

# THE INSIDER

For The City of Harper Woods

Your community resource guide for the City of Harper Woods!  
**SPRING EDITION**  
APRIL THROUGH JUNE 2020

**Get the most out of our community!**

## CITY CALENDAR

### April

April 4 – Siren Test 1:00pm

Week of April 6-10 - Yard Waste/ Compost Pick-Up Begins

April 6 - City Council Meeting 7:00pm

April 10 - Good Friday - City Offices Closed

April 12 – Easter Sunday

April 15 – Water Bills Due

April 20 – City Council Meeting 7:00pm

### May

May 2 - Siren Test 1:00pm

May 4 – City Council Meeting 7:00pm

May 10 – Mother’s Day

May 14 – Water Bills Due

May 16 – Armed Forces Day

Week of May 25-29 – Rubbish Delay (Memorial Day)

May 25 – Memorial Day – City Offices Closed

### June

June 6 – Siren Test 1:00pm

June 8 – City Council Meeting 7:00pm

June 14 – Flag Day

June 15 – Water Bills Due

June 21 – Father’s Day

## Think Spring Harper Woods!

**It’s Time to Clean Up, Fix Up, Paint Up and Get Healthy!**

April 22, 2020 is the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. April 22, 1970 was designated as the first Earth Day. On that day millions of Americans cleaned up and fixed up their streets, parks and neighborhoods to demonstrate for a healthy and sustainable environment. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment by bringing together people from all walks of life for the same purpose. By the end of 1970 the Clean Air and Water as well as the Endangered Species Acts were created.

Harper Woods Mayor, City Council and City Administration announce the city’s 4th annual Earth Day Observance. Mayor Poynter explains, “To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, Harper Woods citizens of all ages will be coming together again for the annual neighborhood spring cleanup on Saturday, April 25. These citizens will be showing how much they care by helping to make Harper Woods a great place to live.”

**The Harper Woods City Wide Clean Up will be on Saturday, April 25, 2020 from 8:00am to 12:00pm.** After we complete our work, we will have fellowship time at Salter Park where refreshments will be served. Many members from the community volunteer for this event and, as in past years, Harper Woods students will participate.

Last year we had over 200 participants and we are hoping to top that number on April 25, 2020. This event reinforces the need to be community minded and helps remind people that it takes everyone to improve our community. This event is an excellent opportunity for individuals to help clean up their community, meet their neighbors and even get a little exercise. We will be picking up litter on some major roads in Harper Woods as well as the City Hall and Library grounds.

Volunteers are needed. Please call the city at 313-343-2505 so we can sign them up. Volunteers can show up on April 25, 2020 to pitch in, but we would prefer to get a number beforehand, so we have enough refreshments for people.

With all the news about being green, global waste - why not spend a few hours on April 25, 2020 at the Harper Woods City Wide Clean Up Day - what an excellent way to show you care about your environment.

Celebrating The **50<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary of Earth Day 1970-2020



## 2020 Parks & Rec Summer Program Guide

A Harper Woods Resident’s Guide to Summer Recreation. See Pages 14 & 15



## New Parking Ordinance effective April 1st.

Details on page 4

# The City of Harper Woods

## Mayor

Kenneth A. Poynter

## Mayor Pro Tem

Cheryl A. Costantino

## City Council

Valerie J. Kindle

Ernestine Lyons

Veronica Paiz

Vivian M. Sawicki

Regina Williams

## City Manager

Joe Rheker

## City Clerk

Leslie M. Frank

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

## Harper Woods Insider Advisory Board

Vivian Sawicki - Council member, City of Harper Woods

Larry Hakim - Planning Commissioner, City of Harper Woods

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

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

Jean Tallent - Marketing Manager, Eastland Mall

Joe Rheker - City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email [info@drivecreativeservices.com](mailto:info@drivecreativeservices.com)

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# Employee in the Spotlight



**David Carrico** is a Lieutenant who has been employed with the Harper Woods Fire Department since 2007. He is a Firefighter/ Paramedic who is responsible for training our Public Safety Officers. "Harper Woods appealed to me being a small community which is tight knit. It reminded me of the neighborhood I grew up in St. Clair Shores and offered the ability to be part of a city that wasn't a metropolis yet wasn't just a road with a single stoplight," he said.

Harper Woods Public Safety Director Vincent Smith stated, "Dave was selected to be in the spotlight because he is invaluable to this department. Dave gives 110% into preparing all public safety personnel

for situations they may experience during a fire incident." Dave has a teaching background earning his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Western Michigan and teaching 5th grade Science before coming to Harper Woods on the recommendation of a friend. Dave completed a Master's in Science in Education from Western Michigan in 2012, he said "I worked to improve my skills and knowledge to better serve the community and its needs."

Additionally, he is creative at making his own props to accomplish training goals in the most cost-effective way for the city. Dave can often be seen well into the night working on ways to provide the best services to the residents within our public safety model.

Smith added, "Dave is a humble individual, the city is very lucky to have him and his vast background in education, EMS/ Paramedic and various rescue specialties including Hazardous Materials, High Angle Rescue and Confined Rescue."

City Manager Joe Rheker agreed with Smith, "Lt. Carrico is an innovator! He is continuously researching, developing and improving ways to provide better Public Safety through the fire service. He's a team player who is very conscientious about his duty to serve and protect the Harper Woods community. I'm glad we are highlighting his service to the community as the Employee in the Spotlight, he certainly deserves it."

Dave expressed that he is honored to receive this recognition by his colleagues and that he is blessed to work with a team of dedicated, hardworking individuals that share the goal of being the best public servants that we can be, and to do that as a team.



# Neighbor in the News

**Reginald “Reggie” Tabron** is a local legend in Harper Woods known for his individual litter control efforts throughout the city. His dedicated volunteering actions to keep the neighborhood clean and tidy, especially Beaconsfield Road has inspired local leaders, residents and city employees. He’s receiving standing ovations at city council meetings and even called a “hero” for his positive example to the public. “Reggie Tabron is a dedicated true believer in community spirit. He is an excellent role model through showing his pride in his surroundings. I think of how great Harper Woods could be if everyone cared like Reggie.” said Mayor Poynter.

He began picking up litter after seeing it scattered across the city. Reggie said, “I know my community is a good community to live in and I have pride in keeping it clean.” Reggie, an educator for 29 years, moved with his family to Harper Woods in 2005. Through his eyes, the City of Harper Woods always resembled a picturesque neighborhood with friendly people. He recalled on his childhood memories with the decision to move here. He told the Insider, “I remember as a child the weekends driving with my parents through Harper Woods down Beaconsfield and seeing how quiet and immaculately clean it was- I was impressed... That kept an image in my head. I said that one day I want to live in Harper Woods and here I am living my dream.” He hopes others will follow in his

dream to hold pride in their community and become responsible for their litter.

Reggie wants people to know he gets plenty of exercise in walking his clean up routes and stays fit while preserving the environment. He appreciates all the support he’s received from residents by sharing their kind words and refreshment offers. Reggie also has a special message for the students in Harper Woods, “Be a part of the community you live in and step up! Volunteering builds character and that’s priceless. It’s going to help you become a better and respectful person. You can’t put money on that!” *Well said, Mr. Tabron. Thank you for all you do in Harper Woods!*



## Featured Business/Organization: Pointe Fitness and Training Center

Ken Welch had a unique fitness concept in mind twenty-five years ago when he opened the first “boutique gym” in the area, Pointe Fitness on Mack Ave. He envisioned a membership facility that offered the latest effective fitness and strength training programs using optimal equipment. Today, he’s expanded Pointe Fitness and Training Center into a 20,000 sq. ft. club style gym that gets you totally fit in Harper Woods.

