The Pointer

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

President's Message

Dear SIGP members,

Can you believe a whole year has passed since our 60th Celebration last April? What a fantastic night it was; celebrating our 60 years as a club, raising \$14,000 for our Programs and Awards, and hearing the stories of our awardees. We have a very active club, with many committed members and it shows!

Our Award Ceremony this year was also amazing. Thank you to Mary Ellen Burke and her committee for doing such a great job. Listening to the awardees stories about the obstacles they have overcome to get to where they are today was awe-inspiring. Knowing that we are helping each woman to continue to reach her goals and dreams is more than we can hope for.

Now it is time to raise money for our Programs

and Awards for 2018 through our Dine Around Town Raffle and our Second-Hand Sales, Karrie Blankenship has sent out the letter asking for gift certificates and a copy of our 2015 Raffle Ticket. (see last two pages of newsletter) Be sure to carry these with you while you are dining out. While you are at the restaurant ask the manager if they would like to donate a gift certificate to our raffle. It really is easy! Let's make this our best raffle ever!!

Diana Langlois will be hosting our Second-Hand Sale on April 27, 28 an 29th. Set up will be earlier that week. Please sign up to help at the sale, with set up or with cleanup. Diana is accepting donations after April 11th. These sales require a lot of womanpower; please donate a few hours of your time to help.

Our annual Mother's Day

bags will be assembled in early May. Please see the list of items that are still needed. Mary Ellen Burke is collecting the items for the gift bags.

As Spring approaches, we are ready for new life, new ideas and new MEMBERS!! Please invite a friend, neighbor or relative to our next meeting. We only need 4 more members to reach our goal of 60 members for our 60th year! We can do it!

All the Best for Women,



Roseanne Horne (Left) Ross Braun (Right)

April 2017 Edition

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Delores	Goodger	4/11
Donna	Fitzgerald	4/11
Michelle	Strait	4/18
Sonya	Thompson	4/18
Laura	McCourt	4/27
Alexis	Mitchell	4/30

Dates to Remember

2017 Calendar

- 04/05 Board Meeting~ MEB Home~6:30 pm
- 04/12 Business Mts.~ GPYC~6:30 pm ~Meet and Greet
- **04/21,22,23** Spring Conference
- **04/27,28,29** Soroptimist Second Hand Sale
- **04/28** Article's to Karrie B.

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



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Fundraising - Dine~Around~Town

It's that time of year again we start fundraising for 2018 Awards. Hopefully you attended our Awards Dinner last Thursday evening to witness why we fundraise and see why we do what we do!!!

This year SIGP gave \$9,000 in awards to 5 very deserving women; \$3,000 went to Brittany Zatorski our Virginia Wagner winner, a \$500 donation to the Bravo Foundation in honor of Jami Polk and another \$500 donation to Vista Maria in honor of Laurie Jost. Jami and Laurie were our 2017 Ruby Award winners. \$2,000 was awarded to Janay Wheeler our second place Live Your Dream winner and \$3,000 was awarded to Sara Mai Baker our first place Live Your Dream winner. Sara will be joining us in Sandusky, Ohio this April to receive another \$5,000 from the Midwestern Region. All these women are very well deserving for these awards. As we know, there are more women and girls waiting for the same opportunity.

Last year the board decided to forgo the Dine Around Town Raffle and instead celebrate SIGP's 60th year as a charted club. At our celebration, we raised over \$14,000 from our silent auction giving us the opportunity in 2017 to give an extra Ruby Award and raise the amount for the Virginia Wagner and Live Your Dream Awards. This year I would like to encourage you to help raise enough money from our Dine Around Town Raffle to the keep our awards as wellfunded as they were in 2017. The Dine Around Town Committee has updated the attached letter for you to use while asking for gift cards/certificates donations from your favorite restaurants. This letter is also available on SIGP's website under the Fundraising & Membership tab. Please contact Diana Langlois and let her know the restaurants you are planning to contact for gift cards/certificates. Diana will be keeping a spread sheet of the restaurants and gift card/certificate amounts collected. We don't want to have multiple members asking the

same restaurants for donations, so please make sure to keep Diana informed.

