



May 4, 2017

Meetings

This Just In...

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Meetings

Youth Assistance - Tuesday, May 9, 8 a.m. - Community Center

Housing Commission - Wednesday, May 10, 6 p.m. - Allen Terrace

Arts Commission - Wednesday, May 10, 7 p.m. - Art House

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

This Just In...

City Council Update

A recap of the May 1, 2017 meeting

Citizens comments: Christopher Maloney asked what is the process to get a monument erected to Martin Luther King. The City currently has no monuments of

national figures and no policy for erecting a monument but will respond via e-mail or letter.

Ordinance for sidewalks closed due to construction: It was the first reading of an amendment to ordinance (Chapter 74, Article III) that would require a builder to provide a safe passage (alternate route, partial closure or temporary walkway) when a sidewalk in the City right-of-way is closed due to construction. The ordinance states that the sidewalk can't be closed for more 90 days. City Council wants to add a handicap accessible requirement to the ordinance.

Grace Carpenter Alley update: Resident Joe Hoffman said he and his neighbors (three in total) are prepared to sign a special assessment to pay for adding a storm sewer to the City-owned alley that they had paved in April 2017. Joe asked the City to regrade the south portion of the alley for better drainage. Once the special assessment petition has been signed, the City engineer will gauge the project cost. City administration will prepare a report that includes the project cost with recommended assessment and payment terms.

City Council approved a two-year lawn maintenance and weed control contract to the low bidder, Xpert Lawn and Snow, of Ferndale, for \$82,000. Bids obtained through the state's bid program (MITN) came in as high as \$130,000.

City Council agreed to extend the current contract with Waste Management for five years, with a 1.95% savings for residential customers and a 2% cost reduction for commercial customers in the first year. In the next four years, the rates will increase by 2% per year. As part of the contract, the company will collect compost material for two additional weeks, through Dec. 15.

City Council approved the replacement of 14 failing heating and cooling (PTAC) units inside residents' apartments at Allen Terrace. Funds of \$19,103 appropriated by Wayne County for 2015/2016 will be used on this purchase. Sherry Necelis, the director of Allen Terrace, will also submit a request to Wayne County for its 2017 appropriation to fund additional units, since all older PTAC units at the senior residence will be replaced.

Watch the video [here](#).

State of the Community message

Mayor speaks about areas of growth and opportunity but cautious about financial limitations



Northville Mayor Ken Roth spoke to nearly

200 guests at the State of the Community Luncheon on April 19 at Schoolcraft College. At the 2017 State of the Community Luncheon on April 19 at Schoolcraft College, Northville Mayor Ken Roth spoke about improved communications, strategy for business development, and City finances. He was one of three community leaders - along with May Kay Gallagher, superintendent of Northville Public Schools; and Robert Nix, supervisor of Northville Township - who shared their vision, plans and opportunities with the greater Northville community.

Photo by Liz Gezat

Watch the video of the mayor's full speech [here](#).

The mayor pointed to multiple ways that the City has improved communication so people can be better engaged in City government. Among them:

- The City Council is recording meetings and archiving them on the City's website. "People don't have to physically be present at the meetings at 7 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of the month to participate in their local government," he said.
- The City's website is more user friendly and readable, and will undergo a complete over-haul in 2017. He wants to make the website more than just a resource by offering interactive portals such as the new online tool that allows contractors to schedule an inspection. That will be expanded to services used by residents.
- Northville Matters, the quarterly print newsletter, was newly designed and is mailed to all City residents.
- With the launch of the City's Facebook page and Twitter account, residents can engage in two-way communication.

"We are, at heart, a public service organization," he said. "We have to be more than just a resource, where people come, gather information and leave. This is an

important part of our plan to hear what's on residents' minds."

Redevelopment and expansion plans

"A couple years ago the City asked a group of residents to come together and develop a plan for how some of the City's available parcels may be redeveloped. The result was an overlay district. The residents came up with a model for how we'd like to see these parcels used," the mayor said. (The information is available on the [City's website](#).)

The Downtown Development Authority is taking a look 10 years down the road to envision what the City will look like. Extensive surveys were conducted as part of the strategy plan developed in partnership with a consulting firm.

"We are going to take this information and use it as our guidepost to how to continue to move the city forward," the mayor said. He wants developers to be incentivized to use those pieces of property to add more flexibility than what the City currently has.

