



THE INSIDER

FOR THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Your community resource guide for the City of Harper Woods!
FALL EDITION
OCTOBER THROUGH
DECEMBER 2024

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

October

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

- October 5 – Siren Test 1:00pm
- *October 7 – City Council Meeting
- October 14 – Columbus Day
- October 14 – Curbside Leaf Pickup Begins
- October 15 – Water Bills Due
- *October 21 – City Council Meeting
- October 31 - Halloween

November

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

- November 2 - Siren Test 1:00pm
- November 3 – Daylight Savings – Set Clocks Back 1 Hour
- *November 4 – City Council Meeting
- November 5 – Election Day - City Offices Closed – Polls Open 7am-8pm
- November 9 – Artisan Market - Library 11am-4pm
- November 11 – City Offices Closed – Veterans Day Observed
- November 11 thru 15 – Curbside Leaf Pickup Ends
- November 14 - Water Bills Due
- *November 18 – City Council Meeting
- November 18 thru 22 – Yard Waste/ Compost Pick Up Ends
- November 20 – Tree Lighting 6:30pm – Outside HW Fire Department Library Pre-Glow 5pm
- November 28 – Thanksgiving – City Offices Closed (Rubbish Delay)
- November 29 – City Offices Closed (Rubbish Delay)

December

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

- *December 2 – City Council Meeting
- December 7 – Siren Test 1:00pm
- December 16 – Water Bills Due
- December 11 – Visit from Santa! at the Library 5pm
- *December 16 – City Council Meeting
- December 21 – Winter Begins
- December 24 – Christmas Eve – City Offices Closed
- December 25 – Christmas Day - City Offices Closed
- December 24 thru 27 (Rubbish Delay)
- December 31 – New Years Eve – City Offices Closed

Harper Woods Highlights

About Blues in the Woods

As a long-time Bluesfest enthusiast, I couldn't wait to experience the music, food, drink, art, and vibrant atmosphere with the residents of my community. Supporting local acts and reminiscing about the music of the past while enjoying the nice day we had on August 24th seemed surreal.

Thornetta Davis and her band highlighted the evening, and she did not disappoint. Witnessing her talent along with her young musicians was not only inspiring but served as a reminder of the power of music to shape and encourage the dreams of everybody going through life's struggles as they exist today.

I had the distinct pleasure of sitting in, as a guitar player, for the closing tune with the opening act for Thornetta Davis. Their name is "Tino G and The Dumpster Machine". Earlier, in the month, I asked Tino if I could have a practice rehearsal before the show. He just looked at me and said, "it's all in the key of "E" – just take your guitar, catch the vibe and "funk" it up!"

Aye yai yai, they must really trust my guitar skills. So there I was, flying high without a parachute!

I played my guitar like no one was watching and felt totally free. Not having a single thought of failing, but rather a feeling of being free!

I then realized to myself that great things never came from comfort zones! Glad our Mayor, City Council and vendors (Nu-Appearance Maintenance, Anderson Eckstein & Westrick, SAFEbuilt, and others who saw such great potential), unseen & unrehearsed, let this happen in Harper Woods!!

*John Szymanski
Acting City Manager*



Election Information

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City Tree Lighting and the Library Pre-Glow

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The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

Mayor Pro Tem

Regina Williams

City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Gerianne LaPratt

Vivian M. Sawicki

Ivery Toussant Jr.

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 - Councilmember, 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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Harper Woods Highlights

Blues in the Woods Festival



Harper Woods Highlights

Juneteenth

In 2017, Harper Woods was one of the first communities in the area to have a City sponsored Juneteenth celebration. Mayor Valerie Kindle organized that event and continues to be the leading light of June 19th festivities in our region.

The Wayne County Community College District hosted the 2024 Juneteenth celebration at their Harper Woods campus. Special thanks to Sean and Nancy Cotton, Sierra Donovan, Ford House, Grosse Pointe Democratic Club, NorthPointe Development, Troy's Towing, and the Grosse Pointe cities for sponsoring this year's successful event!



National Night Out

The Harper Woods Public Safety Department hosted its annual National Night Out event on August 6th at Johnston Park. Thank you to all who participated! We could not have done it without our resident volunteers, elected officials, and event organizers. A big "thank you" to sponsors: Christian Financial Credit Union, Exway Electric Supply Co., Family Foods Market, Imperial Market (formerly Vegas Market), Mr. C's Car Wash, and R Gang Liquor for making this community event take place. We look forward to seeing you again next year on August 5, 2025.



Neighbor in the News:



Johnetta Tabron

The Insider asked Johnetta Tabron to share her belief in supporting your community by volunteering. She replied, "I am Johnetta Tabron, a resident of the City of Harper Woods since 2005. I moved here with my husband, Reginald and our two sons, Willie and Reginald Jr. We chose this community because it was small and peaceful. We fell in love with the parks and the baseball program.

I first started volunteering with the NUMEN basketball program that was held during the summer months. Next, I volunteered for the girls softball team at Harper Woods High School. I really enjoyed working with the girls and helping the team progress. In 2022, I ran for the Harper Woods Board of Education. I did this because I love children. I am currently the Secretary of the Board. My mission is to help children stay on the right course. Currently, I am the Vice-President of the Neighborhood Economic Development Coalition (NEDC). Our mission is to help the residents of the city to come together and socialize. This is very important in our community.

I am a devoted wife and caring mother who loves spending time with family and friends. Some of my hobbies are making things, cooking and dancing. I am currently employed and looking forward to retirement in about two years. After that, Harper Woods here I come! My mission is to continue to volunteer and help the residents of Harper Woods. The reason I volunteer is because I love the way it makes the community look and how residents feel. It makes me feel good too!

I would love for more residents to volunteer for the city. There are a lot of boards and commissions in Harper Woods that need good people and that could be you... Come on people, don't talk about it, be about it. Help your neighbors and your community!"

Employee (Retirees) in the Spotlight:



Sergeant Matthew Closures

Sergeant Matthew Closures retired from the Harper Woods Department of Public Safety on August 30th, 2024, after 25 years of honorable and dedicated service. Sergeant Closures served in several capacities over his career to include Field Training Officer and Detective. Sergeant Closures was also cross trained as a fire fighter.

Public Safety Director Jason Hammerle expressed, "I've known Matt for more than 26 years going back to our time with the Detroit Police Department. We're going to miss having him in the building. He was always good for a laugh when we were having a bad day. We wish him well in retirement and hope he comes back to visit us often!"

Cheryl Badalamente

Congratulations to "Sheri" as she begins her well-deserved retirement. Sheri was with the DPW for 25 years and served the residents of Harper Woods with skill and respect.

She always had a joke... and a smile for the citizens as well as her co-workers. She will be missed!



Congratulations on both of your retirements!

Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

Building Department Info

With Autumn in full swing, there are little to no cost maintenance items that can be addressed preventing costly damage and unnecessary repairs:

1. Keep your gutters and downspouts clean to prevent water and ice backups.
2. Make sure your downspouts have a minimum 3' extension to disperse water away from the foundation wall preventing basement flooding and/or cracked walls.
3. Clean the lint out of the dryer vent preventing fire.
4. A furnace inspection from a licensed contractor can save on energy costs and prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
5. Replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
6. Turn off outside water spigots and disconnect hoses prior to freezing weather.
7. Please rake the leaves and pick up debris that may end up under snow creating slip hazard.
8. Please shovel the snow. We find no glory by issuing ordinance tickets.



