



THE INSIDER

FOR THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Your community
resource guide for the
City of Harper Woods!
SUMMER EDITION
JULY THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 2023

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

July

**Check City's website
for time and format*

July 1 – Siren Test 1:00pm
July 4 – City Offices Closed –
Independence Day
July 5 through July 7 – Rubbish Delay
July 10* – City Council Meeting
July 17 – Water Bills Due

August

**Check City's website
for time and format*

August 1 – National Night Out
5 - 8pm at Johnston Park
August 5 – Siren Test 1:00pm
August 5 – Lost in the Woods 12 - 8pm
at Salter Memorial Park
August 9 – Cherry Fest 2pm
at Harper Woods Library
August 14* – City Council Meeting
August 15 – Water Bills Due

September

**Check City's website
for time and format*

September 2 – Siren Test 1:00pm
September 4 – City Offices Closed –
Labor Day
September 4 through September 8 –
Rubbish Delay
September 6* – City Council Meeting
September 14 – Summer Taxes Due
September 14 – Water Bills Due
September 16 – Fall Perennial Plant
Exchange 10am - 12pm
at Salter Park
September 18* – City Council Meeting
September 22 – Autumn Begins

Attention Harper Woods Residents...

The City is proud to announce the "Lost in the Woods" Art Festival!

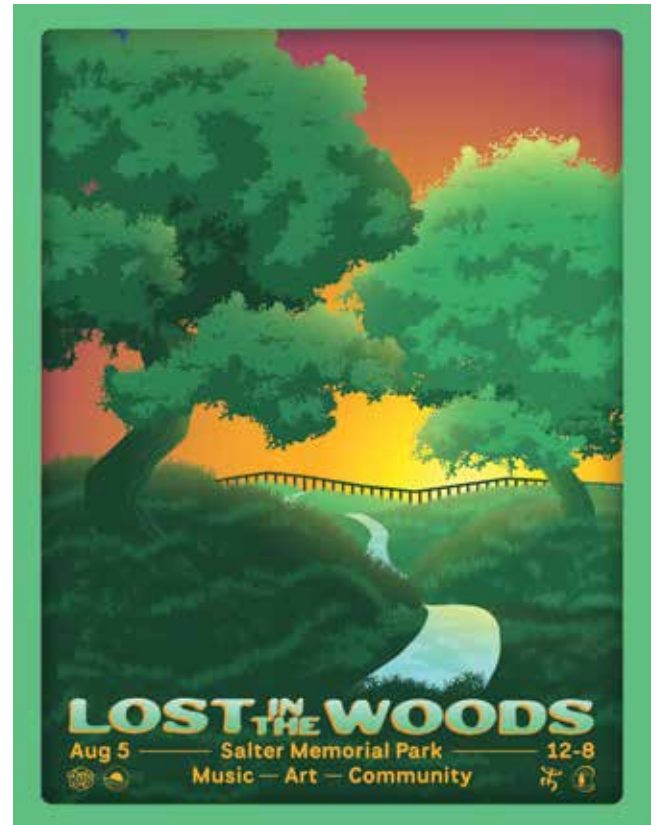
This second event is based on last year's successful inaugural festival of the City's first public mural in Salter Park. Harper Woods own Amadeus Roy is back with another exclusive design and Mayor Valerie Kindle will open the festival ceremonies on **Saturday, August 5th at Salter Park-Noon to 8:00pm.**

Lost in the Woods will feature over 30+ artists/vendor booths, a full line-up of local performers staging live vibes, and food trucks for eats and refreshments. Fun attractions for kids include Inflatable Obstacle Courses, Video Game Truck, Photo Booth, and a "live" Exotic Animal Program from GP Zoology featuring: Lizards, Scorpions, a Tarantula, Toads and Turtles, an 8' Burmese Python, and more!

So bring your friends, neighbors, and children to this exciting event!

Entrance to the park is "FREE" – Last year's event had over 500 attendees and this year we expect to surpass that number.

We hope to see you there!



**National
Night Out**

Page 4

**Beautification Award
Nominations**

Page 7

**Vendors Needed for
Art Festival**

Page 15

SUMMER FUN!

*Having a family reunion,
birthday party or
gathering this year?*

Our City Park Shelters are
available for rent.

See Page 21 for more details.

The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

Mayor Pro Tem

Vivian M. Sawicki

City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Gerianne LaPratt

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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Employee in the Spotlight



Margo Jackson

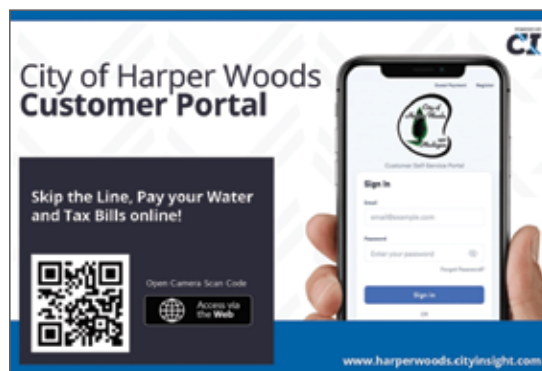
Margo Jackson started with the Finance/Treasurer's Office in September 2021 and is responsible for the City's Accounts Payable processing as well as assisting residents at City Hall. Since her time here, she has managed to fashion an upbeat atmosphere in the front office. Jackson is known for her cheerful nature especially when responding to residents' concerns and is always willing to lend a hand to coworkers of all departments.

Margo expressed, "Working here in Harper Woods has been a wonderful experience for me. The residents are nice and welcoming and my coworkers here in City Hall are a special group of people whom I cherish deeply."

"So glad to have Margo working for the City of Harper Woods. She is very deserving of the "Employee in the Spotlight" title.

She has been such a great addition to the department. Margo works very hard and has learned her job so quickly. We look forward to the many years ahead working together," said Kimberly Keogh, Acting Treasurer.

Likewise, Acting City Manager John Szymanski also voiced a unique message to Jackson, "Margo do not think that your long hours and willingness to help your fellow colleagues goes unnoticed. Your hard work makes our jobs that much easier and enjoyable. You are fun to work with and if I sang the praises of your hard work, I would lose my voice pretty quickly!"



