

MAYOR'S MEMO

News of Interest to Southfield Residents from Mayor Ken Siver



Varsity Lincoln presents:

Kimmie Horne JAZZ FESTIVAL

Friday, AUG 10
6:30 - 10:30 PM

Saturday, AUG 11
3:00 - 10:30 PM

kimmiehornealive.com
The Kimmie Horne Jazz Festival

FREE ADMISSION. Bring lawn chair.
Food, beverages & boutique vendors

Featuring:

- Straight Ahead
- Kathy Kosins Vocalist
- Al McKenzie Music Director
- Penny Wells Vocalist
- Sheila Landis and Rick Matle
- Ursula Walker Honoree
- Amy Lee Saxophone
- Gene Dunlap
- Rayse Biggs Trumpet

Sponsors:

- DTE Energy Foundation
- Accension
- General RV Center
- Holly
- Beans & Buns
- Southfield Historical Society
- Southfield Museum and Book Co.
- Southfield Public Library
- Dex Bell

SOUTHFIELD MUNICIPAL CAMPUS

Questions? Contact City of Southfield Community Relations at (248) 796-5130.

VIP PARKING \$10 on SITE

Southfield
the center of it all™

Music, music, music fills the August air

The Southfield Parks & Recreation Department has a music filled August on tap for residents enjoyment.

Jazz returns to the Civic Center front lawn on August 10 and 11 with the Kimmie Horne Jazz Festival. The two-day event will feature Miss Horne, niece of the legendary Lena Horne, along with Straight Ahead, Ursula Walker, Penny Wells, Amy Lee, Gene Dunlap, Rayse Biggs, Kathy Kosins and music director Al McKenzie.

The Kimmie Horne Jazz Festival is free. However, VIP parking in the Civic Center lots and across Evergreen Road is \$10 per car. The parking fee will assist in underwriting the cost of the jazz festival and support Southfield's public art initiatives.

Continued on Page 2

Music, music continued

The Kimmie Horne Jazz Festival will also include a host of vendors, food trucks and a beer and wine tent sponsored by the Southfield Chamber of Commerce. Bring your own lawn chairs and enjoy!

Other free concerts include:

- ★ **Motown Memories** featuring Motor City Playback, 7-9pm, August 16 on the front lawn
- ★ **The Randy Brock Group**, 11:30am-2pm, August 9, Eat to the Beat on Central Park Blvd.
- ★ **The Millionaires**, 7-8:30pm, August 7, Burgh Historical Park
- ★ **The Rhythm Society Orchestra**, 7-8:30pm, August 14, Burgh Historical Park
- ★ **Gabriel Brass Band**, 7-8:30pm, August 21, Burgh Historical Park.

August 7th ballot includes SMART millage renewal

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) is seeking a renewal of .9863 mills for the years 2018-21. The millage renewal request will appear on the August 7 Primary Election ballot.

Southfield has supported the SMART millage for many, many years as it funds a public transportation system for the elderly, disabled and general public in Oakland County. This millage expired with the 2017 tax levy. If renewed, the levy will appear on property tax bills issued in December 2018. **Note:** Ballot language states “increase” only because the levy has expired.

SMART operates extensively in the city of Southfield and throughout Oakland County. Many residents use the bus system to get to and from work or school.

SMART also connects to other regional transportation systems.

Southfield to observe Indigenous Peoples Day

In recognition that native peoples have lived upon the land in Michigan and the United States since time immemorial and the progress American society has accomplished through their technology, thought and culture, the Southfield City Council has approved the observation of Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday in October.

In adopting this resolution, the City of Southfield understands that in order to help close the equity gap, government entities, organizations and other public institutions should change their policies and practices to better reflect the experience of Native Americans and uplift our country’s indigenous roots, history and contributions.

Many other cities in the United States have replaced Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day. Southfield has a long history of recognizing cultural diversity and celebrating and honoring the same.

In a related context, currently the Southfield Historical Society has an Indigenous People of Southfield Township exhibit ... **the Potawatami of Southfield** ... at the Southfield History Museum at the Burgh Historical Park. The exhibit features the buildings and architecture, food traditions, Native American treaties with the US government and more. The exhibit is funded in part by the Michigan Council for the Humanities.

The Southfield History Museum is open on Tuesday evenings in the summer in conjunction with the concerts at the Burgh.

Northland redevelopment plans advancing steadily

The many pieces that are in play with the redevelopment of the 125-acre former Northland Center are still in flux but coming together. The reinvention and renewal of this property is an extremely complex undertaking.

The City Council recently approved expending \$3.5 million for infrastructure to support the development of approximately 25 acres on the northeastern corner of the property. Providence Hospital has contracted with Pacific Medical Building Company (PMB) to develop this extension of the hospital's campus. Additionally, these funds, along with water and sewer monies, will also support the development of housing proposed by Edward Rose & Son in the north central portion of the former mall site.

At the same time, City Council approved a six-month due diligence period for General Development Company to build several research and development buildings on 20 (or more) acres on the south end of Northland.

Several other proposals for constructing retail space along Greenfield Road are under consideration, as well as another housing project on the site. The City Council recently completed the purchase of the former, and long closed, Montgomery Ward auto service center on Greenfield. This purchase of a three-acre parcel was important as it held a ten-acre parking easement at Northland.

