Heritage Hill

Neighborhood Association of the Heritage Hill Historic District

2017 Weekend Tour of Homes

May 20 & 21

Saturday, 11:00 – 5:00 pm
Sunday, 12:00 - 6:00 pm

Advance Tickets $18.00

Available at
Family Fare and D&W Food Stores
Lake Michigan Credit Unions
Martha’s Vineyard
Art of the Table
Heritage Hill Office and
Online at heritagehillweb.org

For more information:
Heritage Hill Association
126 College SE
Grand Rapids MI 49503
(616) 459-8950
www.heritagehillweb.org

On the weekend of Tour, tickets are
$25.00 and on sale only at
GRCC DeVos Campus,
435 East Fulton
The 48th Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes on May 20 and 21 is here. Seven private homes and four public buildings open their doors to you and share their architecture, design, art, and history. Tour is a great way to refresh your own decorating style, plus a great time to discover wonderful nuances in your own neighborhood. Be there and invite everyone you know to share this great place we call home.

There is a way to get a FREE ticket to Tour: We need volunteer guides right up to the days of Tour to cover any cancellations or unfilled shifts. Please call today, 459-8950, or email heritage@heritagehillweb.org and help Tour work smoothly with an easy 4-hour shift.

Huge thanks to our sponsors of Tour! Make sure that you in turn support your neighborhood supporters. Thank them for their contribution! See the full list in this Herald. We give extra special applause to our major sponsors:

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.

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 Hill Association - Circulation 4,800
The Heritage Hill Association 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 Hill, 126 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Typography & Printing: Storr Printing Services, Inc.
20th Annual  
Heritage Hill  
Yard Sales Day  

Saturday  
June 3, 2017  

50+ Yard Sales  
throughout the  
Heritage Hill  
neighborhood

Having a Sale? – Email or call the Association office at heritage@heritagehillweb.org or 616-459-8950 with the address of your sale. We’ll put a list together and post it on our web site and social media. Please let us know by May 31 for inclusion on the list.

For best results, advertise your sale with free-standing signs in the neighborhood. Remember to please take down your signs after the sale!

(And remember the following week is HH Dumpster Day - June 10 at Central Reformed Church – 10 College NE)

Historic Building Restoration  
Residential & Institutional

616-454-9337  
WWW.GRANDRIVERBUILDERS.COM
**Please Thank and Support Your 2017 Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes Sponsors**

### 2017 GABLE SPONSOR

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<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Rapids Community College</td>
<td>143 Bostwick Ave NE</td>
<td>616.234.4000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.grcc.edu">www.grcc.edu</a></td>
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</table>

### 2017 TOUR SPONSORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midtown Craftsmen, LLC</td>
<td>1600 Marshall Ave SE, Suite A West</td>
<td>245-5970</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtcrestoration.com">www.mtcrestoration.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art of the Table</td>
<td>606 Wealthy SE</td>
<td>301-1885</td>
<td><a href="http://www.artofthetable.com">www.artofthetable.com</a></td>
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<td>Martha’s Vineyard</td>
<td>200 Union NE</td>
<td>459-0911</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mvwinches.com">www.mvwinches.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Rapids Children’s Museum</td>
<td>11 Sheldon Ave NE</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.grcm.org">www.grcm.org</a></td>
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<td>Grand Rapids Public Schools</td>
<td>819-2150</td>
<td><a href="http://www.grpublicschools.org">www.grpublicschools.org</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Park Church</td>
<td>10 East Park Pl NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503</td>
<td>(616) 459-3203</td>
<td><a href="http://www.firstparkchurchgr.org">www.firstparkchurchgr.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Central Market</td>
<td>57 Monroe Center St. NW</td>
<td>245-5970</td>
<td><a href="http://www.grcentralmarketgr.com">www.grcentralmarketgr.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nantucket Baking Company</td>
<td>208 Union NE</td>
<td>726-6609</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nantucketbakingco.com">www.nantucketbakingco.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Green Well / Grove</td>
<td>924 Cherry St SE / 919 Cherry St SE</td>
<td>808-3566, 454-1000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thegreenwellgrove.com">www.thegreenwellgrove.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lott3Metz Architecture</td>
<td>645 Cherry St SE, #100</td>
<td>454-5175</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lott3metz.com">www.lott3metz.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>459-0911</td>
<td><a href="http://www.marthasvineyardgr.com">www.marthasvineyardgr.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orion Construction</td>
<td>32 Market Ave SW, Suite 200</td>
<td>616.464-1740</td>
<td><a href="http://www.orionbuilt.com">www.orionbuilt.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overhead Door Company of Grand Rapids</td>
<td>5761 N. HawkEye Ct SW</td>
<td>261-0300</td>
<td><a href="http://www.overheaddoorgr.com">www.overheaddoorgr.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy Resource Center</td>
<td>415 Cherry Street SE</td>
<td>(616) 456-6873</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pregnancyresource.org">www.pregnancyresource.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea Roelofs</td>
<td>Rockfinch Realty</td>
<td>(616) 446-0041</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chelesaroelofs@realtor.com">chelesaroelofs@realtor.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rylee's Ace Hardware</td>
<td>1234 Michigan NE</td>
<td>451-0724</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ryleesace.com">www.ryleesace.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tidy Home Helpers</td>
<td>500 Cherry St SE</td>
<td>(616) 233-4832</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tidyhomehelpers.com">www.tidyhomehelpers.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuyvesant Apartments / The Eagle Point Companies</td>
<td>125 John Roberts Rd, Ste. 12 / South Portland, ME 04106</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eaglepointco.com">www.eaglepointco.com</a></td>
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| **2017 TOUR HOUSE SPONSOR**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spectrum Health</td>
<td>100 Michigan NE</td>
<td>391-1467</td>
<td><a href="http://www.spectrum-health.org">www.spectrum-health.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand River Builders</td>
<td>256 Garden SE</td>
<td>454-9337</td>
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<tr>
<td>MERCY HEALTH</td>
<td>200 Jefferson Ave SE</td>
<td>685-5000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mercyhealth.com">www.mercyhealth.com</a></td>
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</table>

