dry ingredients and, using an electric mixer, mix until well combined. Dough will be sticky.

Working over a greased bake sheet, divide dough into two halves. Shape each dough half into a 12-inch long, 2-inch wide and 3/4-inch high log.

Allow plenty of space for the cookie logs to

spread out during baking.

Bake for 25 minutes, until golden brown. Remove from oven, transfer bake sheet to a cooling rack to rest for 10 minutes.

Carefully transfer logs to a cutting board and using a sharp knife first trim edges then cut into 3/4 inch slices.

Place slices on their side, back on baking sheet and return to the oven for 5 minutes. Flip cookies and bake for 5 more minutes.

Remove from oven and transfer to a cooling rack to cool completely.

Store in an airtight container for up to one



month in a cool place. Don't worry about your "logs" being perfect. The wider the log, the longer the biscotti. The yield is

20 to 36 cookies.

The extract combination is very flavorful. Michigan biscotti will be a well received cookie at any exchange.

Finish the biscotti with a dip into white or dark chocolate, if you please. You will stay on top of things through the holidays.

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Holiday Happy Hour
Sat., December 20
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Thanks to Harvey Animal Hospital, City Park, Grosse Pointe Mompreneurs.
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Know Your Skin
By Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, MD

Do you suffer from acne rosacea? If so, you may find that Fall is often one of the good times of year for your condition. But don't let that fool you.

Rosacea is marked by flushing, blushing and facial redness, often associated with "triggers" which cause the condition to flare up. One of the most commonly reported triggers is extremes of weather - hot and humid or dry and cold. Thus the transition through Fall (and Spring as well) often brings some relief to rosacea patients.

With fewer triggers causing flares at this time of year, Fall is a good time to prepare for winter's onset and additional triggers such as stress that come with the approaching holiday season. So what to do?

For patients using topical medications, your physician may recommend seasonal changes, such as switching from gels to creams or lotions

which are more moisturizing. Fall is also a good time to start moisturizing more in anticipation of Winter's harsher dry winds and colder temperatures. And remember to use sunscreen throughout the year.

Compliance in the use of medications and avoidance of triggers is a rosacea patient's best defense against symptom flares. All too often, patients put off treatment when the condition improves, only to experience a major flare-up which then requires more intensive treatment.

To learn more about the treatment of rosacea, contact your dermatologist, or call us at Eastside Dermatology, Dr. Lisa A. Manz-Dulac and Associates.

Eastside Dermatology has offices in Grosse Pointe and New Baltimore. You can reach them at (313) 884-3380.

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OBITUARIES

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

Russell A. Bradley Jr.

Russell A. Bradley Jr. 67, of Grosse Pointe Woods and Algonac, died Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014, at Autumn Woods in Warren.

Known as Joe to family and friends, he was born Dec. 7, 1947, in Detroit, to Russell and Charlotte Bradley. He worked at the North Bay Marine Ltd., New Baltimore. He enjoyed boating, music, especially Elvis Presley, and visits to the family cottage. He loved to walk daily.

Mr. Bradley is survived and will be missed by his sister, Barbara Sullivan (Charles) and nieces and nephews, Katlyn, Courtney, Justin and Steven.

He was predeceased by his parents and brother, David.

A service was held Dec. 12 at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy.

Donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, 1120 G Street Northwest, No. 700, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Share a memory at bcfh.com.

Bonnie Jo Ault

Grosse Pointe Park resident Bonnie Jo Ault, 70, passed away peacefully Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014, in her home.

She was born to Crayton and Rita Rabideau and was raised in St. Clair Shores. She graduated in 1962 from Lakeview High School and completed radiology training at Cottage Hospital in 1965. She worked 45 years as a radiology technologist at several hospitals including Henry Ford, Cottage and Bon Secours, as well as private doctors' offices in the metro Detroit area. She was a member of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists.

Ms. Ault was a crafts-woman with a passion for creating artwork and handmade gifts using textiles, fiber and found materials. Her many talents included sewing, knitting, quilting, weaving, painting and jewelry making. In the 1970s, she helped organize events at Pewabic Pottery.

An outdoor enthusiast who loved spending time along the waterfront, she learned to sail and scuba dive after retiring and was an active member of the Sailing Singles Club. She was an avid collector who enjoyed garage sales, thrift stores, estate sales and antique shops.

Most of all, Ms. Ault was devoted to her daughters and family.

She is survived by her daughters, Heather Ault and Amanda Ault (Hawkeye Parker); brother, Roger Rabideau (Dottie) and ex-husband, Roger Ault.

A memorial service will be held in the spring.

Donations may be made to The Alliance for the Great Lakes at greatlakes.org.

Condolences and memories may be e-mailed to bonnieaultfamily@gmail.com.

Helen Posselius Gilbride

Helen Posselius Gilbride died peacefully at home Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014, surrounded by her loving family. She was 90.

She was the last surviving child of Edward J. Posselius and Adeline Meier Posselius of Indian Village, Detroit. She was predeceased by her husband, Detroit attorney William D. Gilbride.

Mrs. Gilbride attended the Liggett School for Girls in Indian Village, Connecticut College, and the Garland School in Boston. She was a lifetime trustee and devoted member of Tau Beta Association and received its Eloise Jenks Webber award for her many years of meritorious service.

She was especially fond of the Tau Beta Camp and served for many years as the association's treasurer, during which time she was instrumental in managing and overseeing improvements at the camp property. Mrs. Gilbride served in many roles with the Junior League of Detroit over the years and was an ardent supporter of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Detroit Zoological Society.

Mrs. Gilbride loved music and played classical piano. She gave her last recital on her 88th birthday.

She also enjoyed silver smithing, sailing and bicycling, spending summers with family and friends at Pointe Aux Barques and was a long-time member of the Grosse Pointe "Little" Club.

Mrs. Gilbride is survived by her son, William D. Gilbride Jr. Esq. and his wife, Susan Chapelle Gilbride, of Grosse Pointe Park and granddaughters, Emily Mucherie (Sebastien), Kathryn Gilbride and Sarah Gilbride.

She also is survived by her nieces, Francis Williams, Karen Hutchinson and Ellen Fitzgerald, for whom she played a special role after their mother, Mrs. Gilbride's sister, died when they were young.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was predeceased by her sisters, Patricia Fitzgerald and Jean Farley and brothers, Edward Posselius and John H. Posselius.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 13 at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment will be at Pointe Aux Barques Township Cemetery at a private ceremony at a later date.

Donations may be made to Tau Beta Association at taubeta.org, Detroit Symphony Orchestra at dso.org or Detroit Zoological Society at detroitzoo.org.

Juanita Denton Finerty

Grosse Pointe Park resident Juanita Denton Finerty, 90, died Monday, Nov. 10, 2014.

She was born in Buffalo River, Tenn., to Leslie and Elsie Vaughn Denton and attended Lewis County High School. She married James W. Finerty in 1940 and took pride and pleasure in raising their children. She delighted in spending time with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Finerty enjoyed reading and traveling.

Mrs. Finerty is survived by her sons, Michael, Patrick and Timothy; daughters, Taryn Gibson and Lori Roney (George) and grandchildren, Jack, Regan and Tyler Gibson and Matthew, Kayla and Geoffrey Roney.

She was predeceased by her husband; sister, Edith Denton and brothers, Clovis, Curtis and Clarence Denton.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Donations may be made to American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674.

Bernard A. Clark

Bernard A. Clark, 94, of Harbor Springs, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014, in the home he built 40 years ago.

"Bernie" was born March 25, 1920, in Detroit, to Bernard and Helen, nee Petzold, Clark, and attended St. Michael's High School in Santa Fe, N.M. Following graduation, he served in the U.S. Navy aboard a landing craft infantry during World War II.

On May 8, 1948, Mr. Clark married Mary Patricia Seymour in Detroit, where they made their home until 1960, when they moved to Harbor Springs. For 25 years, he managed Indian River Marina.

Mr. Clark was active with the Harbor Springs Library, spending 15 years both as a trustee and as president of the board of trustees. In April, he was honored for 67 years of service to the Knights of Columbus. In 1997, in an investiture ceremony in Indianapolis, Ind., he was made a Knight in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

Mr. Clark is survived by his daughter, Patti Clark-Mullins and her husband, Dan; son, Bernard Clark Jr.; grandchildren, Kristin, Katie, Connor and Quinn, and sister, Gertrude LaFerte.

