

**COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 7/6**

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	3,435 (+2)	65 (+0)
Harper Woods	1,317 (+2)	51 (+0)

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# Grosse Pointe News

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ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢)

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JULY 8, 2021  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## Donor policy thwarting contributions

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

### GROSSE POINTE PARK

— At a council meeting in January, Grosse Pointe Park City Council members had one final back-and-forth debate over a donor policy they were on the verge of adopting. The policy was adopted, to the disliking of much of the donor community.

The policy had been on multiple previous council meeting agendas; decisions continued to be tabled for later dates. At the January meeting, Mayor Robert Denner laughed, “Are we making this too complicated?”

City Attorney Jake Howlett replied, “It’s getting more so.”

### Background

The policy originally was drafted for a presentation at the November 2020 council meeting, where it was discussed and tabled until December.

At the November meeting, some council members raised concerns regarding anonymous donations. Counter-concerns regarding the potential of shutting down incoming donations also were discussed.

See **POLICY**, page 3A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

A large part of this tree on Grosse Pointe Boulevard and Beverly in Grosse Pointe Farms fell down during the storm and took out the light pole.

## Freak storm adds insult to injury

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

### THE GROSSE POINTES

— A freak weather occurrence descended largely upon the southern half of the City of Grosse Pointe at 3:05 p.m. Tuesday,

June 29, wreaking havoc in a matter of minutes and then disappearing as quickly as it came.

Alaine Bush, a resident in the 500 block of Rivard, was sitting in her sunroom when it suddenly turned pitch black

outside as though it was nighttime. Before she could even open the weather app on her phone, she said, debris made of leaves and sticks began banging against the windows, accompanied by a continual rum-

ble and distinct whistling of the wind.

As she rushed to leave the room, a clap of thunder shook the space around her and, with a loud cracking sound, she

See **STORM**, page 9A

Two feet of water pooled in front of the Alger house, seeping through the foundation and into the veterans’ room.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

## Firm to file class action lawsuit against the Pointes and Detroit

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

### THE GROSSE POINTES

— Grosse Pointe Park resident Paul Doherty woke up in the middle of the night Saturday, June 26, to an alarm alerting him his basement flooded nearly to the top with

rainwater and sewage backup, costing him around \$100,000 in property damage. Along with basement damage, Doherty also lost two vehicles due to flooding. An attorney for Ven Johnson Law, the Park resident is taking matters into his own hands, determined to

hold someone accountable.

“I get backups, the water comes on the grass, it does whatever, I clean out the storm drain, I take my little rake out there... I don’t mind that,” Doherty said. “I’ve lived

See **LAWSUIT**, page 9A

## Arts center close to fully funded with \$5 million commitment

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

### GROSSE POINTE PARK

— With some recent key donations, the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts and the Richard and Jane Manoogian Art Gallery is almost fully funded and has a goal of completing funding by the close of summer.

Within the last months, the center received big donations: a \$1 million gift from the Shields family and a \$1 million gift from the Valade family to go toward diver-



A 2022 ground-breaking date is anticipated for the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts and the Richard and Jane Manoogian Art Gallery.

sity, equity and inclusion initiatives, or DEI. A \$5 million gift was given by an anonymous donor who was moved to provide Grosse Pointe per-

forming groups, like Grosse Pointe Theatre and Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra, a

See **FUNDED**, page 4A

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## Flooding hits War Memorial Patriot Theater may be total loss

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

### GROSSE POINTE FARMS

— Among the many businesses and homes devastated by the June 25-26 flooding, The War Memorial did not escape the 7 inches of rain that fell overnight.

In what is estimated a loss in the millions, the

tent erected for events amid pandemic circumstances was destroyed by heavy winds; two feet of water pooled in front of the Alger house, seeping through the foundation into the lower levels; and muddy water coming from campus construction filled the Patriot

See **LOSS**, page 9A

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