He’s thankful for the space and really likes the community. Ken said, “Harper Woods is an ideal location, it’s so accessible to everything in the metropolitan area. It’s diverse and the geography with wide streets, trees and parks make it a great place to live. I think Harper Woods does not get enough credit for being a cool place in Michigan.” Welch also thanked John Miller and his family for all their support over the years.

Ken is an owner who wants to help others get healthy. From the minute you walk through the doors and receive warm greetings, you feel at home with a definite health-giving vibe. He aims at providing the best fitness offering facility with Circuit Training, Cross Training and Personal Training available.

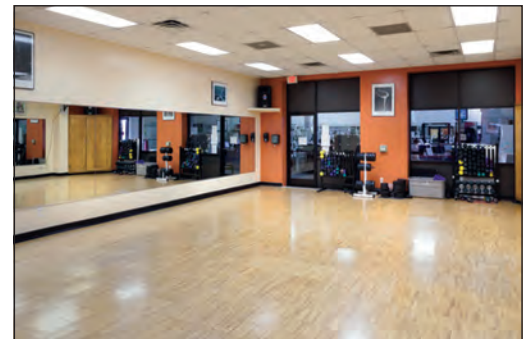
The gym is staffed by certified trainers and exceptional instructors that deliver several specialized programs and classes, like: Spinning, Zumba, Yoga, Pilates, CardioMix, Body Toning, Abs/Glutes and much more. Classes are fueled with fun and included in the price of the monthly membership affording a great value. Membership embraces a wide variety of people, including long-time member John Szymanski, Harper Woods Finance Director/Treasurer who added, “I’m

always motivated when I enter the gym and have made some real good friends in the process.”

Pointe Fitness & Training Center is a place where people go to train, run, lift weights and play. Some gyms may offer more amenities like pools and saunas, but for the real workout enthusiast, it doesn’t get better this... The gym is well organized and clean featuring state-of-the-art weight training equipment based throughout the functional floor plan. Your personal belongings are secure in locker rooms and the parking lot is fully monitored by a panel of security cameras. Ken Welch expressed, “Pointe Fitness is a membership facility- a gym with a club attitude!”

### **Be challenged – Join Pointe Fitness & Training Center!**

*Located at 19556 Harper Avenue, Pointe Fitness & Training Center is open daily, please visit their website at [www.pointefitnessandtraining.com](http://www.pointefitnessandtraining.com), Facebook page or call 313-417-9666 for hours and more information about becoming a member.*



# Department of Public Safety – Police

## Spring is in The Air! Time for Yardwork and Trimming



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) - What is it and why is it important to implement? CPTED is an approach to deterring criminal behavior by designing your residence or business to influence criminal acts prior to them occurring. CPTED is an important strategy to employ to your residence as it will, generally, make potential burglars feel less comfortable in your area and around your home. Here are some things you might want to consider while cleaning up your yards.

### Residential Entry Points:

**Daylight View** – Stand outside of your home’s primary front entry/exit areas.

- From this line of sight, what can you see?
- Ask yourself, can you be seen by neighbors or vehicle passing by? If you cannot see them, they cannot see you either. Criminals like privacy too!
- Repeat this process on each side of your home.

**Night View** – Now, stand outside of your home’s primary front entry/exit areas at night.

- Repeat the review process as above. What can you see from your doorways?
- Is lighting present to highlight these same entry/exit points?
- Are there dark spaces that could be lighted?
- Repeat this process on each side of your home.

### Street View of Property:

Walk or drive by the front of your residence from the street.

- Can you see clearly down both sides of the residence?
- Can the windows and doors be seen from the street-view?
- Does your property follow the 2’-6’ rule (hedges and bushes no more than 2’ high, and tree limbs trimmed to at least 6’ above ground)? This reduces hiding spots for criminals.
- At dark, have tree canopies grown so large that they block any street or residential lighting sources?
- Are there places for a person to conceal themselves near your doorways?
- How well maintained is your yard? A well-manicured property displays strong ownership and presence.
- Is there any signage present to display ownership (No trespassing, alarm signage, etc.)?

## Overnight Parking Changes



On Street Parking 2:30am – 5:00am Change: City Council passed a resolution on February 19th which will raise the annual parking permit from \$35 to \$45. This resolution also includes a fee being required for the issuance of temporary parking permits which are good for 30 days. The fee for a temporary permit will be \$10.

Temporary permits will only be issued for:

- (1) Residents with out of town visitors where the parking of the visitors’ vehicles cannot be accommodated in the resident’s driveway.
- (2) To persons who demonstrate temporary circumstances which would make compliance with this section impossible or unduly harsh. Such circumstances shall include but not be restricted to situations involving home improvement work, property maintenance projects, and other specific events. There will be no fee for residents in these circumstances.

The Parking Pass Fee increase goes into effect April 1, 2020. Applications for annual passes or temporary passes can be made at the Harper Woods Police Department front desk anytime.

## Smart911 App

Harper Woods Enhanced  
9-1-1 Services and  
Emergency Notification with Smart911 Complete



Following the recent installation of compatible equipment, the Public Safety Department is pleased to announce that Smart911 information will now be received by our 911 Dispatchers. Smart911 is a free service that allows individuals and families to sign up online to provide key information to 9-1-1 call takers during an emergency.

Smart911 saves critical time in an emergency and has proven to save lives nationwide. The additional information provided in a Smart911 Safety Profile enables Public Safety Officers or Fire Personnel to know exactly where they are going and who they are looking for in a house fire or at the scene of a vehicle accident, those details can help for a faster and more efficient response. Smart911 allows individuals to create a Safety Profile for their household at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com) or on the Smart911 App that includes any information they want 9-1-1 and response teams to have in the event of an emergency. When a citizen makes an emergency call, their Safety Profile is automatically displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker, allowing them to send the right response teams to the right location with the right information.

With Smart911, individuals can link both homes and work addresses to mobile phones, which can be passed on to responders in the field for more a detailed, rapid response. Additional information including pets in the home, vehicle details in the event of an accident, and even emergency contacts can all be included in a Safety Profile. All information is optional, and the citizen can choose what details they would like to include.

The Harper Woods Public Safety Department encourages residents to sign up for the free service that provides emergency responders with additional life- saving information in the event of an emergency.

The Smart911 App is available on the Apple Store or Google Play.



# Department of Public Safety – Fire

## **SPRING CLEANING? REMEMBER THESE FIRE SAFETY TIPS!**

If you haven't gotten around to your spring cleaning yet, don't worry—we're not here to judge. What we are here to do is offer a gentle reminder to keep fire protection in mind when you're cleaning, organizing, and preparing for the warmer months.

We talk a lot about fire safety during the fall and winter, which makes sense given all the indoor and outdoor fires, deep-fried turkeys, space heaters, and holiday lights that tend to show up when it's cold. But now that it's warming up, there are still plenty of ways to incorporate fire protection into your spring cleaning routine. Here are a few areas to keep an eye on, recommended by us and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).



