

THE INSIDER

For The City of Harper Woods

Your community
resource guide for the
City of Harper Woods!
SUMMER EDITION
JULY THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 2020

Get the most out of our community!

CITY CALENDAR

July

July 3 – City Offices Closed

July 4 – Independence Day

July 13 – City Council Meeting
7:00pm

August

August 4 - Election Day –
Harper Woods

August 10 – City Council Meeting
7:00pm

September

September 7 – Rubbish Delay
(Labor Day)

September 9 – City Council Meeting
7:00pm

September 17 – Citizenship Day

September 21 – City Council
Meeting

September 25 – Native American
Day

A Message from the Mayor...

A Time of Sadness. A Time of Change. A Time of Opportunity.

Sadness in Harper Woods began on March 31 with the notification of the first death from COVID-19. Since then there has been a total of 31 deaths (as of June 1) between the ages of 25 and 89. I can only imagine the depth and far-reaching sadness encompassing family, relatives, and friends of those deceased. Grief transcends all other emotions and the hope becomes that we will all meet again.

Change has become inevitable and our lives may forever be changed. We have been and continue to be, because of COVID-19, experiencing various stages of pain, fear, and possibly loss. But we must continue to find hope and inspiration for the future. Having faith, staying safe, practicing social distancing, wearing a mask, helping others, and caring about others will serve to help us through this. Naturally, you are concerned for yourself, but for you to stay safe, others must help. All of us should remember that it is about **"We and NOT Me."**

Opportunity presents itself in unique ways during these times and could result in a rebirth. Perhaps it is time to reconnect with family, old friends, and acquaintances. Start new projects or finish those begun some time ago. Reflect inwardly about what is, was, or should be important. Maybe basics should be given more attention and become most important once again, i.e., respect, kindness, listening, laughter, and smiles. What might be your opportunity? How can things be considered in a new way?

These are rough times, but we must remain positive for the future. Together we will get through this sadness, change, and opportunity. It is about **"We NOT JUST Me!"**

Ken Boynter



HARPER WOODS PROUD

A Peaceful Demonstration

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." As a civil rights activist, he preached non-violent resistance and equality for all American citizens. With the recent events regarding the arrest and death of George Floyd, his words are just as profound and thought provoking as ever.

Lives matter. Black lives matter. That was shown by a peaceful demonstration on May 30. A car caravan beginning in Harper Woods at the Eastland Mall parking lot that consisted of at least 250 vehicles, with 500-600 passengers, decorated with signs and banners displaying positive messages. The caravan then traveled through each of the Grosse Pointes. This was a mixed group of races in a peaceful demonstration of solidarity.

The Harper Woods Public Safety Department

became aware of the planned #BlackLivesMatter Caravan and wanted to ensure a peaceful safe experience for all attendees. The Harper Woods Public Safety Director Vincent Smith said "we collectively agreed to assist the caravan by providing traffic control through intersections along the route in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes. It was important to all involved that the caravan remain unified and able to express their message safely."

Peaceful, positive, integrated.. **WE ARE HARPER WOODS PROUD!**



Please be advised that all programs, activities, dates, times and locations are subject to change and/or cancellation. Please visit the City's website for updates.

The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Kenneth A. Poynter

Mayor Pro Tem

Cheryl A. Costantino

City Council

Valerie J. Kindle

Ernestine Lyons

Veronica Paiz

Vivian M. Sawicki

Regina Williams

City Manager

Joe Rheker

City Clerk

Leslie M. Frank

The City Council welcomes resident comments on areas of concern or praise. Residents are welcome to attend a council meeting to comment in person, or they can write a letter to the council. All letters must be signed. Mail Letters to City of Harper Woods 19617 Harper Ave., Harper Woods MI 48225.

Harper Woods Insider Advisory Board

Vivian Sawicki - Council member, City of Harper Woods

Larry Hakim - Planning Commissioner, City of Harper Woods

Ty Hinton - Economic and Community Development Director, City of Harper Woods

Chaka Johnson - Community Relations and Parent Outreach, HW School District

Joe Rheker - City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email info@drivecreativeservices.com

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Neighbor in the News

"Thank you" to those Residents who stepped up in Harper Woods! The City really appreciates your efforts regarding the upkeep of your homes, your timeliness in paying City invoices and your respectable behavior through the COVID-19 pandemic.

We know that you have been "good neighbors" by giving a lot of extra time above and beyond while facing daily unexpected challenges. You have truly inspired the bond of our community. Please know that the City is here for you and that your hard work is resulting in our collective success.

While changes have impacted our everyday lives with the COVID-19 pandemic, we are encouraging our Harper Woods residents and business owners on working towards fighting the spread of the virus. By following the CDC guidelines, we would encourage everyone to develop and maintain "good habits" to help support each other during this time and in the future.



Featured Business/Organization: Support Your Local Businesses

The COVID-19 Pandemic has adversely affected every community in our Great Lakes State including Harper Woods. That observation is particularly evident concerning the businesses on Kelly Road and at the Eastland Mall. Eastland has been closed since March 23rd. The sixty-four shops, salon, space renters, restaurant and one Church have all been affected because of governmental efforts to slow and eventually stop the spread of the COVID-19 Virus.



Even when Eastland and business operators along Kelly Rd. reopen, some businesses might not survive the pandemic, due to the lack of customers, sufficient cash-flow, and a weakened supply chain. Restaurants and small retail shops are particularly vulnerable. So, what can the residents of Harper Woods do to make a difference and contribute to a positive outcome?

You, the resident, can start by supporting the retail stores and businesses that are currently open on Kelly Rd., Harper Avenue and Vernier. Some of these businesses were not designated as "essential businesses" by the Governor. If residents do not seek their goods and services, they too may not survive. Second, When the health care data indicates to Governor Whitmer that "non-essential" businesses can reopen, find out who is now open and how they may serve the needs of you and your family. If you have been buying from business operators that are currently open, you will have become more familiar with the locations of their neighbors, who are currently closed. Recently, the city administration held a Business Resource Webinar for business owners in Harper Woods. Economic and Community Development Director Ty Hinton advised the Insider, "We will continue to be supportive by sharing resource information that local businesses can take advantage of at the Federal, State and County levels to survive this pandemic and effectively reopen."

Employees in the Spotlight



All City of Harper Woods Employees Much has changed in Harper Woods since our last newsletter. The COVID-19 pandemic has sent City Manager, Joe Rheker to bravely serve our country in response to the negative impact of this pandemic. It has placed the City's Finance Director, John Szymanski, in the position of Acting City Manager and has moved existing work staff to levels not experienced before and with little or no preparation. The City is blessed to have a very experienced Mayor and an unusually talented City Council at this time. Everybody is pulling in one direction. Acting City Manager John Szymanski further explained our employee spotlight selection, "Deciding on one employee in the spotlight would not be fair for this newsletter issue because they all came through with flying colors. Such that is the case, I have decided to honor them all and let each Department Head tell their story".

Public Safety Director Vincent Smith... "All public safety department employees should be recognized for their professionalism, care for others, and use of protective measures during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Their continued perseverance, dedication, and readiness to provide services to the community has been nothing short of inspiring."

Public Works Director Bill Snyder... "The Department of Public Works has remained open to provide essential services through the governors shelter in place order which began in mid-March. We are available 24/7 to address emergency situations. The office staff and boots on the ground employees have consistently arrived at work ready to serve the residents of Harper Woods. We are grateful to be employed by the city and it is a privilege to serve the residents of our great city."

City Clerk, Leslie Frank... "Through the duration of this unprecedented time, the clerk's office has been available to assist our residents and business community in order to maintain all operations and functions of this office by keeping them informed of changes to the best of our ability. Also, with this being an election year, we are especially busy preparing for social distancing and safety in our polling locations ensuring that our voters will be able to carry out their civic duty and remain safe and protected in every aspect of the voting process. We are here to service our community and we are all in this together."

