Neighborhood associations promote community connections, resolutions

It's no secret that Dearborn is known for its strong sense of community. The City has 13 active neighborhood associations, and each is focused on improving residential areas and keeping Dearborn a great place to live.

Many of these associations are involved with beautification projects, family-friendly activities, area garage sales, and meetings that address concerns.

Associations often partner with the Dearborn Police Department to promote safer neighborhoods. Being active in a localized group can allow residents to address issues that may be unique to their part of the city, while giving a united voice in which to solve problems.

Engaged residents tend to raise the maintenance standards of neighborhoods, which makes Dearborn a more enjoyable place to live, work and raise families.

Sarah Neubauer, secretary for the Highland Neighborhood Association, summed it up by saying, "I love my neighborhood and my neighbors. We're a pretty tight-knit group that's always looking out for each other! It truly takes a village and I love my little village."

Monthly Neighborhood Federation meetings open to all

Most of these groups are part of the Dearborn Federation of Neighborhood Associations (DFNA). Representatives from the associations regularly meet to identify common issues and work with City departments to resolve problems or coordinate new projects.

Continued on page 2

Public Service Days now in effect

Keep parked vehicles off the street from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Public Service Days went into effect for 2019 as of March 4 and continue through December 13. That means that parked vehicles should be off the street on residents’ usual trash day.

Parking tickets will be issued to any vehicle left on the street between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on a neighborhood’s regular trash day/Public Service Day.

Tickets also will be issued to vehicles parked across sidewalks, on the easement or on lawns.

Remember, trash and recycling carts should not be placed in the road at any time.

Services delivered

Public Service Days allow the city to perform services curb to curb on neighborhood streets, without being impeded by parked vehicles. They also facilitate more efficient trash, recycling and yard waste collection.

Holiday weeks

Enforcement of the Public Service Day parking rules will be suspended during the weeks of Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Thanksgiving Day. These are holiday weeks when trash collection is delayed a day.

Garage sales, block parties permit information

Neighborhood activities add to the enjoyment of living in Dearborn. Here is information about two common events.

Block Parties

A Dearborn tradition, block parties bring the community together.

The City Clerk’s Office at the Dearborn Administrative Center, 16901 Michigan Avenue, can issue a permit for a block party.

Residents are allowed to close one or two neighborhood blocks for their gathering. Party organizers can pick up barricades from the Department of Public Works to close the roads.

Applications to hold block parties must be received 48 hours before the planned event. A permit costs $25.

A petition, included with the application, must be signed by 50 percent of the residents on the road to be closed, and 48 hours notice to the city is required.

For the application and petition, visit www.cityofdearborn.org/services/clerk/apply-for-a-block-party-permit

Garage Sales

All residents wishing to host a garage or yard sale must obtain a permit from the City Clerk’s Office, which is at the Dearborn Administrative Center, 16901 Michigan Ave.

The permit is valid for a three-day sale. Residents may hold a maximum of two garage sales per year.

The cost is $5 for the first permit and $15 for an additional permit issued within the same calendar year.

An application is available at www.cityofdearborn.org/services/clerk/obtain-a-garage-sale-permit

Block parties are a Dearborn tradition.
Good to Know

Consider rewarding careers with the City of Dearborn

The City of Dearborn strives to be an employer of choice by providing a workplace that focuses on all aspects of employee well-being: professional growth, a focus on health and welfare, the chance for work/life balance, generous benefits, and many employee engagement opportunities.

To see if the City might be a good fit for you, please visit our website and look under “City Jobs” to see if there’s an opportunity that aligns with your goals.

To make it even easier, fill out a job interest card listing categories that fit your interests. You’ll be automatically notified if an opening occurs in one of those areas.

“We’re always looking for talented individuals. We hope you’ll consider joining us for a worthwhile and rewarding career,” said Cynthia Pepper, Human Resources administrator.

Wayne County Health can assist residents

The City occasionally receives calls from residents wanting the Dearborn Health Department, which was dissolved years ago. Residents wanting to obtain their immunization records from the former health department can call 943-2038.

Those seeking health services can try the Wayne County Health Department at 727-7000. For mental health services, call the county at 833-2500.

Financial info, performance dashboard can be found at www.cityofdearborn.org

The City of Dearborn is committed to transparency. Find information required by state law, such as our performance dashboard and budget reports, at www.cityofdearborn.org.

Most documents of public interest are found in the “Transparency” section on the home page, but all can be located via the search function.

Continued from page 1

Neighborhood associations promote community connections, resolutions

Mary Petlichkoff is the chairperson of the DFNA.

“The Federation recognizes and supports the distinct qualities of individual neighborhoods. It is through the volunteer efforts of local community members that we promote, protect and preserve the shared standards of our city,” she said.

DFNA meetings are open to the public and take place at 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of most months at the Dearborn Administrative Center (DAC), 16901 Michigan Ave. (They do not meet in July and August.) Use the west entrance of the DAC. Attendees do not have to be a member of any group in order to attend.

