DATE: MARCH 30, 2020       TIME: 4:00pm

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Media Release
St. Clair County – COVID-19 Daily Update #12

Michigan Confirmed Cases: 6,498 confirmed COVID-19 cases; 184 deaths.
St. Clair County Confirmed Cases: 27 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

On March 28, Lake Huron Medical Center (LHMC) reported a COVID-19 related patient death, a 72-year-old female patient transferred from Wayne County to LHMC, and later died from underlying conditions. This death was reported as a Wayne County death.

Everyone should continue following recommended guidance. Take precautions, practice prevention, and assume potential exposure in public locations. The message remains the same:

• Stay at home - Do not leave home except for essential tasks such as getting groceries or seeking medical care.
• If you are out, stay at least 6 feet away from others and avoid group gatherings.
• Wash your hands often, especially after being away from home.
• Do not touch your eyes, face or mouth, especially being away from home.
• Check on others - Call your loved ones and neighbors who are most at-risk and see how they are doing. If they require an essential errand, see how you can help.

With recent news circulating about individuals putting themselves at-risk by taking Chloroquine Phosphate without a prescription, Dr. Annette Mercatante, Medical Health Officer at the St. Clair County Health Department, says, "Some people in other parts of the country have taken Non-Pharmaceutical Chloroquine Phosphate, a chemical used in home aquariums, to prevent infection of the COVID virus. This is very dangerous and can cause serious health consequences, including death. Following the recommended guidance of staying at home, social distancing and proper handwashing are the best things you can do to prevent infection."

The St. Clair County Emergency Operations Center functions as a centralized coordination of emergency resources to provide overall policy and guidance for strategic objectives related to the COVID-19 situation. Follow reputable sources: cdc.gov/coronavirus; Michigan.gov/coronavirus; or scchealth.co. A general St. Clair County COVID-19 Informational Hotline, (810) 966-4163, is available Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm or email questions to covid19@stclaircounty.org. The State of Michigan hotline is 1-888-535-6136 and is operational daily 8:00am – 5:00pm or email questions to COVID19@michigan.gov.

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