October 16th, 2015
FOSTER PARK (350 STATE STREET)
5 pm to 8pm
Join us for Free Food, Music, Games, Baby Goats and more!

This event is a partnership with Heritage Hill Association/State Street, HQ Grand Rapids, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Azkoul Productions. Feel free to contact Tansy at HHA’s office at 616-459-8950 with any questions.
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
Barb Lester, Crime Prevention Organizer
Maria Zache, Administrative Assistant
Tansy Harris, Office Assistant

The Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors

**President**
*Jim Payne, 27 College NE, (H) 454-2367
*Teresa Dittmer, 200 Jefferson SE, (W) 685-1485
*Todd Hoort, 135 Lafayette NE
*Viski Hudson, 250 Morris SE, 821-1738
*Ryan Huizenga, 433 Madison SE, (H) 634-2417
*Stephanie Kolhe, 334 State SE, 248-787-0961
*Marie Koster, 553 Paris SE, (C) 322-9856
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
*Deb Bryker, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754
*Deb Breyer, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754
*Suzanne DeHaan, 573 Prospect SE, (H) 742-0451
*Mary Robinson, 220 Union SE, (H) 459-2119
*Treasurer
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
**Tansy Harris, 459-8950
*Mary Robinson, 220 Union SE, (H) 459-2119
*Secretary
*Mary Robinson, 220 Union SE, (H) 459-2119
*VP
*Deb Bryker, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754
*Deb Breyer, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754
*Suzanne DeHaan, 573 Prospect SE, (H) 742-0451
*Jim Payne, 27 College NE, (H) 454-2367
*Kate Diedrich, 536 Prospect SE, (H) 451-9211
*Stephanie Kolhe, 334 State SE, 248-787-0961
*Marie Koster, 553 Paris SE, (C) 322-9856
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
*Erin Shupe, 420 College SE, (C) 633-8946
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
*Mary Robinson, 220 Union SE, (H) 459-2119
*Treasurer
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
*Secretary
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP
**VP

The Heritage Hill Foundation Board of Trustees

Chairman
Barbara L. Roelofs, 220 Union SE, (H) 459-2119

Treasurer
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730

Vice President
*Deb Bryker, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754

President
*Jim Payne, 27 College NE, (H) 454-2367

The Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors

*Deanna Smith, 346 Morris SE, (C) 295-3223
*Todd Hoort, 135 Lafayette NE
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
*Mary Robinson, 220 Union SE, (H) 459-2119
*Ryan Huizenga, 433 Madison SE, (H) 634-2417
*Stephanie Kolhe, 334 State SE, 248-787-0961
*Marie Koster, 553 Paris SE, (C) 322-9856
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730
*Erin Shupe, 420 College SE, (C) 633-8946
*Deanna Smith, 346 Morris SE, (C) 295-3223

The Heritage Hill Foundation Board of Trustees

Chairman
Barbara L. Roelofs, 227 College SE, 459-0091

Treasurer
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730

Vice President
*Deb Bryker, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754

President
*Jim Payne, 27 College NE, (H) 454-2367

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

The Heritage Hill Foundation Board of Trustees

Chairman
Barbara L. Roelofs, 227 College SE, 459-0091

Treasurer
*Charles Roelofs, 572 College SE, (C) 446-2730

Vice President
*Deb Bryker, 6601 36th Av, Hudsonville 49426, (H) 669-6754

President
*Jim Payne, 27 College NE, (H) 454-2367

The Heritage Hill Association Contacts:

**Block Rep**
Jim Payne, (H) 454-2367

**Finance**
Mary Robinson, (H) 459-2119

**Newsletter**
Jan Earl, 459-8950

**Preservation**
Ryan Huizenga, (H) 634-2417

**Traffic and Parking**
Barb Lester, (W) 459-8950

**Zoning**
Craig Nobbelin, 458-0471

**Home Tour**
Marie Koster, (C) 322-9856

**Home Tour**
Sponsorship
Peter Albertini, 291-3758

**Staffing**
Suzanne DeHaan, (H) 742-0451

**Distribution**
Don Rietema, 776-1716

**Publicity**
Jan Earl, 459-8950

**Social Media**
Tansy Harris, 459-8950

**State Street**
Tansy Harris, 459-8950

The Heritage Hill 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.

Hasn’t 2015 just flown up. Already into the latter half and I’m just not ready for you know what that is soon to follow. Hope you all had a great summer and know that that we have many great fall days to come. Enjoy the neighborhood in its fall colors.

***

HHA has a **State Street Block party** coming up on **October 16** to celebrate and welcome all that is new on this corridor. Join the fun from 5 to 8 pm. See the details on page 4. The **State Street Corridor Area Specific Plan** that the Association assembled in concert with neighbors is now formally a part of the City’s Master Plan. If you want to get involved in working for State Street’s planned future, give Tansy a call or email at the HHA office, 459-8950; heritage@heritagehillweb.org.

***

Enjoy the fall season -- *kick some leaves and pick some weeds at our neighborhood parks!!!*

Jan Earl
Executive Director
Short-Term Rentals

Short-term rentals in residential dwellings are required to secure a license from the Grand Rapids City Clerk’s Office prior to their operation. The following is a fact sheet published by the City Clerk.

