2011 Chilly-Fest
Saturday, February 5, Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Patterson Park & Windmill Pointe Park

This year’s Chilly-Fest will be on Saturday, February 5, 2011 from Noon – 4:00 p.m. Fifth Third Bank, a strong civic contributor with two branches in the Grosse Pointes, is supporting the 2011 Chilly Fest by providing horse drawn trolleys at each Park that will transform the streets into a “Dickens Highway” of winter fun.” To enjoy the activities at both parks, however, you will have to provide your own transportation.

At Patterson Park there will be skating to music provided by “Circuits of Sound”; a snowman building station with carrots, charcoal and twigs to liven up your snowman; a snowball target throw; and a putt-putt golf game. Ice sculpting demonstrations will be performed by Derek Foltz of Ice Sculptures Ltd. who, by the way, will be starring in the Food Network Channel’s “Ice Brigade” starting March 3rd at 10:00 pm! Troop and Pack #86 will also be there to liven up the afternoon with more events to join in on.

At Windmill Pointe Park, in the Tompkins Center, there will be face painting and an opportunity to make either a pinecone bird feeder or a bird seed necklace to hang on a tree branch at home. Lynn Basara, from Blue Pointe Restaurant, will be serving a luncheon menu of chili with all the fixings, chili dogs, chips and drinks for a small fee. Dogs will also be welcome at Windmill Pointe Park that day. So if you happen to walk your dog to the Park for this event, feel free to leave him/her with one of our dog sitters while you enjoy your dining experience. You will also have an opportunity to ice fish on Pier 1; enjoy a stroll around the Park in a pair of snowshoes; or take a snowmobile saucer ride behind the Tompkins Center (weather permitting). Also, a new event this year! There will be three different inflatable playscapes that will be set up in the Lavins Center gymnasium for hours of bouncing fun!

At each Park gatehouse we will be passing out prize coupons. Most attractions will have a station where you may enter your name and phone number on a coupon to win a special prize. We will draw for each station’s prize and contact the winners on the following Monday. So be sure to visit all of these fun activities!

Windmill Pointe Park Egg Scramble
Wednesday, April 20, 4:30 p.m.

All children 8 years of age and under are invited to our outdoor egg scramble on Wednesday, April 20 at Windmill Pointe Park. The scramble will begin promptly at 4:30 pm rain or shine with a Bunny Concert before each hunt with the Merry Music Maker! Plastic bunny eggs will cover the grounds waiting to be found and turned in for candy, cookies and surprises. Egg collection bags will be provided as the children arrive.

BRING YOUR CAMERA! Mr. Bunny will be available to take pictures with your child against an Easter back drop. Also, farm animals for petting and feeding will be visiting the park that day.

Tickets are $5.00 per child and will be available March 20th through April 19th at the outside gatehouse at Windmill Pointe Park. You may also purchase tickets by mailing your check with the registration form in this issue.

Pointes’ Daddy/Daughter Dance

At Grosse Pointe South’s Main Gym
Sat. March 19 - 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Ages 12 & under - $8 per person

Dads, don’t miss out on this fun evening with your daughters. This is a joint event hosted by the Parks and Recreation Departments of all the Pointes. Sign up starts Tuesday, February 1st thru March 11th for the first Daddy/Daughter Dance! Dress in your semi formal attire and head to the high school. A wrist corsage will be given to each daughter after check in and then dance the night away to the sounds of “Pro D.J. Services”.

Bring your cameras so you can take pictures of this memorable night. Light refreshments and dessert will be provided along with drinks throughout the evening.
Call 822-2812 x201 if you have any questions.
**CITY PHONE NUMBERS**

**Municipal Offices - Automated Telephone System:**

Main Number ....................... 313-822-6200
0 - For the operator
1 - Public Services, Building Department and Assessment
2 - Water & Sewerage Billing
3 - Public Safety
4 - Municipal Court

**Direct Lines:**

Public Safety: 313-822-7400
Public Service: 313-822-5020
Voting & Elections: 313-822-4380
Tax Information: 313-822-4267
Building Inspector: 313-822-4368
Water Billing: 313-822-7650

Municipal Court: 313-822-3535
City Forester: 313-822-6200 (ext. 271)

**Parks & Recreation**

313-822-2812

Okulski Theatre Information Press 1
Lavins Activity Center Press 2
Park Office / Tompkins Center Press 3

Outside Gate / Windmill Pte. 822-5155
Patterson Park Gatehouse 822-1681

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**PARK PASS INFORMATION**

It is the goal of the City of Grosse Pointe Park to continue to provide to you, the residents, the best possible service and recreational facilities.

We ask that you take a few minutes and read the following rules that we will be enforcing this year. It is extremely important that everyone complies with the rules so that we may all enjoy our parks.

