Heritage Hill and South Hill are Celebrating National Night Out!

Join neighbors and friends

Tuesday, August 6, 2019
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Pleasant Park
400 Pleasant SE

Bring a blanket, lawn chair and a picnic if you like.

Ice cream, water and snacks will be provided.

Kids will enjoy bubbles, face painting and more.

City officials, GRPD and GRFD’s firetruck, ambulance and a Canine Police Officer will join us!

The 2019 National Night Out is sponsored by Grand Rapids Public Schools, Bridge Street Market, Jeff Martin Realtor and DGRI.
The Heritage Hill Association

126 College S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-459-8950 Fax 616-459-2409
Hours: 9 am - 5 pm, Mon. - Thurs.
Voice mail available for after-hours messages.
EMAIL: heritage@heritagehillweb.org
WEBSITE: www.heritagehillweb.org

Purpose:
The purpose of the Heritage Hill Association is to provide neighbors a way of collectively building a healthy, historically preserved community in which people can live and work in a secure and stable environment.

Office Staff:
Jan Earl, Executive Director
Amanda Cormier, Crime Prevention
Maria Zache Starkey, Administrative
Barb Lester, Office Assistant

The Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors
Co-Presidents
*Lisa Baars, 139 Prospect NE, (C) 616-540-9356
*Wesley Beck, 225 Fountain NE, (H) 456-5144
Vice President
*Sarah Green, 403 College SE, (C) 616-206-2089
Treasurer
**Erin Shupe, 427 Prospect Ave SE, (C) 633-8946
Secretary
*Suzanne De Haan, 573 Prospect SE, (H) 742-0451

**Kate Diedrich, 536 Prospect SE, (H) 451-9211
*Wendy Verhage Fahl, 350 Cherry SE, (C) 616-818-8873
*Michele Giordano, 444 Union Ave SE, 616-862-7068
*Christopher Grygel, (C) 616-634-7918
*Nikki Hoert, 501 Cherry SE, (C) 616-813-6026
*Wayne Norlin, 518 Morris Ave SE, (C) 292-0263
*James Scouzari, 437 Prospect SE, Apt. 1, (C) 901-3475
*Nathan Sauer, 65 Union NE, (C) 616-304-5113
*John Walendowski, 546 Prospect SE, (C) 810-305-1709

* 1st Term
** 2nd Term

The Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors meets at 7 pm the third Wednesday of each month at the Hauenstein Center - H1 Community Room at Mercy Health Saint Mary’s. The meeting is open to the public.

Heritage Hill Association Contacts:
Finance: Erin Shupe, (C) 633-8946
Newsletter: Jan Earl, 459-8950
Preservation: Rhonda Baker, (H) 456-3451
Traffic and Parking: Jan Earl, (W) 459-8950
Zoning: Craig Nobbelin, 456-0471
Home Tour: Suzanne De Haan, (H) 742-0451
Home Tour Sponsorship: Jan Earl, 459-8950
Social Media: Amanda Cormier, 459-8950
State Street: Amanda Cormier, 459-8950
Block Issues: Amanda Cormier, 459-8950

The Heritage Hill Association provides information and encourages neighbor participation to keep Heritage Hill safe and vital. This community organizing engages neighbors to work on issues that arise. As an association of neighbors, we have a strong voice but we have no regulatory authority.

The GR Historic Preservation Commission regulates the City’s Preservation Ordinance. Applications and approvals are needed from this city department before beginning any exterior work or repairs. Contact 456-3451 or rbaker@grcity.org.

The Heritage Herald - Circulation 4,800
The Heritage Herald is published by the Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors six times a year (bi-monthly). The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors. We reserve the right to edit. Address correspondence to The Heritage Herald, 126 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Typography & Printing: Storr Printing Services, Inc.

Hope you’re having a fun summer. Every season is beautiful in Heritage Hill but wouldn’t it be great if summer was longer and the winter shorter. With the wacky weather this year, guess we should be careful what we wish for.