Library Director, Kristen Valyi-Hax... "I am very proud of the Harper Woods Library staff for the work that they have been doing during this pandemic. They are committed to serving the public even when the building is closed. Whether they are

attending online meetings with other Michigan library staff, viewing educational webinars, learning about new online resources, posting on social media, or many other tasks, they still provide quality services and resources to the residents of Harper Woods. The best part of our job is helping our community, and we could not do that without our dedicated employees. All of us look forward to being open again because we miss our patrons very much. See you soon!"

Judge Daniel Palmer and Court Administrator, Rachele Matouk... "32A District Court management wants to thank our court staff for their continued commitment to service during these difficult times. Court employees have embraced changes necessitated by COVID-19, including rapidly implementing Zoom technology to safely conduct court hearings. Because of the hard work and dedication of our employees, the court has maintained full business hours, and to the extent allowed by law, maintained the public's ability to get court business done."

Acting City Treasurer, Kim Keogh... "A big "Thank you" to the front office staff who have been working hard during the COVID-19 shutdown by coming in and continuing to answer residents calls and meeting their needs. Many calls received were to help the residents register and make water payments on the "New Mobile App" and making sure all payments were posted to accounts in a timely manner. They really put the effort into making sure the day to day operations continued as normal."

Park & Recreation Director, John Bobak... "I am especially proud of the recreation staff for their dedication and work ethic during this COVID-19 pandemic. The entire recreation staff deserves a "Special Thanks" for their contributions to the department."

Additionally, Harper Woods Mayor Ken Poynter along with fellow city council members, Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen, Judge Palmer and Acting City Manager John Szymanski together planned a special gesture to recognize all Harper Woods city employees and first responders for their service. On May 14th, they delivered a prepared lunch for each employee and kindly said "Thank you" from a distance!

Department of Public Safety – Police

Navigating Through Uncertain Times Together

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. Learn how COVID-19 spreads and practice these actions to help prevent the spread of this illness.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, everyone should:

Clean your hands often, either with soap and water for 20 seconds or a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Put distance between yourself and other people (at least 6 feet).

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces daily.

The City of Harper Woods is currently following Governor Whitmer's Stay at Home Executive order.

For current guidelines and further information visit [Michigan.gov/coronavirus](https://michigan.gov/coronavirus).



From the Director

On behalf of the Harper Woods Department of Public Safety, I want to assure the community of our department's commitment to you and that your trust in our officers does not wane. The events that led to the death of George Floyd and the complete lack of regard for human life is disturbing. There is no defense for the actions of those officers involved in Mr. Floyd's death. I will not condone police brutality. The images and video that we have all witnessed go against everything that law enforcement officers are sworn to uphold, including the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.

Many factors can be attributed to the events in Minneapolis: failed policy and oversight, weak recruitment practices, lack of training, and a poor organizational culture. The Harper Woods Public Safety Department strives to avoid those poor attributes. We believe in the Community Policing concept, which has allowed us to have a positive, progressive, and trusting relationship with our residents. To maintain this relationship, we strive to hire the next generation of individuals who have high moral and ethical principles and the ability to engage and connect with the community, we issue and require officers to wear body worn cameras when interacting with citizens, and we provide our officers with de-escalation and use of force training to avoid any tragedies like Minneapolis.

Although we have made advances and improvements, we understand that more needs to be done. This process includes involving and valuing the input of those we are sworn to protect. Let's keep the momentum we have established as a unified community. I am honored to serve Harper Woods and especially proud of the integrity preserved by the men and women within the Public Safety Department.

Vincent J. Smith, Director
Harper Woods Public Safety Department

Safety Tips for Children Home Alone:

1. Always check with your parents before you go anywhere or do anything. Be sure to check-in regularly with your parents when you're not with them.
2. Always take a friend with you when playing or going anywhere. It's safer and more fun.
3. Don't be tricked by people who offer you special treats or gifts. Never accept anything from anyone without your parents permission.
4. Stay safe when you're home alone:
 - Keep the door locked.
 - Do not open the door for or talk to anyone who stops by unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, and the visit has been pre-approved by your parents or guardians.
 - Never telling anyone who calls that you're home by yourself.
 - Before you are home alone, talk to you parents about a neighbor or trusted adult you can call if you feel scared, uncomfortable, or there's an emergency.
5. Never go into a public restroom by yourself.
6. Never go alone to malls, movies, video arcades, or parks. Take a friend with you, and always check first with your parents to make sure it's okay.
7. Don't panic if you feel lost. Identify the safest place to go or person to ask for help in reuniting you with your parents or guardians. Safe helpers could be a uniformed law-enforcement or security officer, store salesperson with a name tag, person with a name tag who is working at the information booth. Never search for your parents or guardians on your own, and never go with anyone who is trying to reunite you with them.
8. Be careful when you play.
 - Never take shortcuts unless you have your parents or guardians permission.
 - Don't play near busy streets or deserted areas.
9. Don't wear clothes or carry items with your name on the outside.
 - Don't be confused just because a person you don't know calls out your name.
10. Don't get into a vehicle or go near a vehicle with anyone in it unless you are with your parents or a trusted adult.
 - Never take a ride from anyone without checking first with your parents or guardians.
11. Don't be afraid to say NO and GET AWAY from any situation making you feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. TRUST YOUR FEELINGS, and be sure to TELL a trusted adult if anything happens to make you feel this way.



Department of Public Safety – Fire

SUMMERTIME OUTDOOR SAFETY

As we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, the Paramedics of the Harper Woods Fire Department encourage ALL residents to be mindful of social distancing of 6 ft and to use face masks when in contact with the public. Summer months in Harper Woods no doubt bring many fun activities, outdoor gatherings, fun in the sun, fireworks, yard work, and summer thunderstorms. We want our residents to enjoy their summer months as much as the next, that is why we are offering several safety tips from our friends at DTE, the NFPA and the American Heart Association.

Storm Safety Tips from DTE

Safety Tips During a Storm

- Stay at least 20 feet away from downed power lines and anything they are in contact with, including puddles of water and fences. Keep children and pets away too.
- Be extremely cautious near metal fences, which conduct electricity, following a severe storm. Electric current will be the strongest where a downed power line is touching a metal fence. Even a connecting fence several backyards away can be energized and dangerous.



Safety Tips After a Storm

- Stay out of flooded/damp basements or other areas if water is in contact with outlets, a furnace or any electrically-operated appliance. Most water or moisture conducts electricity. Contact may cause a serious or fatal injury.
- Keep portable heaters or candles away from flammable materials. Properly vent portable or space heaters. Keep children and pets away.

Portable Generator Safety

Provided it's installed and operated properly, a portable generator can be a good, temporary power supply for lighting, vital medical equipment, refrigerators, sump pumps and essential appliances. When using a portable generator, it's important to follow the manufacturer's instructions to avoid injuring someone or damaging your generator or appliances. Learn more about selecting, installing and operating a portable generator.

Health Safety Tips from the American Heart Association:

Summer is a time to have fun in the sun – but it's also the season for keeping a watch on your health. Heat-related illness, dehydration and sun exposure are among the most common concerns as temperatures rise.

Heat illness strikes thousands each year

Every year, more than 65,000 people visit an emergency room for acute heat illness, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Extreme heat causes more than 600 deaths per year. On one end of the heat stress spectrum are heat cramps, often linked to warm weather and overdoing an exercise you're not accustomed to. If these muscle cramps occur, take a break, drink water and find some shade or air conditioning to cool off.

Heat exhaustion, a more serious condition, may include an inability to maintain the same continuing level of physical activity, a body temperature around 100 to 102 degrees and dizziness, nausea, dehydration and rapid heart rate. Try to cool down and drink water. But if symptoms worsen or vomiting occurs, get medical help.