- Current renter passes are valid until May 15, 2011.
- Current homeowner passes are valid until May 1, 2012

- Park passes are required for all residents age 10 and older and are non-transferable.
- Residents age 17 and under will be allowed 1 guest per visit and residents age 18 and older will be allowed 2 guests per visit. **GUESTS MUST ACCOMPANY YOU WHEN YOU ENTER THE PARKS.** If you have guests for an extended visit, temporary passes (maximum of 2 per household) can be purchased in the Public Service Department for $10 each.
- **HOMEOWNERS APPLYING FOR PASSES FOR THE FIRST TIME** must pick up their application for completion at the Public Service Department. Homeowners must have valid proof of residency, i.e. driver's license, bank statements or bills. New homeowners must also have turned in their Property Transfer Affidavit, Principle Resident Exemption and have a valid Certificate of Occupancy. **ALL FAMILY MEMBERS** age 18 or older who are not the homeowner **MUST** show proof of residency. City Ordinance requires **NO MORE** than two unrelated persons receive passes at any address. **CURRENT HOMEOWNER’S PASSES AND THOSE SECURED FOR 2011 WILL BE RENEWED IN 2012**
- Renters must pick up an application to renew passes annually. Passes will be mailed back after the landlord has verified tenancy and the Public Service Department has verified that the Certificate of Occupancy is valid. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Lease agreements are not accepted as proof of tenancy.
- At any time, you may be asked for photo I.D. Misuse of your park pass may result in revocation. Revoked passes can be suspended or cancelled for the remainder of the season. In addition, if replacement is necessary, a fee of $20 will be charged. **DRIVER LICENSES AND OTHER FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE PARKS.** Gate guards will only accept valid passes for entrance. **REVOKED PASSES WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT, WHICH WILL IN TURN MAKE A DECISION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THEY MAY BE REINSTATED.**
- Lost passes will be replaced ONCE per season by an adult person at a cost of $20.00 at the Public Service Department at City Hall. Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Telephone 313-822-4365. Households that require caregiver passes will be charged $25.00 per household and only 1 such pass will be issued annually.
- Allow 2 weeks for processing of all passes.

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**GROSSE POINTE PARK COMMUNICATOR**

The Park Communicator is published four times a year—February, May, August and November—by the City of Grosse Pointe Park. The Park Communicator is the voice of the City and City Council.

- Mayor: Palmer Heenan
- Mayor Pro Tem: Gregory Theokas
- Council Members: Daniel E. Clark, Laurie Arora, James Robson, Daniel C. Grano, Gregory Theokas, Robert Denner
- City Attorney: Dennis Levasseur
- City Manager: Dale Krajniak
- City Clerk/Finance Director: Jane Blahut
- Editor: Mary Beth Hathaway
- Assistant Editor: Chris Delmege

Editor’s note: Any correspondence can be sent to 15115 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

Attn: Parks & Recreation; E-Mail to: hathawaym@grossepointepark.org Phone: 313-822-2812 ext 302
Everything inside Fou d’amour (formerly “Just Delicious”) is still just delicious, but with a brand new name. Store owners Darcy Towns and Michele Makowski are excited to let everyone know that the name of their store may have changed, but all of their delicious pastries, coffees, salads, soups, sandwiches, etc. are still the same. Darcy said “it was just time for a fresh start”. Fou d’amour means “madly in love” and Darcy and Michele are just that with food.

Darcy and her former partner started their catering business back in 1996. The business quickly grew and grew. Darcy’s father had always been so supportive that she decided to put the proceeds from his estate into opening their first business “Just Delicious” in March of 2007. Michele had worked for Darcy’s father for many years and so after his passing it made perfect sense for her to go into business with Darcy. The loving memory of Darcy’s father is a main ingredient in the creation of their business. In fact, a beautiful portrait of Darcy’s father is on the wall of their kitchen watching over them as they prepare their tasty treats each day.

Everyone knows how incredible the scones and other pastries are at Fou d’amour. The scones are baked fresh daily and their core flavors are Cranberry Apricot, Chocolate Toffee, White Chocolate Coconut, Lemon and White Chocolate Cherry. They also have seasonal flavors such as Gingerbread Apple, White Chocolate Eggnog and Pumpkin Pecan. Their scones are currently offered in all three Nino Salvaggios (Troy, St. Clair Shores and Utica), Nordstroms, Vince & Joe’s, Mulier’s Market, Bean & Leaf in Rochester and Royal Oak, and Hepburns in Shelby Township!

The scones might be what they are known for, but they have a wonderful light lunch menu of soups, salads and sandwiches, as well as one more amazing item that you may not have heard about yet, that is their “Wednesday Night Take Home Dinner”. The menu is set on Tuesdays and you can call in your order or be put on their email list to receive the menu and place your order online. Each gourmet meal comes complete with an entrée, side vegetable and salad or dessert all for just $10.00. Pick up is between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Perfect! How’s that for convenience!

Fou d’amour also offers full service catering. They are working on a new website, but the catering menu can currently be found under justdeliciouscatering.com. Store hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00 to 5:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 to 7:00 pm (that’s “Take Home Dinner” night) and Saturday 9:00 to 4:00 pm. (If you see them in the shop after that, just wave at them and they’ll let you in!) Closed Sunday and Monday. Stop by and enjoy a scone soon!