Grand Rapids City Clerk
One-Room Short-Term Rentals Fact Sheet

1. Definition: An owner-occupied dwelling in which a single room, couch, or other sleeping area is rented to no more than two adult guests overnight.
2. The dwelling shall be the principal residence of the owner-operator and the owner-operator shall be on the premises when the rental activity is occurring.
3. The applicant must hold one of the following types of interest in the real estate upon which the Home Occupation is to be operated:
   • Sole ownership; or
   • A joint tenant by the entireties; or
   • A joint tenant.
4. No more than 200 licenses shall be issued at one time.
5. Permits are non-transferrable.
6. A permit number shall be included in all advertising of one-room rental.
7. A floor plan must be submitted with all Home Occupation Class B applications to the City Clerk's Office.
8. Applications are located on the City Clerk’s Website at: www.grcity.us/license or at the City Clerk’s Office.
9. The fee for a Home Occupation Class B license can also be found on the City Clerk’s Website at: http://grcity.us/city-clerk/pages/2011—2013-Business-Licensing-Fees.aspx. The fee is non-refundable because it covers the cost of processing the application.
10. It usually takes five (5) to seven (7) business days to process the application through seven (7) departments for recommendations.
11. No more than ¼ of the living area of the dwelling unit and less than ½ of the living area of the main floor shall be devoted to the home occupation.
12. No home occupations in any single dwelling unit shall occupy more than 300 square feet of the dwelling unit.
13. Within 10 days of issuing a permit, the City Clerk’s Office will mail postcards to all owners and residents within 300 feet of a one-room rental.

Dear Heritage Hill neighbors:  
I am writing to ask you to vote YES on November 3rd.  
When I first proposed the GRPS Transformation Plan, I promised you that we will demonstrate proven results before we ask the taxpayers of Grand Rapids for anything. I am pleased to tell you that the Transformation Plan is working!

- Graduation rates are up for the third consecutive year.
- Test scores are on the rise.
- Student attendance is up! We cut chronic absenteeism by 25% over 3 years
- Staff morale is up!
- Dual enrollment is up!
- Our bond ratings are up!
- And we posted the single best Count Day in two decades thus positioning GRPS to be one of few urban districts not just in the state, but across the country, to stabilize and return to growth.

We are doing everything I promised you we would. Now we need to keep the energy and momentum going. We need your help and support!

Please join me and be part of the remarkable transformation and success happening at GRPS! Vote YES November 3rd!

Thank you very much for your consideration and support.

Teresa Weatherall Neal, Superintendent, Grand Rapids Public School

The Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors is a GRPS Bond Supporter and encourages a Yes Vote on November 3rd.
When I first proposed the GRPS Transformation Plan, I promised you that we will demonstrate proven results before we ask the taxpayers of Grand Rapids for anything. I am pleased to tell you that the Transformation Plan is working!

- Graduation rates are up for the third consecutive year.
- Test scores are on the rise.
- Student attendance is up! We cut chronic absenteeism by 25% over 3 years
- Staff morale is up!
- Dual enrollment is up!
- Our bond ratings are up!
- And we posted the single best Count Day in two decades thus positioning GRPS to be one of few urban districts not just in the state, but across the country, to stabilize and return to growth.

We are doing everything I promised you we would. Now we need to keep the energy and momentum going. We need your help and support!

Please join me and be part of the remarkable transformation and success happening at GRPS! Vote YES November 3rd!

Thank you very much for your consideration and support.

Teresa Weatherall Neal, Superintendent, Grand Rapids Public School

The Heritage Hill Association Board of Directors is a GRPS Bond Supporter and encourages a Yes Vote on November 3rd. Passing the Bond will bring needed improvements to GRPS buildings throughout the City but will also bring a total of $24.2 million of improvements to the Central Campus within the Heritage Hill neighborhood; Specifically - $22 million for Innovation Central High School, $1.7 million for GR Montessori-Fountain, and drum roll please - the demolition of the 10 College Building.
State Street HQ Block Party –
October 16 – 5 to 8 pm

The Heritage Hill Association has paired up with Westminster Church and HQ to put on our first State Street Block Party this October 16th. HQ is a youth drop in center for those who are homeless. We want to welcome these youth into our neighborhood as well as our new residents at 345 State Street. What better way than a good ol’ fashioned Block Party!

We have our very own resident dj, Heritage Chill, up for the task of music for the evening. There will be arts and crafts for kids, Giant Jenga Battles, food and baby goats to pet. Please join us in welcoming our new residents at Foster Park (corner of Madison, State and Cherry) from 5pm to 8pm on October 16th.

If you would like to donate, volunteer or have questions, please contact Tansy Harris at 616-459-8950 or heritage@heritagehillweb.org
Five seats on the HHA Board up for election at Annual Meeting.

Per the Heritage Hill Association By-laws, five Board terms are open annually for election to the HHA Board. Board members are elected by the membership at the Holiday Potluck and Annual Meeting on December 8, 2015. (Save that date on your calendar.) The Board terms are for 3 years that begin on January 1, 2016 and end December 31, 2018.

The absolute deadline for submitting your candidacy is November 7, 2015. This slate will appear along with a brief statement from each candidate in the November/December Herald. (The HHA Bylaws state that Board candidates need to submit their candidacy to the office 30 days before the annual meeting.)

