2019 Weekend Tour of Homes

Saturday, May 18  11 am – 5 pm
Sunday, May 19   12 pm – 6 pm

Thanks to our 2019 Sponsors:

Home Healthcare Services
- Bathing/personal care
- Medication reminders
- Assistance with mobility
- Range of motion

Homemaking Services
- Light housekeeping
- Meal preparation
- Laundry and bed linen changes
- Errands/personal appointments

Elders’ Helpers Strengths
- On-call service 24 hours - 7 days
- Affordable cost with reliable service
- Registered Nurse Supervision (Rx set-ups, blood pressure checks, blood sugar levels)
- Bonded and insured

616-454-8305
Locally owned and operated since 1999
Serving the Elderly and those with special needs
Giving you greater possibilities.

SPECTRUM HEALTH
2019 Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Tour Map . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 5
About Heritage Hill . . . . . . . . . Page 7
Credits . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 9
545 Fountain NE . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 11
20 Gay SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 13
50 College SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 15
455 College SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 17
231 Paris SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 19
332 College SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 23
440 College SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 25
501 Morris SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 27
24 Fountain NE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 29
Fountain Street Church
254 Fulton E . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 31
The Sweet House
50 Jefferson SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 33
The Museum School
450 Madison SE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 35
The Meyer May House

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND SPECIAL THANKS
We wish to thank the Heritage Hill Hosts who graciously open their doors and to the 300 volunteer Tour guides who orchestrate our Tour. Home Tour hosts and room guides volunteer their homes and their time. No profit of Tour is distributed to them.

VOLUNTEER GUIDE OPPORTUNITIES
Volunteer guide positions are open if you wish to volunteer for the 2020 Tour. Shifts are 4 hours and you receive a FREE Tour ticket.
If interested, please contact the Heritage Hill Association at 459-8950 or e-mail at heritage@heritagehillweb.org.
If calling after 5 p.m., please leave a message on voicemail.
Restoring the Homes of Heritage Hill Since 1987

Carpentry
Metal roofs
Historic gutters
Slate and tile roofs
Masonry

Enjoy the tour!

HISTORIC BUILDING RESTORATION

616-454-9337
256 Garden SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507
Visit www.grandriverbuilders.com to see over 100 photos of our work
Parking Lot: (P)
GRCC DeVos Campus – Fountain Street entrance only.
435 E Fulton but enter parking lot on 400 block of Fountain NE
Shuttle buses start and finish at Sneden Hall - GRCC DeVos campus
Central High School – 421 Fountain NE
GRPS lots at 445 Lyon NE
Central Reformed Church – 50 College SE
Limited street parking at each of the open houses

Restrooms: (R)
GRCC DeVos Campus
435 E. Fulton
**closes at 4:00 pm Sunday**
Central Reformed Church
10 College NE
Meyer May House
450 Madison SE

Food: (F)
Restaurants:
• Beijing Kitchen (State at Prospect)
• Cottage Bar (LaGrave)
• Marcona on Lyon
• Nantucket Bakery/Lyon Street Cafe (State at Prospect)
• Provenzano’s Heritage Hill Pizza (State at Prospect)
• Wealthy Street Bakery (Wealthy at Union)

Open Houses:
■ 545 Fountain NE
■ 20 Gay SE
■ 50 College SE
■ 455 College SE
■ 231 Paris SE
■ 332 College SE
■ 440 College SE
■ 501 Morris SE
■ 24 Fountain NE
Fountain Street Church
■ 254 Fulton E
The Sweet House
■ 50 Jefferson SE
The Museum School
■ 450 Madison SE
The Meyer May House

Bus Route Starts and Stops at GRCC DeVos Campus

Houses on Tour
Food/Restaurants
Restrooms
Tickets Day of Tour
Parking Lots

435 East Fulton - GRCC DeVos Campus
Parking Lots
Central Reformed Church
Meyer May House
GRCC DeVos Campus
GRPS Museum School
50 Jefferson SE
The Sweet House
545 East Fulton
501 Morris SE

Restrooms: (R)

Tickets Day of Tour
435 East Fulton - GRCC DeVos Campus
Parking Lots
Central Reformed Church
Meyer May House
GRCC DeVos Campus
GRPS Museum School
50 Jefferson SE
The Sweet House
545 East Fulton
501 Morris SE

Restrooms: (R)

Tickets Day of Tour
435 East Fulton - GRCC DeVos Campus
Parking Lots
Central Reformed Church
Meyer May House
GRCC DeVos Campus
GRPS Museum School
50 Jefferson SE
The Sweet House
545 East Fulton
501 Morris SE
Bothered by Your Varicose or Spider Veins?

Mercy Health provides vascular treatment services for varicose and spider veins, including minimally invasive procedures. Office-based procedures take less than one hour and are performed with local anesthesia by our fellowship trained and board certified vascular surgeons.

Schedule a consultation at 616-685-7850

Joshua I. Greenberg, MD
Michelle C. Kosovec, MD
John T. Morris, DO
Beth Stevenson, APRN, FNP-BC
Let’s celebrate - The 50th Annual Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes

Last year we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Heritage Hill Association. This year it is Tour that turns 50-years-old ... the party goes on.

The first Home Tour was critical to advancing the protection of the Heritage Hill neighborhood. Over 75% of the neighborhood was slated for demolition in the 1960’s. Most of the houses that you will see today on Tour would not be standing if it was not for the tenacity of Heritage Hill neighbors. It was an amazing and diligent organizing effort by residents to have the neighborhood placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This is where Tour fits in. The first Tour was organized in 1969 to help pay for the architectural review of the 1,300 structures in Heritage Hill that was necessary to nominate our neighborhood to the National Register of Historic Places. To make a heroic story short, it worked; neighbors invoked national preservation legislation to effectively stop the bulldozers. And we’ve continued our annual Tour ever since to showcase neighbors’ work in this historical and architectural gem of a neighborhood.