"The 800-pound gorilla in the room that we get the most questions about is Northville Downs," the mayor said. "I can't emphasize enough that this is privately owned property and the Downs has been a major draw to the city for decades and they are welcome for as long as they want to operate.

"But, in the event that there is development for that property, we need to have a plan in place. The current plan indicates higher levels of development along Cady Street, which is near the downtown and less development as you move toward Seven Mile," he said.

"Underneath that property right now is a tributary of the Rouge River. Part of the plan calls for daylighting that tributary and making it an open green space for regional enjoyment.

"People bring us great ideas all the time and - at the end of the day - we talk about them and often say, 'Sorry, but we don't have the money.'"

Finances are stretched tight



Residents of Allen Terrace, some shown above, benefit from having the Housing Commission oversee the management of the City-owned senior apartment building. A new member is needed to serve on the Housing Commission and will also be an ambassador for seniors.

- Photo by Liz Cezat

"I don't want this to turn into a lecture on state and municipal finances," Mayor Roth said. But, he said there are a lot of factors that influence the City's budget that the administration has limited or no control over. A big factor that he finds aggravating is State revenue sharing.

He noted that the State of Michigan is supposed to compensate municipalities for money that they lost due to various state-funding mechanisms. The City of Northville is underfunded by \$1.8 million dollars. "If you multiply that across the state, the numbers are huge," he noted.

"The effects of Headlee and Proposal A are indisputable and dramatic. They work to permanently reduce the amount of property taxes that the City can generate. Property tax is our dominant source of revenue. In 2016, it's less than what it was in 2009."

Despite these financial challenges, the mayor says he is heartened by those who want to help move the City forward and he welcomes volunteers. "I'm positive and optimistic about the state of the City of Northville."

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. The time obligation is only a few hours a month.

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.

Events / Things to Do



Thursday, May 4
Farmers' Market
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Today marks the opening of the 2017 Northville Farmers' Market at the northwest corner of 7 Mile and Sheldon Rd. This feast for the eyes offers a bounty of delicious, locally-sourced food for your table from farmers and merchants who sell at the market.

There's something for everyone. Visitors will enjoy more than 70 stalls of Michigan-made and Michigan-grown products. Gardeners can shop for plants and flowers to get their gardens growing. Many enjoy strolling by booths of fine juried crafters, garden art, soaps, jewelry, furniture, woodworking and home accessories.

Master gardeners are available to answer your gardening questions each Thursday until noon.

There is some parking on site, with overflow parking at Northville Downs, across from the market.

For more information about the Farmers' Market, please contact the Northville Chamber of Commerce at 248-349-7640 or visit www.northville.org.

Friday, May 5



**First Friday Experience
5 - 9 p.m.**

Join us in Downtown Northville on the First Friday of each month for a special shopping, dining and artistic experience. Our retailers stay open late and showcase new products and special trunk shows and offer limited time exclusive items or sales. Downtown galleries showcase new exhibits, artists and pieces - often premiering them especially for the First Friday.

The bars and restaurants of Northville, always a popular destination, really thrive on First Fridays.

Many are housed in historic buildings and all have unique character, which complements delicious cuisine that ranges from sushi and Mediterranean to American and Italian favorites.

Plan a date. Get together with a group of friends. Treat your family to a fun evening. However you prefer to attend, don't miss out on First Fridays in Northville.



**May 5-20
18th Annual Student Art Exhibit
Northville Art House
Reception: Friday, May 5, 6 - 9 p.m.
Display: May 5 - 20**

The **18th Annual Student Art Exhibit** features more than 50 two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art in various mediums from talented middle and high school students from Northville, Novi and surrounding schools. In its 18th year, this exhibit at the Northville Art House is held in collaboration with local art educators to promote the appreciation and importance of art among the community's youth. All students

participating in this all-media juried exhibit will receive recognition for their efforts, including awards and prizes given for outstanding works of art.

The **Student Art Exhibit** opens with a reception, sponsored by Raymond James Financial, on Friday, May 5 from 6 - 9 p.m with an awards presentation at 7 p.m. The exhibition runs through May 20 during Art House hours, Tuesday-Friday 12-5 p.m. and Saturday 12-4 p.m.



