

SOUTHFIELD

The Official City of Southfield Newsletter & Activities Guide

Living

Carpenter Lake
Nature Preserve

Yard Waste Collection
ends November 28

LIBRARY/PARKS & RECREATION
FALL/WINTER ACTIVITIES GUIDE





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CITY TREASURER

Irv M. Lowenberg

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Southfield Living is published biannually for all Southfield residents and businesses by the City's Community Relations and Parks & Recreation Departments. Please send your comments or suggestions for the City newsletter portion to: The Editor, *Southfield Living*, Community Relations Department, City of Southfield, 26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055, Southfield, MI 48037-2055, or via e-mail at: mmanion@cityofsouthfield.com.

The City of Southfield's intent is to operate its programs and services, so when viewed in their entirety, they are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with a disability. To ensure equally-effective communication, upon request, the City will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as sign language interpreters, Braille-translated material, large-print documents, etc. Advance notice is required. To make arrangements, contact the City Clerk's Office at 248/796-5150 (voice) or 248/354-4831 (TDD).



Printed on recycled paper



TAKE A WALK IN THE WOODS



Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve Grand Opening October 2

Preserve offers scenic sanctuary right in Southfield

The City of Southfield is known for its abundant natural beauty, well maintained homes and neighborhoods, and as an ideal place to live and work. Southfield offers a complete living community, with nearly 800 acres of park land, two public golf courses, miles of nature and fitness trails, and numerous other recreational activities for the entire family. Residents can enjoy Southfield's beautiful parks throughout the entire year, whether heading out for a picnic in the summer or taking a leisurely walk along one of the many nature trails to enjoy the fall colors. Southfield also offers numerous playlots and playscapes in addition to many other amenities including a fitness center, several ballfields, tennis and basketball courts, an Olympic swimming pool and sports arena, and sand volleyball courts.

The City continues in its 50 year tradition of providing residents with unparalleled city services, programs and facilities with the newest addition to Southfield's many recreational opportunities – the Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve. As a proud Tree City USA Award recipient for the past 23 consecutive years, Southfield has long been committed to protecting our environment, woodlands and wetlands with over 380 acres of natural areas set aside for preservation. After more than five years of planning, development and site improvement, the official grand opening of the Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve will take place on Thursday, October 2. With the opening, Southfield residents will have yet another beautiful natural area all their own to enjoy year-round.

Preserve at a Glance

- Located on 10 Mile Road just east of Inkster Road along the Ravines Branch of the Rouge River.
- In development since 2003, the preserve features 42-acres of mature Oak-Hickory woodlands, forested wetlands and native meadows overlooking the beautiful five-acre Carpenter Lake.
- The preserve offers residents nearly one mile of nature trails, interpretive signs and trailheads, numerous benches and easily-accessible fishing and viewing platforms.
- Future plans for Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve include the addition of a new nature interpretive center that will provide environmental education programs and displays.
- Grand opening on Thursday, October 2 at 12 noon. Call the Southfield Parks and Recreation Department at (248) 796-4620 for more information.

Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve

The Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve is located on 10 Mile Road just east of Inkster Road along the Ravines Branch of the Rouge River. The City of Southfield originally acquired the rear 30-acres of the preserve in 2003 through the Federal Land for Parks program administered by the National Park Service. Through the program, the City traded the five-acre Optimist Park on Eleven Mile Road, part of a former U.S. government missile base, in exchange for the Carpenter Lake property. Land use restrictions to protect the property as park land in perpetuity were transferred from Optimist Park to Carpenter Lake. The front 12-acres of the preserve off Ten Mile Road were acquired in 2004 to complete the land acquisition for the \$3.5 million Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve.

“The preserve will really offer something for everyone,” said the City’s Parks & Recreation Director Bill Waterhouse. “The preserve has been carefully planned and developed to allow visitors a truly interactive experience with nature that will build an increased awareness and appreciation for our environment. The preserve will be a great place to enjoy a beautiful day whether you’re walking, fishing, viewing wildlife or just relaxing.”

The preserve features 42-acres of mature Oak-Hickory woodlands, forested wetlands and native meadows overlooking the beautiful five-acre Carpenter Lake. The preserve offers residents nearly one mile of nature trails, interpretive signs and trailheads, numerous benches and easily-accessible fishing and viewing platforms. Future plans for Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve include the addition of a new nature interpretive center that will provide environmental education programs and displays. The preserve was funded with the support of a \$1,030,000 Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and by a \$500,000 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). An additional \$500,000 DNR grant was also awarded that will fund the upcoming construction of the nature center.