He was predeceased by his wife in December 2002.

A funeral Mass was held Dec. 17, in Harbor Springs. Interment will take place in Holy Childhood Cemetery at a later date.

Donations may be made to Hospice of Little Traverse Bay at mclaren.org/nmf/MakeADonationnmf.aspx.



Russell A. Bradley



Bonnie Jo Ault



Helen Posselius Gilbride



Juanita Denton Finerty



Bernard A. Clark



Mary Lou Sloss

Share a memory at stonefuneralhomeinc.com.

Mary Lou Sloss

Mary Lou Sloss, nee Kierdorf, passed away Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014, at home surrounded by family after a long and brave fight with cancer. She was 80.

She was born March 18, 1934, in Detroit, to Lorenz and Margaret Kierdorf. She lived in southeast Michigan her entire life, moving to Grosse Pointe Farms in 1974, where she lived until her death.

Mrs. Sloss was a proud alumnus of the University of Michigan, graduating with bachelor's and master's degrees in education. It was at U of M, she met her husband, David. They celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary in June.

Mrs. Sloss was involved in several organizations that reflected her passion of crafts, education and strong Presbyterian faith. She was a life member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority and served as historian of Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, where she was active in the Presbyterian Women's group. An avid basket maker, she would hone her skills by taking trips to Nantucket with her husband to attend basket making classes.

Mrs. Sloss was a teacher at Grosse Pointe Pre-Kindergarten, teaching generations of Grosse Pointers.

When her children were young, the family enjoyed traveling in a Volkswagen Microbus. They drove and camped across the United States and Europe, including Alaska, Yellowstone Park, Spain, Germany and France.

Mrs. Sloss loved her family. She reveled in the company of her grandchildren, David, Rebecca, Philip, Hannah and Cameron. She was proud of their accomplishments and loved hearing and being a part of their lives.

Mrs. Sloss is survived by her husband, David Arthur; sons Jeffrey (Deborah) and the Hon. Andrew (Linda); grandchildren; sister, Diane Hanselman and brother, Dr. Douglas Kierdorf.

A memorial gathering will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at Chas. Verheyden Funeral Home, Inc., 16300 Mack,



Raymond M. Dresden

Grosse Pointe Park. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8625 Jefferson, Detroit.

Donations may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, 30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 220, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Raymond Michael Dresden

Raymond Michael Dresden, 94, died Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014.

He was born Aug. 21, 1920, to Clara and Michael Dresden. A veteran of the U.S. Army, he earned a Purple Heart for service during World War II.

Mr. Dresden pursued his interest in real estate after schooling and was active in several real estate organizations. He held the distinction of serving in every office of the Eastern Detroit Real Estate Association, including being the youngest person ever elected president at age 33 in 1954. He was a member of the Society of Real Estate Appraisers for many years and served as president in 1969.

He later became involved in mortgage banking and established his own company for several years, but re-turned to real estate appraising until retiring in 1996.

Mr. Dresden enjoyed boating and served as commodore of the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club in 1985. He also enjoyed bowling, golfing occasionally and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He and his wife, Bettyanne, like traveling, especially throughout Michigan, on cruises, and touring with a group.

Mr. Dresden is survived by his wife, Bettyanne;



Hazel Doris Dallaire

children, William McTighe, Sharon McTighe-Fromm (Richard), Gerry McTighe and Brian McTighe (Sue); four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and many loving nieces and nephews.

A memorial Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2, 2015, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Donations may be to Kids Without Cancer Children's Hospital of Michigan at kidswithoutcancer.org or the American Heart Association at heart.org.

Hazel Doris Dallaire

Former Grosse Pointe Park resident Hazel Doris Dallaire, 91, died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014.

Born April 23, 1923, in Detroit, she married Dewey E. Dallaire Oct. 4, 1943.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her children Judith Christian (Edward) of Grosse Pointe Farms, Robert (Anne) of Grosse Pointe Woods and Janice of Harper Woods; grandchildren, Eric Christian (Laura), Dana Raymant (Peter), Robert Jr. (Laci), Rebecca Marchetti and Michael and great-grandchildren, Sara and Amanda Christian, Nathan and Lucas Raymant, Cameron and Brooklyn Marchetti and Harper and Emmerson Dallaire.

Mrs. Dallaire will be interred in the columbarium at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Detroit where she was a longtime member.

Donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, 1120 G Street Northwest, No. 700, Washington D.C. 20005 or Alzheimer's Association, 25200 Telegraph, Southfield, MI 48033.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

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Sundays at 9:30am & 11:00am

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service at 6:30 pm

www.YourC3.org

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church

Sunday Worship and Music 10:30am
Christian Education Hour 9:00am
Free Nursery Care

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Mr. Noah Horn, Music Director
Join us for Worship!

Celebrate Christmas Eve with Us



Candlelight Services
Wednesday Dec. 24 at
5:30pm and 11:00pm

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Sunday, December 21, 2014

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
"Lesson and Carols"
Church School: Crib - 5th Grade

Join us on Wednesday, December 24
FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
4:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
10:00 p.m.
Special Prelude Music - 9:30 p.m.

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Visit our website: www.japc.org 313-822-3456



St. Clare of Montefalco Church
1401 Whittier Road
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
313-647-5000
www.stclarem.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2014

Vigil (December 20) 4:00 pm
Sunday Morning 9:00 and 11:00 am
Sunday Evening 5:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE
Wednesday, December 24, 2014
4:00 pm Vigil Mass
6:00 pm Mass
(11:30 pm Christmas Caroling)
12:00 am Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY
Thursday, December 25, 2014
9:00 am and 11:00 am

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8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Christian Education Hour for all ages
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December 24, 2014

Christmas Eve
3:45pm Pre-service music
4pm Worship/Communion
Geared Toward Families
with Children
7pm Worship/Communion
A Service of Lessons & Carols
10:45pm Pre-service music
11pm Traditional Candlelight
Worship/Communion

December 28, 2014
First Sunday of Christmas
9:30am Worship/Communion

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Wed., December 24
CHRISTMAS EVE
Family Service - 5:00 pm
Candlelight Service - 9:00 pm
College Reception - 10:00 pm
Chapel Service - 11:15 pm
SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:30 am
Nursery & Toddler Care Provided
Rev. Judith A. May
Rev. Daniel Hart



THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Sunday, December 21, 5:00 p.m.
at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

Featuring Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Choir,
Motor City Brass Quintet, flute, oboe, harp,
two organs and handbells

Don't miss this joyful musical account of the
Christmas story, presented in the beauty of our
candlelit sanctuary filled with familiar carols and
an opportunity for the entire audience to sing.

General seating admission is \$10 at the door.
Young persons under the age of 25 (with a valid
student ID) are admitted free of charge.

16 Lakeshore Dr. | Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
313.882.5330 | gpmchurch.org



Saint James Lutheran Church

170 McMillan Road (at Kercheval)
Grosse Pointe Farms
313.884.0511 • www.stjamesgpf.org

Sunday, December 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m. Education Time
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
With brass ensemble
9:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
With choirs and harp

Sunday, December 28

First Sunday of Christmas
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist



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Rev. Dr. Scott McKinney



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Thursdays, December 4, 11, & 18
Thursdays in Advent, with recitals
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Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, 2014
7:30 and 11:00pm Festival Choral Communion at both Services
No services on Christmas Day

Sunday, December 28, The First Sunday After Christmas
8:30am - The Holy Communion
11:00am - Festival of Lessons and Music with the Holy Communion



**Regular Services
of Holy Communion**
Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Thursdays at 12:10 p.m.

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The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose Catholic Church

VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST
Wednesday, December 24, 2014
CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 4:00 P.M.

