



THE INSIDER

For The City of Harper Woods

Your community
resource guide for the
City of Harper Woods!
WINTER EDITION
JANUARY THROUGH
MARCH 2023

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

January

*Check City's website
for time and format

January 1 – New Year's Day
January 2 – City Offices Closed
(New Year's Day Observed)
*January 4 – City Council Meeting
January 7 – Siren Test 1:00pm
January 16 – City Offices Closed
(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
January 17 – Water Bills Due
*January 18 – City Council Meeting

February

*Check City's website
for time and format

February 2 – Groundhog Day
February 4 – Siren Test 1:00pm
*February 6 – City Council Meeting
February 12 – Lincoln's Birthday
February 14 – Winter Taxes Due
February 15 – Water Bills Due
February 20 – City Offices Closed
(President's Day)
*February 22 – City Council Meeting

March

*Check City's website
for time and format

March 4 – Siren Test 1:00pm
*March 6 – City Council Meeting
March 12 – Daylight Savings Time
Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour
March 13 – Board of Review 1pm-9pm
March 15 – Water Bills Due
March 17 – St. Patrick's Day
*March 20 – City Council Meeting
March 20 – First Day of Spring
March 27 – Board of Review 9am-3pm



In Memoriam William J. Snyder

Since 1975, the City of Harper Woods has been blessed with the exceptional service that Bill Snyder has provided to residents and businesses within our City.

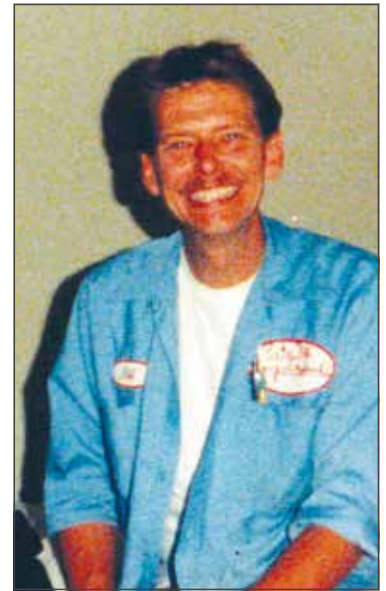
Bill began his career in the Department of Public Works as a maintenance worker. Throughout time, he progressed to his most recent role of Superintendent as of 1999.

Bill's dedication to the improvements within community was something he was proud to provide. He worked tirelessly to help strengthen Harper Woods, many times after hours or on weekends. He did all of this without wanting recognition for his efforts in keeping our City beautiful.

We regrettably inform you of William "Bill" Snyder's passing on October 4, 2022. Bill Snyder was like no other. His knowledge far surpassed anything that could be written down or researched online. He was a boss, mentor, and friend to both employees and residents. Bill was always willing to lend a hand in any situation, professional or personal, at any hour. "The City and its residents have lost a true Champion and HERO!" said Heather Toutant, Deputy Director of Public Works. She added, "He took immeasurable pride in the City- he could never go from point A to point B – he always had to check out one more thing along the way."

Mayor Valerie Kindle said, "Words of sympathy doesn't begin to express the sense of loss that we are feeling since the passing of our beloved DPW Director Mr. William (Bill) Snyder. The candle may go out, but the memory of its light remains!"

At Bill's memorial service, Mayor Kindle presented Bill's beloved wife "Sue" with an official proclamation from the City that concluded, "Now Therefore Be It Resolved... that the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council of the City of Harper Woods, speaking on behalf of all our citizens, hereby extend to the members of his family this expression of sincere regret for his loss, our sincere appreciation of his dedicated performance of the duties of his office, and the hope that they will be consoled by the memories of his fine life and achievements."



Continued on page 2

**Look for your
HARPER WOODS 2023 PULL OUT WALL CALENDAR**
In this Edition of *The Insider*

The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

Mayor Pro Tem

Vivian M. Sawicki

City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Ivery Toussant Jr.

Regina Williams

Acting City Manager

John Szymanski

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

John Szymanski - Acting City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email info@drivecreativeservices.com

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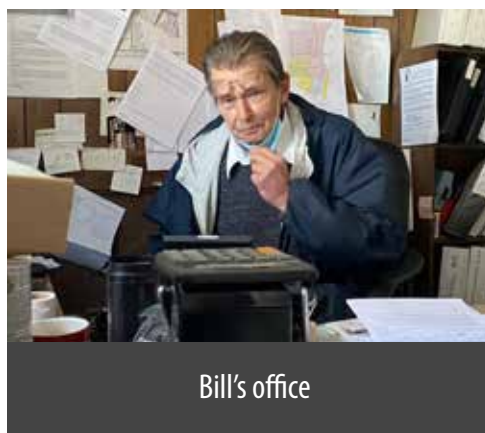
Bill and his "partner at work"
John Bobak



Bill's pride and joy -
New Boiler replaces
50 year old in 2020



Bill enjoying
what he does



Bill's office



Bill's Memorial Service
His prized trucks lined up in his honor!



The Bill and Sue team always doing their best to beautify the City!

What Black History Month Means to Me...



"Being Black in America is an honor and a privilege for me. Black people in this country have endured and overcome so much while simultaneously contributing to every aspect of America's foundation, culture, and society. From creating meaningful and timesaving inventions that impact the day-to-day lives of Americans to

influencing music, food, sports, and fashion. Black people have placed a mark on American history that shall never be erased. To celebrate Black history is to celebrate American history, they go hand in hand. The many achievements that were made by Black American's is what has continued to make America the great Country that it is!"



Valerie Kindle
Mayor, City of Harper Woods



Employee in the Spotlight/ Neighbor in the News

Harmony Skerritt

The Insider asked Harmony Skerritt about her experiences growing up, residing, and working in Harper Woods. She replied, "Hello Harper Woods, my name is Harmony Skerritt and I work for the City of Harper Woods Parks and Recreation Department. I am a proud graduate of the University of Michigan where I majored in psychology and minored in community action and social change. I chose this major and minor with the intent of bringing back the knowledge I received to my hometown. I feel very honored to be chosen for this piece because positive recognition allows us to know that our work is being seen and appreciated. I think it is important, if not vital, to offer appreciation towards the people in your life offering support whether that is on a professional level or on a personal level."

My entire life has been spent connected to the community of Harper Woods in some way, shape, or form. I have done so by being active within the school, volunteering around the community, and working for the city under varying circumstances. I have a strong desire to better the community for the residents that choose our city to make their home and the young minds that will bloom right before our eyes. Throughout my life I have interacted with the city at every level, and I hold great optimism for the future of the city and all its residents.