Mobile Water & Property Tax Payment App Update

The City of Harper Woods "Mobile App" through City Insight began 2020 with 1,044 registrations and now has increased to a registered total of 2958 residents and volume of \$6,400,165. We encourage residents

to register as the city has expanded services to include Property Taxes in this application. Just a reminder: This site does not charge any fees on your payments for Water Billing but does charge a processing fee for Property Tax Payments.

Also, on the application you will find "City Alerts." Please visit www.harperwoods.cityinsight.com and register today. The front office staff are happy to assist you!

Neighbor in the News

Stacey White

The Insider asked Stacey White about her residency in Harper Woods and what she considers most influential to our community's prosperity. White said, "I am so humbly honored and grateful to be selected as the *Neighbor in the News* for the City of Harper Woods. I have been a resident of this great city for approximately 9 years. I pride myself in giving back to my community.

One of my first community service opportunities was assisting with the weekly Food Drive led by our very own Mayor Valerie Kindle. We are in tough times where our neighbors are struggling to feed their families. It is very important for our residents to see that the City of Harper Woods cares about the fight to end hunger. I have also volunteered/donated with the annual Thanksgiving Senior Giveaway hosted by Harper Woods residents.

Additionally, I am the President of the Harper Woods School Board. I have always had a passion for education and believe in providing the best education for all students. Recently, the Harper Woods School District implemented the META 24 program that teaches students the necessary skills to become entrepreneurs. This will allow students to become financially independent and create generational wealth for their families and community. Our city may be small in size, but it does not mean the impact of citizen involvement should

be diminished. In fact, it's the residents and their contributions to society that lead to making greater positive differences. I encourage everyone to continue to support the City of Harper Woods."



**Stacey White with Acting City Manager
John Szymanski**

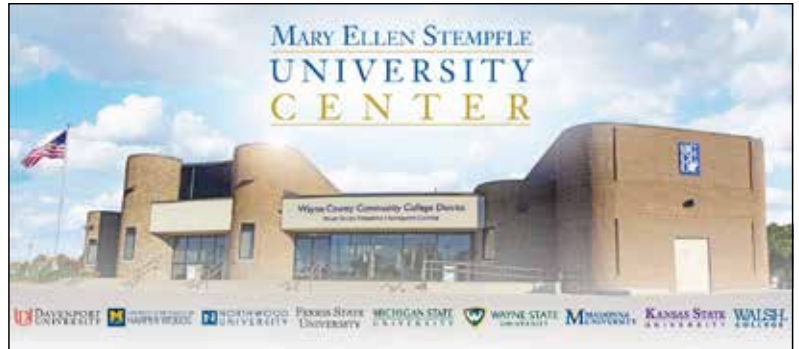
Featured Business/Organization: WCCCD/Mary Ellen Stemple University Center

Since 2008, the Wayne County Community College District Mary Ellen Stemple University Center (MESUC) in Harper Woods has provided students and community members in our area with a passage to academic and continuing education classes. Additionally, the MESUC – Center for Learning Technology was opened in 2014 and expanded their program catalog.

Whether you are looking to earn a degree or enhance your skills through the college's university partnerships, academic or continuing education courses, the MESUC is well-positioned to help individuals achieve their educational and career goals.

Attention Harper Woods Seniors - The WCCCD offers many continuing education programs to seniors in Wayne County at no cost. This summer's course offerings at the MESUC include: ***Cake Decorating for Beginners, Computing Fundamentals (Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Sign Language, Drawing for Seniors, Yoga for Seniors, Chair Yoga, Hustle and Ballroom Dancing.***

To find out more about the campus, please view their website at **WWW.WCCCD.EDU** or call (313) 962-7150. You can also visit the campus Monday through Saturday during business hours at 19305 Vernier Road.



Photos courtesy of WCCCD

Thank You For Your SUPP♥RT!

Our Spring 2023 events were well attended, and a great time was had by all!

A big thank you to all of the event's organizers and participants for making these successful community activities take place!



Easter Egg Hunt



Earth Day Clean-Up



Memorial Day Ceremony



K-9 Program Fundraiser

On May 4, 2023, the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society (GPAAS) hosted a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for the Harper Woods K-9 Program at Redeemer United Methodist Church. We'd like to remind the community that the need to raise funds is vital to keep the K-9 Program active. For more information on donations and future events call (313) 884-1551 or visit the GPAAS website online at gpaas.org.

Beaconsfield Repaving Project UPDATE



It is anticipated that the week of May 29, traffic will be shifted to the southbound side of Beaconsfield and work will begin on the northbound side of Beaconsfield. It is expected that all work for this project will be completed, and the road re-opened to normal traffic by mid-July.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2023

SAVE THE DATE. National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Johnston Park. National Night Out is an annual nationwide event designed to strengthen relationships in our neighborhoods, raise crime awareness, and continue relationships with law enforcement while bringing back a real sense of community. It provides an excellent opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. For more information, contact Lieutenant Jason Sakowski at jsakowski@harperwoods.net.



PROGRESS

Eastland Commerce Center



The Eastland Commerce Center is scheduled to be completed by the spring of 2024. At this point, Buildings #1 and #2 have roofs and the interior of Building #1 is being completed. Windows have been partially installed and Building #1 is receiving its final coat of paint.

The final grading of the site is under way, detention ponds are nearly complete and underground infrastructure (sewer & storm water runoff) is almost completed. The grading for Building #3 is being completed and the building will soon be under construction. Building #3 will be approximately 535,000 square feet, or roughly 2 or 3 football fields. Final details are being planned for the Center, such as the size of the electrical power output from a DTE electrical substation and increasing the required water pressure to the site for fire suppression and other uses. Buildings #1 and #2 should be completed and possibly leased by January 2024. One of the photos show that Lake St. Clair is not far away, which places this light industrial complex within the context of the surrounding communities.



Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods

Applications for Deferment 2023 Taxes

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2023 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.



ALERT:

The City is now processing "actual" reads on the monthly water bills. There will be no more "estimated" reads.

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

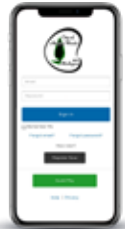
Pay Water Bills & (Now Available) Tax Bills Online

www.harperwoods.cityinsight.com

Water Bill: NO FEES

Tax Bill: A CONVENIENCE FEE APPLIES

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



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

Summer is Here...