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST
Thursday, December 25, 2014
Concert at 11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve
MIDNIGHT MASS at 12:00 A.M.
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY at 8:30 A.M.
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY at 11:15 A.M.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Saturday, December 27, 2014
MASS at 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, December 28, 2014
MASSES at 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
Wednesday, December 31, 2014
MASS at 4:00 P.M.
Thursday, January 1, 2015
MASS at 10:00 A.M.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at
15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn
and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson,
just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall.
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[facebook.com/stambroseparish](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparish)



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Sundays @ St. John's

7:30am Morning Prayer
8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion
1928 Book of Common Prayer

Christmas Eve – December 24

4:00pm –
Children's Pageant
Service



8:30pm - Carol
Prelude Service
9:00pm – Candlelight Festive Communion

Christmas Day – 11am in the Chapel

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downtown and celebrating with your family this year.
The coming of the Lord is upon us, "...Let us go, then,
to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place
which the Lord has made known to us." Luke 2:15

CHRISTMAS EVE
Wednesday, December 24th
5:00pm

MUSIC BY CAROLE MIHALO
WITH A MUSICAL PRELUDE BY
THE SS. PETER AND PAUL CHOIR BEGINNING AT 4:30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
Thursday, December 25th
12:00 Noon
MUSIC BY ANDREW HERBRUCK

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6B | HEALTH

POINT ON HEALTH By Jeff and Debra Jay

A merry farwell



light your family and friends.

Michigan Holiday Punch

32 oz. jar of cranapple juice
32 oz. jar of unsweetened pineapple juice
1/2 gallon french vanilla ice cream
2 liter bottle of Vernors

This is best served in a punch bowl.

Add both juices and stir. Scoop ice cream into balls and gently float on surface of juice.

Slowly add Vernors along inside edge of bowl, turning it slowly to prevent it from bubbling over.

Let stand 15 minutes before serving. Circle the outside of the bowl with holiday greens.

To moderate guests' alcohol consumption, des-

ignate a bartender to measure and pour drinks responsibly; serve foods high in protein to slow alcohol absorption; plan games so drinking isn't the primary activity; close the cocktail bar an hour before the party ends and set up a dessert and coffee table; and pre-arrange for designated drivers. Remember, friends don't let friends drive drunk. Happy holidays!

Jeff Jay and Debra Jay are co-authors of "Love First," and Debra Jay is the author of "It Takes a Family: A Cooperative Approach to Lasting Sobriety." Jeff and Debra Jay are professional interventionists living Grosse Pointe Farms. They may be contacted at (313) 882-6921 or lovefirst.net.

Dear Readers: This month, on our 18th anniversary of writing for the Grosse Pointe News, we are announcing this column's retirement.

We would like to end as we began, by wishing you a holiday that is not only merry and bright, but also precious and safe.

For our last holiday non-alcoholic drink recipe, we've chosen this country's oldest ginger ale brand — and Michigan's own — Vernors.

We know this will de-

ASK THE EXPERTS By Mary Petersen

Sexual assault against men is under reported



Q My husband recently disclosed to me he was sexually abused. I don't know what to think. How can I help him?

A Most importantly, listen to your husband, believe him and make efforts to comfort him. Ask what he needs without assuming. Assure him he's not alone and the assault was not his fault — no matter what. Acknowledge the strength it took to open up to you. Encourage him to keep talking, as much as possible, in his own time.

Multiple statistics support a reported one in six men have been sexually assaulted, most before age 18. But men especially have such a stigma surrounding this topic, it is suspected such crimes are largely under-reported.

Male survivors of sexual abuse often feel exceptional shame, lending itself to dangerous silence and stoicism. Society erroneously teaches men must be strong, invincible, independent and without emotion. Men are socialized to "fix" the problem or "suck it up" and move on.

When men find themselves traumatized and human, they may feel weak or broken, hurt and needing help, which challenges their very identity. Men need to know others won't judge them for having been assaulted. Loved ones can help by making it safe for men to tell their story, express themselves and access support to facilitate recovery.

Male survivors often maintain silence about their assaults until they are about 40 years old, for various reasons. Sometimes trauma reactions manifest in unexpected ways: flashbacks, acting out, hyper-vigilance or even survivors finding themselves very attracted to (or repulsed

by) partners resembling their perpetrators.

Petersen is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice. For more information, visit her website marypetersen.com.

Read more of this article at familycenterweb.org.

The Family Center serves as the community's hub for information, resources and referral for both families and professionals. Its mission is to serve our community through programs and resources vital to today's families.

Read more Ask the Experts articles at familycenterweb.org.

The Family Center is a non-profit organization, all gifts are tax-deductible.

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

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121814

Hollyfest

The Family Center's Hollyfest co-chairwomen were Anne Prokop, left, and Beth Vernon. The event, held at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, raises funds to support the center's programming to address family issues from cradle through the senior citizen years. Some 146 guests attended the event at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. The evening saw a donation increase of 36 percent and had twice as many sponsors, including St. John Hospital and Medical Center, Beaumont Health System, Grosse Pointe Audiology and Sunrise Senior Living. "We were so happy with the outcome and the outpouring of support for The Family Center. We are already looking forward to next year," Vernon said. At bottom right, Beth Moran bids on a tree decorated by Pierce Middle School students.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

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PASTOR'S CORNER By Rev. Marianna Gronek

A gift of presence

A manager recently wrote about witnessing the funeral of a co-worker, someone he didn't really know.

Many people attended the funeral, but few went up to the widow to offer

their condolences. Later, they admitted they didn't know what to say, or what to do and they worried they'd make it worse.

A young mother is so busy during this holiday season, with all the present buying, cookie making, house cleaning and

decorating that by the time the holiday's finally roll around she's too exhausted and, too cranky to even enjoy them.

A teacher and his family come home from a family gathering only to find their home and everything in it going up in

flames. They'd wanted to run into the burning building to get something, anything, but the firefighters kept them away as they battled the blaze. Feelings of desperation were soon replaced with feelings of numbness and shock.

Each of these stories reflects a need for connection.

In times of deep stress and loneliness, most people

will not remember what you said, but they will remember you were there, providing comfort, offering a gift of your presence.

In trying to be and do everything during the holiday season, do we miss the chance to spend time with our loved ones — playing games, baking cookies together, or simply meeting for coffee? In trying to be perfect, we

miss the greatest gift we could offer the gift of our presence.

The teacher whose home burned to the ground spoke of the companionship of family and friends who'd made God's loving presence real by the gift of their own presence, quietly being there, praying for them when they couldn't

See PRESENCE, page 8B

Holiday Gifting

Gift Ideas for Family & Friends



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Small Favors a great stop for holidays

Small Favors, at 19798 Mack Ave., in Grosse Pointe Woods, will open a new Village location in early 2015.

Owners Kasey Malley and Betsy Enders answered some questions about their business:

How long have you been in business? We have been in business since 2003 and at our current store location for the last 5 years. We

See GREAT, page 8B

Marty Meldrum has been lighting the Pointes for 30 years!

Holiday Finials Make Great Hostess Gifts!

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8B | HOLIDAY GIFTING

PRESENCE:

Continued from page 7B

and loving them back to life.

There is another name for this kind of life-giving presence, Emmanuel, which means, "God with us."

May the special gift you wrap this year be the gift of your presence, and may God be with you this holiday season.

Gronek is the minister at St. Michael's Episcopal Church Grosse Pointe Woods.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Memorable gifts

Grosse Pointe ART Center director Coleen Downey unwraps items available for sale, during the holiday shopping season. The center is open noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21. Free gift wrapping of gifts purchased in the Village is offered through Dec. 24.

Holiday Gifting

Gift Ideas for Family & Friends

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Celebrate new year's at War Memorial

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial hosts a New Year's Eve party beginning at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31.

The evening includes music, dancing, casino

games and a midnight champagne toast.

Guests, informal dress, can sample food from the salad, seafood, carving and dessert stations. Late night snacks will be

available at the evening progresses. Also, there is a cash bar.

Professional dealers will be at tables of Texas Hold 'Em, craps, roulette wheels and blackjack. They will also provide tips for those new to the various games.

A DJ provides listening and dancing music.

Tickets for couples cost \$125 and individual tickets cost \$75. Attendees must be 21 years or older.

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GREAT:

Continued from page 7B

are thrilled to be opening our new Village location in early 2015.

What are your special holiday hours?

In addition to our regular hours, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday,

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at our Mack Avenue location, we will be offering Sunday shopping in December from noon to 4 p.m..

Small Favors also will have a temporary storefront in our future location at 17125 Kercheval for special holiday items, wrapped & ready gifts and baskets.

The hours there will coincide with weekend Village festivities.

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What do you love about being in the Grosse Pointes?

