



February 9, 2017

Meetings

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Meetings

Youth Assistance - Tuesday, Feb. 14, 8 a.m. - Community Center

Historic District Commission - Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

Senior Advisory Commission - Thursday, Feb. 16, 1 p.m. - Community Center

City of Northville Town Meeting - Feb. 16, 6:30 p.m. - Community Center
You are invited to a town meeting to learn more about the proposed 2017 Downtown Strategic Plan. The plan incorporates extensive community engagement, a physical analysis, and retail and residential market analyses. This framework will guide decisions about future downtown development. Your feedback and input are critical to the plan's success - please attend and help determine the future of Downtown Northville.

[Agendas and minutes are available by clicking here](#)

This Just In...

City Council update - Highlights from the City Council meeting on Feb. 6, 2017

A \$25,471 grant from the Wayne County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is expected to be received in 2017. These funds are intended to target low to moderate-income residents or to provide an urgent community need. Northville plans to apply the grant to its senior services in the following manner: staffing for senior programs; repairs at Allen Terrace, including replacement of atrium windows and damaged interior doors; new circuit breakers; and improvements to the ventilation system. The public is invited to comment on the grant usage recommendations at the City Council's Feb. 21 meeting, beginning at 7 p.m.

The contract for electrical services and maintenance repair was extended for two years with Allied Building Services, of Rochester Hills.

Randolph Street Drain - City Council approved a payment of \$228,577.67 to Oakland County for a special assessment issued by the Randolph Street Drain Inter-County Board for the dredging and maintenance of the Randolph Street Drain from 2017 to 2019. Work will begin on Feb. 14 to dredge and improve the pond on the northwest corner of Taft and 8 Mile near the Lexington condos, and work should be completed by July 1. The pond will be dredged of sediment and taken to the landfill. Access to the site will be from 8 Mile Rd. Council asked the City for a report on the five-year plan and any related costs for the Randolph Drain. To cover the full cost of the special assessment, which was under-budgeted, City Council approved the use of \$6,064.67 from FY 2016 Uncommitted Breakage Revenue.

Municipal Cross connection control program - Inspections are needed on 70 properties (both commercial and industrial) to ensure water is kept free from contamination. City Council approved a three-year contract extension for HydroCorp, of Troy, to conduct these inspections in an amount not to exceed \$22,788. The cost per inspection remains the same.

Zoning in new Cady Street Overlay - City Council discussed the Planning Commission's recommendations calling for mixed use zoning at the Foundry Flask property and the old McDonald Ford site - both part of the Cady Street overlay. Potential developers have requested first-floor residential zoning to keep the project profitable. A retail market analysis shows a demand for 50,000 ft² of retail space in new developments. The need for mixed use in the form of research and development (R&D); housing that is affordable for the city's senior residents and those who can't afford a luxury development; and historic preservation was discussed. The City Council requested that the Planning Commission re-examine the issue of prohibiting first floor residential and explore

zoning ordinance amendments that would permit residential use and incentives for mixed use on the first floor.

Appointment of Assessing Firm - The City Council appointed Assessment Administration Services, L.L.C. as the City's Assessor for a three-year term beginning Feb. 7, 2017.

Personal Property Statement forms due this month

Michigan State law requires that all businesses in existence on Dec. 31, file a personal property statement no later than Feb. 20 of the preceding year. If you do not file a Personal Property statement as of Feb. 20, the assessor will determine an assessment for your business based upon other like businesses in the City of Northville or surrounding area, and there is no recourse for an appeal at the March Board of Review or through the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

You may qualify for a personal property exemption. To be eligible, a taxpayer must meet ALL of the following:

1. The exemption must be properly claimed (this is done by filing the affidavit no later than Feb. 10), and
2. The personal property must be classified as industrial personal property or commercial personal property as defined in MCL 211.34c or would be classified as industrial personal property or commercial personal property if not exempt, and
3. The combined true cash value of all industrial personal property and commercial personal property owned by, leased by or in possession of the owner or a related entity claiming the exemption is less the \$80,000 in the local tax collecting unit, and
4. The property is not leased to or used by a person that previously owned the property or a person that, directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or under common control with the person that previously owned the property.