Belding Cleaners

Belding Cleaners was founded in 1929 as Grosse Pointe’s first dry cleaners. They have remained in operation ever since and have remained under the same family ownership for the past 35 years. Joe Hebeka, owner of Belding Cleaners, purchased the business from his father four years ago. He has worked in the business since he was 16 years old and he and his family have a vested interest in the Park business district. Belding Cleaners has been a cornerstone in the area and they are known throughout the Detroit area for specializing in the cleaning of high end designer clothing, wedding gowns, furs, beaded garments, leathers, area rugs, etc. They also offer heirloom preservation, drapery takedown/reehanger, alterations, storage, pick up and delivery. They get many referrals from satisfied customers that remain loyal to them.

Even though Joe lives in Shelby Township he is very much involved in our City. In fact, Joe is the President of the Grosse Pointe Park Business Association. The Business Association had been dormant for several years, but about a year ago Joe and several other business owners brought it back to life. Joe and the other members of the Association are determined to get the message out that “the Park has something for everyone”.

The Association is, at the moment, made up of approximately 21 business owners. They meet on a monthly basis and their current focus is on the “cosmetics” of the district. Last summer they purchased new banners and a new “Kercheval In The Park” sign. This year they would like to place new concrete benches along Kercheval. Anyone wishing to donate the funds towards one of these benches may do so and have a plaque placed on the bench representing their generous donation. Simply contact Joe Hebeka at (313) 822-5800. The Association relies on the support of members of the community to help maintain and promote our City.

Joe has also created a website for the Grosse Pointe Park Business Association – theparkgp.com. Visit the website for information on local businesses, how to join and the West Park Farmers Market. Thank you Joe and the Grosse Pointe Park Business Association!
**TINY TOTS**  
**Taught by Suzanne Piepszowski**

Tiny Tots is a developmentally based gross motor class designed for children 18-36 months old. Along with their parents, the children learn how to move in fun and challenging ways while dancing to music and playing games with new friends.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| IV       | 6 weeks  | $48.00 | Tuesdays 10:30-11:15 a.m.  
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 |
| V        | 6 weeks  | $48.00 | Tuesdays 10:30-11:15 a.m.  
April 12, 19, May 3, 10, 17, 24 |

**PIPSQUEAKS, P.E.**  
**Taught by Suzanne Piepszowski**

Pipsqueaks is a class for children 3-6 years old who are ready to move, dance and play independently from their parents. This is a great class designed to get their bodies moving in a fun and energetic way while learning new developmental skills.

Enrollment is limited to 12 children per class. There must be at least 6 children enrolled to run a class.

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</table>
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March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 |
| V        | 6 weeks  | $48.00 | Tuesdays 1:00-2:00 p.m.  
April 12, 19, May 3, 10, 17, 24 |

**Special Valentine’s Day Event!**

**“Daddy/Daughter Date Night”**  
Monday, February 14th at 6:30 pm  
$12.00 ($6.00 for each additional child)  
**Featured Film: “The Princess and the Frog”**

This is a night just for Dads and their daughters. Come have your very own night at the movies together. Package includes complimentary small popcorn and beverages. We will also take a special Daddy/Daughter photo of the two of you and frame it so that you can take it home and always remember your special night together!

**“Mother/Son Date Night”**  
Wednesday, February 16th at 6:30 pm  
$12.00 ($6.00 for each additional child)  
**Featured Film: “How to Train Your Dragon”**

This is a night just for Moms and their sons. Come have your very own night at the movies together. Package includes complimentary small popcorn and beverages. We will also take a special Mother/Son photo of the two of you and frame it so that you can take it home and always remember your special night together!

Please register by February 7th.  
(Children must be 5 years of age or older.)

**Merry Music Maker’s Pajama Party!**

Ages 2-8 - $12 per Family  
7:00 - 8:00 pm  
Come join us for an evening of fun with Ms. Paula. Bring a blanket to sit on and wear your pajamas and a smiling face. We’ll have music, stories and lots of silly fun.

Bedtime will never be the same!

**Friday, February 11**  
**Friday, March 11**  
**Friday, April 8**  
**Friday, May 13**

**Note:** Prepayment is not necessary. Simply pay at the door.
Parks & Recreation

Karate for Kids
Instructor: Lisa Santi

This popular martial arts program continues another season of learning, skill development and advancement. The “Turn of the Tide”, Martial Arts program works to teach students to gain confidence in themselves and their abilities. These classes are ongoing and new students are always welcome. Classes are held in the gymnasium in the Lavins Activity Center. Class sizes are limited.

Beginner classes are for students ages 5 to 8 years old that are new to Karate or have attained a Junior Ranking from Junior Yellow Belt to Junior Red Belt. Advanced classes are for students 9 years old and up that are new to Karate or students that have attained the rank of 8th Gup Purple Belt and up.

Padded Weapons classes are for all students regardless of age or rank. Padded Weapons class should be taken in conjunction with a Beginner or Advanced Karate Class.

Padded Weapons Class

This class is designed to get the younger students involved with weapons. It’s purpose is to give students a general knowledge of weapons including: swords, padded nunchaku’s and bo staffs. It’s a fun and energetic class where students can learn to use weapons in a structured environment. Weapon training will improve students’ hand/eye coordination and timing. These are skills needed for all sports.