### 2017 TOUR SUPPORTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elders’ Helpers</td>
<td>Live on Your Own with a Helper in Your Home</td>
<td>500 Cherry St SE</td>
<td>454-8305</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Fare and D&amp;W Supermarkets</td>
<td>P.O. Box 8700 Grand Rapids, MI 49518</td>
<td><a href="http://www.spartanstores.com">www.spartanstores.com</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Valley State University</td>
<td>One Campus Drive, Allendale</td>
<td>361-2025</td>
<td><a href="http://www.grsu.edu">www.grsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Big O’ Cafe</td>
<td>80 Ottawa NW</td>
<td>451-1887</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bigocafe.com">www.bigocafe.com</a></td>
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<td>Bysma Painting</td>
<td>506 College Ave. SE</td>
<td>616.308-8849</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lisa_bysma@yahoo.com">lisa_bysma@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cottage Bar</td>
<td>18 LaGrave Ave. SE</td>
<td>454-9088</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cottagebarhgl.com">www.cottagebarhgl.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Hill Dental</td>
<td>255 Washington SE, Suite 4</td>
<td>451-2336</td>
<td><a href="http://www.heritageldental.com">www.heritageldental.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Keller and Almassian</td>
<td>230 E. Fulton St</td>
<td>616.364-2100</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kellerandalmassian.com">www.kellerandalmassian.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Kelly, 2nd Ward Commissioner</td>
<td>920-9370</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rkelly@grcity.us">rkelly@grcity.us</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Yew – Massage Therapy</td>
<td>233 East Fulton Street, Suite 101C</td>
<td>616.334-8901</td>
<td><a href="http://www.newyewchiropractic.com">www.newyewchiropractic.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Past Perfect</td>
<td>303 Briarwood SE</td>
<td>(616) 581-4416</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pastperfectinc.com">www.pastperfectinc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pondera Advisors / Jackie Taylor</td>
<td>2151 Cascade Rd SE</td>
<td>616.956-3410</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ponderaadvisors.com">www.ponderaadvisors.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Shade Shop</td>
<td>422 Leonard St NW</td>
<td>459-4693</td>
<td><a href="http://www.theshadeshopinc.com">www.theshadeshopinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter-Troutwine Associates, Inc.</td>
<td>937 Paarmount SE</td>
<td>(616) 822-9491</td>
<td><a href="http://www.winter-troutwine.com">www.winter-troutwine.com</a></td>
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</table>
Heritage Hill Development Projects Abound

- **547 Cherry SE – Oakwood Manor:** Neighbors gathered on April 29 to review a proposed restaurant/bistro use for the west side of the lower level (same location as previous restaurants). The request is for a 99-seat inside bistro and a 50-seat courtyard space. Neighbors were generally supportive and many excited about a neighborhood eatery. Traffic and parking were the biggest concerns. The Oakwood owners have reached agreements with businesses on Cherry to avail their parking lots in the evenings. Also bike racks and spots for uber-like cars are planned on site. The zoning request is before the GR Zoning Appeals Board on May 18. The Heritage Hill Association is supporting the request with outlined considerations. A second request for a group fitness center is being proposed for the east side of the lower level. A neighbors meeting was held on May 4 to review this request.