Currently at the Parks and Recreation office we are building up our existing programs and creating new opportunities that align with the communities wants and desires as well as maintaining the parks for the residents to enjoy. We hope to hear more ideas from the community about what programs and events they would like to see. It is the responsibility, not only of our community leaders but, our community members to ensure the success of our programs and initiatives- Meaning nothing can be changed viewing one side of the coin. To make changes, we as residents need to work alongside the City of Harper Woods to create a community and environment that we are proud of and feel validated in!"

Featured Business/Organization: Sweetheart Bakery

Since 1963, Sweetheart Bakery has satisfied countless sweet cravings across the Harper Woods community with their delicious cakes and various baked goods. After working with his uncle as a young man, owner and founder Michael Gralewski opened the original location at the corner of Kingsville and Kelly Road that still flourishes today. What is especially unique about this location is its borders- as parts of the business exist in the City of Detroit and also in the City Harper Woods. Families of the area have considered the bakery a "staple" and continue to share nostalgic memories of patronship through generations. Manager Karen Harmon said, "We enjoy being a part of a small community. We appreciate the loyalty of our customers throughout the years."

The bakery was eventually passed down to two of Gralewski's daughters who also operate a second location in Warren. They also distribute some of their products to other markets and establishments. Even though the family business has endured its share of challenges through the recent pandemic, Harmon expressed, "We hope to continue our father's legacy so that the future generations can enjoy his European recipes. We are excited about the upcoming Paczki Day (Fat Tuesday), our most unique holiday of the year!"

You can visit the bakery at 19200 Kelly Road, Monday through Saturday 11am to 5pm, call 313-839-6330, or find them on Facebook for more information.



Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods

Applications for Deferment 2022 Taxes

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2022 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

***Rates subject to change**



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

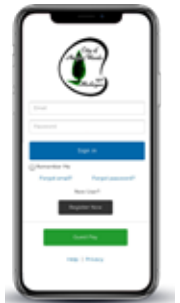
Pay Water Bills & (Now Available) Tax Bills Online

www.harperwoodscityinsight.com

Water Bill: NO FEES

Tax Bill: 2.90% convenience fee

Convenience fees are assessed by the Credit Card Company and subject to charge.



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.

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.

City Clerk Info

BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

The City is looking for civic minded residents to serve on one of the City's various Boards and/or Commissions. If you would like to take an active part in your community, call the City Clerk's office for more information or fill out an application, found on our website. Presently we have openings on the following: Beautification Commission, Library Board, Local Officers Compensation Commission, Planning Commission and the Recreation Advisory Board.

City Council Petition Filing Due by April 25, 2023

Eligible residents interested in running for Mayor or City Council must file petitions with the City Clerk by Tuesday, April 25 before 4:00 p.m. Qualifications include being a resident of the City of Harper Woods for at least two years, a registered elector of the City and not in default to the City. For more information, please call Leslie Frank at 313-343-2510 or send an email to lf Frank@harperwoods.net



Spring Perennial Plant Exchange May 20, 2023



Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

Building Department Info

Happy New Year from SAFEbuilt.

Welcome to 2023, a new year with hope of safer times. Property maintenance is required to keep yourself and the general public safe so please put forth the effort to;



- Clean up debris that may become hidden under snow creating slip and fall accidents such as advertisement flyers, plastic bags, leaves, etc.
- PLEASE clean out your gutters to allow water to flow away from your house foundation. Water that travels down your foundation can freeze and crack your basement walls creating costly repairs.
- Have a shovel and/or snowblower handy to clear all concrete surfaces. Ice melting agents are a smart item to have readily available as well.
- An annual furnace inspection should be performed so that you may have peace of mind that it is operating properly and not admitting carbon monoxide into your home.
- Change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Be aware of your surroundings and help out your neighbors that are elderly or have physical limitations.

Enjoy the winter months and stay safe!

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 visit the website click on the Department of Assessing.

The State of Michigan has adopted new mandatory poverty guidelines for a reduction in taxes based on household income. You can obtain an application from the Assessor's Office or from the city website under the Assessing Department.

The 2023 Notice of Assessments will be mailed at the end of February of 2023. The March Board of Review meetings to appeal the value of your home will be March 13, 2023 and March 27, 2023. Please read your notice for specific times and appeal options.

As a reminder, whenever there is a change in ownership of a property, you must file a Property Transfer Affidavit (PTA) within 45 days to the Assessor's Office. You can obtain the PTA on the city website or the Assessor's Office. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the name and mailing address are correct on the property. Please inform the Assessor's Office in writing of any changes.

Department of Public Safety – Police



Safety tips for dealing with the upcoming snow and cold weather.

Stay off the roads if possible. More cars and people out in severe conditions raises the chances of accidents. If you can, keep yourself safer by staying inside.

Increase awareness and leave space. Be aware that other vehicles and pedestrians won't be moving as quickly or may begin to lose traction. Keep a safe distance and allow time to avoid problems.

Avoid parking in street during snow emergency. Parking in the street during snow emergencies causes hazards for city plow drivers and residents themselves. It prevents the plow drivers from doing a thorough job and poses a risk to residents who now have to remove large snow drifts to gain access to their vehicles.

Special cautions for pedestrians:

Don't walk in the street. Streets are for vehicles and bikes, and pedestrians in the roadway can become a hazard for drivers or cyclists who are already contending with snow and ice.

Look up and around, not down. Be aware and put the phone away. Hazards like bad footing and sliding vehicles could be nearby.

Use crosswalks and be visible and purposeful. Cross streets at intersections, with the proper signals, and go straight across. Don't go in a diagonal line and spend more time in the street than necessary. With the snow and ice, cars or bicycles will have a very hard time slowing, stopping or avoiding a pedestrian who is in the roadway.

Wear appropriate clothes. It's cold and wet. Exposed skin can become frostbitten or lead to other medical problems. Cover up and wear shoes that can take the snow and keep some traction.

PUBLIC SAFETY- OWNERSHIP OF DOGS



RABIES VACCINATIONS: Any dog 6 months or older is required to have a certificate of rabies vaccination given by a licensed veterinarian. Rabies vaccinations can be given as early as 4 months of age and initially are good for one year. Upon re-vaccination, it is good for 3 years. This is the only vaccination that is required by state and federal law, and in all cities in Michigan.