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, taxes and general questions, please visit the website and 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. Please submit by the requested due dates on the application or contact the Assessor's Office.

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.



Resident Sign Up
any one of these ways

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

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



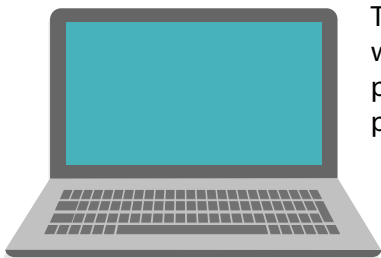
The City of Harper Woods encourages all of our residents to join Nixle. This is a community messaging system run in partnership with our local government. Participating members will receive real-time messages regarding important topics such as crime alerts, traffic safety issues, important dates, and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

Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods **Applications for Deferment 2024 Taxes**

The Harper Woods Treasurer’s Office accepts applications for the 2024 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 to Assessing/property information including photos, sketches, assessed and taxable values as well as amounts due for taxes, water or miscellaneous invoices and payment history. There is no charge to view this information, however, there is a fee to pay invoices with a credit card processing fee that will apply to any of the payments made through the portal.

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 January 1, 2024

Fixed Water Charge:	\$11.58/month
Fixed Sewer Charge:	\$20.41/month
Debt Service Charge:	\$2.50/month
Refuse User Fee:	\$4.16/month
Water Usage Fee:	\$67.08 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 December 18, 2023

Water Disconnect Fee for Non-Payment:	\$100.00
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

BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

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

ELECTION INFORMATION

General Election - November 5, 2024

Polls open 7:00 a.m to 8:00 p.m.

The General Election will be held on November 5, 2024. Polls will be open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm. In addition to voting for the President, voters will elect Congressional Representatives, State Senators and Judges. Voters will also vote for school board candidates for both Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe School Districts.

A sample ballot will be available on our website at

www.harperwoodscity.org

Please contact us with any questions at

313-343-2510 or cthompson@harperwoods.net.



EARLY VOTING - 2024 Elections

What is early voting?

Early voting allows a voter to cast a ballot before Election Day, in an experience similar to voting on Election Day and it will be available for 9 consecutive days for every statewide and federal election.

During the early voting period, voters are issued a ballot and can then insert their ballot directly into a tabulator at their early voting site. Absentee ballots that have been mailed to a voter can also be tabulated at the early voting site or at the voter's regular precinct on Election day.

Voters can visit the Harper Woods early voting site at City Hall at 19617 Harper Avenue beginning on Saturday, October 26, 2024 through Sunday, November 3 from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm each day. Vote early and avoid the lines on Election Day. Contact the Clerk's office if you are unsure of where you should vote or to check your registration status - 313-343-2510 or by email at cthompson@harperwoods.net

For more information please visit the Michigan Secretary of State's webpage at **www.michigan.gov/sos/elections** or the City's Election webpage at **www.harperwoodscity.org**

THE CITY IS UPDATING ITS ZONING ORDINANCE!



The Zoning Ordinance regulates land uses and is the primary tool to implement the Master Plan. Visit the city website at www.harperwoodscity.org for details about the upcoming community-wide open house to discuss possible updates.

We encourage everyone to participate and share feedback!

Department of Public Safety – Police

QUICK TIPS FOR AVOIDING FRAUD



There are many varieties of consumer fraud, but the most common ones are variations of fake check scams, credit repair, free trip offers, and sweepstakes. Here are some tips to help you avoid being a victim:

Don't give out personal information. Be suspicious of anyone you don't know who asks for your Social Security number, birthdate, credit card number, bank account number, password, or other personal data.

Don't be intimidated. Be suspicious of calls or emails that want you to provide or verify personal information immediately. Answer that you are not interested and hang up or don't reply to the email.

Monitor your accounts. Review bank and credit card statements carefully, and report unauthorized transactions to your financial institution immediately.

Use a shredder. Tear or shred credit offers, bank statements, insurance forms, and other papers with personal information.

Ignore unsolicited offers. Don't respond if someone you do not know asks you to send money or money orders to claim a prize, lottery, credit card, loan or other valuable offer.



HALLOWEEN TIPS FOR KIDS

1. Walk with other kids or have your parents walk with you.
2. Stay on the sidewalks and don't cut across people's yards.
3. Cross at intersections only and obey traffic lights.
4. If you wear a mask, make sure the holes are large enough to see and breathe through easily. MAKE-UP IS SAFER.
5. Have a plan for walking so you cross the street only when necessary.
6. Do not go into other people's houses. Stay outside.
7. Go only to houses that are well lit.
8. Wear bright, reflective colors so that drivers can see you when it gets dark. Remember that just because you see the cars doesn't mean the drivers see you.
9. Be courteous and say "Thank you" to the people who give out treats. Don't push others when you are at the door.
10. Have your parents check your treats for tampering. If you see something suspicious, throw it away. Make sure that the treats are in their original wrappers. Do not eat homemade treats unless you know the people who gave them to you.
11. Carry identification, including your name, address, and phone number.
12. Trick-or-treat only in your own neighborhood.
13. After dark, take a flashlight along. This will help you see where you are going, and let drivers see you.
14. Wear costumes that are fireproof and not too long or too loose.
15. Do not forget to invite a parent to go with you.



PORCH PIRATES CAN STEAL YOUR JOY

With Christmas around the corner there is an increase in online shopping and packages being delivered to your home. These criminals are known to follow delivery trucks around and when they see an opportunity – they strike!

Take steps to protect your delivered packages.

- Ensure you are home when delivery is scheduled.
- Have packages delivered to a trusted neighbor at home.
- Have packages delivered to your work, if your employer will allow.
- If available, use store pickup.



Hoarding and Fire: Reducing the Risk

Do you have a person in your life who may be a hoarder? Hoarding is a condition where a person has persistent difficulty discarding personal possessions. The large amount of possessions fill the home and prevent the normal use of the space. Living space becomes cluttered. It may be unusable. Hoarding brings distress and emotional health concerns.

Why Hoarding Increases Fire Risks

- Cooking is unsafe if flammable items are close to the stove or oven.
- Heating units may be too close to things that can burn. They might also be placed on unstable surfaces. If a heater tips over into a pile, it can cause a fire.
- Electrical wiring may be old or worn from the weight of piles. Pests could chew on wires. Damaged wires can start fires.
- Open flames from smoking materials or candles in a home with excess clutter are very dangerous.
- Blocked pathways and exits may hinder escape from a fire.

How Hoarding Impacts First Responders

- Hoarding puts first responders in harm's way.
- Firefighters cannot move swiftly through a home filled with clutter.
- Responders can be trapped in a home when exits are blocked. They can be injured by objects falling from piles.
- The weight of the stored items, especially if water added to put out a fire, can lead to building collapse.
- Fighting fires is very risky in a hoarding home. It is hard to enter the home to provide medical care. The clutter impedes the search and rescue of people and pets.