To serve, Board members must be residents of the Heritage Hill neighborhood or be paid non-resident members. It is also helpful to have been somewhat active in Association activities, committees or neighborhood block clubs, but this is not a requirement to serve on the Board. The duties of Association Board members include:

- Monthly Board Meetings - the third Wednesday of the month - approximately 2 hours long - 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
- Chairing or active participation on a HHA committee - monthly or quarterly meetings. Some committees such as Tour demand more of a time commitment.
- Attendance at HHA sponsored events - i.e. Tour, fund-raising, and social events.
- Actively representing your neighbors to the Board.
- Actively representing the Board to your neighbors.

The Board wants and needs active leadership in the organization and representation from the entire neighborhood. If that’s not enough, there are treats at all meetings! If you want to serve please call the Association office at 459-8950 or email to heritage@heritagehillweb.org.
SECURE: Peace of Mind
Investing to update entry/exit points to meet the highest safety standards and ensure students have safe and secure learning environments.

CONNECT: Leading the Way Toward Better Learning
Investing to significantly update technology for advanced teaching and learning. The vast majority of student and teacher technology is 6–10 years old.

TRANSFORM: Staying on the Proven Path
Investing in Phase II of the GRPS Transformation Plan. Dollars will be invested to update and transform classrooms and school buildings across the district.

INVESTMENT: $8.33/month or $99.96/year for owner of a $100,000 home.

"A stable, strong, and growing GRPS is not only good for students, it is good for our economy, our neighborhoods, and our ability to retain and attract families, talent and new innovative businesses"

– Ruth Kelly, retired GRPS teacher and 2nd Ward City Commissioner.

VOTE!
Our Community is Strong, Vibrant and Safe. We Need to Keep Working Together to Keep it That Way.

Please Give Back. Your contribution directly and immediately benefits your neighborhood.

Your support is critical to:

- Organizing Neighborhood Watch and Crime Prevention programs that keep you aware and safe.
- Working with the major institutions surrounding Heritage Hill to bridge the needs of our residents and our institutional neighbors. Our focus is to protect our neighborhood from development that could harm our residential quality. But our work also helps our institutions do their work efficiently and effectively.
- Providing vital neighborhood information via our office, the e-alert network, the newsletter and our website that keeps people connected and informed.
- Monitoring land use and zoning requests and voicing positions maintains our neighborhood’s stability.
- Addressing parking and traffic issues and working with stakeholders to develop programs that ease congestion (or at least don’t make problems worse!)
- Promoting neighborhood occupancy through apartment listings, our Weekend Tour of Homes, and community building events.
- Assisting tenants and property owners with rights and responsibilities.
- Using the Master Plan of Heritage Hill that guides development in our neighborhood. This dog-eared plan is used in every issue faced by the Association and by city departments as a reference guide in planning projects in our neighborhood. Our recently adopted State Street Corridor Area Specific Plan brings a vision to the redevelopment of this tired street that we are working together with stakeholders to achieve.

For the 2015 continuation of the Heritage Hill Association, I pledge:

___ $25 ___ $35 ___ $50 ___ $75 ___ $100 ___ $250 ___ $500

___ Other $ ________________

Name ____________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________

Phone ____________________________ Email ____________________________

Please return this coupon and check to: HHA, 126 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or pledge online: www.heritagehillweb.org

Remember Heritage Hill Property Owners:

There is a City Preservation Ordinance that governs all exterior changes, repairs and/or additions to Heritage Hill properties. Call the Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Commission at 616-245-3711 for information on approvals. You can access the application form at the City’s website, www.ci.grand-rapids.mi.us at the Planning Department section or at the Heritage Hill Association’s www.heritagehillweb.org. This ordinance applies to all exterior changes, repairs, and/or additions to your home and property. Items such as doors and windows including storms, yard structures, driveway and sidewalk approaches, and fences do need HPC approvals.

HEALTHY SOLUTIONS FOR:

- MOLD
- ASBESTOS AND LEAD
- SMOKE/WATER DAMAGE
- ALLERGENS
- BACTERIA
- ODORS
- CHEMICAL TOXINS
- BIOLOGICAL PATHOGENS

616.245.3711
www.UDECON.com
Huge thanks to our recent Association contributors:

John and Patricia LaGrand
Greg McNeilly
In Memory of Anne Logan:
ACLU of Michigan
Diana Barrett
Jan Earl
Rodney and Sharon Erickson
Mary J. Freyer
Margaret and Paul Haviland
Maria and Paul Hesse
Judy Jorgenson
Suzanne Karsen
Barbara Magnotta
Craig Nobbelin and Mei Chow
Milton and Barbara Rohwer
Jacqueline D. Taylor
Trinity Health (Mercy Health Saint Mary’s)
Chris and Tom Truesdale
Barbara Van Wienen
In Memory of Esther Tanis Van Allsburg:
Jan Earl

A Reason To Volunteer

“I think I might turn out better because my tutor reads to me.”

2nd grader at The Grand Rapids Montessori

“Tutor” is the name affectionately given to volunteers who read to, read with, or listen to a struggling reader in Grades 1, 2, 3. Volunteers are assigned one student for the school year. The time commitment is only 30 minutes per week, scheduled during the school day.

This is SCHOOLS of HOPE, a United Way literacy initiative.

