



April 13, 2017

Meetings

This Just In...

Events / Things to Do

Business

Around Town

At Home

***Notice: City Hall will be closed on Friday, April 14,  
in observance of Good Friday.***

## Meetings

**City Council** - Monday, April 17, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

**Planning Commission** - Tuesday, April 18, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

**Downtown Development Authority** - Tuesday, April 18, 8 a.m. - Meeting Room - City Hall

**Historic District Commission** - Wednesday, April 19, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

**Senior Advisory Commission** - Thursday, April 20, 1 p.m. - Community Center

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

## **This Just In...**

### **Northville District Library is changing with the high-tech times**

To access the vast world of information, reference material and entertainment that can be downloaded and viewed on any device, check into the Northville District Library.

A gem of a building, the Northville District Library continues to circulate books as its leading function, yet many people are getting what they need without physically visiting. Beyond the library walls, there are boundless connections online for education and entertainment.

With National Library Week from April 9 to 15, it's a great time to reconnect with this powerful community resource. Library Director Julie Herrin says the Northville District Library is a leader in deploying technology - chiefly through the Internet and with new equipment that can convert older forms of music, photos and video into a digital format.

A new scanner and digital converter in the Local History room converts tape cassettes into digital music, and slides into video. The converter will be ready for patron use in May or June, and the room will be renamed the Digital Conversion room. A computer page and librarian will be on hand to help people with the new equipment or show them where to find needed information.



Photo by Liz Cezat

***Library Director Julie Herrin and Pat Allen, of the Northville Genealogical Society, try out the new scanner, which will be ready for patron's use in the next few months.***

"We've always helped patrons curate knowledge by leading them to the sources of knowledge and letting them work with it," Herrin said. One example is showing patrons how to search the Northville Record newspaper for houses and ancestors. All copies are digitized, as are all of the Northville High School yearbooks.

New this month, patrons can check out a digital "hot-spot" hub from the library to access the internet in an area that lacks it, such as during a long car trip or from a cabin up North. The device allows the user to tap into Sprint service from their Wi-Fi enabled device. There are two hot spots available for a two-week check-out period.

If you are visiting the library online, go to: <http://northvillelibrary.org>. Click on the Research and Learn section to open the portal to a multitude of offerings - from databases to language programs. The Tech Connect section will lead you to classes, computer tutorials and more. Access is easy, just enter your library card number. On certain sites, especially frequently used sites, you will be required to create a user name and password.

If you enjoy listening to music, you'll find scores of songs and albums. The best part is once you download it - typically via an app - you own it. You can listen to e-audiobooks on a computer, tablet or phone. If you like perusing magazines, you'll enjoy the vast selection of 256 digital magazines.

Since the digital e-book downloads began in 2009, there have been 4,408 unique users. In 2016, there were 31,460 books checked out in digital mode, Herrin noted.

"People love downloading digital books when they travel because they can load four to five books on their tablet, and they don't have to come into the library to do it," said Herrin.

For video, the library offers streaming video through the Overdrive portal. The staff tested making its own video during this year's Battle of the Books, a school-library engagement program that promotes reading.

Students doing research for class assignments can get reliable and authoritative content from the Gale Virtual Reference Library, Britannica, General Reference Center Gold and other sources. If a live tutor is needed, students will find one on Brainfuse.

People who want to learn a foreign language and ESL students who seek to improve their English can gain these skills from user-friendly Mango Languages.

Lifelong learners can gain valuable skills through Gale Courses, which offer a variety of courses from accounting to photography, with six-week sessions starting

each month.

Business Owners and job seekers have access to Reference USA-basically a database of every business, large or small, in the country. They can use it to search for companies by size, location, sales, and many other factors, Herrin noted.

"I've always been looking into the future of what libraries can do," said Herrin. "When I started, computers were new. Now, they are an integral part of the library's information base."

Many consider the library an oasis. It offers private rooms for meetings, studying or a space to work alone. Use your library card to gain access to a room for up to two hours. Rooms cannot be reserved.

"We are a place where people can come to meet and work together on projects and complete homework, using their laptops and our Wi-Fi," Herrin said. "Business people may use the library for a quiet place, apart from their own office."

The Northville District Library belongs to the library cooperative, which includes 54 libraries in southeastern Michigan. Any member of this cooperative can use the Northville District Library but only those who live in the city or township of Northville can use its digital services.

