



Clownie Connection

The Parade Company Volunteer Newsletter

November/December 2020 | Issue #6

OH, WHAT A YEAR!

It's no doubt that 2020 has been a year to remember. This year has not been easy, but there were a few bright spots. Among them were our volunteers and their relentless positivity and selfless spirit.

We are so very grateful to all of you for helping us get through this wild year! We could not do what we do without you!

With the vaccine on the way, we hope a return to normalcy is not far behind. Mark your calendar for the Ford Fireworks and Rooftop Party presented by Ford on June 28, 2021!

We will definitely keep you updated as more events are confirmed. Please watch your email for updates.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

Cheers to better days in 2021!!





FUN FACT! WDIV-TV recorded portions of the Parade a few blocks from our Studio after we learned we could not be live on Thanksgiving Day. They did an amazing job! Kudos to WDIV & the Parade Co team for their creative, can-do spirit and for making it happen!

In Case You Missed It

If you missed the Parade, you can check it out by clicking on the following links:

<https://wdiv.screenlight.tv/shares/CKoDYrriKhMkxOGX4LC0bdcsOFFguTkY>

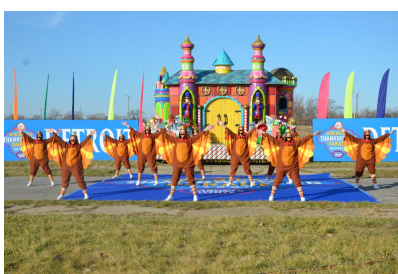
ATP20 - with commercials

<https://wdiv.screenlight.tv/shares/OLxGCe13Z7aJfA5m6V5menBiSuUjkKDI>

ATP20 - without commercials

****Be sure to watch for one of our new Balloons, "Turkey Tom" proudly sponsored by our amazing partner, the Michigan Wildlife Council!**

Learn more about Michigan Wildlife Council and all of their conservation efforts at hereformioutdoors.org





READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Check out the links below to read some great articles! The Macomb Daily features our very own COO, Jessica Kaminskas! The Grosse Pointe News has an awesome write up on TPC volunteers Mark and Denise Van Sile and how they are spreading holiday cheer! Enjoy!!

12/10/2020 However different, there will still be a parade to watch on Thanksgiving Day morning | L. Baskies | macombdaily.com

https://www.macombdaily.com/files/yes/however-different-there-will-still-be-a-parade-to-watch-on-thanksgiving-day-morning/article_c47c7f6e-2e72-11eb-9c0c-34e954ebd2d1.html
However different, there will still be a parade to watch on Thanksgiving Day morning
By Gina Joseph gjoeph@medianewsgroup.com; @ginajoseph on Twitter
Nov 26, 2020



Jessica Kaminskas, chief operating officer for the Parade Company, said America's Thanksgiving Parade presented by Gardner White will be different, being a televised-only production. But she's still excited about the show that families will wake up to see on Thanksgiving Day morning. Photo courtesy of the Parade Company

America's Thanksgiving Parade presented by Gardner White is a televised-only production this year due to the pandemic, but it's still going to be a great show to watch on Thursday morning.

"It's important to carry on this tradition," said Jessica Kaminskas of Washington Township, who knows firsthand what the parade means to Michiganders.

She saw it when she was a little girl.

https://www.macombdaily.com/files/yes/however-different-there-will-still-be-a-parade-to-watch-on-thanksgiving-day-morning/article_c47c7f6e-2e72-11eb-9c0c-34e954ebd2d1.html

[Macomb Daily Article featuring our very own COO Jessica Kaminskas!](#)

Grosse Pointe News 80

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Farms man's light display a reflection on childhood

By Judy McVigh on December 17, 2020

One cannot drive down Lakeshore Road this time of year without noticing the glow coming from a certain house in Grosse Pointe Farms.