Session III
Mondays - 4:15 p.m. Beginners Class - Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28
Mondays - 4:30 p.m. Demo Team Class - Same dates as above.
Mondays - 5:30 p.m. Advanced Class (Ages 9 & up) - Same dates as above.

Tuesdays - 4:15 p.m. Beginners - Feb. 1, 8, 15, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Tuesdays - 5:30 p.m. Advanced Class (Ages 9 & up) - Same dates as above.

Wednesdays - 4:15 p.m. Weapons Class- Feb. 2, 9, 16, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Wednesdays - 4:30 p.m. Padded Weapons Class - Same dates as above.
Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m. Teens Class - Same dates as above.

Thursdays - 4:15 p.m. Beginners Class - Feb. 3, 10, 17, Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Thursdays - 5:30 p.m. Parent/Child Class - Same dates as above.

Session IV
Mondays - 4:15 p.m. Beginners Class - Apr. 4, 11, 29, May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 3
Mondays - 4:30 p.m. Black/Red Belt Class- Same dates as above.
Mondays - 5:30 p.m. Advanced Class (Ages 9 & up) - Same dates as above.

NOTE: April 29th & June 3rd class will be held on Friday.

Tuesdays - 4:15 p.m. Beginners - April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Tuesdays - 5:30 p.m. Advanced Class (Ages 9 & up) - Same dates as above.

Wednesdays - 4:15 p.m. Sparring Class - April 6 13, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1
Wednesdays - 4:30 p.m. Padded Weapons Class - Same dates as above.
Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m. Teens Class - Same dates as above.

Thursdays - 4:15 p.m. Beginners Class - April 7, 14, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2
Thursdays - 5:30 p.m. Parent/Child Class - Same dates as above.

Early registration for Session IV - Sat. March 26th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at the Lavins Activity Center. All Karate classes are $50.00

Martial Arts Specialty Classes

There are several specialty classes offered throughout the year to strengthen students’ martial art skills. Please check the class schedule to see when these enrichment classes are available. Look for the following classes: Teen, Padded Weapons, Forms, Sparring, Demo Team, Black/Red Belt and Weapons. Each class will offer 8 weeks of training geared to a specific group of students or focusing on the specific set of skills listed in the class title. These classes will help support students looking to advance in belt rank.

Padded Weapons Class

This one day class is for young women ages 13 to 19. You will learn both verbal and physical self defense skills and escapes. This empowering class will help you gain confidence as you learn the four A’s of self defense. We will also cover topics that teen girls are dealing with today, such as babysitting, dating, social and internet situations and offer ways to help keep you safe.
**Lavins’ Activity Center**

**DOLORES & PAUL LAVINS ACTIVITY CENTER**

**Lavins Activity Center**

Want to get into shape, visit with friends, or just find a place to relax? The Lavins Activity Center offers many recreational options for residents to take part in year round. Memberships to the Meade Fitness Center for a weight and/or cardio workout, or a Class Membership to take different classes like Yoga, Cycling and Body Sculpting, are just a few of the activities available. If you’re just looking for a place to relax, the McKeever Lounge may be the place for you to sit back and relax overlooking the Park and Lake St. Clair. Or maybe you’re looking for a “night out at the movies”. The Okulski Family Theatre offers movies on the big screen! All this is just minutes from your doorstep!

**Personal Training**

**Personal Training Sessions** can be purchased at the front desk of the Lavins Center. All trainers are NASM certified.

- Single Sessions $60.00
- Three Session Packet $165.00
- Six Session Packet $300.00

**Meade Fitness Center**

Located on the second floor of the Lavins Activity Center, the Meade Fitness Center is a great place to burn a few calories and have a fantastic view of Lake St. Clair while you’re at it. The Fitness Center offers a variety of weight machines, free weights and cardio equipment. Certified Personal Trainers are available to provide complimentary assessment sessions to new members by appointment. Also, members may purchase Personal Training Sessions with a trainer to obtain an individualized weight training program. **Membership to the Meade Fitness Center** may be purchased at the front desk of the Lavins Activity Center.

A **Fitness Class Membership** is also available at the Lavins Activity Center. The Class Membership consists of a variety of exercise classes. Our current classes are Body Sculpting, Interval Training, Indoor Cycling, Toning With Weights, Pilates, Power Yoga, Yoga and Zumba. All classes are conducted in the gymnasium. Classes are ongoing, but a monthly schedule is always available in the lobby which will show any possible changes.

**Fitness Center Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>5:30 a.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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**Membership Prices**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fitness OR Class Membership Pricing</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Quarterly</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students Ages 16-18 &amp; College Students under age 25</td>
<td>$245.00</td>
<td>$ 80.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adults 19-59</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$110.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors 60 and Over</td>
<td>$245.00</td>
<td>$ 80.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Couple</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
<td>$165.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Couple (both must be seniors)</td>
<td>$385.00</td>
<td>$130.00</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Combined Fitness and Class Membership</th>
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<th>Quarterly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students Ages 16-18 &amp; College Students under age 25</td>
<td>$345.00</td>
<td>$135.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$450.00</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors 60 and Over</td>
<td>$345.00</td>
<td>$135.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Couple</td>
<td>$700.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Couple (both must be seniors)</td>
<td>$485.00</td>
<td>$185.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Single day pass** $10.00