We welcome you to one of the most amazing Home Tours ever. It presents the variety of homes in the neighborhood and we are fortunate to have two of the homes, an impressive Georgian Revival Style mansion on Gay Street and an exceptional Craftsman Style home at 455 College SE that were on the very first tour half a century ago. The seven homes, a new apartment building and four historic buildings on tour this year vary in style and decor but what they all have in common is a beauty and character that shines through after all these years. Each home is as unique as the craftsmen who built it and as different as the current owners who have added their own personal sense of design to the treasures that are now in their care. There are so many different ways to live in the Hill!

The Heritage Hill neighborhood is one of the country’s largest urban historic districts recognized by the National Register of Historic Places. More than 1,300 homes dating from 1843 stand within the boundaries of Heritage Hill. It is Michigan’s largest and finest concentration of 19th and early 20th century houses. Nearly every style of American architecture, from Greek Revival to Prairie, is represented in the district. At the turn of the

(Continued on pg. 8)
last century, this was the city’s most prestigious residential area. Today the neighborhood is an array of lifestyles and passions. Professionals, craftsmen, students, artists ... homeowners and tenants... share this great place we call home. Heritage Hill is recognized by the American Association of Planners as one of the Great Places in America. *This Old House* magazine rates Heritage Hill as one of the best historic neighborhoods in the United States.

**The Heritage Hill Association** formed in 1968 to stop several urban renewal projects that would have demolished over 75% of Heritage Hill’s structures. The neighborhood was red-lined (banks would not lend mortgages) and it was in serious decline. A small group of committed neighbors worked tirelessly to get Heritage Hill recognized nationally and on a state and local level to stop the destruction. By 1971 the preservation ordinance that protects the architectural integrity of Heritage Hill was in place. Ensuing years have been spent rebuilding and maintaining the neighborhood and community. The neighborhood is an inspiring example of a community-in-action as we continue to work to keep the Hill a vital place to live and work.

**Tour** is the largest fundraiser of the Heritage Hill Association. Over 300 volunteers contribute to make the weekend a success. All proceeds go right back into programs for the Heritage Hill neighborhood. These include community organizing, crime prevention, land use planning, engaging community resources and preservation of the district’s historic character.

**Today, the Heritage Hill Association and residents give testament** to those early leaders and activists. We invite you to walk in the footsteps of the founders of Grand Rapids and explore an array of architecture, decorating styles and urban gardens. Walkability, cultural diversity and proximity to Grand Rapids’ colleges, universities, renowned medical facilities, the downtown entertainment and cultural center ... and the hip and energizing Uptown district ... Heritage Hill has it all!

**The profiles that follow offer insight** into the lives of the people who built these great houses and buildings ... and those who now call them home. During Tour, guides stationed at each house will highlight special features. Share our anniversary celebration as you tour the treasures described in the following pages.

*Enjoy...*
The Heritage Hill Association applauds the many dedicated volunteers, committee members, hosts, house captains, and the Heritage Hill Association Staff that collaborate to make Tour Weekend happen. A core Home Tour Steering Committee has spent much of the year planning and orchestrating Tour. We sincerely thank each and all of you for your dedication to Tour! Tour only happens because of the incredible volunteer commitment in our neighborhood!

**Home Tour Steering Committee:**
- Suzanne De Haan
- Kate Diedrich
- Jan Earl
- Nikki Hoort
- Don Rietema
- Maria Zache Starkey

**Historian/Architecture:**
- Tom Logan
- Rebecca Smith-Hoffman

**Ticket Booth Coordinator:**
- Hannah Earl
- Tim Longo

**Bus Coordination:**
- Tom Postma
- Don Rietema

**Tour Artist:**
- Mei Chow

**WEB Maestros/Social Networks:**
- Don Bryant
- Amanda Cormier
- Jeff Thomas

**Home Tour Hosts:**
- Mike and Cathy Bosscher
- Kathleen Cairns
- Julie and John Colvin
- Kay Courtney

**House Captains:**
- Lisa Baars
- Suzanne De Haan
- Kate Diedrich
- Todd and Skyelar Hoort
- Patti Gardner
- Michele Giordano
- Eileen and Jim Gould
- Tom Logan
- Leo Makinen
- Ruth Martin
- Jim Payne
- Mary Robinson
- Nathan Slauer
- Pat Talen

**HHA Staff:**
- Jan Earl
- Amanda Cormier
- Barb Lester
- Maria Zache Starkey
As BDO Grand Rapids celebrates 100 years in 2019, we are proud to sponsor the Heritage Hill 50th Anniversary Tour of Homes.
545 FOUNTAIN N.E.
HOSTS: JULIE & JOHN COLVIN

This home is an outstanding and quite ornate example of Queen Anne architecture. The asymmetrical facade is graced with a three-story tower, a large, curving, north corner turret, detailed porticos, decorative shingle patterns and six gables on the roof with an eyebrow window looking down over it all. At one time, there was a wraparound porch where the cement stones are now. The natural stone foundation extends down to form the walls of the cellar. A carriage house set on a large lot with lovely gardens completes the picture.

The house was built in 1892 for William and Agnes Lamoreaux. He was a successful seed and garden supply merchant located on West Bridge Street. William died in 1895 and Agnes remained in the house for another two years. The home passed through five more owners until Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Davis bought the property in 1964. Used for some time as a rental, it had been allowed to deteriorate over the years and the Davis’ began a much needed, extensive renovation in the 1980’s. It was at this time that they converted the house into a two-unit. They made very few changes to the first floor, but several walls were opened up and a kitchen was added to the second story for the upstairs apartment. When the Colvins bought the house in 1993, they decided to restore the home to a single family. Some remnants of the apartment days remain on the upper floor, but the kitchen, bedrooms and bath make for a nice, private suite where friends and family can stay. The master bedroom, with sunny windows and a lovely fireplace makes a cozy sitting room for visiting guests.