Heat stroke is even more severe and may cause death or permanent disability. Heat stroke is characterized by a body temperature of 104 degrees that may even exceed 106 degrees, heat exhaustion symptoms, trouble walking and neurological difficulties such as slurred speech or mental confusion. This is a true emergency and you should seek immediate medical help.

Fireworks Safety from NFPA

Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are not safe in the hands of consumers. Fireworks cause thousands of injuries each year. People can enjoy fireworks safely if they follow a few simple safety tips:

BE CAREFUL!

- Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.
- Do not use consumer fireworks.
- Keep a close eye on children at events where fireworks are used.

Consumer fireworks: NFPA is opposed to consumer use of fireworks. This includes sparklers and firecrackers. Even sparklers burn hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



FACTS:

- More than 16,000 reported fires are started by fireworks annually.
- Sparklers account for roughly one-quarter of emergency room fireworks injuries.

65+ and other risk factors

Those at highest risk for heat-related illnesses include people over 65 or children under 2 and those with chronic diseases, such as heart disease. Other risk factors are obesity, poor circulation and prescription drug or alcohol use.

Keeping hydrated, by the numbers

Drinking one bottle of cold water for every hour in heat and high humidity helps keep you hydrated.

Another gauge of fluid intake: If you're outdoors and haven't urinated in a couple of hours, drink more water. Additionally, if your urine is clear, rather than darker, it's a sign that you are likely adequately hydrated.

Symptoms of mild dehydration are feeling thirsty or experiencing a dry or sticky mouth; dry, cool skin; headache; or muscle cramps. Severe dehydration symptoms include dry, shriveled skin; irritability or confusion; dizziness; rapid heartbeat; rapid breathing; fatigue; and unconsciousness.

Sun protection 101: Use SPF 30 or higher

A painful sunburn today can lead to skin damage and skin cancer over time.

Sun intensity depends on the time of day. Rays are strongest midday, so minimize exposure from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ultraviolet light can penetrate clouds, meaning sun exposure can happen on overcast days.

Keep in mind that taking certain medications may result in higher sun sensitivity, too.

All Voters Can Now Vote by Absentee Ballot

The City highly encourages absentee voting for the State Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 and the General Presidential Election to be held on November 3, 2020 to help keep our residents as safe as possible due to COVID-19. Precinct workers will be wearing face masks/shields and gloves and will also have hand sanitizer and disinfectants available.

Social distancing guidelines may impact the amount of time you will spend waiting in line. The 6 foot spacing requirement will affect how many voting booths are available in a precinct and how many people will be allowed into a polling place at one time. **Avoid the lines!! Stay Home, Stay Safe and Vote Absentee!! All votes are counted!!**

HOW TO GET AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

First, request a ballot. Get an application from your county or city clerk's office or at [Michigan.gov/vote](https://michigan.gov/vote) and return the completed form to your city clerk's office.

* Ballots will be sent by mail for any ballot application received by 5pm the Friday before the election (July 31). Absentee ballots after this date will only be issued in person at the clerk's office.

* Voters can request and receive a ballot from 8am - 4pm on the Saturday before Election Day (Aug. 1) or between 8am and 4pm on the Monday before Election Day (Aug. 3) or on Election Day (Aug. 4) until 8 pm.

Next, complete, sign and submit your ballot.

Drop off your ballot in person to your city clerk or

Return your ballot to your city clerk through the mail. All ballots must be received prior to closing of the polls at 8pm on Election Day.



AUGUST AND NOVEMBER POLLING LOCATIONS

Precincts 1 and 2 - Beacon Elementary School, 19475 Beaconsfield

Precinct 3 - Harper Woods City Hall, 19617 Harper Avenue

Precinct 4 - Tyrone Elementary School, 19525 Tyrone

Precincts 5 and 6 - Poupard Elementary School, 20655 Lennon

REGISTER TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

Through July 20 you can register to vote:

- Online at michigan.gov/vote
- Any Secretary of State branch location
- Your City or County Clerk office
- By Mail - postmarked by 7-20-2020

July 21 through August 4 you can register to vote:

- In person at your City Clerk office - Residency Verification Required

Election Day, August 4, you can register and vote:

- In person at your City Clerk office before 8 pm
- You may vote that day - Residency Verification Required

Acceptable documents for Residency Verification include:

• Driver's License • Bank Statement • Other Government ID • State ID • Paycheck • Current Utility Bill • Government Check

Documents must have name and current address - Digital copies are acceptable.

Contact the Clerk's office if you are unsure of where you should vote or to check your registration status - 313-343-2510 or by email at llombardi@harperwoods.net



The City of Harper Woods encourages all of our residents to join Nixle. This is a community messaging system run in partnership with our local government. Participating members will receive real-time messages regarding important topics such as crime alerts, traffic safety issues, important dates, and community events. The program is safe, and registration is easy and is provided at no cost. Messages are received by email or through the web depending on your custom settings. Stay informed by signing up now at www.nixle.com.

32A District Court News

Taking Positive Steps: The New Normal in 32A District Court

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the work-life balance for many metro Detroiters, including those who work in the judicial system. In Harper Woods, 32A District Court has already instituted courtroom changes to adapt to Michigan's new social distancing rules. Virtual hearings have become the new normal, and like most courts in the state, 32A District Court is now using Zoom, a video conferencing app, to conduct most of its court proceedings.

The main purpose of these virtual proceedings is to make sure citizens are heard and follow the same courtroom procedures as if they were there in person. Judge Daniel Palmer stated, "It is a different way of managing court business for sure, but most courtrooms have no choice but to change their routines since they exist solely for the people's benefit."

Palmer isn't new to tackling challenges or making changes. In 2019, 32A District Court applied for and received a grant from the Michigan Supreme Court to start a Community Treatment Court, also known as mental health court, to assist defendants with mental health issues. But the question remains: When the threat of COVID-19 subsides, does the 32A District Court go back to what it normally does, or will permanent changes be made as a result of this virtual courtroom experiment? Palmer added, "Some changes may remain with us that actually make courts run more efficiently and take less time of the participants. That would be a good thing."

"Efficient" and "good" can also be used to describe 32A District Court, which has received favorable reviews over the past few years. According to a 2018 survey conducted by the Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Office, 98 percent of people attending 32A District Court hearings thought their case was handled fairly and 98 percent also thought they were treated with courtesy and respect by the judge. Palmer also expressed, "While this virus has taken a terrible toll, there are opportunities to make positive changes as a result. What we are doing is a step in that direction!"

Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

Building Department Info

To all residents and business owners:

We would like you to be aware of a new initiative Safebuilt is starting. The picture you see in this article will be produced in a sticker form and posted on structures that we are actively engaged with enforcement actions. It is our hope that this will eliminate duplicate reporting by our Citizens, Police Department and the D.P.W. on issues that we are currently corresponding with or are pending District Court litigation. We ask for your patience as we process ordinance issues by mail notifications or the issuance of a ticket.



Assessing Department Info

The Assessor is available on Wednesday's during normal business hours 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

You can contact the Assessor at 313.343.2527 or by e-mail assessing@harperwoods.net

All assessment information is available online through the city's website: www.harperwoodscity.org

For a better understanding of your assessment and taxes, please go to the City website, click on Departments; Assessor; and review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods

Applications for Deferment 2020 Taxes

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2020 tax deferments starting July 1 for the Summer and December 1 for the Winter tax bills. To qualify, a household income cannot exceed \$40,000. The applicant must also be 62 years of age or older, paraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, eligible service person, veteran, widow or widower, blind, or totally and permanently disabled. The deferment applications can be obtained at the Treasurer's Office Monday-Thursday from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

Assessing, Tax and Utility Billing Information Online



The City's website www.harperwoodscity.org provides a link for: assessing/property information including photos, sketches, assessed values and taxable values as well as tax amounts due and payment history. We

now have water billing information on the same website. Once you are online, go to bsaonline.com, and it will take you to the Access My Gov website to view and pay all City invoices and view property information. There is no charge to view this information however, there is a fee to pay invoices with a credit card; 2.95% of the amount you are paying.