Thank you, ladies, for all you do for Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe. As we saw at the Awards Ceremony, not only do our awards help women reach their dreams, the recognition gives them the encouragement and support they need to reach their goals.

Happy fundraising!

Karrie Blankenship Dine Around Town Chair



Membership

Let's go to Spring Conference!!! Kalahari Resort, Sandusky, Ohio April 21-23, 2017

Attending Spring Conference gives you the opportunity to not only learn more about Soroptimist, but also to meet women from across our Region that are working like you to make a difference for women and girls.

The Kalahari Resort is an awesome venue. It has something for everyone...grand rooms, a wonderful spa, an outrageous dessert bar, shopping

- Spring Conference

and a disco! What more could you ask for in addition to making new friends, learning more about what our Region is accomplishing and meeting Soroptimist goals?

This year our Live Your Dream award winner, Sara Baker, will receive the Region award of \$5,000 at the Awards Luncheon. Come celebrate this achievement and hear what other award winners have accomplished.

Karrie Blankenship, Paula Davis and Roseanne Horne are planning to attend. We plan to car pool and share a room. Let us know if you would like to come along for the fun.



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Membership Awareness

SIGP Member in the News: Rasheda Williams talks emPOWERing 21st century girls

SIGP member Rasheda Kamaria Williams was featured on WXYZ Channel 7 Action News during the morning broadcast on Wednesday, March 8.

Rasheda, author and chief empowering officer for Empowered Flower Girl, sat down with Anu Prakash during International Women's Day to discuss how women could best support girls to reach their full potential. She also discussed her event, EmPOWERing 21st Century Girls, which was held March 9.

Check out the full interview at https://youtu.be/oB_BP0BCDbE.





For more information about Rasheda and Empowered Flower Girls

please visit her website

www.rashedakamaria.com

Health & Hospitality-



Roseanne Horne (Grandma Ro-Ro) has a new Grandson!!

Johnathon Andrew Christian

Born 9:31 pm 3-20-17 8 lbs 15 oz 20 inches

Mom and Dad and baby doing well!!

Grandma, and older sister and older brother doing well too!! LOL



IF YOU HAVE
NEWS AND
WOULD LIKE TO
SHARE IT WITH
THE CLUB
PLEASE CONTACT
OUR
HOSPITALITY
CHAIR

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Programs & Services - PI

POSITIVE IMAGES

Most pressing need is one or two members who have time available during the day on Tuesday's that can give 2 hours of service time to Positive Images Parenting. Please contact Diana if you are

THE MEMBER who can help! 313-690-1515

MOTHER'S DAY	Neede
ITEMS	
Mugs	32
Cosmetic Bags	20
Tote bags	12
Oprah magazines	12
Key Chains	10
Nail polish	30
Toothbrushes	0
Toothpaste (sample)	24
Dental Floss	20
Silk Scarves	35







Amount

Programs & Services - PI

Kudos to Nancy S. who contacted the Grosse Pointe Library and facilitated the donation of 6 computers to Positive Images! Four were installed on E. Warren and two went to the Coplin residence. Diana, her grandson, Cooper, and Nancy set up the computers on March 24th! The running system is XP and each has Microsoft Office. They came with software installed for ImageWriter printer so now we are looking for older Image-Writer printers! Keep an eye out for an invitation to a meeting that will brainstorm ways to utilize these computers with P.I. women.

Kudos to Dorothy W. and Mary Ellen B. who took time to clean, purge and organize the Soroptimist Resource Center at P.I. on E. Warren.

To say it looks better is an understatement - it looks FANTASTIC!!! Positive Images staff will be using the room on the days that SIGP is not there.

Parenting continues with Diane K., Laura M., Jane L. and Dorothy W. teaming every other week. Once again, if you have 2 hours of time on Tuesdays from 12:45 - 2:15 p.m. and would like to be part of this dedicated dynamic group, please contact Dorothy or Diana anytime!

Nancy S. continues her *Hear My Voice* writing with the women living at the Coplin residence. We have listened to Nancy tell of these sessions with warmth and admiration for the women who find that writing helps them in their recovery.