Summer is here... with it comes back yard parties, late night barbeques with friends, windows open, loud music from cars and radios, etc. Please be mindful of your neighbors and the Noise Ordinance which requires all noise to cease, particularly between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances, Noise exerpt...

It is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person to make, create or continue or cause to be made, created or continued, any loud, unnecessary, unnatural or unusual noise which annoys, disturbs, injures, endangers or impairs the health, comfort, safety, peace and quiet, welfare and enjoyment of the residents of the neighborhood in which the noise originates... Radios, phonographs, loudspeakers, televisions and musical instruments. The playing, use of operation, or the permitting to be played, used or operated of any radio, phonograph, loudspeaker, television or musical instrument, particularly between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., in such manner as to cause unnecessary or objectionable noise penetrating more than a reasonable distance from the room, building, structure, place or vehicle from which the noise emanates, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation...

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 of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) plus costs and all other remedies permitted. Each incident of a noise violation shall be considered a separate violation.

August Primary Election



Harper Woods will not be holding a Primary election in August as the conditions to hold one have not been met. More

than 3 candidates would have to run for Mayor or more than 9 candidates would have to run for City Council.

The next City General Election will be held on November 7, 2023. A list of City candidate names as they will appear on the ballot is provided below.

Mayor - (One 2-Year Term)

Valerie Kindle

City Council (Three 4-Year Terms)

Cheryl Costantino

Gerianne LaPratt

Regina Williams

Teresa Foster

Curtis Brown

If you are unsure of your registration status or need additional information, please email me at lfrank@harperwoods.net or call 313-343-2510.

Harper Woods Beautification Award Nominations



The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is seeking nominations from residents who wish to recognize well maintained and visually pleasing homes in the City for a Beautification Award.

The commissioners will base the awards on the front yards only, not backyards. To nominate a home in your area, please call the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or send an email to cthompson@harperwoods.net with the address of the home. Nominations will be accepted until July 12. Awards will be presented to ten homeowners and one business in November.

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

Department of Public Safety – Police

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.

SOCIAL MEDIA RENTAL SCAMS

Are you in the market for a new place to live and dealing with a realtor seems to be out of the question? Where do you turn? A lot of people think that Craigslist, Facebook etc., holds many great opportunities for low-cost rental properties.

But before you begin your search or sign on the dotted line, be aware that there are many unscrupulous people, posing as rental agents, just to get your personal and financial information. The number of fake rental scams and other online classifieds continues to grow, with new aliases appearing daily. But while the names may change, the methods are always the same. Don't believe these ads appear only on social media. They could show up anywhere!



- The email addresses they use usually are from yahoo, ymail, rocketmail, fastermail, live, hotmail and gmail, and they also post ads under anonymous craigslist addresses. They frequently change their aliases.
- The deal sounds too good to be true. Scammers will often list a rental for a very low price to lure in victims. Find out how comparable listings are priced, and if the rental comes in suspiciously low, walk away.
- They will take photos from a current listing, create a new listing, and pass it off as their own.
- If they offer to meet you at the home and the owner is not able to show you the interior of the home or the owner doesn't have keys and advises you to change the locks that is a red flag.
- They use fake names, often stolen from Facebook profiles or networking sites. Often, they assume the identities of previous victims.
- The contact number provided to the renter is usually a burner/throw away phone and is discarded the minute the deal is done.
- Never under any circumstances, wire money at the request of any prospective “landlord” via Western Union, Money Gram or any other wire service. Even if they tell you to wire the funds to a friend or relative's name “to be safe,” it's a trap!
- Never be in a rush. You can always check with your local City Offices to see who they list as the owner of the property and see if there is a certificate of occupancy for the home issued by the city.

Department of Public Safety – Police

SUMMER BIKE SAFETY



Bike Theft Prevention

- Most bikes are stolen while left unlocked. If you're not riding it, LOCK IT UP!
- Do not leave bikes unattended in your front yard.

Bike Safety Tips

- Obey the rules of the road.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Wear bright-colored or reflective clothing while riding.
- Always ride with traffic – never against it.
- Parents should be aware of where their children are going.



Police Lieutenant Promotion – Jason Sakowski

Police Sgt. Jason Sakowski was promoted to Police Patrol Lieutenant on March 25, 2023. Sakowski started with the Harper Woods Police Department in 2002. Director Jason Hammerle said, "Lieutenant Sakowski has been a tremendous asset to our department. He's an excellent role model and respected peer!" ***Congratulations Lieutenant Sakowski!***

Police Sergeant Promotion – Adam Lewis

Public Safety Officer Adam Lewis was promoted to Patrol Sergeant on March 25, 2023. Lewis started with the Harper Woods Police Department as a part-time officer in 2013 and advanced to a full-time police officer in 2017. "Sergeant Lewis's commitment to our department has resulted in a well-deserved promotion!" said Director Jason Hammerle. ***Congratulations Sergeant Lewis!***

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.

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 parent's 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 your 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



Fire Captain Retirement – David Mehl

Captain David Mehl retired from the Harper Woods Fire Department after 25 years of service on March 31, 2023.

Thank you for your service to the Harper Woods community Captain Mehl!



Fire Captain Promotion – David Carrico

Fire Lt. David Carrico was promoted to Fire Captain on May 8, 2023. Carrico started with the Harper Woods Fire Department in 2007. Director Jason Hammerle said, "This promotion was well deserved by Captain Carrico, I am confident that he will thrive in his new role and continue to serve the department and community passionately!"

Congratulations Captain Carrico!



Fireworks Safety

Leave it to the professionals:

The best way to keep your family safe is to go see a professional show.

You should NEVER:

- Allow kids to handle fireworks.
- Light fireworks near face / clothing / hair.
- Hold / light fireworks in your hand.
- Use old fireworks from past years.
- Make your own fireworks.
- Re-light "duds" or fireworks that don't go off on the first attempt.
- Point fireworks at people, pets, or structures.

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS FROM THE HARPER WOODS FIRE DEPARTMENT



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.



From firing up the grill to lighting off fireworks, many of our favorite summertime activities involve fire. Follow these guidelines & enjoy the soft glow of the campfire safely.