Delinquent Tax Information Online

www.waynecounty.com/treasurer is the website address for delinquent taxes. Searching for delinquent real tax information can be done by entering the parcel ID, street number, and street name.

Property Transfer Affidavit

The "Property Transfer Affidavit" must be filed whenever real estate is transferred. The new owner must file the affidavit with the City Treasurer's Office within 45 days of the transfer.

Electronic Debit Transactions

When a check is provided as payment, it is an authorization for the City to use the information from your check to make a one time electronic funds transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When the City uses the information from your check to make an electronic funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day your payment is received, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.



Water/Sewer Rates

As of May, 2020

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Fixed Water Charge: | \$9.69/month |
| Fixed Sewer Charge: | \$17.08/month |
| Debt Service Charge: | \$2.50/month |
| Refuse User Fee: | \$4.16/month |
| Water Usage Fee: | \$65.13 per thousand cubic feet |



Water Bill Delivery

Bills are mailed on the 20th of each month. Payment by 5:00pm on the due date is the resident's responsibility. Failure to receive the bill does not excuse late charges. If you do not receive your monthly billing, contact the Treasurer's Office at 313-343-2522 for the balance due. Please return your water bill with your payment.

Current Fees Effective January 4, 2018

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Water Disconnect Fee for Non-Payment: | \$70.00 |
| Final Water Bill Fee: | \$20.00 |
| Unauthorized Turn On of Water: | \$200.00 |
| Water Appointment No Show: | \$50.00 |

Automatic Payment-Water Bills

Your water bill can be automatically deducted from your savings or checking account. Contact the City Treasurer's office for the enrollment form. For further information, please call 313-343-2500.

Pay Water Bills Online – NO FEES!

Free Mobile Water App Available! Please refer to your current water bill for details and how to register at harperwoods.cityinsight.com. See website for new features!



Automatic Payment-Tax Bills

Your tax bill can be automatically deducted from your savings or checking account. The enrollment form will be mailed with the tax bill. For further information, please call 313-343-2500.

Pay Property Taxes by Credit Card Online

Mastercard, VISA, American Express, and Discover Internet Payment: Go to City website www.harperwoodscity.org Select: Water & Tax Billing Pay Your Taxes Online

The resident will be charged a 2.95% convenience fee. Convenience fees are assessed by the Credit Card Company and subject to change.



Senior Resources

Sheltering in Place with Airline Treats

Fresh, surplus food donations from the national airline caterer Gateway Gourmet through a partnership with Gateway Gourmet and Project Isiah were a welcome surprise to residents of Park Place Senior Apartments in Harper Woods. In response to COVID-19, logistics and deliveries were made possible by the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, serving Harper Woods, Hamtramck, Highland Park, the five Grosse Pointes and Detroit.



Let DAAA help you ... an aging parent ... a friend or neighbor. For anyone who needs information or referrals related to healthy aging, home-delivered meals, household chores, or long-term care planning, start with a call to the Detroit Area Agency on Aging: 313-446-4444.

The Helm at The Boll Life Center

The Helm is an essential resource for adults ages 60 & up in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes. At The Helm you can participate in classes and activities to stay healthy and safe, expand your knowledge and enjoy fun and friendship. We also provide support services and information to help older adults continue living independently including chores assistance, caregiver programs, income tax preparation, Medicare counseling, medical equipment loan closet, Meals on Wheels and more. Contact The Helm at The Boll Life Center at (313) 882-9600.



PAATS News

Do you know about PAATS?

Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Service (PAATS) provides transportation to persons age 60 or older and disabled residents of Harper Woods and the five Grosse Pointes. You MUST call at least 48 hours in advance to reserve a ride.

Service Area – The service area takes residents to all locations in an area bound by the following: 11 Mile Rd., Gratiot Ave., Alter, Jefferson. We also go to several site specific locations including: Henry Ford Hospital, DMC, New Center, V.A., and others. Call for more details.

The following fares are per one-way trip.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Fares: Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes | \$3.00 |
| Outside of the City limits of Harper Woods and the 5 Grosse Pointes | \$4.00 |
| Site Specific Locations | \$5.00 |

Call the PAATS office for more information at 313-343-2580.



Special Trips

We also provide transportation to special trips arranged by The War Memorial. Trips include plays, tours, shopping, great lunches at area restaurants, and many more. Call The War Memorial at 313-881-7511 for more information.

Participating Partner



- In-Home Care Services**
- Respite care
 - Safety solutions
 - Dementia and Alzheimer's care
 - Companionship and housekeeping

She's always been the independent type. We aim to keep her that way.

We call our approach Interactive Caregiving™, which keeps our clients mentally and physically engaged while focusing on their needs.

Home + Life + Care | GrossePointe.ComfortKeepers.com | 586-422-1500

Library News & Events



"Check out what we've got planned for you!"

Kristen Valyi-Hax
Library Director

From the Director

What a difference a few months can make.

Without a doubt, the COVID-19 pandemic is one of the most challenging situations we've ever faced as librarians. Going from being a full-service, completely open library to being shut down for months on end is not something we ever learned in library school. Nevertheless, all of us at the library miss our patrons very much and we are dedicated to serving our community with the resources we have.

As I write this (May 22), libraries are still closed but we are planning to do as much as we can for you. We have developed a plan to offer curbside service, and when we can open to the public, we will have steps in place to ensure the safety of our staff and our patrons.

Unfortunately, I have cancelled all in-building programs through September 2020. I am very sad about it, and it was a tough choice. The staff loves seeing you at our events but we cannot guarantee that these events will honor social distancing recommendations. We hope that we will be able to have you all back at our events in October.

No matter what, we're still here and we're still working for you! We will be making plans for offering programs and events virtually. Check out the digital resources available at our web site, and keep an eye out on our social media posts for the most current information about what is happening at the library.

Ongoing Events

Storytime STEAM: Every week we will read a classic fairytale then do a project that represents that story. Bring your thinking caps and your listening ears!

Ages 4-9, every Wednesday in June and July, 2:00 p.m.

Summer Reading Program



This year's Summer Reading Program theme is "Imagine Your Story!" Well, we never imagined that we

would be offering a Virtual Summer Reading Program, but here we are!

Summer Reading Kick-Off! Join us for our Summer Reading Kick Off on Facebook Live! We'll read a few stories on the theme for this summer, "Imagine Your Story," and show you how to sign up for our all digital program this year!

All Ages, Monday, June 15, 3:00 p.m.

Imagination Celebration with Children's Theatre of

Michigan (Zoom): Join Janet Marie and m'Archibald for a zesty stew of traditional and original sing-along songs and share-along stories for your 1st through 5th grade readers in support of this summer's theme: Imagine Your Story.

All ages, Monday, June 22 at 5:30 p.m.

ScienceTellers Dragons: Return of the Ice

Sorceress (Zoom): A long time ago in a faraway world, two brave villagers go on a daring journey to release the dragons and save the kingdom from the Evil Ice Sorceress. When things don't go as planned, however, they might need to look to themselves (and to science!) for the answer. Don't miss this fun fantasy adventure featuring awesome dry ice effects!



All Ages, Monday, July 13, 1:00 p.m.

4th Wall Theater Workshop: Here's your chance to become a star! Children will learn about acting, singing, theater, and then will perform a short production for the parents.

Monday, July 20,

Ages 6-9 from 2:30-3:00 p.m., and

Ages 10+ from 3:15-4:00 p.m.