- **363 State Street development:** The micro-unit development is no longer a reality. The owner has been administratively approved by HPC to rehab the current structure (former Clark’s). The windows will be re-opened, the modern roof removed, and exterior goose-neck light fixtures windows are all planned. A retail tenant appears to be in the works.

- **50 College SE:** The final construction plan is in process and a neighbors meeting will be set to overview process once the plan finalized.

- **GRPS Museum School – 54 Jefferson SE:** A community engagement meeting was held on May 9 to review proposed plans.

- **McCabe – Marlowe – 74 Lafayette NE:** Owners of the Sanford House have purchased this house and are proposing a special land use request for use as administrative support of the social services of the Sanford Houses (residential treatment facilities at 540 Cherry SE and 220 John NE). The first floor will be 4 to 5 administrative offices; the 2nd floor will be a residential suite to be used by the owners (not rented to the public); the commercial kitchen will supplement the food program of the Sanford houses. There will be no residential services at this location. The house is currently operating a hospitality center. A neighbors meeting was held on May 10th to review the proposal. The Association has sent emails to the full neighborhood when neighbors meetings are held to review land use proposals in Heritage Hill. Make sure you are receiving these meeting notices. If you have yet to supply your email or you have changed your email address, please send it to us at heritage@heritagehillweb.org. Be a part of these discussions. The pattern of the recent development requests are at locations that are being used for commercial and/or institutional purposes. There have been no requests to change a current residential use. Using the zoning guidelines that the City must use to review specific land use requests, it is difficult, in general, to argue that a somewhat similar commercial request is inappropriate.

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- Voigt House – Grand Rapids Public Museum - Grand Rapids, MI
- Senator William Alden Smith Estate – Grand Rapids, MI
- Hackley and Hume Estate – Muskegon County Museum, MI
- St. Mark’s 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

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Open Burn
On August 23, 2016 meeting, the Grand Rapids City Commission voted to adopt a two-year pilot ordinance for “Open Burning” within the City. The new “Open-Burning” ordinance allows recreational fires within the City of Grand Rapids – by permit ONLY.
- Single-family or two-family property.
- If the applicant is not the owner of the property where the recreational fire is proposed, the applicant must attach to the application a signed permission letter from the owner. Additionally, a site plan illustrating where the fire container will be located on the lot must also be attached to the application.
- Minimum 5,000 square foot lot size.
- Fire container must be at least 20 feet from any structure or combustible material.
- Fire container must be at least 20 feet from any lot line, roadway, alleyway, or fence.
- Fire container must be at least 15 feet from any overhead line.
- To determine the approximate size of a lot, visit the City Assessor’s website (http://grcity.us/treasury/treasurers-office/Pages/Property-Tax-and-Assessment-Lookup.aspx) to view property data online. If you need assistance determining your lot size or have an irregularly shaped parcel, contact the City’s Development Center for assistance. City staff at the Development Center can be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM at 616-456-4100.
- The fire container must be a recreational outdoor portable fire pit, chiminea, or other free standing container designed for use in having safe and controlled outdoor fires. It may not be larger than three (3) feet wide, three (3) feet deep, and three (3) feet tall (exclusive of feet, legs, or chimney). It must be made of non-combustible materials and covered by a screen or other spark cover/arrestor. YOU CANNOT DIG A FIRE PIT.
- A garden hose, fire extinguisher, or other means of extinguishment must be readily available for immediate use.
- With a valid Recreational Fire Permit, burning is allowed between 7 AM and 10 PM, EXCEPT on high risk fire days, on Ozone Action Days, or on any day designated as unsafe by the Fire Chief. The fire must be attended by an adult 18 years or older at all times.
- Only seasoned dry firewood can

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be burned. Burning of yard waste, leaves, refuse, trash, building materials, or other materials is expressly prohibited.

- Applications will be accepted online (www.grcity.us) and can be submitted 24/7. Applications can be submitted using the Development Center kiosk if you do not have Internet access or need assistance from City staff. The Development Center is located at 1120 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM (excluding holidays). Parking is validated if you park in the city owned parking lots.
- Permit applications are $50 and annual permit renewals are $10. The application fee is NON-REFUNDABLE. Permits are valid for one (1) year from the date of issuance. An application is required to renew your Recreational Fire Permit.
- As part of the permitting process, a written notice of the application will be sent to the owners and occupants of properties within 100 feet of the property where the recreational fire is proposed, giving those neighbors twenty-one 21 days to respond with an objection to issuance of the permit. If one of the notified neighbors objects, the permit will automatically be denied. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their plan for a recreational fire with their neighbors before applying.

