



November 16, 2017

Meetings

This Just In...

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Business

Around Town

At Home

City offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24, in observance of Thanksgiving.

Meetings

Special City Council Meeting - Monday, Nov. 20, 6:15 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

City Council - Monday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

CANCELED - Planning Commission - Tuesday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers

Downtown Development Authority - Tuesday, Nov. 21, 8 a.m. - Meeting Room - City Hall

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

This Just In...

New fire inspectors join the ranks of the Northville City Fire Department

The Northville City Fire Department, which serves the cities of Northville and Plymouth, recently added three new fire inspectors to the Fire Prevention Division. They are Matt Davison, Aaron O'Donnell and Matt Samhat. These inspectors also serve on the firefighting team during fires and other emergencies.

The division conducts business fire safety inspections, and enforces the International Fire Code. It also handles plan review for new construction, which includes meeting with developers and contractors; and oversees the installation of fire alarm and suppression systems.

The division now has five inspectors, including Fire Marshal Greg Westfall, who heads the division.

"We see our job as working together with business owners to help make their businesses safer for employees and customers," said Fire Chief Steve Ott. "These new inspectors will allow us to visit more businesses on an annual basis."



From left, Fire Marshal Greg Westfall, Lt. Matt Samhat, new inspector; Aaron O'Donnell, new inspector; Alan Prieur, inspector; Matt Davison, new inspector; and Fire Chief Steve Ott.

Northville launches StoryVille - Holiday stories that warm the heart on cold winter days & nights



Photo by Denise Jenkins

Imagine huddling around a lit storefront in downtown Northville with family and friends. **Chuck Gaidica, of WDIV, reads, How the Grinch Stole Christmas.** Recorded in vivid vocals over a musical score, that lifts the story from the pages into your mind and heart - full of wonder, suspense, tears, and laughter. While you listen to the story, you also gaze at the store window, which is simply or elaborately decorated in the style of the book to enhance the experience.

StoryVille - taped recordings of holiday stories by local celebrities and civic leaders - comes to downtown Northville the weekend of Nov. 18 with a kick-off ceremony at noon in Town Square. It's the opening day of the Greens Market and the day after the Holiday Lighted Parade. William Demray, DDS; Chuck Gaidica; Lisa Barry and Santa will emcee the event, officially opening the book on the holiday stories. Overhead speakers will broadcast soundbites from the stories along with a blooper reel for a jolly good laugh.

The concept was first introduced in New York and spread to Chicago, but this chapter will be uniquely Northville. Local readers - including Fire Chief Steve Ott, local NPR host Lisa Barry and TV personality Chuck Gaidica - have made the stories their own - with unique sound effects and voice inflections. (See the complete list of merchants, readers and stories at the end of this article). Stories range from three to eight minutes. The event runs though the last week of December.

Denise Jenkins, who works in community outreach for Preservation Dental, brought the concept to Northville. A former broadcaster, Jenkins was enamored by the Christmas stories read at the 5th Avenue stores in New York City and longed to

replicate the experience here.

This past summer, while lounging at a friend's pool, Jenkins marveled at the tiny speaker on a table that was amplifying music wirelessly from the house about 100 feet away. The speaker was controlled by an iPhone. She had an "ah-ha" moment: this 2-inch cube could amplify the taped stories by fastening it to a building's awning or tucking it under an eave and connecting it to a wireless device inside the building.

"It's ironic that it was an electronic device that made me think this creative storytelling idea would go together," Jenkins said. As a bonus, the speaker can also be activated by an individual's wireless device - whether a cell phone, laptop or tablet.

The next step was finding people willing to read the stories and merchants willing to participate. That part snowballed. Once word got out through the Northville Central Business Association (NCBA), 24 merchants ultimately signed on. Their primary cost is producing the window decorations; some are getting creative help from local artists. ACT Wireless donated 50 speakers because it wants people to have a voice in their community.



Photo by Liz Cezat

Denise Jenkins, of Preservation Dental, brought StoryVille to Northville. In one hand, she holds a holiday story; in the other, the mini yet mighty speaker.

Preservation Dental is a contributing sponsor that paid for costs associated with the soundtrack, which was recorded in a makeshift studio at Tipping Point Theatre. Jenkins and fellow staffer Aimée Crosby coordinated, taped and produced all the

recordings.

