



City of Grosse Pointe Farms Informative Bulletin

www.ci.grosse-pointe-farms.mi.us

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90 Kerby Road • (313) 885-6600

Remember to Vote in the General Election

Tuesday, November 2, 2004
Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

What Will Be on Your Ballot:

National Elections

- President and Vice President of the United States
- 13th District Representative to the House of Representatives

State Elections

- 1st District State Representative
- Members of the State Board of Education
- Members of the Board of Regents of University of Michigan
- Members of the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University
- Members of the Board of Governors of Wayne State University

Local Elections

- Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney
- Wayne County Sheriff
- Wayne County Clerk
- Wayne County Treasurer
- Wayne County Register of Deeds
- Wayne County Commissioner District 1

Judicial Elections

- Justice of the Supreme Court
- Judge of the Court of Appeals 1st District
- Judges of the Circuit Court 3rd Circuit
- Judge of the Probate Court

State Proposals

Proposal 04-1

A proposal to amend the state constitution to require voter approval of any form of gambling authorized by law and certain new state lottery games.

Proposal 04-2

A proposal to amend the state constitution to specify what can be recognized as a "marriage or similar union" for any purpose.

You can view a complete sample ballot and get additional information on the City's website at www.ci.grosse-pointe-farms.mi.us

Should You Vote Absentee?

If you are 60 years of age or older, you can avoid the crowds at the polls on Election Day. Qualified and registered voters may vote by Absentee Voters Ballot. Applications for Absentee Voter's Ballot are available at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road.

Qualified and registered voters also may vote absentee if they:

- Expect to be absent from the community in which they are registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day.
- Are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.
- Cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of their religion.
- Have been appointed an Election Precinct Inspector in a precinct other than the precinct in which they reside.
- Cannot attend the polls because they are confined to jail while waiting arraignment or trial.

Other Important Election Dates

- October 30, 2004 – Last day for Absentee Ballots – Absent Ballot Office open 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- November 1, 2004 – May vote absentee at City Hall from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Work Begins on Pier Park Community Building

Construction has begun on a new Community Building at the Pier Park. After extensive input and the review of a half dozen design proposals, City Council awarded the two million dollar project to The Blake Company. The new building will be an extraordinary facility for family gatherings, boat club and swim team socials, community group meetings, special activities and private parties. The building also includes a multipurpose classroom for exciting new recreation programs and a more functional Parks and Recreation office. Residents will be able to take advantage of a veranda, a screened porch, a second floor with viewing deck of the harbor and much more.

The building is scheduled for completion in May of 2005. The Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation is continuing its fundraising effort to complete the finishing touches on our Community Building. Please consider a generous gift to the Foundation this year to further encourage private support for public good. Look for the annual appeal in your mail this November or contact City Manager Shane Reeside for further information on how you can support this exciting project.

View of the new Community Building from the interior of the Pier Park.



Harbor view with veranda and observation deck.



Pier Park Community Building Update

Pier Park Community Building Rentals

Due to the construction of the new Pier Park Community Building, the building will not be available for party or activity rental until next spring. The City of Grosse Pointe Farms will keep you updated on the availability and rental procedures of the new building as they become available.

Winter Activities

Ice skating will be open to all Farms residents (be sure to bring your park pass) and their guests at Kerby Field during the winter months, subject to weather and ice conditions. The hours of skating will be from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Parks and Recreation Department is looking into the possibility of moving ice skating at the Pier Park from the harbor area to the beach area. A decision will be made later in the winter once the safety of the proposed plan has been tested.

To confirm if conditions allow ice skating the day you plan to come, or for updates on the potential of Pier Park skating, call the Parks and Recreation Office at 343-2405.

Due to the construction at the Pier Park, Winterfest and the Halloween Party will not occur this year. **Youth are encouraged to take part in the Kerby Karnival which will be held at Kerby Elementary School, October 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will also be a Haunted House at the school that will be open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, October 29 and Saturday, October 30.**

Leaf Collection Reminder

Loose-leaf collection begins Monday, October 25, 2004

Grosse Pointe Farms will provide curbside loose-leaf collection again this fall starting on October 25. The main objective of the program is to increase the level of service to City residents and help maintain a clean environment by eliminating plastic bags from the waste stream.