The library also has a community connection with the Village Workshop. Patrons can use their library card to get class discounts at the Village Workshop.

---

#### ***Part IV of a series***

#### **What do Homeowner Association dues cover?**

Neighbors benefit from having attractive landscaping in their subdivisions, a well-kept commons area, an inviting clubhouse and pool, and tennis and basketball courts that are in good repair. Since dues must be collected to cover the cost, the quest is to get the most bang for the buck.

In the Lexington Condo Homes Association, the association fee covers pool maintenance, lawn care, upkeep of the clubhouse, and exterior repairs to the condos. As of now, one-third of the average monthly fee of \$440 goes towards the utilities of gas and water.



Photo by Liz Cezat

***Carolyn Mooney (left) and Laura Keller, board members of the Lexington Condo Homes Association, show off the new plantings that condo owners put in along the berm near the front entrance to their subdivision.***

Condo units will have their own water lines later this year, which will reduce their association dues attributed to that cost. Discussions are being held to do the same thing with the gas lines - changing from a shared line per building to individual meters for each condo unit. They have a reserve fund for future repairs and unforeseen major expenses.

Annual dues at Lexington Commons Association, which includes the north and south condos as well as 162 houses, annually charges \$60 for condos and \$120 for houses.

"These two Condo Associations work collaboratively with Lexington Commons Association for the good of the entire neighborhood," said Todd Farmer, president of Lexington Commons Association.

The dues cover snow removal and insurance on the buildings and grounds, said Laura Keller, president of the Lexington Condo Homes Association.

In Northville Estates, annual \$50 fees go toward maintaining the front island entrance, new landscaping, signage, water and electricity (mostly for lights) and the annual summer picnic. This subdivision has 155 homes. This year, they plan to install a new sign at their front entrance - having saved for this major expenditure.





*Residents of Northville Estates plan to replace their entrance sign, shown here.*

Abbey Knoll has used association funds - \$250 annually - for landscape projects, custom signs, and standardized mailboxes, which project a nice curb appeal. They display outdoor holiday lights during Christmas and New Year's.

Pheasant Hills HOA president Dan Wegienka says dues are \$330 annually (they had been \$300 for 20 years). Dues are used to pay for required landscaping, tree trimming, mailbox/ street sign maintenance, water, electricity and insurance for the subdivision. In the past, beautification projects such as new mailboxes and a new stone entrance were completed to help maintain the beauty of Pheasant Hills.

---

**Suzie Johnson to leave senior services position**



Photo by Liz Cezat

*Friends and associates can say "goodbye" to Suzie at a social gathering on Thursday, April 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Northville Community Center.*

In her role as senior services supervisor for more than six years, Suzie has no doubt made as much of an impression on seniors as they have on her. "It's a great feeling to see a room filled with seniors socializing, laughing and enjoying each other's company," she said.

In her role, she coordinates a wide variety of activities, events and programs for seniors. She also produces a bi-monthly newsletter and oversees bus trips and day-to-day transportation using SMART buses on loan to the City.

What will she miss most? "The personal relationships with many of the seniors and staff," she said. In the Senior Services Division, Suzie oversees 10 employees, including bus drivers, front desk staff, and members of the Parks and Recreation staff assigned to senior programs.

She made her mark by expanding the variety of programs, and began working with other communities to bring bigger events to seniors. She got the City of Northville involved in Senior Day at the Michigan State Fair and started the night-time dance, Senior Stock, which will be held April 27, from 6 to 10 p.m.

"This is probably the most rewarding job that I've ever had," she said. "While providing a fun atmosphere, I was able to help seniors and their families move in the right direction with the decisions they had to make."

Watching her own mother cope with dementia gave Suzie better insight into the

range of physical limitations and mental challenges that seniors face.

Her favorite event is the Senior Fest, held every June. "It brings together all of the seniors, sponsors and vendors that I work with throughout the year, and it's fun to see the seniors dancing and singing along with the entertainers. About 200 participants attend this luncheon event, complete with a D.J., various entertainers, and delightful door prizes.

She and her husband Mark are moving to Richmond, VA, for his job. The couple has three grown daughters. Suzie grew up in Northville and graduated from Northville High School. After living outside Michigan for 22 years, she came back to Northville. As she prepares to move again, she says she will miss the City and its residents. "Northville is very community-oriented, very supportive. I have lots of good memories."