How Can You Help Reduce the Risk of Fire Injury?

- ✓ When talking to a person who hoards, focus on safety rather than the clutter. Be empathetic. Match the person's language. If they call it hoarding, then you can call it hoarding.
- ✓ Help the residents make a home safety and escape plan. Stress the importance of clear pathways and exits. Practice the plan often. Exit routes may change as new items are brought into the home.
- ✓ Install working smoke alarms in the home. Test them at least once a month.
- ✓ Reach out to community resources. Talk to members of the fire department to alert them of your concerns. They may be able to connect you with members of a hoarding task force for additional help.

Community & Business Progress

The Library Lower Level is Open!

Have you been to the Harper Woods Public Library lately? If you haven't, you may not have heard that the lower level reopened back in the spring. It was a long, challenging remediation, but we are so pleased to have our Kids' Area and our Community Room open again to offer to our residents.

Our youngest patrons and their parents have full access to all of the books, DVDs, and audiobooks that we offer. We've been ordering lots of new books and other things to make everyone happy. We have new computers that kids can use to play games or work on homework; caregivers can use them if they need to work on something too. Miss Nicole and Miss Lynn are there to help answer your questions and find the perfect book to read. There are Storytime programs for preschool readers, as well as other events for all ages. Ask them about the fun programs they have planned for you!

Now that our Community Room is open again, the library has started offering programs again for all of our residents. Did you attend the concert given by the Lakeshore Ukulele Strummers or the Book Sale hosted by the Friends of the Library? Did you know that the library has a book club that meets once a month? Keep an eye out for all of the upcoming events that we are hosting. Don't miss the Artisan Market that will be held on Saturday, November 9 from 11am – 4pm! The Friends of the Library are so happy to be offering this great event that benefits the library and allows everyone to see the wonderful creations made by local residents. It's a great opportunity to do some early holiday shopping!

If you have any questions, you can reach out to the library staff at 313-343-2575 or email us at hwl@libcoop.net. Our information can be found at www.harperwoodslibrary.org or on our Facebook/Instagram pages. We're here for you, and we're always happy to help.



Introducing Fraser Square



Starting in early 2025, Fraser Square will be constructed on the former Poupard Elementary school site. As previously reported, it will be a 71-unit development, with 48 paired homes and 23 townhouses. The approximately 1,300 square foot townhouses will have three levels. The two-level paired homes will be 1,200 square feet and include basements. According to the Developers, the site plan is designed to create a walkable and inviting community. All 71 homes will be for sale, with prices ranging from \$165,000 to \$250,000 depending upon incomes, which will range from 60% to 120% of Area Median Incomes.

The City is utilizing tax and redevelopment incentives

to make Fraser Square more affordable to average middle income home buyers. The incentives are provided by the State of Michigan, Wayne County and other agencies. Among the incentives are Brownfield Tax increment financing for infrastructure and other items. The buyers will be eligible for Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) tax abatements, etc.

The development has been designed to provide “Missing Middle” housing options that meet the specific attributes and needs of the Harper Woods housing market.

City Hall Window Replacement Project

After an unusually long road, windows at City Hall were updated thanks to a State of Michigan grant the City received in 2020. Not only do these windows look beautiful; they are energy efficient and will save energy costs for many years to come. Many thanks to DPW Director Heather Toutant and Rob Park/Park Residential & Commercial Services for ensuring this project’s completion.



32A District Court News



Greetings Harper Woods,

The year continues to pass us by quickly and I cannot believe we are approaching the holiday season again! As we enter this next season, we must continue to remember all that we are grateful for, but we must continue to stay law-abiding citizens. The festive period often comes with heightened emotions, busy schedules, and various temptations that might lead to legal trouble if not managed properly. So, each one of us must do our part in making sure that we all remain safe and that our season is enjoyable not only for ourselves but for those around us.

Let's not forget to adhere to traffic laws! Holiday celebrations sometimes involve alcohol, but it's essential to avoid driving/operating under the influence. Use a designated driver, ride-sharing services, or public transportation if you've been drinking. There will also be an increase in the number of vehicles on the road during the holidays, it is vitally important to drive safely and adhere to speed

limits. We must be especially cautious in school zones and residential areas. With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it can be tempting to want to check our phone so that we can constantly be in the know or to multitask while driving. We must remember to stay focused on the road to prevent accidents.

Operating a motor vehicle is an important task that carries great responsibilities and consequences, so let's continue to stay safe and abide by the traffic laws.

Be mindful of property boundaries when visiting homes or attending events. Trespassing, even unintentionally, can lead to legal consequences. Also, if you're decorating your home ensure that you are not violating local ordinances or creating hazards that could harm others. Our community and many communities have noise restrictions, especially late at night. Be mindful of your neighbors when hosting parties or playing loud music. Also review the on-street parking ordinances for our City.

Shopping is a favorite pastime for many during the holiday season. Who doesn't love a good sale and seeing all the festive decorations in the stores that draw you in to spend all your hard-earned money?! Well, we must make sure that we are not only having fun but that we are shopping both legally and ethically. The holiday rush can sometimes lead to accidental or intentional shoplifting. Pay for ALL items before leaving the store and keep track of your purchases. Be honest when taking advantage of discounts, promotions, or price matches. Misrepresenting yourself to get a better deal can be considered fraud. Avoid purchasing counterfeit or stolen items, especially when shopping online. Stick to reputable retailers and report suspicious activity to authorities.

Whether you are hosting an event or attending an event, all events must be attended legally! Follow event rules. Whether attending parades, public gatherings, or private parties, adhere to the rules set by organizers and local authorities. This includes respecting curfews, entry requirements, and behavioral expectations. During celebrations, emotions can run high, avoid actions that could be considered disorderly conduct, such as public intoxications, fighting, or causing disturbances.

Holidays are also a time to connect with family and friends. Most of the time this is joyous but occasionally this time of celebration can lead to conflicts. Avoid letting disagreements escalate to the point of domestic disputes, which can result in legal action. If you are co-parenting, ensure that you follow any legal custody arrangements during the holidays. Violating these agreements can lead to legal consequences.

Whether you're traveling or hosting an event, be aware of local laws, including noise ordinances, curfews, and regulations on public behavior. Be mindful of cultural norms and legal restrictions, especially when traveling abroad, to avoid unintentional legal violations.

By following these guidelines, you can enjoy the holiday season without encountering legal troubles, ensuring peaceful and joyful time for yourself and those around you.

Happy Holidays,
Judge Rebekah R. Coleman

CAREERS: * We're Hiring: Specialty Court Coordinator**

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. .

Application is available at the 32A District Court or
<http://www.harperwoodscity.org/employment-opportunities>

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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

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.**



Yard Waste Collection

Collection begins the week of **April 1st** and runs through the week of **November 22nd** (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.** For more information go to www.harperwoodscity.org or call 313-343-2570.



Curbside Leaf Collection

Loose leaf collection begins the week of **October 14, 2024** and runs through the week of **November 15, 2024** (weather permitting). Collection will be on your regular trash day. Please be aware that "heavy/large" leaf piles may cause a delay in collection. Leaves should be collected the following day. Please:

DO NOT park on leaf piles in the street.