Definitely the people, our loyal customers. They have made this journey so much fun. Customers are always running into friends and neighbors in the store and giving their personal endorsements of items in the store that they have grown to love.

The best part about coming to work every day is helping someone find that perfect gift to give.

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Holiday Gifting

Gift Ideas for Family & Friends



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Quick stop

The LaBelle Country Store, in the Provencal-Weir House, is available for shoppers to pick up a last minute gift. Staff is available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Monday, Dec. 22, and Tuesday, Dec. 23. Check in at the historical society's resource center, 381 Kercheval, for a staff member to assist you.

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10B | CHURCHES

RELIGIOUS EVENTS

Ecumenical
breakfast

Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical breakfast begins with coffee served at 7:15 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16, Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A buffet breakfast is served at 7:30 a.m. The Rev. Dr. Peter Henry of Memorial Church is the 7:45 a.m. speaker. The meeting adjourns at 8:15 a.m.

Men from any faith or from any community can attend.

For more information, call Eric Lindquist at (313) 530-8656 or e-mail grossepointeinterests@comcast.net.

St. Paul

The Motor City Chorale, formerly known as the General Motors Employees Chorus, have a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop,

Grosse Pointe Farms. The 45-member chorale, under the direction of Jonathon Lowrie, sings both sacred and secular Christmas music. Also, the chancel bells of St. Paul perform several festive hand bell pieces.

Admission is free, but a free-will offering will be taken to support the chorus.

St. Sabbas

The sixth annual Christmas cookie walk begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at St. Sabbas Orthodox Monastery, 18745 Hold Homestead, Harper Woods.

The cost is \$12 per pound of homemade cookies.

Proceeds benefit the monastery.

Memorial church

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church's Music at Memorial presents "The Christmas

Story" with choir and instrumentalists at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21. Admission is \$10. Those 25 years and younger are admitted free, with I.D.

A variety of seasonal music, including familiar carols for the audience to join in singing, along with the Motor City Brass Quintet, flutist Brandon LePage, oboist Ann Lemke, harpist Kerstin Allvin and organists Marilyn Biery and Noah Horn, are featured. The program's centerpiece is a musical rendition to the "The Christmas Story," composed in 2010 by conductor James Biery.

Congregational
church

The Grosse Pointe Congregational Church's all-church Christmas pageant begins at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, followed by a pizza lunch and a birthday party for Jesus.

The pageant is based on the 1949 Perry Como song, "C-H-R-I-S-T-M-

A-S." Excerpts from "A Charlie Brown Christmas" also will be shown during the service.

Those attending the service are asked to bring a donation for the Salvation Army and insert it in the yellow envelopes in the pews.

In another charity donation, church members raised funds for Operation Warm, joining four Detroit and Grosse Pointe Rotary clubs to buy coats for children in need. In 2012 and 2013, 6,698 coats were purchased and distributed to agencies such as Crossroads of Michigan and The Children's Center of Detroit and students in the National School Lunch Program in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods.

First English

Preschool through fifth grade children are featured in First English Evangelical Lutheran Church's Sunday school Christmas pageant during the 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, service.

◆ Three candlelight services are offered Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. The first, at 5 p.m., has a special children's time include. Special music is performed 15 minutes prior to the 7:30 and 11 p.m. services. Holy communion is offered during the later service.

◆ The Sunday, Dec. 28, 10 a.m. service features a new year's message and communion.

◆ Epiphany message is delivered during regular-



PHOTO BY ANN L. FOUTY

Tree walk

The public can attend First English Evangelical Lutheran Church's eighth annual Christmas tree walk and afternoon tea from noon to 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, at the church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. A free-will donation and non-perishable food items for the food pantry are accepted. The trees are on three levels and the walk culminates in a light lunch of tea sandwiches, tea and desserts. Each of the more than 40 trees have a theme, including this Irish decorated one. For reservations, call (313) 884-5040.

worship times, 9:30 and 11 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 4, to celebrate the Magi's visit to the Christ child.

First English is located at 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Capuchin Services
Center

The Capuchin Services Center, a program of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, collects new hats, gloves and coats to distribute to children 11 and under as part of its CAPS, Coats N' Kids holiday program. New items can be dropped off from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Capuchin Services Center, 6333 Medbury, Detroit.

The items will be included as part of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's holiday food basket distribution Dec. 22 and 23 to 1,200 families. Parents choose the children's warm weather clothing in a department store atmosphere.

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Grosse Pointe News office is closed
Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25, and Thursday, January 1
in observance of the Holidays. The office will be open until noon Wednesday, December 31.

For the **December 25** newspaper, deadline for retail and classified display ads is **Friday, December 19 at 3p.m.**
 Deadline for classified word ads is **Monday, December 22 at 12:30p.m.**

For the **January 1** newspaper, deadline for retail and classified display ads is **Friday, December 26 at 3p.m.**
 Deadline for classified word ads is **Monday, December 29 at 12:30p.m.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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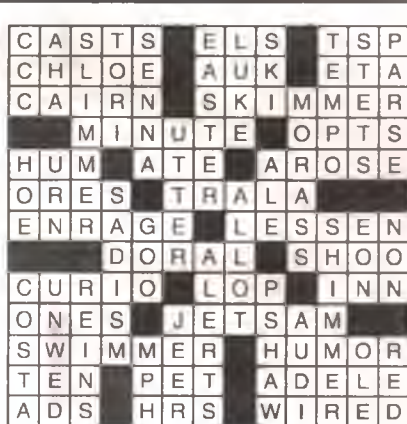
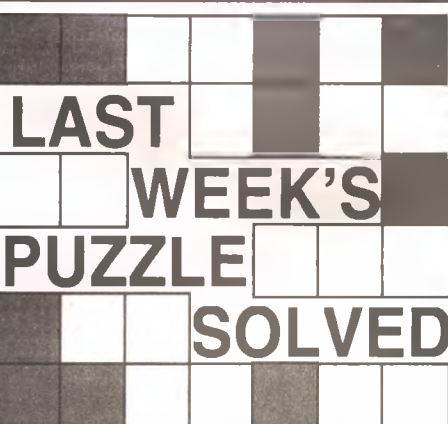
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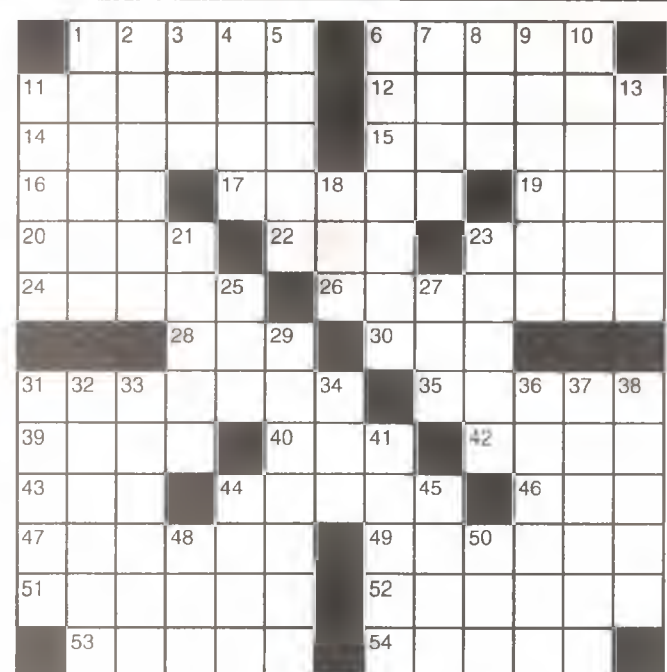
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War Memorial WMTV