“I think people will be surprised at how beautiful the park is, how peaceful,” commented the City’s Landscape Architect and Park Planner Merrie Carlock. “All the trees create a dappled shade that is cooling even on very hot days.”

The City’s Parks & Recreation and Public Works



departments worked together in partnership with environmental consultants and contractors to develop the preserve. The City has made significant recreational site improvements, including reconstructing the existing dam and dredging the lake to restore it to its original size. Carpenter Lake was originally created in the 1940’s by damming the Ravines Branch of the Rouge River; however, the old dam was washed out and failing. The first phase of the project, which was completed in 2006, included completely removing and replacing the original dam. The new dam was designed and constructed to modern storm water standards to detain storm water runoff in the lake. This phase also included the removal of more than 30,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediments from the lower portion of the lake. The restoration of the lake and the creation of an underwater fish habitat and shoreline wetlands for wildlife were completed in 2007. The five-acre lake was reshaped to more closely resemble the profile of a natural lake, including the creation of new lake edge shelves planted with native wetland plant species.

The restored lake has an average depth of eight feet and is 10 to 12 feet at its deepest points. Underwater fish habitat structures, deep water holes and sand spawning beds were constructed to improve the conditions for fish. More than 14,000 native game fish species were released into the lake in the fall of 2007, including various species of largemouth bass, channel catfish, bluegill, sunfish and minnows. Nuisance and exotic fish species were removed due to their tendency to overpopulate and negatively impact the game fish population. A fish stocking plan was developed to limit the re-establishment of nuisance and exotic fish and to

provide a unique recreational fishery in an urban setting. Planted fish sizes range from three to nine inches and must survive one to two full growing seasons to develop a population large enough to support recreational angling. The newly established fishery is projected to reach its population objectives in two to three years at which point residents will be able to enjoy fishing at the lake.

The preserve is home to an abundance of wildlife, including a large variety of birds such as great blue herons, owls, red tail hawks, ducks, geese, and cormorants as well as red fox, mink and deer. Once fully developed, the project will restore the lake to a sustainable fish and wildlife habitat with improved water quality and storm water management.

The park development phase of the project was initiated in 2007. This phase included the installation of nature trails, boardwalks, permanent interpretive signs, and viewing and fishing platforms. The meandering trails were carefully planned to showcase a variety of habitats and the most scenic views throughout the preserve. The compacted crushed limestone nature trails maintain moderate gradients for easier walking. A new entrance drive and parking lot were also constructed to provide convenient access for the general public at the north end of the park off 10 Mile Road. The use of porous paving and other storm water management features such as bioswales were incorporated to provide control of runoff. This area was planted with native grasses and meadow plants and will have very few mowed lawn areas. The parking lot will serve as a storm water detention basin underneath the parking lot surface, which was constructed of porous paving blocks. Water will run through the pavement into the rock filled detention basin below with any excess water flowing over the surface to the bioswale, a central depressed planted area that utilizes the excess rainwater. This method greatly reduces flooding and pollution of the Rouge River. The parking lot was also designed to accommodate school and group use.

A new nature interpretive center will be constructed beginning in 2010, adding another important educational component to the preserve. The Carpenter Lake Nature Interpretive Center will utilize “green,” sustainable architectural design and feature hands-on displays to educate the public about local flora and fauna. The nature center will also provide other educational nature-based programs for the community, schools and other groups. The center will educate the public about environmentally-friendly lifestyle choices, from landscaping with native plants, to preventing

fertilizer run-off, to how their home is constructed. The building itself will also be designed to demonstrate “green” or sustainable architecture in ways that people can apply to their own living environments.

“The development of the preserve has provided both immediate and long-term results for wildlife habitat, aesthetics and lake ecology,” commented Parks & Recreation Director Bill Waterhouse. “Habitat improvements will continue to allow a place for plants and wildlife to thrive. The project has improved the Rouge River Watershed by increasing recreational opportunities, addressing storm water management issues and improving fishery and wildlife habitats.”

The Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve will not only enhance and encourage resident’s understanding and awareness of local woodlands, wetlands and wildlife, but also of the overall environment as well. The preserve will provide a peaceful natural sanctuary for residents that will offer the education, resources and assistance necessary to improve ecological systems in Southfield and southeast Michigan. Visitors will be rewarded with an interactive experience with beautiful wooded trails, interpretive signage and fishing and viewing piers to enjoy the lake. Get the whole family out in the fresh air and exercising together with a trip to Southfield’s newest recreational opportunity. The preserve is open year-round from dawn to dusk and there are no entrance fees.