- **Adults Only!**
It is not safe for children to handle fire of any kind.
- **Be prepared!**
Have a bucket of water, running hose, or a fire extinguisher nearby to put out an unruly fire quickly.
- **Don't let kids handle fire tools!**
Serious burns can happen away from the flame itself. Never let kids handle grilling tools, fire pokers, or firework debris.
- **Watch the flames!**
Never leave a fire unattended, even if in an enclosed pit.
- **Secure a safe spot!**
Look around & above for trees, overhangs & structures. Keep at least a 8-10 foot perimeter around your grill & 25 feet around fire pit areas.
- **Extinguish properly!**
Dwindling fires can easily get picked up by the wind & ignite nearby structures. Don't let a fire die out on its own, douse it with water to eliminate fire hazards.

32A District Court News

Judge Rebekah R. Coleman



"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end." ~Seneca

Greetings Harper Woods,

AND SO IT ENDS...

After reaching 1154 days in existence, the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) is set to expire on May 11, 2023. Hooray, COVID is defeated? Not quite! The end to the PHE will primarily influence how and when information regarding COVID cases is collected and reported.

Some of the services and products available during the PHE are expected to be phased out. For example, no cost lab testing may be shifted to specific sites only, free home testing kits may no longer be available and medications to treat COVID may need to be paid for by a person's insurance carrier rather than by the government. For the time being, vaccines and booster shots will still be available at no cost.

Living through the COVID-19 PHE taught us all a very critical lesson—deadly diseases can occur and spread rapidly, even in places where the best sanitation, information and public health services are available. Knowing this, it is important that we proceed with caution and continue to take reasonable actions in the fight against COVID and other transmissible diseases. Hand washing, wearing a mask to protect others when ill, and isolating when appropriate are things we can all do to protect against the spread of diseases.

As the PHE comes to an end, we should all give ourselves 'two thumbs up' for having bravely faced this difficult time in our world and for doing our part to take care of one another.

To the Graduates

On behalf of the 32A District Court, we would all like to give a huge congratulations to the Class of 2023! You all have completed the task and we wish you continued success in your future endeavors!

A special shout out goes to residents Jade A. Coleman and Taylor Smith. Ms. Coleman graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelors of Science in Human Biology and Ms. Smith graduated from University of Michigan – Ann Arbor with a Bachelors of Business Administration. Congratulations ladies and we look forward to hearing about your continued successes!

I am delighted to continue to serve our great city,

Judge Rebekah R. Coleman

Meet The Staff Corner

I would like to introduce the Harper Woods Community to Civil Court Clerk Debra Coleman.

Debra Coleman grew up in the city of Detroit to a loving family. She is the mother of seven beautiful young adults and Nana to four amazing grandchildren. She is a resident of Harper Woods and has been for years. She loves living in the community and is excited to see our city expanding with new projects to serve our community. The most beautiful sight to see within the community is our youth playing basketball at the basketball court as well as the younger children's laughter in the park. She absolutely loves attending different community events with my grandchildren and I spending time with family and friends.

Some of Ms. Coleman's hobbies include cooking and gardening. She also loves decorating during special occasions, especially Christmas.

Ms. Coleman has been working for the 32A District Court for almost a year. She loves communicating with people and helping at any capacity to bring a smile. She enjoys the personal connection with the people who come to conduct their business. She also enjoys working with the court staff as well as Judge Rebekah Coleman. Ms. Coleman loves the comradery shared between all the staff. The best expression of Ms. Coleman is to Love and treat people with respect. She is grateful for an opportunity to serve the community.



CAREERS: We're Hiring Full-Time/Part-Time Deputy Court Clerk

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions, establish priorities and work independently. Must also possess the ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with co-workers and the public. Must be able to deal effectively with the public in handling and meet deadlines. Ability to maintain confidential information.

To Apply: Submit cover letter, resume and application to:
Tamie Rice, Court Administrator
32A District Court
19617 Harper Ave.
Harper Woods, MI 48225
trice@32adc.net

**Application is available at the 32A District Court
or**

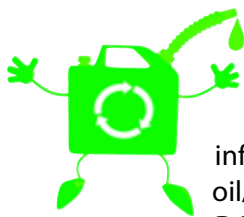
<http://www.harperwoodscity.org/employment-opportunities>.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Department of Public Works

Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ Trash cannot be placed at the street until 12 noon the day before your collection day and all cans must to be removed by 12 noon the day after. This is per the City ordinance.
- ✓ 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

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

Yard Waste Collection



Yard waste collection begins the week of **April 4th** and runs through the week of **November 20th** (on your 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. **Please check your City calendar for specific dates.**

Curbside leaf collection will run from the week of **October 16th** through the week of **November 13th** (weather permitting). 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/weeds/vegetation 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.

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.



Call For Art/Vendors!

Amadeus Roy and the City of Harper Woods are back for another Arts Festival! Renamed the Lost In The Woods Fest, this year's event is exploding to add a full lineup of live music, tripling to capacity for vendors, fun attractions for the kids, food trucks, interactive art installations, and more!

Ensuring to be a fantastic day for all members of the community, our mission is to build creative momentum of our wonderful city and create the groundwork to make Harper Woods a creative destination in Michigan.

As an artist/creator/business, Lost In The Woods Fest is a wonderful opportunity for you to gain exposure for your work, make sales, and connect with community members.

- Booth space is 10x10ft (Outdoors).
- Not accessible to electricity.
- Booth fee is \$40 and is nonrefundable unless specific arrangements are agreed upon by festival director and the involved booth.
- 10x10ft tents are available for rent at an additional cost if needed.

Contact Festival Director:
amadeusroy.business@gmail.com
 Irma Hayes Productions, L3C
irmahayes@gmail.com

Submission Deadline: July 22

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. You can only apply for the upcoming 2023 tax year. Deadline to file is before December 12, 2023.

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.

Building Department News

Hello, once again, to all the residents of Harper Woods! As we enter the summer months, please keep in mind that a safe and responsible attitude towards your neighbors will result in cherished memories in the future.

In today's fast paced world, it is sometimes overlooked to take the time to say; Hello or help out a neighbor with basic property preservation. It only takes a few minutes to be neighborly, but those few minutes can make a big difference to those who may be struggling with any issue.

Remember that not all Harper Woods residents come from the same socio-economic status as one another. But, by working together we can bridge gaps which will make life and living in Harper Woods a good memory. If there is anything the Building Department can do to help you, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to help. Bless You All and enjoy your summer!

Participating Partner



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



WOW!

PAATS WILL TAKE ME THERE?