**One Month Trial** $40.00

**Note:** We can only accept cash or checks - no credit cards.

**Gym Rentals**

Occasional Half-Court gym rentals of the **Golden Family Gymnasium** are available. Reservations may be made 72 hours in advance (maximum) for basketball, volleyball, badminton and running games. The fee is $20 per hour for half court. Park passes are required for access to the park and the Lavins Activity Center. Park Passes may be asked for at the reception desk to prove residency. Gym use policy requires one Grosse Pointe Park resident to every NON-resident. Non-residents must arrive WITH residents; otherwise they will be denied entry. Rental for large groups (with more non-residents to residents) is allowed only by pre-registration (25 - 72 hours), pre-payment and provision of a list of attendees 24 hours before the rental. The maximum number of people allowed in the gym is limited to 25 persons per side.

Proper tennis or gym shoes are required and shirts must be worn. If you are under the age of 18 you will need your parent/guardian to be in attendance while you play.

Water bottles are permitted in the gym, but no other food or drinks are allowed. Basketballs and volleyball are available at the reception desk. A complete list of gymnasium rules is posted at the front desk.

**The Okulski Family Theatre**

The Okulski Theatre offers a variety of movies on the **BIG SCREEN**. Call 822-2812 and press **Ext. 1**, to hear the current movie title, show times and dates. Tickets are available for advance purchase on the same day. You can’t beat the convenience of popcorn and a movie so close to home! Teens are advised to have their park pass available for PG-13 rated movies.

**Ticket Prices:**

- Adults $6.00
- Seniors (60 & over) $5.00
- Children (12 & under) $5.00
- Matinee $4.00

**NOTE:** THE MOVIE STARTS ON TIME!

So get here early to get your snacks and your seats!

**Winter Season Reminder**

This Winter we would greatly appreciate it if you could wear boots and carry your fitness shoes to the center to help us keep water and street salt off the fitness center equipment. Remember, the locker rooms are available for changing and storing coats and boots.
The movie schedule will be as follows:

- **February 9**
  - “An Affair To Remember” (starring Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr)

- **February 23**
  - “Ferris Bueler’s Day Off” (starring Matthew Broderick and Jennifer Grey)

- **March 9**
  - “To Kill A Mockingbird” (starring Gregory Peck and Robert DuVall)

- **March 23**
  - “Love Story” (starring Ryan O’Neal and Ali MacGraw)

- **April 6**
  - “As Good As It Gets” (Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt)

For more information, call the Lavins Activity Center at (313) 822-2812, ext. 300
Grosse Pointe Park
“Mutants” Swim Team News

We are getting ready to start another successful mutant season! The “Mutants” are our summer swim team comprised of residents age 17 and under who compete with the neighboring Grosse Pointes and St. Clair Shores. The team is intended for swimmers who already know how to swim that want to experience the opportunity to compete. Swimmers needing instruction in learning how to swim, must sign up for swim lessons. For 2011 registration forms and information, please go to the mutant webpage at www.gppmutants.org, and go to registration/parent volunteers.

Dates to remember:

Wed. May 18 @ 6:30 pm in the Okulski Theatre INFORMATION DAY FOR SWIMMERS AND PARENTS
- Meet and greet the coaches and find out about the team
- Register your swimmers and sign up to volunteer
- Order the swim team suit/mutant wear

Wed. May 25 from 4:30 – 5:30 @ the pool SWIM TEAM TRYOUTS
- Tryouts are only for new swimmers. Any swimmer wanting to change levels will have the opportunity to do so during the first full week of practice.

Swim team fees are: (payable with 2 separate checks)
1 swimmer: GPP Mutants $40  Grosse Pointe Park $40
2 swimmers: GPP Mutants $56  Grosse Pointe Park $66
3 swimmers: GPP Mutants $72  Grosse Pointe Park $80

**Registration ends on the last day of the first full week of practice, June 10. All payments and sign ups are required before that date.

Tompkins Center Discount!

Just a little reminder about our beautiful facility that is available to all Park residents - the Tompkins Community Center. The Tompkins Community Center is a large banquet room with two warming kitchens, restrooms, high vaulted ceilings, large fireplace, and windows with a view of the lake; all this, plus a quaint, homey feel. You can have your function catered or prepare your own food and warm it in our kitchens. The Center is always cleaned and prepped by staff so you can thoroughly enjoy yourself at your party!

Reserve a date during the months of January, February, March or April
And receive a $100 discount on ALL DAY rentals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Original Price</th>
<th>Discounted Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. – Thurs.</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Sat. &amp; Sun.</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weddings</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td>$450</td>
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New!
No Engine Initiative
Saturday, May 29th - Thursday, June 30th

The Parks and Recreation Department is planning an event this coming summer called the “No Engine Initiative”. During this event, people are encouraged to come to the Parks using any mode of transportation not reliant on an engine. We are hoping for this to be a fun experience that encourages people to live a healthier life and be more environmentally conscious. Every time you enter Windmill Pointe or Patterson Park not using an engine you will receive a raffle ticket that can be placed in one of our three raffle prize boxes. There will be a box for sporting prizes such as inline skates, a skateboard, and a bicycle. The second box will include several gift certificates for local businesses. The last box will be Park prizes such as a membership to the Meade Fitness Center, Okulski Theatre Movie Pass, and rental of the Tompkins Center.