Ongoing Events for Adults

Read Something Different Book Club

- July: *Finding Dorothy*, by Elizabeth Letts
- August: *The World According to Fannie Davis: My Mother's Life in the Detroit Numbers*, by Bridgett M. Davis
- September: *Before We Were Young*, by Lisa Wingate

Mystery Book Club

- July: Tana French
- August: Nevada Barr
- September: Amy Stewart

Cooking Club

- July: Air fryer demonstration
- August: Healthy Snacks
- September: Special Diets

Demonstrations and Presentations

- Draw and decorate a Mandala, a circle ornament used as a relaxing tool
- Essential oils
- Collage workshop
- Make your own fairy garden
- Doll collecting
- Jazz concert



Visit www.harperwoodslibrary.org
or call the library at 313-343-2575

Department of Public Works

Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ The maximum weight of any one item is 40 pounds. Thirty to thirty-five gallon cans or bags are recommended. Oversize containers will not be collected.
- ✓ Please do not dispose of liquids in refuse.
- ✓ Paint must be dried out and placed on the boulevard with lids removed for pick-up.
- ✓ Cardboard, scrap wood, and lumber must be bundled securely with heavy binding material. Please remove all nails. Bundles should not exceed five feet in length and should not weigh more than 40 pounds.
- ✓ Carpet, carpet padding, and bundled brush will also be collected according to the same size and weight limits.
- ✓ Window or plate glass is not recyclable and will only be collected if it is broken into pieces and placed in a secure container marked GLASS.
- ✓ Encapsulated mattresses, encapsulated box springs, appliances, TV's and furniture will also be collected on regularly scheduled refuse collection days.
- ✓ Building materials such as wood with nails, dirt, cement, and sod can be collected as a special pick-up by the Public Works Department by calling 313-343-2570.
- ✓ (*Bulk waste exceeds size limits*) includes the following: Move outs, evictions and large set outs. Contact the Department of Public Works for a special pick up.
- ✓ Loose debris will not be cleaned up by the trash contractor. All trash must be contained in bags.
- ✓ **Do not place trash bags/cans in the street, this creates a traffic hazard. All cans/bags should be placed on the boulevard.**



Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

Please check waynecounty.com for information on various drop off days. Waste oil/antifreeze is no longer accepted at the D.P.W. for drop off. Please take waste oil

to your nearest O'Reilly's Auto Parts for disposal. Please contact the DPW for further information 313-343-2570.

Trash Delay Reminder!

A delayed trash day will **ONLY** occur when the holiday falls during a weekday. If the holiday falls on the weekend, your trash pick-up day will remain on your normal day.



MISS DIG – If you notice colored flags in your yard or along the roadway, it is an indication that someone is planning to perform underground construction in that area. The following utility companies are represented by colored flags as indicated:

- Blue – Water ● Green – Sanitary Sewer/Storm Water
- Orange – Telephone/Cable/TV ● Pink – Survey
- Red – Electric ● Yellow – Gas or Oil



Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste collection begins the week of **April 6th** and ends the week of **November 27th** on our trash collection day. Please place your yard waste in brown biodegradable lawn bags or rubbish cans no larger than 35 gallons and labeled YARD WASTE/COMPOST. Yard waste will **ONLY** be collected from the beginning of April through the month of November. **Yard**

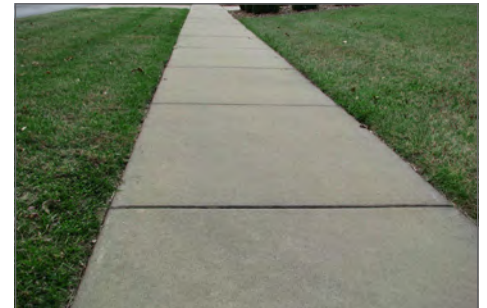
waste in plastic trash bags WILL NOT BE COLLECTED. Please check your City calendar for specific dates. For more information go to www.harperwoodscity.org or call 313-343-2570.

Grass Cutting Violations #89-9 Sec. 16-42 (b)

Residents, please note that according to the City ordinances, any grass over 5" is in violation. This also includes flower beds. When a GREEN TAG is placed on your door, you will have 48 hours to take corrective action. If your grass is not cut within that time, the City will hire a private contractor to cut your grass/weeds and the owner will receive an invoice to reimburse the City for such costs. If the owner fails to pay, the City Assessor shall add these charges to the tax rolls for this property. If you have any questions, please call 313-343-2570 upon receipt of warning or notice.

Sidewalk Maintenance

A friendly reminder to all homeowners and business owners that they are responsible for maintaining and correcting any sidewalk or driveway approach defects. However, before any repairs are made, a permit from the Building Department must be obtained. For more information, please call 313-343-2526.



Department of Public Works

Maintaining Sewer Lines

Below are a few tips to help maintain your sewer lines!

- ◆ Decrease your chances of home sewer issues by making an effort not to flush any paper products other than rolled toilet paper.
- ◆ Limit the use of your garbage disposal to small scraps that fall through the strainer. DO NOT use your disposal as a food processor.
- ◆ Do not pour cooking grease or cooking oil down your sink. This causes blockages as it hardens and can restrict flow.
- ◆ Living in a community with large, mature trees has its benefits, however, wandering roots can be problematic for sewer lines. To prevent possible sewage back ups, it is recommended that homeowners, with or without trees in their area, perform annual sewer line maintenance. This could include routine line cabling, root cutting and chemical treatments.
- ◆ The sanitary sewer line from the home to the City main is the responsibility of the homeowner. We suggest you get several quotes and references before having any work performed.
- ◆ Sewer line excavation and repair is a permissible event. The permit and inspection can be secured by contacting the Building Department at 313-343-2526.



Don't forget – the only paper product that should be flushed is toilet paper! All others belong in the trash – grease too!

Rodent Control

The following check list will help eliminate rodents from breeding in your area.

- ◆ Keep your yard free of trash.
- ◆ Use trash cans with tight fitting lids.
- ◆ Keep your yard free of high weeds, brush/branch piles and building materials.
- ◆ Make sure debris does not collect under wooden decks and porches or along side garage. Pick up fallen fruit and vegetables from gardens daily.
- ◆ Clean up dog feces and leftover uneaten food daily.
- ◆ Firewood must be stored a minimum of eighteen inches above ground.
- ◆ If you compost, turn pile daily. Food scraps should not be put in compost piles. This will only invite rats.
- ◆ Feeding the birds and squirrels on a regular basis can cause rodent problems.
- ◆ Lastly, rat bait (poison) can be purchased at your local store. **EXTREME CAUTION** Should be exercised when using these products. Always follow manufacturers Instructions. These products **MUST** be kept away from children and pets.

Professional exterminators can be hired to address this situation, if need be. Please Contact our department if we can provide additional information.

Downspouts, Surface Drainage, Etc.

The City requires that downspouts be disconnected from the drain tile or weeping that surrounds your home. Failure to do so is a violation of City Ordinance# Sec. 27-54. Downspouts, surface drainage, etc. and can significantly contribute to a flooded basement.

Gutters should be kept clean of debris.

Downspouts should have elbows, splash blocks and extensions to direct storm water away from the foundation of your home. Additionally, the grade (slope) of dirt around your home should be pitched to direct storm water /melting snow away from the foundation of your home. Driveways or other solid materials should also be pitched to direct water away from the foundation of your home. Failure to take these corrective actions can significantly increase the likelihood of a flooded basement.



Just a reminder Be a good neighbor and DO NOT direct storm water on to your neighbors' property.

Department of Public Works

Rain... rain go away



Lake levels are still at their highest levels ever. Predictions are they will continue to rise. The heavy rains we have experienced are considered significant wet weather. This has resulted in standing water in many residential yards, parks and school play fields.

If you are fortunate enough to have a yard drain, you may have had relief from yard flooding. If not, prolonged standing water can be problematic. With warmer temperatures on the way, standing / stagnant water can become a breeding area for mosquitoes or other aquatic life. It is important to eliminate standing water. A sump pump and garden hose may be the most economical way to eliminate standing water in yards.

Extreme care and ALL safety precautions should be taken when using a sump pump. Electricity and water can be a dangerous or deadly combination. A professional may need to be contacted for assistance with this. Most plumbing contractors are familiar with sump pumps and how to use them safely.