- **Smoke Alarms** – First and foremost, **check your smoke alarms**. It's a task that can easily go forgotten for months, but how convenient that you should change your battery once a year and spring cleaning comes around once a year. Put it on your list of chores for the big clean to ensure that it happens every 12 months. According to the NFPA, a functioning smoke alarm in your home cuts your risk of dying in a house fire by 50 percent.
- **Chimneys** – As cozy as it was in January and February, come April and May chances are you'll be less inclined to build a fire in the living room fireplace. As easy as it is to just scoop out the ashes, close it up, and forget about it until November, go ahead and have the chimney inspected as part of your spring cleaning effort. The NFPA recommends having a chimney inspected and thoroughly cleaned at least once a year anyway, and getting it out of the way this time of year often means ridding it of buildup that would only cause more damage if it hung around until the fall. Plus, chimney technicians will be more likely to have flexible schedules in the springtime.
- **Kitchen** – Keep countertops and stovetops free of grease and clutter. Excess grease on the drip pan or stovetop can easily catch fire. Clean oil and food spills immediately after they occur and wait until the stove is cool to wipe off oil or grease spills. Keep items that can catch fire, such as oven mitts, towels or wooden utensils, away from your stovetop.
- **Electrical Cords** – Inspect the electrical cords in your home and replace worn or tattered ones. Avoid running cords under carpets or across doorways to prevent them from being damaged. Use extension cords only temporarily and plug major appliances directly into wall sockets.

- **Clothes Dryers** – The leading cause of **fires caused by home clothes dryers** is a failure to clean them. So as tempting as it may be to think, "It's fine until next time", as you're throwing in a load of towels, go ahead and scrape that lint out. And make sure to check the drum for extra lint or any items that may have fallen out of pockets, and keep the area around the dryer free from anything flammable like cardboard boxes and cleaning products.



- **Grilling** – Nothing says spring and summer quite like grilling out. We couldn't agree more. But let's not forget that grilling inherently involves fire, so there are a few things to keep in mind. Before you even turn the grill on, check the propane tank, hose and all connection points to make sure it's not prone to any leaks. Once the grill is on, turn off the tank and burners immediately if you smell gas. If you're using a charcoal grill, make sure you're using charcoal starter fluid, not any other flammable liquids. And once you're finished, let all the coals cool completely before dumping them in a metal container.
- **Stored Fluids** – How often do any of us actually organize the cabinets under our sinks, or the black holes of our outdoor storage buildings? If you're already cleaning the rest of the house might as well put that out-of-sight-out-of-mind space on your list. Make sure cleaning supplies and things like gasoline tanks are stored in a cool, dry place, out of reach of children and pets and far from electrical cords or any other heat-producing apparatus.
- **Escape Plan** – While you're at it, go ahead and make spring the time of year when you and your family or roommates go over your **escape plan in case of fire**. Ensure that everyone knows what to do and where to go in case of a fire, and especially if there are children in the house, do a couple practice run-throughs of the escape plan.



## It's Time to get REAL

*a message from Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson*



Your Michigan driver's license or identification card may not get you through airport security later this year.

Oct. 1 is when the federal government will fully enforce the post-9/11 REAL ID Act, and standard state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards will no longer be accepted to board domestic flights within the United States, or when entering certain federal facilities, such as military bases or nuclear power plants.

Many people already have a REAL ID document, such as a valid U.S. passport, a DHS Trusted Traveler Card or an Enhanced Driver's License. A full list of acceptable REAL ID documents is available at TSA.gov. Those who don't can make their Michigan license or identification REAL ID-compliant by visiting a Secretary of State branch office and presenting the required documents. And, if you make an appointment, you'll be in and out in 30 minutes or less.

Here's what you need to do to get a REAL ID:

- To schedule an appointment at one of our branch offices visit [Michigan.gov/SOSAppointments](http://Michigan.gov/SOSAppointments) or calling 888-SOS-MICH. You can make your appointment at any branch in the state, and you don't need to have a renewal mailer to do so. Some branches fill up fast, so book your appointment a few weeks in advance of when plan to travel. Your REAL ID license or state ID card will be mailed to you.
- Bring your driver's license or state identification card. Bring your certified birth certificate, with a raised seal or stamp issued by a governmental agency; your valid, unexpired U.S. passport; or an approved citizenship or legal presence document. (Faxes and photocopies won't be accepted.)
- If your name differs from what is on your birth certificate, bring certified documents for every time your name has changed, such as marriage licenses or court orders.

There's no additional fee to turn a license or state ID card into a standard REAL ID if it's done during your normal renewal time; otherwise a duplicate card fee of \$9 or \$10 will be charged.

For more information, visit [Michigan.gov/RealID](http://Michigan.gov/RealID).

## Beautification Award Nominations Sought

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. To nominate a home in your area, please call the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or send an email to [llombardi@harperwoods.net](mailto:llombardi@harperwoods.net) with the address of the home. **Nominations will be accepted until June 26.** Awards will be presented to ten homeowners and one business in November.



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](http://www.nixle.com).

### Participating Partner



313-881-9556

[www.advantageliving.net](http://www.advantageliving.net)

19840 Harper Ave., Harper Woods, MI 48225

## State Primary Election August 4



On August 4 voters throughout Michigan will participate in an open primary election for the purpose of nominating candidates to most state and county elective offices. In addition to voting for various elective offices, there may be several state or county wide ballot proposals. The last day to register in any manner other than in person with the local clerk is Monday, July 20, 2020. After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency in the clerk's office during regular business hours, or from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1 and on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. If you are unsure of your registration status, or where to vote, please call 313-343-2510 for assistance. If you need an absentee voter ballot application for this election or have any other questions, please call the City Clerk office.

## Spring Perennial Plant Exchange

The Harper Woods Beautification Commission is sponsoring the Perennial Plant Exchange to be held Saturday, May 16 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Salter Park. Items to be exchanged include garden plants, herbs or ground cover. No trees please. For more information, please call Mitzi Giles at 313-884-0297 or the City Clerk's office at 313-343-2510 or send an email to [llombardi@harperwoods.net](mailto:llombardi@harperwoods.net)

## School Board Candidate Deadline

Eligible Harper Woods School District residents interested in becoming a school board trustee must file petitions with the City Clerk by Tuesday, July 24 at 4:00 p.m.

## 32A District Court News

### Harper Woods Judge to Serve as President of Wayne County District Judges' Association



Pictured above, this year's WCDJA board members.

Harper Woods Judge elected to the 32A District Court in Harper Woods was selected President of the Wayne County District Judges' Association (WCDJA) for the 2019-2020 term.

The WCDJA is comprised of judges serving the district courts of Wayne County. The group is dedicated to ongoing judicial education through its monthly meetings where speakers present on issues relevant to the cases district judges in Wayne County preside over daily. These issues have included opioid addiction, drunk/drugged and/or distracted driving, suicide prevention, mental health and other specialty courts. The 32A Community Treatment Court, a mental health court, was established last year and is growing rapidly.



# Treasurer Info

## **Public Notice – City of Harper Woods** **Applications for Deferment 2020 Taxes**

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

## **Assessing, Tax and Utility Billing** **Information Online**



The City's website [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://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](http://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](http://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 September 1, 2019

Fixed Water Charge:	\$9.69/month
Fixed Sewer Charge:	\$17.08/month
Debt Service Charge:	\$2.50/month
Refuse User Fee:	\$2.30/month
Water Usage Fee:	\$65.13 per thousand cubic feet

\*Water and Sewer 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

## **Automatic Payment-Water Bills**

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

## **Pay Water Bills Online – NO FEES!**

Free Mobile Water App Available! Please refer to your current water bill for details and how to register at [harperwoods.cityinsight.com](http://harperwoods.cityinsight.com). See website for new features!