December 22 - December 28

Featured Guests & Topics

12:00 am In a Heartbeat
12:30 am Detroit Economic Club
1:30 am Senior Men's Club
2:00 am Out of the Ordinary
2:30 am Vitality Plus (Aerobics)
3:00 am Aging Well in America
3:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
4:00 am The John Prost Show
4:30 am Great Lakes Log
5:00 am Rotary in the Pointes
5:30 am Cars in Context
6:00 am In a Heartbeat
6:30 am Detroit Economic Club
7:30 am Senior Men's Club
8:00 am Out of the Ordinary
8:30 am Vitality Plus (Step)
9:00 am Aging Well in America
9:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 am The John Prost Show
10:30 am Great Lakes Log
11:00 am Rotary in the Pointes
11:30 am Cars in Context
12:00 pm In a Heartbeat
12:30 pm Detroit Economic Club
1:30 pm Senior Men's Club
2:00 pm Out of the Ordinary
2:30 pm Vitality Plus (Tone)
3:00 pm Aging Well in America
3:30 pm Pointes of Horticulture
4:00 pm The John Prost Show
4:30 pm Great Lakes Log
5:00 pm Rotary in the Pointes
5:30 pm Cars in Context
6:00 pm In a Heartbeat
6:30 pm Detroit Economic Club
7:30 pm Senior Men's Club
8:00 pm Out of the Ordinary
8:30 pm Vitality Plus (Aerobics)
9:00 pm Aging Well in America
9:30 pm Pointes of Horticulture
10:00 pm The John Prost Show
10:30 pm Great Lakes Log
11:00 pm Rotary in the Pointes
11:30 pm Cars in Context

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The John Prost Show
Lars Kuelling
Grosse Pointe Academy

Sandy MacMecham, Jeremy Hawkins and Joe Provenzano
Red Wings Old Timers vs. G.P. South Hockey

Great Lakes Log
Chris VanTol, Paul VanTol and Bruce VandeVusse
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Rotary in the Pointes
Michael Rose, J.D. Norrse, Nick Morris and Kyle Watson
G.P. South Solar Car Team

Cars in Context
Chris Sawyer
"The Edsel: A Failure or Just Ahead of its Time?"

In a Heartbeat
Jeff Falk, MD
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VE-13 SOLUTION 12-11-14

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GIRLS HOCKEY

Blue Devils trip Knights

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

It was a match-up of two of the top teams in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

Host Grosse Pointe South used a nifty come-back to beat defending Division 1 state champ University Liggett 4-2 at Grosse Pointe City Rink.

"We tried to stress our depth and our quickness, which we were able to use to our advantage today," South head coach Joe Provenzano said. "We used quick shifts to keep everyone fresher for three periods. It worked because our girls had a lot of energy."

However, it was the Knights who had all the momentum in the first

period.

Junior Allison Stapleton scored an unassisted goal at the 7:06 mark and sophomore Kara Francis tallied at the 2:38 mark to give the Knights a 2-0 lead.

Junior Molly Murphy and freshman Olivia Yates drew assists on Francis's goal.

With a 2-0 lead, it looked like the Knights would make it four straight wins over the Blue Devils.

That wasn't the case as the Blue Devils put their game into second gear and their speed made it a difficult task for the Knights' defense to keep up.

Sophomore Carson Dennis scored at the 13:37 mark of the second period to draw the home



PHOTOS BY BOB BRUCE

South freshman Erin Brannagan skates up ice during the Blue Devils' big win over rival University Liggett.

team within a goal, 2-1. Freshman Lauren Kramer had the lone assist.

Freshman Maddalena Boyer tied it 2-2 with a power-play goal at the 4:34 mark.

Dennis and Kramer had the assists. Both used their speed to create a lot of traffic in front of Knights junior goalie Olivia Portillo.

Portillo had no chance to keep the puck out of the back of the net, thanks to all the traffic the Blue Devils had in front of her.

The biggest goal of the game came with only 6.9 seconds left in the second period when freshman Solana Bryson scored another power-play tally. This time, freshman Emily Van Der Hoeven and senior Abby Carrier had the assists.

The Blue Devils began the second period with a 2-0 deficit and ended it with a 3-2 lead.

"We knew Liggett would come out with a flurry in the opening minutes of the third period and we had to ride that momentum shift,"

Provenzano said. "We did that and then used our fresh legs to get some good scoring chances."

South junior goalie Bella Strickler came up with a couple of nice saves to keep it a 3-2 game and the Blue Devils put the icing on the cake when Kramer scored a short-handed, empty net goal off a backhand from the blue line with 1:27 left in the game.

In other action earlier in the week, South edged host Farmington Hills Mercy 2-1 to improve to 4-0 in the MMGSHSL, while Liggett lost 6-2 to Livonia Ladywood on home ice to see its record drop to 5-2 in the league.

BOYS BASKETBALL

South eases past North

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North renewed their long rivalry last weekend with a game that turned into an instant classic.

Host South withstood North's fourth quarter rally to win 58-54.

Senior Jordan Maxwell sank four free throws in the final minute to help the Blue Devils edge the Norsemen.

"Our seniors really stepped up down the stretch and helped us win a game I don't think we played that well," South head coach Troy Glasser said.

"I have to give North a lot of credit because they were ready to play and they played us hard. We found a way to win."

The Norsemen fought back from a half-time deficit to trail 41-40, but the Blue Devils used a late surge to increase the lead to 54-45 with a couple of minutes left.

Then, North head coach Ron Kochan had his players turn up the defensive heat.

It paid off as the Norsemen forced a Blue Devil turnover on three straight possessions.

The Norsemen made it a nail-biter, thanks to juniors Mitchell

Zacharias and Josh Fischer hitting hoops, and sophomore Steven Levick making free throws to make it a 54-52 game with 58.2 left.

"I thought my team played their hearts out," Kochan said. "The atmosphere was electric. I've been a part of rivalries and been a part of big games, but I've never seen anything like that before."

"It's always tough to lose a rivalry game and my first in this series will be one that I'll always remember. I told my guys to walk out of the locker-room with their heads held high."

For South, senior Sam Blanzly had 11 points, while senior Dallian Burnett added 10 points and eight rebounds.

Junior Nate Hall had seven points, as did junior Jack Maher, who also had a team-high 10 rebounds.

For North, senior Tim Herd had a double-double, collecting 15 points and 11 rebounds, while Levick led the squad with 18 points.

Zacharias added 12 points.

South is 1-0, while North is 1-2 after splitting two other games.

The Norsemen beat Sterling Heights and lost to Warren DeLaSalle.



Liggett junior Allison Stapleton scored the game's first goal in the opening period.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Norsemen split division games

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North girls' hockey team had a shot to get to the .500 mark last weekend.

However, a late goal and an overtime tally pushed the Norsemen to a 3-2 OT defeat to Walled Lake at Grosse Pointe City Rink.

"It would have been nice to get to .500, but the girls played a good game and just couldn't get a goal," head coach Joe Lucchese said.

The Wild scored in the opening period and nei-

ther squad tallied in the second.

Just 50 seconds into the third period, junior Elizabeth Gallagher scored with senior Devyn LaValley netting an assist.

Midway through the period, the Norsemen grabbed a 2-1 lead when Gallagher scored on the power play.

The Norsemen were in great position to get a win and had several solid scoring chances later in the period to increase the lead.

However, the puck wouldn't cross the goal line and then disaster

struck as the Wild tied the game with only 1:20 left and won it at the 3:53 mark of overtime.

Earlier in the week, North edged Plymouth-Canton-Salem 3-2 as Gallagher scored two more goals and LaValley had one.

Junior Lindsay Gallagher and senior Nicole Haggerty had assists to back junior goalkeeper Amber Giesecking.

With the split, Grosse Pointe North is 2-4 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

SWIMMING

Difficult opener

The Grosse Pointe North boys' swimming and diving team dropped a 142-44 decision to Division 1 top 10-ranked Novi Catholic Central


last week.

Duncan MacAskill was North's sole winner, taking the 1 meter diving with a score of 250.90.


North is 0-1 in dual

meet competition.

After hosting Ford Dec. 16, the Norsemen don't compete again until Tuesday, Jan. 6, at Livonia Franklin.




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Basketball

LIGGETT GIRLS

Knights net win

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

University Liggett girls' basketball team put together a solid 61-42 win over Dearborn Heights Robichaud last weekend at Grosse Pointe South. It was part of the day long Michigan Holiday Classic. "The girls played a nice game with a good effort at both ends of the court," head coach Omar Ahart said. "I'm glad this is over. There was a lot of chatter leading up to the game and too much during the game. "We got the win and we move on to another tough game." It was all about defense

in the opening half as the Knights led 15-5 after the first quarter and 32-10 at the half. Senior Lola Ristovski scored 18 of the 32 first-half points and the team defense smothered Robichaud. Play turned chippy in the second half, which included a little pushing and shoving. Once cooler heads prevailed, the Knights turned up the offensive heat and won going away. Ristovski led the team with 27 points, followed by sophomore Nia Ahart and junior Kendall McConico with seven points apiece. Senior Jessica Rotzoll chipped in with six points



PHOTO BY PETE BALAYA

Liggett sophomore Nia Ahart, left, is fouled as she drives in for a shot attempt in the Knights' win over Dearborn Heights Robichaud.

and junior Madison overall and plays at Jerome had five. Dearborn Divine Child Liggett improved to 2-0 Friday, Dec. 19.

