

MAYOR'S MEMO

News of Interest to Southfield Residents from Mayor Ken Siver

Ascension Michigan now operating Southfield vaccination clinic

This week Ascension Michigan (Providence Hospital) has begun operating a vaccination clinic in the Southfield Pavilion. The health system is offering vaccinations Tuesday through Saturday from 8am to 5pm. They hope to administer 1,500 doses daily.

To make a vaccination appointment, access the following link: ascension.org/AscensionSoutheastMichiganVaccineClinics

Anyone 16 and older may register for an appointment. However, individuals who are 16 or 17 years of age must be accompanied by a parent and will need to make sure they select the Pfizer vaccine when setting up their appointment. Photo ID is required when attending the clinic.

Should you click on the self-scheduling link and no open appointment slots are displayed, all appointments have been filled for the current schedule. Continue to check back as more appointment schedules are added.

The City of Southfield is urging everyone to become vaccinated. Residents are urged to investigate multiple options for securing a COVID vaccine appointment. Check with Kroger, Meijer, CVS, Rite Aid, Ford Field, etc. if you have not heard from your health provider.

Oakland County communities are dependent on health systems and the Oakland County Health Division for distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Unlike Detroit, Oakland cities and towns do not have an allotment of the vaccine to disperse.

Anyone needing assistance in getting registered may call the Southfield COVID Vaccination Hotline at 248.796.4529.

For more information on where to get a vaccine locally, contact Oakland County:

- Nurse-on-call: 800-848-5533 or noc@oakgov.com
- Oakland County Vaccine Hub: <https://oaklandcountyvaccine.com/appointments/>

Southfield to hold COVID-19 memorial, visual tribute May 10-31

To date, 269 Southfield residents have died of COVID-19. The city plans to honor the lives of the deceased with memorial flags on the front lawn and a candlelight vigil on May 11 at 8pm on the front steps of City Hall.

The flag memorial will be on display from May 10-31.

“With so many Southfield lives lost to COVID-19, we felt it was vitally important to pay tribute to these cherished friends and family members,” commented Mayor Siver. “We hope that this memorial tribute provides some comfort to the many families and friends who have lost loved ones as we remember these individuals and share how they inspired us and contributed to our community.”

The city of Southfield is inviting residents to honor



lost loved ones by submitting their names, a brief bio (350-character limit) and a photo (optional) to be included in an online memorial at www.cityofsouthfield.com as well as at the candlelight vigil.

Submissions should be e-mailed to: kbryant@cityofsouthfield.com by 5pm on Monday, May 10 to be included.

New COVID-19 Cases in Southfield

January	276
February	144
March	538
April	652*

* As of April 16th

Southfield lands All America City finalist status; 10 national winners to be announced in June

The City of Southfield has been selected as a national finalist in the 2021 All-America City (AAC) Award competition by the National Civic League. The All-America City Award, given to only ten communities across the country each year, celebrates and recognizes villages, towns, cities, counties, tribes and regions that engage residents in innovative, inclusive and effective efforts to tackle critical challenges.

The National Civic League’s President, Doug Linkhart explains the importance of using inclusive civic engagement: “This year’s finalist communities have managed the compounding difficulties of the past year, all while building equity and resilience. Their accomplishments are a testament to what can be achieved when government, residents, businesses and other stakeholders collaborate.”

The City was notified on March 11, 2021 that it is one of 20 national finalists for AAC. Southfield will compete virtually this June to hopefully earn recognition as one of ten All-America Cities for 2021!

Each competing city is required to outline three community-driven projects that resulted in significant local impact and action planning. The Southfield entry detailed its initiatives in the following areas:

A) Efforts to address systematic and institutional racism through support of Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement with new policies, resolutions, peaceful



Among the cities that Southfield is competing against are:

- Bellevue, WA
- Dallas, TX
- El Paso, TX
- Englewood, CO
- Evanston, IL
- Fort Lauderdale
- For Wayne, IN
- Kansas City, MO
- Richmond, VA
- Spokane, WA
- Sumter, SC

protests and banners

B) Protection for a community of color during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Balancing Safety & Progress

C) Creation of affordable housing options and sustainability through adaptive reuse

Finalist community delegations will present their stories to a national jury of civic, local government, business, philanthropy and community experts in June. Each community will have 20 minutes to present its nomination, plus submit a “Cultural Entertainment Showcase” and a “Civic Action Fair” virtual booth.