DO NOT blow or place leaves in the street until the night before your trash day.

DO NOT place leaves on top of/near the storm drain in the curb line.

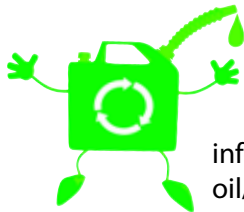
Grass Cutting Violations #89-9 Sec. 16-42 (b)

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.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

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

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



Trash Delay Reminder!

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

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



Sidewalk Maintenance

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



Department of Public Works

Maintaining Sewer Lines

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

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

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

Rodent Control

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

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

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



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

Downspouts, Surface Drainage, Etc.

The City requires that downspouts be disconnected from the drain tile or weeping that surrounds your home. Failure to do so is a violation of City Ordinance# Sec. 27-54.

Downspouts, surface drainage, etc. and can significantly contribute to a flooded basement.

Gutters should be kept clean of debris. Downspouts should have elbows, splash blocks

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

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



Department of Public Works

Rain... rain go away



If you are fortunate enough to have a yard drain, you may have had relief from yard flooding. If not, prolonged standing water can be problematic. It is important to eliminate standing water. A sump pump and garden hose may be the most economical way to eliminate standing water in yards.

Extreme care and ALL safety precautions should be taken when using a sump pump. Electricity and water can be a dangerous or deadly combination. A professional may need to be contacted for assistance with this. Most plumbing contractors are familiar with sump pumps and how to use them safely. It is a violation of City Ordinance to discharge water on to your neighbor's property.

The installation of yard drains and fill dirt may provide a more permanent, long term

solution. It is also a violation to displace water by adding fill dirt when it will displace water and flood your neighbor. A reputable landscape company could advise on fill and grading low spots. Our Building Department should be contacted to advise on grading issues.

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

The foundation of homes and buildings are surrounded by drain (weeping) tile. This is typically installed on the outside of the basement, just below the level of the basement floor, when the home is built. It is designed to take in storm water that soaks / perks into the ground surrounding the home. It is NOT designed to be the main conduit for storm water. It is important to know that this

storm line connects or ties into the sanitary line that takes waste water away from your home. This is evident by the 2 clean out caps in the basement located by an exterior wall.

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

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

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

Snow and Ice Emergencies

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

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

Ordinance Penalty

Sec. 23-4. - Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks by owners of abutting property. The occupant or owner of any premises shall keep the sidewalks in front of, or adjacent to such premises cleared, so far as is practicable and reasonable, from snow and ice to facilitate pedestrian use. Where there are no sidewalks, the occupant or owner as aforementioned, is required to clear a path free from snow and ice where a sidewalk would otherwise be, to facilitate pedestrian use. Whenever any snow or ice has fallen or accumulated it shall be cleared within thirty-six (36) hours after it has fallen or accumulated.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

In 2023, we collected samples from 30 homes. The EGLE evaluates compliance with the Action Level based on the 90th percentile of all lead and copper results collected in each round of sampling. The lead 90th percentile for the City's water supply is 47 parts per billion (ppb), which exceeds the Action Level of 15 ppb. The "Action Level" is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness; it is not a health-based standard. The goal for lead in drinking water is 0 ppb; there is no safe level of lead in the blood.

We will be collecting samples from 60 homes every six months in 2024. Testing the same homes in each round will help us determine if corrective actions are necessary to reduce corrosion in household plumbing. To assist us in our efforts, contact us at (313) 343-2570 to participate in our drinking water testing program.

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.

At this time only homes with LEAD service lines are being tested per EGLE. Taking these samples helps us keep your drinking water safe ~ PLEASE participate to keep us from being in violation of EPA requirements.

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.

WATER NOTICE - URGENT

Water Sample required

**Please contact the
Department of Public Works**

313-343-2570

**to schedule immediate delivery of sample
bottles for state mandated - lead/copper
in drinking water testing.**

Thank you for your assistance

LEAD POISONING - Know the facts

Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing or breathing lead. Children under 6 years old are most at risk. If you are pregnant, lead can harm your baby. Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.

- FACT** Lead poisoning hurts the brain and nervous system. Some of the effects of lead poisoning may never go away. Lead in a child's body can:
- Slow down growth and development
 - Damage hearing and speech
 - Make it hard to pay attention and learn.



- FACT** When old paint cracks and peels, it makes dangerous dust. The dust is so small you cannot see it. Most children get lead poisoning when they breathe or swallow the dust on their hands and toys. Most children get lead poisoning from paint in homes built before 1978.

- FACT** A lead test is the only way to know if your child has lead poisoning. Most children who have lead poisoning do not look or act sick. Ask your doctor to test your child for lead.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

1. TEST YOUR HOME FOR LEAD

If you live in a home built before 1978, have your home inspected by a licensed lead inspector. Contact your local health department for more information.

Sometimes lead comes from things other than paint in your home, such as:

- Candy, toys, glazed pottery, and folk medicine made in other countries
- Work like auto refinishing, construction, and plumbing
- Soil and tap water

2. KEEP CHILDREN AWAY FROM LEAD PAINT AND DUST

- Use wet paper towels to clean up lead dust. Be sure to clean around windows, play areas, and floors.
- Wash hands and toys often, especially before eating and sleeping. Use soap and water.
- Use contact paper or duct tape to cover chipping or peeling paint.

3. RENOVATE SAFELY

- Keep children and pregnant women away from the work area.
- Make sure you and/or any workers are trained in lead-safe work practices.
- Home repairs like sanding or scraping paint can make dangerous dust.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/Lead or call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 517-335-8885.



Senior Resources



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

\$2.00 each way:

Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes

ZONE 2

\$3.00 each way:

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

ZONE 3

\$4.00 each way:

- St. John Surgery Center
- V.A. Hospital
- Henry Ford Main Campus
- City County Building
- Detroit Medical Center
- 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.

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!



How are **YOUR** parents doing?

Learn More Here

Detroit Area Agency on Aging
DAAA
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

The Helm Truly has Something for Everyone!



The Helm, located at **158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms**, is a vital hub for older adults in the community offering a wide array of social, recreational, educational and health-related programs and activities designed to promote both physical and mental well-being and enhance quality of life.

From fun exercise classes to arts and craft workshops, trips around town, educational seminars or language

classes, The Helm truly has something for everyone. The Helm also provides essential services to the five Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods including, Meals on Wheels, medical loan closet, community resources, home repair program and case coordination. The Helm is here to help older adults maintain their independence and navigate the challenges of aging with dignity and support.

Come see us soon! **313-882-9600 • www.helmlife.org**

Library News & Events



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

Kristen Valyi-Hax

Library Director

From the Director

Autumn is the best season! I love the cooler days, the colorful trees, and all the treats like apple cider and donuts. And it always feels like the start of something new, even though it's been a long time since I've gone to school.

Have you checked out Tutor.com for the student in your household? It's a great way to get assistance for your child at absolutely no cost to you. All you need is your library card, and you can get tutoring for all ages!

No matter what you're looking for, our library staff are here to help you find it. Come on in and talk to us today!



