



November 22, 2017

Meetings

This Just In...

Events / Things to Do

Business

Around Town

At Home

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

Meetings

No Meetings Scheduled

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

This Just In...

City Council Recap Nov. 20, 2017

Public comments - Three residents spoke about their opposition to demolish the historic building at 341 E. Main, asking the City Council to set aside a vote by the

Historic District Commission that starts the process toward demolition. The City Council said it will take it under advisement.

Planned Unit Development (PUD) process - City Council held a second reading and approved a proposed zoning ordinance amendment that eases the submission process for developers who plan to construct a planned unit development (PUD).

2019 budget schedule - City Council approved the special meeting schedule for the annual budget with a goals and objectives meeting on Jan. 11 and budget reviews on April 5 and 12.

Audit Report approved - Plante Moran presented their audit report for fiscal year 2017 and noted there was a clean audit opinion of the City's finances and also for the DDA and Parks and Recreation. Only details of the City's finances were presented at today's meeting. City Council voted to approve the financial statement for fiscal year 2017.

Telephone Agreement - The Parks and Recreation Dept. will switch phone service from the City to the Township on Jan. 1, 2018. City Council approved the signing of a master service agreement amendment with the Clear Rate Communications for an additional 36 months in lieu of paying early termination fees. In addition, City Council approved spending \$10,336 with inaComp TSG for new phones, related equipment, licenses and services so the Parks and Recreation Dept. will be compatible with the Northville Township phone system.

Among the guests were a local Boy Scout troop, which got a lesson in City finances by Mayor Ken Roth.

Meet the newest City Council member - Patrick Giesa



Patrick Giesa, a resident of Northville since 1998, was elected to City Council in November 2017 and was appointed to serve as the City Council liaison to the Board Commissions Selection Committee, the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Liquor License Review Committee and Northville's Senior Advisory Council.

Giesa earned a technical degree in Computer Engineering with a minor in accounting from North Idaho College. He served six years in the U.S. Army Reserve. He enjoyed a 42-year career working for the largest companies in the computer industry, providing pre-sales technical support, project and program management, and serving as a system architect. He retired in 2010.

He is active in the community. He served five years on the Board of Directors for Northville Rotary and was president of the club in 2016. An avid bicyclist, he founded Northville Rotary's annual Tour de Ville in 2014, which funds the club's local, regional and international humanitarian projects.

He also served as a mentor in Northville's Youth Assistance program and on Northville's Non-Motorized Advisory Committee.

A recent widower, Giesa spends his free time with his daughter, Elli, her husband and three children; and his son, John, his wife and two children, all of whom live in Michigan. Giesa enjoys hiking, X-country skiing, snow-shoeing, reading, cooking, motorcycle touring, good friends, family and being a grandparent.

Seniors gather for a holiday meal, music and friendship



Photos by Liz Cezat

It was a full house for the Thanksgiving Luncheon.

An early Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed by 100 seniors who gathered at the Northville Community Center at noon on Nov. 15 for this lively annual event sponsored by Northville Senior Adult Services.

Seniors ranged in age from their 50s to 90-plus. Younger seniors sat at round tables conducive to conversations and filled their plates from the bountiful buffet line. Seniors who needed assistance from aides or family members sat at two long tables, where friendly volunteers delivered plated meals.

The meal was turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, vegetables, rolls and pumpkin pie with whipped cream for dessert. Many commented on the fabulous food, which was both nutritious and delicious.

Residents from two local homes, Star Manor and Addington Place, attended. About 12 residents from Allen Terrace, the City-owned senior apartment complex, were there too. Others came from their own homes or apartments in Northville, Novi, Farmington Hills and other nearby communities.

Senior Services Supervisor Pam Cameron was the master of ceremonies, and also stopped by each table to talk with seniors. Senior Services employees Debbie

Luterek, Erin Dobson and Sue Wilson kept the party flowing. The Mike Wolverton Band duo played with Mike on drums and Eddie squeezing sweet sounds from the accordion. Guests enjoyed the music and many sang along and danced.

"The seniors and their families look forward to this event every year," said Cameron. "Everyone was in great spirits and had fun celebrating together. It's such a great way to start off the holiday season, giving thanks for another year of blessings."

Among the volunteers were Senior Advisory Commissioners Jerry Mittman, Dick Brown and Lesa Buckland, along with professionals who work for companies that cater to seniors. Kristin Kolasa, owner of LoveWell, donated the pumpkin pie and plated it. She started her business six years ago because she "always had a passion for serving seniors." She is proud that she provides "good jobs and great care." Event sponsors were Waltonwood, with Heather Laskos serving meals to guests, and Griffin Funeral Home, with David Griffin lending a hand.



Kristin Kolasa, owner of LoveWell, is excited about serving delicious pumpkin pie to guests after she tops off each piece with whipped cream.



Heather Laskos, of Waltonwood, prepares a plate to serve at a table of seniors.