Our Heart of West Michigan United Way sponsors a 1-2 hour training session to familiarize prospective volunteers with Schools of Hope. An upcoming training day is Tuesday, October 20th from 3 – 5:00. The main requirement is that you have a concern for the children in our City schools and realize the importance of instilling confidence and improving reading skills in the primary grades. Many of our urban children have NO children’s books in their home, and have NO family member at home who can practice reading with them.

For more details and to learn what days and times volunteers are needed, contact WENDY WOODEN at readtlearngr@gmail.com. At this, our neighboring school, 60 volunteers are needed to address the most critical needs. So far, 45 community members have stepped forth.

Let’s show GRPS and United Way that we residents of Heritage Hill CARE about our neighbors, and fill those 15 empty 30-minute time slots. (That IS the Heritage Hill way, after all, isn’t it?!!)

One of the many residents of The Hill who volunteered last year is especially glad she did. She and her student were proud to learn that her student’s reading scores jumped two grade levels, largely because they read together just once a week.

Please consider helping one more child in Grand Rapids learn the love of reading.

Bylsma Painting Company
Excellence since 1972

Rick Bylsma has given presentations to Historic Societies, Old House Expo events, and to the Michigan Historic Preservation Network.

Some of our projects:
- Frank Lloyd Wright/Meyer May – Steelcase – Grand Rapids, MI
- Frank Lloyd Wright Studio/Amberg home – Grand Rapids, MI
- Gibson Restaurant/Mangiamo’s – Grand Rapids, MI
- Voigt House – Grand Rapids Public Museum - Grand Rapids, MI
- Senator William Aalden Smith Estate – Grand Rapids, MI
- Hackley and Hume Estate – Muskegon County Museum, MI
- St. Marks Church – Grand Rapids, MI
- First Methodist Church – Grand Rapids, MI
- Westminster Presbyterian Church – Grand Rapids, MI
- Reagan Marketing – Grand Rapids, MI
- Wealthy Street Theater – Grand Rapids, MI
- Graham Home – Lowell Museum, MI
- Women’s City Club – Grand Rapids, MI

No one in Michigan has more experience, expertise, or volume of projects in restoration painting.

616-308-8849
www.bylsmapainting.com

Morris Builders, Inc.
Specializing in both Residential & Commercial Remodeling since 1985
616.874.6110 | morrisbuildersinc.com
143 Courtland | Rockford, MI 49341
The time is 8 o’clock, the birds are singing, the sun is rising, and the Grand Rapids Public Museum is coming to life. Volunteers are strolling in for a cup of coffee and to get their morning assignments. At the same time, the school buses have left their parking lots and are in route for the Museum. The laughter and chatter of volunteers is contagious as friendships blossom, and before you know it, the time is 8:45 when the volunteer coordinator says, “It’s show time”. Soon the Museum will be filled with the smiling faces and laughter of school children from all around the Grand Rapids area. With their materials on and keys in hand, the volunteers head to their shops and classrooms. Living our vision every day, the volunteers are ready to inspire passionate curiosity and a deeper understanding of the world around us.

The volunteer program at the GRPM is growing! Volunteers help bring the Museum to life - from greeting at the front, to being a shop keeper, to teaching school children - the Museum has opportunities for everyone! We believe people should “Be Curious”, and the same goes for volunteering. If you are looking for a place to volunteer that offers a family feel, extended learning opportunities, or even a place to enhance your resume, the Grand Rapids Public Museum could be your answer! For more information on volunteering, we encourage you to visit www.grpm.org/volunteer or call Volunteer Manager Joe Landmichl at 616.929.1717.
Good-bye Community Officer Aaron Rossin and Hello Community Officer Craig Glowny! After barely 18 months Aaron Rossin is leaving his post in Heritage Hill due to a promotion to Sergeant. He has been working toward this goal for some time and despite all of my attempts at sabotage he has been successful.

But on the bright side we are now being served by our new Community Officer Craig Glowney! Craig has been a GRPD officer for over 15 years, most recently serving on the North Police Team in the Leonard NE area. He was a detective on the Auto Theft Team and also the Major Case Team. He requested to serve as a Community Officer and is looking forward to meeting with neighbors and having the freedom to work on neighborhood issues. If you would like to host a coffee or a meeting with Officer Glowny, give us a call or e-mail us at the Heritage Hill office at 459-4950 or www.heritage@heritagehillweb.org.

Burglary reported: We had one burglary last month on Madison between Cherry and Wealthy. The exterior rear door was forced open. Several items were stolen though at first it was thought nothing had been taken. Students and new neighbors should pay special attention to simple ways to keep a prowler out since many look of easy ways to walk in or crawl through an unlocked window while gone from home or sometimes even when you are in another room, doing laundry, sleeping or in your back yard.

Welcome Students! Our greeting puts a glass jar with glass marbles on the top of a window sash next to the lock. If anyone tries to force the lock. If anyone tries to force the

But on the bright side we are now being served by our new Community Officer Craig Glowney! Craig has been a GRPD officer for over 15 years, most recently serving on the North Police Team in the Leonard NE area. He was a detective on the Auto Theft Team and also the Major Case Team. He requested to serve as a Community Officer and is looking forward to meeting with neighbors and having the freedom to work on neighborhood issues. If you would like to host a coffee or a meeting with Officer Glowny, give us a call or e-mail us at the Heritage Hill office at 459-4950 or www.heritage@heritagehillweb.org.

Welcome Students! Our greeting puts a glass jar with glass marbles on the top of a window sash next to the lock. If anyone tries to force the lock.