Friends of the Library Artisan Market

The Friends of the Harper Woods Public Library are pleased to announce that they will be hosting The Artisan Market on **Saturday, November 9 from 11am to 4pm**. Get your early Christmas shopping done and see the variety of crafts that our local residents have for sale.



Youth and Family Programming

Storytime!

Join us to sing, move, and listen to stories with your little one. Stick around after for some unstructured play time! Storytime is geared to children ages 2-5, accompanied by a caregiver. No registration required. **Wednesdays, 11:15-12:30 beginning September 4th**



Manga Art Drawing Club

Join us at the library for four consecutive Saturdays to learn to draw manga characters. Each session is a stand-alone, so join us for any one or for all of them! Art supplies will be provided.

Recommended for Ages 10 and Up
Saturdays, October 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2:00-3:00 pm
Please call or stop by the library to sign up.

Fizzy Science

Techknow Kids will be here with a Halloween Themed Fizzy Science STEM program!

Recommend for Ages 6-10

Wednesday, October 16 at 5:00 pm

Please call or stop by the library to sign up.



Evening Family Storytime

Come to the library for a storytime and activity the whole family can enjoy! **All Ages.**

Mondays, October 21, November 18, and December 16 at 5:30 pm

Please call or stop by the library to sign up.

Crafternoons

Drop-in at the library after school to make a craft to take home!

Wednesdays, October 23 and December 18, 3:30-4:30 pm

Magic Show

Come to the library for magic and fun for the whole family with A2 Magic! You'll even leave with a magic trick to take home! **All Ages.**

Wednesday, November 13 at 5:00 pm

Please call or stop by the library to sign up.

Tree Lighting Pre-Glow

Stop in at the library before heading over to the City's Tree Lighting to make a light-up craft to take with you!

Wednesday, November 20, 5:00-6:00 pm

Visit from Santa!

Santa will be visiting the library to tell stories! Afterward children will have an opportunity to talk with Santa and take a photo!

Wednesday, December 11 at 5:00 pm

Please call or stop by the library to sign up.

Additional Programming Coming Soon!

Look for more information coming soon about programs with the Harper Woods High School Robotics Team and more! Call or stop by the library or follow us on Facebook and Instagram for up to date programming information!

Ongoing Programs for Adults

Mindful Mondays: 1:30 – 2:30pm

Discussions with handouts on everyday living: health, wealth, food, family & friends.

- October 14: Oktoberfest
- November 4: Veterans, King Tut, and Pickles – What Do They Have in Common?
- December 9: Holiday Chocolate Demonstration

Wednesday Book Club: 1:30 – 2:30pm

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

- October 23: *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, by Oscar Wilde
- November 20: *The Dictionary of Lost Words*, by Pip Williams
- December 18: *The Man Who Invented Christmas*, by Les Standiford

Herb/Spice of the Month

Visit the library for a free pre-measured sample of the herb or spice of the month, plus fun facts & recipes.

Available while supplies last.

- October: Turmeric
- November: Garlic Powder
- December: Poppy Seed



Special Programs for Adults

Special Programs – Sign up in the library or call 313-343-2575

- *History Rewind – Remembering the East Side Drive-In*: Wed., Oct. 2, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- *History Rewind – Vintage Doll Tea Party*: Wed., Nov. 6, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- *History Rewind – Remembering Christmas at Hudson's*: Wed., Dec. 4, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

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

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



2024 Late Fall / Winter Recreation Program



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.

Yoga

Yoga is a great way to take time out for yourself. Our certified instructor will lead you through the breathing and movements that can strengthen your body and relax your mind. Message from Instructor: My name is Tiwana, a certified Yoga Teacher. My classes are warm, inviting, and fun! My love of music is showcased during class. When I teach, I like to use different genres of music to connect with students and fuel the flow. Types of practice: Ashtanga, Vinyasa Flow, and Yin. Please call the Recreation Department for updated class dates for yoga at 313-343-2560.



Class Schedule: Monthly (October, November, & December)

Location: TBD

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

Fee: \$40.00 per month

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 (October, November, & December)

Days & Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30pm
Sundays 11:00am - 12:00pm

Fee: \$40.00 per month

Fitness Firm

Aerobics

Fitness Firm offers low impact dance aerobics, incorporating kick box, yoga, free weights, Zumba, toning, flexibility and stretching.



Fitness Firm classes are held at The First English Lutheran Church on the fourth floor, located at 800 Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Days & Times: Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30am - 10:30am

For more information, please contact Judy Sheehy at 313-886-7534 or vitafitjsheehy@comcast.net.

Pickleball Lessons

Pickleball is a fun, friendly, and social game. It combines aspects of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. No experience is necessary, and the instructor will provide the equipment. Reserve a 2-hour lesson for between 1-4 players with our experienced Pickleball Instructor George Cotton.



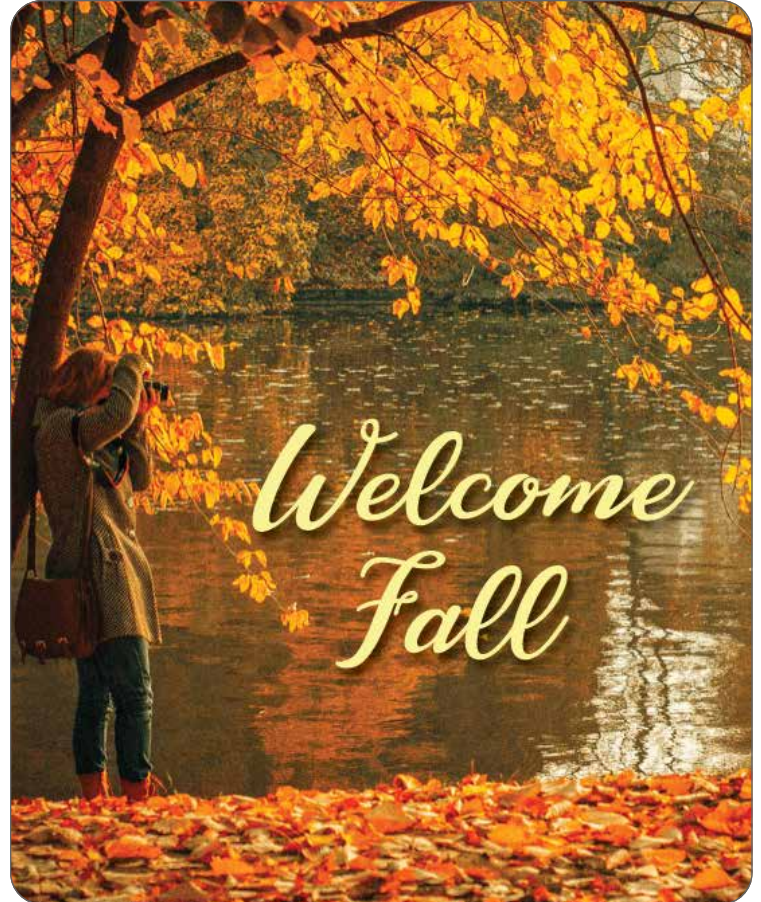
Dates: October

Location: Johnston Park

Days: Wednesdays

Times: 9:00am - 11:00am

Fee: \$5.00 per lesson



Fall Dance

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 41st year of the dance program! There is no residency requirement. All classes take place in the Tyrone Elementary/ gym/stage area. Located between Mack and Harper at the intersection of Tyrone and Broadstone. We require one parent or guardian to stay and watch their child during classes. Siblings are welcome. Students have the opportunity to perform in the annual recital. The recital will be in April at the end of the session. **YOU CAN REGISTER IN PERSON/ON SITE AT TYRONE THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF CLASSES.** We suggest you arrive ten minutes prior to your child's class time if you choose this option. After that, the recreation office will oversee ALL payments. The other options to register are by mail or via the drop box at City hall. Please call Nonny Sperry for more details at (313) 885-3714 or e-mail nedra.sperry@gmail.com.