DOG LICENSES: A dog license, acquired annually, is required in all counties in Michigan for the city in which the dog resides. Licenses can be obtained at the Harper Woods Police Department with presentation of the rabies certificate for a nominal fee of \$10. The license is good each year until December 31st.

A dog license can serve as identification for your dog as it is registered with the city and if found, the dog can be promptly returned.

DOG AT LARGE: It is a violation of city ordinance to allow your dog to roam freely or be off leash outside of your backyard. Dog owners who do not have fully fenced and secure backyards should keep their dogs on a leash or tie-out line when outdoors to prevent escapes. Dogs roaming freely, or "at large", may be in violation and issued citations.

Dogs found "at large" and without identification are taken to the Animal Shelter where they are kept until reunited with their owner. State law requires that the dog must have a current rabies vaccination and dog license PRIOR to release. The owner of the dog is responsible for the costs associated with boarding.

PET OWNERSHIP: The city of Harper Woods allows 3 pets per household (cats and dogs), any combination.

BITE QUARANTINE CASES: Dogs involved in bite cases, either with a human or another dog, are required to be quarantined at the Animal Shelter or the dog's Veterinary Hospital for 10 days. This is to protect all parties concerned, and to assure the human bite victim does not need to undergo rabies inoculations. The owner of the dog is responsible for the costs associated with quarantine.

Vehicle theft prevention tips



1. Never leave your vehicle running with the keys in it. Never.
2. Never leave your keys in the vehicle – the convenient 'keyless' feature is not only convenient for the car owner, but also for the thief who can steal your car with the touch of a button.
3. Lock your car – even without the keys, thieves are more likely to steal a car left unlocked
4. Park your vehicle in a garage or a well-lit area – at home, at the mall or on the road, always try to park in an area where suspicious activity would be noticeable.
5. Keep valuables out of sight.
6. Exercise these tips all year round.



With the upcoming weather changes, Harper Woods Police Department would like to remind residents of our online reporting system. The

Online Citizens Police Reporting System allows citizens to file police reports for specified offenses over the internet thereby truncating the reporting process and providing more unassigned time for officers to engage in crime suppression activities.



Resident Sign Up
any one of these ways

- 1 Text Zip Code to 888777
- 2 Sign up at www.nixle.com
- 3 Download Nixle Mobile App

Nixle keeps you up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety department and schools.



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.

Department of Public Safety – Fire

7 Winter Safety Tips from the American Heart Association



The American Heart Association offers winter weather tips to keep people safe this winter from cold weather dangers like hypothermia and heart attacks that may occur as you exert more energy while shoveling snow. The American Heart Association says that for most people, shoveling snow may not lead to any health problems. However, the association warns that the risk of a heart attack during snow shoveling may increase for some, stating that the combination of colder temperatures and physical exertion increases the workload on the heart. People who are outdoors in cold weather should avoid sudden exertion, like lifting a heavy shovel full of snow. Even walking through heavy, wet snow or snow drifts can strain a person's heart. It's important to know how cold weather can affect your heart, especially if you have cardiovascular disease.

To help make snow removal safer, the American Heart Association has compiled a list of practical tips:

- 1. Give yourself a break.** Take frequent rest breaks during shoveling so you don't overstress your heart. Pay attention to how your body feels during those breaks.
- 2. Be aware of the dangers of hypothermia.** Heart failure causes most deaths in hypothermia. To prevent hypothermia, dress in layers of warm clothing, which traps air between layers forming a protective insulation. Wear a hat because much of your body's heat can be lost through your head. Many people aren't conditioned to the physical stress of outdoor activities and don't know the dangers of being outdoors in cold weather. Hypothermia means the body temperature has fallen below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. It occurs when your body can't produce enough energy to keep the internal body temperature warm enough. It can kill you. Heart failure causes most deaths in hypothermia. Symptoms include lack of coordination, mental confusion, slowed reactions, shivering and sleepiness.
- 3. Don't eat a heavy meal prior or soon after shoveling.** Eating a large meal can put an extra load on your heart.
- 4. Use a small shovel or consider a snow thrower.** The act of lifting heavy snow can raise blood pressure acutely during the lift. It is safer to lift smaller amounts more times, than to lug a few huge shovelfuls of snow. When possible, simply push the snow.
- 5. Learn the heart attack warning signs and listen to your body, but remember this:** Even if you're not sure it's a heart attack, have it checked out (tell a doctor about your symptoms). Minutes matter! Fast action can save lives — maybe your own. Don't wait more than five minutes to call 9-1-1.
- 6. Don't drink alcoholic beverages before or immediately after shoveling.** Alcohol may increase a person's sensation of warmth and may cause them to underestimate the extra strain their body is under in the cold.
- 7. Consult a doctor.** If you have a medical condition, don't exercise on a regular basis or are middle aged or older, meet with your doctor prior to the first anticipated snowfall.

Heart Attack Warning Signs: Some heart attacks are sudden and intense — the “movie heart attack,” where no one doubts what's happening. But most heart attacks start slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. Often people affected aren't sure what's wrong and wait too long before getting help. Here are signs that can mean a heart attack is happening: **Chest discomfort.** Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain. Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach. **Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.** Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

As with men, women's most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort. But women are somewhat more likely than men to experience some of the other common symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea/vomiting, and back or jaw pain. Calling 9-1-1 is almost always the fastest way to get lifesaving treatment. Emergency medical services staff can begin treatment when they arrive — up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car. EMS staff is also trained to revive someone whose heart has stopped. Patients with chest pain who arrive by ambulance usually receive faster treatment at the hospital, too. It is best to call EMS for rapid transport to the emergency room. If you can't access EMS, have someone drive you to the hospital right away. If you're the one having symptoms, don't drive yourself, unless you have absolutely no other option.

For more information, visit your physician or call the American Heart Association at 800-AHA-USA1 (242-8721) or visit online at www.heart.org.

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Did you know? More than 150 people in the U.S. die every year from accidental nonfire-related carbon monoxide poisoning! Carbon monoxide or CO is a colorless and odorless gas. CO poisoning can occur when a fuel-burning appliance or machine, such as a furnace, heater or generator, is not working or vented properly. Breathing in CO at high levels can be fatal. Learn what you can do to protect your family from the dangers of CO.



- Install and maintain CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of CO.
- Install CO alarms in a central location outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows, and vents.
- Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris.

