



February 8, 2018

Meetings

This Just In...

Events / Things to Do

Business

Around Town

At Home

## Meetings

**Youth Assistance** - Tuesday, Feb. 13, 8 a.m. - Community Center

**Housing Commission** - Wednesday, Feb. 14, 6 p.m. - Allen Terrace

**Arts Commission** - Wednesday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m. - Art House

**Senior Advisory Commission** - Thursday, Feb. 15, 1 p.m. - Community Center

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

## This Just In...

**City Council recap**

Feb. 5, 2018

**Postage machine** - City Council approved the updated pricing for a new Pitney Bowes SendPro P1000 postage meter to replace an older model that no longer accepts software updates - important for security and Post Office compliance. The Pitney Bowes meter's cost of \$6,920 was forecast to cost less in maintenance and rental fees over a five-year period than a competitive meter that had a lower equipment cost.

**Banners of Veterans approved** - The Northville Chamber of Commerce received City Council approval to erect 30 light-post banners during the months of May and November. The banners will honor veterans and highlight the Memorial Day parade and Veteran's Day, respectively.

**Housing Commission and Senior Advisory Commission get new board members** - Kirk Rentz and Janice Jolly Valade were appointed to the Housing Commission, which oversees the management of the City's senior residence, Allen Terrace. Valade was also appointed to the Northville Senior Advisory Commission. With these appointments, Jerry Mittman, interim member of the Housing Commission, steps down.

Rentz has been a Northville resident since 2003. He is the director of operations for XPO Logistics and previously owned a building and development company. He brings management experience to the volunteer role.

Valade has been a Northville resident since 1986. Her mother was a resident at Allen Terrace from 1994-2014, so she has first-hand knowledge of the building and its residents. A retired teacher, Valade is an active volunteer at several organizations.

[Click here to see the video of the meeting.](#)

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### **Northville City Manager takes helm of MME professional association for 2018**

Northville City Manager Pat Sullivan is the new president of Michigan Municipal Executives (MME), leading an association that represents approximately 300 Michigan municipal managers. He served as president-elect in 2017 and has been a member for 28 years.

He took on the new role during the association's annual Winter Institute in Ann Arbor Jan. 30-Feb. 2, succeeding Keith Van Beek, Ottawa County deputy administrator.



"This organization does so much to develop and support local government leaders," Sullivan said. "I'm proud to lead it for the next year."

MME is a nonprofit, professional organization representing the managers of Michigan's cities, counties, townships and villages. Its purpose is to foster and encourage the personal and professional development of its members to better serve their communities and to promote, encourage and preserve high ethical standards for municipal administrators. It is an affiliate of the Michigan Municipal League.

Sullivan's tenure will benefit the residents of Northville since executives in MME share information and advice about managing various departments and resolving difficult issues. Having such an accessible, experienced group of mentors and advisers to call on is invaluable, he noted.

Sullivan said he will focus on increasing awareness of the profession to help attract a new generation of municipal executives. "Baby Boomers are retiring and leaving all levels of our workforce, so we need to make sure we attract great leaders to carry on our work," he said. "Part of that is making sure the leadership of MME is more diverse going forward. We need to let everyone who has the talent and passion to lead local governments know that we are going to welcome and support them."

Sullivan has been the Northville city manager since March 2006. His previous governmental experience includes serving as superintendent of the City of St. Clair; and as assistant village manager and village clerk of Beverly Hills. He received a Master's of Public Administration from Oakland University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs from Wayne State University. He is also a member of the International City/County Management Association and the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

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**DDA Board of Directors is seeking another dedicated member**



Photo by Liz Cezat

***The DDA is focused on keeping the downtown area an attractive and vibrant setting that fosters a thriving economic base for business owners.***

The City has an opening for a qualified volunteer to serve on the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board of Directors.

