

Volume 6 Issue 21

## Allen Park Guardian

Phone: 734-636-3779

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Hamilton Publishing

## APHS HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME



Story and more photos on page 8. Photos By Jim Jacek.

## **Dunleavy's AOH Golf Outing 2023**







Story and more photos on page 6. Photos By Tom Hamilton.

### **APFD Says Happy Retirement** to Chief Ed Cann





Story and more photos on page 4.







# *for* Allen Park City Council

A friend and neighbor you can trust. A leader you can always depend on.

### My Priorities

- Uphold Justice, Public Safety, and Demand Full Police Department and Fire Department Employment
- **Empower and Support Small Businesses**
- Invest and Rebuild Our Infrastructure with a First Class Downtown
- **Grow Our Strong Schools**
- Always Stand Up For Families, Veterans, Seniors, Disabled Persons, Retirees, and Union Workers
- Transparent and Honest Government

### Your Councilman

- Councilman Since 2019
- **Graduate of Michigan State University**
- **Public Leadership Certificate Honoree**
- **Dedicated Father and Husband**
- **U.S. Army Veteran**
- Supply Chain Manager and Businessman
- Parishioner of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church
- Trustee at Knights of Columbus, Father Saylor #3774
- Member of:
  - American Legion
  - Allen Park Legal Affairs Committee
  - Allen Park Economic Development Committee
  - Michigan Municipal League
- Advocate of the Allen Park Police Department and the Allen Park Fire Department
- Proud Supporter of the Allen Park DDA and the Allen Park Chamber of Commerce

Re-Elect Schlack by November 7th!



#### Accomplishments

- Balanced budget 4-consecutive years!
- Increased police and fire funding and guaranteed annual road improvements!
- Expended weekly trash and recycling collection!
- ✓ World-class Public Safety building, revamped our parks, and community center!
- ✓ Worked with the DDA, small businesses, and city commissions!
- Led community during Covid-19 pandemic!
- Attended over 100 community events!
- Hosted office hours and community conversations!
- ✓ Attended government relations conferences and brought fresh ideas to city council!
- Collaborated with neighboring communities to strengthen Downriver!

Paid for by Friends of Gary Schlack, 15634 Russell Ave. Allen Park, MI 48101

Re-Elect Schlack by November 7th!





Facebook.com/GSAPCC

**Endorsements** 

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

TRADES COUNCIL

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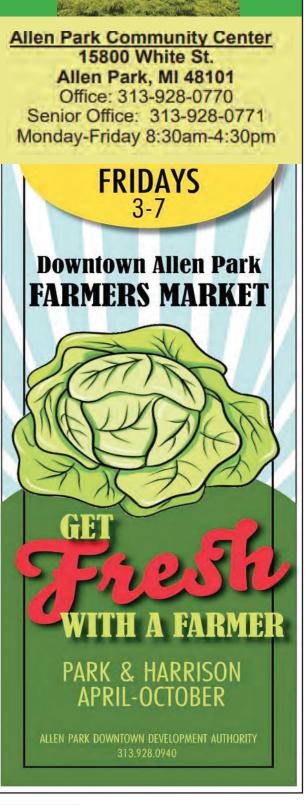
Mon-Thurs 11:30am-9pm Fri & Sat 11:30am - 10pm Sun 11am-9pm Sun Brunch 11am-2pm Nightly Entertainment

## Savings in the Guardian









### Allen Park Guardian

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#### Mission Statement:

Hard work, good work and creating and fostering great relationships are the keys to community success.