Heating Your Home Safely

Did you know? Home fires occur more in the winter months than any other time of the year! Follow these tips to help prevent winter fires and stay safe this winter season:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood burning stoves, radiators, space heaters or candles.
- Never use an oven to heat our home.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected each year by a professional.
- Space Heaters:
 - Keep anything that can burn, such as bedding, clothing and curtains, at least 3 feet away from the heater.
 - Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off, so if it tips over, it shuts off.
 - Turn heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
 - Plug portable heaters directly into outlets and never into an extension cord or power strip.
 - Only use portable heaters from a recognized testing laboratory.

32A District Court News

Judge Rebekah R. Coleman



Greetings Harper Woods,

I hope all is well with you and your family during this Holiday Season. As the world is still looking to solve the multiple issues associated with Covid-19, my hope is that this season will provide some rest and relaxation. As a community, we have been continuously working towards finding our new normal amid this pandemic and I believe we are doing a fine job.

I am happy to announce that our Drug Treatment Court Program is up and running. Defendants facing misdemeanor charges where drug addiction is a component of their offense may be eligible to participate in this program. Those who successfully complete their drug treatment court program may have their charges dismissed or reduced or may receive a reduction in their sentence.

Drug Treatment Programs began in Florida in the late 1980s in response to the crack epidemic. Judges in Florida researched methods that would help end addiction while also reducing the number of crimes caused by drug use. Eventually they developed drug courts which involved a dramatic intervention by the court in cooperation with an entire team including the defense, prosecution, treatment, education, and law enforcement. In return for certain promises, appropriate non-violent addicted offenders are given the option of entering voluntarily into court-supervised treatment. The rules and conditions of participation are clearly stated in a contract entered into by the defendant, the defense attorney, the city attorney (prosecutor), and the Court. The results have been overwhelmingly positive and drug courts have gone into operation all over the United States.

We are happy to be able to offer this program to those in need in our community. We have found great success in our Community Treatment Program which helps those who have committed crimes that suffer from mental health challenges, so we are very hopeful that our new program will have the same success rates.

Lastly, the Court remains open to the public but appearing via zoom is still an option. The Court continues to request for you to continue to wear a mask and/or face shield while practicing social distancing. If you are feeling sick, please remain at home and consider attending Court via zoom. Safety and Justice are the Courts main goals, so let's continue to all do our part in keeping everyone safe.

I am delighted to continue to serve our great city,
Judge Rebekah R. Coleman



Congratulations to Rachelle Matouk on your retirement from the 32A District Court!

You have served for 30+ years and we appreciate all of your hard work and dedication to the Court and wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors!

Meet The Staff Corner

I would like to introduce the Harper Woods Community to Carrie Petrocelli who has been the Director of Probation and Specialty Courts in HW since October 1, 2019. Prior to this role, she was a Deputy Court Clerk for a short-stint and also volunteered as a probation counselor for over 2 years. She is also happy to be a grant-writer for the Court to assist with improving the programs we can offer the community. Fundraising/Grant Writing was her former profession, and she is extremely happy to use that knowledge in a way that benefits the Court.

Everyday Director Petrocelli is inspired by the stories of her probation clients. It is amazing to see the transformation people can make when they embrace the resources the Court offers them. Guiding people through the process can be frustrating at times, but she truly believes it to be an honor to have the opportunity to do so.

Finally, Director Petrocelli appreciates the camaraderie she has found at 32A. She strongly believes in the importance of collaboration amongst all stakeholders in any city. Cross-departmentally, there are many like-minded individuals here that genuinely want the best for Harper Woods just as I do.

Some fun facts about Director Petrocelli include the following, she is a proud Kentuckian...always will be! But she does love Michigan and has been here for over 7 years and it truly feels like home. She earned her BA from Western Kentucky University and MS from Wayne State University. She enjoys spending time with family and her 3 dogs. Her "happy place" is walking the halls of any museum, art history is her passion. She also plays the ukulele which is not a skill that has EVER comes in handy, but it is still fun.



Senior Resources

Help for Seniors and Family Caregivers

Let the Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA) help you.

Whether you need assistance for yourself, an aging parent or an older friend, one phone call directs you to helpful resources for family caregivers, as well as information or referrals related to healthy aging, home-delivered meals, household chores, or long-term care planning.

Call 313-446-4444.

You'll find out why DAAA is called The Senior Solution!



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 ...your ride is just a phone call away

Our Service Area

The PAATS service area is any location bound by 11 mile Road, Gratiot, Alter Road and Jefferson.

Requirements – Passengers must:

- Be a resident of Harper Woods or the Grosse Pointes.
- Be at least 60 years of age or disabled.

Reserve Your Ride – To reserve a ride, call 313-394-9712. Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

- Make appointments at least two days in advance.
- We will accept standing appointments.
- Please be ready at your appointment time.

Our Fares

ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3
\$1.00 each way:	\$2.00 each way:	\$3.00 each way:
Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 Mile Rd. to 11 Mile Rd.• Kelly Rd. to Gratiot Ave.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• St. John Surgery Center• Henry Ford Main Campus• Detroit Medical Center• V.A. Hospital• City County Building• The New Center

Cancellation Policy – It is very important that you call to cancel an appointment so we can reroute our buses to ensure client pick up and arrival times.

Please call 313-394-9712 as soon as possible and leave a message on the voice mail if you are calling after hours.

For More Information: Call our PAATS dispatch office at 313-394-9712



Department of Public Works

Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ The maximum weight of any one item is 40 pounds. Trash cans can be **NO LARGER** than 35 gallons.
- ✓ 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.**



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.
***When in doubt, put it out.**

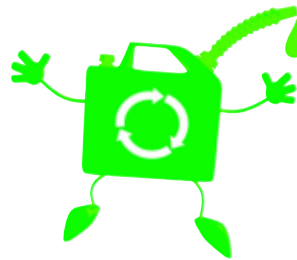
MISS DIG

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



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.

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.



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



The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act has changed to better protect your health. New water sampling rules have been added to better detect possible lead in your drinking water. These changes require communities with lead service lines to do more sampling. The new sampling method is expected to result in higher lead results, not because the water source or quality for residents has changed, but because the act has more stringent sampling procedures and analysis.

In 2019, the City of Harper Woods increased the number of water sampling locations to 30 residential homes. This is known as lead and copper monitoring. The criteria was to sample water from homes known to have or suspected to have lead water service lines. These samples were then analyzed by the Great Lakes Water testing lab. The results were forwarded to the participants.

The City continues to provide public education material to every water customer in Harper Woods. As in the past, important information will also be included in the Annual Consumer's Confidence Water Quality Report.