***

Hugs continue to all for making the Weekend Tour of Homes a great success. 240 volunteers aligned to guide our tourists through the Saturday and Sunday tour. An incredible effort, a great weekend. Thank you all. Thank you Hosts, House Captains and the great Home Tour Steering Committee, Suzanne De Haan, Kate Diedrich and Don Rietema.

***

And garden gloves are clapping to the Pleasant Park tenders and to Joshlyn Litzenberger for orchestrating this maintenance effort.

***

A big, blooming thanks to Kate Diedrich for her Garden Tour blitz. She’s a gift to Heritage Hill. And thanks to the garden hosts for sharing their special spaces.

***

Enjoy the sunshine and spread some to all your neighbors. Come to the Night Out celebration on August 6th.

Jan Earl
Executive Director

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Daniel VanderHyde
Owner

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Daniel VanderHyde
Owner
HHA Crime Prevention Organizer Position is Opening

As the desk chairs start to move at the HHA office, the Association will be hiring a crime prevention/community organizer to begin this fall. We will be formalizing the job posting and details will soon be found at the Association’s website, heritagewhile.org. If interested and you have the following qualifications, please send resume to heritage@heritagehillweb.org by August 15. The position will be in the 24-hours per week range.

Crime Prevention Organizer Qualifications:
- Organizing experience - Ability to work with a wide range of people on a grassroots and volunteer level.
- Working knowledge of the GR Police Department/Criminal Justice system and GR City Departments and Services.
- Neighborhood Associations/non-profit exposure.
- Social media, computer and database expertise.
- Ability to work in a small non-profit and volunteer-based environment.

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Your Input for Improvements to Pleasant Park
Tuesday, August 13th, 6:00 p.m.

The City Parks Department is hosting a Community Meeting concerning improvements to Pleasant Park, to be made in 2020. The city is looking for your input. In addition to the meeting, the city has a survey posted online: https://us.openforms.com/Form/cbde2c4e-bb1d-4f8e-b05f-0a5ad4aa0d79

Improvements could include existing elements such as the playground, entry plaza, garden beds and/or the benches/seating. Other ideas might include fencing, crosswalks and a receptacle for ping pong paddles and balls.

Community Meeting: Tuesday, August 13th, 6:00 p.m. at Pleasant Park, 400 Pleasant St. SE.

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It's not good because it's old, it's old because it's good.
Please Thank and Support Your 2019 Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes Sponsors
(These sponsors were not recognized in the May / June issue due to the timing of that issue.)

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Byron Center: 583-9713
Wyoming: 724-2492
Standale: 453-7275
www.boardwalksubs.net

The Cottage Bar and Restaurant
18 LaGrave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 454-9088 / www.cottagebar.biz

Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc.
29 Pearl St. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 719-4610
www.downtowngrgr.org

First Park Church
10 East Park Pl NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 459-3203
www.parkchurchgr.org

Tidy Home Helpers
500 Cherry St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 233-4832
www.tidyhomehelpers.com

2019 TOUR FRIENDS
Big O’ Cafe
80 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 451-1887 / www.bigocafe.com

Hoffman Jewelers
2135 Wealthy St. SE
616.776-1188 / www.hoffman-jewelers.com

Pondera Advisors / Jackie Taylor
5211 Cascade Rd. SE, 616.956-3410
(616) 446-8060
www.ponderaadvisors.com

Sanford House
540 Cherry St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 288-6970 / www.sanfordhousegr.com

Warehouse One Antiques
449 Century SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 235-9292 / www.warehouseoneantiques.com

Willis Law
30 Jefferson Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 301-7177 / www.willislawyers.com

The Heritage Hill Association publishes available apartments.
Please remember us when your apartment needs renters. Your dollars not only find you tenants but also support the programs of the Heritage Hill Association! You can list your apartment right at the website or stop by the HHA office. We welcome you!

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**Welcome to First Church** in the heart of the city — a progressive Christian community of faith that embraces all. We are committed to faith development that leads to engagement in acts of justice, mercy, and service.

We look forward to connecting with you!