----- salon ----- parks ----- shopping -----



----- clubs/restaurants ----- shop the Gratiot Loop -----



----- doctor/dentist -- visit friends/family - post office -----



THE HELM



----- city hall -- area attractions - coffee shop -----

Need a ride? Call PAATS.
313.394.9712



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!



PACE Southeast Michigan revolves around YOU



PACE Southeast Michigan keeps nursing-home eligible seniors with chronic illnesses independent, in their own homes, for as long as possible. When you enroll in PACE, our expert elder care team works with you to develop a personalized care plan, including social, medical, and other PACE services. We provide access to a full continuum of preventative, primary, acute, and long-term care services 24/7, 365 days a year in our day health centers across southeast Michigan and in the home. By aging in place, seniors have more hope, vitality, joy and an overall higher quality of life. The address of the center residents of Harper Woods would attend is 250 McDougall Ave, Detroit, MI 48207, (855) 445-4554, Pacesemi.org.

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

\$1.00 each way:

Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes

ZONE 2

\$2.00 each way:

- 8 Mile Rd. to 11 Mile Rd.
- Kelly Rd. to Gratiot Ave.

ZONE 3

\$3.00 each way:

- 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



The PAATS mission is to provide safe and reliable transportation, ensuring our residents continue to live their daily lives with independence and dignity.

Library News & Events



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

Kristen Valyi-Hax
Library Director

From the Director

The summer is a wonderful time to visit your public library! We've got lots of fun programs for all ages. Are you looking for a book to take to the beach? We've got old and new favorites on our shelves, and if you prefer digital books, you can get them with your library card thanks to Libby via Overdrive.

Have you checked out the Michigan Activity Pass? All you need to know is your library information, and you can receive free or reduced admission to fun and entertaining places all over Michigan! Want to go to Belle Isle? It's in there. Want to go to the Cranbrook Art Museum? It's in there! Want to go to one of the Metroparks? They are all in there. Just go to miactivitypass.org to find where you want to go and follow the instructions to get your pass.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Summer Reading Program 2023 – "All Together Now"



Our annual Summer Reading Program kicked off on June 20 and runs through July 28.

This year's theme is "All Together Now," promoting kindness, friendship, and unity. We will have a variety of events and prizes for readers of all ages. Be sure to come and sign up for a fun and educational time!

Call the library to sign up or see the librarian at the Reference Desk. Open to adults 18 years and older. Read or listen to at least 3 books to be eligible for food & prizes at our *End of Summer Reading Celebration* on **Monday, July 31, 5:30 p.m.** Contact the library at 313-343-2575 or hwl@libcoop.net to register.

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

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.

A study guide containing book summary, discussion questions, and author biography is available upon request. Contact the library at 313-343-2575 or hwl@libcoop.net to register.

- July 26: *Dear Life: Stories*, by Alice Monroe
- August 23: *The Second Mrs. Astor*, by Shana Abe
- September 27: *The Lost Apothecary*, by Sarah Penner

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

Mellow Mondays – Food & Craft Demonstrations: 2nd Monday of the month, 1:30 – 2:30p.m.

Contact the library at 313-343-2575 or hwl@libcoop.net to register.

- July 10 – Christmas in July
- August 14 – Fun in the Sun
- September 11 – Fall into Fall

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.

- July: Rosemary
- August: Saffron
- September: Sage

Cherry Festival – Wednesday, August 9, 2:00 p.m.

Recipes & crafts, cherry treats, and a raffle too! Tap your toes to the music of the *Lakeshore Ukulele Strummers*. Contact the library at 313-343-2575 or hwl@libcoop.net to register.



2023 Summer Recreation Program

Kids Tennis

Whether you are a beginner or advanced, you will have a great time in this class. Tennis is held at Johnston Park.

Regular Sessions (4 weeks):

Date: July 25-August 17

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Fee: \$40 per 4 week session

Times: Ages 6-8 9:00am-10:00am
Ages 9-High School Age 10:00am-11:00am

Fall Tennis

Tennis in the fall will be held on Saturdays for both adults and kids.

Date: September 9- October 7 (5 lessons)

Days: Saturdays

Ages: 6 years-high schools

Times: 10:00am-11:00am **Fee:** \$25

Ages: Adults

Times: 11:00am-12:00pm **Fee:** \$50



Pickleball Lessons

Pickleball is a fun, friendly and social game that combines aspects 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.

Days: Wednesdays & Saturdays

Dates: June - September

Times: 9:00am-11:00am or 1:00pm-3:00pm

Fee: \$5 per person per lesson

Zoom Zumba

The Harper Woods Recreation Department has partnered with JRS Fitness, LLC to provide virtual Zumba classes to City residents. To sign up for classes or if you have questions, please contact the Harper Woods Recreation Department at 313-343-2560 or harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net.

Class Schedule: Monthly

Tuesdays 6:30pm-7:30pm

Thursdays 6:30pm-7:30pm

Sundays 11:00am-12:00pm

Fee: Residents \$10 per month
Non-Residents \$40 per month

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. About our instructor: My name is Tiwana, a certified Yoga Teacher. My classes are warm, inviting, and fun! My love for 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. Please call the Recreation Department for the class location at 313-343-2560.

Class Schedule: Monthly

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays **No classes July 4th & 6th

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

Fee: Residents \$40 per month
Non-Residents \$50 per month

Summer Dance

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 40th year of the program! There is no residency requirement. Classes will be held on the stage at Harper Woods High School Auditorium. We require at least one adult to stay with each student child and watch, siblings are welcome too. Pre-registration is required for all classes. You can register in person at the recreation office with cash, check, or money order, or mail your form with check or money order to the recreation office. **All students must be paid in full prior to participating.** The payment plan is not available for the summer classes. Please call the dance director (Nonny Sperry) at (313)885-3714 or the recreation office for more details or updates.