But what do you do if you are concerned that someone doesn’t have a permit and is burning? Information regarding permits for specific properties can be searched and found online: (https://inspections.grcity.us/CitizenAccess/Cap/CapHome.aspx?module=Permits&TabName=Permits) . Information can also be obtained by contacting the City’s Development Center at 616-456-4100. Complaints regarding recreational fires can be submitted by contacting the Fire Department at 616-456-3900. Since this is a pilot permit program, if you have additional concerns or issues, reach out to your City Commissioners. In the Second Ward (North of Wealthy) we have Ruth Kelly and Joe Jones. In the Third Ward (South of Wealthy) we have Senita Lenear and Dave Allen.

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**National Bike Month**
May is National Bike Month, sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities from coast to coast. Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more

(Continued on page 12)
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 456-3451 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.

Continuing thanks to our recent Association contributors:

Mitch and Kerry Baldwin
Julia and John Colvin
Maureen Fahey Dreher
Janel and Tom Guikema
Susan Jackson
Carl Johnson
John and Patricia LaGrand
Jane Marley
Laura Martin
Morris Manor / The Smalligans
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A grandfather clock, an engraved gold watch, great grandmother’s patchwork quilt, a fine mahogany table where generations of a family have shared dinners and dreams - heirlooms that have been lovingly passed down from one generation to another. Family treasures are precious whether as grand as a piano or as small as a baby’s silver spoon. They connect our past to the present, preserve our history, tell our stories.

The homes in Heritage Hill are the heirlooms of the Grand Rapids family. Some are magnificent reminders of our Furniture City past. Some are more modest, but no less significant to the history of our neighborhood. The homes on Tour this year are varied in architectural style, dimension and grandeur, but each one has a unique and fascinating story. All of our hosts have come to love their homes and realize that these treasures have been passed down to them for safe-keeping and for sharing with the next generation. They invite you in for a tour and a tale.

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- Lake Michigan Credit Unions

On the weekend of Tour, tickets are $25 and are available only at GRCC DeVos campus – 435 E. Fulton.
On your ticket, there is a map of all the homes. You can see the houses in any order and on either or both days. Walk, bike or take the free shuttle buses that stop at each house on Tour. You can get on and off the bus at each house.

Volunteers are needed and get a free ticket to Tour. Shifts are 10:30 – 2:30; 2:00 – 5:30 on Saturday; 11:30 – 3:30; 3:00 – 6:30 on Sunday.
Email heritage@heritagehillweb.org or call 616.459.8950. Please!

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10

GRAND RAPIDS HEIRLOOMS  THE HERITAGE HILL WEEKEND TOUR OF HOMES - MAY 20 & 21, 2017

71 LAFAYETTE N.E.
This 1874 Italianate treasure is the definition of perfection. The elegance of the detailed brick facade continues in the interior. From the grand front doors to the sweeping stairway, from the ornate woodwork to the tall windows that are as high as the 11’ ceilings, the meticulously restored interior of this home takes you back to the time of calling cards and 4 o’clock afternoon tea. Since a major renovation by William and Anna McKnight in the early 1900’s, this home has remained fundamentally unchanged for over a century. The Connors spent an entire year restoring the home, repairing the inevitable effects of almost a century and a half of daily use. All of the mechanical systems have been updated. Recently, they have created an amazing kitchen with top-of-the-line everything, including a custom copper range hood with inset copper tiles to match and a wood-faced refrigerator that matches the cupboards. Among the many distinctive rooms in this home, the sunlit stair landing competes with an inviting sunporch as the ultimate cozy spot to curl up in for a good read. These are just a few of the distinctive features of this picture-perfect home.

505 COLLEGE S.E.
Entering the Amberg House is like walking through a work of art. Designed by Marion Mahoney, a protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright, this Prairie Style home has all the characteristics of a style that attempted to make a building blend with its surroundings. The emphasis is on a horizontal look and feel, with small spaces that lead to light and open rooms and stained-glass in the windows and overhead lighting that reflect the colors of nature. Views from the many windows and a large veranda blend the outdoors with the in. The current owners have spent the last few years on major renovations. They have incorporated one of the apartments back into the main house, have added a 1/2 bath and, with the removal of a wall and a complete remodel, have opened up the kitchen and created a fabulous work space for Deb and Scott who love to entertain. Deb has found a perfect place for each of the many works of art that grace the home. Though the style of the architecture is somewhat formal, the furnishings and personal touches make this home warm and welcoming. The colorful gardens with a koi pond, sculptures and new perennial beds, add the finishing “Monet” touch to this masterpiece.