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Allen Park Guardian October 13, 2023 Page 3



DAMAGED PROPERTY

Date: 9/14/2023

Location: 1000 CHAMPAIGN RD, ALLEN PARK, MI Time: N/A

Location: 3000 ENTERPRISE,

ALLEN PARK, MI

Time: N/A

2023-9140 09/14/2023 **Location:** 1000 Champaign Rd **Victim Vehicle:** 2023 Red Kia Forte Insurance: **State Farm:** Damaged property: On 09/14/2023 an Officer was dispatched to 1000 Champaign

vehicle that was damaged sometime over the night. Upon arrivcame out to her car this morning and noticed the back passenger side window was shattered. Upon the

Rd for the report of a Officer's further observation he noticed the steering column was torn apart as well. al the Officer met with Nothing was taken the listed victim at her from the vehicle acvehicle, she stated she cording to the victim. There are no suspects at this time. There are no cameras in the

RECOVERED STOLEN

Date: 9/12/2023

09-12-2023 **Recovered Stolen Location: 3700 Enter**prise, Allen Park **Victim: Penske Details:** On 09-12-2023, an Officer was dis-

recovered stolen compliant. Upon arrival, the Officer spoke DCD informed Harpwith the Manager). They informed that was recovered and to the recovered vehicle remove from LEIN. was stolen out Harper patched by DCD to Woods and returned

3000 Enterprise for a to the nearest location after recovery (Allen Park location). er Woods that vehicle

**RECOVERED STOLEN** 

Date: 9/11/2023

9-11-23 **Stolen Vehicle** Location: 1000 Goddard **Stolen vehicle:** -2007 Ford F450 Dump truck, tan in color, no lettering/ plate on the vehicle **Details:** An Officer was dispatched to the listed Location: 1000 GODDARD, ALLEN PARK, MI Time: N/A

building, backed in, facing sound. The vehicle was last seen 9-9-23 at 1700hrs. The vehicle was locked and did not have keys. He advised that he asked

location for a stolen several businesses in vehicle. They advised the area if they had that the listed vehi- cameras and that he cle was parked on could not find a place the South side of the with cameras facing this location. DCD entered the vehicle as stolen and statefarm insurance but didn't have the policy #.

## "Art of Music 2" fundraiser returns in support of Michigan Philharmonic's 78th

season

For those who missed it last year, the Michigan Phil-"Art of harmonic's Music 2" fundraiser returns in October to take guests inside one of Plymouth's most unique homes owned by an art collector and local philanthropist.

Planned for Saturday, Oct. 14 from 6-9 p.m. at the home of Walt Menard, a local philanthropist, art collector and music lover, the evening will help support the Philharmonic's 78th season that kicked off in September.

The special evening includes a strolling experience inside Menard's custom-built home on Deer Street with live music by the Philharmonic, wine, drinks (including a "signature" Tito's cocktail) and a selection of to support the Philharlight food.

This is a wonderful way to celebrate art is so unique, there are and music while exploring the exceptional home of Plymouth's "most eligible bachelor." Menard's home is a Plymouth original that includes a theater, wine cellar, lounge deck, and a raised "bridge" con-

necting the front and back of the home, as well as his personal art collection.

Part of Menard's impressive art collection will be for sale that evening with 10% of the proceeds going monic.

Because this event only 100 tickets available. Tickets are \$78 per person (in honor of the 78th season) or \$130 for a couple. To purchase tickets, go to michiganphil.org call (734) 673-7220.

## Allen Park **Police** Department Weekly Summary

**LARCENY** 

Date: 9/11/2023

9-11-23 Larceny **Location: 1000 Park** Vi: **Property stolen: Black** 

Haro Shredder with white lettering-BMX style bike **Details:** 

Location: 1000 PARK, ALLEN PARK, MI Time: 6:00 PM

An Officer was dis- len from the front location for a stolen bike. When the Officer arrived he spoke eras on the house. to the victim who advised that around 1800hrs on 9-11-23 that his bike was sto-

patched to the listed yard. It is unknown who took the bike, they do not have cam-

He could not provide the serial number at this time.

## **APFD Says Happy** Retirement to Chief **Ed Cann**





> continued from page 1 From: Allen Park Fire Department

"It's a bittersweet day as we celebrate Allen Park Fire Department Chief Ed Cann's official retireserved 18

years to the City of Allen Park - Government and its Citizens. He was a great Chief, loved by all and we wish him well in his retirement!