**The DDA Board of Directors** strives to enhance the quality of life for the residents of the greater Northville area through economic and physical revitalization of the downtown business district. The DDA coordinates and supports activities to promote the economic viability of the downtown area. It also acts as an advocate for a safe, clean and attractive central business district. A strong downtown center is a major attraction for development and enhances the quality of the life for the entire community.

The board meets at 8 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the lower level of City Hall.

Information about the board composition and responsibilities is available on the [DDA website](#). For more information, contact Lori Ward at 248-349-0345 or [lward@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:lward@ci.northville.mi.us).

Applications will be accepted until the vacancy is filled and are available on the [City of Northville's website](#) or at the City Clerk's Office, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI, 48167. Completed applications should be returned to the City Clerk's office, which also contacts applicants to schedule interviews with the Selection Committee. All applications will be kept on file for future consideration.

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## **Dog licenses are up for renewal**



All dogs four months and older must be licensed. The annual license fee is \$13 (\$10 with documented spay/neuter). Dog licenses for 2017 expire on Feb. 28, 2018.

You must provide a current rabies vaccination certificate at the time of application. Licenses are available at the City Clerk's Office. If you want to register by mail, please [download an application from the City's website](#).

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## **Save time - pay your parking ticket online**

If you need to pay a parking ticket, online payments are now being accepted. The traditional methods of paying - in person at the Cashier's Office at City Hall, or by mail - are still available. Paying online includes a convenience fee by the third-party provider, but often saves time over mailing the payment or paying in person.

### **Pay your parking ticket online**

- Have your ticket handy to access the number and amount due (on front of ticket)
- A convenience fee will be added



- You can review the full amount, including fee, and confirm it before you submit your payment
  - [Click here to begin.](#)
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### **AARP Income tax preparation assistance**

AARP tax-aide provides free tax assistance to taxpayers with low and middle income, with special attention to those who are 60 and older. Appointments are required and are conducted at the Northville Community Center on Thursdays, Feb. 1 through April 12. Please call 248-305-2851 to register.

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### **Volunteers needed for annual Rouge frog and toad survey**



Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) needs volunteers to participate in the 2018 annual Rouge frog and toad survey. You will learn the calls of the [eight local frogs and toads](#) and visit wetlands at night to identify what types are calling.

Friends of the Rouge started the survey in 1998 to involve local residents in collecting data about the health of Rouge River wetlands. The presence of frogs and toads is used as an indicator of wetland health as the animals disappear when wetlands are too polluted or destroyed. Diverse, healthy wetlands support diverse populations of amphibians.

The [survey results](#) have shown the greatest diversity of frogs and toads, and therefore the healthiest wetlands, in the less developed headwaters of the [Rouge River Watershed](#) and the lowest diversity in the urbanized portions.

Interested volunteers need to [pre-register](#) for ONE of three training sessions held

on Saturdays in February and March. (All materials are provided at the workshop.) Volunteers are assigned to survey blocks within the Rouge River Watershed and required to visit them several times a month on damp warm nights, March through June.

Workshop dates ([register](#))

**Sat. Feb. 17, 10 a.m. - noon**

Canton Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, MI 48188

**Sat. March 10, 2017 10 a.m. - noon**

Farmington Hills Council Chambers, 31555 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

**Sat. March 17, 2017 10 a.m. - noon**

Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48154

## Events / Things to Do

### Historic District Survey kick-off meeting to be held March 1

The public, and especially residents of the Historic District and owners of Historic District properties, is invited to attend the kick-off meeting for the Historic District Survey at 7 p.m., March 1, at City Hall, Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville.

The meeting will bring together survey leaders, the Historic District Study Committee and an architectural historian (consultant) from the Commonwealth Heritage Group to explain the scope, process and benefits of the survey, and answer questions from the audience.

Letters will be mailed to residents and owners of Historic District properties announcing the meeting and web page dedicated to news, meetings and updates on the survey. [Visit it here.](#)

The Historic District Survey project will evaluate 343 houses and other buildings to detail important historic architectural attributes. The results will update the district information in the National Register of Historic Places, and serve as a reference for owners of the historic properties and the Historic District Commission as it considers petitions brought before it to modify these properties.