**Sunday Worship:** 10:45 am

**Summer Sunday Worship:** 10:00 am

(Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend)

**First United Methodist Church**

227 Fulton St E  •  Grand Rapids

www.GRFUMC.org

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**Thank You To Our Recent Contributors!**

Kenneth and Kristin Bauer  
Marie Bockwinkel  
Nancy Coulter  
Dave and Sue DeJonge  
Jim & Eileen Gould  
Jay & Amelia Grayson  
Jim Payne & Char Kruzich  
Michelle Sinas  
Mic & Erin Shupe  
Ron Surgeson  
Shahin & Jeni Taheri  
Tom & Chris Truesdale

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**Heritage Hill 2019 Tour of Homes**

May 18 & 19

Thanks so much to all for making our Anniversary Tour a fitting tribute to our past 50 years

The Heritage Hill Association’s 2019 Weekend Tour of Homes was a hit— the hosts, house captains, volunteers, and steering committee members were the best.

Thank you to all for your big part in making the Heritage Hill neighborhood a great place to live, work, walk and visit. Nearly 3,000 people hit our streets.

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Marie Bockwinkel  
Nancy Coulter  
Dave and Sue DeJonge  
Jim & Eileen Gould  
Jay & Amelia Grayson  
Jim Payne & Char Kruzich  
Michelle Sinas  
Mic & Erin Shupe  
Ron Surgeson  
Shahin & Jeni Taheri  
Tom & Chris Truesdale

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**Weekend Tour of Homes**

May 21 & 22, 2011

www.heritagehilltours.org

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227 Fulton St E  •  Grand Rapids

www.GRFUMC.org
A Grand Day in 12 of Our Loveliest Gardens

Mother Nature smiled on Heritage Hill and gave us a pleasantly warm, slightly hazy (with not a drop of rain) day for this year’s Garden Tour. Many thanks to the hosts whose hard work and loving care was evident in each unique garden, to our generous sponsors, to Central Reformed Church for providing parking and a place for ticket sales, to Jeff Martin for designing the tickets, to Jim Payne for recruiting gardens and sponsors, to the ticket selling volunteers and to all the guests who shared the day with us. The success of the tour was a community effort. It seems that it does take a village to bring out the best in our beautiful, vibrant and very green neighborhood.

Our Gardeners: Sharon Osborn and John Donker, Jerry Dreyer, John Kershek and John Potter, Greg McNeilly and Doug Meeks, Barbara Roelofs and Jayson Dahlke-Butler, Kay and Chris Gibbons, Jane and Reid Taylor, Andrew George and Mark Oesch, Kate and Dan Diedrich, Christine and Peter Albertini, Mary and John Walendowski and the caretakers of the Voigt House gardens.

The 25th Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Awards

The Association applauds and recognizes the 2019 Historic Preservation Award recipients that the Historic Preservation Commission honors. Thanks so much for making a huge contribution to the preservation efforts in Grand Rapids.

- Six preservation awards were given to those who through their efforts have restored and or renovated a piece of local history while at the same time having a positive physical, social and/or economic impact on their neighborhoods and subsequently the city as a whole. Winners: 756 Wealthy Street SE (Jacob & Lawrence DeLiefde); 619 Wealthy Street SE (Terra Firma Development); 512 College Avenue SE (Joseph & Claudia Pohlen); 340 College Avenue SE (Jeff & Steff Condon); Klingman Lofts 400 Ionia Avenue SW (Klingman Lofts LLC); 50 Monroe Avenue NW/37 Ottawa Avenue NW (CWD Real Estate).

- Two preservation awards were presented to individuals who have given of themselves through volunteering and community activism to make their neighborhoods and the City a better place to live. Winners: Emily Uebbing; and, Michael DeMaagd-Rodriguez.

A 1930’s photo of 619 Wealthy SE. Thank you all for saving these historic resources.

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Got Junk? Save-the-date for Dumpster Day!
A dumpster day has been organized for the neighborhood on the morning of September 28, 2019 from 8am-12pm at Central Reformed Church, 10 College NE. More information will come soon regarding which items are accepted for disposal. Stay tuned!