Tidy Home Helpers offers very affordable and professional home and small office cleaning services to those in the greater Grand Rapids area. We use environmentally friendly Green Seal certified products so you, your loved ones, and your environment are safe in our hands.

“At Tidy Home Helpers we’ll keep your home looking great.”

Call 616-233-4832 to schedule a free assessment

Or Visit Us Online:
www.tidyhomehelpers.com
window up the jar will fall and make
a lot of noise.

- There are very inexpensive alarms
you can hang on a doorknob that will
go off if the door or knob is jiggled.
Others will work on windows. Check
hardware stores for these.

Call the Heritage Hill office if you
would like a Free Home or Apartment
Security Check – 459-8950 or
heritage@heritagehillweb.org

Madison Avenue Neighbors take the
initiative to SLOW traffic on the 200-
300 Madison SE. Martha Edwards has
watched cars speeding down her block for
months and was frustrated because even
with speed enforcement by the Grand
Rapids Police Department, drivers were
still going too fast. Martha called HHA for
help and we discussed the usual remedies
like speed humps and two-sided parking.
The city found the hump inappropriate
for that block because it is a major
street and neighbors do not like two-
sided parking. Then the idea of “asking”
drivers to slow down by posting signs in
front yards popped up. Martha and her
neighbors designed and professionally
produced bright, gold yard signs that can
withstand bad weather and seem to have
worked to reduce traffic speeds. Speed
records compiled by officers after the
signs went up measured the speed of cars
on two different evenings and here’s what
they found.

31 vehicles: Ave. speed of 27.9 mph on
9-1-15
06 vehicles: 18-24 mph
17 vehicles: 25-30 mph
07 vehicles: 31-35 mph
01 vehicle: at 39 mph

39 vehicles Ave. speed of 26.87 mph on
9-14-15
12 vehicles: 15-24 mph
19 vehicles: 25-30 mph
08 vehicles: 31-35 mph
00 vehicles: 36 and over

GRPD speed enforcement continues so
please be sure to SLOW down while driving
in Heritage Hill.

Bike thefts! Bike thieves have been busy
all summer stealing bikes off of porches,
(Continued on page 12)
out of yards and hallways. Chained up or not, bikes are hot and not much stops a bike thief. Neighbors have had bike locks broken and chains and cables cut.

A porch rail or column is no deterrent to bike thieves who kick-in and break them to get at the bike. Don’t ever lock a bike to a living thing, a tree for instance, because it could suffer massive wounds.

A neighbor on College NE found that a thief likely “walked” his/her moped away after it was parked on the street overnight in August. In July a College SE neighbor reported his grill was stolen even though it had been chained to the porch. Try to secure your bikes in a locked garage or shed. If that is not possible, the alternative is to keep your bike in your apartment. Think of it as part of your urban décor.

Pleasant Park: We got a little help with weeding on Friday, September 13 from Foremost Insurance staff who volunteered for United Way’s Day of Caring. Morris SE neighbor Joyce VanHaitsma has been weeding for much of this summer but with the hot days and recent rains there was still work to be done. The Foremost volunteers weeded for several hours and learned a lot about the neighborhood at the same time. South Hill neighbor Delia Venema talked with the group about the history of our neighborhoods and the benefits of city living. Delia’s son Coen helped too.

Recent calls to HHA for information or assistance included:

- Seeking apartments
- Barking dogs
- Loud, late-evening lawn care
- Tile restoration
- Information on original exterior railings
- Speeding
- Wrong way driving on Union SE
- Rights as a tenant
- Parking violations on Washington SE
- Need for No Parking sign on College north of Washington SE
- Zoning violations
- Illegal dumping
- Housing/yard violations

Contact us: All HHA staff want to provide the most accurate information and referrals possible and we encourage you to call. Quite often other neighbors have the same concerns and we can help make connections or provide advice, guidance and support!

Looking forward to a beautiful fall,

Barb Lester,
Community Organizer

---

TASTE ~ NOSH ~ DECOR
WE PICK OUT THE GOOD STUFF

Art of the Table

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE FOR COOKING, DESIGN, DECOR & BEVERAGES

STORE HOURS
M-F 10-8
SAT 9-8
SUN CLOSED

606 WEALTHY STREET SE WWW.ARTOFTHETABLE.COM

Cats Vs Dogs
Pet Grooming Salon

36 Grand Ave NE | Grand Rapids MI 49503

Check us out on Facebook.

$2 off grooming services

616-233-0776
We scream for ice cream!

The Annual Heritage Hill Night Out Social on August 4th brought out neighbors to share ice cream treats in Pleasant Park. The Park is one year old. Thanks for their contributions and work to Jenn Gavin, Mary Robinson, Deanna Smith, Erin Shupe, Suzanne DeHaan, Jim Payne, Tansy Harris, Maria Zache and face painters Delia Venema and Megan Vryhof Parisian.

We remember Anne Logan, our friend, generous neighbor and neighborhood activist. Anne gave herself to our community in many ways: serving on the Heritage Hill Association Board, Meyer May Liaison, Home Tour Chair, committee member and perennial host, block contact and more. Her enthusiasm for welcoming fund-raisers, meetings, parties and architecture buffs into her Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home was legendary. She will always be a part of us. Our hearts are with her family Tom and Kate.