E. Warren



Coplin residence





Diana and her grandson, Cooper

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AWARENESS - Miss Representation



JENNIFER SIEBEL NEWSOM: THE REPRESENTATION PRO-IECT

WOMEN & GIRLS IN THE MEDIA: IF YOU CAN SEE IT, YOU CAN BE IT

March 23, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Macomb College Campus

Jennifer Siebel Newsom is a filmmaker, advocate, and president and CEO of the non-profit organization The Representation Project, which inspires individuals and communities to challenge and overcome limiting gender stereotypes. The organization uses film as a catalyst for cultural transformation, so that everyone, regardless of gender, race, class, age, sexual orientation or circumstance, can fulfill their human potential.

Submitted by: Diana L.

Jane E., Elizabeth L., Karrie B. and Diana L. shared a special evening listening to speaker Jennifer Siebel Newsome. Her message: GENDER MATTERS!!! She told about her four children... when her two boys were born they received president t-shirts and silver cups with the presidential seal...when her two girls were born they received pretty clothes with no mention of the presidency!

Take a look at Congress – men as authority figures are in control. 95% of what we watch, listen to and hear comes from media DOMINATED BY MEN. Only 36.3% of women are on media staff. Only 11% of top grossing films are gender balanced.

American youth consume 10 hours of media a day!

Boys are born into a society in which physical dominance, sexual prowess and financial control are the norm. The word 'masculine' could be defined as 'mask you live in'. The phrase "Be a Man" is often used to have boys repress feelings and emotions. This culture norm is one of the reasons

that men commit 79% of suicides. *Men commit* 100% of mass suicides worldwide.

Current gender norms actively prevent women from obtaining higher levels of power. Men are perceived as dominant and aggressive. Women perceived as caring and empathetic.

Economically white women make \$.33 cents to the white man's \$1.00.

African American and Latino women make \$.01 to \$.02 cents to the white man's \$1.00.

One out of five women are victims of sexual assault and that number could be higher as not all sexual assaults are reported.

How to remedy this situation? SPEAK UP WHEN YOU SEE SOMETHING UNJUST.

In our culture 'white' represents 'good' while 'people of color' are often portrayed as 'villains' whose voices don't matter. It is up to us to challenge and change the status quo.

Visit www.therepresentationproject.org

A ttitude Change one person, group, company at a time.

B ehavior Now it's up to you! Demand

C ulture a culture that embodies change.

Taken from The Representation Project website: Jennifer Siebel Newsom's first film *Miss Representation* premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival and exposed the ways in which mainstream media and culture contribute to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence.

In response to overwhelming public demand for ongoing education and social action in support of the film's message, Newsom founded the organization that has become The Representation Project in April 2011. A 501(c)3 non-profit organization, The Representation Project inspires individuals and communities to create a world free of limiting stereotypes and social injustices.

- See more at: http://therepresentationproject.org/about/ #sthash.UROrNjXh.dpuf

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Awards - Virginia Wagner, Ruby & Live Your Dream

2017 Award Winner's

Virginia Wagner - Brittany Zatorski

Ruby Award - Jami Polk & Laurie Jost

Live Your Dream - Sara Baker & Janay Wheeler







Pictures standing: Roseanne Horne, Co-President of SIGP, Laurie Jost, Jami Polk, Janay Wheeler and Ross Braun, Co-President of SIGP Seated: Brittany Zatorski and Sara Baker

For more information on our winners please click on the link below

https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/sigpawards.html

Programs & Services - SSS Sales

SECOND HAND SALE

fund raiser to support Soroptimist awards and programs

April 27,28,29 at 561 Hollywood, GP Woods

Donations can be brought to Diana's *after* April 11th. If you need to bring them before April 11, please call Diana to check if someone will be home.

All donations should be clean and ready for display.