---

### **Northville Youth Assistance is accepting applications for volunteer mentors**

If you've always wanted to assist a youth who needs guidance, this is your chance to serve as a positive role model. Volunteers must be at least 21 years of age and be able to meet with their mentee once a week, whenever possible, for at least one year. Mentors typically take the youth on an outing or spend time with them one-on-one, with the goal of developing a trusting relationship with a non-family adult.

Spring mentor training will take place at the Northville Community Center on Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. After 10 hours of training, mentors are matched with a young person in the community. If interested, contact Sue Campbell at 248-344-1618.

---

### **City of Northville seeks citizen volunteer for open seat on Housing Commission**

If you are looking for a way to give back to the community, consider serving on the Housing Commission. Applications are being accepted to fill a vacancy, and will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicants must be a registered voter in the City of Northville and be a resident of the City for at least two years.

The Housing Commission sets policy and provides guidance for the management of Allen Terrace, an apartment community for independent senior citizens aged 55 and over. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at Allen Terrace.



Applications and additional information is available on the [City's website](#). You may also apply at the City Clerk's Office, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167. The City Clerk's Office will contact applicants regarding interview dates and times.

---

### **35th District Court Amnesty Program: Court Waives Late Fees**

The 35th District Court is offering a 2017 Amnesty Program for all delinquent civil infraction tickets. Unpaid tickets can accumulate additional default fees, late fees and warrant fees, which increase the original amount of the ticket. This program provides a way to settle old court financial obligations and pay the original amount of the ticket. The program will run through Friday, April 28, 2017. For more information, please contact the court at 734-459-4740 or [visit the Reference Desk of the City of Northville website](#).

---

### **We need your input on the City of Northville website**

The City of Northville's Communications Department is conducting a survey of visitors to our website. In 2017, the website will undergo a facelift with a new look and format that will make it easy to view on any device.

The new website will still contain the information that you rely on to conduct business with the City. It will continue to provide news regarding City services, City Council, professional staff, business leaders, key volunteers, community happenings, meetings, events and more.

To help us ensure that the new website meets your needs, [please complete the survey](#). It only takes a few minutes to complete. Plus, it's totally anonymous, unless you choose to include your name in a comment box. After you take it, please ask a friend or neighbor to take it too.

## **Events / Things to Do**



## National Library Week Is April 9 - 15

This is a great week to stop by the Northville District Library and see all the library has to offer. All ages can enjoy the Library Scavenger Hunt - with a chance to win prizes - through April 22. For more information, call 248.349.3020 or [visit the library's website](#). (See related article on library's high-tech offerings.)



## Through April 29, 2017 Northville Art House presents **IMPRINT** - Kate Paul: A Retrospective

**Be a pART of it!** The Northville Art House is proud to present **IMPRINT - Kate Paul: A Retrospective**, featuring over 40 works, including paintings, etchings, sketches, sculptures, and prose, by Livonia artist, Kate Paul. The exhibition opens with a reception on Friday, April 7, from 6 - 9 p.m. with gallery talk at 7 p.m. and runs through Saturday, April 29, during Art House hours, Tuesday-Friday 12-5

p.m. and Saturday 12-4 p.m. at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady Street.

The [Northville Art House](#) will donate 15% of artwork sales from **IMPRINT** to the *Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance*.



EGG HUNTS • FARM ANIMALS • SEED PLANTING  
EASTER BUNNY • SMOKEY THE BEAR • CONCESSIONS

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**

**GATES OPEN AT 10AM - EGG HUNTS BEGIN AT 11  
MAYBURY FARM - 50165 8 MILE RD., NORTHVILLE**

**KIDS ages 2 — 40 can REDEEM EGGS FOR A  
PRIZE BAG FILLED WITH CANDY & TREATS!**

Admission is \$5 Per Vehicle (Cash Only)

Limited free parking at Maybury Farm

Additional parking at Maybury State Park  
(Annual Recreation Passport required, \$11 at Secretary of State or park entry)

Egg Hunt limited to the first 700 kids

Brought to you by the Parks Partnership Committee:





### **April 16-22 Severe Weather Awareness Week**

In an effort to minimize the loss of life and destruction of property that can result from severe weather, Oakland County Homeland Security will conduct educational outreach during severe weather week. This includes a special test of the outdoor warning system on Wednesday, April 19, at 1 p.m. Residents are encouraged to review preparedness plans for tornadoes and other severe weather. [Click](#)

[here for more information.](#)

---



### **Northville Historical Society 2017 Victorian Clothing Sale**

Thursday, April 20th 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Friday, April 21 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Saturday, April 22 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Mill Race Historical Village  
215 Griswold Avenue (1 block north of Main Street)

Victorian Era clothing and accessories for adults and children will be available for purchase from various vendors. New, vintage and gently used clothing available.

