

MAYOR'S MEMO

News of Interest to Southfield Residents from Mayor Ken Siver

Mayor to present annual State of the City Address on March 27, 30; Public welcome

Mayor Kenson Siver will present his annual Southfield State of the City address on March 27th and 30th. The address will feature updates on housing, business developments, Northland redevelopment, reinvestments in city parks, the "Town & Gown" relationship with Lawrence Technological University and the city's sustainability initiatives.

The March 27th presentation will be a ticketed luncheon sponsored by the Southfield Chamber of Commerce. This event will take place at the Regency Manor Banquet Center (25228 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield) beginning at 10:30am with business networking. Tickets are \$100 for Southfield Chamber members and \$150 for non-members.

The luncheon will also include a panel discussion with Mayor Siver and City Sustainability Planner Sousan Hanna, LTU President Dr. Tarik Sobh and Chief Oper-

ating Officer of Contour Companies David Dedvukaj. Chamber of Commerce Director Jasmine Patton will provide an update on Chamber activities.

On March 30th Mayor Siver will repeat the 2023 State of the City Address at 7pm in City Council Chambers (26000 Evergreen Road). This presentation is non-ticketed, free and open to the public.

The 2023 Southfield State of the City address will also be broadcast on City Cable 15 for Comcast subscribers and over AT&T Uverse. Dates and times of the rebroadcast have yet to be announced.

The 2023 Southfield State of the City Address is sponsored by Ascension Providence Hospital and Lawrence Technological University. For more information, sponsorship or to purchase tickets, call the Southfield Area Chamber of Commerce at (248) 557-6661 or visit www.southfieldchamber.com.

SF Community Development brings new housing to the city

The non-profit SF Community Development Corp. has completed two new single family homes that are now on the market. The home pictured at right is on Virginia Street and a similar model has been completed on Sunnypointe Drive.

These homes feature nine foot ceilings, full basements and the latest in energy efficiencies. Starting price is \$425,000.

SF Community Development has partnered with Contour Companies for the development of 40 mid-priced condominiums on George Washington Ave. Conversion of the former McKinley School to 18 unique units with two-car garages has begun. Eleven, two-family detached English Tudor homes will be built on the former school's playground.



New home backs up to Inglebrook Park

Southfield Fire Department busiest in Oakland County

The Southfield Fire Department (SFD) is the busiest in Oakland County when combining runs for building fires, health emergencies, vehicle crashes and fires and downed wires.

When not on runs Southfield firefighters are engaged in maintaining equipment and training.

In February, crews across the SFD reviewed procedures for responding to incidents involving Electric Vehicles. These incidents are expected to become more and more common as consumers increasingly rely on electric vehicles and the number on them on the road increases.

This training involved walking crews through the proper procedures to render the vehicle safe and proper techniques for removing trapped victims as there are certain areas of the vehicle, namely those that contain high voltage electric lines. The department is no longer able to cut with our current extrication equipment.

Crews also reviewed procedures for responding to fires involving batteries as well. Lastly, the Southfield Fire Department took delivery of a new device designed to disable an electric vehicle to make things safer for the crews on the scene. The SFD is one of the first Fire Departments in the state to obtain this critical piece of equipment.

The Training Division also worked on completing the last of the prep work needed to receive its new Training Tower. Due to its near completion level, delivery of the facility is scheduled for early March. Once on site, the manufacturer will spend the better part of a week reassembling the facility.

The SFD hopes to run its first classes through it by the end of March. This new facility contains several unique features that will make the SFD a destination department for those looking to hone their skills in both basic and advanced firefighting operations. After its installation, site prep will resume in the spring with total completion expected sometime late spring / early summer.

The new Training Tower is located behind the department's headquarters on Lahser Road and replaces an out-of-date tower.

Fire Department Stats February 2023 and 2023 Year-to-Date

FEBRUARY FIRE, EMS & SAFETY RUNS PER STATION

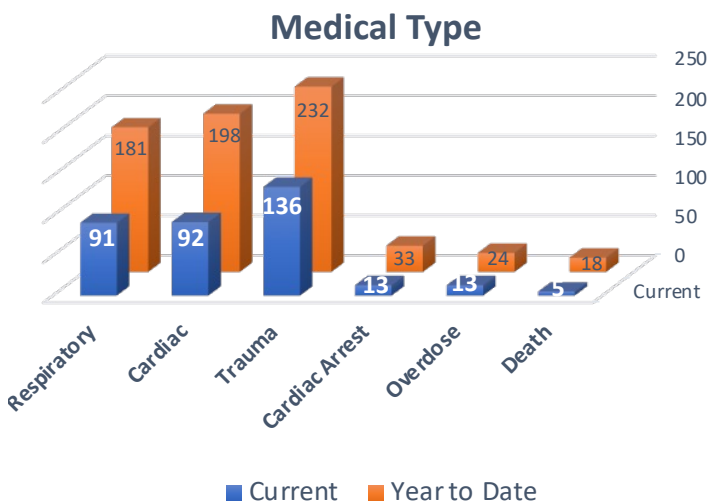
Station 1	290
Station 2	192
Station 3	293
Station 4	287
Station 5	225
February Total Runs	1,287