Dates: June 26-August 14, 2023 *No classes July 3*

Schedule - Monday Classes

4:00-4:30---Creative Movement and Ballet, ages 3-5

4:30-5:00---Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-6

5:00-5:30---Ballet, ages 6-8

5:30-6:00---Hip Hop, ages 6-8

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

6:30-7:00---Lyrical, ages 9-12

7:00-7:30---Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-12

7:30-8:00---Ballet, ages 9-12

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

8:30-9:00---Teen Jazz

Dance Tuition is \$50 (includes 7 lessons)

*plus Family Registration Fee is \$5

Family Plan Discount:

Family Plan- 2 classes or more. *Applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in 2 or more classes.*

\$10 off for 2 \$15 off for 3 \$20 off 4 or more



2023 Summer Recreation Program



Fitness Firm Aerobics

Fitness Firm offers low impact dance aerobics, incorporating kickbox, 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 any questions, please contact Judy Sheehy at 313-886-7534. Email vitaftjsheehy@comcast.net

Fall Swimming Lessons

Spending time at the beach, up north or wherever there is water can be hazardous for a non-swimmer. Our lessons teach children to be independent and safe in the water. Our certified instructors will teach your child all the tools they need to feel safe and independent in water. The children's lessons are offered for Harper Woods residents, or those who go to a school located in Harper Woods. The classes are held at the Harper Woods High School Pool. *Register early, classes fill up fast. We offer Monday or Tuesday classes.

Fall Session 1: September 11-October 17 (6 weeks)

Fall Session 2: October 23-December 5 (6 weeks)

***No class October 30th & 31st**

Monday Classes

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

Tuesday Classes

5:00-5:30pm Level 1
5:30-6:00pm Level 2

Swim Fees

Aqua ducks, Level 1, Level 2:

\$50 for 1 child, \$25 each additional

Level 3, 4, 5 or 6:

\$60 for 1 child, \$30 each additional



Beginning Adult Swim Lessons

Adults, now you can learn how to swim and be confident in the water. We offer a seven week session at the Harper Woods High School Pool. Ages 18 & Up.



Fall Session 1: September 12-October 17 (6 weeks)

Fall Session 2: October 24-December 5 (6 weeks)

***No class October 31st**

Day: Tuesdays **Time:** 6:15-7:00pm **Fee:** \$55

Water Aerobics

Water aerobics is a great low impact workout.

Fall Session 1:

September 12-October 17 (6 weeks)

Fall Session 2:

October 24-December 5 (6 weeks)

***No class October 31st**

Day: Tuesdays **Time:** 7:00-8:00pm **Fee:** \$60



Please be advised that all programs, activities, dates, times and locations are subject to change and/or cancellation.

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

***To stay up to date with all the recreation offers, 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.

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 are accepted starting the first business day in January. Picnics can be booked from Memorial Day 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.

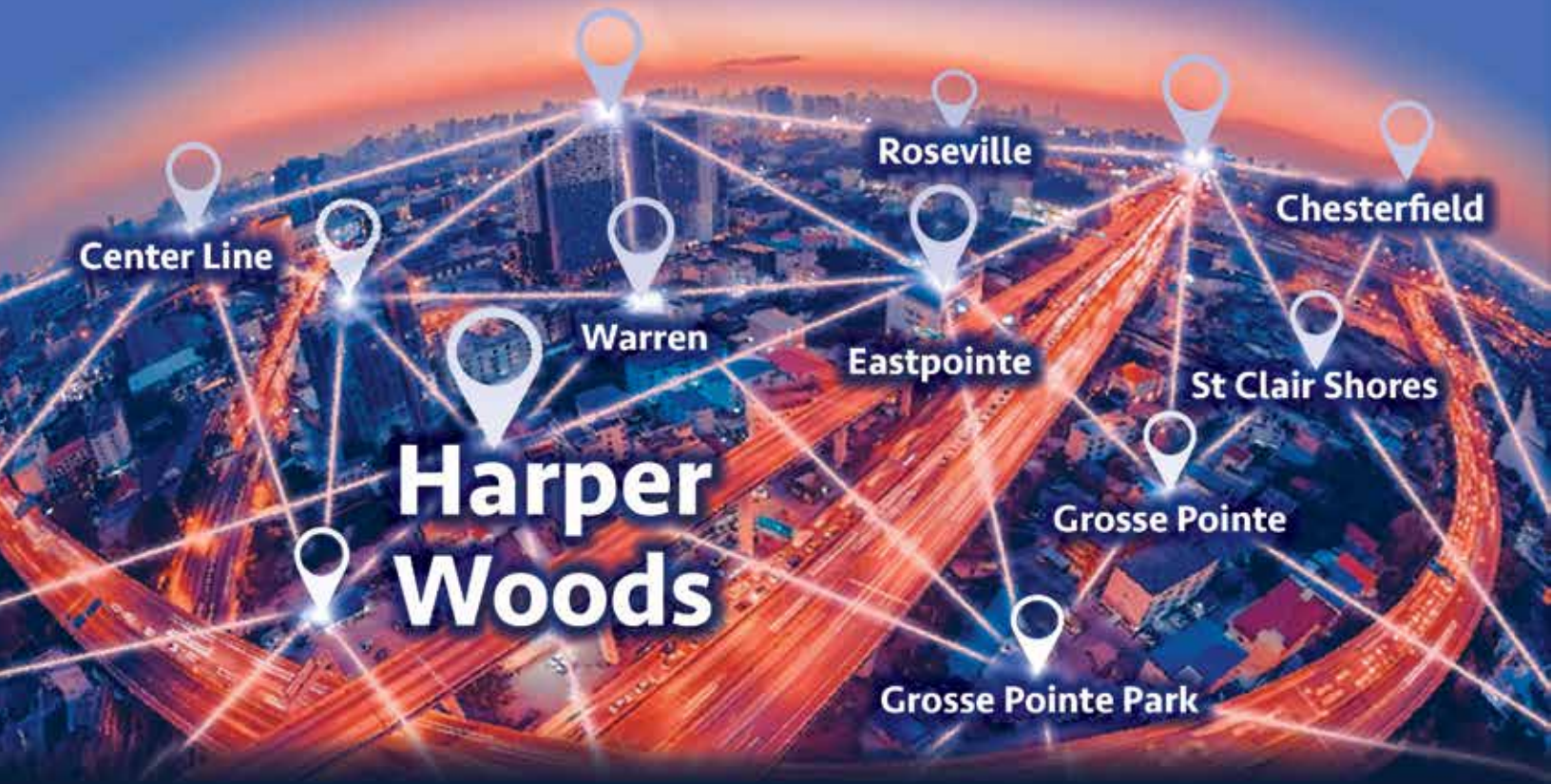
Activity _____ Days/Times _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant _____

the Community Resource Guide

Harper Woods Edition



Highlighted in this Edition:

CARE of SE Michigan - Support Groups • Susie Q's for Kids – We are Better Together • Families Against Narcotics – Stronger Together Programs • Slow Down for Summertime • Health & Fitness • New Businesses Develops Positive Impacts Harper Woods Real Estate Trends • New Discount Card for Medications • 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 Fall Edition (October thru December) email us at info@drivecreativeservices.com.