Instructors: Mikayla Schiller, Caitlin Skerske, Nonny Sperry

***Registration for Fall dance begins August 2024**

Tuesdays starting September 24th

Times:

5:00-5:30—Creative Movement/Pre-Ballet, ages 3-5
5:30-6:00—Pre-Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 3-5
6:00-6:30—Hip Hop, ages 6-8
6:30-7:00—Ballet, ages 6-8
7:00-7:30—Lyrical, ages 9-12
7:30-8:00—Teen/Adult Lyrical
8:00-8:30—Teen/Adult Hip Hop

Wednesdays Starting September 25th

Times:

5:00-5:30—Tiny Tappers, ages 3-5
5:30-6:00—Lyrical, ages 6-8
6:00-6:30—Tap, ages 6-8
6:30-7:00—Ballet, ages 9-12
7:00-7:30—Tap, ages 9-12
7:30-8:00—Jazz and Hip Hop, ages 9-12
8:00-8:30—Teen/Adult Jazz
8:30-9:00—Teen/Adult Tap

Dance Tuition - \$175.00 per class *plus \$10 family registration fee. Tuition can be paid in two installments with HALF DUE at time of enrollment. There will be an additional \$10 installment fee for the payment plan. Final payment of the payment plan is due by January 20th, 2025.

Family Plan Discount - \$150 per class for two or more * Applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in two or more classes.

TREE LIGHTING
Ceremony Come and see City Hall aglow with lights
Wednesday, November 20th
at 6:30pm

Join fellow dignitaries in singing carols and socializing.
This event is held in front of the Harper Woods Fire Department.
Refreshments will be served.

Tree Lighting Pre-Glow
Stop in at the library before heading over to the City's Tree Lighting to make a light-up craft to take with you!
Wednesday, November 20, 5:00-6:00 pm • Refreshments will be served

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 of January. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. Residents making a reservation must be 21 years of age or older. **No Moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, confetti, port-a-potty's, bands, or DJs** allowed for picnics. Picnics may be reserved from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and must be reserved four weeks in advance, with a 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 Park. **Dogs are allowed at Salter Park on a leash, not allowed under shelters or playscape.**



Please see Harperwoodscity.org for a complete list of park and picnic rules.

Park Fees *(Fees are subject to change)

There is a Fee for picnic reservations. A shelter at Johnston or Salter Park is \$100.00. The Pavilion (enclosed building) at Salter Park is \$125.00. The fee is due at the time of reservation. Cash or check only.

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 _____

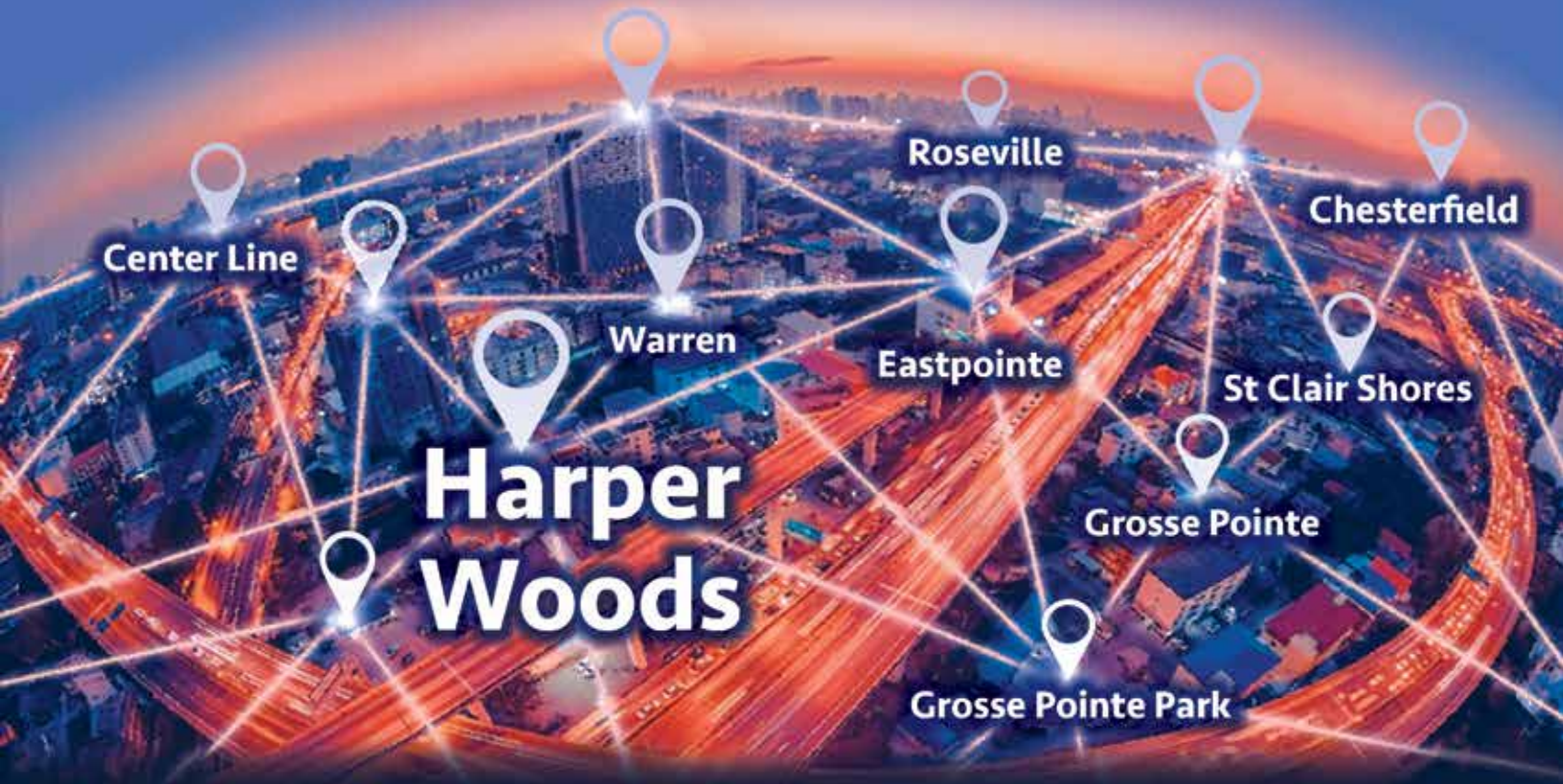
Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant _____

the Community Resource Guide



Harper Woods Edition



Highlighted in this Edition:

**Love in a Bag • Harper Woods Real Estate • Parenting Conference •
Grosse Pointe Santa Parade • Free Programs and Resources for Families •
Business Directory • And more**

The Community Resource Guide is a quarterly, seasonal publication providing all Harper Woods residents and businesses the 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 Winter Edition (January thru March) email us at info@drivecreativeservices.com.