521 MADISON S.E.
The quaint details of the facade—floral cutouts, a variety of window shapes, bay windows, a charming little dormer and a recently restored wrap-around porch give this home grace and character. Henry Baker and his wife built this Queen Anne in 1886 and Ellen remained in the home until her death at age 101 and beyond… Flickering lights, footsteps and occasional appearances have made Sue and Dave realize that Mrs. Baker loved the house so much that she just couldn’t leave! It is easy to see why. This home is uniquely designed so that all of the first floor rooms come off of the entrance hallway like spokes of a wheel and the wide pocket doors give an encompassing view of the whole downstairs including a library, a living room with a beautiful mantle and a stained-glass bay window and a dining room with another huge bay. The woodwork is the star of the show. Upstairs, there is an office that extends into the attic, a master bedroom with its own fireplace and a child’s room where Mrs. Baker was once heard singing a lullaby to the baby. Family heirlooms are found throughout. A “spirited” tour through this home is guaranteed.

264 PARIS S.E.
The owners barely knew what was hiding beneath the jungle when they bought this home in 1975. Once the vines and shrubs were removed and the home painstakingly restored, a lovely Victorian Gothic cottage was revealed. The wrap-around porch and unique oak front door welcome you to a home filled with antiques, many with ties to family and friends. All of the fun rooms, bay windows and unusual rooms provide the perfect backdrop for a square piano, an antique love seat, a charming china cabinet, a hand-made cedar chest that goes back three generations and much, much more. The most unusual room is a smoking room/den on the second floor that was redone in 1918. With a fireplace, rough beams and rustic hardware, it looks more like a medieval enclaves than a dignified Victorian room. The dining room is more traditional, with oak woodwork, textured stucco wainscoting, a lovely bay, a stately fireplace and rich, floral English wallpaper. This home and its treasures have a wealth of stories to share.

417 CRESCENT N.E.
The gingerbread facade of this Stick Style home could charm with sunbursts, floral cut-outs and decorative peal. Looking at it now, it’s hard to believe that it was once a disaster, board up and scheduled for demolition. George Beckon adopted this abandoned orphan in 1986 and added the two-family wunderkind. The gas/electric chandeliers, brass hardware, and plumbing fixtures that they brought 1900’s house look right at home here. The clear pine is overwhelming, including a huge, unusually shaped porch columns and many large windows. The owners have been updating the interior of the home with fresh paint and updating the floors and window treatments. It has elegant furnishings, many in the Eastlake style. The tour will be of the downstairs apartment where apartments remain for rent. They have chosen furnishings," The tour will be of the downstairs apartment where the parker...

544 COLLEGE S.E.
This 1907 Craftsman and Crafts style home is a masterpiece of natural, time-honored design. The beautiful front porch, with its added deck in back, is surrounded by a beautiful garden. The owners have in all of their restoration work. The home is exquisite with its doors and windows, and has a front porch that is the ultimate cozy spot to curl up in for a good read. These are just a few of the distinctive features of this picture-perfect home.

422 FOUNTAIN N.E.
Built in 1903 by the well-known Widdicomb furniture family, this home has a surprise around every corner, starting with the moment you enter the front door. The kitchen has been moved to the front of the house, and a wall was removed to create a kitchen/dining area. The original kitchen/dining area is now the parlor. Cupboards were built in the former front parlor to match the cherry woodwork in the windows, trim and the eye-catching hutch in the dining area. A central winding stairway makes quite a design statement as it takes you to the spectacular main fireplace and custom built-in closets and dresser. The owners are modern in design. Throughout the home, modern light fixtures are used in all of their restoration and remodeling work. The foyer in this house takes you back to the time of calling cards and 4 o’clock afternoon tea. The colors and finishes current each room a distinct personality. The front door is an inviting sunporch as the ultimate cozy spot to curl up in for a good read. These are just a few of the distinctive features of this picture-perfect home.

WEEKEND TOUR OF HOMES - MAY 20 & 21, 2017

GRAND RAPIDS HEIRLOOMS  THE HERITAGE HILL WEEKEND TOUR OF HOMES - MAY 20 & 21, 2017

Oakwood Manor – 547 Cherry SE

The apartment building has 52 apartments and was designed to house the elite families of Grand Rapids and more than a few famous visitors, including Spencer Tracy. When it was built in 1923, Oakwood Manor was THE place to live. Its modern, fireproof, steel and cement inner structure was covered with brick and stone. At seven stories, Oakwood Manor featured a full-service amenity complex, which included a beauty salon and a barber shop, a newsstand and a coffee shop, a dry cleaning and laundry service, and, amazing, a fleet of Buick sedans for use by the tenants. The apartment building remains. A lovely fountain graces the colonnaded entrance to the lobby. Currently, there are 96 apartments and 600 square feet of amenities, including plans for a fitness center and a restaurant that will have a large fitness center and a restaurant that will have one of the apartments will be on the tour.
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THANKS

Annual Tour of Homes

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Neighborhood

folks to giving cycling a try. This is also a great time to refresh our own knowledge on laws regarding sharing the road and bike safety. Grand Rapids has added miles and miles of roadway bike paths over the years but we still have safety concerns.