Thank you to ment. Chief Cann Mayor Gail Vitali Retirement Ed! faithful McLeod, City Ad-

ministrator Mark Kibby, Councilman Gary Schlack, HR Tanya White, and all the retirees and people that came to give Chief Cann an amazing send off." Happy

## **Obituaries**

### **Kerry Pulcifer**



September 30, 2023

Kerry Pulcifer, of Allen Park, passed away September 30, Dear mother of Taylor, Kaylie, Brianna, Donald (Carol), and Alaina, Logahn, Aliyah, Carolann, Nylah,

December 5, 1973 Noah, and on the way, D.J. Beloved daughter of Douglas (Barbara) Wilson and Deborah Sheick. Cherished sis-Loving wife ter of Sarah (Patrick), of Sheldon Pulcifer. Brian (Jessica), Beth (John), the late Paul, William (Riane), and Jacob (Elyse). She is Cody. Proud Gigi of survived by many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins

and many other loving family members and

friends. Kerry was such a generous person, since her birthday was in December, she never wanted birthday presents, but she would rather everyone donate to Toys for Tots so the children could celebrate Christmas by opening presents. She loved traveling and was a very outgoing person, she made friends anywhere and everywhere she went. She cherished the time spent with family and friends.

A memorial gathering will be held at The Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Kerry to Toys for Tots.

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# H!!:

CABRINI SPORTS

From: Sara Bardelli

Varsity boys soccer won against Frankel on October 5th.

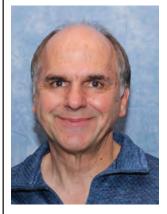
Varsity girls cross country won first place at the Wayne County

Championships for the 3/4 division.

Ava teed broke the Jewish Academy 6-1 school record for cross country again with a time of 18:40.6.



## AP Member of the Week: Jim Jacek



Chamber member of the week is Jim Jacek. He has been taking pictures for the Allen Park Guardian since the first issue came out 5 years ago in September 2018. He also He does have the abildelivers the papers to ity to print pictures

The Allen Park the businesses in Allen Park for the customers to take. Jim does a lot of photography, including reunions, sports, weddings, homecomings, proms, and parties.

on site, including 5 x 7 and 8 x 10 prints. In addition to photography, he also has his own DJ Service, if you need music for your events. You can reach him at 313-949-1518, or by email at jimjacek@gmail.com.



## Top Shelf Liquor **Hosts** Kendall lenner

From: Jim Jacek

Kendall Jenner was Park promoting her 818 Tequila. Fans were

on hand to meet and greet her, and had a at Top Shelf in Allen chance to be in a photo with her.



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## Dunleavy's AOH Golf Outing 2023