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

Deadline to provide information is Friday, October 25, 2024.



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

GROSSE POINTE
Chamber of Commerce

Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade:
How the Grinch Stole
The Santa Claus Parade!

Friday, November 29, 2024

10 AM Step-Off from Lewiston on Kercheval

Email info@grossepointechamber.com for sponsorship
and participation information!



CARE
OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

SAVE THE DATE:

**CARE of Southeastern
Michigan's 30th Annual
Parenting Conference on
March 1, 2025**



Raising children can be challenging. Even the best parents need a little guidance sometimes. CARE of Southeastern Michigan's 30th Annual Parenting Conference offers parents, caregivers, and professionals a day to learn and enhance their skills and knowledge about parenting children of all ages. The conference occurs at Macomb Intermediate School District, 44001 Garfield Rd., in Clinton Township on March 1, 2025, from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. Sponsorships are available, please contact Andrew Brown at abrown@careofsem.com for more information. Registration opens on December 1, 2024 at www.careofsem.com

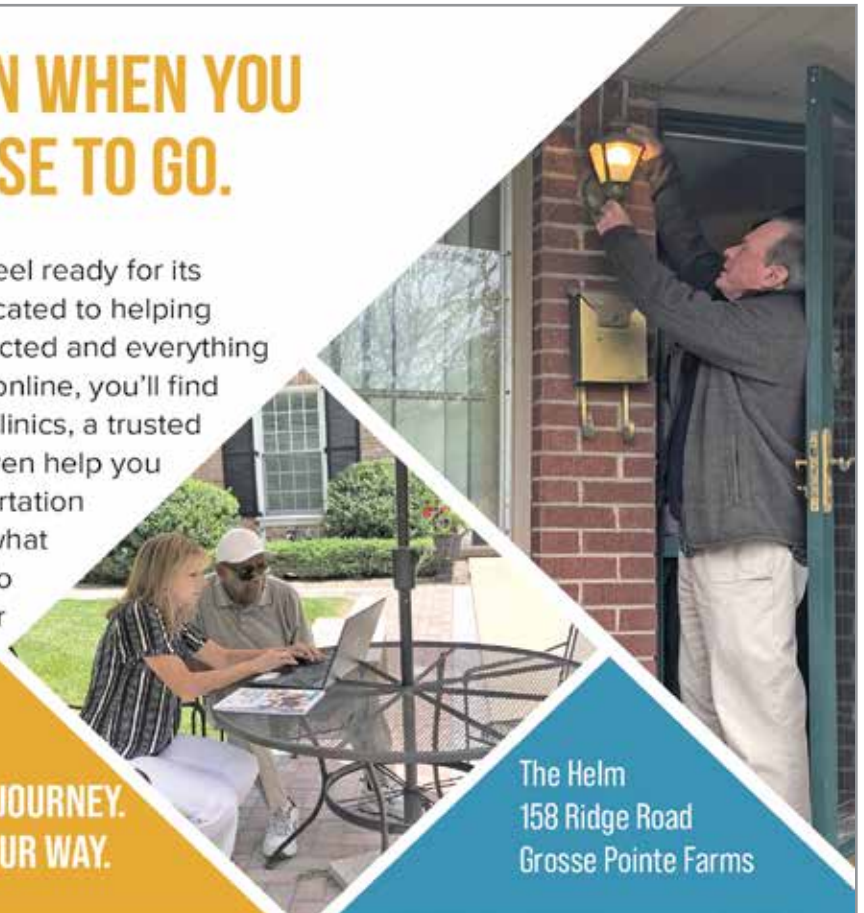
**THE ONE PLACE TO TURN WHEN YOU
DON'T KNOW WHERE ELSE TO GO.**

Life has a way of going on, whether we're feel ready for its next phase or not. At The Helm, we're dedicated to helping you find solutions for the expected, unexpected and everything in between. When you visit us in person or online, you'll find resources made available through events, clinics, a trusted referral network and much more. We can even help you get connected to Meals on Wheels, transportation assistance and support groups. No matter what your circle may look like today, we're here to make sure you're surrounded by support for tomorrow.

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- Internet and You
- Windows 7
- Exploring the P.C.
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the benefit of a millage?

A millage provides financial support to ensure our community has enough resources to continue helping seniors. When there is a lack of support programs, it impacts local governments through increased medical emergencies and police calls, and increases the financial and emotional burden on families.

What does the millage pay for?

The millage will provide a stable income source to fund essential senior services like Meals on Wheels, transportation, care coordination and help provide additional services like a much-needed adult day program in the community, more home visits and expanding programs to other locations in the community.

How much will this millage cost me?

A resident whose home has a taxable value of \$100,000 will pay \$35 annually. Depending on the community in which you live, the average cost is \$16 to \$107 annually.

With 45 years of success, why change things now?

A change is needed now because as our older population grows in number, the need for essential services increases. We have long known relying on donations is not the best business practice nor a reliable source of income. A senior services millage won't replace all income – we will continue to fundraise and seek grants – but it will provide a stable source of funds needed to ensure essential services for seniors.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT HEMLIFE.ORG/SENIOR-SERVICES-EDUCATION/

2024 SENIOR SERVICES MILLAGE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

*When a community cares for its elders,
it reinforces the future of every generation.*

THE
HELM
AT THE HOLL LIFE CENTER



WELCOMING FALL WITH A SMILE - STRENGTHENING MENTAL RESILIENCE THROUGH SEASONAL CHANGES

As fall brings shorter days and cooler weather, many enjoy the season's charm, but it can also affect our moods. Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) impacts about 5% of Americans, with women being more prone. Additionally, 10-20% experience milder seasonal mood changes, often called the "winter blues."

Recognizing these shifts is crucial for mental well-being. Whether dealing with SAD or the general blues as summer fades, here are tips to stay balanced this fall:

- **Soak Up the Sun:** Maximize daylight exposure to boost serotonin and lift your mood.
- **Light Therapy:** Use light therapy boxes to mimic sunlight, helping regulate sleep and mood.
- **Keep Moving:** Exercise releases endorphins, enhancing your mood. Walk your dog, try yoga, or join a class.
- **Maintain Social Connections:** Regular social activities, whether in-person or virtual, can combat isolation.
- **Eat Healthy:** A balanced diet, especially with omega-3-rich foods, supports your mood and energy.
- **Practice Mindfulness:** Manage stress with meditation, journaling, or breathing exercises.

If these strategies aren't enough, consider seeking professional help. Therapy offers support and new ways to handle seasonal challenges.

I hope to see you around the neighborhood! We're in this together.

Tracy
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Learn more at www.nimh.nih.gov/health

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LOVE IN A BAG

Susie Q's Kids is making big moves in 2024 to help kids in need with their "Love in a Bag" comfort bags.