Set up will be all day Monday, April 24 and Wednesday, April

26. please mark your calendar!!! Members will be needed to help sell on:

Thursday, April 27, 7:30 - 3:00 Friday, April 28, 8:00 - 3:00 Saturday, April 29, 8:30 - noon

Take down will be Saturday at 1:00

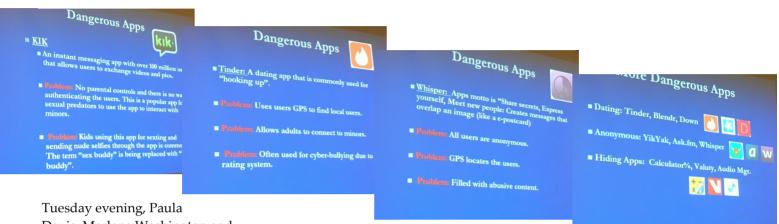




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Human Trafficking Awarness~

Sexual Victimization of Our Youth: On and Off Line



Tuesday evening, Paula
Davis ,Marlane Washington and
myself attended The Family Center's,
Sexual Victimization of Our Youth: On
and Off Line presentation at the
Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Vista
Maria's president and CEO, Angela
Aufdemberge was a presenter along
with F/Lt. Denise Powell,
commander, Michigan State Police
Metro South Post and D/Sgt. Sarah
Krebs, AMBER Alert Coordinator
and Missing Children's
Clearinghouse manager for the State
of Michigan.

Debbie Liedel, Executive Director at The Family Center and former SIGP member, welcomed us and explained a little about how The Family Center works together with Vista Maria and other non-for-profits in the area. She then introduced Angela Aufdemberge, president and CEO of Vista Maria. Angela's Power Point presentation was powerful and packed full of statistic about how our adolescents are being hunted and victimized on and off line. Later this month, I will be sharing the video from this event on our

website. I encourage you to sit down and watch it with your teenagers/ tweens and grandchildren. It's important information and <u>THEY</u> need to know the signs and consequence of their on-line and off-line actions as well as their internet foot print.

D/Sgt. Sarah Krebs spoke next and what she told us was very disturbing. Did you know that there are 1,000 children reported missing each day in Michigan?.. EACH DAY! Sarah did state there are a lot of repeat offenders who are not trafficked, they run away on Friday night because they don't like the rules implemented at home and then return home on Monday after school--but unfortunately there are too many who do not return. Above are some "dangerous apps" you need to look for on your child's electronic devices. These apps are "dating apps" and other "secret apps" predators use to entice and lore our children into commercial sexual exploitations.

For more information about the *Human Trafficking and Exploits of Children and*

Youths please visit, Ask the Experts by Angela Aufdemberge by clicking on the link below:

http://www.familycenterweb.org/index.php/ask-the-experts/41-teen/713-human-trafficking-

exploits-children-and-youth

I will send out an email to our club once the video is ready to be viewed on our website. In the mean time be diligent and check your sons' and daughters' electronic devices, and talk to them. This is real and it's going on in our neighborhoods.

Written by Karrie Blankenship



KNOW THESE APPS!

2016-2018 Board Members & Chairs

Roseanne Horne-Co-President Ross Braun-Co-President Aleksa Andjelkovic-Pres. Elect Program

Dorthea Williams-VP

Member

Mary Ellen Burke-Past Pres

Kerri Green-Treasurer

Jane Evola-Asst. Treasurer

Fundraising

Ellen Chapin-Secretary
Nancy Solak-Asst. Sec.
Public Awareness

Myra Golden-Director
Marya Malkovich-Director
Hospitality



Please have your article's to
Karrie Blankenship by 9:00
pm on or before 28th of
each month to:
karrieb40@gmail.com

Soroptimist Pledge

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to the ideals for which it stands:

The sincerity of friendship, The joy of achievement, The dignity of service, The integrity of profession, and the love of country.