Every room is like an art gallery in this unique and art-filled home. Works by Julie and other members of her family, as well as by other Michigan artists, fill the walls, tabletops, windowsills, nooks and crannies - from serious art to quirky kitsch, this house is a visual adventure!

The home itself creates the perfect frame for all of the Colvins’ eclectic treasures with its exceptional scroll patterned woodwork throughout the home, an intricately-carved fireplace in the living room, many stained-glass windows, antique furniture and special wall treatments including a cloud-filled sky in the oak-trimmed dining room.

The two stories are connected by a Gothic-looking, winding stairway where the sun through the stained-glass windows on the landing casts a rainbow of colors on the walls, the woodwork and those who find themselves exploring this one-of-a-kind museum of wonderful things.

1969 Photo

(Continued on pg. 12)
sills, nooks and crannies - from serious art to quirky kitsch, this house is a visual adventure!

The home itself creates the perfect frame for all of the Colvins’ eclectic treasures with its exceptional scroll patterned woodwork throughout the home, an intricately-carved fireplace in the living room, many stained-glass windows, antique furniture and special wall treatments including a cloud-filled sky in the oak-trimmed dining room. The two stories are connected by a Gothic-looking, winding stairway where the sun through the stained-glass windows on the landing casts a rainbow of colors on the walls, the woodwork and those who find themselves exploring this one-of-a-kind museum of wonderful things.

It’s not good because it’s old, it’s old because it’s good.
This magnificent Georgian Revival Style mansion was one of five homes on the very first Heritage Hill Tour fifty years ago. The home was built in 1908 by John and Margaret Duffy. John was a self-made man who began as a grocery delivery boy. He set out to improve his lot, taking college business classes, then working as a bookkeeper and secretary. He earned his fortune when he invented a pulley system for large architectural projects that eventually led to the founding of his Grand Rapids Hardware Company. This self-made man later became Chairman of the Board of the Michigan Trust Company.

Mr. Duffy was active in many charitable endeavors and both John and Margaret were avid supporters of the Grand Rapids musical community. John was known for his vocal abilities and was elected president of the local Schubert Club. The home reflects this love of music. John had an elaborate, temperature and moisture-controlled pipe system built into the basement of the house, connected to an organ in the music room. The sound comes through decorative vents in the floors, filling the home with music.

John was quite a forward thinker and the plans for the house incorporated several other state-of-the-art (for the 1920's) conveniences into the home including a whole-house intercom system (the call box is still in the kitchen with Mrs. Duffy’s name on it), a telephone, heated floors and even a three-story elevator!

The stately symmetrical brick exterior of this home contains an equally elegant interior. The front door opens onto an entry hall that flows through the full length of the house past an impressive stairway and ending in a lovely arched back doorway that leads to a koi pond, the original carriage house and then beyond to the exquisite gardens. The dining room is lined with unusually tall mahogany panels and has a chandelier designed after one made for Maria Theresa during the time of the Hapsburg Empire. Off of the music room is

(Continued on pg. 14)
a large tiled sunroom overlooking a pleasant patio and the swimming pool. Walnut was used in the library which has a marble fireplace- one of four on the first floor. The second floor has four spacious bedrooms, each with its own full bath.

Barbara and Ron see their role as caretakers, preserving this architectural treasure for future generations. Since they purchased it last year, they have filled their home with antiques and special pieces from their art collection that have given the home a new life that is uniquely their own.
Apartment living is an important dimension of the neighborhood and in 2018, this new apartment building was completed by Orion Construction to replace an outdated commercial building that had been used over the years, first as medical offices and lastly as a branch of the Social Security Administration. This development also represents the coordination and cooperation between the Heritage Hill Association, neighbors, the Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Commission, and Orion Construction in constructing a new building that integrates into the historic neighborhood.

The original structure on this site was the Withey farmhouse. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the east side of this block of College had only five residential homes. Just north of this property is the Waters family mansion, the only one of the original five remaining. It is set way back from the street and is one of the Hill’s hidden houses. It can be seen when you tour the carriage house behind these apartments. To the south, where WOOD TV is now, was the Bissell mansion; the Pantlind and Aldrich family homes completed the block. The Voigt House just down the block and the Waters mansion give you an idea of the quality of the homes that were lost when, after World War II, they were torn down, victims of the movement to modernize the city. This was to be the fate of 75% of Heritage Hill but for the efforts of a few residents who formed the Heritage Hill Association in 1968 and fought to save these homes through national legislation. Urban renewal would have destroyed a vital part of Grand Rapids history and architectural heritage.

When this site came up for sale and developers began proposing uses, the Heritage Hill Association conducted a six-month visioning process with neighbors to explore the possibilities for this 2.5 acre site. The results outlined neighbors’ preferred uses and the scale and appearance of the development. The Orion Construction team was very responsive to the visioning study and the concerns of neighbors. This brick building was designed to complement the character, scale and charm of the Heritage Hill homes that surround it. Its final design was reviewed, adjusted and approved by the Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Commission.

(Continued on pg. 8)
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

---

**REASON #2**

53 Public School Choices

**www.GRPS.org/EnrollToday**

- Grand Rapids Montessori (PK-12)
- Innovation Central High (9-12)
- Coit Creative Arts Academy (PK-5)
- Congress Elementary (PK-5)
- University Prep Academy (6-12)
- Grand Rapids Public Museum School (6-8)

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!
This outstanding home was built in 1893 for Charles Heald, president of the Pere Marquette Railroad. In 1900, his business drew him to Detroit, and he sold the home to a lumberman, Fred I. Nichols. Twenty years later Heald returned to this city to become president of the Grand Rapids Home Building Association and he and his wife, Eliza, bought the house back. Eliza died soon afterward, but Charles remarried and lived in the home for another nine years.