You may have seen their new van around town compliments of Metro Air Compressors. As a Bombas distributor, they donated 10,000 pairs of socks in the community to a variety of worthy nonprofits helping kids and their families. They also delivered 200 comfort bags to the Oakland and Macomb County Sheriff's Departments, and hundreds more to Ronald McDonald House as welcome gifts, Gianna's House for a community baby shower, local hospitals, hospices, shelters, advocacy centers, foster agencies, camps, grief supporters, amazing kids With-Abilities, and so many more helping over 15,000 kids in need in our community.

They continue to get recognition in the community for the impact. How can you further the missions of other nonprofits, help advocate for mental health and well-being, engage kids in helping kids and make kids smile?

Become a Smile Maker!!! Join the team, contact Dr Mary Welsh drmary@susieqskid.org or call 586-206-8424 to volunteer, donate, and learn more.



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Joe Murray - NMLS: 1698513
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wcccd.edu

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AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▲ 27.7%
FROM Q4 2023

▲ 16.4%
FROM Q1 2023

59
NUMBER
OF SALES

▲ 37.2%
FROM Q4 2023

▼ 22.4%
FROM Q1 2023

25
AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▼ 51.9%
FROM Q4 2023

▼ 45.7%
FROM Q1 2023

81
AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▲ 17.4%
FROM Q4 2023

▲ 9.5%
FROM Q1 2023

28.5%
ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▲ 61.1%
FROM Q4 2023

▼ 29.1%
FROM Q1 2023

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q2 2024) OVER QUARTER (Q1 2024)

▲ 17.4%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ 5.0%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▲ 37.2%
TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q2 2024 vs. Q2 2023)

▲ 28.6%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▼ 7.4%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 22.4%
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

If you will recall, last report had little green on it. This report is the exact opposite with the only red related to low inventory. And with declining interest rates the good news should continue. Sellers will see prices staying steady to increasing, buyers finding more selection and better negotiation strategies.

Average Sale Price – Good: Increases year over year are more important than quarter over quarter because it eliminates seasonality. That they are up indicates homeownership builds net worth and reinforces the importance of ownership vs. renting.

Number of sales – Poor: This is due solely to the lack of homes for sale because demand remains high

Days on Market (DOM) – Good: In a normal market 72 days is the average, so 30 is still brisk, it just doesn't feel like it because many became accustomed to when it was half that.

Inventory – Improved: The lack of inventory remains the primary headwind for this market. However, that inventories are increasing is a huge plus.

Absorption Rate – Getting close to a balanced market: This is one of my favorite metrics. The rebound from a very low absorption rate in the last report is great news for sellers and reinforces the value of owning a home. The decline from a year ago does give buyers more options which is also a good thing because it levels the negotiating positions for those who are party to a transaction compared to a strong seller's market.

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

Disclaimer:

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®.

Changes Coming to the Buying and Selling of Residential Real Estate

A recent agreement involving the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) and the courts takes effect August 17, 2024.

The changes will impact buyers and sellers of residential real estate who use a REALTOR®.

The Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS® is a 2000-member association of real estate professionals across southeast Michigan headquartered in the City of Grosse Pointe. It is an industry leader in providing hyper-local content for its members and the communities it serves. Inquiries should be sent to Bob@GPBR.com.





MEET YOUR LOCAL REALTOR

Dan Pullen is a dedicated realtor with The Monzo Group at Keller Williams, specializing in the vibrant communities of Harper Woods, the Grosse Pointes, St. Clair Shores, Eastpointe, and Detroit. With a career that seamlessly blends local expertise and a genuine passion for real estate, Dan stands out as a trusted advisor for home buyers and sellers.

Dan's real estate journey spans 30 years, during which he has been involved in various aspects of the industry. Before transitioning to real estate, Dan served as a public safety officer in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. This tenure underscores his deep-rooted commitment to the community and highlights his understanding of

local dynamics and neighborhood nuances.

Dan's friendly demeanor and approachable nature make him a favorite among clients. His background in public safety has equipped him with invaluable skills in communication, problem-solving, and a keen attention to detail—all of which he brings to his real estate practice.



Buy • Sell • Lease • Residential • Commercial

HARPER WOODS REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

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19990 Beaufait Street
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\$212,000

20493 Kingsville Street
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\$100,000

19929 Kenosha Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$152,000

19940 Eastwood Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$210,000

19976 Roscommon Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$126,000

19708 Roscommon Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$140,000

20624 Hunt Club
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$237,500

20434 Lancaster Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$237,999

19694 Lochmoor Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$150,000

18714 Woodside Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$96,500

20444 Kenosha
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$159,900

18811 Washtenaw Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$156,000

20933 Hollywood Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$130,000

20879 Norwood
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$190,000

20206 Danbury Ln
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$246,000

21214 Parkcrest Drive
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\$250,000

19162 Roscommon Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$87,000

18557 Kingsville Street
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INTEREST RATES FOR MORTGAGES VARY

As of mid-2024 in the United States, interest rates for different types of mortgages vary:

Conventional loans typically offer interest rates between 6.5% to 7.5% for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages, requiring a down payment of 3% to 20%. Private mortgage insurance (PMI) may be required if the down payment is less than 20%.

FHA loans, insured by the Federal Housing Administration, have rates ranging from 6.0% to 7.0%. They require a minimum down payment of 3.5% and include upfront and annual mortgage insurance premiums.

VA loans, guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, feature competitive rates of about 6.0% to 7.0% with no down payment requirement. They may include a one-time funding fee, which can be financed into the loan.

These rates are influenced by economic conditions and lender policies, which directly impact how affordable buying a home can be. It's important

for homebuyers to shop around and consult with mortgage brokers or lenders to find the best mortgage options tailored to their budget and financial situation. Brokers can provide valuable insights and help navigate the complexities of mortgage terms and rates, ensuring buyers make informed decisions.



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the Community Resource Guide of MICHIGAN


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This platform is our contribution to help residents and businesses **stay connected, informed, and prosper.**



SCAN & ENGAGE



FAMILIES AGAINST NARCOTICS CHANGES NAME TO FACE ADDICTION NOW



Formerly Families Against Narcotics

Families Against Narcotics (FAN), the Macomb County-based nonprofit that helps individuals and families affected by substance use disorder, has changed their name. The organization's new name is Face Addiction Now (FAN).

Over the last 16+ years, FAN has grown, evolved, and learned a great deal about themselves and the community they serve. As a result, it became apparent that the nonprofit's original name was outdated and no longer aligned with its actions, mission, and vision.

Although change is hard, FAN realized that the time had come to update their name to more accurately reflect the important work they do. But because the name "FAN" is very familiar and well respected, the organization wanted to keep the FAN acronym intact.

Their new name—Face Addiction Now—not only better represents what FAN does, it also conveys the urgency with which today's addiction crisis must be dealt with.

For more information, visit faceaddictionnow.org.

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DON'T HESITATE  **STAY UP TO DATE**

The Detroit Area Agency on Aging is bringing its traveling COVID-19 vaccination team directly to your home.

Detroit Area Agency on Aging is a nonprofit that serves seniors, adults with disabilities, and caregivers residing in Detroit, Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park & the 5 Grosse Pointes.

FREE Detroit Area In-Home COVID-19 Vaccinations for homebound seniors.



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