**YARD WASTE
COLLECTION
ENDS
NOVEMBER 28**

As autumn approaches and the leaves begin to fall, residents are reminded that leaves and other yard waste are collected on their regular weekly garbage collection day through **Friday, November 28, 2008**. Yard waste includes leaves, grass clippings, branches, brush and other organic material only. Yard waste must be placed in approved paper yard waste bags or in a rigid container clearly marked 'yard waste.' **Yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted.** Branches and brush refuse must be placed with the cut ends towards the curb on the regular trash collection day.

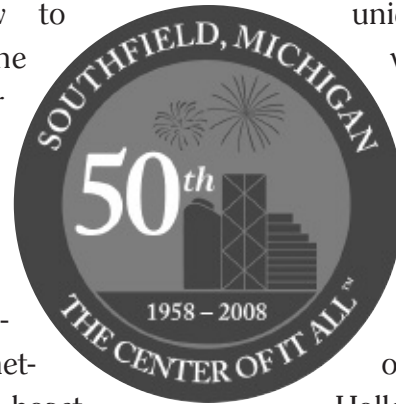
Trash is not to be placed at the curb before 4 p.m. the evening prior to collection. Refuse is limited to 60 pounds of material. Refuse must be placed in plastic bags or waste containers no larger than 32-gallon capacity. All containers must be removed no later than noon the day following trash collection.

City wraps up festive year of 50th anniversary celebration

On April 28, 2008, the City of Southfield celebrated its 50th anniversary of incorporation as a city. Since the 1950s, Southfield has continued to grow to become one of the metro area's premier business and residential addresses - a modern city of quaint neighborhoods and golden skyscrapers. Few other metropolitan areas can boast such a beautiful skyline, complete with magnificent high rises located just minutes away from quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods. Today, Southfield is home to more than 78,000 residents and over 8,600 businesses, including more than 80 "Fortune 500" companies. Southfield's more than 26 million square feet of office space also make it home to a daytime population of more than 175,000. The City boasts unparalleled city services, outstanding recreational activities and a convenient central location that just can't be beat. Since Southfield's incorporation in 1958, the City has steadily grown to be one of the metro areas most vibrant and progressive communities. Over the years, Southfield has truly developed from a rural farming township into a world class city.

To commemorate Southfield's golden

jubilee, the City planned a special year of community celebration that was 50 years in the making. The 2008 city calendar kicked-off the year with a unique opportunity to provide residents with a historic commemorative keepsake that charted Southfield's impressive growth through the years. The City's Fire & Ice black-tie fundraiser on January 26 at Plum Hollow Country Club was a great success, raising many of the funds used to sponsor the many other community celebrations that the City hosted. On February 17 the City held the 50th Anniversary Winter Fun Fest at the Southfield Pavilion. Hundreds of Southfield residents and families came out to enjoy a special afternoon of food, games, entertainment and a special winter fireworks finale. On May 4 the City sponsored the official 50th Anniversary Community Celebration at the Southfield Municipal Complex. Thousands of residents enjoyed this spectacular celebration that included two stages of entertainment, fun, food and games for the entire family, and even special guest appearances by former Detroit Pistons' Player John Long and Miss America 2008 Kirsten Haglund. The City of Southfield knows how to throw a party and our 50th Anniversary was certainly no exception!



Southfield residents and businesses receive lower tax bills

City of Southfield residents and businesses recently received reduced summer 2008 city and school tax bills in the mail. The reduction is the result of a reduced Southfield Public Schools millage rate from 19.6 mills to 14.2 mills. Homeowners with a taxable value of \$100,000 will see a \$568.82 decline on their tax bills, depending upon other factors including the assessed value. Likewise, homeowners with a taxable value of \$150,000 will realize a reduction of \$853.23. The taxable value of a home is approximately half of the home's market value.

"It is vital that the City, the Schools and the County work together to keep our taxes low and our services high."

- Southfield City Treasurer
Irv Lowenberg

"This is great news for our residents and business owners," commented Southfield City Treasurer Irv Lowenberg. "The people's voices have been heard. Southfield residents will be getting the much needed tax relief they deserve. The city of Southfield collects the taxes that are distributed between the City, Schools and the County; however, only 16.15 mills or .33 of every tax dollar goes to the City. In fact, City taxes are actually five percent below the millage levied by the City 20 years ago. I commend the Southfield Public Schools for bringing their millage rate down. It is vital that the City, the Schools and the County

work together to keep our taxes low and our services high."