## **Automatic Payment-Tax Bills**

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

## **Pay Property Taxes by Credit Card Online**

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

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





# Senior Resources

## The Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA)

DAAA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate, advocate and promote healthy aging to enable people to make choices about home and community-based services and long-term care that will improve their quality of life. The agency serves Detroit, Harper Woods, the five Grosse Pointes, Hamtramck, and Highland Park. The lives of 150,000 older adults and caregivers are touched by the agency annually.



Let DAAA help you ... an aging parent ... a friend or neighbor. For anyone who needs information or referrals related to healthy aging, home-delivered meals, household chores, or long-term care planning, start with a call to the Detroit Area Agency on Aging: 313-446-4444 or The Helm at the Boll Life Center (formerly SOC) 313-882-9600

## The Helm at The Boll Life Center

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



## PAATS News

### Do you know about PAATS?

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

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

The following fares are per one-way trip.

<b>Fares:</b> Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes .....	\$3.00
Outside of the City limits of Harper Woods and the 5 Grosse Pointes .....	\$4.00
Site Specific Locations .....	\$5.00

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



### Special Trips

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

### Participating Partner



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

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

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

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

# Library News & Events



*“Check out what we’ve got planned for you!”*

**Kristen Valyi-Hax**  
Library Director

## From the Director

Need a hand with homework?  
We can help!  
On-demand tutoring, online  
tutor.com The Princeton Review

Parents, do you want your children to have a strong finish to the school year? If they need a little extra help, you can use Tutor.com. All

you need is your library card and PIN to connect to tutors who can help with any type of academic question. Go to our website [www.harperwoodslibrary.org](http://www.harperwoodslibrary.org) for more information.

I'm excited about this year's Summer Reading Program! This year's theme is Imagine Your Story when we will be reading about fantasies and fairy tales. We've got some great programs planned and hope we see you all summer long.

We can't wait to see you soon!

## Summer Reading Program Review

**Summer Reading Kick-Off!** Join us for crafts, games and snacks related to our summer reading program "Imagine Your Story!" Sign up for our Summer Reading program to win prizes for reading over the summer. Program will be concluded with a performance at 6:00 p.m. Performer TBA.



**All ages, Monday, June 15 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Japan & the 2020 Olympics:** We'll watch a PG-rated Japanese anime movie and enjoy Japanese snacks to celebrate the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

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

**GP Zoology Program with Lou's Pet Shop:** Join us for an interactive program with some crazy critters, ranging from a big 5' monitor lizard down to a hedgehog and tarantula.

**All ages, Wednesday, June 24 at 2:00 p.m.**

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

**Ages 6-11, Tuesday, June 30, 2:00 p.m.**

**Look out for more information about our Summer Reading Program and Summer Events at our website or at the library!**

## Friends of the Library Book Sale

**The Friends of the Library are having their Spring Book Sale on Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2 from 1pm – 4pm.** Come on in and find your new favorite book at a great price! Proceeds benefit the library!

Our Friends of the Library group supports the library with their book sales and Annual Artisans' Market. If you are looking for a way to volunteer and serve your community, ask about becoming a Library Friend at the library or visit our website for more information.

## Ongoing Events for Children and Parents

**Tot Time:** Toddlers and preschoolers up to 5 yrs. old and their caregivers are invited for stories and songs, followed by unstructured playtime.

**Mondays, April 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18; June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**NEW! 2nd Tot Time from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**PAWS:** Children are invited to the library to read to our neighborhood story-loving beagle. He enjoys hearing exciting books read to him by our young patrons.

**Tuesdays, April 14 and 28; May 12 at 4:45 p.m.**

**Homework Help:** Tutoring is available for half-hour session for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders on Monday and Wednesday afternoons BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Sessions are available between **4:20 and 6:00 p.m.** Please schedule your appointment with our Youth Librarian. Parental permission is required.

**Sewing Club:** Teens and tweens can learn the practical skills of hand-sewing and repairing their own garments. Supplies will be provided by the library, but please bring your own items for repair.



**Tuesdays, April 21; May 5 and 19; June 2 at 3:30 p.m.**



# Library News & Events

**NEW! Chess Club:** Get together to play chess. Experienced players and beginners welcome!

**Wednesdays, April 15 and 29; May 6 and 20; June 3 at 3:30 p.m.**

## Special Events for Families

**No-School Spring Crafts!:** It's the first day of spring break! Join us for some spring and Easter-themed crafts!

**All ages, Monday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.**

**Trolls Party:** Join us for a dance party to celebrate the release of **Trolls World Tour!** We'll make our own troll hair and have a troll-rific time!

**All ages, Saturday, April 18, 2:00 p.m.**

**Comic Book Day:** Want to celebrate Free Comic Book Day without all the lines? Join us for a PG-rated superhero movie and some fun giveaways. Costumes encouraged!



**All ages Saturday, May 2, 2:00 p.m.**

### **Butterfly Queen & Dragonfly King**

**Tea Party:** Kids, bring your mom or grandma for a tea party just in time for Mother's Day! Children's Author S.R. Taylor will be here to discuss her book "Round" and encourage each Butterfly Queen and Dragonfly King to develop a beautiful "pair of wings", that enables them to fly above challenges seeking to suppress their self-worth. **Registration required for this event.**



**All ages, Saturday, May 9, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

## Special Programs for Teens

**Teen Drop-In:** The drop-in program will consist of either a predetermined new release movie to watch at the library – or- Wii and video games. Snacks will be provided.

**Wednesdays, April 8 and 22 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Wednesdays, May 13 and 27 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Study Night:** Bring your study guides and join us for pizza. Use this time to collaborate with others and ace your finals!

**Wednesday, June 10 at 4:30 p.m.**

## Ongoing Programs for Adults

**Read Something Different Book Club:** Meets the **second Wednesday** of the month from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**April 8:** *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**May 13:** *Notes from a Small Island*, by Bill Bryson

**June 10:** *The Gown: a Novel of the Royal Wedding*, Jennifer Robson

**Cooking Club:** Meets the **third Wednesday** of the month, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**April 15:** Air Fryer Demonstration

**May 20:** Victorian Tea Party

**June 17:** Special Diets

**Mystery Lovers Book Club:** Meets the **fourth Monday** of the month, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Choose any book by the author of the month.

**April 27:** Ngaio Marsh

**May 18:** Josephine Tey

**June 22:** James M. Cain

## Special Events for Adults

*Call 313-343-2575 to reserve a seat for these events*

**Draw a Mandala:** Draw and decorate a mandala, a circle ornament that can be used as a relaxing tool.

**Monday April 13, 6:30 p.m.**



### **Great Michigan Read Book Discussion:**

*What the Eyes Don't See* by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha

**Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.**

**Collage Workshop:** Thanks to the positive response, we are offering another collage program. Supplies will be provided but you may bring your own scissors, magazines, or pictures to use.