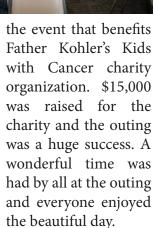


> continued from page 1 By Charla Hamilton charlachelseaguardian@gmail.com

tember 23, Dunleavy's held their annual AOH



Golf Outing at Inkster Valley. Around 160 golfers participated in





## Dunleavy's Reveals New Sign!





## Re-Elect Gail McLeod for Allen Park Mayor



**VOTE ABSENTEE OR AT THE POLLS ON NOVEMBER 7** 

Facebook-Gail McLeod, Mayor or Contact Gail at electgmcleod@gmail.com

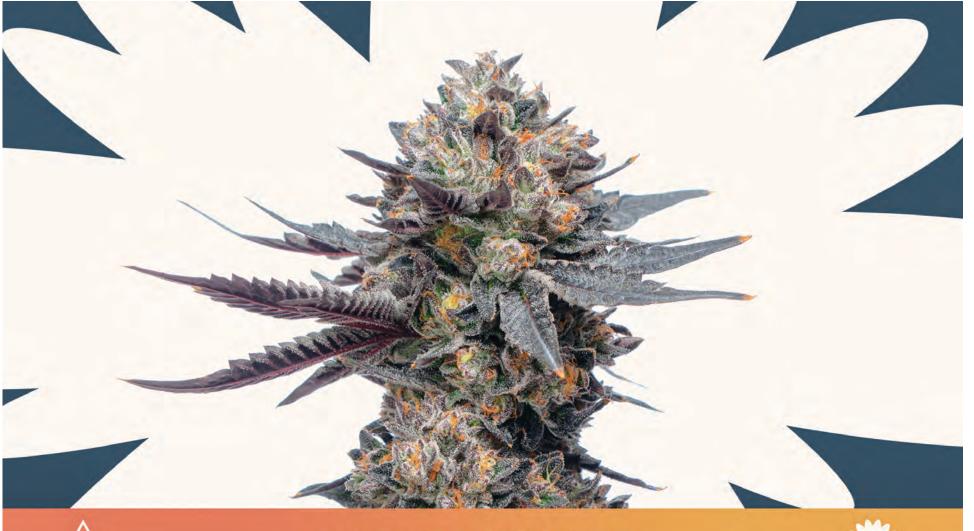


- Allen Park Mayor, 2019 to Present
- Allen Park Mayor Pro Tem, 2015-2019
- **Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority representing 13 Downriver Communities, Chair - January, 2020 to Present**
- Allen Park Emergency Manager's Advisory Committee, Co-Chair - 2013-2014
- Founding member of the Allen Park Citizens Civic Fund (APCCF) a non-profit helping the City
- APCCF Board Director and Secretary since 2015
- **Bachelor's Degree, Business Administration-Personnel University of Detroit**
- **Corporate Personnel Manager**
- **Human Resources Consultant**

"Over the past 4 years, we have improved our infrastructure and services and I want to ensure that we continue on that path."









**PLEASANTREES** 



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# APHS HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME





continued from page 1From: Jim Jacek

Allen Park High School held their homecoming football game on September 29, 2023. The final score was Allen Park High School 50 Wyandotte 14. During halftime, Ellie Lauth was chosen as the homecoming queen, and Gryphon Alwell was chosen as the homecoming king.

## Made in Michigan Festival 2023



#### From: Jim Jacek

The Allen Park Downtown Development Authority held their Made In Michigan Festival on September 22 and 23 on Allen Road. The festival had vendors, food trucks, live entertainment, and a chance to support the Allen Park businesses.





# Fall Fest held at Inter-City Baptist

#### From: Jim Jacek

Inter-City Baptist Church in Allen Park held a Fall Fest on October 4, 2023 on their church property at 4700 Allen Road in Allen Park. Activities included a hay maze, a hay ride, fowling (throwing a football at bowling pins), wall climbing, tricycle riding, face painting, and lots of donuts and cider.











City of Allen Park

Partnering with

ShredCorp.

## SHRED DAY

Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**LOCATION CHANGE:** 

Parking Lot off of Philomene

(behind the Prestige Banquet Hall/Culver's/PNC Bank)

Between Allen Road and Bob Seger Boulevard

Please ENTER Philomene from Allen Road and EXIT on Bob Seger Boulevard

#### What to Shred

Limit - 3 standard size boxes of: Office Paper (any color) File folders (any color) No need to remove staples, paper clips or rubber bands

#### What not to Shred

Cardboard, Plastics or Metal Common Trash Hazardous Materials CD's or DVD's Batteries or Hard Drives









## Allen Park State of the City

#### From: Gail McLeod **PURPOSE**

..., since we have residents, I am going to give a brief summary of where we were, what we've achieved, and where we are headed.

#### **HISTORY**

In the fall of 2012, Allen Park was in financial trouble. A downturn in the economy, decisions made without consideration of budgetary restraints, and an ill-advised buy-in into a highly touted project placed us under State supervision. Unfortunately, staffing was reduced in many departments and everyone's wages were cut. For the next 4-1/2 years, decisions were made for us or had to be approved by the State. On January 27, 2017, we were finally deemed fit to conduct business as a City. There were a lot of hard lessons learned from this experience.

#### **FINANCE**

In November of 2005, the City had a bond rating of A with a stable outlook,. .... In 2015, our bond rating hit a low of CCC+, impacting our ability to borrow at reasonable rates.

Other factors which had, and still have, a negative impact on all of us is the decline in revenue received from property taxes and a

change in State revenue Baptist round out the sharing.