- \$2.00 Admission charge per adult
- Cash sales preferred, some vendors may not accept checks or credit cards

For more information call Northville Historical Society (248)-348-1845 (Mon-Wed 9 am-1 pm) or [visit our website.](#)

---



**Wednesday, April 26  
2017 Lecture Series - Final  
Run.....Storms of the Century  
Mill Race Village - Old School Church  
7 p.m.**



Ric Mixer, a diver and photographer, gives first hand information of events from interviews he conducted with survivors of some of the worst Great Lakes storms in our history. His interviews include survivors of the 1913 storm on the Great Lakes. Ric's stories of diving the wrecks make this program unique.

Lectures are free and open to the public.

For more information call the Northville Historical Society at 248-348-1845 (Mon-Wed 9 a.m.-1 p.m.) [Read more...](#)

---

**Friday, April 28, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 29, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Household Hazardous Waste & Electronic Collection**

**Ford Field (Livonia) enter off Stark Road from Schoolcraft**

**Open to residents of Livonia, City of Northville and Northville Township**

Items accepted: Household paints, stains, dyes; floor wax, carpet cleaner; furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, stain removers, solvents; pharmaceutical waste (non-controlled substances only); nail polish, glue; fertilizer, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides; antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline; automotive batteries and dry cell batteries, fluorescent bulbs (all types); fire extinguishers and smoke detectors; mercury thermometers, thermostats and elemental mercury.

Electronics Recycling - computer CPU's, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice; cell phones, fax machines, copiers and televisions.

**Items not accepted**

Commercial waste, industrial waste, radioactive material, explosives, ammunition, 55-gallon drums, shock sensitive materials, household trash, refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances, tires, yard waste and concrete. For information on how to dispose of these items, please contact the Wayne County Resource Recovery Coordinator at (734) 326-3936.

City of Northville residents who live in Oakland County are able to participate in this event. [Read more...](#)



These are some of the many items that can be dropped off at the Hazardous Waste event in April.



### **April 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Take-back prescription drug collection**

The City of Northville Police Department will have a collection box for prescription drugs that are expired, unused or not needed during the 13th Annual National Take-Back Initiative Day in the Police Department lobby at 215 West Main St. (lower level of City Hall).

The event is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). The program will

not accept any liquids or needles. All drugs collected will be destroyed. No paperwork is required; simply come into the lobby and place unwanted medication in the collection bin.

This event provides a good reason to clean out your medicine chest, drawers and cabinets and get rid of medication that is no longer needed. Medications that lower high cholesterol, treat diabetes, or regulate heart conditions, such as angina, can cause poisoning in young children who accidentally ingest them. Teens may be attracted to opioids. By safely disposing of drugs, you help prevent accidental ingestion by children, teens and pets in your home.

Typical ways of drug disposal - either flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the garbage - are not recommended due to environmental risks.

For more information, please contact the Northville Police Department at 248-305-2715.

## Registration for Farm Camp at Maybury Farm Is now open



This hands-on experience offers a wide variety of activities designed to engage and educate kids about farming. Campers will learn about farm animals, including grooming, feeding and walking them; helping out in the farm garden; hiking along our forest trails; team-building games; crafts and other farm fun. Farm Camp is designed to cultivate joy and wonder in children as they discover the

amazing connections they have with animals, agriculture and farms.

Farm Camp is open to boys and girls ages 5-12 years old. Camp hours are 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from June 20 until August 17. There will be no camp the week of July 4. The cost is \$165 per three-day week if you sign up before March 31 and \$175 per three-day week thereafter. To register for Farm Camp, please call 248-374-0200 or [visit our website](#). Space is limited so sign up soon.

Maybury Farm is located at 50165 8 Mile Rd in Northville. It is 1-1/4 mile west of Beck Road on 8 Mile, 1/2 mile west of Maybury State Park.

### About Maybury Farm

Maybury Farm is operated by the Northville Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Maybury Farm is a working farm with a mission to connect the community to animals and agriculture through hands-on experiences that are both engaging and educational. Maybury Farm is open to the public Tuesday-Sunday, beginning April 18. Enter at the Maybury Farm sign, do not enter the State Park. For more information, please [visit our website](#) or [Facebook](#).