There were many owners over the years including a banker, an attorney and a number of widows, but the most notable was William P. Lear who lived here from 1949-1960 with his wife Moya. He was an industrialist in the fields of aeronautics and electronics and was head of the Lear Seigler Corporation (as in Lear Jets). He also invented the autopilot, the 8-track tape deck and the car radio.

By the time that Murray and Dorothy Stout bought the home 25 years later, it had suffered decades of neglect. Amazingly, unlike so many large homes in the Hill, it was never divided into apartments, but most of the lighting fixtures had disappeared and the 100-year-old basics—wiring, plumbing, heating—all needed to be replaced. After a full year of repairs and renovation, the Stouts moved in and opened a B&B that they operated for about 10 years.

Kitty Cairns bought the house in 1998 and she has been making comprehensive, aesthetic changes starting with the first floor solarium with a working fountain, a music room with a museum-quality piano, living and dining rooms creatively furnished with rare antiques and a kitchen with oak furniture pieces transformed into cupboards, slate floors, dramatic granite countertops and a stone “cooking cave”. Upstairs, the master bedroom is the high point, decorated with a playful harlequin theme. The third floor is a child’s dream, with an antique map painted on the walls and a castle created in a dormer nook.

This home is an example of the Craftsman Shingle Style embellished with some elements of the ornate Queen Anne Style. Shingles were used only on the gables and porch pediment on the detailed asymmetrical facade. There are stacked bay windows with a gable window above, a large columned front porch and a prominent gable with an inset bay window. This exceptional home truly deserves its recognition as “notable” in the national registry of historic homes. The backyard pool, designed to look like a natural pond complete with a waterfall as well as the surrounding gardens add to the exceptional quality of this unique home.
No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

First (Park) Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Worship With Us
Sunday at 10:30am
Located in the heart of downtown, next to Veterans Park and the Public Library.

An Open and Affirming Congregation
10 East Park Place NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616.459.3203
www.ParkChurchGR.org

United is more than our name. It’s our mission.

616.559.7000 | UnitedBank4U.com
Member FDIC

Servicing Heritage Hill and Greater Grand Rapids Since 1975

846 Fulton Street East
www.communityautomotive.com
616-774-7048
This Italianate Style home had suffered years of neglect and abuse. The facade had been altered over time, but somehow, all that was exceptional about this home has survived. The current owner recognized the potential and with the help of friends, neighbors and excellent craftspeople she transformed the pariah of the neighborhood into the jewel of a home that it is today. After two full years of repairs and renovation, there are now four apartments with two large ones on the second floor and one small, adorable one on the first floor. It is Kay’s elegant and spacious apartment in the front of the house that is on tour this year.

Built in 1875 for Roger Butterfield, a prominent Grand Rapids lawyer, this is the oldest private home on tour this year. As his firm, Law Weathers, grew, he needed a home office and in 1889, an original wrap-around porch was removed from the front of the house and an office and a two-story library were added.

The interior has many outstanding features - high ceilings with elaborate molding, an oak-lined entryway with a lovely staircase, huge, sliding doors and rounded archways between rooms but the piece de resistance is the library. Mr. Butterfield admired the library that Sir Walter Scott had constructed in his castle in Scotland and had a replica, on a smaller scale, built onto the back of the house. It has an open, wrought iron balcony between the two stories, two levels of bookshelves, a limestone fireplace and faux marble columns. It is spectacular! A short stairway leads from there to the second parlor that has been converted to a kitchen/dining area where creative design makes use of every possible space. The last room is the glowing, oak-paneled dining room that is being used as the owner’s realty office.

The home is surrounded by lovingly tended mirrored gardens that invite a leisurely May afternoon walk-about.
208 UNION NE (616) 725-5609

MARTHA’S PIZZA &
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11AM-MIDNIGHT

BRICK OVEN ARTISAN PIZZAS, ORDER TAKE-OUT,
COMPLIMENTARY WINE TASTINGS FROM
NEW DELI AND PRODUCE!...SANDWICHES
GOURMET MEATS AND CHEESES, 1

NANTUCKET BAKING COMPANY
615 LYON STREET (616) 350-9292 • OPEN 7 DAYS A

ARTISAN BREADS, FRESH PASTRIES, SCONES, MUFFINS,
MADCAP POUR OVER COFFEE, ICED OR HOT TEA ESPRESSO

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR
MARTHA’S VINEYARD
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 8AM- MIDNIGHT

(616) 459-0911 200 UNION NE

EAT OR WALK ON OVER AND PICK UP A SLICE
NOON TO 8PM & SAT. 10AM TO 6PM
COLD DRINKS, DESSERTS, AND SNACKS

Foods OF WINES AND MICRO BREWS

ANY & LYON STREET CAFE
WEEK 7AM-9PM • 617 LYON STREET (616) 635-2194

COOKIES, BUTTERY CROISSANTS, & DELICIOUS DESSERTS
LATTES, & CAPPUCCINOS FRESH PASTRIES & DESSERTS

FOR SEATING AVAILABLE
Elders’ Helpers

Live on your own with a helper in your home

Locally owned and operated since 1999

616-454-8305

Introductory Offer!
FREE Installation ($40+ Value) on any product offered by Elders’ Helpers In-Home SafetyNet Program

Elders’ Helpers is proud to announce its new In-Home SafetyNet Program products and services. Our products along with our services are proven to provide the safety and security needed to stay in your home, or on your errands, or on your long distance travels for an affordable monthly cost.

PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM/CARELINK - $29.95 per month
Activate the medical alarm by simply pressing the button on a lightweight, waterproof pendant worn around the neck or on a wristband. In less than a minute, the system’s live operators are speaking with the home. Communication is carried through the base unit of this senior monitoring system. Help is dispatched and at your door quickly.

WIRELESS MEDICAL ALERT/PANIC BUTTON - NATIONWIDE RANGE - $39.95 per month
No phone line? Using a cell phone? No problem!