**Monday, May 4, 6:30 p.m.**

**Adult Summer Reading Program:** Book discussions, special programs, food, and prizes! Sign up at the library.

**June 15 – July 24**

**Fairy Garden:** Make your own fairy garden.

**Monday, June 30, 6:30 p.m.**

## Regular Hours

Monday – Wednesday: 11 am – 8:30pm

Thursday: 11 am – 5pm

Friday – Saturdays: 1pm – 5pm

### **Closed Holidays:**

April 10 - 11: Easter Holiday

May 24 - 25: Memorial Day Weekend

Visit [www.harperwoodslibrary.org](http://www.harperwoodslibrary.org) or call the library at 313-343-2575

# Department of Public Works

## Refuse Collection Guidelines

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



**MISS DIG** – If you notice colored flags in your yard or along the roadway, it is an indication that someone is planning to perform

underground construction in that area. The following utility companies are represented by colored flags as indicated:

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



## Yard Waste Collection

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



**check your City calendar**

**for specific dates.** For more information go to [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) or call 313-343-2570.

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

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

## Sidewalk Maintenance

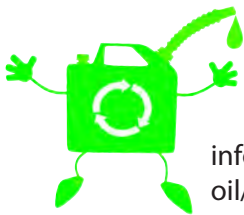
A friendly reminder to all homeowners and business owners that they are responsible for maintaining and correcting any sidewalk or driveway approach defects. However, before any repairs are made, a permit from the Building Department must be obtained. For more information, please call 313-343-2526.



## Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

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

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



## **Trash Delay Reminder!**

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





# Department of Public Works

## Maintaining Sewer Lines

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

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

## 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

## Building Department Info

Looking to report a violation or concerns with a potential violation? Please email or call the Building Department with any and all concerns at 313-343-2526 or [building@harperwoods.net](mailto:building@harperwoods.net)



To check and see if a potential violation has turned into an enforcement you can always check online at [bsaonline.com](http://bsaonline.com). Click Wayne County, then Harper Woods. Type in the address and look under the Building Department tab.

Spring is the perfect time to check your home and property for potential damage caused by the cold winter season.

1. Pick up all of the debris that has been hidden under the snow during the winter months.
2. Prepare your lawn equipment to cut and maintain your property or contact a contractor to do so for you.
3. Remove wild elm trees that grow along side your house, garage or in the fence lines before they become larger and harder to maintain.
4. Make sure your gutters and downspouts are cleaned out and dispersing water away from your foundation.
5. Inspect your concrete for dangerous trip hazards and repair or replace.
6. Deteriorated fencing/structures need to be repaired and painted or removed.
7. Garbage receptacles must be kept behind the house and out of sight from the front view of the property. They should be set to the curb no sooner than the evening prior to your scheduled pick-up date, and returned to the rear yard the same day after pick up.
8. Always make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors have fresh batteries.
9. Notify the Building Dept. of any and all blight so we all can enjoy the beauty that Harper Woods has to offer us all.

## Assessing Department Info

The City of Harper Woods Assessing Department administers the property tax system in accordance with all statutory regulations and rules. Our goal is to perform our duties professionally, equitably and accurately. The Assessor's Office assesses all real and personal property located in the City. This department maintains the property assessment record cards on all residential, commercial and industrial properties. General assessment information is available on the City of Harper Woods website. [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org)

To help maintain accurate taxpayer of record information, please submit any change of address request to the Tax and Assessment Departments. When a transfer of ownership occurs, you must file a Property Transfer Affidavit with the Assessor's Office. All forms including property Transfer Affidavits, Principal Residence Exemption (PRE), Request to Rescind PRE and Conditional Rescission of PRE forms are available at City Hall and online.

Assessor available on Wednesday

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

313-343-2527

[assessing@harperwoods.net](mailto:assessing@harperwoods.net)

# 2020 Summer Recreation Program

## Arts & Crafts

One of our most popular programs! Arts & Crafts is a fun, supervised place to be. Need a few hours in the morning to yourself? Then our Arts & Crafts program is for your child! Children ages 3-10 years old will enjoy participating in games, safety lessons, theme days, and craft making. We offer one six-week session for this program. This program is held at Harper Woods High School. Children must be potty trained. Register early, this program fills up quickly!

**Dates:** June 16-July 23

**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays

**Times:** Age 3-5 years old 9:00am-11:00am

Age 6-10 years old 11:30am-1:30pm

**Fee:** \$55 per child, includes daily snack and materials.

## Tumbling

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

**Dates:** June 15-July 20 **Day:** Mondays

**Times:** Ages 4-6 5:30-6:30pm

Ages 7 & up 6:30-7:30pm

**Fee:** \$60.00



## Yoga

In today's society, it is easy to become overworked and under-rested. Yoga is an excellent way to shape up your body and mind. Yoga relaxes the mind and body while helping develop concentration, awareness and balance. This class is held the Harper Woods High School. It runs for (2) four week sessions.

**Dates:** Session I: June 15-July 6

Session II: July 13-August 3

**Day:** Monday **Time:** 6:30pm-7:30pm

**Fee:** \$35 per session or \$10 drop in fee per class



## Kids Tennis

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

**Session I:** June 16-July 9

**Session II:** July 14-August 6

**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays

**Times:** Ages 6-8 9:00am-10:00am

Ages 9-High School Age 10:00am-11:00am

**Fee:** \$40.00 per 4 week session



## Adult Tennis

We now offer tennis lessons for adults too! This class is held at Johnston Park. Great for beginner or advanced.

**Dates:** June 20-July 25

**Day:** Saturdays

**Time:** 10:00am-11:00am

**\*No class July 4th\***

**Fee:** \$50 for the 5 week session

## Martial Arts

Interested in Martial Arts? We will be offering a six week session for ages 7 through adult. This class is held at the Harper Woods High School. This style of martial arts is called Isshinryu Karate and will be taught by George Reynolds.

**Dates:** June 16-July 23

**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays

**Time:** 6:00pm-7:00pm

**Fee:** \$60.00 for the six week session



## Books Come Alive

"Books Come Alive" in the Park, with Judy Sima, Storyteller, Author, and Teaching Artist.

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

11 AM at Salter Park

Shelter 2 or Pavillion depending on weather.

Ages 4 and up.



## Memorial Day Ceremony



The City of Harper Woods Memorial Day Service and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 25th at the Veteran's Memorial, located at Johnston Park, beginning at 10:15am. The Veterans organizations and service organizations within Harper Woods participate in this program. All are welcome to attend in honor of those who have fought for our country. Memorial wreaths are placed at the Memorial Flame in their memory. A continental breakfast is served immediately following the service.

## Swim 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 of the tools they need to become a good swimmer, and they have fun too!! The children's lessons are offered for **Harper Woods residents only**. The classes are held at the Harper Woods High School pool, and are available for one eight week session. \*Register early, classes fill up fast.



**Swim Lessons Schedule** (from previous page) We offer Monday OR Tuesday classes.

**Monday Classes** (June 15-August 3)

**\*No classes July 1st\***

5:00-5:30pm Aquaducks 5:30-6:00pm Level I  
6:00-6:30pm Level II 6:30-7:15pm Level III  
7:15-8:00pm Level IV, V, VI

**Swim Fees**

30 minute classes: \$ 60 for 1 child, \$30 each additional  
45 minute classes: \$70 for one, \$35 each additional

**Tuesday Classes** (June 16-August 4)

**\*No classes July 2nd\***

4:00-5:00pm Open Swim (see below)  
5:00-5:30pm Level I 5:30-6:00pm Level II

**Swim Fees**

30 minute classes: \$60 for 1 child, \$30 each additional  
45 minute classes: \$70 for one, \$35 each additional

**Beginning Adult Swim Lessons**

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

**Dates:** June 16-August 4 **Day:** Tuesdays  
**Time:** 6:15pm-7:00pm **Fee:** \$70 for 8 weeks

**Water Aerobics**

Water aerobics is a great low impact workout. We offer an eight week session at the Harper Woods High School Pool.