Some helpful links:

[2017 Personal Property Statement:](#)

[Affidavit of Owner of Eligible Personal Property Claiming Exemption from Collection of Taxes \(As of 12-31- 2016\)" Form 5076.](#)

Reminder: Winter Taxes Due

February 14, 2017 is the last day to pay your winter tax bill without added penalty

and interest. You can verify online that your summer and winter taxes are paid by [visiting the City of Northville website](#).

2017 Dog Licenses must be renewed by Feb. 28

All dogs four months and older must be licensed per City ordinance. To renew a dog license or obtain a new one, you must provide a current rabies vaccination certificate. Licenses are available at the City Clerk's Office. To register by mail, [visit the City's website](#) to download an application. The annual license fee is \$12 (\$9 with documented spay/neuter).

Local woman's love of lace is woven into new museum in Northville Square



Museum owner and curator Mary Salmon models a
crochet lace top, priced at \$1,200. (Photo by Liz Cezat)

The Lace Museum of Detroit puts Northville on the map for its intriguing collection of hand-made lace - in clothing, accessories and tablecloths along with the tools used to create the ornamental fabric. This slice of history is tucked away on the lower level of Northville Square.

Owner and Curator Mary Salmon, of Northville, is seeing her dream come true after opening the museum on Nov. 18, 2016, at 133 West Main St., Suite 160. Museum hours are seasonal, typically Tuesday through Friday, 12 to 5, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Call before going: 937-681-7219. Admission is free.

The exterior looks like an 19th century Victorian storefront. New wood floors cover the 1,000 square foot area, layered with Persian rugs. Sparkling chandeliers twinkle through the large front windows and velvet-lined exhibit cases display lace artifacts. A workroom in the back is equipped with a bright, swivel-mounted magnifying glass where Mary can re-stitch lace, beads and buttons.

With a long history working with disabled Americans in federal court, Mary's collection is self-funded. Her avocation is collecting lace and learning about its history. She is a font of knowledge about how lace was made using hand-crafted bobbins and lace-making round pillows made firm by horsehair. She can also tell you about the cottage industry that evolved around lace-making in Europe, and how the aristocrats who purchased lace-trimmed clothing and handmade linens would often have their initials or names stitched on the garment.

She became fascinated with lace at the age of 10 while visiting her aunt's home, which had a lot of linen and lace. "I wanted to live there because of all of the beautiful things she had," Mary said.

"Lace is a female-dominated art form that's like a Picasso. The really nice pieces will never be duplicated. Lace making is all but extinct. Yet, it was part of the economy in Europe," Mary said.

"The women who made lace were extraordinary artists. You had to be disciplined and intelligent to create geometric designs. Lace brought beauty to every part of society."

The lace makers used the money it brought for their farms and their children.

"Lace was part of a cottage industry. It deserves respect," Mary said. "The lace on display is a part of the souls of the women who made it."

This remarkable skill was also part of America's cottage industry in the 1800s but the Industrial Revolution turned lace making into a factory-produced item.

Mary opened the museum in the Northville because she says, "Residents are educated and inquisitive, curious people. They would appreciate what I have. It's intellectual because of the history."

When she first told people she was opening a lace museum, some thought it might be like Victoria's Secret. She quickly dispels that notion, although the museum does have antique lace garter belts. A patron who had been visiting a bar in the building stumbled upon the museum and said, "Hey, what's going on in here?" Mary deftly handles all kinds of visitors - from teens to seniors and from newbies to history buffs. There is a retail component of buttons, lace garments and some historical pieces.

"Northville has an endearing soul. This museum maintains the city's quaintness. I feel like it belongs here. If I inspire 10 people a month to learn more, then I've done my job," she said.

While the museum would have greater visibility on Main or Center streets, the lace would be damaged by sunlight streaming through the windows. The museum is bright enough to see the spectacular collection that Mary has carefully arranged within the space.

Mary invites all to come and see this extraordinary, now nearly extinct art-form. There are still some hobbyists who make lace and others who belong to lace or embroidery clubs.

Prior to starting the museum, Mary often took the lace items on the road and set up displays. In 2013, she sent out 40 letters to historic societies and museums in southeastern Michigan telling them about her collection and saying she would exhibit it for free at their venue. All of the museums, even the Henry Ford, turned her down.

She also sent a letter to the VFW Hall in Northville (because of its WWI connection). They were interested and wanted to hear about her plan. They invited her to their board meeting. When she arrived on the appointed day, she found six to seven men in leather vests on the front lawn near the cannon with their motorcycles parked nearby.