AUTOMATED PILL DISPENSER AND MEDICATION REMINDER - $35.00 per month
Our technician and our Registered Nurse come to your home at no charge to you and activate the MedReady box. They sit down with you, review how the dispenser works, and stay while you participate in hands-on trial testings. After that, it’s easy - the box does all the work!

SPECIAL OFFER!
Carelink System + MedReady Box
- $55.00 per month

500 Cherry St SE
www.eldershelpers.com
Frank Voigt was the son of Carl Voigt, a prominent businessman who made his fortune as the owner of the Star and the Crescent Grain Mills. Carl is well-known in Grand Rapids as the builder of the exceptional home that has become the Voigt House Museum, just one block north of his son’s residence. Frank followed his father as president of the mills and, as a person who grew up being used to the finer things in life, he built his own home with only the highest quality materials and the most skilled craftsmen that our “Furniture City” had to offer.

This 1908 Queen Anne Style home was influenced by the Craftsman Movement popular at the time. It has the panache and character typical of the style with an asymmetrical facade that is highly detailed with geometric patterns in the window and gable trim, a charming, bracketed Juliet porch, bay windows and a large port cocheres where visitors could depart their carriages and ascend the steps to the wraparound front porch without experiencing a drop of rain. The current owners researched extensively before rebuilding the porch as close to its original specifications as possible. They effectively used contrasting paint colors to emphasize the architectural details, especially with the raised, pyramid pattern on the porch gable and below the large front window.

The attention to detail is evident as soon as you enter the home where you are greeted by a delicately-carved newel post on the oak wood staircase. The window on the landing has ondoyant glass beads that change color when sunlight passes through it. French doors lead to a parlor with butternut trim on the floor-to-ceiling windows. It is separated from the living room, with its formal slate fireplace, by two substantial columns. Pocket doors open to a maple dining room with a coffered ceiling. Four rooms- three species of wood! In the

(Continued on pg. 24)
rest of the home, a country garden-themed kitchen, three spacious bedrooms and a cozy TV room are as charming as the exceptional main rooms.

This house has not always had an easy life during its 111 year history. Numerous owners and years of being rented as a two unit left a daunting rehabilitation project for Tom and Chris who continued the work started by the previous owners. Imagine stripping all of this woodwork! The Truesdales are about to pass this lovingly restored home on to new caretakers and have graciously offered to share it with us one last time as a parting gift for the 50th anniversary tour.

Congratulations
Heritage Hill
on the
50th Anniversary Tour
George L. Keeler, owner of the Keeler Brass Company, built this home in 1905. He lived next-door at the time and had this house built as a wedding present for his daughter when she married a sales manager at his company named Earl S. Clark. The next owner was Lloyd Lievense who owned “Lloyd’s Gentleman’s Tailors.” He was President Gerald Ford’s personal and only tailor for over 25 years. The Lievense family lived in the home for 36 years until 1973. After two more owners, the house was purchased in 1984 by Jane Lixey who married John Friend in the living room just one week after moving into her new home. Now Jane and her husband, Reid Taylor, are nearing the end of an extensive renovation and remodeling journey. The finished product is a masterpiece.

This example of the American Four-square Style incorporates several elements of the Arts and Crafts Movement. The symmetrical facade is made more interesting by an offset entrance on a welcoming front porch, with two, bump-out, mullioned windows with decorative brackets and a rooftop dormer above. In 1925, the Clarks added a dining room with a master bedroom above on the second floor. A screened porch was built onto the back of the house just last year.

The Arts and Crafts influence is carried into the interior, with an extensive collection of Stickley furniture with delicate inlay designs, beautiful tile work and deep, rich, nature-inspired colors that are consistent with the Craftsman style. Almost every room deserves to be described in detail, but the newly-renovated kitchen is truly exquisite from the earth-toned slate floor to the cathedral ceiling with stained-glass skylights. The elevated ceiling is above a table that sits in a sunny nook created by a large bay window. A central island is surrounded by cherry cupboards with leaded glass, a hammered copper sink set into a granite countertop and two comfy chairs in front of a cozy fireplace decorated with handmade tiles.

The living room has an array of extraordinary musical instruments, a fireplace and coffered ceiling were added to the dining room, the master bedroom has a fireplace and the adjoining bath has a separate small dressing table with a mini, polished nickel sink - every light fixture, each work of art, every detail has been thoughtfully chosen to fit in with the Arts and Crafts theme of the home. Even the back patio, gazebo and gardens are planned to perfection.

(Continued on pg. 26)
sink set into a granite countertop and two comfy chairs in front of a cozy fireplace decorated with handmade tiles.

The living room has an array of extraordinary musical instruments, a fireplace and coffered ceiling were added to the dining room, the master bedroom has a fireplace and the adjoining bath has a separate small dressing table with a mini, polished nickel sink - every light fixture, each work of art, every detail has been thoughtfully chosen to fit in with the Arts and Crafts theme of the home. Even the back patio, gazebo and gardens are planned to perfection.
In 1924, the well-known architect, Pierre Lindhout, was asked by John and Emma Burch to design their home. John Burch, at age 23, began as a secretary and eventually became president of the Burch Fabric and Upholstery Company, a wholesale business that supplied goods to many of the furniture companies in Grand Rapids. Today the company is owned by his grandson. Burch was involved in many community activities including holding a seat as a board member of the Community Chest and Public Works and volunteering with Big Brothers. He also served as a City Commissioner.

There have only been four owners of this home over its 95 years. The Burches and their son lived here for over forty years, followed by Chuck and Gretchen Bouwsma, who purchased the home in 1969. The house survived their seven children and, after just one more owner, Cathy and Mike Bosscher bought the house in 1988 and raised their four children here. This has been their home for more than 30 years and now they are able to share the home with their grandchildren.