So walk, bike, skip, roller board, jog, heely, unicycle, piggyback, tricycle, roller skate, tandem, roller blade, run, pogo stick, big wheel, skateboard, wheelbarrow, jump, or take a horse drawn carriage down to the Parks and receive a raffle ticket for one of our great prizes!

OY REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES AND EVENTS
Please do not use for Karate

Name:__________________________
Age:________

Name:__________________________
Age:________

Address:________________________
Phone:__________________________
Class/Activity:___________________
Amount: $_____________

Please make check payable to City of Grosse Pointe Park
and mail to:

15115 E. Jefferson Ave.
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
Attn: Parks & Recreation
Community

Budget Review Continues
By: Greg Theokas, Mayor Pro Tem

Thanks to prudent financial planning, the Park has been able to avoid a tax millage increase for the fiscal year that ends on June 30th. This has been accomplished through a continuing effort by the City Administration. Non-essential expenses have been identified and reduced and our employee count has been reduced through gradual attrition. In addition, our City employees have made a significant contribution by agreeing to an innovative cost sharing health plan which is the first of its kind in the Grosse Pointe communities.

Despite a decline in property tax revenues and state revenue sharing funds, the Park City Council has sought to avoid a millage increase, recognizing the additional burden that a millage increase would place on our residents - many of whom have been seriously affected by the economic downturn. The Council is also sensitive to the fact that water bills have gone up because of a recent 20% price increase from our monopoly water supplier, the Detroit Water Board. We are unique in this effort as every other Grosse Pointe City has raised its tax rates during the past two years.

We are faced with yet another budget challenge for the fiscal year beginning July 1st. According to preliminary Wayne County tax data, our real property values will decline by 7%. This translates to an estimated revenue loss of about $350,000. The Council and City Administration are committed to maintaining the high level services which distinguish our City. Rapid public safety response, well-maintained parks, good roads and beautiful greenery are just part of that commitment.

We will do our best to accommodate the loss of revenue without sacrificing the services that our citizens expect. Although limited service consolidation is under discussion with the other Grosse Pointes, we do not anticipate that an agreement satisfactory to all the interested parties could be concluded in the near future. We have been ably assisted in all of these efforts by our City Administration with their dedicated and diligent efforts.

Shredding Service
Saturday, May 21 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
$2 per box (no limit on boxes)

General Shredding Service will be in the Windmill Pointe Park overflow parking lot to shred all of your boxed personal papers, such as bills and tax returns, that you wish to dispose of. Staples and paperclips DO NOT have to be removed and the only items that will not be accepted are hazardous waste, newspapers and computer discs. Remember, paper only. Shredding is good for security, the economy and the environment.

West Park Farmer’s Market

The West Park Farmers Market is gearing up for another great season. The eighth year of the Market will open on May 7th and run through the end of September. Market hours are, once again, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday, with extended hours for special events. Dates and times for all special events will be posted on the web page as they become available at www.grossepointepark.org. More details regarding the Market will be posted in the May issue of the Communicator. Anyone interested in becoming a vendor can contact the Market Manager, Jennifer Meldrum, at 313-822-2812 ext.202 or at meldrumj@grossepointepark.org. See you at the Market!

Visit the city web site at: www.grossepointepark.org for Tompkins Center and Lavins Center rental information and for movie listings and showtimes.

Calendar Highlights!
A reminder of pertinent dates & events coming up in our City. Please note the dates that may be of interest to you and your family.

February 5  Chilly-Fest  Noon-4:00 p.m.
Patterson and Windmill Pointe Park

February 12  Merry Music Maker Pajama Party
Lavins Center Gymnasium
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

February 15  Presidents Day (City offices closed)
No delay in trash pickup

March 12  Merry Music Maker Pajama Party
Lavins Center Gymnasium
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

March 14  Daylight savings time begins

April 8  Merry Music Maker Pajama Party
Lavins Center Gymnasium
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

April 15  Marina opens for 2011 season

April 20  Egg Scramble  4:30 p.m.
Windmill Pointe Park

April 22  Good Friday (City offices closed)
No delay in trash pickup

May 13  Merry Music Maker Pajama Party
Lavins Center Gymnasium
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

May 14  Perennial Plant Exchange
Tompkins Center
10:00 a.m. - Noon

May 21  Shredding Service
Windmill Pointe Park Parking Lot
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Landlords Take Notice

Renting of property requires a Certificate of Occupancy permit and all landlords must, for the safety of the renters, acquire a C of O inspection. As in most industries, laws and regulations change periodically and for the safety of your renters retrofits and repairs must be made.

Inspections and dates for inspections must be made in a timely fashion. All inspections will be AM or PM. No exact times will be given as our inspector has many inspections and times vary greatly. No extensions will be granted. Be sure to schedule your inspection giving yourself time to complete your repairs and allow access for the inspection. A reinspection because of no access or incomplete repairs will cause a $50.00 reinspection fee to be charged to the landlord.