It is a violation of City Ordinance to discharge water on to your neighbor's property.

The installation of yard drains and fill dirt may provide a more permanent, long term solution. It is also a violation to displace water by adding fill dirt when it will displace water and flood your neighbor. A reputable landscape company could advise on fill and grading low spots. Our Building Department should be contacted to advise on grading issues.

Wet, soggy ground and significant rainfall can contribute to wet basements or crawl spaces. This would be a good time to inspect the grading around the foundation around your home. Concrete landscape materials, sod, and dirt should all be pitched or sloped away from your home. Gutters should be kept clean and there should be downspouts, elbows, splash blocks and extensions on you gutters to direct water away from your home. This may prevent excess water intrusion into a crawl space or basement.

The foundation of homes and buildings are surrounded by drain (weeping) tile. This is typically installed on the outside of the basement, just below the level of the basement floor, when the home is built. It is designed to take in storm water that soaks / perks into the ground surrounding the home. It is NOT designed to be the main conduit for storm water. It is important to know that this storm line connects or ties into the sanitary line that takes waste water away from your home. This is evident by the 2 clean out caps in the basement located by an exterior wall.

When the drain tile around your home is overwhelmed with water it can significantly contribute to water backing up through floor drains. Again, this is why it is important to make sure you have sufficient grading, clean gutters and downspouts with extensions to direct storm water away from the foundation of your home. The slightest blockage or restriction in your sewer line in addition to the storm water can contribute to sewage backups. Sewer lines should be maintained annually by cleaning, root cutting by an experienced contractor.

Most reputable plumbing contractors offer a warranty and provide a camera inspection to identify developing problems.

All sewer repairs or plumbing work is a permissible event. Permits and inspections can be secured by contacting our Building Department @ (313) 343-2526.

Community & Business Progress

Harper Woods Announces \$22,000,000 Savings for its Taxpayers

Significant changes have been made to retiree health care costs for future City employee retirees. Instead of receiving City sponsored health care plans at retirement, future retirees will receive a flat fee Stipend to purchase their own insurance.



This change had a twofold effect on City finances: The City saved \$22,000,000 in future obligations and avoided an immediate \$500,000 per year obligation payable to a State of Michigan sanctioned trust fund. That immediate savings helped the City avoid layoffs of Police and Fire personnel and other City staff.

New Message Boards to be Installed this Summer

As part of the City's 50th Anniversary in 2001, the Mayor and City Council placed a digital information sign on the front lawn of City hall to inform residents of important community events and meetings. The new message boards feature high resolution color graphics in larger frame spaces that will display beautiful artwork and City information for several years ahead.



DPW Fleet Upgrade



The City recently purchased and took possession of three new Ford Super Duty F350 Dump Trucks with stainless steel dump bodies and plow attachments. These replaced the three 2001 Dodge Dump Trucks. They will be used for water main breaks, special rubbish pick-ups and plowing snow. The City also purchased a gently used 2017 ELGIN Pelican street sweeper. By purchasing this gently used street sweeper we saved \$55,000 as compared to a brand-new street sweeper. This has replaced a 2003 Elgin Pelican street sweeper. These new additions to the DPW fleet should serve the residents of Harper Woods for many years to come.

Harper Woods Receives Two Grants from the State of Michigan



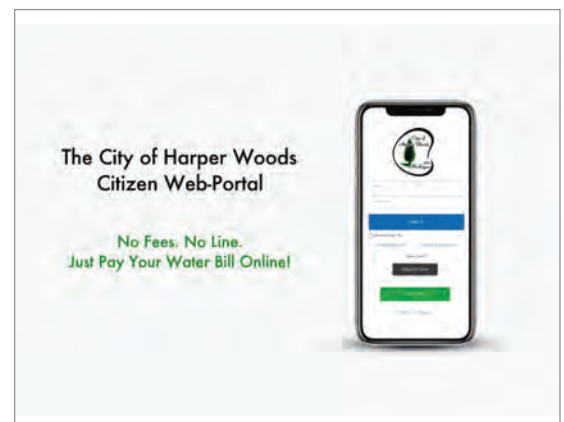
The City of Harper Woods received a grant, from the State of Michigan, to replace windows at City Hall in the amount of \$202,000. This grant combined with other building fund monies will enable the City to replace its 50-year-old plus roof, boiler and windows, which will significantly reduce its future heating and cooling costs for the operation of City Hall.



The City of Harper Woods also received a "Water Meter Replacement Program Continuation" grant in the amount of \$315,135. This grant will enable the City to purchase meter bases, meter register tops and transmitters. These efforts will eventually get the City's meters to an "auto read status" and improve accuracy by up to 10%. The existing City staff will perform the installations once the Governor's order on full quarantine are lifted.

Mobile Water Payment App Increases 87%

The City's "New Mobile App" through City Insight began in 2020 with 1,044 registrations. Since then, the City has registered 911 new residents. This is a huge increase due to City offices staying closed during the COVID-19 shut down – this brings our total to 1955 registered! We encourage residents to register as the City is looking to expand services on this application. Also, new to the application you will find "City Alerts." Just a reminder: This site does not charge any fees on your payments. Please visit www.harperwoods.cityinsight.com and register today. The front office staff are happy to assist you!



2020 Fall Recreation Program

Important Notice

Please be advised that all programs, activities, dates, times and locations are subject to change and/or cancellation. We will be awaiting further instructions from The CDC, Governor Whitmer and our State leaders on how to proceed in the Fall. Please call our office at 313-343-2560 with any further questions.

Fall Tennis

Interested in tennis? Whether you are a beginner or more advanced, you will have a great time in this class. We will have a 5 week session for ages 6-12. These classes will be held at the Tennis courts located in Johnston Park.

Day: Saturday

Dates: Sept. 12-Oct. 10

Cost: \$50.00 per person

Times: 11am-12pm



Kids Swim Lessons

Our lessons teach children to be independent and safe in the water. Our certified instructors will teach your child all of the tools they need to become a good swimmer, and they have fun too!! The lessons are offered at the Harper Woods High School pool, and are available for 6 week sessions.



Classes run on Mondays only.

*Please register early, classes fill up fast.

Sess 1: Sept. 14-Oct. 19

Sess 2: Oct. 26-Nov. 30

Monday Classes

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Aquaducks | 5:00-5:30pm | Level 1 | 5:30-6:00pm |
| Level 2 | 6:00-6:30pm | Level 3 | 6:30-7:15pm |
| Level 4, 5, 6 | 7:15-8:00pm | | |

Swim Fees:

Aquaducks, Level 1 or Level 2: \$50 for one child, \$25 for each additional child

Level 3, Level 4, Level 5, or Level 6: \$60 for one child, \$30 for each additional child

Martial Arts

This exciting class is perfect for anyone who wants to learn Martial Arts. We will be offering 6 week sessions for ages 7 through adult. This class is held at Beacon Elementary in the gym. **Sess 1:** Sept. 15-Oct. 22
Sess 2: Oct. 27-Dec. 10

Day: Tues & Thurs **Time:** 6-7 pm

Cost: \$60.00 per person



Tumbling

This exciting class will be held on Saturdays at the Harper Woods High School on the second floor. Participants develop hand/eye coordination, balance, strength and flexibility through tumbling and obstacle courses. This class will be taught by Lisa Biggs and will run for 6 week sessions.

Sess 1: Sept. 12-Oct. 17

Sess 2: Oct. 24-Dec. 5

Day: Saturdays

Fee: \$50.00

Times: Ages 4-6 (co-ed) 10am-11am
Ages 11 & up 12pm-1pm
Ages 7-10 (co-ed) 11am-12pm



Adult Swim Lessons

Adults, now you can learn how to swim and be confident in the water. We offer 6 week sessions at the Harper Woods High School Pool.

