



April 20, 2017

Meetings

This Just In...

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Meetings

No Meetings Scheduled

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

This Just In...

Northville City Council recap April 17 meeting

Guest - Gina Wilson Stewart, of Western Wayne County NAACP, introduced herself and noted that Northville is one of 18 cities in the organization's region. She invited members of the City Council and others in the community to the next NAACP regional meeting on Monday, May 8, at 7 p.m. at Canton Township Administrative Offices. The group does a special activity each month, such as donating books to barber shops for kids to read. [Click here for more information.](#)

Ordinance updates - The Council adopted the following changes (see #1-5 below) to ordinances after a second reading at the meeting.

1. Text change to Section 26 which defines "Lot Coverage," clarifying that any structure with a roof, including covered porches, is included in the lot-coverage calculation.
2. Keep "take-out restaurants" in "permitted use" rather than "special land use" in the Central Business District (CBD) ordinance. This change then deletes the special land use (section 16.07) of the ordinance, since take-out restaurants were the only business listed in it.
3. Signage - If a business has two entrances, the owner is now allotted an additional 12 ft² of wall sign area at a secondary entrance, typically at the back of the business.
4. Footnotes were revised for clarity involving side yard setbacks in business districts. (Footnotes 10 and 11 to Article 15, Schedule of Regulations in the Zoning Ordinance.)
5. Corrected terminology for basement ordinance, "ceiling" was changed to "finished floor elevation" to match the illustration labels. (Article 26, Zoning Ordinance.)



Northville Mayor Ken Roth spoke about the Northville Downtown Development Authority's strategic development plan and other topics at the 2017 State of the Community Luncheon on April 19. _Watch for an article on our website.

Part V - last of a series

Neighborhood Associations keep lines of communication open

Communicating with neighbors has caught up with digital technology. In addition to spreading the word over the fence, while walking the dog or strolling with a baby, a formal notification system has evolved.

Keeping in touch with neighbors is a breeze for some homeowners associations (HOA) and neighborhoods while others have had hit-or-miss results with e-mail lists, websites, Facebook pages, printed newsletters and phone banks.



Dan Wegienka talks to Northville Police Chief Mike Carlson about keeping homes and residents safe in Pheasant Hills.

Northville Estates has a website, which it is updating, and a residential e-mail list of nearly 155 homeowners. HOA president Chuck Murdock estimates that he sends out 60-70 e-mails a year to convey notices and issues concerning the subdivision. Cabbagetown has a popular Facebook page started by resident Larry Parks, which now has 58 members.

Pheasant Hills Homeowners Association has a website and uses a company to update it, but members plan to start doing it themselves to save costs and do it quicker. The association also produces a print newsletter twice a year, and maintains an e-mail list of residents, managed by board member Kelly Green.

Pheasant Hills HOA President Dan Wegienka stays in contact with Northville Police Chief Mike Carlson so he can keep residents informed about any suspicious activity and other ways to keep their neighborhood safe. He also talks to neighbors in other subdivisions to see if there are any common issues that can be resolved in tandem.

"The more communication you have with residents, the less complaints you get. People need to know the ordinances," said Wegienka, who is pleased with the way

the city is enforcing ordinances.

Abbey Knoll's communications are handled by Diana Krestel, who maintains an e-mail list of the 98 homeowners who live there. Her husband Bob is the immediate past president of the HOA.

Neighborhoods with websites can send a link to the City for posting on the City of Northville website, which boosts engine optimization (SEO) for neighborhoods. (Send your link to lcezat@ci.northville.mi.us.)

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 ensure that the new website meets your needs, please [complete the survey by April 27](#). 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.

Village Workshop offers students and teachers a 50% discount on summer membership



Summer vacation will take on new meaning with a membership at the Village Workshop, which provides vast space, high-tech tools and standard equipment to tinker and create new items for personal use or for the marketplace. For three months only - June-August, the Village Workshop is offering students and teachers 50% off the regular monthly rate - \$50 per month/\$150 for the summer. Plus, if you pre-pay for the entire three months, Village Workshop will waive the \$39 one-time activation fee. You can also sign up for only one to two monthly sessions at the discounted rate, but the activation fee will apply.

Events / Things to Do



Through April 29 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*.



April 16-22, 2017 **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 be conducting various educational efforts during severe weather week. Residents are encouraged to go over 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 Mixter, 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 am-1 pm) [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.

**Saturday, April 29
Prescription Drug Take-Back Day
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

The 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 on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 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.

According to the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 6.4 million Americans aged 12 and over - 2.4 percent of the population - abuse prescription drugs. The majority report obtaining drugs from friends and family, including from

home medicine cabinets. Overdoses from all drugs are now the leading cause of injury-related death in the United States, eclipsing deaths from motor vehicle crashes or firearms, according to the DEA.

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 this event, there is a parking lot on the south side of the building, with limited space, and plenty of street parking.

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



Two boys were among hundreds who got to meet the Easter Bunny at Maybury Farm.

First-time holiday event at Maybury Farm draws crowds

People flocked to Eggstravaganza at Maybury Farm - a first-time holiday event - on Saturday, April 15, to hunt for eggs, pose for pictures with the Easter bunny, and interact with the farm animals. Northville Parks and Rec, one of the five members of the Parks Partnership Committee, said 750 visitors attended, which reached capacity for the event. Other members of committee are Friends of Maybury, Maybury Farm, Northville

Community Foundation and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. This promises to be an annual event.



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. The Farm offers Farm Tours, story time, Farm Camp, special events, birthday parties, and a fall Corn Maze. 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
[Read more...](#)



Friday, May 26 Deadline for 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 with The Graded Wash as the subject line.

Business

Scheduling online inspections

Contractors and homeowners in the City of Northville may [schedule inspections using the new online inspection portal](#). The portal allows users to request all types of inspections, such as building, electrical, plumbing and heating. Users must have their assigned permit number when using the Inspection portal.

If you are requesting an inspection for the following business day, it must be scheduled by 3:30 p.m.

Paperless billing option for utilities

Utility bill customers may now sign up to receive email bills or arrange for automatic payment through the City's website. E-bills are emailed on the billing date with a full page bill attached in PDF format. Automatic payment is an arrangement between the customer's bank and our bank by which the amount due is deducted from the customer's account each due date. [You can sign up here](#) or call 248-449-9901 with

questions.

Around Town

What to do if a water main breaks

Each year the City has between 10 and 20 water main breaks, and most of these happen when the temperatures are below freezing. If residents see water bubbling out of the ground, contact the Public Works Department at (248) 449-9930 or (248) 349-1234 after hours and report its location. The sooner the leak is identified and reported, the quicker it can be repaired, reducing the chances of contamination entering the water system, and minimizing the cost for lost water.

At Home

Free home fire safety inspections

The Northville City Fire Department (NCFD), which serves the cities of Northville and Plymouth, offers voluntary home fire safety inspections. A team of Fire Department personnel will meet with you at your home and review items such as smoke detectors, electrical outlets, storage of flammable materials, home escape plans and other items that can have an impact on home fire safety. There is a free service.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that in 2014, structure fires caused 2,860 deaths, 13,425 injuries and \$9.8 billion in property damage. Home fire safety inspections can help reduce the risk of fire and its consequences. Call today to schedule your inspection at 248-449-9920

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.

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

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