One of them said, "Okay Mary. Tell us what you got." She told them that she would like to use their space to show her lace exhibit during the weekend of the Victorian Festival (renamed the Heritage Festival). The leader asked his board, "Who's in support?" One by one, the men said "Here, here," and pointed a finger skyward to show their consent.

"God bless them. They were real characters. But they were the only ones who gave me any encouragement," she said.

That event launched her exhibit locally and fed her motivation to open her own museum.

She used "Detroit" in the name since she travels on the East Coast and Europe to make purchases and people there don't know Northville but do know Detroit. Additionally, people come to the museum from Detroit. She often gets small groups of different ethnicities. Lace is a treasured tradition for Italians, for example.

She would like to host fundraisers in the museum for charities that are based in Northville or benefit people in the city. "I want to give to this community and I don't expect anything back," she said. However, she does crave feedback...it shows people care and also helps her keep accurate historical notes.



Mary Salmon restores beads to an antique lace dress in the workroom of the museum. (Photo by Liz Cezat)

Parks & Rec's Daddy-daughter dance is a winter hit



"Under the Sea" Daddy-Daughter Dance drew more than 80 participants to the Northville Community Center on Feb. 4. Shown above, D.J. Chris Clark spins the tunes while J. Dahring dances with his twin daughters Karissa and Kiana. (Photo by Kayley Dahring.)

Events / Things to Do



**Volunteers Needed for 20th Annual
Rouge Frog and Toad Survey
Workshop dates - Saturdays, from 10
a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Feb. 18
Canton Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit
Parkway, Canton, MI 48188**

Feb. 25

Farmington Hills Council Chambers, 31555 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Spring is only two months away, the time when frogs and toads begin their chorus of calls. This spring, consider learning why frogs and toads are making those sounds and which ones you might have in your area. Friends of the Rouge is looking for people interested in participating in the annual Rouge Frog and Toad Survey. The survey is a simple presence/absence survey. Volunteers visit wetlands at night and identify what types of frogs and toads are calling.

Interested volunteers need to sign up for one of three training sessions (listed above). All materials are provided at the workshop. Volunteers are assigned survey blocks and required to visit them several times a month from March through June on damp, warm nights.

This will be the 20th year of the survey. The presence of frogs and toads is used as an indicator of wetland health. Diverse, healthy wetlands support diverse assemblages of amphibians. To learn more about the findings from the survey, [visit the FOTR website](#). [Read more...](#)



Through March 25 The 11th Annual Northville Art House Member Exhibition

The Northville Art House presents the 11th Annual Member Exhibition, featuring original works in all mediums, including painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, jewelry, clay, and mixed media. The exhibition showcases the talents of over 60 member artists of the Northville Art House as well as recognizes the people who support the growth and creativity of the arts in the community.

Become a member today to be considered for future Northville Art House member exhibitions and events as well as other exciting benefits. [Applications are available online](#), by calling (248) 344-0497, or at the Northville Art House, 215 West Cady Street, Northville, Michigan 48167. Memberships start at \$30.

The 11th Annual Member Exhibition opens with a reception on Friday, February 3, from 6 - 9 p.m. The exhibition runs through Saturday, March 25 during Art House hours, Tuesday-Friday 12 - 5 p.m. and Saturday 12 - 4 p.m. Admission: Free [Northville Art House](#) (248) 344-0497.

Skywarn Severe Weather Spotter Training

Register now!



SKYWARN

Skywarn is an effort to save lives during severe weather emergencies by expanding networks of spotters and getting more people involved in tornado warning programs. Not all tornadoes show up on radar, but they can be seen. Only one instrument can detect a tornado or funnel with complete certainty: the human eye.

Skywarn training sessions are held to train individuals how to accurately observe weather phenomena such as floods, hail, wind and its associated damage, cloud features that lead to tornadoes and those that do not. The class covers what information to report and how to report it. Basic severe weather safety is also covered. Classes are FREE and last one and one-half hours. While new technological and scientific tools have advanced the National Weather Service (NWS) capability to predict severe weather, the trained spotter remains essential to the NWS warning process. The more trained "eyes" the NWS has in the field, the better they can serve the public during a severe weather event.

