

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 4/20

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	3,153 (+142)	55 (+0)
Harper Woods	1,125 (+91)	47 (+1)

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APRIL 22, 2021
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Hospitals at critical capacity

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

MICHIGAN — Local hospitals are raising the alarm as the state has fallen into its third surge since the pandemic began.

Those in the metro Detroit region are at or nearing capacity, with many COVID-19 units ranging from around 75 percent to 100 percent full, reports the Michigan

Department of Health and Human Services.

“At this time last year, none of us would have imagined, going through that extraordinarily difficult time, that we would be here again (at the same time this year,” Beaumont Chief Nursing Officer Susan Grant said, adding most Beaumont hospitals are at 90 to 95 percent capacity. “... It’s hard this year, because after having

done this for over a year now, our nurses, our doctors, respiratory therapists, our teams, they’re tired and they’re worn. And they’re not only physically tired and worn, they’re emotionally tired and worn.”

Beaumont Health System, which recently opened curbside triaging centers at some of its campuses, including

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Stephanie VanSprange, RN, charge nurse; Katie Johns, nurse practitioner; and Sharon Calme, emergency room technician stand before the Beaumont, Grosse Pointe curbside triage unit.



COURTESY PHOTO

Spring is in the air!

Rutherford Boyd’s “Flower Garden, Irises and Poppies,” gives us much to look forward to as warmer weather approaches and new blooms appear.

Pickleball coming to Osius Park

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Construction is sched-

uled to begin, weather permitting, in late April or early May on a series of Osius Park improvement projects.

Fully funded by the

Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation, the \$131,000 plans include new pickleball courts; a concrete

walkway at the north end of the park, connecting the tennis court walkway to the dedication turnaround by the

See OSIUS, page 3A

Henry Ford expands COVID-19 therapy options

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

DETROIT — As the first treatment developed specifically for COVID-19 to be granted emergency use authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, monoclonal antibody therapy, or mAb, has been found to reduce the risk of hospitalization or death by 70 percent, according to a recent Henry Ford clinical trial. The trial also showed the therapy maintains effectiveness against multiple COVID-19 variants, including the B.1.1.7 UK strain, which currently is driving through Michigan.

mAb therapy has been approved under the FDA’s EUA since early November, but as the

pandemic continues, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services committed to investing \$150 million to increase access to the therapy in underserved and high-risk communities across the country in mid-March.

As southeast Michigan hospitals struggle under critical capacity amid the state’s third surge in pandemic cases, Henry Ford Health System now is partnering with the HHS to expand mAb therapy availability and opened a new monoclonal antibody infusion center April 20, at Community Health and Social Services in southwest Detroit.

“This expansion of the therapy is important in

See THERAPY, page 3A

Grant approved for 3rd round of reopening assistance

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A third round of the COVID-19 reopening assistance grant for businesses in the Tax Increment Finance Authority district was approved at a meeting Tuesday, April 6. Applications opened Monday, April 19.

The third round was approved

with \$75,000 of funding available. Each business that applies and is awarded a grant will receive \$6,000 to fund their project, a slight increase from rounds one and two, which awarded businesses \$5,000 each.

“I think we’ve had some good success and responses to phase one and phase two,” Chairman John Hughes said, “and phase

three appears to be a natural evolution of that. ... I think it’s a positive thing to help support our businesses, especially as they’ve been through some pretty difficult times.”

The grant money may be used on tables and chairs for outdoor seating; temporary fencing; temporary outdoor lighting; parklet materials/construction; barrier materials including

plant boxes, fencing, etc.; outdoor heaters, fire pit tables and fire pits; online ordering capacity expansion; Plexiglass barrier materials and installation; UV sanitizing lighting; air system purification upgrades; personal protective equipment; marketing expenses and other relevant expenses approved by the TIFA

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Pointer of INTEREST

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