TYPES OF RUNS

	February	Year-to-Date
Structural Fires	4	9
Commercial Fires/Calls	4	8
Carbon Monoxide	15	37
Downed Wires	59	66
Vehicle Fires	17	25

FEBRUARY EMS RUNS

Total February Runs	1,064
Year-to-Date Runs	2,243
YTD Transports	1,470
COVID-19, RSV, Flu	124
Invalid Assists	49
Vehicle Accidents	76
Elevator Rescues	8



Fire Department honors 4-year-old for sounding alarm when fire breaks out in apartment building

She may only be four-years-old, but Cora Bisano knew what to do when she saw flames shooting out of a neighbor’s apartment. Cora rallied adults to the danger.

For her swift actions, the Southfield Fire Department presented her with a Good Samaritan Award at a February City Council meeting. Her quick danger alert prevented more extensive damage to the building and potentially saved lives.

In the photo at right Cora is a bit overwhelmed by the attention as Fire Chief Johnny Menifee and Fire Captain Melissa Medici present Cora with the award. Looking on are her mother and City Planner Terry Croad.



VFW Auxiliary Treasurer Genora Ewegbemi presents Southfield Police Officer Kelly Buckberry with the VFW Public Servant of the Year award in ceremonies held at Southfield Post 2465 in January.

VFW Post 2645 names Officer Kelly Buckberry 2023 Public Servant award honoree

For the past 27 years Southfield Police Officer Kelly Buckberry has honorably served the citizens and businesses of the city.

For many years she has worked in crime prevention and community policing. Many residents know Officer Buckberry as she is a regular presence at neighborhood and community events.

Her duties include providing homeowners and businesses with security evaluations. She also works with local schools in educating students of personal safety, bicycle safety and stranger awareness.

Officer Buckberry is a member of the Crime Prevention Association of Michigan. She believes the best way to police our community is through citizen engagement.

Southfield Fire Department Statistics

- Staffing = 102 (including Chief and Deputy Chief)
- Engines = 5
- Ladder Trucks = 1
- Tower Truck = 1 (another Tower Truck ordered -- ETA early 2026)
- Life Trucks = 5 (3 additional Trucks ordered -- ETA late 2023)
- Special Response Unit = 1
- Fire Investigation Vehicle = 1



A long-closed and vacant Taco Bell on Eight Mile Road is getting a makeover and new life as a Savvy Sliders

City Council approves 2 new commercial rehabilitations

In January the Southfield City Council approved site plans for the rehabilitation of two “tired” and under used commercial buildings.

The small strip center on the west side of Northwestern Highway near Twelve Mile Road will receive a total renovation and a drive-thru will be added to the north elevation of the structure.



Makeover coming to obsolete strip center on Northwestern Hwy.

The former and long-closed Taco Bell on Eight Mile Road adjacent to Sam’s Club will also receive a total rehab and reopen as a Savvy Sliders.

Both of these developments are good news for the city as they improve appearances, reoccupy vacant space and increase the tax base.

2023 road projects to focus on neighborhood streets

The Engineering Department has announced that road work is sheduled in the following neighborhoods during the 2023 construction season:

- Tanglewood Phase II*
- Washington Heights*
- Tuller Court
- Code House Community
- Denso Drive

- Sherwood Village*
- Friar Lane
- Evergreen Woods
- Sharon Meadows (spot repair)

* Includes water main replacement



Art Commission turns city hall lobby into gallery

Begun two years ago, the quarterly exhibits featuring local talent has become a hit with residents and city staff alike.

The Southfield Public Art Commission curates the shows and rotates artists every three months.

The current exhibit, in celebration of African American History Month, includes the works of artists Lonnell Hurst, Yvette Rock and Raymond Wells,

With each new display a "Meet the Artist" reception is held. The works are for sale through the artists.

The lobby of city hall is open on week days from 7am to 5pm. Visitors welcome.

Above Photo: Opening night preview reception for artists featured for February, March & April.

Photo at Right: Lonnell Hurst, Public Art Commission Chair Delores Flagg, Yvette Rock, Mayor Ken Siver and Raymond Wells.



Local businesses support art

The self-storage facility at 21170 Eight Mile Road installed this sculpture that had been featured at the Grand Rapids Art Prize. Business owner Ed Hersch says the art has attracted customers to his location while at the same time supporting the city's public art initiatives.



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 bastrop@cityof-southfield.com Feel free to pass this newsletter on to others.