Due to our favorable results in 2020, The State has placed the City of Harper Woods on a "reduced monitoring schedule."

In 2022 the City asked 30 residential locations to participate in 1 round of sampling between June and September.

This will remain the same for the 2023 sampling schedule.

Please be on the look out for the red **"testing required"** door tags and call to schedule delivery of sample bottles as soon as possible.

If you have questions, concerns, need information on, or can provide us with information on the service line material in your home or business, please contact the Public Works Department, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 3:00pm.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit the City's website at www.harperwoodscity.org, the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead, the EGLE website at www.michigan.gov/deqleadpublicadvisory or call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Snow and Ice Emergencies



Our Public Works Department is responsible for keeping streets clear throughout the winter season whenever there is snow or ice. During a major winter storm, please check to see if Harper Woods has declared a snow emergency by looking at the City's Informational sign, watching your local television news, or listening to the radio. When a Snow or Ice Emergency is declared, all vehicles **must** be removed from the street or they may be towed at the owner's expense. If you live on a corner lot, please be aware that you are responsible for the clearing of the corner cross walk areas. During a salting or plowing event, we typically begin treating the major streets such as Harper, Beaconsfield, 8 Mile, the east section on Vernier, Canton and Peerless. Depending on the time of day, we will focus on the areas around schools.

Please be a good neighbor and do not pile snow against your neighbor's house or cover basement windows, furnace or dryer vents.

Ordinance Penalty

Sec. 23-4. - Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks by owners of abutting property. The occupant or owner of any premises shall keep the sidewalks in front of, or adjacent to such premises cleared, so far as is practicable and reasonable, from snow and ice to facilitate pedestrian use. Where there

are no sidewalks, the occupant or owner as aforementioned, is required to clear a path free from snow and ice where a sidewalk would otherwise be, to facilitate pedestrian use. Whenever any snow or ice has fallen or accumulated it shall be cleared within thirty-six (36) hours after it has fallen or accumulated.

(Code 1962, § 7-119; Ord. No. 2014-01, § 1, 7-14-2014; Ord. No. 2016-02, § 1, 3-7-2016)

Sec. 23-4a. - Penalty; enforcement.

(a) Any person who is found to have violated this section shall be deemed responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by section 113(1) of the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.113 (1)) and punished by a civil fine as provided herein plus costs and expenses.

(1) For first offense, a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be assessed.

(2) For a second offense, a fine of seventy-five (\$75.00) shall be assessed.

(3) For third offense and all subsequent offenses, a fine of one hundred twenty-five (\$125.00) shall be assessed.

We truly regret plowing snow into driveways and covering crosswalks. We know what a difficult task removing this snow can be. Our objective is to keep the streets safe for travel and access for emergency vehicles. **Please refrain from blowing or pushing snow onto cleared streets.** It can cause additional icing and hazardous situations. Please watch the forecast. When snow is predicted, it would be appreciated if vehicles were removed from the street to allow for a safer cleaner job. There need not be a snow emergency to remove your vehicle from the street.

Contact Information by Department

Assessor

313-343-2527

SAFEbuilt Building Department

313-343-2526

City Manager

313-343-2505

Economic and Community Development

313-343-2501

Elections

313-343-2510



Finance Director

313-343-2518

Fire Department

313-343-2550

SAFEbuilt Housing Inspection

313-343-2526

Library

313-343-2575

PAATS

313-882-9600

Parks and Recreation

313-343-2560

Public Safety Department

313-343-2530

Public Works

313-343-2570

Treasurer Tax & Water Billing Information

313-343-2500

Library News & Events



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

Kristen Valyi-Hax

Library Director

From the Director



A New Year is always such an exciting time! I feel the pull towards new beginnings and new adventures after the heady celebrations of the holiday season. Whether you are looking to take up a new craft or hobby, focus on your health, or improve

your finances, the library has the tools and materials you need to become your best self for 2023.

I'm so happy to announce that, as I write this in October, our lower level should be completely renovated soon. The library board selected BMS Cat/Jarvis to complete the work. Keep your eyes out for the Open House that we will hold for our residents who have been more than patient!

I want to take this time to thank Frank Sosnowski for his longtime service to the Library Board of the Harper Woods Public Library. After serving for many years as both a Board Member and President of the Board, Frank resigned his position in the fall. He has been here for the library's highs and lows, and we all benefited from his wisdom, his caring, and his dedication to learning.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Ongoing for Children, Teens and Families

Come into the library and pick up Take-and-Make Kits for at-home crafts, art projects, interactive activities and more! Stay updated about Take-and-Make Kits on our Facebook and Instagram.

Keep an eye out at the library for in-person programs we will have planned for the upcoming months. Our lower level should be opening soon, and we will have fun events for kids and families.



Ongoing Programs for Adults

Book Club: 4th Wednesday of the month, 1:30 – 2:30p.m. in the library

A study guide containing book summary, discussion questions, and author biography is available upon request.

- January 25: *The Kitchen Front*, by Jennifer Ryan
- February 22: *The Handmaid's Tale*, by Margaret Atwood
- March 22: *Chevy in the Hole*, by Kelsey Ronan

Come to the library for seasonal **Take and Make Craft Kits** (While supplies last!)

- January: Snow Measuring Kit
- February: A Valentine for Your Special Someone
- March: Mardi Gras Beaded Coaster

Mellow Mondays – Food & Craft Demonstrations in the Library: 1:30 – 2:30p.m.

- January 16: Cabin Fever
- February 13: Will You Be My Valentine?
- March 20: Mardi Gras Merriment

Can't make it? Ask for a "Take It"!



Spice of the Month Club

Visit the library for your free "Spice Kit," a pre-measured sample of the spice of the month, fun facts, and recipes.

- January: Nutmeg
- February: Oregano
- March: Paprika

Current Library Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm

Thursday – Friday 11am – 5pm

Check the library's website for holiday closure dates.
Visit www.harperwoodslibrary.org
or call the library at 313-343-2575

Economic & Community Development

TRANSITION: The Eastland Commerce Center



The Eastland Commerce Center is becoming a reality with the construction of its first building. The two photos above and below show the dramatic size of Building #1, which will be a total of 297,100 square feet. It will be 1040 feet by 284 feet with a height of 36 feet. The building will feature 80 stalls for trailer/truck parking, 284 parking spaces for cars and 40 docks for loading or unloading.