The DFNA hopes to start or reactivate neighborhood associations in every district in the City. For questions regarding associations, contact John Cascardo at 943-2216 or email jcascardo@ci.dearborn.mi.us.

Spend the summer at a job you’ll love: apply now for Recreation positions

Love the outdoors, teaching children or staying active? Summer employment opportunities abound for high school and college students with the Dearborn Recreation & Parks Department.

Through the City’s Human Resources Department, the Recreation & Parks Department is seeking candidates for the following jobs:

Outdoor Lifeguard. With the opening of the new Ford Woods Pool, the City has five outdoor pools to staff. American Red Cross certification is required, but the city provides five weeks of paid training to those who do not have it. Candidates must be at least 16 years old.

Playground Director. Dearborn’s Supervised Summer Playground Program offers five days a week of organized, supervised activities at selected city parks for elementary-age children. This program begins June 17 and runs for eight weeks. Playground directors must be at least 17 years old as of June 1.

Day Camp Counselor. The City’s Day Camp at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center features eight one-week sessions, which run weekdays from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., beginning June 17. Counselors organize and supervise both indoor and outdoor activities, such as arts and crafts, rock wall climbing, swimming and active group games. Day camp counselors must be at least 17 years old as of June 1.

Park Aide. Park aides assist picnic groups and help keep the park clean. Candidates must be available weekdays and weekends.

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Park Aide. Park aides assist picnic groups and help keep the park clean. Candidates must be available weekdays and weekends.

Zipline Guide (Camp Dearborn). Operators of Michigan's longest continuous zipline are needed for the upcoming season, which runs from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Candidates must be at least 18 years old as of April 1, available to work on both weekdays and weekends, and have a high school diploma. Paid training is provided.

Park Attendant (Camp Dearborn). These employees perform general manual labor and help with the operation of Camp facilities and programs. Candidates must be at least 17 years old and available to work weekdays, weekends and holidays.

Groundskeeper (Mystic Creek Golf Course at Camp Dearborn). Groundskeepers perform chores such as landscaping and grass cutting. Candidates must be at least 18 years old and available to work both weekdays and weekends.

For a complete description of these and other seasonal employment opportunities with the Dearborn Recreation & Parks Department, or for an application, visit www.cityofdearborn.org, click on the “Services” tab and then select “Human Resources” from the Services Directory.
New Dearborn ordinances affect residents

City cautious about new state marijuana law; here’s the details

Michigan’s recreational marijuana law, officially known as the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA), went into effect Dec. 6, 2018.

Voters passed Proposal 1, making Michigan the first Midwestern state to legalize recreational marijuana.

To align Dearborn city ordinances with the new law, some criminal regulations had to be changed. Here are the highlights.

Federal law still prohibits marijuana
It is important to remember that marijuana remains illegal under federal law. However, under the new state law, individuals age 21 and over may possess up to 2.5 ounces on their person.

The law allows a total of 12 marijuana plants per residence; and a person may possess, store, or process up to 10 ounces of marijuana in their home, as long as any amount in excess of 2.5 ounces is stored in a locked container or area.

Marijuana is still illegal to possess or use on federal property; on school property, including public universities; and any public area.

Landlords, leaseholders, and business owners can prohibit growing and smoking marijuana on their premises. They cannot, however, stop individuals from possessing marijuana or consuming marijuana products by means other than smoking.

Warning to college students
Students living on college campus should not assume they can possess or consume marijuana. Many universities have drug-free policies that will remain in place despite any changes in state law.

The same thing holds true for workplace policies.

Continued on page 4

City ordinance bans sales of e-cigarettes to minors to protect children

When the Dearborn Police Department received numerous complaints from parents about minor children purchasing e-cigarettes and vape pens from local store owners, the city administration decided to take quick action.

While the City already had an ordinance banning e-cigs from school property, after a number of undercover investigations were conducted, it was determined that further restrictions were needed.

In 2016, the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued regulations categorizing Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) to be regulated in the same way as tobacco. ENDS include e-cigarettes, vaporizers, hookah pens, vape pens, and e-pipes. Under the new regulations, a person must be at least 18 years of age to purchase ENDS.

Cities take action when state fails
In 2017, Michigan attempted to amend the Youth Tobacco Act to prohibit the sale of ENDS to minors. However the bill stalled in committee. Since the State failed to enact appropriate legislation, Dearborn and other communities are taking it upon themselves to align their ordinances in accordance with the FDA regulations.

Dearborn’s new ordinance amendments recommended by the city administration and approved by City Council in February include the following rules:

• Establishes the violation for minors in their households about the new Youth Tobacco Act to prohibit the sale of ENDS to minors

• Establishes the selling or furnishing to minors as a $50 misdemeanor for each violation.

• Establishes the violation for minors in possession as a $50 civil infraction.