Snow Removal

As a courtesy to homeowners, snow and ice is cleared from sidewalks. In the event that the city is not able to do so, the occupant and or owner of every lot adjoining any street shall clear all ice and snow within (12) hours after it ceases to fall.

Grosse Pointe Park Code
Sec. 21-52. Sidewalks to be Cleared
The occupant of every lot or premises adjoining any street, or the owner of such lot or premises, if the same are not occupied, shall clear all ice and snow from sidewalks adjoining such lot or premises within the time herein required. After any snow or ice shall cease to fall, such snow or ice shall be cleared from the sidewalks within twelve (12) hours of such cessation. (code 1957).

Sec. 21-53. Failure to Clear
If any occupant or owner shall neglect or fail to clear ice or snow from the sidewalk adjoining his premises within the time limit, or shall otherwise permit ice or snow to accumulate on such sidewalk, he shall be guilty of a violation of this article and in addition, the Director of Public Service may cause the same to be cleared and the expense of removal shall become a debt to the city from the occupant or owner of such premises, and shall be collected as any other debt to the city. (code 1957).

Please remove vehicles from street during snow storms.

Please note: On your rubbish collection day Waste Management picks up one side of the street then the other. Please do not call until after 2:00p.m. with rubbish collection concerns.

Reminder

Decorative planters, edging, sprinkler heads, stone or other types of landscaping must be 1 foot variance from the sidewalk. The City will not be responsible for any damage to such items and the homeowner will be responsible for any damage to City vehicles due to improper placement.

Yard waste pick up will begin April 4, 2011. Small branch piles and small sticks must be contained in yard waste bags or 32 gallon containers if they are too small to be bundled.

2011 BOARD OF REVIEW

The 2011 Board of Review will meet on Tuesday 3/15/11, Wednesday 3/16/11 and Tuesday 3/22/11. Assessment notices will be mailed approximately 14 days prior to the first day of hearings. Hearings are by appointment only. No appointments will be made after 3/15/11. Written appeals will be accepted postmarked no later than 3/22/11. The sales period for 2010 values is 10/1/09 through 9/30/10.

There is no requirement for what must be submitted for a local appeal. Each case is heard and judged on a case-by-case basis. Hearings are scheduled at 10 minute intervals. Information provided should be concise. Comparables should not differ from the subject in size, age, location or sales period. Foreclosures, sheriff’s sales and bank sales are not good comparables as many of them may have been excluded from sales studies. A picture of the property being appealed is most helpful.

The Board’s decision will be mailed approximately 30 days after close of the last Board of Review date. If a petitioner wishes to appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal, they must do so no later than July 31st. Only appeals reviewed by the local board can be taken to the tribunal.

IMPORTANT NOTE:
Mcl2111.30C requires that when the March Board of Review or the Michigan Tax Tribunal reduces assessed value or taxable value of a property, the reduced amount be used as the basis for the assessment in the immediate succeeding year. HOWEVER, this only applies to changes when the MTT Hearing is held in the calendar year as the year of assessment being appealed. Therefore, if a MTT hearing for a 2010 assessment appeal is not held until 2011, the resulting assessment does not have to be the basis for the 2011 assessment. It does, however, become the basis for the 2012 assessment.

SUMMARY OF PROPERTY VALUES

There are three different values:

STATE EQUALIZED VALUE
(S.E.V.) 50% of “usual” market value

CAPPED VALUE
(C.V.) previous year’s taxable value increased by the amount of the Consumer Price Index (max of 5%) plus construction changes.
C.P.I. for 2011 is 1.7%.

TAXABLE VALUE
(T.V.) the lesser of the state equalized value and capped value.

Structural items not previously assessed, for example new construction, are added to both the S.E.V. and T.V. The capping process continues until ownership is transferred. When this occurs, both the S.E.V. and T.V. are the same figures and should represent 50% of USUAL MARKET VALUE. LEGISLATION STATES THAT THE SALES PRICE MUST NOT BE USED AS THE SOLE BASIS FOR THE NEW S.E.V.
Killing Our Trees With Love

By: Brian Colter

Spring is just around the corner and so is tree planting season. In general, once the ground thaws, you can plant trees. But don’t let your hard work go to waste. Don’t “kill your tree with love.” Trees are hardy plants and if planted correctly and watered as needed, will flourish with little human intervention. First, pick a species appropriate for the site selected. In general, smaller nursery stock equals less chance for mortality because the root to crown ratio is more appropriate. Dig the hole twice as wide as the existing root system to allow for root penetration into the surrounding soil. Once in the ground, avoid the following mistakes well meaning homeowners often make:

1. Weed whack damage. The number one reason for new tree death is mechanical damage from weed whackers and lawn mowers. Most residents strive for a well manicured lawn, but be careful not to nick the trunk when trimming grass around the base of your tree. Repeated injury of this sort will girdle the tree and kill it (see photo 1 below). A protective layer of mulch or wood chips around the base of the tree will provide a physical barrier from such mechanical injury (see photo 2 below).