As mentioned in previous articles, the Eastland Commerce Center will have three large structures for light industrial uses. Building #1 will be completed during the first quarter of 2023. Building #2 will be delivered during the third quarter of 2023. It will have a total square footage of 535,342 feet, with 148 stalls for trailer/truck parking, 74 dock doors, 263 parking spaces for cars and a height of 40 feet.

Building #3 will be a total of 208,204 square feet in size, with 51 stalls for trailer/truck parking, 285 parking spaces for cars and 26 docks. It will be located on the Beaconsfield side of the industrial park. It will also be completed during the third quarter of 2023. There will be a total of four large detention ponds to hold storm water run offs, so stormwater can be released slowly into the City's stormwater system. This light industrial park will sit on a total of 80 acres of land.



Community & Business Progress

Citizen Lab

In October 2022, the City became the first municipality in the State of Michigan to begin using an innovative community-engagement platform called CitizenLab. The platform is quickly becoming the “one-stop shop” for residents to find information related to projects and initiatives taking place in the City. The platform has also been used to allow residents to share ideas and take surveys, which has been especially helpful during the ongoing Master Plan update process. Future projects will also be calling on residents to share their thoughts and opinions on various projects and ideas.

If you have not yet joined the platform, the QR code below will direct you to the signup page. The link can also be found on the City’s website.



Fall Makers’ Fair Features Mural by Local Artist

On Saturday, October 8th the City of Harper Woods hosted its first makers’ fair at Salter Park. Various artists and makers exhibited their works. A special dedication of the mural painted by local artist Amadeus Roy was held.



Fall Family Fun Night

On October 22nd, the Harper Woods Recreation Department hosted its first Family Fun Night at Salter Park. Pleasant weather, combined with striking autumn colors, in the park shaped a perfect backdrop for the event. Children played games, designed crafts, enjoyed snacks, and also competed in a costume contest. All the children and parents were thrilled to participate and look forward to future activities in our parks!



Tree Lighting Sparks Holiday Season

The Harper Woods Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was presented by City dignitaries in November 2022. The event attracted residents to participate in the festive tradition of “lighting the tree” and the City holiday lights. Attendees caroled holiday songs along with music provided by Bob Gray. Thanks to Connor and Wyatt Barnes along with their parents Katie and Walt for their merrymaking and “flipping the switch” this year!

A special “Thank You” to Wendy’s restaurant and the Harper Woods-Grosse Pointe Lions Club for their support and generous donations of refreshments for the event.





Honorary Mayor of Harper Woods Receives Distinctive Honor

At the October 17th City Council Meeting, Gabrielle Burns received a Mayoral Proclamation from Mayor Valerie Kindle for her service during the City's 2022 Juneteenth celebration. At nine years old, Gabrielle dutifully assisted Mayor Kindle by formally speaking about the history of Juneteenth and expressing her viewpoints on celebrating the event.



Master Plan Open Houses 10/18 and 11/29

The City's Planning Consultants, McKenna & Associates, conducted two public workshops this past fall in preparation for updating the City's Master Plan. A master plan directs decisions about housing, economic development, infrastructure, parks, and more. The document requires adoption by City Council, after recommendation for approval by the Planning Commission, and this process will be completed by late spring or early summer.



Pictured from left to right: Ty Hinton, Stephen Lindley, Paul Uribel, and Adam Cook from McKenna Associates.



Resident Nolana Nobles



Harper Woods Business Association Launched

Harper Woods is in the midst of a rebirth. The City is attracting large new commercial and residential developments, with new businesses, employees, and residents to follow. The positive momentum from these developments is difficult to ignore or overlook.

This momentum creates a unique opportunity to establish the Harper Woods Business Association – an organization with the mission of serving the needs of new and existing businesses in Harper Woods and furthering the collective goals of the community.

My name is Peter Maniaci, and it is my pleasure to introduce the newly formed Harper Woods Business Association. Since introducing the idea of establishing the HWBA to the City Council in early 2022, we have been hard at work laying the foundation for what will be one of the strongest Business Associations in the area.

We recently held a kickoff event at "They Say" Restaurant in Harper Woods.

It was a great success and was attended by many local businesses, City administration, elected officials, and residents. If you were unable to attend or did not receive an invite, please email me directly (pnm2190@gmail.com) to be added to our mailing list. Be on the lookout for notifications regarding our upcoming meetings and events.



Peter Maniaci

2023 Winter Recreation Program

Yoga

Yoga is a great way to take time out for yourself. Our certified instructor will lead you through the breathing and movements that can strengthen your body and relax your mind.



Message from Instructor: My name is Tiwana, a certified Yoga Teacher. My classes are warm, inviting, and fun! My love of music is showcased during class. When I teach, I like to use different genres of music to connect with students and fuel the flow. Types of practice: Ashtanga, Vinyasa Flow, and Yin.

Dates: Monthly/Ongoing

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 6:00 - 7:00pm

Fee: \$45 Residents, \$55 Non-Residents

Pickleball Lessons

Pickleball is a fun, friendly, and social game that combines aspect of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. No experience is necessary, and equipment is provided. Reserve a 2-hour lesson for between 1-4 players at the Pickleball Court at Johnston Park with our experienced Pickleball instructor. Please call the Recreation Department to check/ reserve a date at 313-343-2560.

Dates: Monthly/Ongoing

Days: Wednesday

Time: 6:00 - 7:00pm

Fee: \$0

Zoom Zumba

Workout in the comfort of your own home or location of your choosing. Jenna's Zumba class offers a fun, mid-high intensity dance workout combining cardio and strength training.



Dates: Ongoing

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Sundays

Time: 6:30 - 7:30pm

Time: 11:00am - 12:00pm

Fee: Residents
\$10/month

Non-Resident
\$40/month

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. Please call our office at 313-343-2560 with any further questions.

Dance

Classes are held on the stage at Tyrone Elementary's gym/stage. Session starts on September 27 and ends on May 2. We require one adult to stay in the auditorium and watch, siblings are welcome.

Schedule

Tuesday Classes

Instructors: Miss Jen Haxter, Miss Mikayla Schiller, Miss Caitlin Skerske, and Miss Nonny Sperry.

5:00-5:30---Creative Movement and Ballet, ages 3-5

5:30-6:00---Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-5

6:00-6:30---Ballet, ages 6-8

6:30-7:00---Hip Hop, ages 6-8

7:00-7:30---Ballet, ages 9-12

7:30-8:00---Teen Ballet

8:00-8:30---Teen Jazz

8:30-9:00---Beginning Adult Tap



Dance Tuition (includes approximately 25 dance lessons)

\$175 per class plus \$10 registration fee per family.