I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold, and defend these ideals, for a larger fellowship in home, in society, in business, for country and for God

For upcoming events and to see what SIGP has been up to check out our website by clicking the link below http://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/

Connections for Local, Region & HQ

District III Emails Contacts

Governor- Vivian Walczesky - (vivianwal@sbcglobal.net)

Governor-Elect Kris Armstrong - (krisquin@msn.com)

Secretary - Anita Newman - (siurbana@soroptimist.net)

Treasurer - Valencia Clark - (vclark003@columbus.rr.com)

District III Director - Darcy Merritt (dmerritt81@hotmail.com)

District III Secretary - Mary Pilon (pilonm@sbcglobal.net)

Soroptimist International of the Americas - (siahq@soroptimist.org)

Soroptimist Websites

Soroptimist International Midwest Region - (simwr.org)

Soroptimist International of the Americas (soroptimist.org)

Soroptimist International (soroptimistinternational.org)



Bulletin Board



Below is SIGP's book club picks for 2017.

If you are interested in reading any or all of this years picks and joining us in the discussion please contact Karrie Blankenship or Mary Ellen Burke for the details. We meet the third Thursday of each month at 7pm. Every month is hosted by a different member of the club.

- 4/20 The Shipping News Annie Proulx
- 5/18 Small Great Things Jodi Picoult
- 6/15 The Pearl of China Anchee Min
- 7/20 Born with Teeth Kate Mulgrew
- 8/17 All the Light We Cannot See Anthony Doerr
- 9/21 Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History Rhonda K. Garelick
- 10/19 Flight Behavior Barbara Kingsolver
- 11/16 Circling the Sun Paula McLain

GENDER PARITY AT THE UNITED NATIONS by Mary Ellen Burke

Chris Knight, SI Moreton North I, Australia SI of South West Pacific was attending the UN meetings in New York City, two weeks ago. She has forwarded many original source documents as well as summaries on the SI Chatline. The article below (an excerpt) from her first email addresses the shortage of women in leadership roles at the United Nations.

GENDER DISPARITY AT UN: THREE OUT OF 71, ZERO OUT OF NINE, UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations has frequently been accused of vociferously preaching gender empowerment and women's rights to the outside world - but failing miserably to practice what it preaches in its own political backyard. The charge is usually made against the 193-member General Assembly, which has elected only three women as presidents - Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit of India (1953), Angie Brooks of Liberia (1969) and Sheikha Haya Rashed Al-Khalifa of Bahrain (2006). And that's three out of 71 Presidents, 68 of whom were men.

The 15-member Security Council's track record is probably worse because it has continued to elect men as UN Secretaries General, rubber-stamped by the General Assembly, and most recently late last year-despite several outstanding women candidates. And that's zero out of nine male UN chiefs (Trygve Lie of Norway, Dag Hammarskjold of Sweden, U. Thant of Burma (now Myanmar), Kurt Waldheim of Aus-

tria, Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru, Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt, Kofi Annan of Ghana, Ban Ki-moon of South Korea and, currently, Antonio Guterres of Portugal). The two highest ranking political positions at the UN- one of them with the status of a head of state in terms of diplomatic protocol- have long been identified as the intellectual birth right of men.

The General Assembly, the highest policy making body at the United Nations, and the Security Council, the most powerful veto-wielding body in the Organization, have continued to overwhelmingly opt for men over women during the 71-year existence of the world body. And still, both UN organs continue to relentlessly-and hypocritically pay lip service to the cause of women's rights and gender

empowerment in the endless debates on life's inequalities.

On the other hand, the UN Secretariat and 35 of its affiliated agencies worldwide have been laboring, with limited success, to implement a longstanding UN resolution which has called for 50:50 gender parity between men and women - and specifically on senior high-ranking, decision-making jobs. As the UN commemorated its annual International Women's Day on March 8, a recently released 36-page study on the "Status of Women in the UN System"

focuses on where the 50:50 gender parity stands - and where it falters. Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under -Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, points out that the study not only profiles the status of women at the UN but also singles out "the challenges to the achievement of the 50:50 culture" "There is some encouraging progress towards gender parity throughout the UN system, although it is not uniform, and insufficiently rapid. The change we need will not happen without a committed, multi-pronged approach." "Equality is not a statistic," she rightly declares, "It is a mindset" - even as the UN has launched a campaign to achieve 50:50 gender party in all walks of life worldwide by the year 2030. Mar 8 2017 (IPS)

Chris feels we, as Soroptimists must take action to do something about this. She states: "So we first most focus on getting more women represented at the UN with the right skills and determination to make a difference as these old structures no longer work and that is assuming that they ever really did? We must also ensure that the existing UN country representatives are kept well informed by women from their own country on the critical issues and how they should be voting. We must encourage countries to implement the UN Resolutions they are signing."



