

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 6/8

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	3,413 (+4)	64 (+0)
Harper Woods	1,307 (+4)	50 (+0)

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JUNE 10, 2021
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes



Former councilman
Doug Kucyk

Kucyk honored

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Having resigned in May to move to South Carolina, former Shores councilman Doug Kucyk was honored for his service to the community through a proclamation from council Tuesday, May 25.

After moving to the Shores in 2012 with his wife, Mercedes, he joined city council in November 2015, and has served on the finance committee, planning commission, parks committee, tree board and beautification committee.

"His dedication personifies the meaning of being a person of others," the proclamation reads. "... Mr. Kucyk will truly be missed as part of this community."

As a graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a master's degree in aeronautical science, Kucyk served as an air traffic controller in the U.S. Air Force 20 years.

Upon his retirement, he then worked in the defense field 18 years, as

See HONOR, page 3A

Grill fire engulfs back of home

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — What started as a small bar-beque grill fire in a La Belle backyard around 7 p.m. Sunday, June 6, morphed into 10-foot flames engulfing the rear of the home and half the yard by the time officers were alerted and

arrived on scene.

The homeowner first attempted to put out the small fire with a garden hose, before passersby noticed the flames and 911 calls began coming in.

"If you have a small fire, call us right away," said Farms Lt. Tom Shimko, who was in charge of the scene. "We don't mind coming to a small fire and put-

ting it out initially. But she initially tried to put the fire out with her hose, so that cost her time and that's why the fire spread so (quickly)."

There were no injuries and officers were able to put out the fire in about 4 minutes, with help from Grosse Pointe Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods crews.

"We had a lot of water on it

quickly," Shimko said. "The term is called 'hit it hard from the yard' and that's what we did. We saw the fire, we put a lot of water on it and did a great knock down on it."

The homeowner told officers she believed the cause was a leak in the gas line on the new

See FIRE, page 3A

Don't forget Dad!

Grosse Pointe Park Director of Parks and Recreation Chad Craig, with sons KJ and Bryce, is among the local dads featured in our Father's Day pages — which also include gift ideas for dads, the winner of our "Funniest Father" contest and suggested games to play on the big day — beginning on page 6C.



COURTESY PHOTO

Master plan open house gains feedback

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The Park's planning commission held an open house at the Tompkins Center Tuesday, May 25, to reveal master plan survey results and further engage residents as it moves toward next steps in the update process.

Partnering group MKSK organized a survey to gather community feedback. Receiving community feedback via various methods has been in the works since January.

Parts of the process have been delayed due to COVID-19, and the team has had to figure out how to successfully gain feedback on the update process virtually. With new CDC guidelines and the ability to safely host an open house for feedback, the group jumped at the opportunity.

"Because of COVID we weren't able to have anything in person until now,"

MKSK representative Ann Marie Kerby said during the event. "I think it's going really well."

The open house revealed the survey results on large posters, with stickers and comment boxes for residents to provide additional feedback.

"There were over 100 people who showed up to give their input," Kerby said in reflection. "Overall we had an engaging crowd that actively asked questions and interacted with the facilitators and also provided thoughtful comments and voted on what they would like to see improved in Grosse Pointe Park."

"(I) want to especially thank MKSK, our planning commission and park staff for putting this event on and volunteering their time," City Manager Nick Sizeland said.

With additional feedback provided from the

See OPEN, page 3A

City Hall emergency generator updated

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — A new emergency generator was installed at city hall, replacing a generator from 1973. New technology made the city realize it was time for an upgrade.

"It served well over time, but did not have the capacities to keep the building up and running should a storm or a DTE outage occur," City Administrator Bruce Smith said.

The new generator's life expectancy is more than 30 years and will be capa-

ble of providing power in the case of an outage.

"Historically power loss has happened multiple times a year," Director of Public Services Frank Schulte said in an email.

The generator cost \$309,000 and was installed Saturday, May 15.

"(It) was a crucially needed piece of equipment to keep operational functions going at city hall," Schulte said.

— Kate Vanderstelt



The new generator is capable of keeping city hall up and running in case of a power outage.

COURTESY PHOTO

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Katie Taylor

Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
Owner of Taylor Reese balances being an entrepreneur and mom of three



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