It is hard to imagine the Morris/Madison block without seeing Glen Reed tending his gardens. He is a legend in southern Heritage Hill with a personality as big as his home. He has owned several properties peppered near his home as long as any of us can remember. Glen has always been here. He and his long-time partner Clay Palmer continuously supported the Heritage Hill Association. Our thoughts go out to Clay and all Glen’s family.

The Heritage Herald is honored to share memories of our Heritage Hill neighbors. We will publish supplied thoughts. Email to heritage@heritagehillweb.org.
Voucher Program - a solution to panhandling

Panhandling is a community issue that people working and living in Grand Rapids face daily. It can be challenging to know the best way to help. Do you give them money? Offer to buy them a meal? Degage suggests an alternative way to help. Consider purchasing $2 vouchers from Degage and keeping them in your wallet.

To encourage dignity and responsibility, Degage charges a small fee for many of its meals and services. A $2 voucher can purchase a full meal, pay for storage in a locker for a week, fund a haircut, buy a pair of warm socks, and much more. The staff in our Resource Office are also able to work with individuals to find solutions to other needs they may have.

“We feel the voucher system is a helpful way to meet the needs of those we serve while encouraging appropriate and responsible behavior”, said Marge Palmerlee, Executive Director of Degage Ministries. Please join us in our efforts. Contact kim@degageministries.org or (616) 454-1661 to purchase the vouchers. You may also purchase them on www.degageministries.org. Select “Purchase of $2 Vouchers” from the designation drop-down list and we’ll mail them to you.

Bay City, MI Models Two New Historic Districts After Heritage Hill

From Our Inbox

“You may or may not remember 2 young girls walking into your office in December 2011, with a little pocket camera, asking questions about preservation.

Myself (Chelsea Sturza) and my partner-in-crime, Emily Morgan, were on a mission to create 2 local historic districts in Bay City. The city commissioners made it very clear to us that they did not want to pass any historic designations, as it would restrict all of their homeowners and bring down the community. We spent a weekend in Grand Rapids looking at your Heritage Hill district and merely captured video footage as a means to take notes. We ended up creating these 2 videos to show the Bay City commissioners. The vote passed unanimously.

I don’t think we ever told you this story before. Thank you for taking this time with us!”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-svute-B3co

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rwkwpqgh_HoU
HHA Garden Tour – Does it get any better?

2015 marked the 8th consecutive Garden Tour in Heritage Hill. After months of planning by an intrepid committee and hours upon hours of work in the garden by the host gardeners, eleven gardens concentrated in the north half of Heritage Hill opened their garden gates to the public on July 18th. As has been the custom, the gardens on tour included everything from grand terraces of lush and exotic plantings to small space gardens that delight in their creative themes and touches. A little something for everyone was on display and a great cross section of lifestyles in the Hill that reflect our great quality of life regardless if you’re a renter or a homeowner. One of the great stories this year was about a tenant at a home on Campbell Place who had been constructing a creative trellis garden in a small space outside his apartment. His efforts caught the attention of our roving garden recruiters and he was asked if he would be willing to put his garden on the Tour. He was thrilled to be asked and when his landlord found out his tenant’s garden was to be on the HH Garden Tour, he got involved by helping his tenant purchase more plants and encouraging his effort. Tenant and landlord, working together and taking pride in their neighborhood ... does it get any better?

Another great garden tour tradition is the “Garden Crawl” that takes place on the eve of the tour. Why should all the tourists have the fun! The host gardeners and committee members gather the evening before the tour and after the gardeners are lavished with food, drinks and gifts, they all embark on taking the tour of one another’s gardens together. Gardeners, neighbors and community activists... bonding, sharing experiences and growing relationships... does it get any better?

The day of the Tour featured something that the previous seven tours had not experienced. The weather forecast called for a hot and humid day, the threat of rain showers was not very high and scattered at best. At about 11 AM, the staff in the Garden Tour ticket booth, located in the front yard of Peaches B&B, received word from a ticket buyer that there was a threat of a storm on the way. Jack Hessler, who was running the booth along with Char Kruzich pulled out his smart phone and downloaded a radar image. “Lake Michigan looks like a sea of red and yellow flames”, he was quoted as saying.

As the storm was moving on shore in Holland and Grand Haven, the artists in the Garden Shoppe next to the ticket stand were quickly stashing their wares and heading for cover. The ticket stand staff secured tickets, money, etc... in boxes and then prepared to hold down the fort. A group of garden tourists visiting the area from Wisconsin took cover under the tent with the ticket booth staff just about the time that the shelf cloud that mesmerized West Michigan with its surreal apocalyptic immensity came rolling over the roof of Peaches. Minutes later, as winds whipped sheets of rain sideways, Jane Lovett, the proprietor of Peaches B&B, went to her front window to see what had become of the Garden Tour ticket tent and its inhabitants in her front yard. “They were all in there with their arms up grasping on (Continued on page 15)
**Board Notes**

**Discussion at the August Heritage Hill Association Board Meeting included:**

**Public Comment for Agenda –** Craig Nobbelin presented an update of the Short Term Rentals city ordinance as well as activity in Heritage Hill. Craig reviewed the stipulations of the ordinance as well as enforcement efforts for those operating a short term rental illegally and/or without license. Neighbor and Zoning Committee member Tina Demling voiced her frustration regarding the lack of follow-up with the city regulation. Discussion included the hesitancy to push enforcement at this juncture as there have been few problems associated with this type of use to date. Craig suggested two actions: submitting a detailed story for the Heritage Herald about the “Class C and Class B” Short Term Rentals zoning ordinance to encourage compliance as well as forming a sub-committee to explore the city’s plan for enforcement. Board members also requested that Craig write a letter to Planning requesting the city’s enforcement plan in year two of the ordinance.