Families are encouraged to educate minors in their households about the new restrictions.

State restricts overall days for fireworks use, but OKs additional days around Fourth of July

Following action by the State of Michigan, amendments to the City of Dearborn’s fireworks ordinance were adopted that will restrict the number of holidays and times in which people can discharge fireworks throughout the year.

However, more allowable days were added around Independence Day than had previously been permitted.

Beginning in 2019, fireworks can only be used on the following days and times:
• Between 11 a.m. Dec. 31 and 1 a.m. on Jan. 1.
• Between 11 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately before Memorial Day.
• Between 11 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. on the June 29, June 30, July 1, July 2, July 3 and July 4.
• Between 11 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. on July 5, but only if that day is a Friday or Saturday.
• Between 11 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately before Labor Day.

Anyone found in violation of these days and times faces a mandatory civil fine of $1,000.

The new laws do not affect professional displays authorized by the City, such as those that occur at the Homecoming festival in August and at Greenfield Village to celebrate Independence Day.

Professional shows are exempt from consumer fireworks rules.

The fine for use of fireworks on another person’s property without consent, including public, school or church property, was increased from a maximum of $100 to $500.

The penalty for use of fireworks while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or a combination of both has been reduced to a civil infraction, but the fine has increased from a maximum of $500 to $1,000.
New state marijuana law

It is still illegal to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana, and the law prohibits the driver of a car from consuming marijuana and the passengers from smoking while the car is on a public road.

It is still illegal to be under the age of 21 and possess, consume, purchase, or otherwise obtain, cultivate, transport or sell marijuana.

City Council temporarily opts out of allowing businesses

The State of Michigan has until Dec. 6, 2019 to develop regulations and issue licenses.

The MRTMA allows communities to “opt out” which means to “not allow” any grow facilities, dispensaries, or recreational sales of marijuana to operate within their city limits. Such opting out has no impact on the personal possession or growing allowed by the law.

After lengthy research, debate, and even a public town hall meeting on the matter, in December 2018, the council members voted 6-1 in favor of a temporary ban on marijuana-focused businesses within city limits.

The measure contains an 18-month sunset period set to expire in July 2020. By then, when the matter is revisited, the State of Michigan should have licensing and regulatory standards in place for such businesses.

Construction projects improve city’s roads, water mains and sewers

If it’s warm, it is “construction” season in Michigan! The following are construction projects planned by the City’s Engineering Division for 2019.

CSO projects

Large-scale CSO sewer separation and new water main projects, which also involve major roadwork, are scheduled for the neighborhoods bordered by the following streets:

- Michigan Avenue, Ford, Chovin and Kendal
- Michigan Avenue, Colson, Greenfield and Chase
- Cherry Hill, Telegraph and South Lafayette
- Orchard from Tireman to Warren

To view maps of the numerous streets affected by the CSO project, visit the City of Dearborn construction update at www.dearbornconstruction.wordpress.com.

Street Reconstruction

Major street reconstruction projects for 2019 are slated for:

- Military, from Outer Drive to Cherry Hill
- Monroe, from Michigan Avenue to Morley
- Mason, from Michigan Avenue to Garrison
- Howard, from Michigan Avenue to Garrison
- Wilson, from Martha to Telegraph

Water Mains

Large water main replacement projects, which also involve major road work, are planned for the following streets:

- Neckel, from Tireman to Warren
- Penn, from Monroe to Harding
- Pardee, from Madison to Outer Dr.
- Princeton, from Telegraph to Geneva
- Princeton, from Grindle Park to Hubbard
- Littlefield, from Tireman to Wyoming
- Morrow Circle South, from Manor to Littlefield
- Anthony, from Warren to the end
- Williamson, from Henn to the end
- Prospect, from Greenfield to west of Schlaff
- Opal, from Prospect to the end
- Kendal, from Warren to the end
- Freda, from Blesser to Warren
- Normile, from Blesser to Warren
- Blesser, from Kingsley to Wyoming
- Tireman, from Greenfield to Schaefer

Other Improvements

Alley repairs, street repairs and other projects will be announced as needed.

Visit website for updates

Stay abreast of new projects, road closures and traffic precautions by signing up for construction blog updates at www.dearbornconstruction.wordpress.com.

Take steps now to make property unattractive to rodents in warmer weather

Warmer weather often comes with increased rodent infestations as critters spread out looking for new shelter, food sources, and nesting sites.

Neighborhoods near major construction sites, such as road or sewer replacement, are more likely to experience rodent issues due to the disturbance of current burrows.

It is imperative that you follow the guidelines below in order to keep your property, family, and neighbors safe from the spread of rodent-borne disease.

Keep your yard clean for effective rodent control

- Trash must be properly stored in trash carts with lids closed. Never keep trash on the ground, even for a brief period of time.
- Finding food is a rat’s primary goal. Pet food, bird seed, garden vegetables, tree fruit, bread crumbs, and any other food left on the ground will attract rats.
- Rats love to eat animal waste. Remove and dispose of pet feces daily.
- Firewood must be stacked on concrete or at least nine inches above the ground.
- Yard waste, brush, boxes, and other junk left on the ground makes an attractive home for rats. Store material in a proper container.