Our unique broom-and-chute collection method has been recognized nationally as a superior municipal innovation for cost savings to taxpayers. Although leaf collection provides added convenience, there is no perfect method. Parked cars, loose piles of leaves scattered by the wind and increased sewer blockage during rainstorms are among the challenges the City faces during this process. Narrower streets and 73 dead ends and cul-de-sacs further compound these challenges in Grosse Pointe Farms. Your cooperation is appreciated and necessary in overcoming these challenges. Please help the success of this program by adhering to the following rules:

- No parking on streets during collection day. Leaf piles that are inaccessible cannot be collected. Due to equipment and manpower demands, leaves not collected because of an obstructed vehicle will not be collected until the following week.
- **Do not put leaves at curb until the night before collection.** Avoid piling leaves over storm drains. Open drains will reduce the potential for storm drains becoming clogged and reduce the instances of temporary street flooding during heavy rains.
- Do not allow children to play in leaf piles on or near the street because it puts them in danger of vehicular traffic.
- Separate brush from leaf piles on the grass at the back of the curb so it can be collected and loaded by hand.

In addition, there are areas of the city that require unique collection procedures due to narrow streets, no driveways for vehicles, etc. In some areas, traffic may have to be re-routed or traffic lanes reduced so crews can work expeditiously and safely. Residences with unusual situations will receive a separate notice indicating how their leaves will be collected.

It is estimated that the average resident used to spend six (6) hours per season bagging leaves. With more than 4,000 households in the community, our leaf collection method reduces the overall time spent bagging leaves by 24,000 hours. Not having to purchase special bags for leaf collection also saves additional time and expense.

Container Size Limitation

Due to an increase in strains and injuries to Public Works employees, oversized trash containers will no longer be collected after December 31, 2004. By City Ordinance, trash containers are limited to a maximum of 32 gallons in size and filled to a maximum of 50 pounds.

Your cooperation in assisting our Department of Public Works employees to do their job safely and efficiently is greatly appreciated.

Fall Season Safety Check

With the start of the heating and cooling season, the Public Safety Department recommends the following:

- Have your furnace or boiler inspected by a qualified service person prior to startup.
- Change your furnace filters monthly.
- Inspect the integrity of the combustion chamber in all fireplaces and wood-burning stoves and similar devices.
- Have all flues professionally cleaned.
- Place carbon monoxide and smoke detectors in each occupied bedroom and have at least one on each floor of the house.

It is recommended that bedroom doors be kept closed when you are sleeping. Plan and practice fire drills and establish an emergency meeting place well away from your house in case of a fire.

Obtain and affix a window sticker that identifies a child's bedroom. Stickers are available upon request from the Public Safety Department.

If you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to call the Fire Division at 885-2100 (ext. 1209) or the Fire Inspector (ext. 1208).



City of Grosse Pointe Farms Receives Environmental Recognition

The City of Grosse Pointe Farms recently received the Michigan Green Industry's Chairman's Award and the National Arbor Foundation's Growth Award for commitment to the protection and preservation of native trees such as elm and ash. The awards are given annually to groups or individuals who through leadership and example contribute to the quality of our environment and the magnificence of the landscape. Mayor Jim Farquhar (*shown far right*) accepted the Chairman's award on behalf of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms.



City Contacts

Grosse Pointe Farms City Offices
90 Kerby Road
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
www.ci.grosse-pointe-farms.mi.us

Administration 885-6600
Elections and registrations, council meetings, ordinances, birth and death certificates, taxes and tax rates, assessments, collections and water bills, accounts and finance.

Public Service 885-4285
Building permits, engineering, inspections, pest control, recycling, refuse disposal, regulations, sidewalks, streets, tree service, water and sewers and zoning.

Parks and Recreation 343-2405
Gate House: 343-2375
Pool Office 343-2476
Bathhouse 343-9535

Pier Park, Kerby Field, marina, class schedules, Community Building rental and picnic and temporary park permits.

Municipal Court 885-2104
Public Safety (Police & Fire) 885-2100
Ambulance and Emergencies 911
Poison Control 745-5711



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90 Kerby Road
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Charles S. "Terry" Davis, *Mayor Pro Tem*
Therese Joseph
Joseph Leonard
Doug Roby
Louis Theros
Peter W. Waldmeir

City Manager
Shane Reeside