Sess 1: Sept. 15-Oct. 20

Sess 2: Oct. 27-Dec. 1

Day: Tuesdays **Times:** 5:30-6:15pm **Cost:** \$55.00



Harper Woods Walking Club!!

Join us on Saturday mornings at Salter Memorial Park for walking, and socialize with your neighbors. Pre-registration is not needed and there is no cost. Get your heart rate up by walking the Salter trail. The restrooms will be open for walkers during the walks. Please call the recreation department at 313-343-2560 for more information. Sponsored by Advantage Living Center.

Days: Saturdays

Time: 9:00am-10:00am

Dates: May18-October 17

Cost: FREE



Water Aerobics

Water aerobics is a great low impact workout. We offer 6 week sessions at the Harper Woods High School Pool.

Sess 1: Sept. 15-Oct. 20

Sess 2: Oct. 27-Dec. 1

Day: Tuesdays **Times:** 6:30-7:30pm **Cost:** \$50.00



OPEN SWIM on Tuesdays!

4pm-4:45pm \$2 per person

Residents ONLY

You must stop in at the HW Recreation Department to get a Swim Pass prior to open swim.





Dance

Come join the fun and dance, as we start our 37th year of the dance program! There is no residency requirement. All classes are held in the Tyrone Elementary/gym/stage area located between Mack and Harper at the intersection of Tyrone and Broadstone. Students have the opportunity to perform in the annual Recital. It will be held in late April (end of the session) in the auditorium at Harper Woods High School and there is no charge to attend the Recital. There are ballet barres. We suggest you arrive ten minutes prior to your child's class time if you choose this option.

Please call dance program director Nonny Sperry with questions at (313) 885-3714.

**Celebrating
37 Years**

REGULAR SEASON DANCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE 2020-2021

DANCE STAFF: Mikayla Schiller, Caitlin Skerske, Nonny Sperry

Dance Program Director: Nonny Sperry (313) 885-3714

Begins Tuesday, October 20 and ending with tentative rehearsal and recital on May 18 and 19

approximately 25 dance lessons

Tuesdays starting October 20

5:00-5:30---Creative Movement/Ballet, ages 3-5
5:30-6:00---Tiny Tappers, ages 3-5
6:00-6:30---Lyrical, ages 6-9
6:30-7:00---Hip Hop, ages 6-9
7:00-7:30---Hip Hop, ages 10-14
7:30-8:00---Production Class (free), ages 7 and starts up in February

Wednesdays starting October 21

5:00-5:30---Junior Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 4-6
5:30-6:00---Ballet, ages 5-7
6:00-6:30---Tap, ages 6-9
6:30-7:00---Ballet ages 8-10
7:00-7:30---Lyrical, ages 10 and up
7:30-8:00---Tap, ages 10 and up
8:00-8:30---Ballet, ages 10 and up
8:30-9:00---Teen/Adult Jazz

Production Dance Class (no charge) — This class will be offered to all students ages 7 and up. Dancers will meet once a month. Do not miss your chance to dance in an extra routine with a large group in the Recital!! There is no experience necessary. Students will need to purchase a Harper Woods Dance Logo T-shirt.

Dance Tuition — \$150.00 per class *plus \$10 family registration fee which typically includes 25 dance lessons. Tuition can be paid in 2 installments with HALF DUE at the time of enrollment. There will be an additional \$10 installment fee for the payment plan. Final payment of the payment plan is due by January 22, 2021.

Family Plan Discount — This discount applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in two or more classes.

2-5 classes: 10% off the total

6 or more classes: 20% off the total

Recital Costumes — Please be aware that you will not be purchasing a costume for the 2021 Dance recital. Students will be putting together their own costumes or buying accessories at minimal cost.

Participating Partner



313-881-9556

www.advantageliving.net

19840 Harper Ave., Harper Woods, MI 48225

Participating Partner



38110 Executive Dr. Suite 200, Westland, MI 48185 • Phone: 734-331-3980

Parks & Recreation Update

Park Facilities

The Recreation Department has three parks for community use, each with children's playground equipment and picnic sites. Picnic reservations will be taken from May through Labor Day. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. No moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, bands or DJ's allowed for picnics. Reserve at least one month in advance, minimum of two weeks in advance. Refunds for cancellations are only given if you cancel at least 4 weeks before your scheduled picnic date. **There are no dogs allowed in Johnston or Danbury Parks.**



Park Fees *(Fees are subject to change)

There is a fee for picnic reservations. A shelter at Johnston or Salter Park is \$75. The Pavilion at Salter is \$100. The fee is due at the time of reservation.

Financial Assistance Program

The City of Harper Woods believes in providing recreation opportunities to all residents regardless of economic circumstances. For a confidential inquiry, please contact the Recreation Director at (313) 343-2560.

Recreation Refund Policy

1. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Department within the first two weeks of the program.
2. No refunds will be given after the second week of class, except under special circumstances, i.e. medical reasons.
3. Refunds will be given in check form through City Hall for amounts over \$10.00 or as credit for future recreation registration fees for amounts of \$10.00 or less.

To Register:

Register at the Recreation Office or mail in the registration form with payment. Phone reservations not accepted. Make checks payable to: **City of Harper Woods**

**The Recreation Department is located near the front of Johnston Park
Office hours: 8:00am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday**

**The mailing address is: City of Harper Woods Parks & Recreation
20221 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, MI 48225
313.343.2560**

Harper Woods Recreation Department

TO REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS:

Register at the Recreation Office or mail in the registration form with payment. Phone reservations not accepted.

Participant Name _____

Age _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Birthdate _____

The undersigned recognizes that injuries sometimes occur in connection with athletic activities, and hereby exonerates the City of Harper Woods Recreation Department, its employees and volunteers for any liabilities in connection therewith. The City of Harper Woods is not liable for any accidents or injuries to participants or spectators.

Activity _____ Days/Times _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant _____

the Community Resource Guide

Harper Woods Edition



Highlighted in this Edition:

**Health & Fitness • Foot Care • Education • Real Estate Trends
Supporting Local Businesses from Home • And More...**

The Community Resource Guide is a quarterly, seasonal publication providing all Harper Woods residents and businesses an opportunity to share public local stories, upcoming events and business services with all the residents in and around our community.

If you or someone you know have an event to promote, a story to share or an idea for the upcoming Fall Edition (October through December), please feel free to contact us at info@drivecreativeservices.com. **Deadline to provide information is Friday, August 28.**

All information provided will be considered without guarantee it will be published.



To promote your business in this quarterly publication, please contact
Drive Creative Services at (586) 275-0030 • email: info@drivecreativeservices.com

Apply Now!

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Place an order to support our locally owned restaurants while enjoying your favorite meal from your home.

SHOP ONLINE OR BY PHONE

Shop from the comfort of your home by visiting our retailer's online stores or giving them a call to place items for pickup.

LEAVE A REVIEW

Many small businesses rely on reviews to help grow their business. Take the time to leave a review of your favorite business.

PROMOTE A BUSINESS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Like, comment and share posts from our local businesses!

BUY A GIFT CARD

Purchase a gift card now and spend it later! Buying a gift card is a great way to support a business now when they need it most.

SUBSCRIBE TO BUSINESS EMAILS

Sign up to receive small business newsletters. This is also a great way to stay informed on their response to changing circumstances.



POINTE FITNESS & TRAINING CENTER

THANKS ALL OF YOU, OUR LOYAL MEMBERS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. YOU ARE WHAT MAKES OUR GYM STAND OUT FROM THE REST.

We will be accepting new members beginning July 11

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Today's Health & Fitness

It is trying times we live in.

I own Pointe Fitness and Training in Harper Woods. We've been closed just like everyone else who has a gym, restaurant, salon, bar, etc.

Like every owner of one of these types of businesses, I'm looking at how to strike a balance between conscience, health and the well-being of our members and the necessity to reopen or risk losing everything that's been built up over the last 25 years.