The summer 2008 city and school tax bills were mailed beginning July 1 and payment is due by August 31. Payments may be made online at www.cityofsouthfield.com, in person, by mail or at local Comerica Banks.

Residents may also use the 24-hour drop box located in front of City Hall. Payment after August 31 will result in a 3.5 percent penalty. Property tax deferral is available for senior citizens and disabled residents that meet certain guidelines. Residents 62 and older as well as disabled persons, veterans and widows with annual incomes below \$40,000 may be eligible for a deferral until February 14, 2009. Applicants must fill out a form and show proof of age and income at the City Treasurer's office prior to September 15, 2008.

Call Southfield City Treasurer Irv Lowenberg's office at (248) 796-5210 for more information.



Get fresh locally-grown fruits and vegetables and so much more at the Southfield Farmer's Market every Thursday from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. The market is sponsored by the City's Cornerstone Development Authority and Providence Hospital Thursdays through October 30 at the Millennium Centre, located at 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive (next to Northland Mall).

The Farmer's Market provides locally grown vegetables, fruits, flowers, plants, jams, salsas, breads, seafood, gourmet cheeses and wines sold by the farmers who produce them every Thursday (rain or shine) June through October. The market offers free parking, admission and live music in addition to a large variety of fresh, healthy and locally grown produce.

For more information regarding the market or vendor opportunities, call the Southfield Cornerstone Development Authority at (248) 796-5196 or visit www.southfieldfarmersmarket.net.

CITY CLERK'S NEWS

Nancy L. M. Banks, City Clerk



New Telephone Number

In order to better serve the residents of Southfield on Election Day, the City Clerk's Office has added a new telephone number (248) 796-VOTE. If you have any questions on your voting location, whether you are registered, how to get to your precinct, just dial this number. A team of workers will be available to answer your voting questions.

Close of Registration

Are you registered to vote? Do you know your voting precinct?

In an effort to provide better service for our residents, and to help cut down the number of phone calls and/or waiting in line on Election Day, you can verify your voter registration information by contacting the City Clerk's Office or viewing our Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com and click on the Government Tab, select City Clerk's Office, Election Information. A direct link to the Michigan Voter Information Center can be accessed on the Clerk's home page "Are you registered to vote?" or by using the Related Link.

Michigan election law states that you must be registered to vote 30 days in advance of an election.

The Close of Registration deadline for the November General Election is October 6, 2008.

If you are not currently registered to vote in Southfield, please visit the City Clerk's Office, or any Secretary of State Branch office, or view the City Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com to download a voter registration form. If you are physically unable to appear in person, please call City Clerk Nancy L. M. Banks at (248) 796-5150 to make arrangements for a member of the City Clerk's Office to register you at home.

Presidential General Election - November 4, 2008

The City Clerk's Office is busy preparing for the Presidential General Election scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. Southfield voters will go to the polls to elect the following offices:

- President/Vice President
- U.S. Senator
- U.S. Representative in Congress
- State Representative
- State Board of Education
- U of M Regents
- MSU Trustees
- Wayne State University Governors
- Justice of the Supreme Court

- Judge of the Court of Appeals
- Judge of the Circuit Court
- Judge of the District Court
- Judge of Probate
- County Offices
- Specified School District Positions

The November 4, 2008 Election ballot may also include several proposals. For candidate and additional ballot information contact the City Clerk's Office or visit the Southfield Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com and click on the Government tab, City Clerk's Office for more information.

New Photo ID Requirement to Vote

Due to a recent court ruling, all Michigan voters must show current photo identification before voting at the polls. Voters can satisfy the picture identification requirement by showing a current Michigan driver's license or State I.D. card. A voter who is unable to show photo identification can vote after signing an affidavit attesting that he or she is not in possession of picture I.D.



Absent Voter Applications

Michigan law requires that registered voters wishing to receive an absent voter ballot must complete an Absent Voter Application for each election for which an absentee ballot is needed. All registered voters age 60 years and over, and disabled residents who have requested same, were mailed the Absent Voter Application in September. The Application must be returned to the City Clerk's Office, completed and signed, before an Absent Voter Ballot can be mailed to the voter. If you need an Absent Voters Ballot for the 2008 Election, contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 796-5150, or visit the City's Web site at www.cityofsouthfield.com to download a copy of the Application form. (Please be sure to print and sign your full name and address on the application form).

The City Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, November 1, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., to accept and process Absent Voter Ballot Applications. The last day to obtain an Absent Voter Ballot for qualified electors is Monday, November 3, by 4 p.m., which must be voted in person at the City Clerk's Office.