Lindhout custom-designed this stately brick American Foursquare, with a central entry in a basically symmetrical facade. There are elements of the Prairie Style with wide overhanging eaves and bands of large casement windows with horizontal transoms above. Decorative, wrought iron railings accent each of the front window balconies and the porch roofs. An attached heated garage, which is very rare in Heritage Hill, is on the west side of the house. It has a walk-out porch over it from which you can see the surrounding garden and pond and the Meyer May House just down the street.

Other than a renovation in the 80’s when walls were removed between three small rooms to enlarge the kitchen, there have been no changes to the original floor plan. Most of the light fixtures, bath fixtures and even the original steam heat (Continued on pg. 28)
furnace are still in the home. French doors on either side of a welcoming entry open to a living room that extends almost the full length of the house with an impressive fireplace as a focal point on one side and a dining room with lovely, oak woodwork on the other. The unique basement pool room was planned when the home was built as a place for Mr. Burch to entertain his business clients. It has room for three pool tables, a fireplace, drinking fountain, a vent that carried smoke up through the attic and a locking closet that was likely used to hide alcohol during prohibition. There are six bathrooms in the house, four bedrooms and a sleeping porch. What a perfect home for all of the children who have grown up here!
This year marks the 150th anniversary of Fountain Street Church. It began in 1869 when two Baptist denominations finally came together and, in 1877, erected an impressive Gothic church on this site. Tragically, it was destroyed by fire in 1917. Setting a high standard for the artistry and craftsmanship to be used in its structure, the congregation settled on the Romanesque Style for their new building. Construction began in 1917, but due to a scarcity of materials because of World War I, it was not completed until 1923. It was finally dedicated in February of 1924. Fountain Street Church is today a designated historic landmark recognized as an artistic and architectural treasure.

The Narthex (the gathering hall of a church) has an Arts and Crafts coffered ceiling that is complemented by the historic Moravian tiles on the floor. The red clay tiles were designed by Henry Chapman Mercer from Pennsylvania and are decorated with diminutive folk art designs from Middle Europe. There are twenty-one Byzantine mosaic medallions encircling the upper walls.

When the Sanctuary was built, it had the largest seating capacity of any interior space in Grand Rapids – 1,500. This distinction continued throughout the 1920’s and 30’s. It was considered as a forum for the community at large, designed with individual, upholstered, theatre-style seating conducive for community gatherings for lectures, graduations and musical performances.

The Chancel area of the Sanctuary has a magnificent limestone Baldaquin over the nostrum, behind which are the pipes of the Catherine the Great organ, one of the largest and most dynamic in the Midwest. Within the sanctuary there is the crowning glory of Fountain Street Church - its stained-glass windows inspired by Chartres Cathedral in France. Religious figures on the East Wall and secular personages on the West Wall were designed by W. Franklin Paris. The circular Rose Window on the front facade is the work of Percy Hayden-Bacon of London.

The Tower Memorial Room, located at the base of the Bell Tower, has served as a memorial to those Kent County veterans who sacrificed their lives in World War I, with their names inscribed on the South Wall. The room’s ceiling is a domed gold-leaf Byzantine mosaic symbolizing “Liberty, Fraternity, Peace and Justice.”

Finally, there is the 1951 Chapel designed by Alden Dow, a warm and simple space serving as a counterpoint to the grand Romanesque architecture found elsewhere in the church.
The Cottage Bar and Restaurant
18 LaGrave SE
454-9088

Stop Horsing Around!
136 Fulton S.E.
235-7669

It's time to eat!
And where else would you go besides the two best places in town?

Warm atmosphere, friendly people and proud home of the famous Cottage Burger and Cottage Fries. A great place for all your old favorites.

jim@winter-troutwine.com
616-822-9491
Grand Rapids, Michigan
THE SWEET HOUSE
254 FULTON E.
HOSTS: THE SWEET HOUSE FOUNDATION

Martin L. Sweet, a direct descendent of Aaron Burr, built this grand Italianate Villa circa 1860. Sweet was a prominent figure in early Grand Rapids history whose entrepreneurial endeavors included cattle farming, grain milling, lumber, railroads, banking and serving as the mayor of the city, working without a salary. He is remembered for building the Sweet Hotel on the spot where the Pantlind was later constructed and where the Amway Grand Hotel now stands. His wife, Desdemona, was a stunning beauty who always dressed and traveled in style, especially for Sunday services. The dining room was named after her.

When Frank Davis, a bank cashier (equivalent to a vice president today) took up residence, the house became a center for music instruction, with voice lessons given by Mrs. Davis in the Victorian Room and piano in the Yellow Room. She organized the Saint Cecelia Music Society, a local group that supports the musical arts even to this day.

After a time as a music school, a boarding house and as a deteriorating, empty building, the Women’s City Club independently arranged the purchase and financing for the building in 1924, when their growing membership needed a larger meeting space. After extensive renovation and the addition of a dining room/kitchen area, the beauty and architectural detail of the home again shone through. Most of the antique furniture and artwork, including work by Mathais Alten, was donated by the members and can still be seen in the home today.

This Italianate Style home has an ornately-detailed facade. The home has an enclosed portico with a fanlight window overhead, and with carved, paired brackets and dentil ornamentation that is repeated in the broad eaves of the roof. The portico is flanked by bay windows that are decorated with delicately arched tracery. These gentle curves are repeated in the ornate hoods above the windows and in the wood trim on the widow’s watch, the view from which is extraordinary.

The Sweet House is now experiencing another transformation as an event and education center. It is preserved and maintained by the Sweet House Foundation who have graciously offered to share this historic treasure with the community on this year’s tour.
Save the date

We still need gardens if you are willing to share your private space. Please call the HHA office, 459-8950 or email us: heritage@heritagehillweb.org.

Thank You!

SATURDAY, JUNE 15
9:00 A.M.- 2 P.M.

The Hills Are Alive!