**Saturday, May 20**  
**Volunteers needed for Rouge Rescue -**  
**Make the Rouge Paddle-able!**  
**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
7 Mile at Hines Drive

Take part in native planting, invasive plant removal, woody debris management and clean up. Come alone or bring family members and friends.

Sign in at the pavilion (Shelter #1 @ Northville Recreation Area in Hines Park). Park at the pavilion or at the former McDonald Ford site on 7 Mile Road, across from

Custard Time and Good Time Party Store.

[Sign up to volunteer](#) (200 needed)

The site coordinator is John P. Kelly, 248-348-0496 or [john@kellykellylaw.com](mailto:john@kellykellylaw.com)

[Read more...](#)

---



## **May 26 Deadline for Art submissions**

The Northville Art House invites contemporary artists to submit entries to The Graded Wash Juried Watercolor Exhibition to be held from August 2-26.

Artists, 18 and over, may submit a maximum of three original works of art in watercolor, gouache, egg tempera and casein on any surface, created within the last two years, and not previously exhibited at the **Northville Art House**. Artists will be competing for \$650 in cash awards and entry selected by our juror, Jill Stefani Wagner, PSA-MP.

The non-refundable entry fee is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. Deadline for submissions is May 26. Accepted work will be listed on the Art House website and artists will be notified by email beginning June 12.

[Exhibit information, submission guidelines, and online entry forms can be found at our website.](#) For questions, please contact 248-344-0497 or email [exhibits@northvillearthouse.org](mailto:exhibits@northvillearthouse.org) with The Graded Wash as the subject line.

## **Business**

### **Sign up for automatic tax bill payment**

Take advantage of automatic tax bill payment. Residents and businesses may now pay their tax bills automatically by [clicking here and completing the online form](#).

Enroll in the program and your summer tax bill will be paid on Aug. 31. For the winter tax bill you designate the date of payment as either Dec. 31 or Feb. 14. By taking advantage of this program, your taxes will always be paid on time whether you are sick or out of town. Added benefits are no checks to write, no need to wonder if the check was received in time to avoid penalty and no trips to City Hall.

Participants in automatic bill payment of property taxes receive their tax bill in the mail on July 1 and Dec. 1 with a letter confirming when the withdrawal will be made



from their account. PLEASE NOTE: This is a year-round program. Electronic Funds Payment is not available for only the summer tax or only the winter tax bill.

---

## **Tax & Assessing data lookup**

You may retrieve tax and assessing data from the convenience of your home 24/7 by [visiting the City of Northville's website](#). If you have any questions, call the Tax & Assessing Office at (248) 449-9901.

---

## **Accountability & Transparency**

To meet the requirements for Accountability & Transparency under City, Village, and Township Revenue Sharing/County Incentive Program (CVTRS/CIP), the City of Northville must certify to the Michigan Department of Treasury that they have produced and made readily available to the public:

1. A Citizen's Guide of its most recent local finances, including recognition of its unfunded liabilities
2. A Performance Dashboard
3. A Debt Service Report containing a detailed listing of its debt service requirements, including, at a minimum, the issuance date, issuance amount, type of debt instrument, a listing of all revenues pledged to finance debt service by debt instrument, and a listing of the annual payment amounts until maturity
4. A Projected Budget Report of revenues and expenditures including, at a minimum, the current fiscal year and a projection for the immediately following year and an explanation of the assumptions used for the projections

[The above documents may be found by visiting the City's website.](#)

## **Around Town**

### **Yard signs**

Please be advised that signs cannot be placed in the right-of-way. Signs must be placed on your property, behind the sidewalk, or will be subject to removal. If you have any questions, please call Bill Barent, Ordinance Officer at 248-305-2707.

## **At Home**

### **Sewage backups**

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system and want to file a claim with the City, [please check our website for details](#) or call the 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.

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.

---

### Get social with City Hall online

Be a follower on our Facebook page ([Northville City Hall, Michigan](#)) and our Twitter account [@NorthvilleCity](#).



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. Like our page and you'll see our posts 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 [Icezat@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:Icezat@ci.northville.mi.us).

---

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

Copyright © 2016. All Rights Reserved.

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

[SafeUnsubscribe™ northvilleupdate@muniweb.com](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [northvilleupdate@muniweb.com](#)