Prevent rodents from entering your home or garage

- Seal cracks or breaks in foundations and repair holes around pipes, screen doors, windows, vents and other openings.
- Use weather stripping and keep cloth, boxes, and other items conducive to harborage off the floor.

Please DO NOT use commercially available rodenticides. Such poisons often cause rodents to build up a tolerance and they are extremely dangerous when misused. Proper rodenticides should be handled by licensed professionals only.

The City offers courtesy property checks for rodent infestations, harborage, and complaints. Residents may contact Vector Control at 943-2099.

Please know that complaints are handled in the order they are received, and there are some restrictions on the role that the city can play. There are legal limitations to inspectors’ ability to enter or treat properties. For instance, residents may be required to contract with a pest control company and property owners are entitled to due process regarding enforcement measures.
Dearborn’s City Beautiful Commission, created in 1951, is the oldest organization of its kind in Michigan.

The commission assists in beautifying and improving neighborhoods and business districts throughout the City. Volunteers appointed by the mayor serve the commission and its initiatives.

Through programs and activities that include an annual Christmas decoration contest, Residential Standard of Excellence awards, and neighborhood Clean-up Parades, the commission strives to educate and motivate residents and others to keep Dearborn clean and beautiful.

**Residential Excellence Awards**

The commission recognizes businesses and residents whose properties best exemplify maintenance, beautification, and improvement standards.

**Nominate yourself or a neighbor**

To nominate yourself or a neighbor for a Residential Standard of Excellence award, please contact the City Beautiful Commission during the month of June at 943-2415 or citybeautiful@ci.dearborn.mi.us.

Award recipients will be honored in the fall.

**Clean-up Parades**

Since 1955, many Dearborn students have marched through neighborhoods in May to remind residents that it is time to clean up their properties and other areas in the City.

As an alternative to the parades, the City Beautiful Commission now works with schools to offer educational programs and environmental awareness opportunities for students.

Hopes are high for an early summer opening of the new Ford Woods Pool

Swimmers are holding their breath, waiting for the opening of the new pool at Ford Woods Park.

Work is progressing steadily on the $4.6 million project, which is replacing the original swimming pool with a larger, modern facility with more amenities. And it is about time—the original opened in 1954.

With the arrival of spring, construction will move into the final stages.

City officials are aiming for an early summer opening.

The 25,000-square-foot complex will include a zero-depth entry pool, divided into different areas; a dual slide facility, and a deck area with lounge chairs, umbrella tables and chairs.

It will also feature separate shower rooms and rest rooms for men and women; four family locker rooms; vending machines and an outdoor concessions area.

Follow property maintenance guidelines

The Neighborhood Services & Sanitation Division would like to remind residents of the simple things they can do to help keep Dearborn beautiful:

- Your trash and recycling carts, and any yard waste cans, should be put away after every collection day.
- Your trash needs to be bagged and belongs inside the City-issued trash carts.
- Any junk, litter, debris, interior furniture, or unwanted refuse should be clear from all areas of property, including the easement and curb in front of your home.
- Grass needs to be cut on all areas of your property, including easements, alleys, fence lines, and building perimeters.
- Commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, and inoperable/junk vehicles, as well as vehicles for sale, cannot be stored on your property.

Resources and information available

Residents can call 943-2161 to ask questions or report an ordinance violation in their neighborhood or at a business.

Education is the first approach, but if a property is not properly cared for, the City will take corrective action and bill the property owner. Violations can be issued for people who repeatedly fail to uphold the standards.

For the complete list of the City’s property maintenance rules, download the City of Dearborn’s Property Maintenance Guidelines and Sanitation Services Guide at www.cityofdearborn.org.

Appeals part of the process

Property owners who wish to dispute an invoice for services performed by the City as a result of non-compliance with property maintenance and sanitation requirements may do so by filing a Property Maintenance Appeals Application at the Dearborn Administrative Center or may download a copy of the application online at www.cityofdearborn.org.
Support animals at Mutt Strut on May 11

(This article was provided by The Friends of Animals of Metro Detroit.)

The Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit (FAMD) return to Ford Field Park in Dearborn on Saturday, May 11 for the 14th annual Mutt Strut Walk & 5K Run presented by Dearborn Family Pet Care.

More than 800 participants are expected to run or walk and then enjoy the day with their dogs participating in the field activities.

The run kicks off for racers at 8 a.m. and registration begins at 7 a.m. The walk starts at 9:30 a.m.

Participants can register individually or as a team and raise funds. All runners receive timing devices and complimentary items, including a Mutt Strut official T-shirt. Walkers receive an official 2019 doggie bandana when they sign up.