City announces 2021 road construction projects

This spring Southfield enters year seven of its massive infrastructure rebuilding program. Over \$177 million has been spent since 2015 on roads, sewers, water mains, bridges and sidewalks.

Projects this year include resurfacing of Beech Road from Eight Mile to Ten Mile, resurfacing Nine Mile between Evergreen and the Northwestern Service Drive and Twelve Mile between Lahser and Evergreen.

The Nine Mile project will entail partial closure with one-way traffic. Suggested detours are Eight Mile or Ten Mile. The Twelve Mile Road project will include water main replacement.

Neighborhood projects include Greentrees for water main upgrades and road repairs; the next phase of storm and sanitary sewer separation and road replacement in the Ten Mile and Greenfield area; second phase of water and road work in the Ravines and water main and road resurfacing in Section 35 (Greenview, Stahelin, Avon and Melrose streets). Additionally, Strawberry and Mulberry streets will have spot repairs performed.

In total, the cost of these infrastructure improvements is estimated to be \$28.5 million with \$8.6 million coming from grants to the city. The city is aggressive in capturing grants for roads to stretch local tax dollars.

Once again, Southfield earns Tree City USA honor

Several years ago, a delegation from South Korea came to visit Southfield to explore business and educational partnerships. One evening the delegation was treated to dinner at the Skyline Club on the 28th floor of 2000 Town Center. When several of the delegates went to the windows to catch the view, they asked: “Where is the city?”

What the delegates gazed upon was the dense, green canopy that covers much of Southfield’s landscape. This is by design. Southfield values trees and the good they provide for the environment, including reducing urban temperatures and air pollution and slowing water flows into waterways. Southfield has had woodlands and wetlands ordinances for 40 years.

Annually, for well over 30 years, Southfield has been designated a “Tree City USA” by the Arbor Day Foundation. This distinction is granted when four requirements are met: 1) a tree board or forestry department; 2) a tree care ordinance; 3) an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita; and 4) an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. Arbor Day observances have involved planting trees and involving students.

In earning the award for 2020, Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation, said, “The trees being planted and cared for by Southfield are ensuring that generations to come will enjoy a better quality of life.”

City Council recently amended the Woodlands Ordinance to require that a healthy tree of 6-inch diameter must be replaced if it is removed.

Any resident, landlord or business owner who wishes to have a healthy tree removed must apply for a permit with the Southfield Planning Department (248.796.4150). Property owners must either plant a replacement tree (or trees) or may opt to make a payment to the City’s Tree Fund.

Trees, deemed dead or dangerous, do not require a tree removal permit. Exceptions are made for fast growing “weed” trees, such as mulberry or Chinese elms.



Birney K-8 School students participate in Arbor Day by studying the beneficial impact of trees to our environment and by planting a tree on school grounds.



Crews clearing power lines of tree branches

Tree trimming crews are covering large areas of Southfield to clear power lines of tree limbs. Hired by DTE, the crews have been working since March. The trimming is a pro-active move on the utility’s part to lessen the possibility of power outages.

Southfield to observe Arbor Day; Tree planting planned at Civic Center

The City of Southfield will observe National Arbor Day, April 30th, with planting a tree at Civic Center.

The event will take place at 10:30am on the south end of the front lawn walking loop. The public is invited to attend.

Pre-pandemic, Southfield’s Arbor Day was annually observed at one of the local public schools. This year it will be part of the senior adult morning walking group. However, anyone may attend to help plant a tree. The Arbor Day program is one of the factors in earning “Tree City USA” designation.

Haven, Turning Point present series on conflict resolution

Unfortunately, one of the byproducts of the pandemic quarantine has been a rise in domestic violence and family trouble calls in Southfield and everywhere.

The Haven, in conjunction with Turning Point, Inc., is offering a series of webinars in April to help families navigate issues that may arise in households and in relationships.

The topics are:

Boundaries (Setting them in Relationships)
— April 22

Conflict (Skills to Create Healthy Relationships)
— April 29

These Thursday programs run from noon to 12:45pm weekly. The register, go to www.haven-oakland.org Or, for further information contact Haven Prevention Education Specialist Shelby Nardone at 248.334.1284 x356.