LIGGETT BOYS

Knights get split

The University Liggett boys' basketball team started the season with a split. The Knights beat Marine City Cardinal Mooney 72-59 on their home court, and went on the road to lose 86-61 to Warren Lincoln. Head coach Sidney Johnson and his youthful Knights had three players score in double figures in the victory. Sophomore Jaren English led the way with 19 points, followed by junior Spencer Ewing with 18 and sophomore

Jorden Petersen with 11. Two nights later, the Knights got off to a rocky start, trailing 24-14 after the first quarter. It was tight at the half, but the Knights were out-scored 23-11 in the third quarter to fall behind 66-45. English and Peterson each had 15 points, while Ewing added 13 for the Knights, which are 1-1 overall. Next for Liggett is a 1 p.m. away game Saturday, Dec. 20, against Sandusky. — Bob St. John

Wrestling

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Norsemen off to fast start

By Jennifer Kusch
Special Writer

The Grosse Pointe North varsity wrestling team remained unbeaten after last week's home tri-meet against Armada and University of Detroit Jesuit. In the matchup against Armada, the Norsemen stole the win with a final score of 36-33. Sophomore Will Berndt tallied six points in the 285-pound weight class through a void on Armada's part. Standout seniors against Armada were Michael Bowden, Michael Creagh and Kushrim Berisha, all with deft movements and skillful maneuvering. Bowden was tough in the 160-pound weight class, and his skill proved insurmountable for Armada. Pins were also successfully executed by juniors Joe Lawnick and Ardie Milwick. The Norsemen began the set with a seemingly insurmountable lead, drawing the beginning weight class of 135 pounds. The home team would continue to lead the match, snatching six pins and a void while working through the higher weight classes. Armada gained momentum in the lighter weight classes, but could

not make up for the winning efforts made by Creagh, Bowden, Milwick and Lawnick. When competing against U-D, the Norsemen failed to meet the bar they set against Armada and faltered in their opening match ups. However, Bowden and Lawnick both won their matches, both implementing their second successful pin, but the lead volleyed between U-D and the Norsemen. Freshman Brittney Howard won the 112-pound weight class by void, but things weren't looking great. However, Howard's points tied the score and leveled the playing field for sophomore Matthew Moores and juniors Chase Mocer and Alex Leach to clinch the final points necessary to tip the score in the Norsemen's favor. "We did a decent job, particularly when it came to working on our feet, but Armada gave us a run for our money," said North assistant coach Nathan Strickland. "Overall, I thought that we were the best team out there, giving it our all, our heart and all 110 percent. Our focus was off in some of the matches, but overall we were consistent in what was done."

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH GIRLS

Blue Devils beat Wolves

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Things didn't look good after the first four minutes of the first quarter when host Grosse Pointe South girls' basketball team trailed Clarkston 6-0. The Blue Devils couldn't hit a shot and their defense gave up some good looks to Clarkston. Head coach Kevin Richards called a timeout and got his players refocused and they went on to post a 54-49 win. They were the final game of the Michigan Holiday Classic at South. The Blue Devils played

a great second quarter, turning a 12-11 deficit into a 29-14 halftime lead. The teams traded baskets in the third quarter as each one scored 17 points. It was a 46-31 game heading into the final eight minutes. The Blue Devils turned the ball over a ton and Clarkston went on a huge run to turn a route into a close game with a couple of minutes left. Senior Cierra Rice scored on a layup and junior Margaret Brennan hit a layup in the final minute as the Blue Devils held on for the win. Rice finished with 21 points and 11 rebounds, while senior Aliezza



PHOTO BY PETE BALAYA

South senior Aliezza Brown, left, goes up for two of her 17 points in the Blue Devils' win over Clarkston.

Brown had 17 points and five rebounds. and junior Elizabeth Rauh chipped in with two points and five rebounds. Junior Benna Ames had only four points, but Grosse Pointe South grabbed 10 rebounds, improved to 3-0 overall.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH GIRLS

Norsemen play nail-biters

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North girls' basketball team was well on its way to a second straight win to open the season in its road game early last week against Warren Regina. The Norsemen, playing most of the second half without standout, junior

Erin Armbruster, built a 33-20 lead near the end of the third quarter. Then disaster struck. The Norsemen couldn't make a basket or rebound, and turned the ball over too many times, and eventually lost 41-40. "Too many turnovers and too many fouls tonight," head coach Gary Bennett said. "It wasn't a good night." Regina used a 7-0 run to end the third quarter trailing 33-27 and won the fourth quarter 14-7 to beat North. The Norsemen led 40-36 after sophomore Katie Snow made two free throws with a couple of minutes left. The Saddlelites scored four straight points to tie it and made 1-of-2 free throws with 6 seconds left to grab the one-point lead. The Norsemen had one final possession to win the game, but a pass headed into the post was too high and went out of bounds for a turnover. The Saddlelites made a slew of free throws to get back into the game. For North, Snow had 11 points. The Norsemen were involved in another nail-biter, winning 45-44. Armbruster had 11 points and Snow added 10 as North is 2-1 overall.

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Boys hockey

Bulldogs capture Nations Cup

The Grosse Pointe 03 Bulldogs represented the United States in the championship game of 2014 Nations Cup Hockey Tournament the weekend of Nov. 28.

The Nations Cup is an annual tournament where some of the best hockey teams from Canada and the United States battle for bragging rights.

Representing the United States and wearing the country's colors, the Bulldogs went 4-0 in pool play, beating teams from Waterloo, LaSalle, Whitby and Markham, Ontario.

The Bulldogs outscored their foes 16-3 in pool play with nine different players scoring goals and goalkeeper Will Fox earning two shutouts.

Going undefeated in pool play meant the Bulldogs were seeded No. 1 for the United States in

the championship game on Sunday, facing the No. 1 seed from Canada, the Hamilton Huskies.

After giving up the first goal, the Bulldogs tied the game when Connor Mullins caught the inside of the far-side post.

Then, in the second period, while on the power play, Alex Paolucci scored with a shot from the point to give the Bulldogs the lead.

The Huskies tied the game a few minutes later, but Anthony Furicchia scored in the third period to recapture the lead, beating the goalie with a nice backhand shot off the cross bar.

Going into the last 90 seconds of play, the Bulldogs were short-handed and the Huskies pulled their goalie, giving them a 6-on-4 man advantage.

That advantage was no match for the defense of

the Bulldogs, however. They were able to fight off the desperation of the Huskies and secure the win with Furicchia getting an empty netter with seven seconds left on the clock.

As a result of their 4-2 win, the Bulldogs proudly hoisted the Nations Cup Trophy on behalf of all the United States teams.

In all, there were 22 teams in the Pee Wee A Division, including 11 teams from Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania, and 11 Canadian teams from throughout Ontario.

Some other notables in the tournament included forward Will Sine recording a hat trick against the Whitby Wildcats; forward Connor Mullins scoring 6 goals in the five games; forward Anthony Furicchia scoring 5 goals in the five games; and most all the players had multiple points.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF KRAUS

Pictured with the Nations Cup trophy in their United States Jerseys are, standing from left, Anthony Furicchia, Jake Spitz, Will Sine and Jimmy Gormley; and kneeling from left, David Rivard, Jack Estes, Alex Paolucci, River Kraus, Devin Shepherd, Rocco Scarfone, Will Fox, Connor Mullins and Nick Asimakis.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Blue Devils win twice

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

It wasn't the greatest of games, but in the end the Grosse Pointe South boys' hockey team beat Dearborn Unified 5-4 in overtime Monday evening at Fraser Ice Arena.

"We didn't have a lot of intensity until the final four minutes of the third period and in overtime," head coach Bobby McKillop said. "We were lucky to win this game."

Senior Brendan Ifkovits scored at the 2:58 mark of overtime to win it for the Blue Devils. Senior Ian Corbett and junior Griffin Brooks had assists.