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

Deadline to provide information is Friday, August 11, 2023.



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

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
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Today's Health & Fitness

MORE BENEFITS OF EXERCISE

We know exercise is good for your body and your overall health, but something that doesn't get enough attention is the benefit to your skin. Most people who start exercise routines are pleasantly surprised at how their bodies become toned and tight, especially when strength training is also a part of it. The real eye opener is how it affects their face and neck. "It's Like a face lift without the surgery," one client told me. All the straining and contractions that go on while lifting weights is a natural way of doing those face exercises advised in beauty magazines. Along with that is the realization that their complexion has improved. Color comes back to their face and they look more refreshed. Why?

Dermatologist, Audrey Kunin, MD, who wrote the book, *The DERMAdoctor Skinstruction Manual* explains it this way. "Working up a good sweat is like getting a mini facial." "When the pores dilate, sweat expels trapped dirt and oil."

She does advise that you wash your face after so that you can keep that dirt and oil from re-entering your skin. But wait! There's more. She further explains:

"Breaking a sweat isn't the only way exercise benefits the skin — it also reduces body wide inflammation, helps regulate skin-significant hormones and prevents free-radical damage. When you exercise, the tiny arteries in your skin open up, allowing more blood to reach the skin's surface and deliver nutrients that repair damage from the sun and environmental pollutants. These nutrients also rev up the skin's collagen production, thwarting wrinkles.

As we age, fibroblasts [the collagen-producing cells in the skin] get lazier and fewer in number, The nutrients delivered to the skin during exercise help fibroblasts work more efficiently, so your skin looks younger."

If you hate looking older, weight lifting is your fountain of youth.



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Connecting Michigan One Community at a Time

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WHAT IS IT?

The Community Resource Guide is an online network where people can explore products & services, local happenings, dining & entertainment, places of interest, and much more.

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WITH YOUR
COMMUNITY!**



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1

PRODUCTS

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2

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3

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4

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SUSIE Q'S KIDS WAS NAMED THE COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Susie Q's Kids was named the *Community Partner of the Year for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)*, we understand the mental health of our kids is important and hope our comfort bags, bears, and blankets provide hope and healing. "It's OK, not to be OK!"

Our mission is three-fold:

1. To further the missions of the nonprofits who distribute our comfort bags to kids in need in their programs: hospitals, shelters, foster care, schools, autism centers, refuge centers, advocacy centers, camps, and grief agencies.
2. To encourage "Kids in Helping Kids" through philanthropy, fundraising, and creating and distributing our comfort bags.
3. To brighten and inspire the lives of kids in need in our community, "one comfort bag at a time".

Susie Q's Kids is very active in our community and seeks opportunities to network and share their story and impact with service groups, private groups, and youth groups. They share their message of hope and healing following the tragic loss of their daughter Susie.



They have recently provided over 17,000 pairs of socks to shelters and foster care agencies throughout our community: Big Family Michigan, Ennis Center for Children, MCrest, Grace Centers of Hope, and Macomb Foster Closet. These organizations support foster care kids and kids fighting homelessness living in shelters in Harper Woods and the surrounding community.

Co-founder, Dr Mary Welsh shares her belief that "We are better together". As President of the Sterling Heights Lions Club, the club generously provides their club at 12828 Canal Road in Sterling Heights for bag stuffing events on the 2nd Monday of the month. Come out, learn more, and join in this great community service opportunity.



Susie Q's Kids provided comfort bags to various school districts, hospice agencies, and child advocacy centers recently to improve the outlook of kids experiencing a physical or mental health situation. Much comfort can be felt from a bear to cuddle, a warm blanket, and a bag of activity and hygiene items. If your school, church, or youth

group is interested in participating in a fundraising or bag stuffing event, please contact Dr Mary Welsh, drmary@susieqskids.org or 248-220-6846.

The Family Center

STRONG FAMILIES  VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Slow Down for Summertime

Spending time outdoors is healthy for mind, body, and spirit. Maybe you've experienced it yourself: Taking a walk or a swim when you're feeling irritable or sad can totally transform your mood. That goes for grumpy teens and restless kids as well. There are scientific underpinnings to these positive effects.

The Proven Benefits of Time Outdoors

- Research shows that spending time outside reduces anxiety and depressive thoughts.
- Time in nature has been shown to reduce stress by lowering the stress-associated chemical cortisol.
- Scientists at Stanford found that memory and cognitive function are improved by outdoor activity.
- Physical exercise improves mental health in adolescents.
- One study showed that extended time in nature, away from social media and e-mail, enhanced creativity and problem-solving ability by 50 percent.
- Unplugged time in nature helps regulate mood disturbance and nervous system arousal caused by too much time in front of screens.
- Studies show that nature activities reduce the symptoms of ADHD in children.

During the school year, when everyone's on a different schedule for work, school, sports, and activities, eating together can be nearly impossible. Take advantage of summer to eat lots of fresh, local food, and to have more mealtimes as a family.

Studies show that the benefits for kids eating meals as a family on a regular basis include:

- Better grades
- A healthier diet
- Good eating habits later in life
- A decreased risk of smoking, drinking, and drug use
- Lower rates of depression
- A more positive outlook on life

Make family dinner a priority by planning it a few days in advance and involve kids in the process of deciding the menu, setting the table, and helping in the kitchen.

Finally, remember that summertime is meant to be enjoyed! Rather than policing the family's activities, approach each day as an opportunity to bring more fun, curiosity, and connection into your life together.

Adapted from mental health resources provided by Newport Academy. Newport Academy is a series of evidence-based healing centers for adolescents and families struggling with mental health issues, eating disorders, and substance abuse. Visit www.newportacademy.com for more information.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Find out more at familycenterweb.org.



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CARE

OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

CARE of Southeastern Michigan's Recovery United Community Center (RUCC) offers free support groups and resources to everyone in the community. It is also home to CARE's Peer



Recovery Coaching program. It is a place where an individual can enter, grow, continue progress and receive support on their substance use recovery journey. The RUCC also offers support for family, friends, and anyone seeking to find positive support in their lives.