"When I heard some of the stories later in my office, I thought, I'm just going to get my pillow and blanket and lay down and listen," Jenkins said.

"I think the kids are really going to enjoy it," she said. "It encourages families to come downtown and do something together. The event expands on the enjoyment of reading and brings creativity to the community. Plus, it's been a fantastic community reach out."

Dan Ferrara, co-owner of Northville Gallery, made sure all the locations in town were set up properly with speakers connected to their own wireless devices. He will enlist a panel of judges to evaluate store window decorations and award a unique Santa trophy for the first-place winner with a nod to second and third place winners.

Other contributing sponsors are NCBA, Northville Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). My Little Paris Café and Bookstore ordered all of the holiday books so people can purchase their favorites right downtown. The Northville District Library also has copies of most books.



Photo by Denise Jenkins

Emaline Kara, 9, of Northville, plays the role of Virginia in "Yes, Virginia - There is a Santa Claus."

StoryVille 2017 - Participating merchants/professionals in downtown Northville

Location	Story	Author	Reader
Adorn, Fine Flower Artisans and Chocolates by Renee	Auntie Claus, Home for the Holidays	Elise Primavera	Jessica Striegle, executive director, Northville Community Foundation
Alexander's	Auntie Claus, The Key to Christmas	Elise Primavera	Lisa Barry, NPR host on WEMU
Brown Dog Creamery	A Christmas Carol (excerpt)	Charles Dickens	Northville Mayor Ken Roth

Church Square	Eloise at Christmas	Kay Thompson	Denise Jenkins, of Preservation Dental
Comerica Bank	Yes, Virginia - There is a Santa Claus	Editorial by Charles Dana, New York Sun, 1897	Emaline Kara, 9, of Northville, reads letter with response read by Dr. William Demray
Comerica Walkway	Twelve Days of Christmas in Michigan	Susan Collins Thoms	Kurt Kuban, of Journeyman Publishing, and Traci Sincock, supervisor of Maybury State Park
Dancing Eye Gallery	Snowmen At Night	Caralyn Buehner	Denise Jenkins, of Preservation Dental
Dear Prudence	Fancy Nancy	Jane O'Connor	Angela Corsi Leon, former Miss Michigan and Northville resident
Dr. Robert Paulen's office	The Mouse That Saved Christmas	Doug Macdonald	Caterina Sanchez in Spanish and Jill Kara in English
Edward's	How The Grinch Stole Christmas	Dr. Seuss	Chuck Gaidica, of WDIV
Gardenviews	Jack Frost	William Joyce	Kevin O'Neill, of WJR
Genitti's	Olive, The Other Reindeer	Vivian Walsh & J. Otto Seibold	Tina Genitti, talented singer, works in the entertainment industry
My Little Paris Café & Bookstore	Madeline's Christmas	Ludwig Bemelmans	Jasen Magic, of WDIV TV, and magician
Northville Gallery	Polar Express	Chris Van Allsberg	Cody Crosby, former Disney Performer
Northville Nails	Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree	Robert Barry	Blaine Fowler, of WDVD Radio
Orin Jewelers	Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer	Robert L May	Orin Mazzoni II, store owner

Pear-Aphernalia	Twelve Days of Christmas	Author Unknown	Dr. William Demray, vocals by Emaline Kara, 9, OLV choir member
Preservation Dental	Twas The Night Before Christmas	Clement C. Moore is credited with the story.	James Kuhl, actor and Tipping Point Theatre producing artistic director
Rock-On-Main	The Littlest Elf	Nikki Shannon Smith	Chris Edmond, of WNIC Radio
Starring, The Gallery	Frosty, The Snowman	Diane Muldrow	Steve Ott, chief of Northville Fire Dept.
The Bee's Knees	The Christmas Fairy	A. Booth/R. Beardshaw	Michele Fecht, author and historian
The Knickerbocker Group of Raymond James	The Candies Save Christmas (new release!)	James Patterson	The Jack Roush family
Van Dam's	Auntie Claus	Elise Primavera	Denise Jenkins, of Preservation Dental
Wok Asian Bistro	The Nutcracker	E.T.A. Hoffman	Deb Richards, of Wok Asian Bistro



Photo by Denise Jenkins

Tina Genitti reads Olive, The Other Reindeer.