The next senior get-together will be the Winter Wonderland Holiday luncheon on Dec. 13. It features a meal and a sing-a-long with Dave DeClark. The cost is \$13 per person. Sign up by registering online, calling 248-305-2852 or registering in person at the Community Center or the Parks and Recreation office at Hillside School.

Mega birthday is happy occasion for Mildred Madigan



Mildred Madigan, who lives at Allen Terrace, celebrated her 105th birthday at the senior residence with family, fellow residents and other friends on Nov. 17. Her birthday was Nov. 15.

Last year, we did a feature on Mildred and her lifetime milestones and memories. [Read it here.](#)

On behalf of the City, we wish Mildred a happy and healthy year ahead. Congratulations on all that you've done as a resident of Northville and a teacher in the community. We are inspired by your lifestyle and longevity.

Holiday Lighted Parade delights thousands

The streets were lined with people of all ages who came from near and far to see Northville's most magical event: the Holiday Lighted Parade on Nov. 17.

The Northville Chamber of Commerce hosts the annual event, which features music, the Northville High School Marching Band, floats and a fleet of Volkswagen beetles decorated as reindeer, which herald the star of the show: Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Not only are the floats and parade participants aglow with twinkling strands of lights, many of the parade watchers are too. It's a festive and fun event that marks the official start of the holiday season with Santa and Mrs. Claus greeting little ones in Town Square after the parade.



Photo by Liz Cezat

The convey of VW beetles, sponsored by Preservation Dental, plays jazzy Christmas music and heralds the arrival of Santa.



Photo by Liz Cezat

Families and friends met in Town Square after the parade to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.

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

StoryVille - taped recordings of holiday stories by local celebrities and civic leaders - is playing now in downtown Northville and will be here until the end of December. Dozens of merchants have stories playing right outside their storefront, accessed by a mobile device. Windows are decorated in the theme of the book.

"StoryVille encourages families to come downtown and do something together. The event expands on the enjoyment of reading and brings creativity to the community," said Denise Jenkins, community outreach director for Preservation Dental. Jenkins brought the concept to Northville based on the Christmas stories read at stores in New York City and Chicago.

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. Contributing sponsors are Preservation Dental, 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

Events / Things to Do



Dec. 1
First Friday Experience
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Downtown Northville

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.

Our galleries showcase new exhibits, artists and pieces - often premiering them especially for the First Friday.

And don't forget the restaurants of Northville. Always great destinations, the bars and restaurants of Northville feature a wide-selection of cuisine from sushi to Mediterranean to American and Italian cuisine. Plan a date, grab a group of friends and don't miss out on First Fridays in Northville. [Read more...](#)



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](#).



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](#).



Dec. 2
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](#).

Friday, December 8 | 9am - 8pm
Saturday, December 9 | 9am - 5pm
Sunday, December 10 | 11am - 4pm
Handcrafters Tinsel & Treasures Craft Show
Northville Community Center, 202 West Main Street

Ranked in the Top 50 shows in the country, Tinsel & Treasures is a must attend shopping experience. With handmade gifts for everyone on your list, you won't want to miss the last and best show of the season! [Visit our website for more information](#).

Admission: \$4
12 & Under: Free



Every Saturday and Sunday, December 2-23
Santa In Town Square
12 - 4 p.m.
Northville Town Square, 150 East Main Street

December 9 & 10
December 16 & 17
Santa visits & open house at Maybury Farm

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily

The holidays are here! We wish you and yours all the best and to say thank you for your support of the Farm, we are once again offering free Santa Visits at the Farm. And this year we are adding a free Holiday Open House for everyone of all ages to view the farm in all its winter beauty. You will be able to walk around the Farm, through the barns, engage with the animals and notice how Nature is preparing them with winter coats for the cold months ahead. Our General Store will be open and stocked with wonderful gifts and delicious treats including warm cocoa and cider. We'll have a bonfire, activities for the kids and a family photo booth.

Due to the popularity of this event, reservations are suggested for families wanting to visit with Santa - he has lots of children to visit around the world and has limited time at the Farm! Please click the link below to select a day and time for your family. You will receive a confirmation email upon registering and a reminder email two days before your visit (Santa is getting really tech savvy!). Limited space for walk-ins will be available hourly.

[Click Here for Santa Visit Reservations](#)

This year, Santa's sleigh will be parked in our century old barn. You will enter the Farm through the General Store, then walk out to the barn for your visit and pictures. No professional photos are taken, you are welcome to use your own cameras. Remember, its a farm in the winter and our barn is not fully heated so dress for the weather!

There is no admission charge for this event but we appreciate your donations to help us in our educational work at Maybury Farm. If you have questions about the Holiday Open House or Santa Visits, please call our offices at 248-374-0200. We look forward to celebrating the holidays with you! [Click here for more information](#).

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 3:30pm.

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 online](#) or call 248-449-9901 with questions.

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).

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 review

The Northville City Fire Department, which serves the Cities of Northville and Plymouth, is pleased to offer home fire safety reviews. Simply contact the Department at 248-449-9920 to schedule an appointment. 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. This 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 reviews can help reduce the risk of fire and its consequences.

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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