SPOTTER TRAINING CLASSES

Wed., March 1 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Oakland County Homeland Security Division Executive Office Bldg. 41W, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, 48328
Sat., March 18 10 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	Oakland County Homeland Security Division Executive Office Bldg. 41W, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, 48328
Sat., March 18 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Oakland County Homeland Security Division Executive Office Bldg. 41W, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, 48328
Tues., March 21 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	The Charter Township of Commerce Township 2009 Township Drive, Commerce Township, 48390
Thurs., April 6 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Karl Richter Campus Community Center 300 East Street, Holly, 48442
Mon., April 10 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Orion Center 1335 Joslyn Rd, Lake Orion, 48360
Wed., April 12 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Southfield Public Library 26300 Evergreen Rd, Southfield, 48076

All interested parties (e.g. fire, police, EMS, security, volunteers and citizens) are encouraged to attend this program, coordinated by The Oakland County Homeland Security Division.

Limited space is available, [reserve online](#) or call 248-858-5300

Monday, April 5

The Beauty of Native Plants: Their Function in Supporting Wildlife in Urban and Suburban Landscapes

Monday, April 17

Designing Landscapes with Native Plants

Tuesday, April 25

Rain Gardens

Native Plants with Drew Lathin: Three Part Series at Northville District Library. Register online or call 248.349.3020. All programs begin at 7 p.m.

Business

Tree permits required

A permit from the Building Department may be required prior to cutting down any tree in the City of Northville. Call the Building Department at 248-449-9902 to determine if a permit is required. [Tree cutting is regulated by Section 90 of the City of Northville Code](#). The City will enforce this ordinance if trees are cut down without the required permit.

Around Town

Secretary of State MiTimeLine appointment system

Why wait in line? The [Secretary of State](#) now has a system available at several locations where residents can make an appointment or hold your place in line. [Check locations online to schedule an appointment](#) and they will call or text you when your turn is coming up.

At Home

An easy way to dispose of old medications

Do you have outdated prescription or over-the-counter medications that you want to get rid of? Don't flush these medications down the toilet - it pollutes the water supply; don't throw them away because they will end up in a landfill and may be consumed by wildlife. There is a safe and convenient way to dispose of unwanted medications. Bring your unwanted medication - no liquids, needles or injectable medication - to the secure drop box in the lobby at the Northville Township Police Department at 41600 Six Mile Road. There is no paperwork

required and the bin can be accessed 24/7. When the drop box is full, collections are picked up for disposal by the Drug Enforcement Authority.

Parking

Did you know it is illegal to park on City Streets between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. without a permit?

If you are having visitors or work done on your driveway and must park in the street overnight, call Community Dispatch at 248-349-1234 by 2:00 a.m. with the license plate number and street location of the vehicle to avoid a parking ticket.

Sewage backups

Most homeowner's insurance will not cover sewage backups, but insurance can often be obtained as an added item. Ask your insurance provider about this option. Also, consider having a plumber install a check valve - backflow preventer - to help minimize the risk of backups and related damage.

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the City of Northville within 45 days after the overflow or backup is discovered. Notice should be mailed to the City of Northville, Attn: City Clerk, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167. Claim forms may be obtained by calling the City of Northville Department of Public Works at 248-449-9930.

When presenting a written claim, you will be required to provide the following items:

1. Copies of receipts for cleaning costs, plumbing bills, or other bills.
2. List of the damaged items and receipts to prove the ages of your items.
Reimbursement for the Actual Cash Value of damaged items is the maximum amount payable.
3. Please make an attempt to provide pictures of anything you wish to claim that was damaged due to the sewer backup.

The filing of a claim does not guarantee reimbursement.

City Hall's Facebook page is live

Be a follower on our [facebook page](#). You will be able to see stories, photos and videos of the City's people, places and events. We'll fill you in on City services, such as trash pick up, payment of taxes and utility bills, and roads under construction. Plus, we want to hear from you. Share your photos and comments; ask questions. If you like our page, new posts will show up in your news feed.

Add your name to the City News mailing list

New subscribers to City News can sign up below (if you are viewing the e-mail version). You can also [sign up on the City of Northville website](#) (homepage, left hand column under Quick Links)

If you have comments or requests for specific news items, please e-mail Liz Cezat, Communications Manager, at lcezat@ci.northville.mi.us.

City of Northville, Michigan | 248-349-1300 | [Website](#)

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City of Northville | 215 W. Main St. | Northville | MI | 48116

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