• Do NOT park or drive a vehicle in a bike lane.
• Leave 5 feet when passing a bicyclist, which is the law. This also means if the cyclist is in a bike lane...it is five feet from them even while in a bike lane. Slow down and wait until you have enough room to pass.
• Watch out for cyclists. Especially when turning right at intersections. Motorists turning right should wait to move into the right-hand turn lane until the bike lane becomes a dashed line (if present) and then carefully check the bike lane for bicyclists before merging into the right-hand turn lane area.
• Before opening your car door while on the street, be sure to check for cyclists who may be passing.
• While Grand Rapids does not have a helmet law, I cannot stress the importance of a well-fitting helmet. Our brains are important so let’s make sure we protect our big beautiful brains! Pulling a kiddo along with you? They should have a helmet too. Safety first! If you are unsure how to fit yourself with a good helmet, stop in to one of the many local bike shops around town and their staff will be glad to help you navigate the many different types of helmets.
• Bicyclists must obey all traffic signals and signs. This means front and rear lights on our bikes for any evening and night riding. Wearing bright colored clothing is also a great idea. Need any lights? Let me know and I can give you a set of FREE bike lights. Email Tansy at heritage@heritagehillweb.org or by calling 459-8950.
• Bicyclists must obey all traffic signals and signs. This means stopping at red lights and stop signs, just like a vehicle. Use arm signals when turning to communicate with vehicles.
• Bicyclists should always ride with traffic and are safer on the road than on the sidewalks. In the downtown core area bicyclists are NOT ALLOWED on the sidewalks. The same goes for Cherry Hill area. Look for and obey local sign postings.
And make sure to invest in a good lock for your bike. If at all possible, bring inside. Bikes are a big theft item during summer months.

The Jellema House
Pine Rest’s Jellema House has operated as a residential treatment home for countless individuals, both long and short term, for years on Lyon. Pine Rest has decided to relocate the program to their 68th Street location this May. They plan on putting the home on the market shortly thereafter. We wish their residents a smooth transition to their new location and hope that our neighborhood provided them well over the years.

Dumpster Day
Heritage Hill Association will be hosting Dumpster Day on Saturday, June 10th from 8:00am – 12:00pm for residents of Heritage Hill. Dumpsters (and recycling) will be located at Central Reformed Church located at 10 College NE.

• DO NOT PLACE YOUR REFUSE AT CURB. YOU MUST BRING YOUR REFUSE TO THE SPECIFIC LOCATION FOR COLLECTION. REFUSE LEFT AT CURB WILL BE IN VIOLATION!
• HAVE IDENTIFICATION TO SHOW THAT YOU LIVE IN THE CLEANUP AREA.
• NO YARD WASTE WILL BE ALLOWED.
• Help your neighbors bring trash if you can.
• Televisions and hazardous materials such as oil, gas, paint, hot ashes, or acid will not be collected.
• Only one (1) major appliance per building. Major appliances include: refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, washers, dryers, and water heaters.
• Appliances must be free of trash on the inside. Especially Refrigerators! Remove all doors from refrigerators and freezers.
• FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED – When the dumpsters are full, no more trash will be accepted.

I am looking for volunteers to help on this day. If you can spare a few hours, please contact Tansy at: Hertiage@heritagehillweb.org or at 459-8950

State Street News
363 State Street was slated for demolition this spring but the Developers plans have changed. The original plan called for micro units, car share on location and retail on ground floor. Now the building formerly known as “Clarks” will undergo rehab and become a Dollar General. The building will keep the same footprint as it has today.

54 Jefferson, the Museum School, has started construction. Nearly all construction will be inside the building, but please note that the sidewalk and parking in front of 54 Jefferson are now fenced off for building needs.

The YMCA Veggie Van is back! The Veggie Van is every Tuesday at 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at 311 State Street (Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi). The Veggie Van ensures that fruits and vegetables are available to people who otherwise have limited access to fresh produce. They sell locally grown, top-quality fruits and vegetables at reduced prices. Additionally, they accept SNAP and Senior Project Fresh/Market FRESH benefits. Be sure to check them out!
Board Notes

Discussion at the March, 2017 Heritage Hill Association Board Meeting included:

Public Comment: Michael Curtis from the GRFD was in attendance to talk about the city’s free smoke alarm program. Good for any owner-occupied, single-family home or apartment. On-duty fire department employees come into your home, administer a short survey, assess smoke alarm needs and install detectors – all in a relatively short amount of time. Alarms have a 10-year lithium battery. To schedule an appointment, call 311. Tenant occupied apartments are not currently included in this program, but Mr. Curtis says that Helping Hands and American Red Cross have programs to cover those needs.

