

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 4/6

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	2,793 (+166)	55 (+0)
Harper Woods	938 (+76)	43 (+2)

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GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Quarantining students: A Goldilocks dilemma

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — A total of 1,072 students were out of school and quarantined because of COVID-19 between July 14, 2020, when the Grosse Pointe Public School System began tracking this number, and March 26, 2021.

Of those, 620 students,

more than half (57.8 percent) have been quarantined since schools reopened to full-time, in-classroom learning in March. And 35.8 percent of all students quarantined were logged since middle and high school students returned March 15.

School officials point to the number of mitigation techniques they've used

to limit exposure to COVID-19 inside of schools. This includes mask requirement, social distancing, air purifiers and other methods.

Yet students are still either getting exposed to the virus, or worse, getting the virus itself.

"We have found that outside of athletics (primarily non-school athletics) the most common

source of COVID exposure for our students (based on our contact tracing) has been interacting with COVID-positive people outside of school," said Deputy Superintendent Jon Dean, in an email.

"For example, some of our students that have tested positive for COVID appear to have contracted COVID from fam-

ily members or close friends," Dean said. "Based on our contact tracing, the majority of our COVID-positive students have not contracted COVID within school."

The good news is that very few of those quarantined actually end up getting the virus.

"There have been very few cases of students in

quarantine who then test positive for COVID and even in those cases we cannot say definitively that the exposure was at school, as many students are interacting outside of school without masks and social distancing," said Rebecca Fannon, community relations specialist. "However, those

See DILEMMA, page 8A



COURTESY PHOTO

Winter gives way to spring

Maurice Poirson's "The Arrival, 1877" calls to mind the arrival of the springtime rainy season, which thankfully, eventually, gives way to summer.

Vaccination site opens to the Pointes

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — While the Grosse Pointes have been marked at the end of the list based on a social vulnerability index to receive a Wayne County vaccination site, their turn finally came.

Grosse Pointe residents ages 18 and older, along with a spouse or caregiver, were eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination at Windmill Pointe Park Tuesday, April 6, and Wednesday, April 7.

"It's (the county's) belief and expectation that there will be further opportunities for vaccinations (at this site) in the future," Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said.

The site had the capability to administer 1,600 Johnson & Johnson vaccinations, split equally over the two days, according to Park City Manager Nick Sizeland.

"I'm pretty happy we're able to get that," Sizeland said of the vaccination site. "That was a big thing."

The event was offered by Wayne County in conjunction with the Grosse Pointe municipalities.

"We obviously encourage our residents through this site and other sites being offered

throughout the community and greater community to get vaccinated," Reeside said.

— Kate Vanderstelt contributed to this report.

COVID-19 vaccine availability

THE GROSSE POINTES — As of Monday, April 5, vaccine eligibility in Michigan has opened to everyone age 16 and older. Options on where local vaccination appointments may be scheduled are listed below.

Ford Field Clinic

Open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., the site offers 6,000 vaccine doses per day.

Text "EndCOVID" to 75049 to request an appointment. The registration process should only be completed one time.

Beaumont Health

Patients age 16 and older with a free myBeaumontChart account are eligible.

Register through See SITES, page 2A

Councilman steps into mayoral role

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Following the death of Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Robert E. Novitke, city council was tasked with selecting his

successor. At its last council meeting Monday, March 29, the council selected Mayor Pro Tem Arthur W. Bryant to serve as mayor.

His mayoral term will expire with the election this November.

Bryant said he had been

taking on many of the mayoral responsibilities as mayor pro tem to assist Novitke. The transition to mayor will not be too big of a jump for him.

"(I've) kind of been doing the job already for a year or so," Bryant said.

"I'm familiar with it, it's not new to me. I feel able to handle it."

Bryant has been a member of the council more than 13 years. Before that, he served on the city's

See ROLE, page 2A

Hazardous waste day in the Pointes

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — With the weather warming up, spring cleaning is about to be in full swing. Unfortunately, not everything found tucked away in the depths of the garage can be simply thrown out in

the garbage bin. Grosse Pointe Park is hosting a hazardous waste drop-off day open to residents of the Park, Shores, City and Farms. Grosse Pointe Woods is hosting its own event. Both events occur from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 17.

For participants at the

Park event, acceptable materials to be dropped at the site include: oil-based paint and solvents; aerosols; corrosives (acids/bases); pesticides and herbicides; reactives and oxidizers; non-regulated waste; automotive fluids (oil, antifreeze, See WASTE, page 3A

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Kelly Houseman

Home: Grosse Pointe
Therapist works to end stigma around mental health issues



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