**Dates:** June 16-August 4 **Day:** Tuesdays  
**Time:** 7:00pm-8:00pm **Fee:** \$64 for 8 weeks

**OPEN SWIM on Tuesdays**

4:00pm-5:00pm \$2 per person

**\*Residents ONLY\* You must stop in at the HW Recreation Department to get a Swim Pass**

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

**\* For more information regarding any of our of our programs, please contact the Recreation Department at 313-343-2560**

**Summer Dance**

Come join the fun and dance in the summer! Classes will be held on the stage in the Harper Woods High School Auditorium. Family members and friends have the option to stay and watch every class. There are ballet bars. The high school is located on Beaconsfield about 1/3 mile south of Vernier. **There is no residency requirement.** Please call program director Nonny Sperry with questions at 313-885-3714.

**Dates: June 22-August 10**

**Monday Classes**

**Instructors: Miss Mikayla Schiller, Miss Caitlin Skerske, Miss Sophia Smith and Miss Nonny Sperry**

4:00-4:30pm Creative Movement, ages 3-5  
4:30-5:00pm Hip Hop, ages 6-8  
5:00-5:30pm Ballet, ages 6-8  
5:30-6:00pm Preschool Hippety Hop, ages 3-5  
6:00-6:30pm Ballet, ages 8-12  
6:30-7:00pm Tap, ages 8-12  
7:00-7:30pm Lyrical, ages 9 & up  
7:30-8:00pm Hip Hop, ages 8-10  
8:00-8:30pm Hip Hop, ages 11 and up



**Dance Tuition**

\$50 (includes 8 lessons) \*Plus \$5 registration fee per family. Family Plan- 2 classes or more = 10% discount  
\*Applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in 2 or more classes.

**Walking Club!!**

Join us at Salter Park to get healthy and socialize with your neighbors. Pre-registration is not needed and there is no cost. Get your heart rate up by walking the Salter trail.



**Days:** Saturdays \*See dates below\*\*  
**Time:** 9am-10am  
**Dates:** April 4 & 18, May 2 & 16, June 6 & 20, July 11 & 25, August 1 & 15, September 5

**Senior Club Event**  
**Pinochle and Cards**

Feeling Lucky? You can tempt the luck of the draw every Thursday, at the Harper Woods Library. Pinochle and other card games are played from 1:00-4:00pm. All are welcome.



	<b>Spring Baseball League</b>			
	Co-ed ages 6-11	Cost \$50	April-June	
<b>313-343-2560</b>		<b>EagleSportsClub.com</b>		

# Parks & Recreation Update

## **Park Facilities**

The Recreation Department has three parks for community use, each with children's playground equipment and picnic sites. Picnic reservations will be taken from May through Labor Day. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. No moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, bands or DJ's allowed for picnics. Reserve at least one month in advance, minimum of three 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 is \$75. The Pavilion at Salter is \$100.

The fee is due at the time of reservation. Cash or check only.

## **Multi-Purpose Rink**

Come up to Johnston Park and take advantage of our multi-purpose rink. In the summer you can inline skate and skateboard. The rink is located right next to the tennis courts. Pickleball will be set up on this court on Tuesdays and Thursdays for those who want to play.

## **Financial Assistance Program**

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

## **Recreation Refund Policy**

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

## **To Register:**

Register at the Recreation Office or mail in the registration form with payment.

Phone reservations not accepted.

Make checks payable to: **City of Harper Woods**

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

The mailing address is:  
City of Harper Woods Parks & Recreation  
20221 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, MI 48225  
313-343-2560

## Harper Woods Recreation Department

### **TO REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS:**

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

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_



# Upcoming Spring Events

## Memorial Day Observance Event



Please join us on Monday, May 25th for the city's Memorial Day Observance. The formal service begins at 10:15am at Johnston Park and is followed with refreshments.



## Juneteenth Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

This event memorializes the end of slavery in America. On hand will be actors depicting famous persons such as Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman, and other notables from the slavery and Civil War era. There will be speakers for the event, which has been staged in Salter Park for the past two years. Refreshments will be served. Please check the city website for updates and event time schedule.



## Public Safety Awareness Workshops



Get involved with Public Safety Awareness Workshops being offered during the month of May promoting safety awareness and preparedness.

Go to [harperwoodscity.org](http://harperwoodscity.org) and click on the Public Safety tab for workshop registration information. Each workshop is limited to 40 seats.

Be Aware and Prepare, Safety is Everybody's Business!

# The City of Harper Woods Beautification Commission

Marianne Modlin, Chair

The City of Harper Woods elected to establish the Beautification Commission in 1990 by city ordinance. At that time, the newly established commission was charged with advising the City Council on programs, projects, and activities aimed at improving the beautification of the city. The Commission sponsors the annual Harper Woods Beautification Awards each year and the Harper Woods Annual Perennial Plant Exchange.

The most publicly visible activity that the Commission promotes, is the Beautification Awards. The yearly nomination and selection of "Award Winning Homes" in the city begins in spring with notices in the City Newsletter and articles in the local paper soliciting nominations from residents who wish to nominate a home in the city for its outstanding appearance and its contributions toward the beautification of the City. The award nomination process begins each year when Commissioners canvas the City in search of properties that have improved their surroundings through landscape, architecture, maintenance, and other efforts. Commissioners look for residential homes that are divided into five regions within the city. The Commission also nominates one commercial business. Nominations are actively solicited from the public. To submit a nomination, you may call or email the City Clerk's Office where they are passed on to the Commission for their review.

Beautification nominations are due by June 26.

Once homes are nominated, Commission members make the final decision on Award recipients. Award winners are then presented with a plaque by the Mayor, City Council, and Beautification Commissioners at a council meeting.

The Annual Perennial Plant Exchange has become an annual favorite! The exchange is open to residents of Harper Woods and surrounding communities. Participants exchange perennial plants