Detroit Edison has finally (after a nine-month delay) disconnected electrical service to the former Firestone store at Greenfield and Northland Drive. Demolition of the Firestone building will begin shortly. DTE is also in the process of disconnecting the power to the former JC Penney store in anticipation of it being knocked down.

Planning is underway to recommission the old Northland power plant to supply electricity to the new commercial and medical buildings when constructed. In effect, the city may become an electric service provider which would generate revenue for Southfield.

Residents will recall that PMB and Providence Hospital envision construction of a medical office building, a rehabilitation center, ambulatory care center, an events center and hotel, along with additional parking as an expansion of the hospital's campus. The hospital has an immediate need for additional parking and medical office suites.



Anyone interested in investing in the former Northland site should contact Southfield Downtown Development Authority Director Al Aceves. He may be reached at 248.796.5192 or aaceves@cityofsouthfield.com

Or, interested persons may contact the listing agent, the Friedman Brokerage Company. Contact Andrew Ledger, Managing Director of Business Development, at 248.848.3543 or andrew.ledger@freg.com

Yet to be decided is the fate of the existing tunnels and the Hudson's Department Store Building. It is hoped to find adaptive re-uses for both.



Under the new restoration plan, the retaining wall and lagoon of the non-functioning library fountain would be removed. The wall is unstable and leaning toward Evergreen Road.



The Hudson Webber Company retained Joseph Anthony McDonnell to create this sculpture for Northland Center in the early 1950s. This piece, along with 17 others, was purchased with private funds when the mall closed in 2015.

Restoration of library fountain takes necessary detour

For many years the fountain in front of the Southfield Public Library has been out of commission. A plan was put in place earlier this year to restore the fountain with corporate and citizen donations. The plan included a simpler water display with placement of the *Moby Dick* sculpture from Northland, while retaining the fountain's original size.

Numerous experts have examined the fountain, which needs total re-working of its electrical and pumping systems. Many have recommended complete demolition. The cost estimates to replicate the existing fountain in its original design, minus the cost of the foundation and retaining wall, ranged up to \$450,000. In all honesty, the fountain as it was originally built is highly impractical and extremely costly to maintain. Further, most of the water feature, other than the very southern end, lacked visibility.

The east retaining wall of the fountain has been deemed unstable. It is listing ever westward and will eventually fall over. Water is seeping under the bricks from the higher elevation. It has been determined that the retaining wall will now have to be removed.

In light of all this, a new plan has been developed. The long lagoon and wall will be removed. A smaller, circular fountain with a diameter of approximately 18-feet will remain. *Moby Dick*, sculpted by Joseph Anthony McDonnell and an original piece of the Northland Center art collection, will be featured in the reconfigured fountain. A landscaped garden will surround the pool. This plan greatly reduces the complexity and cost of maintenance.

This project is being undertaken by the Friends of Southfield Public Arts, a non-profit organization dedicated to the placement of public art in the city. Assisting with the project are the Leon Miller Legacy Trust and the engineering firm of Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment.

Additional funding is needed. Tax-deductible donations may be made to the Friends of Southfield Public Arts, in care of the Mayor's Office, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield, MI 48076.



Council revises overnight parking ordinance; Now 2am to 5am

The Southfield Police Department strongly supports a three-hour ban of on-street parking during the night for reasons of safety and crime reduction. Recently, due to citizen feedback, the hours of overnight parking were revised through an ordinance change effected by the City Council.

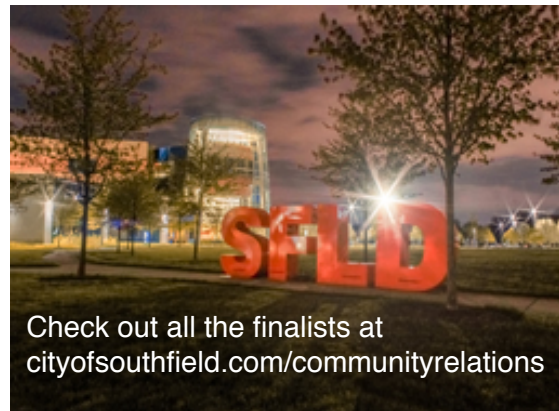
The new hours for no overnight parking are now 2 to 5am. For decades on street parking was banned from 3 to 6am. Early work hours of some residents is a principal reason for the change. Juggling autos in multi-vehicle households resulted in moving a car to the street in a number of cases before 6am.

Additionally, the Council approved an extension of overnight parking passes from one-day to up to seven for special occasions or construction activities. These passes to park on the street from 2 to 5am are issued by the police department or its designee. Passes are limited to two per residence annually.

Judging continues this month for Southfield Photo Prize

The 2018 finalists for the Southfield Photo Prize are on display outside the Southfield Parks & Recreation Building. Residents are invited to vote on line for their favorite photograph now through August 31.

There are 25 finalists to choose from. Residents may cast only one vote per IP address. Go to Community Relations on the city's website to make your pick. The photograph that receives the most overall votes will be featured in the 2019 city calendar.



Check out all the finalists at cityofsouthfield.com/communityrelations

MAYOR'S MEMO

The Mayor's Memo is an occasional newsletter produced by Mayor Ken Siver and not done at city expense. The Memo provides city news & updates to residents. To subscribe, send an email to srosenburgh@cityofsouthfield.com Feel free to pass this newsletter on to others.



**Come
Celebrate
With Us!**