Staff Reports:
Jan talked briefly about upcoming public meetings for proposed bistro at Oakwood Manor. Also mentioned Pleasant Park and the Pleasant Park Tenders – folks dedicated to maintenance of assigned zones at the neighborhood park. Looking to have a kick-off party with Friends of Grand Rapids Parks in May.

Federal budget talks could put the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds in peril. The City funds neighborhood associations and many non-profits with these federal dollars in addition to City services. The Housing and Planning Departments receive CDBG dollars including Rhonda Baker, staff person for the Historic Preservation Commission. The loss of these funds will be huge to the Heritage Hill Association but also to the current operations of the City. Currently about 20% of the City’s CDBG money goes to non-profits. Jan stated a lot of people assume property taxes fund City services. The collection of property taxes changed in the State’s Proposal A legislation (education) in the early 1990s. Under this legislation, the State collects the property taxes and was to reimburse the cities via Local Revenue Sharing. It is the Local Revenue Sharing that has not been shared as the State uses this fund to balance the State budget. The City has lost millions of promised funding and gets less than 10% of property taxes. The City’s budget is primary income tax receipts and fees for service.

Tansy said crime stats showed a relatively calm February. She confessed to doing some trash reconnaissance recently in attempt
to find the person(s) responsible for dumping of garbage at Clark’s Market site. Also talked about success of this year’s Neighborhood Summit – due in part to the event being moved to a Saturday (March 4). Tansy also spoke briefly about a new “match fund” the city is sponsoring. Residents/organizations can apply to the city for funding (from $200 to $2,500) for a community improvement project as long as they already have an equal amount of funding from some other source. Volunteer hours (at $20 per hour) can be offered up in lieu of reciprocating cash in this bargain.

Committee/Liaison Reports:
Community Engagement:
Education – Kerri Reed, principal of Fountain Montessori School is looking for ways the kids can interact with the neighborhood. Also looking for interested residents and for help in tending gardens during summer when school is not in session and a possibility for volunteer crossing guards at nearby intersections.

Land Use:
More said of the proposed bistro in the lower level of Oakwood Manor. The owner of SpeakEZ on North Monroe is eager to open a restaurant in the western-most lower level of the building. A capacity of 99 inside and up to 50 outside (located in the western side of the interior court yard) is quite a bit less than what was originally proposed last year. Plans are for craft foods and sauces and – down the road - possible weekend brunches. Noise levels are of utmost importance to proposed restaurant owner and owners of Oakwood, so any live music would be acoustic only. The owner and restaurateur feel parking situation will be alleviated by agreements with neighboring agencies/ businesses for evening use of lots as well as focusing advertising to local/Uber/ walk-to clients. Upcoming neighborhood presentations will be made (March 29) and applications to city will follow.

Administration:
A meeting will be held with Spectrum Health on April 13 – to build/strengthen relationship. Also scheduled is a meeting with GRCC in May to meet the new President, Bill Pink.

Fundraising:
Home Tour 2017 – homes have all been toured and in process of writing scripts and drawing maps. Currently recruiting guides. Facebooked the event. Ad blitz to rev-up during month of April. Ticket prices are $18 prior and $25 day of tour. Sponsors of tour are still needed. Request for Garden Tour Hosts will be in the next edition of Heritage Herald.

Looking at a late June weekend for the event.
Texas Hold’em events are scheduled for June 5 – 7 and October 9 – 11, 2017.

(Continued on page 16)
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**PARKING LOT TRUNK SALE**  
JUNE 3 (During Heritage Hill Block Sale)

Discussion at the April 2017 Heritage Hill Association Board Meeting included:

Unanimous acceptance of recommendation from the Executive Committee to **cancel the May board meeting due to its proximity to Home Tour.**

547 Cherry St. SE / Oakwood Manor: Use variance to resume restaurant use in lower level (west side). The executive Committee recommended support of the request with conditions, including concerns about noise, trash, parking and hours of operation. The board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation as amended: suggested interior hours would be from 7:00 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. to midnight on weekends.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Erin S. commented that ¼ into the year, the budget is in line for expectations, though sponsorship for Home Tour is low.