The pledge-driven walk raises much-needed funding for the Friends organization to operate the adoption center and animal services center in Dearborn and provides shelter, food, and medical assistance for homeless and neglected animals.

More information can be found at www.metrodetroitanimals.org.
To sign up to walk or run, visit www.FAMDMuttStrut.org.

Downtown Dearborn hosting another full slate of activities

(Article provided by Downtown Dearborn.)

With so many great successes under our belt in 2018, Downtown Dearborn is primed and ready for much more this year. Here are some of the exciting prospects on tap:

• New businesses are set to open in Wagner Place, like Jolly Pumpkin and She Made Collective.

• Artspace Connector welcomes new artists.

• New business incentive programs will encourage facade improvements and locating in Downtown Dearborn.

• Wagner Place Streetscape Project will be complete and activation of the festival street design will begin.

• With outdoor cafes to streetscape improvements, Downtown Dearborn is becoming more walkable!

In addition to new developments, Downtown Dearborn will be hopping with more than 60 events, including longtime favorites like Jazz on the Ave, Friday Nites and the Dearborn Farmers & Artisan Market, as well as some exciting new events at Wagner Place Park and City Hall Park. For information, visit www.downtowndearborn.org, subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Downtown Dearborn Spring Events
Arts Month in April: Get ready to join the Gallery Rally on April 6, and plan to be amazed by all of the artistry Dearborn holds.

Bike Share Season Re-opening in May:
With three new docking locations, Dearborn Bike Share riders can experience Downtown Dearborn on two wheels any time. Visit bike.zagster.com/Dearborn.

Ladies Night, Wednesday, May 1, 5–9 p.m.: Pamper yourself at boutiques and restaurants offering deals and festivities from east to west in Downtown Dearborn.

Free Comic Book Day, Saturday, May 4: Free comics, activities and fun all day both inside and out at Green Brain Comics.

Spring Perennial Exchange, Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.: Bring your divided plants to trade with other gardeners at City Hall Park.

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony honor Gold Star Families on May 27

The City of Dearborn and the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council (DAWVC) collaborate to present Dearborn’s 95th annual Memorial Day Parade.

The parade will again run west on Michigan Avenue from Maple Street to the Henry Ford Centennial Library starting at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27. At the conclusion of the parade, there will be a remembrance ceremony at the Veterans Park and War Memorial in front of the Henry Ford Centennial Library.

The funeral procession to honor veterans who died without resources after returning home following their service will begin at 9:40 a.m.

Gold Star Families is the theme

The theme of the 2019 parade is Gold Star Families, honoring immediate loved ones of service members who died in conflict. The grand marshal and keynote speaker is Dan Robinson, a Gold Star Father and Michigan native. Dan’s son, Heath, served as a Navy SEAL. Heath died in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan in Aug. 2011. The crash was the single largest loss of life to Naval Special Forces.

April 19 deadline for parade applications

The City encourages community groups, veterans, active duty or reserve personnel to apply to participate in the parade by Friday, April 19. Applications are available at www.cityofdearborn.org. ■
Police Department offers vacation checks to protect your home

As residents plan spring and summer vacations, here are some tips to stay safe and protect your home and valuable items.

- Before leaving for your vacation, register your home with the Dearborn Police Reserve Vacation House Check program at 943-2241.
- Always keep your home’s doors and windows locked.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Keep your porch light on.
- Keep your parked vehicle’s doors locked and the windows closed.

Residents can also contact the Dearborn Police Department’s Crime Prevention Unit at 943-3092 with questions.

Register residents with special needs with police, fire

In an effort to improve service to Dearborn residents with family members with mental health issues or intellectual or physical impairments, the Police and Fire departments have initiated a program so that these special needs can be registered in advance, in case an emergency occurs.

This voluntary program allows residents or family members to alert public safety responders that individuals with special needs live in their home.

Among the conditions that may mean special care is needed from public safety responders are autism, Alzheimer’s disease, Down syndrome, and physical disabilities.

The Special Needs 911 Registry form can be found on the City of Dearborn’s website at www.cityofdearborn.org/services/public-safety/dearborn-special-needs-registry.

You can type “disabilities” into the search box on the website as well.

Registration forms can also be obtained and submitted at the front desk of the Police Department, 16099 Michigan Ave.

Groups can enjoy picnics at City parks by seeking permits

Dearborn has wonderful parks perfect for family and large celebrations. Groups of 20 or more must obtain a permit to reserve designated park picnic areas.

Use of park picnic shelters also require reservations. Prices vary.

For permit and reservation information, call the Recreation and Parks Department at 943-2350.

Fishway improves environment along the Rouge River

The Wayne County Department of Public Services and its partners have completed work on a “fishway” passage that will allow fish to circumnavigate the century-old dam on the Rouge River adjacent to Fair Lane – the Home of Clara and Henry Ford. The fish will be able to reach waters they haven’t visited for 100 years because of the dam.