Each team scored a goal in the opening period.

For the Blue Devils, Ifkovits tallied at the 9:40 mark.

In the second period, senior Cameron Mogk tallied to tie it 2-2, but Dearborn scored at the

5:40 mark to take a 3-2 advantage heading into the final 17 minutes.

The Blue Devils scored twice to take a 4-3 lead. Sophomore Jack Flynn and junior Paul Boyer lit the lamp to give the home team the short-lived advantage.

Dearborn scored a power-play goal at the 6:01 mark to tie it 4-4.

The Blue Devils outshot their foe 42-17 and sophomore Jack Jordan earned the win between

the pipes.

Earlier in the week, South defeated Southgate Anderson 9-1 behind sophomore Adam Pitters' three goals and one assist, and junior Will Poplawski's three goals.

Other goal scorers were senior Nikolas Minanov, Corbett and Mogk.

Grosse Pointe South improved to 4-0 in the Michigan Metro Hockey League and 4-1 overall.

LIGGETT

Knights split contests

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The University Liggett boys' hockey team played unbeaten Utica Eisenhower on home ice last week.

It was a chance for the Knights to make a statement with a victory.

However, Eisenhower didn't cooperate and it beat Liggett 5-2, thanks to a three-goal burst in the third period.

The Eagles scored on the power play in the

opening period, but the Knights tied it 1-1 with their own power-play goal at the 9:55 mark of the second period.

Senior Jacob Smith scored the goal with juniors Brett Abdelnour and Alex Minanov collecting assists.

The Eagles grabbed another one-goal lead, scoring on the power play at the 6:35 mark.

The Knights scored with only 1.8 seconds left in the second period when freshman Mason

Campau tallied. Junior Matthew Gushee and freshman Dylan Paulsell had assists.

The game was decided in a three-minute span in the third period when the Eagles scored a short-handed goal and two even-strength goals at the 12:27, 11:09 and 9:56 marks to take control of the game.

Last weekend, Liggett got back on the winning track, beating visiting Grand Blanc 5-2 to improve to 5-1 overall.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Effort will pay off

The Grosse Pointe North boys' hockey team is coming ever so close to earning a big win.

After dropping a tough 3-1 game to U-D Jesuit, the Norsemen lost 2-1 to Warren DeLaSalle at Mount Clemens Ice Arena last weekend.

For first-year head coach Mike Maltese, the results aren't where he or the team wants them, but the effort and desire is evident.

The Norsemen led 1-0 in the opening period when Mike Keelan scored, assisted by Nick Cusmano.

The Pilots scored both their goals in the second stanza and the third period was scoreless.

Norsemen goalkeeper Ben Borland played well, stopping 26-of-28 shots, as the team dropped to 0-4 in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League and 1-6 overall.

Coming up for Grosse

pointe North is the annual Liggett holiday tournament Friday, Dec. 19, and Saturday, Dec. 20.

The Norsemen face

rival Grosse Pointe South at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 19, and play either Liggett or St. Francis the following evening.

—Bob St. John

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**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenneth A. Poynter at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present except Council member Valerie Kindle (7:12).

MOTIONS PASSED

- To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held November 17, 2014 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Employees Retirement Board System meeting held November 24, 2014.
- To open the Public Hearing to consider a request from the property owners at 20250 Harper to allow a parking lot at 20839 Hunt Club in a residentially zoned area in accordance with Sec. 10-455 of the City's Zoning Ordinance.
- To close the Public Hearing to consider a request from the property owners at 20250 Harper to allow a parking lot at 20839 Hunt Club in a residentially zoned area in accordance with Sec. 10-455 of the City's Zoning Ordinance.
- Approve the changes to the City Council meeting dates as listed by the City Manager for 2015.
- Add to the agenda the Letter of Resignation submitted by Councilmember Daniel Palmer.
- That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) Approve the Accounts Payable listing for Check Numbers 104459 through 104587 in the amount of \$537,856.79 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) Approve payment to Lakeside Collision in the amount of \$5,804.14 for the repair of our fire truck. (3) Approve payment to Statewide Security Transport in the amount of \$7,487.36 for prisoner lodging and maintenance for the month of October 2014.
- To approve the proposed parking lot at 20839 Hunt Club as required by Sec. 10-455 of the City's Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the City Planning Commission as set forth in their minutes of October 22, 2014.
- Adopt the Performance and Indemnification Resolution related to the City's Annual Permit to Work on State Highways.
- To adopt the Performance and Indemnification Resolution authorizing the City to make necessary repairs to county roads and sidewalks, and further to adopt the Performance and Indemnification Resolution authorizing the City to take any necessary restorative corrections to county roads and sidewalks, and further to adopt the Performance and Indemnification Resolution authorizing the City to temporarily close county roads and/or place temporary banners within the right-of-way.
- To approve Amendment No. 2 to the Water Services Contract between the City of Detroit and the City of Harper Woods and further that I be authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the City.
- To approve the three-year extension professional services agreement with HydroDesigns through November of 2017 for the Cross Connection Control Program as required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.
- Approve payment to LiquiForce Services (USA) Inc., in the amount of \$54,551.65 for Progress Payment No. 3 on the 2012 SRF Sanitary Sewer Repairs, SCIPP Lining Contract No. 2 #180-118.
- Approve payment to Fontana Construction Inc., in the amount of \$32,500.00 for Progress Payment No. 10 on the 2012 SRF Sanitary Sewer Repairs, 2012 SRF Sanitary Sewer Repairs, Open Cut Sanitary Repairs, Contract No. 3, #180-119.
- To accept the Letter of Resignation effective December 31, 2014 from Councilmember Daniel Palmer.

Kenneth A. Poynter, Mayor
Published: GPN, December 18, 2014

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Gymnastics

GROSSE POINTE UNITED

Ladies provide solid results

By Jennifer Kusch
Special Writer

The Grosse Pointe United gymnastics team started off its season strong in the first meet of the year.

The girls faced off against Farmington United at Grosse Pointe North last week. Although the team fared well on vault and beam, GPUG lost 137.9-136.15.

Grosse Pointe North sophomore Isabelle Nguyen dominated in every event. Nguyen, a North record-holder and all-state performer, earned the highest scores by wide margins. Her graceful routines and powerful tumbling were

an asset to the team, and she earned a 9.55 on both her floor exercise and beam routine, which she ended on a perfect stuck landing.

Junior Jen Gmeiner performed well in all-around, placing second in the meet for both her bars routine and her strong performance on floor.

GPUG was missing several athletes due to injuries and their absence was noticeable. Grosse Pointe North senior Maria Nguyen was suffering from a sprained ankle, and the all-state vaulter was missed on the mat.

Although the girls lost the meet, assistant coach

Kristin Zens believes the girls capable of making large strides as the season gets underway.

“Overall, as a first meet, this was very successful,” Zens said. “We have lots of room for improvement in the rest of the season, which is great.”

Several gymnasts have already begun to make strides in their routines and repertoires.

“Many of the girls upgraded their routines, which is great to see,” Zens said. “We also had a lot of girls who competed for the first time in their lives, so that was wonderful to see them go out there and do their best.”

Grosse Pointe United is 0-1 overall.

Figure skating

GROSSE POINTE UNITED



PHOTO BY LORY LAROSE

Solid start

The Grosse Pointe Unified figure skating team captains, from left, Tyler Clogg, B Team captain and North sophomore; Mackenzie Clark, A Team captain and North senior; Celeste Franke-Joyce, head captain and South junior; and Julia Barnes, C Team captain and South junior, and their teammates started the season on a solid note, taking third place in the first district meet Dec. 10. The team has several more meets this winter and is coached by Claire LaDue.