All Absent Voter Ballots must be returned to the City Clerk's Office by 8 p.m. on Election Night in order to be counted.

Attention College Students

State law requires that the address on your driver's license match the address on your voter registration record. Any address change submitted for your driver's license will automatically change your voter registration record. This is particularly important information for college students who often change their driver's license to reflect their college address. College students who change their driver's license to their college address will be required to vote in their college community. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office.

Passports

If you are planning to travel abroad, or just take a day trip to Canada, you may want to apply for a U.S. Passport to make your traveling easier and more efficient. Currently, all U.S. citizens traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport to enter or re-enter the United States. At the present time, for land and sea travel, U.S. citizens need to present either a passport or government-issued photo ID along with proof of citizenship. On June 1, 2009, the U.S. government will implement the full requirements of the land and sea phase of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, requiring all travelers to present a passport or other document that

denotes identity and citizenship when entering the United States.

The Southfield City Clerk's Office is an official Passport Acceptance Agency designated by the U.S. Department of State to accept and process passport applications. United States citizens interested in applying for a U.S. Passport must submit proof of citizenship, such as a certified birth certificate, a previous U.S. Passport, Naturalization Certificate or Report of Birth Abroad; plus identification such as a valid Driver's License, Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate, or official Military Identification Card; plus two recent 2" x 2" photos on white or off-white background, and the appropriate application fees.

Application fees are \$75 for a person 16 years of age or older; \$60 for applicants 15 years of age and younger, payable by check or money order to the U.S. Department of State. A \$30 cash execution fee is also required for each application. Routine applications take 4-6 weeks to process; expedited applications are processed within 2 weeks for an additional \$60.



**REMEMBER
TO
VOTE
NOVEMBER 4!**

CITY TREASURER NEWS

Irv M. Lowenberg, City Treasurer

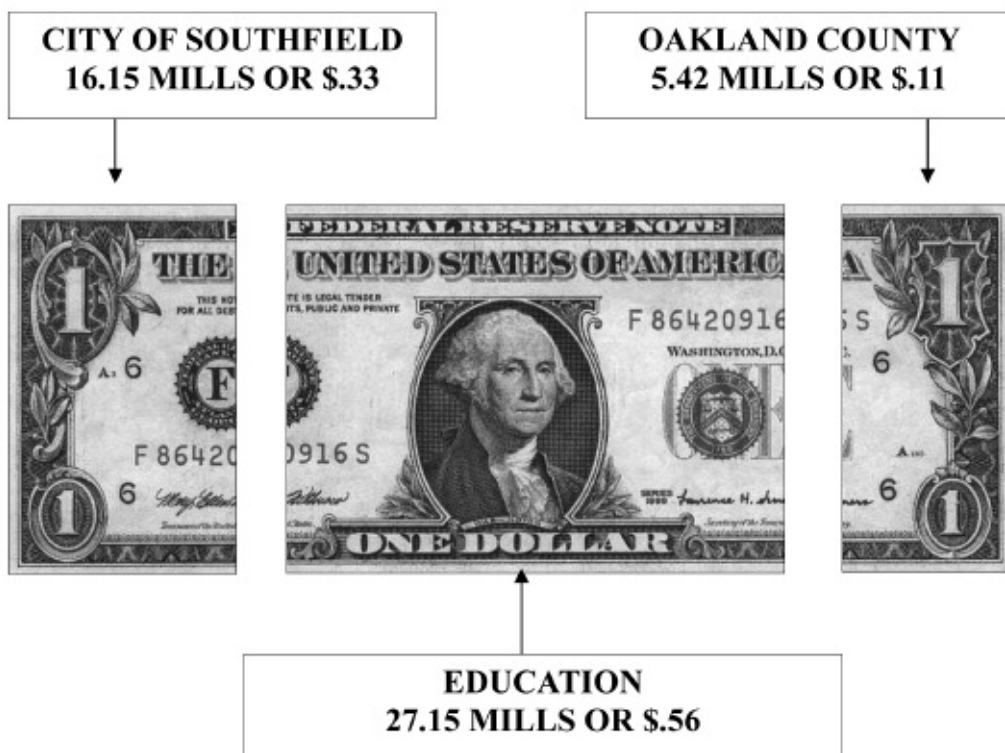
Property tax deferment

If your annual income does not exceed \$40,000 and you own and reside in your home, you may be entitled to a property tax deferment. You must be at least 62 years of age or, if under 62 years, retired because of a disability and unable to work. Property taxes may be deferred under certain conditions. For details, call the Treasurer's Office at (248) 796-5200.