Grosse Pointe Soroptimist International

an international volunteer organization for women

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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> Kerri Green Treasurer

Jane Evola Asst. Treasurer Fundraising

> Ellen Chapin Secretary

Nancy Solak Asst. Sec. Public Awareness

Myra Golden
Director

Marya Malkovich Director Hospitality Chair Dear Manager/ Owner,

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe (SIGP) is once again sponsoring a *Dine-Around-Town* gift certificate raffle. *A gift certificate of any denomination* from your restaurant would be greatly appreciated. In 2015, over sixty restaurants from our community donated over \$2,200 in gift certificates! The certificates were "bundled" into five prize packages, valued from \$600 (first prize) to \$200 (fifth prize). Each bundle of certificates offered the winner an opportunity to sample a variety of area restaurants.

Dine-Around-Town is our major fundraiser to support Soroptimist Educational Awards for women and girls. In 2017, SIGP awarded \$9,000 in Educational Awards to women and girls in our community.

The name of your restaurant will be listed on the raffle ticket and on our website. SIGP plans on printing 3,500 tickets and distributing them through our mailings and direct sales to over 200 households!

Soroptimist will need your gift certificate by *June 11, 2017* to be included in this great raffle, which will advertise your restaurant. Gift Certificates should be valid for one year from **October 1, 2017.**

The raffle drawing will be held at Soroptimist's business meeting on *October 11, 2017* at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Winners will be announced on our website, www.grossepointesoroptimist.org, and in local newspapers.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact SIGP Committee Chairwoman, Karrie Blankenship at 810-602-7685 or

Co- President Roseanne Horne at 313-706-1801 - Co-President Ross Braun at 313-909-0230

SIGP's tax identification number is 38-6099835.



Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe Proceeds benefit Soroptimist Awards and Projects

* DINE AROUND TOWN RAFFLE *

1ST PRIZE \$600 VALUE

Ashby Ice Cream Big Boy Biggby Café Far Bella Chocolate Bar Café Eastside Bagel El Charro Restaurant Ferlito's Family Dining & Pizza Hot Tamale/Premier Bowling Ctr Jagged Fork Jet's Pizza Little Tony's Lounge in the Woods Marais

Shogun Japanese Restaurant Shores Inn Smart Cookie Sugarbush Tavern tcby The Hill Seafood & Chop House Village Wine Shop

MI Raffle License # R28059 Winner need not be present to win 2ND PRIZE \$500 VALUE Andiamo

Ardmore Café Biggby Buffalo Wild Wings Capital Grille Dirty Dog Jazz Café Firehouse Pub Gilbert's Lodge Jet's Pizza Josef's Pastry Shop Little Tony's Lounge in the Woods SideStreet Diner Stewart's Restaurant

Sugarbush Tavern Woods Wholesale Wine 3RD PRIZE \$400 VALUE

Apple Annie's Cornwall Bakery La Cina Mexican Family Restaurant Luxe Bar & Grill Nautical Deli Olive Garden Pepperoni Grille Rockefellers Oyster Bar & Grill Uncle Harry's Deli Which Wich

4TH PRIZE \$300 VALUE Cabbage Patch Café Café Nini City Kitchen National Coney Island Papa John's Pizza Salvatore Scallopini Sierra Station Tin Fish

5TH PRIZE \$250 VALUE Cloverleaf Pizza Golden Chopsticks

Jersey Mike's Subs Jet's Pizza Jumps Restaurant Just Delicious Little Z's BBQ Village Grille

6TH PRIZE \$200 VALUE CJ Browns Boatyard Grille Jersey Mike's Subs National Coney Island Papa John's Pizza Salvatorre Scallopini T.N. Thai Bistro Telly's Place

Drawing October 21, 2015 7:30 p.m. at American House • 17255 Common Road • Roseville, MI Tickets: \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

Phone_