There are a variety of resources also available and free to anyone on their recovery journey that include: support groups, free naloxone training and kits, yoga classes, computer lab use, wellness coaching and workshops, career guidance, and so much more.

CARE's Recovery United Community Center (RUCC) is located at:

32577 Garfield Road, Fraser, MI 48026

Hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 8:30 am – 8:30pm

Wednesday 8:30am – 5:00pm &

Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

Contact us or stop in anytime to learn more at:

586.552.1120 or visit www.ruccfraser.com for a full schedule of programs and groups.

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- **Job Creation:** New businesses create job opportunities for people in the community. This can help reduce unemployment rates and improve the local economy.
- **Increased Local Spending:** When new businesses open, they often attract new customers who may not have shopped or spent money in the area before. This can help increase local spending, which benefits other businesses in the area.
- **Economic Growth:** When new businesses open and existing businesses grow, the local economy can experience growth. This can lead to more investment in the community, improve infrastructure, and other benefits.
- **Innovation and Diversity:** New businesses can bring new ideas and innovation to a community. They can also provide a diverse range of products and services, which can help meet the needs of different groups of people in the area.
- **Community Development:** New Businesses can become active members of the community and contribute to its development through sponsorships, donations, and other forms of support.

Overall, new businesses bring a range of benefits to the community, including job creation, increased spending, economic growth, innovation and diversity, and community development.

For additional information call: (313)881-4722 or
Email: info@grossepointechamber.com



From left to right: **Rachele Wright** – Director of Social Media & Marketing, **Jenny Boettcher** – President, **Abigail Turnbull** – Membership & Event Coordinator, **Lisa Frasier** – Director of Finance

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Families Against Narcotics

Your **connection** for information, resources, and support.

Because addiction is a family disease that impacts more than just the person using drugs or alcohol, Families Against Narcotics (FAN)—a Macomb County-based nonprofit founded in 2007—encourages the loved ones of those who are struggling with substance use disorder to get help for themselves.

FAN's free services include the Stronger Together family and friends addiction support group and the Navigate family recovery coaching program. Both of these initiatives are designed specifically for family or friends, so they can work on their own recovery.



Families Against Narcotics

STRONGER TOGETHER
Family & Friends: An Addiction Support Group

NAVIGATE
peer & family recovery coaching services

Stronger Together groups meet both in-person and virtually and will help you learn to support your loved one in a way that's healthy for both of you. Meanwhile, the Navigate coaching program uses trained and certified family coaches to provide one-on-one guidance for those who are dealing with a family member's addiction.

For more information on these programs, call FAN at 586-438-8500, or visit familiesagainstnarcotics.org

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.



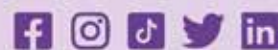
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CNS Healthcare is a non-profit, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) that provides necessary services to any individual in need of mental health or substance use disorder treatment, regardless of insurance or ability to pay.



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\$123,216

AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▼ **4.1%**
FROM Q4 2022

▼ **8.0%**
FROM Q1 2022

56
NUMBER
OF SALES

▲ **9.8%**
FROM Q4 2022

▼ **21.1%**
FROM Q1 2022

40
AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▼ **13.0%**
FROM Q4 2022

▲ **11.1%**
FROM Q1 2022

47
AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▼ **28.8%**
FROM PRIOR QUARTER

▲ **127.6%**
FROM Q1 2022

28.3%
ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▲ **21.8%**
FROM Q4 2022

▲ **65.3%**
FROM Q1 2022

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q1 2023) OVER QUARTER (Q4 2022)

▲ **40.4%**
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ **36.4%**
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▲ **9.8%**
TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q1 2023 vs. Q1 2022)

▲ **127.6%**
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ **2.7%**
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ **21.1%**
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 – Healthy: While prices have declined nominally quarter over quarter and year over year, and because the data pool is not large enough to reduce the impact of outliers within the data. What we do see however is that the number of homes selling for 100% of asking or more is 46.4% of all homes sold. There also appears to be a larger-than-usual number of homes sold which may have been owned by investors who accepted a price more than 15% below asking in less than 30 days on the market. .

Number of sales – Fair: Quarter over quarter good, year over year not so much. Indicative of the current interest rate climate..

Days on Market (DOM) – Good: Days on the market have increased in the first quarter over Q4 of 2022 and year over year but remain well below the average of 72, which is typical in a balanced market. While the market remains healthy, it does indicate sellers need to be realistic.

Inventory – Good: With the lack of inventory being a contributing factor to both higher prices and fewer sales, it is never good to see the number of homes available decline. However, the robust improvement over 2022, if it continues, is great news. It may also mean buyers who have not seen a home that was exactly what they wanted to compromise and reevaluate homes they have already seen. With house prices continuing to rise, while new homes may come on the market, they will become less affordable.

Absorption Rate – Seller's market: The decline to under 30% still indicates it is generally a seller's market, but the abuse buyers endured when it was much higher has been less likely.

An absorption rate between 15.4% and 18.3% is considered a market in balance. Higher favors sellers, lower favors buyers.

Disclaimer:

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CREATE AND INSPIRE CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY



Life is full of struggles and challenges for most, but by getting involved in our community, we can be a

part of the solution, together. A solution that can help right now. A solution to continue for generations to come.

Sometimes we may find ourselves wondering why we need to do something about it. Sometimes it's not about why it happened, just that it did. Take accountability for our community to raise awareness, to feel proud of our accomplishments, and to create a solid bond with our neighbors.

You can create action and do **ONE** thing today that can **benefit tomorrow**. Joining together will strengthen change. Be the change you want to see to become an example of positive change.

How to Inspire Change In Our Community:

- Say "Hello" to your neighbors or locals. Sometimes we just want to be heard and seen, and showing you care with a wave and smile could go a long way.

- Lend a helping hand by holding open the door for the next person, it gives a sense of appreciation.
- Be active in keeping a clean community. A clean community will help residents raise their mental well-being, and will help residents feel proud of their community.
- Get involved with volunteering. Being active in your community can give you a sense of purpose, and being part of something bigger.
- Shop your local businesses. Strengthen our local economy so we can keep strengthening our community.

Spark the change through action and inspire a positive ripple effect. We can do this together...

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