Crosswalk Improvements
We have several changes coming to crosswalks coming from the traffic safety department, here are some impending changes for the intersection of College & Fulton:

- The crosswalk will be upgraded to “Continental” style and that will emphasize the crosswalk through more obvious style and volume of paint.
- A leading pedestrian interval (LPI) to cross Fulton, which means that the walk symbol will turn on while the signal is still red for vehicles giving the pedestrians a head start and making them more visible to vehicles waiting to make turns at the intersection.
- The city’s Traffic Safety Department is in the process of converting traffic signals to include pedestrian signals with countdown information. Installation of the countdown timer that accompanies the flashing “don’t walk” period helps tell pedestrians they still have an appropriate amount of time left to cross despite the walk symbol no longer being visible.
- The night flash operation of the signal at College & Fulton was removed. Through crash data observations, the city saw a trend of crashes occurring when Fulton was flashing yellow and College was flashing red at night.

Lead paint update
If you see painters not using safe lead paint removal – no tarps to catch paint chips - the City of Grand Rapids’ Code Compliance Department will respond within twenty-four hours of receiving a complaint. Call 311 or 616-456-3053. The city will determine if a violation has occurred and may issue fines for the contractors. Complaints can still be made to the EPA.

Also, the Lead Hazard Control Program provides financial assistance to help eliminate lead paint hazards. To qualify, a child under the age of six must live or receive regular childcare in the home, and occupants must income-qualify. Vacant rental units may also qualify. Call 616-456-3030

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for more information.

**Pleasant Park Rain Garden**
**Clean-up**
Grand River Prep High School students came to Pleasant Park on May 31 and weeded the watershed garden with the help of Skyler from the Plaster Creek Stewards. Now we try to work on a plan for keeping weeds down in that area which could include mulch or rocks or more native plantings.

**National Night Out**
**Tuesday August 6, 2019, 6-8pm**
Join neighbors for a picnic at Pleasant Park!
We will have food, water, and ice cream treats. We will also have games provided by our friends at Cornerstone Church as well as visits from the Police, Fire and EMS.
We have many sponsors to thank for helping us provide this event including:
Grand Rapids Public Schools, Cornerstone Church, Jeff Martin and DGRI.

Please come to the Park and visit with neighbors and bring a chair or a blanket for sitting. We hope to see you there!
“The professionals at Heritage Hill Dental are dedicated to performing high quality dentistry in a comfortable environment. Utilizing the latest technology and attending to detail, we provide the highest standard of patient care—the focal point of our practice.”

Matthew Lieto, DMD

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Board Notes

Discussion at the June, 2019 Heritage Hill Association Board Meeting included:

Public Comment: City Commission Candidates for the 2nd Ward Wendy VerHage Falb and Milinda Ysasi both presented their history, platforms and vision for the city.

Cancel July Board Meeting: The Executive Committee moved to cancel the July Board meeting due to summer vacations. Board approved unanimously.

Treasurers Report - Erin S. reported that as of the end of April, the budget was on track. The May report was not yet available but Home Tour was very successful. Advance Sales and Friends and Sponsors were down a little but Day Of ticket sales were up considerably compared to last year.

Staff Reports: Written reports were submitted. Discussion of Amanda C.'s report included reported incidents of a person on porches trying doorknobs and also of knocking on doors and panhandling and whether or not these incidents related to the same person.

Jan E. added to her report that she and neighbors had met with the new Mercy Health President as well as Mary Free Bed reps. Discussion included the Master Plan of Heritage Hill, the State Street Plan and provided an overview of the neighborhood for Dr. Kim (Mercy Health's new President). Chris G. added that Pure Management at Heritage Place, 50 College SE, is offering incentives for Mercy Health employees to live there. Members also discussed the Prospect, Lafayette and Wealthy parcels that are owned by ICCF. Development will not be possible until the 20-yr. lease expires for the large billboard on this property; there are approximately 7 more years on this lease.

Community Engagement: Hospitality: Chris G. stated that plans were filling out for National Night out. The committee will likely not rent a bounce house because Sun Rental closed its business. Other lawn games and kids’ activities will be offered.
again by Cornerstone Church. HHA may buy new paddles and balls for the ping pong table. The volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated.