Restoration of the landscape along the river and by the popular Gateway Trail will continue this spring.

The passage will allow fish from the Rouge River to enter the Detroit River and let Great Lakes fish such as smallmouth bass, walleye, and northern pike access 150 miles of waterways in the Rouge River watershed.

The work, which began in summer 2018, has been observed by users of the Gateway Trail, which runs from Michigan Avenue near Brady through county land and the campuses of the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Henry Ford College.

Trail Improvements

Despite some inconvenience during construction, the good news is that a third bridge over the Rouge River has been added along the trail, making for easier access to more of the bank area.

Fish can use a new channel in the Rouge.

The Estate was built with a dam to produce hydroelectric power for the property, but it prevented fish from traveling back and forth past the dam.

Phone numbers for the City of Dearborn

- Birth and death records ..........943-2685
- Building permit inspections ......943-2120
- Housing ..................................943-2390
- Neighborhood Services ..........943-2161
- Potholes (on city streets) ........943-2107
- Rodent Control ..............943-2099
- Recreation ..........................943-2350
- Senior Services ...................943-2412
- Taxes ...................................943-2045
- Water billing ............................943-2307
- 19th District Court ...............943-2060
- Trash, Recycling,Yard Waste
  City ...................................943-2433
  GFL ..................................844-233-8314
- Police numbers for non-emergencies
  Police suspicious activity hotline
  (anonymous) ......................943-3030
- Police non-emergency ..........943-2241

After–hours and weekends

Water main breaks ..........943-2100
Tree cutting (unlawful) ......943-2241

Visit www.cityofdearborn.org for more.

Connect through City’s social media

Stay informed by following the official City of Dearborn social media accounts.

Beware of imposter accounts

- But don’t be fooled. There are social media accounts presenting themselves as if they are official City of Dearborn accounts. To ensure you are seeing information directly from the City, visit our website at www.cityofdearborn.org and click on the social media icons at the top.

Official City accounts

- Facebook – The official City of Dearborn Government Facebook page is www.facebook.com/CityofDearborn.
- Twitter – Follow @cityofdearborn for frequent updates.
- Instagram – Connect with the City through our photo feed @dearborncitygov on Instagram. We share behind-the-scenes photos you may not find anywhere else.
- Nextdoor – The City of Dearborn and the Police Department provide neighborhood-specific information on construction projects, public meetings and public safety reminders. Sign up at Nextdoor.com.
- YouTube – For video content, search “CityofDearborn.”
Henry Ford Centennial Library to Close for Renovations Summer 2019

The Henry Ford Centennial Library (HFCL) will be closed to the public from approximately May 20, 2019 through Fall 2019 for a major renovation project. As with major renovation projects, all dates are subject to change.

The renovations that are being planned are extensive and HFCL cannot remain open during this time.

The project includes the installation of a new energy efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system (HVAC), the replacement of existing lights with energy efficient lighting, the renovation of the second floor restrooms, and the renovation of the east side of the mezzanine to include a new conference room, several group study rooms, a makerspace, a computer lab and a digitization lab along with a few more single-person study booths.

We also plan to reorganize the second floor layout of the book stacks as well as add additional electrical outlets, replace the wallpaper and create a first floor snack lounge with vending machines.

Funds to support the HVAC renovation and replacement of existing lighting were made available through a bond sale. Library Capital Improvement project money will support all additional improvements.

HFCL will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of its opening at the end of 2019. When we reopen in the fall, we are sure you will see a revitalized main library that will continue to be a source of information and learning as well as a community gathering place that will serve the community for the next half-century.

In order to serve our residents during the closure, we will extend the open hours at both the Bryant Branch Library and the Esper Branch Library. Beginning June 1, 2019: Monday–Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

MelCat

MeLCat services will continue to be offered during the HFCL renovation project. Bryant Branch Library will become the new temporary pickup and drop off location for MeLCat material for the duration of the renovation project. New MeLCat requests will be briefly suspended from April 22 through June 3, 2019, while MeLCat services are transferred to the new location at Bryant Branch Library. As a reminder, when returning MeLCat material to Bryant Branch Library, please return them to the Circulation Desk in the library rather than depositing them in the drop box.

Volunteering

New applications for teen and adult volunteer positions will be temporarily suspended during the renovation project. The Dearborn Public Library truly values the contributions made by our volunteers and volunteer applications will be gratefully accepted once HFCL reopens.

Donations

The Library will not be able to accept book donations beginning April 15, 2019. Please consider donating to the AAUW book barrels located inside the Dearborn Ice Skating Center (DISC) 14900 Ford Road 48126 or contact the AAUW at booksale.aauw.dearborn@gmail.com.

Other organizations that accept book donations include: the Salvation Army, Goodwill as well as other public libraries in surrounding communities.

Once the renovation has been completed, the Library will gladly welcome donations again.