The Van Sile welcome guests to stroll through their decorated yard at Lakeshore and Monroe. Photos by Renee Lander

For 25 years, Mark Van Sile has gone above and beyond decorating his home at the corner of Lakeshore and Monroe for all to see.

"I had a fantastic childhood growing up in Grosse Pointe," Van Sile said. "It was an idyllic childhood. ... Holidays were very special. I was lucky to have all four grandparents alive for a big portion of my childhood. It was a time I wish I could go back to for the holidays."

That's what the third-generation Grosse Pointer tries to do, spending around 100 hours each year decorating the outdoors with lights, filling the air with cheerful music. He uses a lift, with assistance from his brothers, to do the high-up work, then finishes the decorating himself on the ground.

[Grosse Pointe News Article featuring TPC Volunteers Mark and Denise Van Sile](#)

Wednesday, November 25, 2020 The Detroit News | detroitnews.com

ARTS & STYLE

A PARADE CELEBRATION MADE FOR TV

Grand marshals for this year's televised-only event is a group of 10 frontline workers



The "New Year's Eve" that the U.S. will celebrate this year is a televised-only production. But the parade tradition lives on in a different way. The parade, which has been held since 1928, is being presented by Gardner White. This year's parade is a celebration of the frontline workers who have kept the country running through the pandemic. The parade will be held on Thursday, November 26, at 10 a.m. on the Detroit River. The parade will feature a variety of floats, including a float for the Detroit Police Department, a float for the Detroit Fire Department, and a float for the Detroit Public Schools. The parade will also feature a variety of performers, including the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Detroit Opera House, and the Detroit Ballet. The parade will be broadcast live on television and online.

[Detroit News: A Parade Celebration Made For TV](#)



2020 PARADE PIN

If you are interested in getting a 2020 Parade pin, you can now purchase one online. Pins are available for purchase on our website for \$9.00 each. Purchases are online only.

To purchase, visit:
<https://theparade.org/shop/>



NEW VOLUNTEER VIRTUAL ORIENTATION ZOOM MEETING JAN 21, 5-6 PM

We will resume new volunteer orientations starting Jan 21. The orientations will be offered online via Zoom. We'll go over volunteer guidelines, how to

use Volgistics (our volunteer management system), and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to attend, please send an email to **kleverett@theparade.org**.

If you cannot make it, no worries! We will offer more training dates throughout the winter.



Sharon Addison
Lakeeta Addison
Rahaf Alqahtani
Kristin Anderson
Terrian Auston
Devante Baker
Janessa Baker
Austin Baumgart
Erica Birth
Barbara Bogus
Pat Borowski
Cynthia Boyer
Anya Bradford
Ann Brin
Hilary Bristoll
Kimberlynn Bryant
Leola Burrell
James Burt
Guy Busquaert
Willandrea Carter
Bridget Chaney
Dierk Chapman
Lenore Cheney
Lawarren Clayborn
Rohnneak Clemons
Kenyatta Coleman
Gilda Cornejo
Patricia Cox
Kimberly Craig Thompson
Renee Davis
Douglas Davis
Jennifer Dechane
Nilima Dilip Kalange
Patrice Donnelly
Cora Durham
Mary Elzerman
Maureen Enright
Shernetta Evans
Larry Felstow
Debbie Ferguson
Jo Fetsco
Aubrey Fetzner
Anabel Fierro
Patty Flack
Teresa Fletcher
Tanya Gant
Jessica Gehrke
Karen Glenz