In 2008, the taxable seen an influx of new value of our property was \$1,037,125,624. In 2023, the taxable value of our property is \$939,280,114. ... a steady decline in taxable value starting in 2008; and in 2016, our taxable value hit a low of \$720,219,319. article in the second quarter Allen Park Today magazine gives an overview about what we collect in property taxes and what we get to keep.

As of June 30, 2008 we had total revenue of over \$23,000,000 and expenses of over \$22,000,000 leaving us with general funds of over \$1,600,000. As of June 30, 2022, our total revenue was over \$24,000,000 and expenditures were over \$23,800,000 leaving us with general funds of \$317,529, more than \$1,295,000 less than 14 years ago. Despite rising costs and the fact that today's dollars do not go as far as they used to, our City has managed to progress and improve.

Allen Park is also fortunate to be served by excellent schools and school districts. community is served by the Allen Park, the Melvindale/Northern Allen Park, and the Southgate School districts. Cabrini and Inter-City

educational tions which make Allen missions. sequently, to businesses. The newly opened Melvindale High School on the former Baker College campus is a testament to the growth and investment our schools are making in our future leaders.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Safety is very important to all who either live or work in Allen Park. Our police and fire departments are well-trained and highly regarded and, most importantly, strongly supported by our community. We continue to strive to provide both our police and fire personnel with the newest technology and equipment that will make their jobs easier, keep them safe, and position them to provide the highest level of service to our residents and businesses. Every firefighter is required to be a paramedic. And, even though we face the same staffing issues as every community throughout the United States, our Police and Fire Chiefs have continued to pursue and explore creative and innovative ways to attract, hire, and train individuals to fill open-

SUPPORTING **ORGANIZATIONS** 

ings.

institu- active Boards and Com-Park attractive to many my key objective is Planning Commission homebuyers and, sub- to ensure each Board and one is a voting and Commission has a strong, effective team. I have recruited and continue to personally court volunteers to fill open positions and develop a pool of candidates. ... we continue to encourage residents and businesses to contribute to our growth and development..... I won't mention all the roles and responsibilities of these Boards and

#### services to the City. CITY COUNCIL munity.

Commissions... These

Boards and Commissions provide valuable

AND MAYOR Before I close, I want to make everyone aware of our job requirements, which have changed over time and go beyond two Council meetings a month. There are four Council Committees: Community Affairs, Economic Development, Legal Affairs, and Municipal Complex. Of these, Legal Affairs meets monthly. Every council member is assigned to two of these committees. Members of Community Affairs and Economic Development are liaisons to City Boards and Commissions and should attend those meetings, even though

Allen Park has 14 tee may not meet. A council member is a As Mayor, voting member of the member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

In addition, there are other organizations' meetings that I or others attend, including meetings of the Downriver Community Conference, Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority and the Downtown Development Authority.

#### **CLOSURE**

While there are still many challenges, I'm proud of what we have accomplished, working as a team to make us a better, more stable com-

This Council and the preceding council have worked hard to ensure that we are employing qualified individuals to provide services to our community while equipping them with the tools and technology to provide those services, all while being mindful of the revenue at our disposal. We continue to review equipment and resources every budget year, updating our five-year plan, and planning ahead for major and routine capital improvements.

Allen Park has always been resilient. With good management and the ability to make tough decisions, we can continue to grow

and prosper by working together. It takes teamwork to keep us on the right path. Our team is focused on the needs of our community; realizes our financial limitations and is able to prioritize spending for the benefit of both our employees and our community. It is our responsibility and the responsibility of those who succeed us to understand that, at times, we may need to make some difficult decisions. It is easy to say yes; it is often difficult to say no, but we owe it to our residents, our employees, and our retirees to make the right decisions for the right reasons.

As Mayor Council we work to ensure Allen Park remains financially stable. We are mindful, however, that this could change. It would not take much to find ourselves in financial distress if we do not continue to be fiscally responsible and live within our means. We have a balanced budget with appropriate reserves. Our current bond rating is A+ - the highest it has ever been.

Moving forward, we will continue to do everything possible to make Allen Park a place where people want to live, work, and play by providing services for the changing needs of the community. With your help and support, we can do just that.

their Council Commit-Allen Park Guardian October 13, 2023 Page 10