Events / Things to Do



Photo by Liz Cezat

Through Dec. 16 Small Works Juried All-Media Exhibition

The biennial Small Works Juried All-Media Exhibition features more than 150 works by 55 artists from Michigan and around the country. The exhibition includes photography, paintings, ceramics, fibers, jewelry and more - all measure 12 inches or less in all

dimensions. All works are for sale and make a great holiday gift. Purchased art is available to take home starting on Dec. 1 at the First Friday Reception.

The Art House store is open Tuesday through Friday from 12 - 5 p.m., Saturdays from 12 - 4 p.m. and every First Friday of the month from 6-9 p.m. The store features the work of more than 40 local artists. Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street and is a facility of the Northville Arts Commission. For more information, call 248-344-0497 or [visit our website](#).

**Also at the Art House:
Exploring GOLDEN Textures and Pastes**

Artists will explore the versatility of GOLDEN acrylic paints, pastes, grounds and gels by creating multiple surfaces and learning ways to incorporate and layer texture into works of art. A variety of textures will be introduced and students will leave with several finished works. The workshop is Nov. 18 - 19 from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Cost: member: \$60; Nonmember: \$68. Additional \$45 materials fee payable to instructor.

Register by phone or [online](#).

**Nov. 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Nov. 18, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Holiday Home Tour**



This event is a great way to get new decorating ideas for your home while also getting into the holiday spirit. Proceeds from the Holiday Home Tour help fund the Northville Community Foundation's work in the community.

Guests of the Holiday Home Tour will tour five beautiful, privately owned Northville homes that have been decorated to the max for the holidays.

The 2017 Holiday Home Tour will also feature a refreshment stop at the Tipping Point Theatre in Downtown Northville. Guests can enjoy light refreshments courtesy of the Northville Meijer, and also enter to win two tickets to a future Tipping Point Theatre production.

Tickets for the 2017 Holiday Home Tour are \$25 in advance and \$30 on tour day. Tickets are sold in advance at Pear-Aphernalia, Gardenviews, Haven of Northville, and at the Northville Chamber of Commerce. [Tickets may also be purchased online](#) or by phone: 248-374-0200.



Holiday Lighted Parade & Greens Market

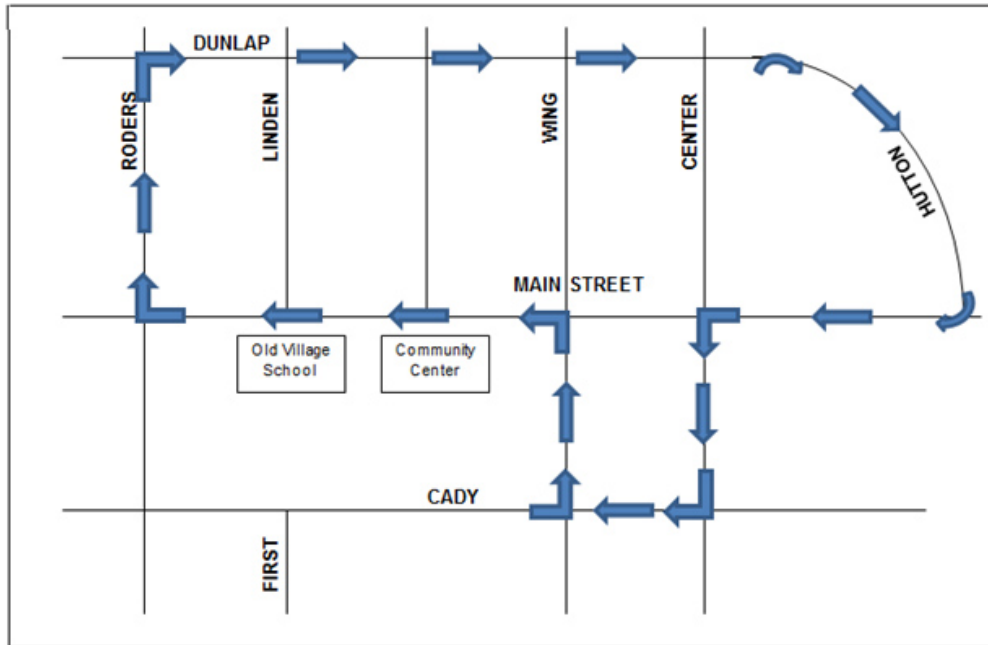
The Annual Northville Hometown Holiday is a festive community celebration that kicks off the holiday season with the Holiday Lighted Parade, ceremonial lighting of the Christmas tree in Town Square, and the Greens Market. See details below.

