

Highland to host the Civility Project July 30

The Highland Township Civility Campaign, a local movement dedicated to bringing kindness and understanding to the community, has partnered with the Civility Project to invite residents to join a special Zoom session on July 30.

The call with well-known journalists and Stephen Henderson will help people to find ways to better understand one another in an increasingly difficult time.

“We are honored to bring the Civility Project to Highland Township,” says Stephen Henderson, executive editor of BridgeDetroit and host of “Detroit Today” on WDET FM. “Anywhere people are interested in finding ways to understand one another, we want to encourage that instinct. We are better when we can truly listen.”

Sponsored by Delta Dental, the evening session will explore the importance of civility, find ways to be civil in increasingly turbulent times, and how to spread civility as the country ramps up to the presidential election this fall.

The evening session will engage participants in conversation that explores opportunities for building civility in their own relationships, workplaces and communities. Held on Zoom, small groups of participants will connect in breakout rooms throughout the session, putting the parameters of civility to work.

“Now more than ever we need to find ways to share differences in a healthy way. We’re very excited about this opportunity



Stephen Henderson



Nolan Finley

nity to have Nolan Finley and Stephen Henderson help us find a way to better communications and understanding,” said Jude Halloran, Highland Township Library director.

The Civility Project seeks to bring people of opposing viewpoints together for healthy disagreement, personal interactions and constructive conversations. The workshop will include ways to listen to others, and a discussion of why listening is important.

“Highland Township is putting tough issues front and center,” says Nolan Finley, editorial page editor of *The Detroit News*. “The desire of township leaders to address issues of inequality and tension through productive conversation and empower people with the tools to build civility is making them a leader in civic dialogue.”

The Highland Civility Campaign was created in 2019, and sponsored a community dinner last fall. Congresswoman Haley Stevens, State Senator Ruth Johnson, along with Highland leaders and dozens of residents, gathered for dinner and a discussion of how to promote and nurture kindness and civility in the community.

To register for the program, visit <https://bit.ly/HighlandCivility>. The free call will take place on July 30 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Memorial service planned for former Highland supervisor

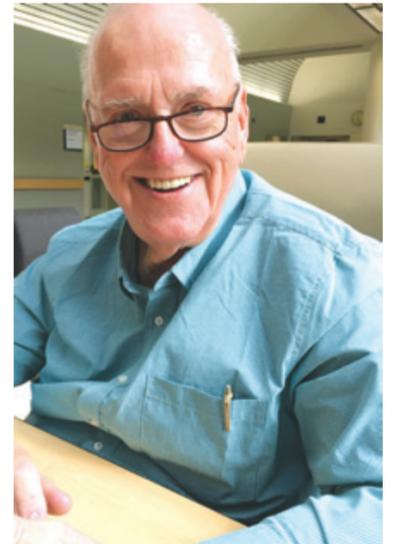
Long-time Highland resident and former township supervisor Tom Dunleavy, 74, passed away on June 5 in hospice at Medilodge in Milford.

Dunleavy served as the Highland Township supervisor from 1978-1996 and was responsible for updating the township’s master plan and zoning ordinance, which was a blueprint for the community and instrumental in bringing Prestwick Village Golf Club to Highland.

Highland Zoning Administrator Lisa Burkhart was hired by Dunleavy and described him as “Very proud to serve the people of Highland. He was concerned about everyone’s welfare, and genuinely loved people.”

Highland’s current supervisor, Rick Hamill, worked with Dunleavy when Hamill was a businessman, and said “the family has deep roots in Highland. There’s even a Dunleavy Road and Dunleavy Lake. I thought he did a very good job as supervisor.”

The Dunleavy family settled in Highland Township in 1947, establishing a family farm just north of Wardlow Road. Dunleavy was one of nine children. Tom Dunleavy was active in the community and with Church of the Holy Spirit, where he played Santa Claus for the children’s Christmas party and, according to former Highland supervisor Tricia Pilchowski,



Tom Dunleavy, former Highland Township supervisor.

often played Santa at other local holiday gatherings.

“He was a good man, good husband, father, friend and good township supervisor,” said Pilchowski. (Highland supervisor 2003-2012.)

Dunleavy is survived by his wife Patricia, children Erin and Ryan, and grandchildren William and Anna. A visitation will take place at Highland’s Church of The Holy Spirit on July 25 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. with a limited seating memorial service following at 11 a.m.

WITH NOLAN FINLEY & STEPHEN HENDERSON

DELTA DENTAL Delta Dental of Michigan is a proud sponsor of The Civility Project.

Join us for a **judgment-free workshop**
to work on building skills for healthy disagreement and dialogue.

Thursday, July 30, 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Info and registration at: <https://bit.ly/HighlandCivility>



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