"Treasurer's Financial Lecture Series"

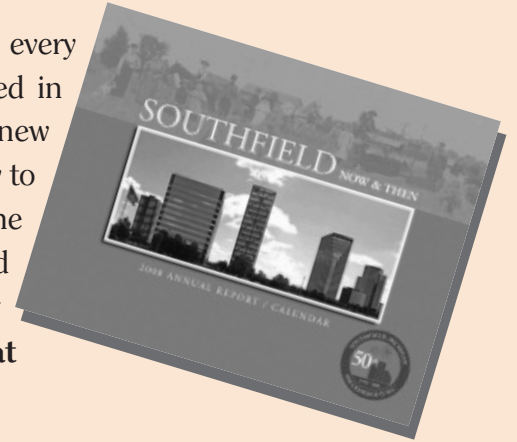
The City of Southfield presents the informative Treasurer's Financial Lecture Series once a month on Tuesdays inside the Southfield Public Library auditorium, located at 26300 Evergreen Road. The lectures are designed to educate the community about timely financial issues. Each program is hosted by the Southfield City Treasurer Irv Lowenberg and includes a lecture and question-and-answer forum by a financial expert. Some of the topics previously presented were Identity Theft, Credit & Debit Management, Personal Financial Management, Reverse Mortgages, Social Security, Foreclosures, and Tips for the Educated Consumer. Residents are encouraged to suggest topics that they would like to hear discussed in the future. The events are free and open to the public and light refreshments are served. Call Southfield City Treasurer Irv Lowenberg's office at (248) 796-5200 or e-mail at ilowenberg@cityofsouthfield.com and get added to the mailing list about upcoming programs.

Where do your local tax dollars go?



Advertise your business in the City of Southfield 2009 Annual Report/Calendar

The award-winning Southfield Annual Report/Calendar is mailed to every residential and business address in the City. Thousands more are included in information packets distributed throughout the year to prospective new residents and businesses. The calendar advertising insert is an excellent way to reach more 78,000 Southfield residents and 8,600 businesses for one extraordinarily low price! The return on the investment in a calendar ad reaps dividends throughout the entire year. **Reserve your spot today, space is limited.** Call Southfield Community Relations at (248) 796-5130 for more information.



Parks and Garden Club seeks new members and donors

The Southfield Parks and Garden Club (SP&GC) is currently seeking new members and donors to assist with the Club's many community outreach and beautification activities throughout the city. The Club is a community service organization comprised of volunteers who work to beautify the city. SP&GC recently broke ground on their newest venture, the Emmanuel Community Farm, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church located at 23425 Lahser Road, north of Nine Mile Road. The all-volunteer farm uses organic seed and agriculturally-sustainable farming methods to enable the harvest of a wide variety of produce that will go to the Forgotten Harvest non-profit group for distribution to those in need.

The Southfield Parks and Garden Club membership and projects reflect a wide cross-section of residents, skill levels and interests. Gardening enthusiasts and community-minded individuals of all backgrounds are encouraged to join and participate as their schedule permits. SP&GC holds monthly meetings and work days March through October. The Southfield Parks and Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; dues and donations are tax-deductible. For more information, call SP&GC President Jonathan Adams at (248) 356-2281 or visit www.parksandgarden.org.

City launches Residential Entranceway Appearance Program

The city of Southfield has launched the Residential Entranceway Appearance Program (REAP) to assist neighborhood and condominium associations to maintain their entranceways with water bill rebates of up to \$500. The program is designed to recognize the community appearance efforts of neighborhood and condominium associations that have irrigation systems installed in their public entranceways. Neighborhood associations that do not currently have an irrigation system installed may also apply for a grant of up to \$500 to be applied towards the installation of a system. The program also features a second-tier water bill rebate of up to \$250 for neighborhoods that do not have an irrigation system installed, however still find ways to maintain their entranceways through manual watering. Neighborhood associations interested in enrolling in the program can visit www.cityofsouthfield.com to download an application or they can obtain one through the Neighborhood and Information Center located in city hall at 26000 Evergreen Road. Neighborhood groups must fill out the application and return it to the center by October 31 annually for consideration. For more information, call the Neighborhood and Information Center at (248) 796-5140.



Discover Something New
Discover Something New
at your Library **at Your Library...**



DISCOVER OUR MUSEUM ADVENTURE PASSES!

A partnership between public libraries, museums and other organizations in the Metro Detroit area that is sponsored by Macy's. Passes for FREE admission to participating organizations are available for check-out at the Southfield Public Library and John Grace Branch. Ask at the Circulation Desk.