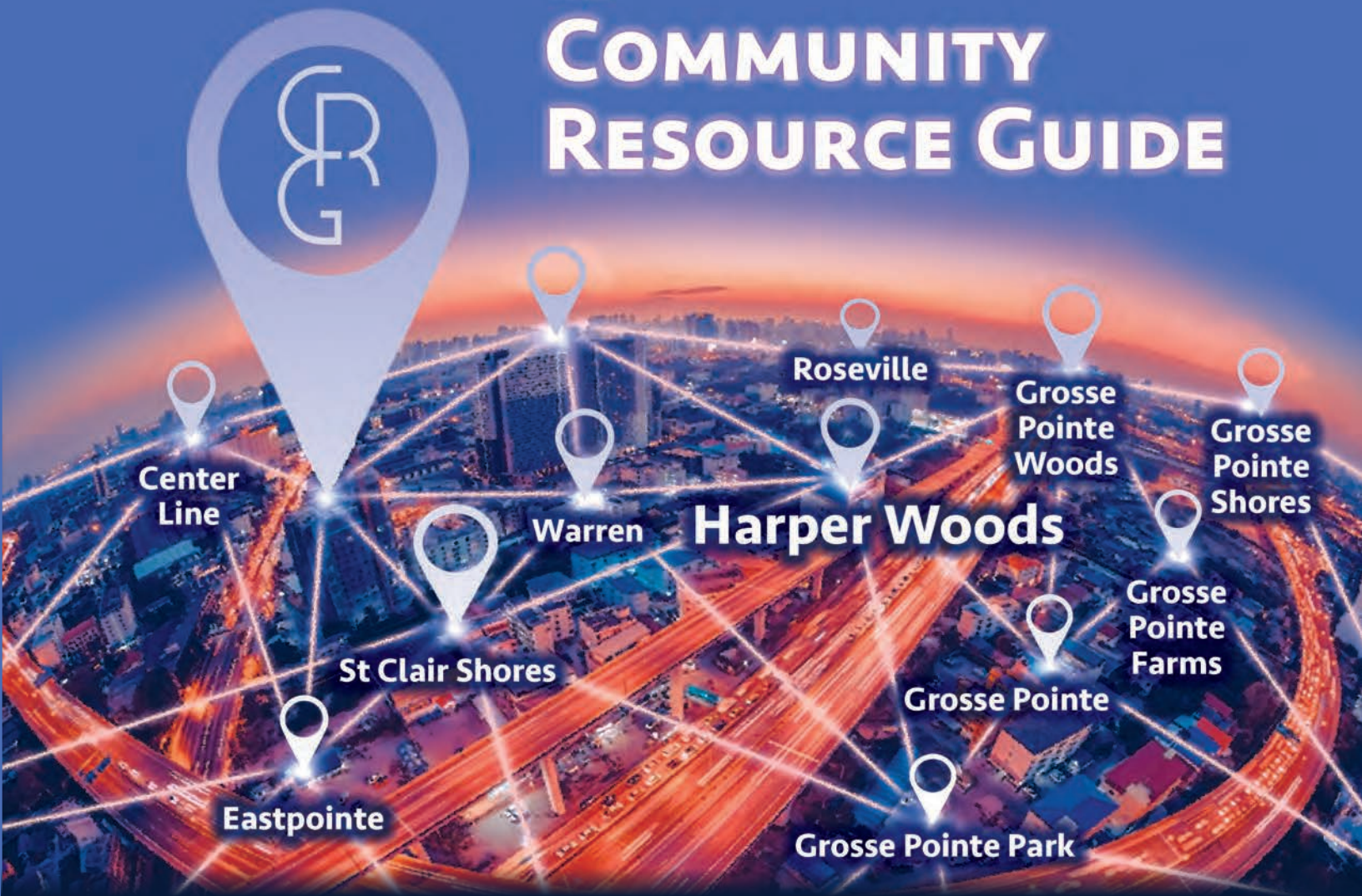
which are first inspected by a Master Gardener. Area businesses support the exchange by donating a variety of plants and other garden products, that are raffled off to exchange participants. The perennial plant exchange is held the third Saturday in May at Salter Park from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Look for signage and social media posts.

By the way, did you know that our city flower is the Bearded Iris. Perhaps find a spot in your yard for our beloved city flower!





# THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE



Highlighted in this Edition:

**Chef's Corner • Health & Fitness • Foot Care  
2020 Census • Heating & Cooling Tips • World Autism Month  
Harper Woods Real Estate trends • And More**

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

If you or someone you know have an event to promote, a story to share or an idea for the upcoming Summer Edition (July, August September), contact us at [info@drivecreativeservices.com](mailto:info@drivecreativeservices.com) Deadline to provide information is Tuesday, May 25th (All information provided will be considered without guarantee it will be published).

**To promote your business in this quarterly publication please contact  
Drive Creative Services at 586-275-0300 • email [info@drivecreativeservices.com](mailto:info@drivecreativeservices.com)**



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# Today's Health & Fitness

Pointe Fitness and Training, is now in its 25th year. From the beginning our philosophy has been to guide, support and encourage members to become more self-sufficient and self-motivating in pursuit of fitness knowledge.

So how does an individual make exercise a part of their life and not just for the time? The popular thing in fitness right now is the boutique studio that offers different types of classes. They charge a high monthly fee for classes on certain days/ certain times, in a one size fits all kind of format. The attraction to these classes is primarily because they have a predetermined exercise format ("I don't have to think") and are designed to be fun and group interactive.

For some, these types of classes can be a good starting point but.....what happens if the class format changes into something you don't like. What if your schedule changes and interferes with your class time? Will you be able to continue these classes past a certain age? How long will you be able to financially afford to go?

Have you really learned anything about fitness?

To ensure workout longevity-be your own boss in charge of your own workout routine. Teach yourself how to design your own individual workout plan that can conform to any life situation or schedule. Learn to push yourself and appreciate your efforts. Feel good about building your body and your mind. It might be psychologically and emotionally challenging but you can do it and you'll be better for it.



Ken Welch, Owner  
Pointe Fitness  
& Training

Having control over when, what, how hard or easy you train is very gratifying and empowering especially when everything else in your life can feel like it's at a standstill. Psychologically you have an opportunity to meditate, problem solve, think creatively while getting stronger and in better condition.

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## BE COUNTED MICHIGAN 2020

Once a decade, the U.S. Census works to count every person living in the United States. Every Michigander needs to be counted because census numbers affect everyone in Michigan - including seniors, students, kids, parents, businesses and communities.

Being counted helps our community create jobs, fund K-12 education, provide housing, prepare for emergencies and build schools, roads, hospitals, and libraries.

Census data also determines how many seats Michigan gets in Congress. State and local officials use census data to draw boundaries for state and local legislative districts and school districts.

We all win with an accurate census count!





# Coming July 1, 2020



## The Community Directory

Our online directory will be featuring your neighborhood:



Businesses



Community Events



Estate & Garage Sales



Services

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## Many Thanks

Your neighborhood market, Family Foods Market, is owned and operated by Mr. Sam Hamama. He has been running Family Foods and connecting with the community since 2005. Sam stated how he was honored to have been in the winter edition and blessed to be in such a family oriented community. Hamama values family because his legacy started in the Middle East where his family grew and sold their own goods in local markets. Sam will strive to continue his family tradition and hopes to bring quality and family-friendly service to the community of Harper Woods.

**Family Foods  
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# ASK THE EXPERTS:

## HEATING AND COOLING TIPS

### My furnace? I think it's in the basement.

A large percentage of us are unaware of heating and cooling equipment and what, as a homeowner, we need to do. We want our furnaces to be out of sight and out of mind.

Think about it like we're talking about your car, if you never changed the oil then your engine would seize up, was it the cars fault? No it's not. Same as your furnace, if you don't change your filters then you'll get the same result.

Here are a few things you can do yourself: Heating season (1) check and change your filters regularly (depending on your filtration system it can be monthly to yearly). (2) Annually replace the water panel/filter for the humidifier. (3) If you have a condensate pump add a cap full of bleach in the reservoir every other month to keep the drain line and float clear.



If you don't know what to do, it's worth making a call to have a service technician explain your system to you. Especially with the newer high-efficient equipment, an annual inspection is always recommended.

For more information contact us at 586-754-6700

Mr. Furnace has been servicing Harper Woods and the Tri-County area for over 45 years. Their office is located in Saint Clair Shores.