**Executive Session – Budget Amendment:** A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss an amendment to the 2015 budget (which was recommended by the Finance Committee).

**Treasurer’s Report –** Mary Robinson reported that while the budget is in good shape now, that several anticipated shortfalls will have to be compensated for by the end of the year and emphasized the importance of the upcoming pledge drive as well as thinking of other ways to raise money.

**Committee/Liaison Reports: Community Stewardship –** Mary Robinson Education – No new updates.

**Night Out, August 4 at Pleasant Park:** Erin S. reported that the event went really well, was easy logistically, had good attendance and everyone seemed to like having ice cream. Erin also commented that the police dog and fire truck were a big draw and that there was a nice mix of Heritage Hill and South Hill residents in attendance.

**Pleasant Park –** Barb L. commented that she is coordinating volunteers from Calvin College and the United Way to do some gardening work in the park in September. Discussion about the park included that maintenance of the park needs to be a community effort and that possibly signs could be created to encourage visitors to weed garden bed areas as they pass by. Barb L commented that the adjacent Boys and Girls Club could use volunteers and that everyone should feel welcome to come by the club and help out.

**Land Use Issues –** Vicki Hudson Housing – Members were instructed to see Barb’s staff report.

**Preservation, State Street and Zoning –** Jan. E. reported that the State Street Area Specific Plan has been officially adopted by the city commission and is now a part of the Master Plan of Grand Rapids. Jan reported that the block of State Street from Jefferson to Lafayette is currently under construction and will have brick pavers and decorative lights upon completion, thanks to the Downtown Development Authority. The rest of State Street will have to wait at least five years for reconstruction unless other funding such as a grant can be secured.

**Traffic, Parking and Parks –** Jan E. reported that she had met with Spectrum Health for an overview of a wayfinding plan for Michigan Street that would reduce traffic lanes and increase green space to slow traffic and increase the safety of pedestrians. The plan has broad support from stakeholders.

**Administrative –** Jim Payne

**Finance –** Jim P. reported that the Finance Committee had a partial meeting in July for the budget amendment and would be meeting again in August for the financial review.

**Institutional Liaisons –** Ongoing with Spectrum Health and State Street stakeholders.

**Nominating:** No new updates.

**Fundraising –** Peter Albertini

**Home Tour –** Marie K. reported that seven houses are committed for 2016 and that 2017 is full; the steering committee would like to find another north-end home to fill the slate for 2016. Peter A. commented

**HHA Garden Tour –**

(Continued from page 15)

to the frame of the tent, trying to keep it from going airborne!” At the peak of the storm, one of the ticket booth staffers was reported to have yelled to the Wisconsin visitors that were assisting in holding down the tent—“How do you feel about an aerial view of the gardens on tour?”

A half-hour later it was over. The skies cleared, the sun came out and the tour resumed. We heard from others that during the storm places like The Lyon Street Cafe and Wealthy Street Bakery were packed with Garden Tourists taking cover from the storm. Everyone had a story of where they were when the storm hit and how they took cover. I asked a garden tourist why she wasn’t discouraged by all the wind and rain that hit the garden tour? She replied, “Every gardener knows that a garden is at its most beautiful after a rain and the sun comes out. Everything glitters like jewels and I cannot wait to get back in the gardens.” Wow! I thought to myself ... does it get any better?
that he would like to start the Friends and Sponsors campaign earlier to allow for sponsor planning and would also like to reassess the sponsorship structure.

Pledge Drive - Maria Z. reported that the pledge letter is being redesigned and that it will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval soon. Mailing planned for post-Labor Day weekend.

Garden Tour - Jim P. reported that the tour went really well and that everyone had a great time.

Texas Hold ‘Em - Charles R. circulated a sign-up sheet for the October event and stressed that per state regulation, 3 volunteers are required to be present at all times or risk the possibility of losing licenses for 2016. Ryan H. made a plea for board members to step up, highlighting how many shifts both Charles and Chelsea Roelofs worked for the July event.

Staff Reports: Barb L. added to her report that police officers are patrolling Pleasant Park, sometimes on foot. Barb also commented that the youth baseball project was very successful; giving some kids their first opportunity to play sports as well as providing interactions with police officers that are positive. Barb also expanded on the update about 259 Paris of too many adults living in the home and that this is an ongoing problem and she is keeping an eye on it.

Executive Session: The board unanimously approved the recommended 2015 budget amendment.

Discussion at the September HHA Board meeting included:

GRPS Millage Support: The Board unanimously adopted the motion for the Heritage Hill Association to support the GRPS Millage that is on the ballot in this coming November’s election. HHA has a long history of supporting school millages due to the importance of good schools for the survival of our neighborhood. This particular millage will bring a redevelopment of the Central Campus including the demolition of the former City High building, transportation reconfiguration, and landscaping improvements.