- Cranbrook House & Garden
- Cranbrook Institute of Science
- Detroit Children's Museum
- Detroit Historical Museum
- Detroit Institute of Arts
- Dossin Great Lakes Museum
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House
- Ford Rouge Factory Tour
- Grosse Pointe Historical Society
- Henry Ford Estate, Fair Lane
- Howell Nature Center
- Macomb Cultural Center
- Motown Historical Museum
- Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit
- Paint Creek Center for the Arts
- Pewabic Pottery
- Plymouth Historical Museum
- Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm
- University of Michigan Exhibit Museum of Natural History
- Ypsilanti Historical Museum



SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY AWARDED LITERACY GRANT

The Southfield Public Library is proud to be one of 34 libraries nationwide that has been awarded the "American Dream Starts @ Your Library" grant. This grant was funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and the American Library Association to meet the growing demand for English language literacy services. Literacy programs, like the ones funded by this grant, strive to improve the lives of these adults and their families.

Public libraries have long been a cornerstone of the American dream, providing equal access to information. The public library is one of the first places to which many immigrants turn for help in learning to read, write and speak English. Southfield Public Library is proud to offer several new collections and services for adult learners of English.

Tell Me More® Language Learning Software

This award-winning language learning program is now available at Southfield Public Library! This online program features interactive and engaging way to learn English (and 8 other languages) from beginning levels all the way through fluency. Tell Me More truly covers all the bases for language learning: not only reading, writing, listening and speaking but also grammar, culture and vocabulary.

Speak Easy English Conversation Group

Come join Southfield Public Library Librarian Katie Ester for a no-pressure, fun hour of English conversation. This is a painless way for adult English learners to practice and improve their English in an easy and slow paced environment. All levels are welcome. No registration necessary. Meet in the 3rd level Southfield History Room.

Monday, September 22, 2008 2:00pm and 7:00pm
Monday, October 27, 2008 2:00pm and 7:00pm

American Dream Literacy Collection

You may notice a new addition on the 2nd level of the library. The new "American Dream Literacy Collection" offers DVDs, audio sets, CD-ROMs and books all aimed at improving English conversation and literacy skills. These materials may be checked out of the library for use at home.

For information regarding this grant, any of the services or collections mentioned above, please call librarian Katie Ester at (248) 796-4380.



The American Dream Starts @your library



Tech Trends

Gizmo's, Widget's & Gadget's

Discover how the newest trends in technology can be used in your daily life, whether it be for work, school or play.

The staff of the Southfield Public Library will delve into technology trends in four areas: Computers, Communication, Internet & Entertainment. To help you navigate through these areas you will receive handouts and resources so you can continue to play after the presentation is over. All ages are welcome and no prior computer experience is necessary.

Thursday, September 25, 2008 at 7:00pm from 8:00pm, in the Meeting Room.





DISCOVER YOUR FRIENDS

Did you know...

The Friends books and magazines are available for sale daily in the Book Ends Cafe! The books that you purchase enable the Friends of the Southfield Public Library to sponsor on-going Library programs such as:

- Battle of the Books
- Opera in the Afternoon
- Jazz & Blues @ your Library
- Teen Summer Programs

Discover how you can make a difference, join the Friends!

The Friends of the Southfield Public Library is a volunteer, non-profit organization of people like you who believe that a dynamic, exciting library is crucial to the education, well being and success of our community and its residents.

To find out more about becoming a Friend call, (248) 796-4397 or visit www.southfieldlibrary.org.



Battle of the Books



Jazz & Blues @ the Library



Teen Summer Programs



next book

Introducing...NextBook! NextBook is a way for resident cardholders to place holds in advance for a favorite fiction author's NEXT book, the one that's not even named or ordered yet! Just use the Southfield Public Library catalog to look up favorite authors or simply browse the list of NextBook authors from the catalog's main page. Find an author, place a request for their next book and be automatically added to a reserve list when the new book comes in. For more information, please call or visit our fiction desk at (248) 796-4260.



26300 Evergreen Road
Southfield, MI 48076
www.southfieldlibrary.org
(248) 796-4200

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 9:00pm
Friday & Saturday 9:30am - 5:30pm
Sunday* 1:00pm - 5:00pm
*(September to June)



Southfield Veterans' Commission to host benefits seminar Friday, September 19

The Southfield Veterans' Commission will host a Veterans' Benefits Seminar on Friday, September 19 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. in room 115 of the Parks and Recreation Building, 26000 Evergreen Road.