Friends Of The Library – Dearborn

Used Book Sale

April 3, 2019 • 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
May 1, 2019 • 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

No book sales in June, July or August due to HFCL renovation.

Playaway Launchpads

Would you like to learn a new skill or just keep your mind sharp by playing on a tablet? Well, look no further! The Henry Ford Centennial Library has Playaway Launchpads that you can borrow with your library card for up to two weeks.

These pre-loaded tablets provide hours of interactive play and learning with content for adults and teens. Some content includes: Learn SAT Math & SAT Vocabulary, Learn Arabic & English, Health Smarts, Brain Power: Brain Games, just to name a few. No internet is needed and you can use it anytime, anywhere. Stop by the library to feed your brain by checking out a Playaway Launchpad!

Funds to support the HVAC renovation and replacement of existing lighting were made available through a bond sale. Library Capital Improvement project money will support all additional improvements.

HFCL will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of its opening at the end of 2019. When we reopen in the fall, we are sure you will see a revitalized main library that will continue to be a source of information and learning as well as a community gathering place that will serve the community for the next half-century.

More public computers coming to Bryant Branch Library

While HFCL is closed for the renovation, we will be offering additional public computer access on the first floor in the Chamber of Commerce conference room located in the Bryant Branch Library.

We will provide fully-staffed, full-service computing and printing access. So if you’re looking for a place to go for internet access while HFCL is closed, come visit us at Bryant Branch Library!
History of the Dearborn Public Library

Part Two – A Growing Community

With the consolidation of the cities of Dearborn and Fordson in 1929, a public library was needed on the east side of the new city. In January 1930, a small room in City Hall at Michigan and Schaefer opened with a collection of books transferred from the Main Library.

In 1934, City Hall branch moved into the basement of City Hall and then, in 1962, the branch was moved to 4500 Maple (old City Hall-West Annex) in order to house the quickly expanding Audio-Visual Department.

In 1941, using a Works Progress Administration (WPA) grant, the Southeast Branch at 2121 Salina Street was opened.

The original location of the Esper Branch Library, known at that time as the Northeast Branch, was a store building at 13114 Warren which opened in 1944. It was not until 1953 that the library moved to 12929 Warren, its present location, and was then known as the Warren Branch. In 1961, the branch was renamed the Anthony M. Esper Branch after a member of a pioneer Dearborn family and City councilman.

In 1960, a much-needed branch opened on the west side of Dearborn at 23920 Princeton and was then known as the Princeton Branch. In 1962 the branch was renamed the Clara L. Snow Branch in honor of the first chair of the Library Board.

The History of the Dearborn Public Library – Part One is available by visiting dearbornlibrary.org/wordpress/newsletter/ and clicking on the Back Fence link.
Spotlight on Staff

Kathryn Takach,
Librarian I, Bryant Branch

My life in a nutshell: Passionate about children’s literature, musicals, traveling, and ice skating.

Currently Reading: The Gentleman’s Guide to Vice & Virtue by Mackenzi Lee

What you wish more people knew about the library? There’s something for everybody at the library. While we have physical materials, we also have digital downloads, online courses, numerous events for patrons of all ages, and knowledgeable staff ready to help you.

Favorite fictional character: Leslie Knope from Parks & Rec is my favorite fictional character. The world around her often can’t see or understand her vision, but she remains resilient and hopeful. She’s idealistic, compassionate, and incredibly thoughtful. Plus her friendship with Ann is what I would call #friendshipgoals.

Convenient New Library Technology

Author Alerts

Sometimes it is hard keeping up with new material from your favorite authors. Well, not anymore, with Dearborn Library’s new Author Alerts service. Simply visit dearbornlibrary.org and look for “Author Alerts” under “Books, Movies & More.”

First time users click on the “Start Here” button and provide either a phone number to receive texts, or an email address to receive emails. Either type of notification can be cancelled at any time and will not enroll you in any other library programs.

Once you are signed up, you will be able to request an email or text alert for as many authors, performers or studios that you like. Simply provide a first and/or last name of the author and click add. The system will also show you recent alerts that you and others have submitted (if you opt to), as well as suggestions for popular authors to be alerted about. Once a title has been added to the library collection that is on your alert list the system sends you a link back to the catalog, so you can place a request for the new item.

Features of the new service:

• Unlimited number of alerts
• Email or text notification
• Alerts include links to new material
• Social networking features allow patrons to discover new authors

Try out the new Author Alerts service today at dearbornlibrary.org.

New Dearborn Library App

Have you ever wished you had better control over checking out or managing library material with your phone? Well now you can, with the new Dearborn library app. Fully integrated into the library system the new app will let users perform a variety of important functions with a whole new level of convenience.

Simply download the app, sign in with your library card, and you will be able to search the library’s entire collection, request material, download electronic material, and manage your account.

One of our favorite functions is the ability to use your device as a digital library card. Simply add your account information, and any other library accounts you wish to manage and it will generate an easy-to-find barcode right at your fingertips.