The Southfield Police Department, 46th District Court, the Haven, Southfield Domestic Violence Group, FARM, the Martin Luther King Task Force and other organizations have created a coalition to bring awareness to the problem of domestic violence and prevention.

Another Southfield Walk to Bring Awareness of Domestic Violence is planned for Sunday, October 3, 2021.



Southfield Parks & Rec offers outdoor programs for fitness, fun

Working around the COVID-19 pandemic, the Southfield Parks & Recreation Department is offering a number of outdoor events and classes this spring and summer.

Adult Fitness Trail - May 1 - August 25 - 9-11am
Front Lawn Loop - Monday & Wednesday

Kids Fitness Trail - May 1 - August 25 - 9-11am
Front Lawn Loop - Wednesdays

Bike Safety Rodeo - May 2 - 1-3:30pm
Parks & Rec parking lot

Fishing Fun - June 12 - 10am-noon
Carpenter Lake

Juneteenth Concert - June 18 - 7-9pm
Civic Center Front Lawn

Miss Juneteenth Pageant - June 19 - 7-9pm
Parks & Rec parking lot

Daddy-Daughter Dance Garden Party
June 26 or June 27 - 6:30-8:30pm
Burgh Historical Park

Tennis and volleyball courts, Evergreen Hills Golf Course and baseball fields are open. The schedule for the swimming pool has been drafted but the official opening will depend on status of the current health crisis.

For more information, call 248.796.4620 or visit city website or parks & Rec Facebook page.

SOUTHFIELD
**PHOTO
PRIZE**

Photo Competition and Public Art Exhibition

Submissions due May 21 | Public voting June - September

For complete rules and submission details, visit www.cityofsouthfield.com or call (248) 796-5130.

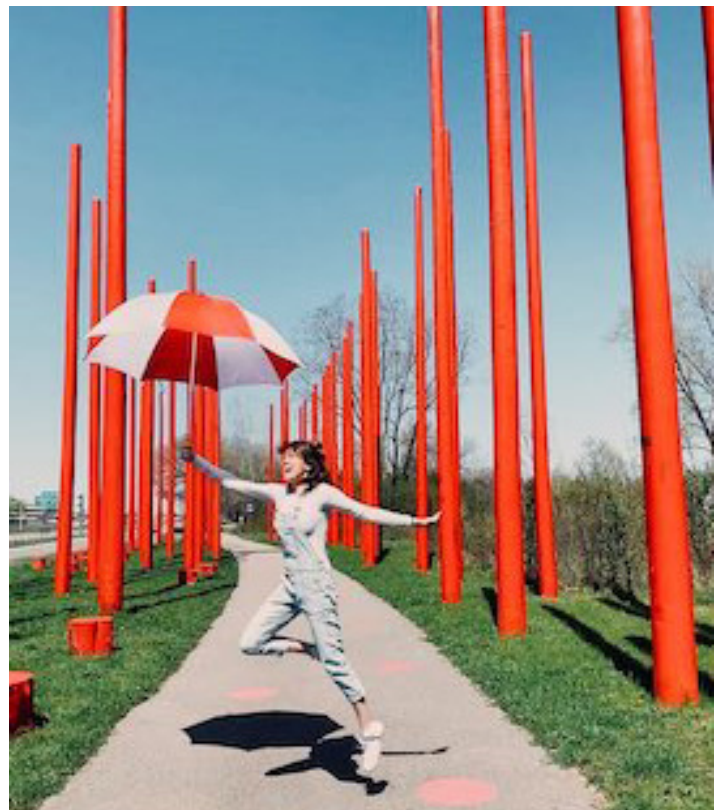
Enter now for 2021 Photo Prize

Rules for 5th Annual Photo Competition:

- Persons entering the contest must live, work, or attend school or church in Southfield
- Original digital color photos must have been shot within Southfield city limits
- Entries must be high resolution (at least 300 DPI) and submitted as a JPEG, TIFF or PDF file
- The City of Southfield reserves the right to use all entries in marketing materials
- Individuals may submit up to three entries per person
- Submissions must be emailed as an attachment to PhotoContest@cityofsouthfield.com by Friday, May 21

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@cityofsouthfield.com Feel free to pass this newsletter on to others.



Love Red Pole Park!

Photos are frequently popping up online of Southfield's Red Pole Park. You're invited to create one of your own.