2. Over mulching. Street trees are mulched when planted. Mulch should be replenished annually. If you would like the City to mulch your new City tree, call me at 822-5020. If you choose to do it yourself remember not to “volcano mulch.” Don’t let the chips press directly against the trunk. This will lead to rot and, overtime, will kill the tree. In addition to providing a physical barrier from weed whackers and other mechanical devices, correctly mulching your tree (in a doughnut shape) can also be beneficial in retaining moisture and moderating the soil temperature. Free woodchips are usually available in the overflow parking lot at Windmill Pointe Park for residents of Grosse Pointe Park.

3. Unnecessary staking. Staking the tree is usually not necessary. If you do use stakes, be sure to remove them the next year. If left on too long, the tree continues to grow into the rope or wire. This can “choke” the tree and kill it by preventing the exchange of water and nutrients from the roots with the sugars (food) produced in the crown.

Utilize your tree planting expertise this spring! On the back page of this Communicator is our Beautification Commission’s Annual Tree Sale order form. The quality of the plant material is superb, and they are offered at a discounted price for Park residents only. Of particular interest is the ‘Princeton’ American Elm, the only American Elm cultivar with over seven decades of proven tolerance to Dutch-Elm disease.

2010 Christmas Awards

Thank-you to those Grosse Pointe Park residents who added to the festivity of the holiday season by decorating the outside of their homes. The Beautification Commission recognizes the following homeowners with certificates for their outstanding Christmas displays.

Audubon 1257, 1395
Barrington 853
Balfour 911, 1004, 1013
Beaconsfield 1062, 1064
Berkshire 848, 1059, 1254, 1300
Bishop 825, 1011
Buckingham 1001, 1004, 1015, 1324
Devonshire 1030, 1060
Harvard 1150
E. Jefferson Ave. 16109
Kensington 1381
Lakepointe 556, 564, 1102, 1419
Middlesex 706
Nottingham 1303, 1306, 1392, 1498
Pemberton 853
Somerset 1007
Three Mile Drive 935, 1015, 1020, 1311
Trombley 929
Wayburn 1115, 1306, 1304
Westchester 615, 647
Whittier 905, 1096, 1269
Windmill Pointe Drive 15420, 15220, 15230
Yorkshire 1015
St. Ambrose Church
Park Place Fine Wines & Spirits
Recognition to the 1300 block of Nottingham

2010 Property Beautification Recognition

A round of applause and a big thank you to all the homeowner’s that took the time and effort to beautify their properties in the following blocks in 2010.

1300 blk of Audubon 1600 blk of Jefferson
700, 900, 1000 blk of Balfour 700 & 800 blk Lakepointe
800 & 1100 blk of Bedford 600 blk of Middlesex
1000 blk of Devonshire 800 blk of Park Lane
800 blk of Ellair Pl. 700 blk of Pemberton
700 & 800 blk of Grand Marais 800 blk of Westchester
1300 blk of Grayton 1300 blk of Whittier
ANNOUNCING GROSSE POINTE PARK
BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION’S
2011 TREE SALE

Sale for Park residents only. Supplies are limited and orders will be filled on the basis of date and time received at the Park Municipal Building.

Snowdrift Crabapple (Malus ‘Snowdrift’) Profuse pink buds become white flowers in Spring, then glossy green foliage turning yellow in fall. Ornamental 3/8” yellow fruit persists into Winter and is attractive to birds. Grows to 20’ H x 20’ W. Containerized 5’ tall.

Robinson Crabapple (Malus ‘Robinson’) Crimson buds open to deep pink flowers, bronze/green foliage. Upright spreading, rounded shape to 25’ H. 3/8” red fruit. Containerized 5’ tall.

Weeping Cherry (Prunus) Attractive flowers. Weeping branching structure. Beautiful small ornamental. Containerized approx. 5’ tall.

Princeton American Elm (Ulmus americana) Highly resistant to Dutch elm disease. Grows very fast. Large growing tree with majestic vase-like crown at maturity. A breakthrough in the long fought battle to restore American elms to the USA. Containerized approx. 5’tall.

ORDERS MUST BE IN BY ARBOR DAY, FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Return to Brian Colter, City Forester, 15115 East Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230, together with your check and a SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE so you may be advised of tree pick-up dates. Don’t forget to include your phone number!

Make check payable to the City of Grosse Pointe Park in the full amount.

Snowdrift Crabapple ________ @ $35.00 = $_______
Robinson Crabapple ________ @ $35.00 = $_______
Weeping Cherry ________ @ $55.00 = $_______
American Elm ________ @ $50.00 = $_______

TOTAL $_______

Pick up Saturday, May 14th from 10:00 am to Noon at The West Park Farmers Market. (Located on Kercheval)

Name__________________ Phone #__________________ Total amount enclosed $________

No guarantees implied

SPRING PERENNIAL PLANT EXCHANGE
SPONSORED BY THE GROSSE POINTE PARK BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Saturday, May 14, 10:00 a.m. - Noon Tompkins Community Center
Composting demonstrations. Master gardeners available to answer questions. Exchange planting ideas with fellow gardeners. No plants for exchanging? Gardeners happily share their extras. Free Mulch courtesy of the City of Grosse Pointe Park will be at Windmill Pointe Park.

For more info visit www.grossepointepark.org or select “current information” at www.bcsem.org