H E R I T A G E   H I L L

garden
TOUR

Lisa Baars
ASSOCIATE BROKER
REaltor®
(616) 540-9356
5136 Cascade Rd SE
Grand Rapids MI 49546

As a Heritage Hill resident and property owner for 20 years as well as an active member on the Heritage Hill Neighborhood Association board, I am very Good to Know.®

Proudly serving all of West Michigan

Lisa Baars
associate broker
realtor®
(616) 540-9356
801 broadway nw.
grand rapids, mi 49504

As a Heritage Hill resident and property owner for 20 years as well as an active member on the Heritage Hill Neighborhood Association board, I am very Good to Know.®

Proudly serving all of West Michigan
Long-time Grand Rapids residents remember the glass-encased, rabbit-eating foxes and the lumbering bears that either terrified or mesmerized us as children when this building served as the city’s Public Museum. When the new riverfront museum opened in 1994, the exhibits found a new home on Pearl St. and this building became the repository for the museum’s vast collections.

There was once a home on this site, built in 1854. Even then, it was used for several years as the G.R. Lyceum of Natural History. In 1886, it merged with the high school’s Scientific Club and they became the Kent Scientific Institute under the auspices of the Grand Rapids School Board. During the Depression and as a WPA project, the original home was torn down in 1938 and this structure was built in its place. The Art Deco Style was popular during that era. It was the first museum in the country that was at street level - without a grand staircase to enter (ADA accessible).

Last May, this building was on tour as a work in progress. After two years of renovation, the school opened its doors to students in September, 2018. The Museum School is a Grand Rapids school of choice program open to students in grades 6-12. The state-of-the-art building is equipped with current technology, a caring staff and motivated students, all contained in a bright and inviting learning environment. The program won a prestigious $10,000,000 grant from the Gates Foundation, awarded to only 10 schools across the country, in recognition of their innovative program.

Schools are the heart of a neighborhood and we are so grateful to have such an exciting program located in Heritage Hill.
The Sweet House Foundation
254 East Fulton
Presents a
Heritage Hill Tour Reception

“UN-WINE’D”
PARTY Saturday, May 18
5 pm to 8 pm

Donation $10 – to the
Sweet House Foundation

Hors d’oeuvres and refreshments
provided – Cash Bar

CONGRATULATIONS ON 50 YEARS!

FREE SUB w/purchase
of any sub combo meal!
Subs of equal or lesser value
Voted #1 Best Subs in Grand Rapids!
www.boardwalksubs.net

expires: 12/31/2019

Tour happens every year
on the 3rd weekend in May.
Join us next spring

May 16 & 17
2019 Heritage Hill
Weekend Tour of Homes
Built in 1908, this Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home was commissioned by Meyer May, a prominent Grand Rapids clothier and his wife, Sophie. It is one of the most perfectly restored Wright homes in the country.

Wright was a pioneer of the Prairie Style that attempted to connect architecture with its natural surroundings by use of natural materials, deep rich earth colors and design features that accent the horizontal so that the building seems to blend with the landscape in which it is set. The low slope of the roof with extending eaves, the connecting bands of windows, long, narrow bricks and porches that stretch out into the landscape all help to create this horizontal feel in the Meyer May home.

The simplicity and straightforward use of materials that characterized the Arts and Crafts Movement influenced the Prairie Style and is evident in this home, especially in the interior. It has an open feel with the common rooms - the entry stairs and hallway, the living and dining rooms - flowing into each other without any doors between them. This allows the sun coming in from the windows on the south side to fill the home with light. Extended bands of oak woodwork and stained-glass windows in earth-tone colors are found throughout the house and also work to tie the rooms together and to bring the outside in. Iridescent glass tiles catch the light on the brick and stone fireplace made with materials that were used on the exterior, again creating the melding of the interior and the exterior. A subtle, poppy-themed mural brings even the garden into the home. Everything in the home was designed by Wright from the furniture and rugs to the light fixtures - even the china and silverware. The story goes that when Wright came to visit the May family, he started to rearrange the furniture to fit their original placement.

This home suffered from years of neglect and an addition had been built onto the east end of the structure. Steelcase purchased the home and after exhaustive research, began the process of a complete restoration down to the smallest detail. Most of the furnishings are the originals and whatever was missing was replaced with faithfully executed reproductions. The work was completed in 1987 and since that time, Steelcase has been generously opening this national treasure to the public. The Meyer May House was placed on the Michigan State Register of Historic Homes in 1986 and has been a source of pride for the Heritage Hill neighborhood.
2019 GABLE SPONSOR:

Grand Rapids Community College
143 Bestwick Ave NE
616.234.4000
www.grcc.edu

TOUR HOUSE SPONSORS:

Elders’ Helpers
Live on Your Own with a Helper in Your Home
454-8305 | www.eldershelpers.com

SPECTRUM HEALTH
100 Michigan NE | 391-1467
www.spectrum-health.org

PILLAR SPONSOR:

Grand River Builders
256 Garden SE
454-9337
www.grandriverbuilders.com

TOUR SUPPORTERS:

Art of the Table
606 Wealthy SE
301-1885
www.artofthetable.com

Family Fare and D&W Supermarkets
P.O. Box 8700 Grand Rapids, MI 49518
www.spartanstores.com

Lake Michigan Credit Union
P.O. Box 2848 Grand Rapids, MI 49501
www.lmcu.org

Martha’s Vineyard
200 Union NE
459-0911
www.mvwines.com
2019 TOUR FRIENDS:

Big O' Cafe
80 Ottawa NW
616.451-1887 / www.bigocafe.com

Bylsma Painting
506 College Ave. SE
616.308-8849 / rick_bylsma@yahoo.com

Hoffman Jewelers
2135 Wealthy St. SE
616.776-2336 / www.hoffman-jewelers.com

Keller and Almassian
230 E. Fulton St.
616.364-2100 / www.kalawgr.com

Kent County Commissioner Jim Talen
jtalen@aol.com

Ruth Kelly, 2nd Ward Commissioner
616.238-9370 / rkelly@grcity.us

Pathway Movers
929 Fulton St. E
616.333-2556 / www.pathwaymovers.com

Past Perfect
303 Briarwood SE
616.581-4416 / www.pastperfectinc.com

Pondera Advisors / Jackie Taylor
5211 Cascade Rd. SE
616.956-3410 & 616-446-8060 / jtaylor@ponderaadvisors.com