In that 25 years the fitness business in our area has exploded. Yoga studios, boutique gyms offering different types of classes, big commercial gyms. Now, all of us empty.

People are filling in the blanks and making great efforts doing on-line workouts and picking up exercise tips shared by a world-wide, online, community. Millions of people trying to work out in their basements, living rooms, garages and in their yards. I've had people tell me they've finally, for the first time, started walking outside for their cardio exercise.

With all this home fitness ingenuity going on, the number one question I'm still getting asked; "When's the gym going to open?"

Seems true; "you don't know what you have till it's gone." Sure, you can make due working out with shopping bags filled with soup cans in your TV room and briskly walk the streets of your neighborhood but it's not the same as going to a gym that has really nice treadmills, a variety of great strength equipment, and classes shared with other motivated people around you, even at a 6ft distance. Zoom is a good try but still not the same.

Restaurants give you what you can't get at home. Bar's and Salons, the same. No home workout beats the feel and the sound of a good gym. I think there's a new appreciation for that. I think I speak for all of us that own businesses; we're looking forward to everyone's return.



Ken Welch, Owner
Pointe Fitness
& Training

Friendly calls are priceless connections to homebound seniors who need to know they are not alone.



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*Together, we can reduce loneliness.
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The logo features a stylized, maroon-colored 'H' and 'W' intertwined.

Harper Woods Diploma Success

EARN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!

A young man in a black graduation cap and gown, smiling, holding a rolled-up diploma tied with a red ribbon. He is standing in front of a bookshelf filled with books.

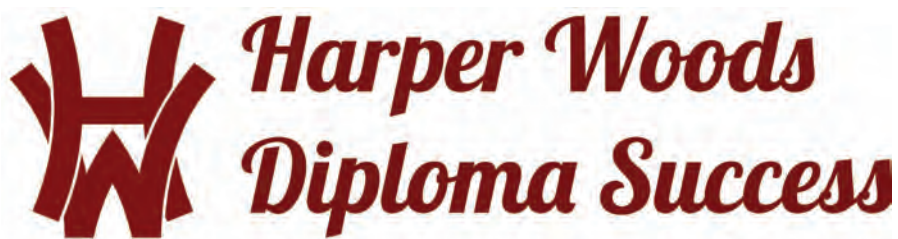
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FAQ

Q: What are the benefits of attending Harper Woods Diploma Success?

A: Students who attend Harper Woods Diploma Success are given the opportunity to be inspired, empowered, and finish high school on their own terms.

Q: How do students qualify for the state-aligned academic programs & curriculum?

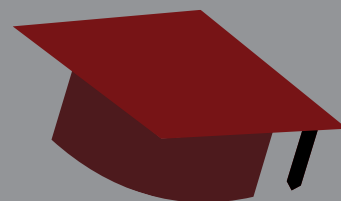
A: Students must be 15 and 6 months of age at the time of enrollment. Students cannot be 21 years of age on or before September 1st. There are other programs that can accommodate the other are groups.

Visit us at: BackOnTrack.education for more information on other Back on Track programs.

Q: Does Harper Woods Diploma Success offer a high school completion program that is strictly online, not at a site?

A: Yes, we have an online program that would be a great fit for 6th-12th grade students that would like to work totally from home. Visit our tuition-free, online school, My Virtual Academy on the web at: MyVirtualAcademy.com

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| ▼ 9.0% FROM PRIOR QUARTER | ▲ 3.1% FROM Q1 2019 |
| 58 NUMBER OF SALES | ▼ 13.4% FROM PRIOR QUARTER ▲ 12.1% FROM Q1 2019 |
| 63 AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET | ▼ 46.5% FROM PRIOR QUARTER ▼ 90.9% FROM Q1 2019 |
| 72 Q4 AVERAGE MONTHLY INVENTORY | ▼ 11.1% FROM PRIOR QUARTER ▲ 56.5% FROM Q1 2019 |

26.9%
ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▼ 2.5%
FROM PRIOR QUARTER
▼ 27.3%
FROM Q1 2019

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q1 2020)-OVER-QUARTER (Q4 2019)

▼ 12.5%
ACTIVE

▲ 12.3%
UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 13.4%
CLOSED

YEAR-AFTER-YEAR (Q1 2020 vs. Q1 2019)

▲ 36.1%
ACTIVE

▲ 5.5%
UNDER CONTRACT

▲ 12.1%
CLOSED

The market in Harper Woods remains strong with continued low sales the result of low inventory. This trend does appear to be reversing as the year over year figures suggest. Please note that with small amounts of data, average sale price is likely to fluctuate noticeably and is a less reliable indicator than Days on Market.

Stats and Trends provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS® All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed and should be independently verified. Information was derived from a variety of sources including but not limited to Realcomp II Ltd. and the Great Lakes Repository®.

¹The Absorption Rate is the rate of home sales taken by dividing the number of sales by the inventory. Above 18.3% is considered a seller's market.

Website: www.GPBR.com

Phone: 313.882.8000

Fax: 313-882-6062

Email: members@gpbr.com

Address: 710 Notre Dame, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230



UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Average Sale Price – Good news!: Year over year activity is a far better gauge of a market than quarter over quarter because it takes into consideration seasonality (the fluctuation from month to month based on the time of year). Because we do not anticipate any softening of prices as a result of the shutting down of the Michigan economy, we do not expect a significant drop (if any) when we compare Q2 2002 to Q2 2019. Sales remain constrained by inventory, while it is increasing, it needs to increase more to adequately impact the relationship between supply and demand.

Number of sales – Good News: The building of inventory seen at the end of last year has resulted in increased sales over 2019. Again, year over year is a better market indicator than quarter over quarter because of seasonality.

Days on Market (DOM) – Average: Generally, 60 days on market (DOM) is considered normal. Because sales have been at a far faster pace a drop to 6 from 33 or 43 seems alarming. It is not, alarming will be if DOM goes to over 90 for a lengthy period. The impact of the COVID-19 virus will have an impact, its long-term impact is uncertain.

Inventory – Great News!: As with average sale price and inventory, year over year points to no serious erosion in inventory which is known to have a negative impact on sales. Once the Shelter in Place order is lifted, how buyers and sellers will react to the market will not have an again reduced inventory adding to those things they need to consider.

Absorption Rate – Average: You never like to see the absorption rate decline; however, at 26.9% it remains a seller's market.

Covid-19 and the Governor's Executive Order – Perhaps like you we too are waiting to see what the real estate market will look like when REALTORS® are allowed to assist the public once more traditionally as it relates to real estate. What we do know is that the need to buy or sell is not going to disappear nor is the historically low financing. We are also being told by lenders that being out of work for weeks or even months because of the Covid-19 virus is unlikely to be a qualification issue if a buyer is back at work.

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META WHAT?



Overview:
Metatarsalgia is the medical name for pain and inflammation of the metatarsal heads, commonly known as the ball-of-the-foot. Here, the toes join the rest of the foot and it's often an area of added pressure. Those with an abnormal foot shape

or function, diminished fat pad or those who wear heeled shoes are more likely to develop this condition. Symptoms include a "pebble-like" or "balled-up sock" feeling in your shoe when walking, sharp pain or burning sensation when you toe-off and difficulty walking barefoot.

Common Causes: Excessive rolling inward of the foot or over-pronation, tight calf muscles or Achilles tendons, flat feet or high arches, improperly fitted shoes, inadequate arch support and excess body weight.

Solutions: Stretch your feet and legs regularly, elevate the injured foot, ice and massage, wear a night splint to keep plantar fascia stretched, choose low-impact alternatives to jogging or aerobics, add arch supports to your shoes and/or replace shoes that don't fit or provide adequate arch support.

BY: Joe Dyament, Board Certified Pedorthist (C.Ped), Owner of Foot Solutions, www.footsolutions.com.



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