The program is open to all Southfield military veterans and spouses and will cover topics ranging from medical, dental and burial benefits to women veterans' health programs. Representatives from the Oakland County Veterans Service Office, the Pontiac VA Medical Center, The Great Lakes National Cemetery and the Dingell VA Medical Center will be on hand to answer questions and conduct presentations.

The Southfield Veterans' Commission is a 501(a) non-profit commission of the city of Southfield that provides education, employment and benefits assistance to area veterans. Call Daniel Brightwell, Southfield Veterans' Commission Chairperson, at (248) 796-4838 or e-mail southfieldvets@cityofsouthfield.com for further information.

Calling all Southfield veterans

The Southfield Veterans' Commission was established by the Southfield City Council in 2004 to serve Southfield veterans by improving their quality of life through education, recognition, and by providing assistance to veterans and their families when in need. The Southfield Veterans' Commission (SVC) is a 501(a) non-profit commission of the City of Southfield. The Commission sponsors various events and programs of benefit to veterans throughout the year. Call (248) 796-4VET (248/796-4838), e-mail southfieldvets@cityofsouthfield.com, or visit their Web site at www.southfieldvets.org for more information.

ATTENTION SOUTHFIELD VETERANS! Stay apprised of the latest SVC news and activities. Please fill-out the form below and mail to: **Southfield Veterans Commission, 26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055, Southfield, MI 48037-2055.**

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Address: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Service Years: _____

 cut and mail to the address above

What's Happening in Southfield?

Fall 2008 ~
Winter 2009

- September 1** - Labor Day, City Offices & Library Closed
- September 11** - Last Eat to the Beat concert, 12 noon - 2 p.m., City Centre Plaza
- September 20** - Southfield Books & Beyond Festival, 1 - 5 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- September 21** - Southfield Books & Beyond Festival, 1 - 5 p.m., Southfield Public Library
- September 27** - "A Grand Night of Singing," 8 p.m., Millennium Centre; Call (248) 796-5193 for tickets/info.
- October 3** - SRO Productions "Gaslight" opens (runs Oct. 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19), Burgh Historical Park
- October 4** - Household Hazardous Waste Day, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., RRRASOC
- October 13** - Columbus Day, City Offices & Library Closed
- October 18** - 18-Hole Chili & Beer Golf Scramble, 9 a.m., Evergreen Hills Golf Course
- October 24** - Boo at the Burgh, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., Burgh Historical Park
- October 25** - Boo at the Burgh, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., Burgh Historical Park
- October 31** - Halloween Candy Screening, 6 - 9 p.m., Sports Arena
- November 3** - Snow Drop Contest begins (through Nov. 24), P&R Building
- November 4** - General Election, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m., various sites
- November 10** - Veterans' Day Ceremony, 11 a.m., City Hall
- November 11** - Veterans' Day (observed), City Offices & Library Closed
- November 24** - Snow Drop Contest winner announced, 12 noon, P&R Building
- November 27** - Thanksgiving, City Offices & Library Closed
- November 28** - City Offices Closed ~ *Library open*
- December 2** - Burgh Tree Lighting Ceremony, 7 p.m., Burgh Historical Park
- December 8** - City Hall Tree Lighting/Visits with Santa, 6:45 - 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- December 24** - Christmas Eve, City Offices & Library Closed
- December 25** - Christmas Day, City Offices & Library Closed
- December 31** - New Year's Eve, City Offices & Library Closed
- January 1** - New Year's Day, City Offices & Library Closed
- January 19** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, City Offices & Library Closed
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Walk Celebration, 9:30 a.m., Hope United Methodist Church
MLK Peace Walk Program, 11:30 a.m., Southfield Pavilion
- January 24** - Daddy-Daughter Dinner & Dance, 5:30-6:45 p.m. (dinner); 7-9 p.m. (dance), Southfield Pavilion
- February 16** - Presidents' Day, City Offices & Library Closed
- March 25** - Southfield/Red Cross Community Blood Drive, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Southfield Pavilion



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REMEMBER: LAST DAY FOR YARD WASTE COLLECTION IS NOVEMBER 28

SOUTHFIELD
Living

Fall 2008 • Winter 2009

Southfield
the center of it all™

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Southfield Living is produced by the City of Southfield Community Relations and Parks & Recreation Departments.

Southfield Living Editor: Michael Manion
P & R Activities Guide Editor: Stephanie Kaiser

Questions? Call (248) 796-5000 or visit
www.cityofsouthfield.com

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