

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 3/9			
	Cases	Deaths	
All Pointes	2,324 (+44)	54 (+0)	
Harper Woods	748 (+14)	42 (+0)	

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Spring Forward Daylight Savings Time Begins March 14th

Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 82, NO. 10, 26 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) Your community newspaper since 1940 MARCH 11, 2021 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Director of public safety search update

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — City Manager Nick Sizeland gave an update at the city council meeting Monday, March 8, regarding the ongoing selection process for the Park's next public safety director.

Many public comments were heard regarding the selection process. Members of the community asked for transparency about the process, suggesting interview questions and answers be anonymously released. Sizeland explained that, though interviews would be conducted completely pri-

vately, he desires to take the public's opinion into consideration as he moves forward. Other members of the community expressed their trust in Sizeland's discernment. Legally, the selection of the director is solely up to Sizeland's discretion. He said he intends to make the

decision carefully and thoroughly. Applications closed Monday, Feb. 22, and the 14 candidates who applied have been passed along to Empco, a third-party consulting group. Empco will choose external assessors to conduct oral board interviews of the 14

candidates. These assessors will gauge candidates' knowledge, skill and abilities, score the candidates and pass the top few back to Sizeland. Sizeland will conduct interviews of those top candidates with the help of a review panel, which will

See SEARCH, page 3A

Master plan online survey ends March 22

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Partnering with MKSK, the city of Grosse Pointe Park created an online survey to encourage input from residents for its master plan update. The city has been encouraging residents to be involved in the update, as it will be a "clear vision" for what the city's future holds.

"The Master Plan will help provide realistic and strategic recommendations to achieve that vision," an overview of the process stated. "The Master Plan will be grounded in public engagement, with the community helping to identify priorities and

See PLAN, page 8A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The 900 dock at Pier Park soon will undergo repairs.

City hall reopens

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Effective Monday, March 8, Grosse Pointe Shores City Hall has reopened to the public during its regular operating hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Masking inside the building is required.

"Our cases locally have consistently either been flat or declining," Assistant City Manager Tom Krolczyk said, "so we thought (it was) probably a good idea to start letting the public back in (and) be more available." While residents still are encouraged to conduct business via the municipal drop box, phone or

See OPEN, page 8A

Pier Park 900 dock awaits renovation

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — As the past 25 years have left the substructure of the Pier Park 900 dock deteriorated to where top deck boards are breaking and unsafe to walk on, the time has come to remove and repair the approximately 5,520 square feet of decking. "There's a liability

issue that could be coming," Councilwoman Beth Konrad-Wilberding said, "and we just need to repair that dock, because boat owners pay a good expense for all of their boats in those wells and so this dock needs to be maintained." With the marina opening for the season May 1, the work is set to begin by St. Patrick's Day, March 17, and conclude by April 28.

Contracted to D&S Contractors, the project will encompass the main dock itself and the swim platform at the end, excluding the finger piers. "The finger piers are all intact," Parks and Recreation Director Chris Galatis explained, "and there aren't any ones that we're worried about any structural issues or decking issues on."

The replacement wood will be a UC4C ground contract for extreme duty, which is made to withstand water and believed not to have been an option when the dock was first installed. "The decking that will go on will be treated to withstand that climate that it's going to be in," Galatis said, "so we're hopeful that it will last

See DOCK, page 3A

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Canvassing board chair faces possible penalty

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Wayne County Board of Canvassers Chair Monica Palmer's role as a principal member of the nonprofit corporation Taxpayers for Grosse Pointe Schools was found incompatible with her canvassing board duties by the Wayne County Ethics Board Monday, March 1.

Attorney Thomas Bruetsch filed a related complaint in late October. Bruetsch's complaint argued that Palmer's role as founder of the nonprofit Taxpayers for Grosse Pointe Schools, a corporation which has allegedly advocated for select school board candidates, conflicts with her role on the canvassing board. Representing Palmer, attorney Michael Schwartz argued

that the alleged support of select school board candidates was intended to be educational and inform the public of issues within the school district. The Ethics Board ruled on this complaint that Palmer's actions did not pose a conflict of interest under the ethics ordinance, as Palmer, a resident of Grosse Pointe Woods,

gained no financial advantage from her actions. However, Ethics Board members do believe Palmer's actions could become incompatible with her fiduciary duties to the Board of Canvassers. A penalty recommendation will be determined at the Ethics Board meeting Wednesday, April 28.

— Kate Vanderstelt

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Pointer of INTEREST

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John Hunter
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Wellness, family are top priorities for father of three



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