PTA REFLECTIONS

The National PTA Reflections - Northville Public Schools

Reception: Thursday, May 25, 6 to 8 p.m. at the Northville Art House

Display: May 23 - 26

Northville's Pre-K - 12th grade students who advanced to the Michigan PTA Reflections program will be recognized for their artistic expression of "What's Your Story?" on May 25 from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady. Their artwork will be on display at the Art House from May 23-26.

The **National PTA Reflections** celebrates the work of young artists who compete in this annual event in the areas of dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography and the visual arts. Northville's state 2017 Reflections winners are listed on the [Michigan PTA website](#).

Saturday, May 6

Gently Used Clothing for Northville Civic Concern and Vista Maria's shelter

10 a.m. - noon

The Northville Kiwanis Club and Northville Township are holding a used clothing drive at Northville Township Hall, on the corner of Sheldon and Six Mile Roads.

Northville Civic Concern serves the Northville Community, providing clothing, food and household goods to low-income residents. Vista Maria provides shelter to girls and women rescued from human trafficking situations. They need clothing for girls age 12 and older and young women as they transition back into normal lives.

As you clean out your closets for spring, please consider bagging up clean clothing and donating it to this cause. It helps us sort clothing if you can label the bags as female, male or mixed.

You can also bring donations of canned and boxed goods for Civic Concern. Please, do not donate expired or perishable foods.

For information, please contact:

Fred Shadko fshadko@twp.northville.mi.us

Margie Banner mbanner@twp.northville.mi.us



Thursday, May 11 4 - 10 p.m.
Friday, May 12 4 - 11 p.m.
Saturday, May 13 1 - 11 p.m.
Sunday, May 14 1 - 9 p.m.

Spring Carnival

Times are subject to change due to weather
Located at Northville Downs

Admission to the Midway is free! Individual tickets \$1. Ride an unlimited number of rides for just \$12 per person, per day when you purchase a wristband online before May 10, 2017 at 11:55pm

[Click here to purchase tickets.](#)

Unlimited ride wristband purchase at carnival:

Thursday: \$15 wristband

Friday: \$18 wristband

Saturday-Sunday: \$20 wristband

[Northville Chamber of Commerce](#) 248-349-7640



Saturday, May 13 U.S. Postal Day Food Drive

Volunteer on site at Northville Civic Concern parking lot beginning at 11:30 - 6 pm. Rain or Shine. Come when you can, leave when you must.

If you cannot join us, **please leave unexpired, bagged food items by your mailbox or on your porch for pick-up.** Letter Carriers and our drivers will begin pick-up around 11 a.m. and go through the day.

If you have questions, please call 248-344-1033 and leave a message.



American Ninja Warrior
Saturday, May 13
Ages 4 - Up
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Resident Fee: \$25/child

Recreation Center at Hillside Stinson & Waterford

Rooms

Come join the fun with your little warrior and test your skill on our ultimate obstacle course. You and your little Ninja will have the opportunity to soar through the course three times to reach your best time. Big wins and big wipe outs are part of the fun. Each Little Ninja will receive a ribbon and a certificate of completion. Enjoy a light snack and bottled water. The last 30 minutes will be playing and socializing. Adults are free with a paid admission for their children. Please register with Parks and Recreation [online](#) or in person for Activity # R1127.02.



NORTHVILLE ROTARY PRESENTS



ROUGE RESCUE

with
FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE

9:00AM
TO
1:00PM

SATURDAY,
MAY
20
2017



Hines Park at River Street and Seven Mile Road

THE RIVER NEEDS YOU!



- Help make the Rouge River paddle-able for kayaks and canoes!
- Volunteer to remove invasive plants, pick up trash and woody debris!
- Help the environment, help the community and **HAVE FUN!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/1307310145989625/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1307310145989625/)



Scan to sign up!



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

Tree permits required

A permit from the Building Department may be required prior to cutting down any tree in the City of Northville. Before cutting down any tree, you must first make application to the Building Department to determine if a permit is required. The City will be enforcing this ordinance if trees are cut down without the required permit. To avoid enforcement action, please contact the Building Department at 248-449-9902. Tree cutting is regulated by [Section 90 of the City of Northville Code](#).

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!

Around Town

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 a.m. with the license plate number and street location of the vehicle to avoid a parking ticket.

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.

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 lcezat@ci.northville.mi.us.

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

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