College signings

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

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Sunday Noon - 8 pm

Grosse Pointe South senior Robert Carroll, seated center, signed a letter-of-intent to play men's lacrosse for Manhattan College and head coach Steve Manitta. The Jaspers compete in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference against Canisius, University of Detroit Mercy, Quinnipiac, Siena, Marist and Monmouth. Carroll is one of the Blue Devils' top returning players this spring for the boys' lacrosse team. Joining Carroll at his signing were his high school head coach Don Wolford, standing, and parents, Robert Carroll and Cheryl Carroll.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

She's a Viking

Grosse Pointe South senior Izzy Murphy, seated center, signed a letter-of-intent to play Division 1 volleyball at Cleveland State University for head coach Chuck Voss. Joining Murphy at the signing were her parents, father, Ryan Murphy, and mother, Peggy Murphy. The Vikings finished 14-14 this season, including 7-7 in the Horizon League, which consists of Wright State, Oakland, Illinois-Chicago, Valparaiso, Milwaukee, Green Bay and Youngstown State. Murphy was the Blue Devils' leading player this season, helping the girls' volleyball team win a district and regional championship.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

Going east

Grosse Pointe South senior David Szymanski, seated center, signed a letter-of-intent to play college golf at Robert Morris University for head coach Jerry Stone. The Colonials compete in the Northeast Conference. Joining Szymanski

at his signing were his high school head coach, Rob McIntyre, standing, and parents, Jacqueline Szymanski and David Szymanski, seated. Szymanski shot a two-day total of 163 at the 2013 Division 1 state championship tournament at Forest Akers West at Michigan State University.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL VACANCY**

The City Council of the City of Harper Woods hereby gives notice that a vacancy has occurred effective December 1, 2014. The City Council is seeking interested and qualified persons for appointment to the position of Harper Woods City Council for the current term of office through November 9, 2015. Application is due by 10:00 a.m. on January 5, 2015 to be considered for the position, the applicant must:

- Be a qualified elector under State Law;
- Have primary residence within the City;
- Have resided in the City for at least two (2) years prior to January 12, 2015
- Possess the qualification for such office;
- Not be in default to the City of Harper Woods.

Please submit a letter of interest to Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk of the City of Harper Woods, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225. Letters must include applicant's name, address, telephone number and a brief explanation of why you wish to be considered. All applicants must attend the January 12, 2015 Special City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. where five minutes will be given to introduce themselves to City Council and the community.

POSTED: December 16, 2014
PUBLISHED: December 18, 2014

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Dindoffer bids adieu

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

Joan Dindoffer closed the final chapter on nearly 18 years of service to the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education when she presided over her final meeting Monday, Dec. 15.

In farewell remarks, Dindoffer spoke of her involvement with the schools, not only her tenure on the board, but also 10 years of volunteer work prior to her election to the board in 1997.

My first contact with the board came 25 years ago in a conversation with then-board president Jon Gandelot about my then-6-year-old son," she recalled.

She had high praise for the district, citing the superintendents she has worked with, including Ed Shine and Suzanne Klein, as well as the work of Susan Allen in working to promote a differentiated curriculum.

She also praised current superintendent Tom

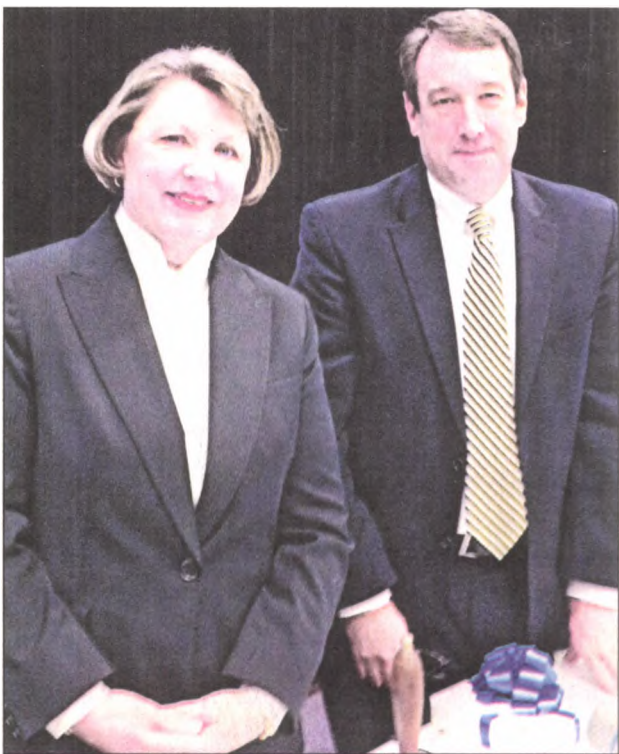


PHOTO BY KATHY RYAN

Joan Dindoffer and Superintendent Tom Harwood.

Harwood for his work in addressing achievement gaps and the district's financial officer, Chris Fenton, for his work in managing budgets "in the best of times and the worst of times."

Harwood not only thanked Dindoffer for

her service, but recognized the support of her family, and especially her husband, Fred.

"It takes a family," he said.

Perhaps Fenton said it best.

"Thank you, Joan. It's been a pleasure."



South artist recognized for Best in Show

Grosse Pointe South High School sophomore Melissa Millenbach has been awarded the top prize in traditional media design from the North American Auto Show. Millenbach's poster was selected from nearly 800 submissions for one of two Best in Show awards, with the other being awarded for digital design. Millenbach was awarded \$500 and two tickets to the auto show, and her poster will be on display in January during the North American Auto Show at Cobo Hall.



Buddies

As part of St. Clare of Montefalco's Buddy Program, the 6th grade gets together with the kindergarten and 1st grade monthly. The "buddies" do many things together such as make holiday crafts, perform service projects, and read to each other. Getting together with students from another grade on a regular basis builds a strong community within St. Clare. At far left, Bryce Templeton, 1st grade, on the left and Miles Morman, 6th grade, opening gifts. At left, Aakhira Rivers, 1st grade, on the left and Esha Kumar, 6th grade, holding their finished Christmas craft.

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EMPLOYEE	\$329
EVERYONE PRICE	\$368

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6C | SCHOOLS

South choir plans to perform with DSO

The choirs of Grosse Pointe South High School, under the direction of Christopher Pratt, will once again perform with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for the Holidays. Performances will be on Friday, Dec. 19, at 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 20, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 3 p.m. Grosse Pointe South's choirs are honored to perform once again with the DSO and the Bloomfield Hills High School choirs, who are under the direction of Jessica Riley. In the Bloomfield Hills choirs presence, intelligent dynamic and versatile Jeff Tyzik, a performer, composer, conductor and Grammy-winning producer who has arranged many of the pieces that will be performed. Tyzik is known for his engaging podium presence, intelligent arranging and enthusiastic delivery. Traditional and contemporary selections will include Silent Night, Sing Noel, an audience sing-along, and many additional songs that are sure to leave audiences in a festive mood. Tickets are available online at dso.org and at the Orchestra Hall box office.



I Remember When...

For nearly 75 years it has been the responsibility and privilege of the Grosse Pointe News to watch, listen and record how the five Grosse Pointes have grown, flourished and changed.

As the Grosse Pointe News approaches its 75th anniversary in November 2015, the staff invites the community to join with us in reminiscing about when there was still evidence of the strip farms to recent events impacting their lives.

We request our readers, their friends and family to send special memories of their home town — City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods. These remembrances of 200 to 250 words, for example, can be about the last item purchased at Jacobson's, the first day of school, your first job or the house you grew up in. A memory might center around a significant date or celebration, a business, organization, enduring friendships or the opportunities available living by Lake St. Clair.

Photos also are accepted. They can be dropped off, mailed in or sent as an attachment in jpg form. Photos will be returned if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

The first of your remembrances are to appear in January and focus on winter activities, events and the weather. Your letters will be printed regularly. The first 75 published submissions will receive a free year's subscription to the Grosse Pointe News.

Send your stories to:
Grosse Pointe News, 21316 Mack,
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
or 75years@grossepointenews.com.

Grosse Pointe News

75th ANNIVERSARY
SINCE 1940



Fundraisers

Student council members at Maire Elementary showcase different projects they have been involved in this year. Trick or Treat for UNICEF, the students raised \$848.39. With a spare change drive, they raised \$110 and have adopted two animals from the World Wildlife Fund, a Polar Bear and a Giant Panda. They collected 224 tubes of toothpaste, 343 toothbrushes, 13 containers of floss, bars of soap and mouthwash for Sweet Dreamzz. The school is currently collecting food items for Gleaner's Food Bank. The goal for the school is to collect 1,000 pounds of food. They are within 300 pounds of that goal now. Front left, Elsa Bachert, Emma Joyal, Ian Dvovich and Miles Murray.

Please send any school photos or information to kryan@grossepointenews.com

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