Treasurer’s Report: Mary Robinson overviewed the August Treasurer’s report and commented that the budget is on target. The rental listings continue to drop in revenue due to high occupancy of Heritage Hill. This loss of income needs to be reflected in the 2016 HHA Budget.

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Land Use: The 50 College SE task force is meeting with a potential developer who is exploring options. No defined proposal has been submitted.

Administration: The call for Board candidates is being published in the September October Herald. Currently there are 5 candidates for the 5 open seats that will be elected at the Annual Meeting on December 8, 2015.

Finance Committee: The annual fiscal review was performed in August, 2015 and the findings documented that HHA’s financial systems are in compliance.

(Continued on page 18)
Board Notes (Cont’d from pg 17)

Institutional: There have been no recent meetings with neighboring institutions but thanks were extended to Mercy Health for its $3,500 annual contribution for the services of the Heritage Hill Association.

Personnel: Barb Lester has formally announced her retirement date as of December 31, 2015.

Fundraising: Peter Albertini discussed the brain-storming session he held regarding Home Tour sponsorship and his follow-up work. Tour house sponsorships are being planned in 2016 with the kick-off in late October. Peter is in talks with two organizations that are seriously considering the large sponsorship level.

Fund Drive: The letterplea will be out shortly. A second appeal will go out before the end of the year.

Community Stewardship: The Holiday Potluck is December 8 and the organizers will outline needs in the near future.

Education: Discussion on how HHA will display its support of the upcoming millage. Neighbors should be reminded that this particular millage will bring good and needed work to the Central Campus. Many will applaud the demolition of the former City High building and the addition of greenspace at that location.

Staff Reports: Written reports were reviewed. Barb attended our former community officer Aaron’s promotion ceremony and gave high praise. She’s had conversations with our new community officer Craig and will work with him on getting to know neighbors and the neighborhood.


Neighbors are welcome to attend monthly Board meetings. The HHA Board meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third WEDNESDAY of every month at the Mercy Health Saint Mary’s campus, Hauenstein Center, 220 Cherry SE, 1 Community Room (main floor, turn left at the first hall and first room on your left). There is a possibility that the meeting location would need to change so please call the office (459-8950) or visit the website (www.heritagehillweb.org) to confirm the exact meeting room.

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).

Welcome to our historic congregation in the heart of Grand Rapids — a center of hospitality, worship, spiritual formation, mission, and outreach.

We look forward to connecting with you!

Sunday Worship:
8:15 and 10:45 am

First United Methodist Church
227 Fulton St E • Grand Rapids
www.GrandRapidsFUMC.org


Heritage Hill Dental
Family • Implant • Cosmetic

Mention our ad and receive $50 off new patient exam.

“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

www.heritagedentalgr.com 616.451.2336
255 WASHINGTON SE • SUITE 4 • GRAND RAPIDS MICHIGAN 49503

HMP Carpentry, LLC
specializing in custom cabinetry, woodworking and historical restoration/duplication.

Check us out on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and at our website!

www.hmpcarpentry.com 231-335-9474 Tom Frens
Heritage Hill is home to Foster Park, Pleasant Park and several small pocket parks. These are community spaces for all of us to share and enjoy. But who is in charge of upkeep? Luckily we have the City of Grand Rapids to handle grass cutting and the Forestry Department to maintain the tree canopy. But what about garden beds? Time to roll up your sleeves, residents; this one is on us.

This year Pleasant Park added a perennial garden to the north edge of the park. Neighbors thinned out their own gardens to bring plants to the park. Now we need to take action and ownership of weeding. If residents weed for a few minutes as they enjoy our parks, we can keep flower beds looking fresh and maintained. Five minutes of weeding makes a big difference as you can see.

**Historic Building Restoration**

Residential & Institutional

616-454-9337

www.grandriverbuilders.com
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.

**Wednesday, October 21, 2015**
HHA Board Meeting – 7:00 pm.
Mercy Health Saint Mary’s - Hauenstein Center; H1 Community Room
220 Cherry Street, between Lafayette and Jefferson Avenues

**Monday, November 2, 2015**
July/August Herald newsletter deadline

**Tuesday, November 3, 2015**
Election Day - Vote

**Wednesday, November 18, 2015**
HHA Board Meeting – 7:00 pm.
Mercy Health Saint Mary’s - Hauenstein Center; H1 Community Room
220 Cherry Street, between Lafayette and Jefferson Avenues

Annual Dates to Remember:
**Tuesday, December 8, 2015**
Annual Meeting and Holiday Potluck
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Saturday and Sunday, May 21 & 22, 2016**
Weekend Tour of Homes

---

**BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS**

- Plant Health Care
- Pruning
- Removals
- Cabling & Bracing
- Tree Fertilization
- Insect/Disease Control
- IPM Programs

Brian McKenzie
ISA Certified Arborist

1-877-BARTLETT
616-245-9449
www.bartlett.com

---

**CARMODY PAINTING**

616-443-0406
Interior & Exterior
Residential & Commercial
Fully Insured
EPA Lead Certified
Quality Craftsmanship at Competitive Rates

CARMODYPAINTING.COM

---

**BESTWAY WINDOW CLEANING SERVICES**

Commercial • Residential • Insured • Bonded

ROBERT I. DANIELS
Cell 616.498.2004
bob@bestwaywindowcleaning.com

P.O. Box 68492
Grand Rapids MI 49508
Fax 616.827.8828
Phone 616.827.8473