Features of the new app:

• Browse the catalog
• Manage Holds/Renewals
• Track Multiple Accounts
• Get Directions/Hours
• Connect with Social Media
• View upcoming events

The FREE app is available for both Apple and Android devices through their respective app stores.
Summer Reading Program

Dearborn residents – from infants to grown-ups – are invited to participate in the Dearborn Public Library’s 2019 Summer Reading Program, which kicks off on Monday, June 17, 2019.

Four programs focusing on the theme “A Universe of Stories” will be offered this year—-read to Me (birth to kindergarten), Readers (first-sixth grade), and Teens (seventh to 12th grade) will use bookmarks to track progress. A separate online all-ages program (birth-adults 18+) will also log hours read.

Adults may also use a bookmark to track their reading, bring that bookmark into a Dearborn Public Library and be entered into the all-ages program. Online participants who meet the program goals each week will be entered in a prize drawing. The online program is great for busy families.

All participants, online and on paper, will be entered into Grand Prize Drawings for their program level.

Bryant and Esper Branches will host a weekly drop-in craft. Other events will be listed in the calendar available on the Dearborn Public Library website.

Participation in the Summer Reading Program, including reading for at least 30 minutes each day, helps to combat summer learning loss. This keeps students’ skills at grade level when they return to the classroom in the fall. Besides providing access to print books for children to read, the Dearborn Public Library has several services, Overdrive, hoopla and RBdigital, that provide 24/7 access to eBooks and eMagazines.

An active Dearborn Public Library card is the key for residents to use these online services. Come to any Dearborn Public Library to check the status of a library card or to get a new library card. Anyone living, working, going to school or who owns property in Dearborn can get a FREE full-service Dearborn Public Library card.

The 2019 summer reading program ends Saturday, July 27th. Visit dearbornlibrary.org, or stop by Bryant Branch Library or Esper Branch Library for more information.

Reading Leads to Rewards at Dearborn Public Library

Dearborn Public Library officially launched the “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” program last September and children ages birth to preschool have been reading up a storm.

The concept is simple: children with their caregivers read 1,000 books before the first day of kindergarten. Each child receives a special sticker for every 100 books read, plus a tote bag after 500 books, and a special 1,000 books completion t-shirt to wear when they start kindergarten. The rewards run deeper than prizes, though.

Time spent reading between adults and children create special bonds, which lead to a greater love and appreciation of reading. School-age children are also encouraged to read to the youngest readers. Reading with a variety of loved ones of all ages helps children understand the importance of reading for pleasure.

Setting a goal like 1,000 books before kindergarten makes reading a priority and helps develop a habit of regular reading. Reading just one book a day from birth will put your child well over the goal of 1,000 books before their first day of kindergarten. Reading aloud to children is the best way to build quality vocabulary and boost comprehension. Picture books contain a richer variety of sophisticated and complex language than everyday spoken language. The youth services librarians at the Dearborn Public Library have plenty of picture book suggestions to help all readers reach their goals.

To participate with your child, pick up a 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten booklet at any Dearborn Public Library or download the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten app for Android or Apple devices. After reading the first 100 books, present your booklet or app and register for the program with a Dearborn library card at your preferred branch.

After registering, keep reading and visiting the library after every 100 books read until you hit reach the ultimate goal. Books read at Library story time count towards the goal, as well as audiobooks and e-books. Repeating books is highly encouraged, as well.

For more information, visit any Dearborn Public Library or call the Youth Services Department at (313) 943-2345.
New requirements for disposing of bulk materials at DPW Yard on third Saturday of every month

The Department of Public Works (DPW) Yard is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. the third Saturday of the month for free drop off of bulk waste that is not picked up at the curb in front of single-family homes.

Bulk waste must be generated by single-family households. Proof of residency is required. Residents will be responsible for unloading their own vehicles.

Acceptable items
- Items accepted at the DPW yard from single-family residential properties include furniture and other non-hazardous household materials from large move outs; dirt, sod, sand, concrete and bricks; firewood, logs and stumps; bathtubs, laundry tubs, sinks and toilets.

New rules prohibit commercial operations from using this service
- The City cannot accept bulk debris from businesses, apartments or commercial operations at the DPW Yard.
- Commercial trucks, rental trucks, or utility and landscape trailers are prohibited from dropping off materials at the DPW yard. Also prohibited are materials transported on pickup trucks temporarily modified with wood planks to carry more bulk waste.

Free Shredding Day on Saturday, May 4

The City of Dearborn is sponsoring a free document shredding day for residents 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 4 at the City of Dearborn DPW Yard, 2951 Greenfield Road, south of Rotunda Drive.

This event is open to Dearborn residents only and proof of residency is required.

There is a limit per person of five office sized boxes of personal paper documents and a maximum weight of 50 pounds.

The DPW Yard will not be open for any other services on May 4. The next free document shredding day will be Sept. 14.

For more information call 943-2433.