

In Memoriam

NANCY BITZARAKIS

October 22, 1943 – March 21, 2025

- WHEREAS,** In deep sorrow yet with immense gratitude we honor the life of Nancy Bitzarakis, a beloved member of the Grandmont-Rosedale Community in Northwest Detroit for more than forty-seven years, whose kindness, strength, and generosity touched the lives of all who knew her; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Nancy Bitzarakis (née Freda), a lifelong Detroit, grew up near Plymouth and Greenfield Roads, graduating from Rosary High School in 1961. She trained to become a registered nurse at Saint Joseph Mercy College of Nursing in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She later earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Social Work degree from Wayne State University; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Mrs. Bitzarakis visited several European cities on a Eurail pass in the fall of 1969. It was in Athens during that trip that she met her husband, Dimitris. The two married in Detroit in March 1973, buying a house in North Rosedale Park in 1977. Throughout their marriage they regularly visited Dimitris' family in Greece. Over time, Athens's neighborhoods and mountain villages, became another home to the Bitzarakis family; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** She worked as a Public Health nurse at the Dearborn Health Department (Michigan), a Clinical Nursing instructor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus, and, for the last two decades of her career, as a school nurse at Plymouth Salem-Canton High Schools, retiring in 2010; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Mrs. Bitzarakis' unwavering dedication to her family, friends, and community was a source of inspiration, and her selfless spirit created a lasting impact on those around her; particularly among her neighbors, most cherished of them, her friend Clenda Webb. She served as a Block Captain for several decades, a participant and coordinator of countless neighborhood projects and organizations, coached softball, and served as President of the Rosedale Park Improvement Association. Mrs. Bitzarakis' was outspoken and politically active throughout her life, particularly passionate about women's rights and environmental protection. She loved reading, dancing, swimming, playing cards, going to the movies, root beer floats, and playing with her grandchildren; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** That on this day, Saturday, April 5, 2025, President Pro Tempore James E. Tate, Jr., and the entire Detroit City Council extends our heartfelt condolences to the family and loved ones of Nancy Bitzarakis, as tribute to a life well-lived and testament to her profound impact.