Family Plan Discount:

This applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in 2 or more classes.

\$150 per class plus \$10 registration fee per family.

Tuition can be paid in two installments with HALF DUE at time of enrollment. The other half is due no later than January 20, 2023 so that the student(s) can continue to participate.

Fitness Firm Aerobics

Fitness Firm offers low impact dance aerobics, incorporating kick box, yoga, free weights, Zumba, toning, flexibility and stretching. Fitness Firm classes are held at The First English Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall, located at 800 Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays **Time:** 9:30am - 10:30am

Tuesday & Thursdays **Time:** 4:00pm - 5:00pm

If you have questions, please contact Judy Sheehy at 313-886-7534 or vitaftjsheehy@comcast.net

Swimming Lessons

Due to the shortage of lifeguards in Michigan, we are currently not able to safely run our popular Swim classes. We understand how important swim classes are to our community and we are working hard to rectify this situation. ***Please call our office for more information as to when our classes will resume.***

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, confetti, port-a-potty's, bands or DJ's allowed for picnics. Reserve at least 3 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 Harper Woods 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 2 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

**To stay up to date with all of the recreation
offerings, please visit our Facebook page:**

City of Harper Woods

Parks & Recreation Department.

You can also contact us at

harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net

or 313-343-2560.

Harper Woods Recreation Department

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 • Be a Volunteer Angel • Free Senior Classes • How to Celebrate Children for Who They Are • Gift Certificate Program that Works Like Cash • Harper Woods Real Estate Trends • Money Matters • Business Directory • Education • And more

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

If you or someone you know have an event to promote, a story to share or an idea for the upcoming Spring Edition (April thru June) email us at info@drivecreativeservices.com.

(All information provided would be considered without guarantee it will be published)

Deadline to provide information is Friday, February 3, 2023.



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



**Wishing
you and your
family a
SAFE and healthy
new year!**

SAFEbuilt[✓]

Proud community
partner since 2014

**Building
Department
Services**

**Code
Compliance**

Plan Review

**Rental
Inspections**

**Fire Prevention
Services**

✉ [building@
harperwoods.net](mailto:building@harperwoods.net)

☎ 313.343.2526

🌐 SAFEbuilt.com



GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Enroll Today: www.gpschools.org/enrollment



PARENT INFO NIGHTS

1/10/23 Rising 5th Grade

1/11/23 Rising Freshmen

1/12/23 Young 5/Kindergarten



POINTES OF PRIDE

- Top 2% among all US school districts
- A+ Niche grade
- 27 Advanced Placement Courses
- 7 Career & Technical Ed programs
- 126-page Program of Studies
- 2 Spartan Award Student Newspapers
- 2 Grammy Winning Music Programs
- 30 Varsity sports, 120 teams
- 18:1 student-to-teacher ratio
- MI Social Studies Teacher of Year
- District Band Director of the Year
- 100% of core classes are taught by a highly qualified teacher

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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@GPSchools

info@gpschools.org

Today's Health & Fitness



Ken Welch, Owner
Pointe Fitness
& Training

The New Year. Are you ready? If you want this year to be different and not fall off the workout wagon, I have two suggestions for you.

I want to repeat some advice I wrote about a few years ago that are still my golden rules for being consistent and staying healthy.

One; make a commitment not a resolution. A commitment is more than giving something a try. You make a hard decision that whatever it is; you're going to do it no matter what. We believe in honoring our commitments.

For the sake of yourself and those who love you, **commit to be fit.**

Two: The workout philosophy that's kept me working out my whole life through busy and tightly scheduled times; **The 7-day rule.** It's the "resolution solution".

You'll read that we should all workout vigorously an hour a day, 7 days a week. In a perfect world, sure, but the demands of life constantly get in the way.

The 7-day rule says, be sure to workout at least twice a week but with this twist. Think of a week as not a calendar week but as just seven days in a row.

If you work out on a Tuesday, the 7 day rule says you need to work out, "one more time" before the following Tuesday. After that let's say you don't get to work out until the upcoming Saturday. Now Saturday becomes the first day of the next 7 days.

Whatever day you work out, it becomes the start of the next 7 days.

By allowing yourself this flexibility it eliminates the all or nothing mentality that unravels many a good start. You might even find that you work out more often because you've created a plan for steady results.

Remember, each workout starts the next 7-day cycle. **Is that today?**

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CONTINUING EDUCATION AT WCCCD

WCCCD offers Continuing Education (CE) programs for seniors in Wayne County at no cost!



COURSES AND PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Music Appreciation
- Yoga
- Cooking Lite
- Personal Internet Safety
- Computer Training
- Current Events
- Estate Planning
- Jewelry Bead Design
- Nutrition and You
- Silver Circle Book Club
- Painting for Mature Learners
- Internet and You
- Windows 7
- Exploring the P.C.
- Rehire, Rewire, and Re-inspire
- Zumba Gold Fitness

Want More? Start Here



Wayne County Community College District
Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center
19305 Vernier • Harper Woods, MI 48225
313-962-7150 • WWW.WCCCD.EDU

The Family Center

STRONG FAMILIES  VIBRANT COMMUNITY



How to Celebrate Children for Who They Are

Decades of research teach us that fostering children's sense of

self through compassion and respect will lead to children who are high on empathy and drive, who grow up to be adults with healthy and meaningful relationships and lower rates of mental health problems. As a parent or caregiver, you can celebrate the child you have AND still set healthy boundaries and be firm. What we know for sure is when parents engage often in the below practices, children's self-esteem improves, defiant and attention seeking behaviors are reduced, peer relationships blossom, and the risk of unsafe behaviors during teenage years subsides.

Here are some ways you can celebrate your children for who they are and foster in them a healthier sense of self:

1. **Celebrate the small acts.** Rather than focusing on the end goal (getting an A), focus and compliment your children on their progress and the effort.
2. **Tell children statements that foster their sense of self**, such as Spending time with you makes me happy.
I love seeing your smiling face this morning.

I'm proud of you for who you are.
I love you no matter what.
You are so much fun to be with.
You bring a lot of joy to our family.
I am happy to share my life with you.

3. **Fill your child's emotional cup.** Sometimes we get caught up in the rush and routine of everyday life and aren't conscious about filling up our children emotionally. This means helping them feel loved, valued, accepted, and approved of. Spend one-on-one time with your child. Leave love notes in their lunchbox or on their pillow. Take a few extra moments for affection. Offer a hug. Give them a pat on the back when you pass by them. Smile when they enter the room and make eye contact. These simple things convey the message "you matter to me all the time."