**Staff Reports:** Additions / updates to Jan E.’s written report: The new owners of the McCabe Marlowe house at 74 Lafayette NE will be going before the Planning Commission on May 28th for a special use for first-floor offices and a residential suite. GRPS Museum School will be hosting a neighbors meeting at Westminster Church on May 9. New to the mix at the Oakwood building: A yoga / ballet studio would like to move into the east retail portion of the building with classes of under 40 people; an open house will be held May 4th. Discussion about the proposed studio included hours of operation and parking. Jan also reported that HHA had another meeting with the Public Museum concerning the Voigt House. Now that the county millage has passed, plans are moving forward but still as baby steps. New owners of 423 Madison are exploring the possibility of using the house as a Bed & Breakfast. Tansy H. highlighted numerous items in her written report including a break-in at Beijing Kitchen and two at Gita Pita; the Gita Pita case has been solved and additional security measures have been taken at the restaurant. Conversation concerning illegal dumping at the Stuyvesant building included Todd Hoort mentioning that bulk trash items can be hauled to Pittsch wrecking and dumped by weight at a relatively low cost as well as the mention that many cities have a trash tax. The City of Grand Rapids’ system of online trash accounts is not
feasible for some residents. Tansy also highlighted an issue of unruly teens at the pocket park at Logan and Prospect as well as reporting how successful the House Research project was at the Public Library on April 8th. A partnership with the library, the event brought out 50 people, most of whom were from Heritage Hill and all thrilled to become more familiar with the incredible assets on the fourth floor of the library and learned how to use these assets to conduct a thorough researching of their own homes.

Tansy also reported on a racial bias report (of Grand Rapids Police Department stops) presented to the city and stakeholders on April 18, 2017. The independent study found that racial profiling does exist.

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Land Use: Streets: Jan reported that there will be a big construction project toward the end of the summer on the 200-300 blocks of College Ave. SE. Neighbors, through a grant, will have the opportunity to have their water lines replaced for free with copper pipes as part of this project.

Administrative: Jim P. reported that the Finance Committee had met and completed its audit and that there is a May 15th meeting scheduled with Spectrum Health and a May 22nd meeting to meet new GRCC President Bill Pink.

Fundraising:

Home Tour 2017: Big thanks were given to Kate Diedrich for her work on tour maps and scripts as well as Karen Coy for a publicity blitz coming soon with house interior photos and a big media push. Board members were thanked for their part in Tour; many more volunteers are needed to staff houses during tour. The Public Museum will be featuring typewriters at the Calkins Law Office that tourists may use during their visit to Grand Rapids’ oldest standing structure.

Garden Tour: Kate D. commented that the tour will be June 17th and that Jim Payne will provide some help with publicity. Members were encouraged to solicit sponsors.

Texas Hold ‘Em events are scheduled for June 5 - 7 and October 9 - 11, 2017. As the board will not be meeting again before the June event, members were

Continued on page 18)
encouraged to look at their calendars for volunteer slots; Charles R. will be circulating a sign-up sheet via email.

Community Engagement: Todd H. commented that a committee meeting had been held before the board meeting and that the committee would be fleshing out ideas from that meeting to present to the board at a future meeting. The committee would like to engage more neighbors and discussed new neighbor packets.

Tansy H. noted that Dumpster Day will be June 10th, at the Central Reformed Church parking lot at 10 College NE.

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)
I was a bit late to the game of downloading this parking app but it is a great tool in Grand Rapids. No more hunting for change to feed the meter or avoiding them because you have no change. It is simple to use; it’s free and you just pay for the time you start and stop your parking session. Check it out! You can YouTube exactly how it works.


Download app here: http://us.parkmobile.com/

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Tickets:
$8 Advance | $10 Day of Tour

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or call 616.459.8950

2017 HERITAGE HILL garden TOUR

Saturday June 17th
9am to 2pm

A walking tour of lovely gardens in the south area of Heritage Hill

2017 HERITAGE HILL garden TOUR

Saturday June 17th
9am to 2pm

A walking tour of lovely gardens in the south area of Heritage Hill
DATES TO REMEMBER

All Heritage Hill Association Meetings are open to neighbors.

May, 2016 Board Meeting Canceled due to Home Tour

Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21, 2017
2017 Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes

Saturday, June 3, 2016
Heritage Hill Yard Sales Day

Saturday, June 17, 2017
Heritage Hill Garden Tour
Tickets $10.00 at the HHA office

Wednesday, June 21, 2017
HHA Board Meeting – 7:00 pm.
Mercy Health Saint Mary’s
Hauenstein Center, H1 Community Room
Cherry Street, between Lafayette and Jefferson Avenues

Monday, June 19, 2017
July/August Herald newsletter deadline

July, 2017 Board Meeting (usually) canceled for vacations

Monday, August 1, 2017
Night-Out Picnic at Pleasant Park
5:30 to 8:00

Classifieds

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