Roxane Green
Tim Haber
Michael Hallisy
Jamey Harper
Kimberly Harris
Steve Hattey
Peggy Hawke
Terone Hough
Judi Huber
Patricia Hunt
Rick Hunt
Sasha Jackson
Elizabeth Jarocki
Lauren Jimerson
Allen Johnson
Sarah Johnson
Myron Jones
Brenda Jones
Nikki Jones
Kaylie Kaitschuck
Karl Kaspirek
Amy Kessler
Justin Kienle
Sydney Krug
Oksana Lanning
Jorell Lawrence
Lori Lecour
Kenyon Leggs
Anna Lewis
Patricia Lockhart
Elaine Logan
Julianne Lyons
Pam Macioce
Madeleine Macy
Ava Margalski
Michelle Martin
Sonji Martin
Jody Martin
Trish Mcaulay
Ryan Mcaulay
Al Mccoul
Marlene Mcfadden
Susan Mchenry
Andrew Melynyky
Anjail Mohammed
Debra Moore
Shelly Murphy
Walt Newman
Marie Okopski

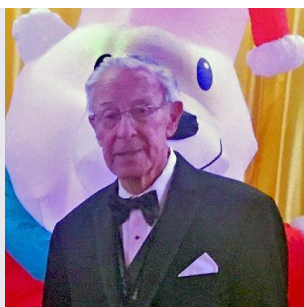
April Osborn
Carletta Page
Andrea Powell
Jean Pursell
Sandra Rellinger
Khadijah Rice
Dayja Richardson
Destine Richardson
Judy Rochon
Sheryl Roff
Laura Rooks
Pam Rossi
Marion Sanders
Nilda Santana
Lawrence Santavicca
Luz Santiago
Bridgett Sears
Bernice Skeen
Wanda Smith
Sheila Smith
Jason Sousa
A Stafford Mcdonald
Lisa Standfield
Meredith Stedman
Marianne Szymborski
Jennifer Taylor
David Thomas
Kahdeem Thomas
Judith Thomas
Erin Torres
Dwayne Townsell
Jade Trusel
Nora Tuazon
David Turnwald
Avery Udell
Melissa Vannouvong
Rebecca Vincent
Gabrielle Walker
John Washington
Shanecia Whitley
Christopher Willemsen
Terri Williams-Atkins
Jerry Wirtz
David Wood
Conuetta Wright
Yolanda Young
David Zerafa
Al Zitny
Zachary Zuchowski



Karen Andrusiak
Wilma Babb
Annette Baka
Minyon Banks-Smith
Bill Barker
Kathleen Beebe
Trista Billingsley
Annette Black
Carolyn Blackman
Randi Borys
Lori Capper
Anita Carman
Sheila Cassidy
Diane Chick
Carol Chodun
Timothy Cholyway
Dina Coleman
Ken Collier
Keisha Cook
Melisa Czuchaj
Vaughn Davis
Mary Dean
Keith Dibble
Elianta Dimanche
Courtney Dimiceli
Mike Dobson
Joe Doher
Nancy Dore
Rachel Dresser
Carol Dunn
Karen Dunnam
Donna Eckstein
Christina England
Jenifer Esch
Jada Ester
Christine Ewald
Eileen Finnegan
Frank Ford
Robin Fuelling
David Gebhard
Richelle Geiger

Sharon Gipson
Jackson Glaspie
Gloria Glenn
Jacob Gluski
Victor Goldstein
Diane Graham
Aundrea Hamilton
Diane Harris
Germaine Harville
Madelyn Helms
Blair Hess
Deborah Hodge
Terry Holcomb
Norma Hollins
Tammy Hooper
Yohance Irby
Dionne Isadore
Heidi Ives
Patricia Jackson
Rima Jasser
Elaine Johnson
Brianna Kabrick
Linda Keith
Robert Klingensmith
Heather Kolf
Katie Krawczyk
Shawn Krist
Janet Kubiak
Renetta Kunnath
Christoper Lesniak
Karen Lewandowski
Charlotte Lewis
Jane Losensky
Diontay Marshall
Latoya Mason
Marilyn Mayberry
Greg Mcdonel
Madeline McGee
Jennifer McMullen
Pat Miller
Terri Miller
Chalonda Mitchell-Boykin