Holiday Lighted Parade - Friday, Nov. 17 6:30 p.m.

Join thousands of parade-goers as the holiday season officially kicks off with the Holiday Lighted Parade. Bands, dancers, floats and a special appearance by Santa make this annual favorite a great family tradition.

Parade begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by the official lighting of the tree. Kids can visit Santa at Town Square. Local churches will have hot chocolate and a family photo station available.

If your organization would like to participate in the parade [click here for application](#).



2017 Lighted Parade route

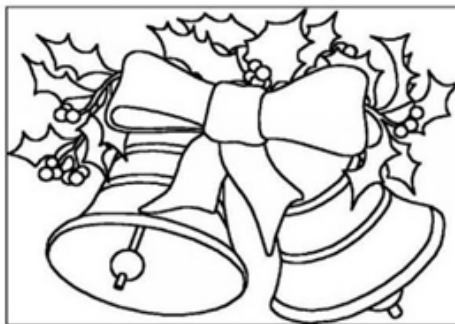


Greens Market Weekend

Friday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 18, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Get your home or business ready for the holiday season while supporting local Farmers' Market growers. Vendors will have holiday wreaths, roping, decor and accessories for sale.



Happy Holidays

It's Christmas Time in the Village!

Join us on Nov. 19 from Noon to 4 pm

Cady Inn: Crème Tea with pastries (\$5) and the Novi Brass Quintet

Church: Northville Strings, Skola Choir and Jarod Thompson

School: The Night Before Christmas with Father Christmas

Hunter House: Christmas Crafts

JM Mead Store will be open for your unique Christmas gifts.

Caroling on the Lane, Festive Decorations and a wee bit more!



215 Griswold Street Northville 248-348-1845 Admission is Free, donations are welcome.



Leaf Collection

The final street leaf collection for residents north of 8 Mile will be Nov. 27; for residents south of 8 Mile, it will be Dec. 4. Residents can

rake leaves into the street the weekend before their scheduled pick-up. In between pick-up dates, leaves can be put in large paper bags and set at the curb on trash day for composting until Dec. 1. Please contact DPW at 248-449-9930 with questions or [visit our website](#).



December 2, 2017
Traveling Gypsies Pop-Up Vintage Market @
The Village Workshop (455 E. Cady)
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This vintage-inspired Pop-Up Shop features jewelry, clothing and décor for sale. There's also live entertainment. No cost to attend. To learn more about the Traveling Gypsies please [click here](#).

Business

Automatic Tax Bill Payment Option

Residents and businesses may pay their tax bills automatically using Electronic Funds Payment (EFP). For the winter tax bill, you designate the date of payment as either Dec. 31 or Feb. 14. Summer 2018 taxes must also be paid by EFP. If you have questions, call the Treasurer's Office at 248-449-9901. [The form is available online](#).

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 by Dec. 1 each year that they have produced and made readily available to the public the following documents:

1. **Citizen's Guide** of its most recent local finances, including recognition of its unfunded liabilities
2. **Performance Dashboard**
3. **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. **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.

[These documents may be accessed on the City's website.](#)

Around Town

Historic Resource Council 2017 Directory is available

City Hall has a copy of the Historic Resource Council 2017 Directory, which lists architects, contractors, suppliers and others who specialize in historic preservation, rehabilitation and adaptation of historic structures and houses. This directory will interest residents of historic homes, owners of businesses in historic buildings and others who own property or are involved in the City's Historic District. The book can be viewed at City Hall and online at [Michigan Historic Preservation Network's website](#) (see the publications page).

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.

Northville Police Department has free gun safety locks

Don't take the risk of having an unlocked gun get into the wrong hands - especially if you have young children and teenagers. Stop in at the Northville Police Department lobby to get your free gun safety lock. There are no forms to fill out and no waiting.

Get social with City Hall online

Follow 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 let you know about 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" the Northville Facebook page, 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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