



COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 3/2

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	2,280 (+38)	54 (+0)
Harper Woods	734 (+11)	42 (+0)

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Grosse Pointe News

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Last Main Street ED selected in line

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Willcock to lead revitalization efforts

Willcock previously was the deputy director for the Ferndale Downtown Development Authority and brings more than a decade of Main Street experience.

After being selected into the Michigan Main Street program in June, the City soon will enter a five-year period of intensive technical assistance featuring revitalization strategies to attract business investment,

economic growth and job creation in The Village.

"Despite the challenges that the past year has brought," Willcock said in a press release, "I believe the future is bright for The Village. I'm looking forward to working with the board, businesses and the community to help make sure the district remains the central destination to shop, dine, work, live and play in Grosse Pointe."

Noted for her ability to connect people and organizations and bring them together to serve the community, Willcock holds certification in Community Transformation and Leadership Development from the Main Street America Institute and aided in Ferndale winning the Great American Main Street award during her tenure.

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Senior citizens in the Grosse Pointes are last among residents of east-side suburbs being offered vaccinations through Wayne County. Grosse Pointe Shores is at the tail end.

"We've always been a donor community to Wayne County," Shores Mayor Ted Kedzierski said. "I think they see us as people having substantial resources so, therefore, they don't feel a need to provide us with as much as other communities."

True, at least in this case, as shown by the Pointes' stacked nearly head-to-toe at the bottom of the Social Vulnerability Index, compiled from census data.

"This index is used all across the county for health studies," said Tim Killeen, Wayne County commissioner representing the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and part of eastside Detroit. "It looks at things like health data. In general, people 75 years old living in Detroit have poorer health than someone 75 living in the Grosse Pointes."

The index's 15 criteria are sorted into four categories: socioeconomic status, family composi-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Welcome back!

Monteith Elementary School teacher Susan Howey's students work on their tablets, with masks and behind shields. Howey currently has a class of 16 students, whereas normally she would have had around 24 students. This week, kindergarten through fourth grade students are returning to face-to-face learning; fifth through 12th graders will return to full-time, face-to-face learning March 15.

"Today was a very exciting day for Monteith," Principal Shelleyann Keelan said. "We all had the first day of school butterflies getting ready for cohort A and B to see each other for the first time this year in person. Our staff has worked so hard to prepare for this day and it has gone so well and we know there are big smiles under those masks."

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New parking app arrives

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — As a coinless and no-touch method of paying for parking, the City has implemented a new parking app that allows payment via smartphone.

Available from Google Play and the Apple app store, Passport Parking is now available everywhere within the city apart from the municipal parking structure.

To use the application, look for a Passport sign on the nearest light pole and enter the parking zone number to begin a session.

"The zone number corresponds to the



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The City recently implemented the Passport Parking app.

Late fees waived

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — At a meeting Monday, March 1, the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council approved a proposal by city Clerk Lisa Hathaway to waive late fees associated with business license renewals for 2020.

Out of around 287 businesses, 29 businesses were unable to pay their renewal fee on time to meet the April 1, 2020, deadline. This results in a \$100 late fee as required by city code, section

10-22e, doubling the cost of the renewal to make the transaction a total of \$200.

Hathaway emphasized the importance of up-to-date business licenses for safety purposes. The department of public safety uses business licenses for information regarding emergency contacts, alarms and more.

Because many businesses are located inside buildings attached to other businesses, Hathaway explained, business license renewal

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