Sanford House
540 Cherry St. SE
616.288-6970 / www.sanfordhousegr.com

The Shade Shop
422 Leonard St. NW
616.459-4693 / www.theshadeshopinc.com

Urban Pharm
1025 Wealthy St. SE
616.855-4540 / www.urbanpharm.com

Warehouse One Antiques
449 Century SW
616.235-9292/ www.warehouseoneantiques.com

Willis Law
30 Jefferson Ave. SE
616.301-7177
www.willis.law / www.willislawyers.com
TOUR SPONSORS:

Peter Albertini Realty Group  
616.291-3758  
petera@grar.com  
www.peteralbertini.com

Lisa Baars / Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
801 Broadway NW  
616.540-9356 / lisa@grar.com

BDO USA, LLP  
200 Ottawa Ave. NW, Suite 300  
616.774-7000 / www.bdo.com

(tallarico’s) Boardwalk Subs  
Kentwood: 949-3218 / Byron Center: 583-9713 / Wyoming: 724-2492  
Standale: 453-7275  
www.boardwalksubs.net

Bryker Properties  
558 Madison SE/178&25 Lafayette SE / 425 College SE/119 Lafayette NE  
616.550-1168  
www.brykergproperties.com

J Buckley & Associates, Inc.  
301 Crescent St. NE  
451-9696 / Buckley@grar.com, jaime@grar.com, 299-8580

Central Reformed Church  
10 College Ave. SE  
616.456-1773  
www.centrareformedchurch.org

Community Automotive Repair  
846 E. Fulton St.  
616.774-7048  
www.communityautomotive.com

Cornerstone Church  
48 Lafayette SE  
698-3170  
www.cornerstonemi.org

Cottage Bar  
18 LaGrave Ave. SE  
454-9088  
wvottagebar.biz

Cromwell Electric  
1521 Lyon St NE  
616.458-8886  
cromwellelectric@att.net

Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc.  
29 Pearl St. NW #1  
616.719-4610  
www.downtowngr.org

Fidelity Investment  
3480 28th St. – The Corner Shops at Woodland  
800.221-1193  
www.fidelity.com

First Park Church  
10 East Park Pl NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616.459-3203  
www.parkchurchgr.org

Grand Rapids Food Coop Initiative  
511 Morris Ave. SE  
616.522-2667  
grfoodcoop.com

Grand Rapids Public Schools  
819-2150  
www.grpublicschools.org

Grand Valley State University  
One Campus Drive, Allendale  
(616) 331-2025  
www.gvsu.edu

Lott3Metz Architecture  
645 Cherry St. SE, #100  
454-5175  
www.lott3metz.com

Martha’s Vineyard  
200 Union NE  
459-0911  
www.marthasvineyardgr.com

Jeff Martin Realtor / Coldwell Banker AJ-Schmidt  
4488 Cascade Rd. SE  
616.915-2107  
jeff.martin@cbgreatlakes.com

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital  
235 Wealthy St. SE  
616.840-8341  
maryfreebed.com

Mei Chow Creations  
watercolors, calligraphy, Chinese brush, ink pen drawings  
458-0471  
meichowcreations@sbcglobal.net

Mercy Health / Saint Mary’s  
200 Jefferson Ave. SE  
685-5000  
www.mercyhealth.com

Midtown Craftsmen, LLC  
1600 Marshall Ave. SE, Suite A West  
245-5970  
www.mtcrestoration.com

Nantucket Baking Company  
208 Union NE  
726-6609  
www.nantucketbakingco.com

Overhead Door Company of Grand Rapids  
5761 N. Hawkeye St.  
261-0300  
www.overheaddoorgr.com

Pregnancy Resource Center  
415 Cherry Street SE  
(616) 456-6873  
www.prcgr.org

The Pyramid Scheme  
68 Commerce St. NW  
(616) 272-3758  
www.pyramidschemebar.com

Storr Printing  
938 Cherry SE  
459-0068  
www.storrprinting.com

Stuyvesant Apartments / The Eagle Point Companies  
140 Madison Ave. SE / 125 John Roberts Rd., Ste. 12 / South Portland, ME 04106  
www.eaglepointco.com

Tidy Home Helpers  
500 Cherry St. SE  
233-4832  
tidyhomehelpers.com

United Bank  
900 East Paris Ave. SE  
616.559-7000  
www.unitedbankofmichigan.com

Winter-Trountrwine Associates, Inc.  
937 Fairmount SE  
(616) 822-9491  
www.winter-trountrwine.com
Cromwell Electric, Inc.  
Residential / Commercial  

Mike Cromwell - Owner  
Master Electrician  

“WIRING THE HILL FOR OVER 30 YEARS”  
1521 Lyon St. NE • Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Ph. (616) 458-8886  
cromwellelectric@att.net

Licensed  
Insured

Stuyvesant Apartments  
is proud to be a sponsor of the 
2019 Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes

EAGLE POINT DEVELOPMENT

Investing isn’t just about money – it’s about your future  
Let us help you create the future you want  
for yourself and your loved ones.  

Josh Pfennig  
3480 28th Street SE - Grand Rapids MI 49512  
Hours: 8:30 am – 5 pm  
(616) 974-0185

Proud sponsor of the 50th Anniversary Heritage Hill Home Tour

MUSIC VENUE
WITH
24 PINBALL MACHINES
68 COMMERCED GRAND RAPIDS MICHIGAN
A university quality education at a community college price.

Grand Rapids Community College
West Michigan's Best Choice.