Symone Morris
Desiree Muschick
Jim Nardecchia
Jeff Neubacher
Robert Newwson
Krystal Oberski
Mary Obryan
Louise Ogadinma
Justin Ortnr
Susan Oswald
Kimberly Partee
Kimber Peach
Danelle Picano
Yvonne Pless
Toni Price
Katana Raymond
Vinson Rehfeld
Susan Richter
Kim Ried
Debra Royal
Joseph Rusnak
Nicole Salloum
Leah Schultz
Rebecca Schutter
Caroline Schwartz
Arpit Sethi
Patrick Shivers
Melissa Skiles
Courtney Smith
Jeanette Smith
Anthony Sparks
Fred Spennachio
Rich Stringer
Mykaiya Sumling
Stephanie Szymanski
Jnaeiva Treadwell
Mark Van Sile
Nancy Wade
Cheryl Warnock
Ross Wilber
Burnell Williams
Debbie Wrobel



RICHARD BAILEY
Apr 16, 1927 - Dec 18, 2020

So Long to a Dear Friend

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Richard Bailey. Richard had been a volunteer of the Parade Company since the early '80s, and he was loved by all who knew him. During his tenure at TPC, he was named "Volunteer of the Year" in 2017 and was featured as a Volunteer Spotlight that same year (see below).

We are so grateful for Richard's many years of service.

He will be greatly missed.

Please click on the following link for Richard's obituary.

<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/Richard-Bailey-28/>

[Click here for larger view](#)



Richard Bailey doing what he loves ... helping in the Studio!



Richard and Rick at the 2017 Volunteer Thank You Party

Volunteer Spotlight: Richard Bailey

This tribute originally was posted in 2017 and was written by Richard's son, Rick Bailey.



Rick Bailey (l) and Richard Bailey(r) at the 2017 Hob Nobble Gobble® presented by Ford

Richard's involvement with volunteering began in the early 1980's. For many years, while working at General Motors Richard volunteered a week of his summer vacation time at the Montmorency County 4-H Fair in Atlanta, MI.

In 1982, with the help of a good friend who had a contact at the Big Boy restaurant chain, he wore the Big Boy costume and brought smiles to the faces of kids and adults at the 4-H Fair. The following year, once again with the help of his good friend, he obtained the Smokey the Bear costume from the Department of Natural Resources, which he wore at the 4-H Fair. This was the year that Smokey the Bear made his first appearance in Michigan's Thanksgiving Day Parade. From that year forward, Richard was hooked on being part of the magic on Thanksgiving morning on Woodward Avenue to become an active member the Parade's volunteer work force. In the summer of 1984, Richard dressed up in the Tony the Tiger costume at the 4-H Fair.

Over the course of the next several years, Richard would borrow a costume from the large assortment of costumes in the Parade's wardrobe cases in which he wore at the 4-H Fair each summer. Costumes such as a raccoon and alligator were a crowd favorite at the 4-H Fair.

Over the years on Thanksgiving morning, he spent many Parades dressed as a clown, bringing smiles to kids and adults alike along Woodward Avenue. Richard also experienced being a balloon handler on Thanksgiving morning and discovered it was a lot more work than he expected but still had a great time twirling the balloon to the cheers of the crowd. There were several Parades in which he was a float driver and most recently he has been volunteering on Parade morning working at the Sponsor Breakfast.

Richard's love for the Parade continues throughout the year as he enjoys working in the Parade Studio--dismantling old floats, cleaning up the floats, helping bring new floats to life, and even helping to clean up the Studio where the floats are built. Throughout the years, Richard has also volunteered for the Ford Fireworks Rooftop party on the parking deck roof top along the Detroit Riverfront. Richard has also volunteered at the Hob Nobble Gobble for many years.

FUN FACTS ABOUT

RICHARD BAILEY

- Started volunteering for the Parade in 1983
- Celebrated his 90th birthday in 2017
- Contributes more than 150 volunteer hours each year!!

More Moments & Memories

2020



THANK YOU!!