**Land Use:**

**Housing, Zoning and Preservation:**

Wayne N. notified members that Lyon St. Café (part of the Martha’s Vineyard complex) is requesting a letter of support for their application to the Planning Commission to add outdoor seating and alcohol sales. Though this address is technically in the Midtown neighborhood, the Zoning Committee will create a draft letter of support for the board to approve.

Jan. E. reported that there are major speeding issues (including running over the traffic circle at College and Pleasant) on College SE from Wealthy to Franklin Streets. Jan and neighbors are working with the city in hopes of instituting two-way traffic.

**Parks:**

Jan E. reported that improvements to Foster and Pleasant Parks will likely be pushed out another year as the bid process for contractors is running slower than in the past. Members questioned how the city would get bids without final plans in place for these two parks.

**Fundraising and Finance:**

**Home Tour:** Suzanne D. gave a big Thank You! to everyone for their participation in the 2019 Home Tour. There are discussions on various measures to streamline future Home Tours. Erin S. and Jan E. stated that the tour should come in just over budget and that there were approximately 2,000 tour-goers. The Friends and Sponsors campaign raised $17,000; John W. said that he intends to solicit 2-3 sponsors for 2020 each month, starting now. Jan gave a specific, big thank you to Steering Committee Chairs Suzanne DeHaan, Kate Diedrich and Don Rietema.

**Garden Tour:** Kate D. reported that it was a seeming miracle that there was no rain for this event! Although it had been a challenge to find gardens this wet, cold spring, in the end there were 12 and it was a lovely tour. Kate commented that the event...
made almost $1,500 though Garden Tour should be thought of also as a fun-raiser. Discussion included the possibility of the Garden Club taking over organization of the tour as Kate D. was the only committee member for this event this year.

**New Business:** Thanks were given to Amanda C. for the upcoming Dumpster Day on September 28th.

If you would like an item placed on the Board agenda, please call the HHA office at 459-8950 before 4:00 p.m. of the second WEDNESDAY of the month. If you would like to address the Board regarding an agenda item, public comment is taken at the beginning of each meeting. For non-agenda items, public comment is taken at the end of each meeting. Typically, Board meetings run from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

If you would like to receive monthly Board agendas via email, please email us your request (heritage@heritagehillweb.org)

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- St. Marks Church – Grand Rapids, MI
- First Methodist Church – Grand Rapids, MI
- Westminster Presbyterian Church – Grand Rapids, MI
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**We honor Phil McCorkle**

Longtime CEO of Mercy Health Saint Mary’s, Phil McCorkle died on July 2, 2019. The Association gives tribute to Phil for his decades-long partnership with Heritage Hill. Phil worked with neighbors closely and cooperatively on issues affecting our shared place including the development of the Lacks Cancer Center. Phil forged a relationship with his Heritage Hill neighborhood during his tenure at Butterworth Hospital and transferred that bond upon taking the reins at Saint Mary’s Hospital. Phil was a very good and special man. We offer our condolences to all who shared his life.

---

**First Park Congregational Church**

United Church of Christ

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theme school  GRADES 9-12

The teachers are exceptional educators and kind mentors, the administration is engaged and open to change, and the attending community is incredibly rich and dynamic.”

Christy Vos  GRPS PARENT
Neighborhood Improvement & Public Safety organizing efforts of the Heritage Hill Association are in part funded by the City of Grand Rapids’ Community Development Block Grant Programs.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

All Heritage Hill Association Meetings are open to neighbors.

July, 2019 Board Meeting Canceled due to vacation schedules

**Tuesday, August 6, 2019**

VOTE!

Michigan Primaries - Polls open 7 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, August 6, 2019**

National Night Out at Pleasant Park

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, August 21, 2019**

HHA Board Meeting – 7:00 pm.

Mercy Health Saint Mary’s Hauenstein Center; H1 Community Room Cherry Street, between Lafayette and Jefferson Avenues

**Monday, September 9, 2019**

September/October Herald newsletter deadline

**Wednesday, September 18, 2019**

HHA Board Meeting – 7:00 pm.

Mercy Health Saint Mary’s Hauenstein Center; H1 Community Room Cherry Street, between Lafayette and Jefferson Avenues

**Saturday, September 28, 2019**

Dumpster Day at Central Reformed Church, 10 College NE