## PLANTAR WHAT?



**Overview:** *Plantar Fasciitis* is a very painful, over-use injury, and the most common cause of heel pain. The plantar fascia is a thick band of tissue that runs along the bottom surface

of the foot connecting the heel bone to the ball of the foot. Excessive stretching of the tissue can cause tiny tears that lead to irritation, inflammation and pain on the bottom of the heel, the arch of the foot or both locations. Plantar fasciitis is most painful with your first steps in the morning or after rest because the fascia contracts and becomes less flexible while you are off your feet.

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

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

BY: Joe Dyament, Board Certified Podiatrist (C.Ped), Owner of Foot Solutions, [www.footsolutions.com](http://www.footsolutions.com)



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friends and neighbors affected by autism. In addition to the blue lights, The Family Center is hosting programs on topics related to autism and bullying during April, which is Worldwide Autism Awareness Month. Visit [FamilyCenterWeb.org](http://FamilyCenterWeb.org) for full details and more information.

## Light It Up Blue for World Autism Day

Throughout the month of April, you will see blue lights on porches, storefronts, businesses, municipal buildings, and more. These blue lights mean support for families,

The Family Center's mission is to deliver educational and community resources that empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional, and physical challenges. To support these efforts, contact The Family Center at 313.447.1374 or [info@FamilyCenterWeb.org](mailto:info@FamilyCenterWeb.org).



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# CHEF'S CORNER



## Smooth life

### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 organic small bananas frozen
- 2 cups of diced watermelon
- 1 cup of pineapple diced
- 1 diced ripe mango
- 1 tbs fresh peanut butter
- 1 sweet orange juiced by hand

### DIRECTIONS:

In a blender add frozen bananas, watermelon, pineapple, mango, and orange juice followed by the peanut butter very last. Start your blender and blend until smooth. If your smoothie does not vortex add more orange juice or water until smooth. Pour into your favorite smoothie mug or container.

2020 is here and as the weather breaks into warmer temperatures, spring is on its way. Now that the holiday feasts and fattier foods have come and invaded our bodies. It's now time to cleanse and refresh ourselves. Not only is spring cleaning important for our homes but it's also necessary for our internal organs. Foods that cleanse our bodies include fruits like lemons, limes and grapefruit. Green vegetables like spinach, kale and cucumber. Sprouts and Rhizomes like garlic, ginger, and turmeric. I also like to use oils such as olive, avocado and coconut.

In my kitchen this spring I have invested in a Breville Juicer.

The Breville is a top of the line masticating high quality juicer. I want to share my kitchen spring cleaning secrets and recipes for juices I drink to get myself back in shape. After all the cakes, cookies, and cocktails its time for a cleanse. In search for ingredients to juice I start with identifying the problem areas in my body. Things like bumps and blemishes, dry hair, protruding lower belly and what ever ails you. These issues can all be healed with fresh pressed juice.

When going on a cleanse the first thing you want to do is clean out your refrigerator completely. No leftovers, carry outs, or deviants from your desired diet. I also recommend placing a box of baking soda in your fridge, after cleaning and sanitizing the shelves. Throwing out all plastic containers, cups and plasticware is crucial to your kitchen cleanse and mental clarity. Now that we have removed unnecessary items from our kitchen, we now have space to juice and create our healthy healing diet.

Attached is a recipe to a 3-day juice cleanse I love to drink when I'm tired of eating unhealthy food. Do not fret if you don't have an expensive juicer. All items can be peeled and blended in a regular blender and strained through an ultrafine mesh then poured in a pitcher or glass over ice.

## Liquid Gold

### INGREDIENTS:

- 3 large organic carrots
- 1 thumb of fresh turmeric
- 1 thumb of fresh ginger
- 2 cloves of organic garlic
- 1 sweet orange peeled

### DIRECTIONS:

When juicing I always start by loading the chimney of the juicer first to ensure that the smaller items are juiced. Then start the juicer on the best setting according to the density of my fruits and vegetables. Low for soft berries and green leaves then on high for hard roots and vegetables. Followed by a 1/4 cup of spring water to remove any excess precious juice. Pour your juice into your favorite container. Please note that using turmeric will cause staining to any white or clear plastic surface.



## Greener on the other side

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 large cucumber
- 1 large green apple
- 1 grapefruit peeled
- ½ cup of fresh wheat grass from Beaconsfield Farms
- 4 c packed of picked kale
- 1 thumb of ginger

### DIRECTIONS:

Load the juice chimney with the leafy vegetables and start to juice on the low setting. Add the cucumber, apple, ginger and press through the high setting. Pour and serve green juice over a glass of ice. Green juice is not for everyone, but it is healthy, refreshing and full of anti-aging nutrients.



Thank you for reading my favorite juice recipes. Please remember to stay hydrated all through any juice diet with electrolyte water, and remember carbohydrates are your friends. Happy Juicing!

-Chef Patricia Lyons



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<b>▲ 9.3%</b> FROM PRIOR QUARTER	<b>▲ 9.4%</b> FROM Q4 2018		<b>▼ 33.2%</b> FROM Q4 2018	
<b>67</b> NUMBER OF SALES	<b>▲ 1.5%</b> FROM PRIOR QUARTER	<b>MARKET ACTIVITY</b> Single Family • Detached		
	<b>▼ 5.6%</b> FROM Q4 2018			
<b>43</b> AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET	<b>▼ 10.3%</b> FROM PRIOR QUARTER			
	<b>▼ 53.6%</b> FROM Q4 2018	<b>▲ 25.9%</b> ACTIVE	<b>▼ 4.3%</b> UNDER CONTRACT	<b>▲ 3.1%</b> CLOSED
<b>81</b> Q4 AVERAGE MONTHLY INVENTORY	<b>▼ 8.0%</b> FROM PRIOR QUARTER	<b>YEAR-AFTER-YEAR</b>		
	<b>▲ 35.0%</b> FROM Q4 2018	<b>▲ 51.7%</b> ACTIVE	<b>▲ 4.8%</b> UNDER CONTRACT	<b>▼ 10.8%</b> 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®.  
<sup>1</sup>The 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.

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## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Average Sale Price – Good news!:** Changes in Average sale price in markets where the difference between lowest priced sale and highest is only the-fold (20,000 – 200,000) is a good indicator that price growth is occurring. Where the difference is substantially more (in the Grosse Pointes it is 36 fold), average sale price can simply be a reflection of changes how many homes are selling in different price ranges.

**Number of sales – As expected:** Sales remain constrained by inventory, while it is increasing, it needs to increase more to adequately impact the relationship between supply and demand.

**Days on Marker (DOM) – Good News!:** Although there was a substantial jump in the length of time it took for a home to sell in Q4 of 2019 vs. 2018, being concerned when DOM remains under 60 days just means we are spoiled.

**Inventory – Great News!:** For the housing market to be robust it requires an adequate supply. To few homes and those who want to move up are afraid and those wanting to buy for the first time frustrated. As long as while inventories are increasing DOM is not going over 60 and average sale price or percentage of asking price are not decreasing things are just fine.

**Absorption Rate – Great News!:** This is actually the most important market number because it is the closest to a real time indicator of how buyers and sellers are interacting. The market in Harper Woods remains strong with continued low sales the result of low inventory. When the number is above 18.3% it is considered a seller's market (which distresses buyers and discourages potential buyers); below 15.4% and it is considered a buyer's market (discourages sellers and potential sellers) At 27.6% while it is still a seller's market, people are far less intimidated by the process than they were a couple years ago when they were close to 40%

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®.

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