4. **Speak appreciation for the everyday things your kids do that are kind, good, or helpful.** We feel good when someone shows appreciation for the little things we do. How often do we tell our kids we appreciate that they put their toys away or fed the cat or shared with a sibling? Because we expect these things to occur, we usually only notice when they don't. Make a habit of noticing the positive.

Hasti Raveau is a child and family psychologist and the founder and owner of Mala Child and Family Institute. Much of her work is focused on helping children improve their emotional well-being, supporting parents on their parenting journeys, and empowering families so they can repair, grow, and thrive. Read more at [Blog - Mala Child & Family Institute \(malafamily.org\)](https://malafamily.org)



The Sara Shunk Agency

Money Matters

With inflation steadily increasing, finding ways to save money is at the top of everyone's to-do list. Save money? In this economy? Yes! You can start by creating a budget and taking unnecessary shopping apps off your phone. Consider buying used (thrift stores!) or going on a spending freeze to keep spending down.

You can also lower your bills, like your homeowner's insurance, by increasing your deductible amount and maintaining good credit. Performing routine

maintenance, improving home security, and shopping around for discounts are some ways to lower your insurance costs.

Feel free to contact me for more information,
Sara Shunk 586-294-3514 Office • 586-899-4545 Cell
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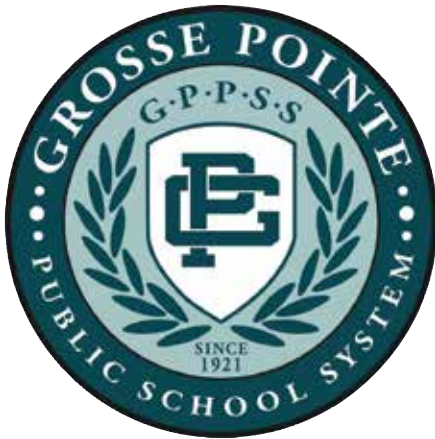
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People often ask why a portion of Harper Woods is within the Grosse Pointe Public School System boundary. That is because the school district (which celebrated its 100th anniversary last year) is older than I-94 and the city of Harper Woods.

If you live between Bournemouth and Fleetwood, your student would attend Monteith Elementary. Beaufait to Eight Mile attends Mason Elementary. Both areas then feed into Parcels Middle School and North High School. The boundary line does not go all the way to Allard on all streets, so please visit the website www.gpschools.org or email verify@gpschools.org to check your address. If you live within our boundaries, we want you in our amazing school district!

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gpschools.org

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cnshealthcare.org

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- It gives assistance in resolving concerns and helps file complaints and appeals as needed.
- It also promotes improvements in the long-term care system.

The Ombudsman can help with:

- Resources to help understand options when you need long-term care.
- Learning more about resident rights in long term care facilities.
- What to expect when moving into a nursing home.
- Concerns about care or services in a long term care facility.

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Contact your long term care Ombudsman when you have concerns about care or services in nursing homes, adult foster care, or home for the aged.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

313-396-5492

Faiza Najar

Regional Ombudsman

Don't Go It Alone

The MLTCOP is just one of many services available to you through the Detroit Area Agency on Aging. **DAAA is your gateway to information, resources and caregiver support** to maintain the independence of seniors and adults living with disabilities in our community.

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www.detroit seniorsolution.org



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\$155,679

AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▲ 7.1%
FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 19.7%
FROM Q3 2021

59
NUMBER
OF SALES

▼ 39.2%
FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▼ 19.2%
FROM Q3 2021

18
AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▲ 20.6%
FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 20.0%
FROM Q3 2021

58
AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▲ 37.0%
FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 18.2%
FROM Q3 2021

33.9%
ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▲ 55.6%
FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ 32.6%
FROM Q3 2021

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q3 2022) OVER QUARTER (Q2 2022)

▲ 37.0%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 16.7%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 39.2%
TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q3 2022 vs. Q3 2021)

▲ 20.0%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 19.8%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 19.2%
TOTAL 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 – Excellent: That the property owners within Harper Woods are experiencing increased equity in their homes provides security during a time of increased volatility and uncertainty. It also continues to support the narrative that buying now, is a wiser long term financial move than waiting for interest rates to decline, because prices will unlikely do the same. For those who are interest rate sensitive, using an adjustable-rate mortgage that does not start to adjust for five to seven years after purchase, refinancing should rates decline is an available wise option.

Number of sales – Fair to poor: These lower numbers suggest some qualified buyers have decided to wait which is an option. However, most electing to wait will find it even more expensive to buy later.

Days on Market (DOM) – Excellent: One of the best metrics for evaluating current buyer demand is the length of time it is asking for the average home in Harper Woods to sell. Eighteen days is a very brisk pace.

Inventory – Excellent: The increase in inventory has lessened the challenge buyers were having finding homes to purchase. We are also finding that buyers who remain qualified but did not like the concessions needed when the market was red-hot are re-entering the market and avoiding some if not all of the concessions they were being forced to make.

Absorption Rate – Strong seller's market: This key metric continuous demonstrates a strong seller's market although as noted far less abusive of buyers. Over 18.3% indicates a seller's market. An absorption Rate below 15.4% is Buyer market territory.

Disclaimer:

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Families Against Narcotics (FAN) is a Macomb County-based nonprofit that helps individuals and families who have been affected by addiction. Their flagship program, Hope Not Handcuffs, allows anyone who is struggling with a substance use disorder to go to any of 125+ participating law enforcement agencies—including the Harper Woods Police Department—and ask for help.

FAN then dispatches a volunteer “Angel” to meet the participant at the police station, offer support, and work with the Hope Not Handcuffs call center to assist the individual with getting placed into treatment.

Volunteer Angels are an integral part of Hope Not Handcuffs. If you’re a compassionate person who would like to be an Angel and make a difference in someone’s life, FAN can use you. The hours are flexible and the work is incredibly rewarding. For more information, call 586-438-8500, or visit familiesagainstnarcotics.org/hopenothandcuffs-angel.



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WITH YOUR
COMMUNITY!**



1

Products

Locally owned suppliers and brands

2

Services

Plumbing, Electric, Carpentry, etc.

3

Local Happenings

Community Events, Festivals, Fundraisers, etc.

4

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Restaurants & Bars, Local Sporting Events and Public Music Performances, etc.

5

Places of interest

Recreational Parks, Docks & Launches, etc.

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