During the survey process, if you have any questions about the survey, please email [historicsurvey@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:historicsurvey@ci.northville.mi.us). Questions will be collected and answers posted on the project web page on a periodic basis.

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# Maybury State Park President's Day Hike



**Monday, February 19, 2018      10:00 -11:00 am**

**Horse Staging Parking Lot      (Use Beck Road entrance)**

Get outside and go for a guided hike at Maybury State Park on the President's Day holiday. Weather permitting, bring your skis or snowshoes and head out in the park's trails. Dress appropriately for moderate activity.

Light refreshments available after the hike



This program is **FREE** and no registration is necessary, however a Recreation Passport is required for park entry. The Recreation Passport can be purchased when renewing your license plate tabs at the Secretary of State or at the Self Registration kiosk at each park entrance. .



Maybury State Park Office (248) 349-8390



# SKYWARN 2018



Skywarn is an effort to save lives during severe weather emergencies by expanding networks of spotters and by encouraging the widest possible participation in tornado warning programs. There is no way to stop tornadoes, and not all tornadoes show up on radar, but they can be seen. Lives can be saved. Only one instrument can detect a tornado or funnel with complete certainty, the human eye.

Skywarn training sessions are held to train individuals on how to accurately observe such weather phenomena as floods, hail, wind and its associated damage, cloud features that lead to tornadoes, and those cloud features that do not lead to tornadoes. The class covers what information to report and how to report it. Basic severe weather safety is also covered. Classes are **FREE** and last 1.5 hours. While new technological and scientific tools have advanced the National Weather Service (NWS) capability to predict severe weather, the trained spotter remains essential to the NWS warning process. The more trained "eyes" we have in the field during a severe weather event, the better our service to you and the public will be. More concern, more spotters, more eyes are needed. Lend us yours - learn **SKYWARN**!

## SPOTTER TRAINING CLASSES

<b>Wednesday, March 7</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Oakland County Homeland Security Division</b> Executive Office Bldg. 41W, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, 48328
<b>Saturday, March 24</b> 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	<b>Oakland County Homeland Security Division</b> Executive Office Bldg. 41W, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, 48328
<b>Saturday, March 24</b> 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Oakland County Homeland Security Division</b> Executive Office Bldg. 41W, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford, 48328
<b>Monday, March 26</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Southfield Public Library</b> 26300 Evergreen Rd, Southfield, 48076
<b>Thursday, April 12</b> 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>City of Rochester Hills – City Hall</b> 1000 Rochester Hills Dr, Rochester Hills, 48309
<b>Wednesday, April 18</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>The Charter Township of Commerce Township</b> 2009 Township Drive, Commerce Township, 48390
<b>Thursday, May 10</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Ortonville Old Town Hall</b> 476 Mill Street, Ortonville, 48462

All interested parties (i.e. fire, police, EMS, security, volunteers, and citizens) are encouraged to attend.

The **Oakland County Homeland Security Division** coordinates this program.  
Limited space is available, so make your reservations now!



Go to: [oakgov.com/homelandsecurity](http://oakgov.com/homelandsecurity)  
and click on the Skywarn logo to register  
or call (248) 858-5300



The County of Oakland does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to its programs, activities, or services as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Please contact us within five (5) business days prior to the event if you have any special needs.

**Join us for Maybury Farm Camp**



**JUNE 19 - AUG.16**  
**TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & THURSDAYS**  
**9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

for boys & girls ages 5-12

Early bird pricing through Feb. 28

[Farm Camp Registration Form](#)

Farm Camp is a three-day camp filled with exciting experiences designed to engage and educate kids. Held entirely outdoors, campers will enjoy learning about the care and function of animals on the farm, the cycle of planting, growing and harvesting by helping out in the farm garden, hiking along our forest trails and learning about native Michigan plants and crops, playing team-building games, making crafts and much more!

Each session of Farm Camp is three days: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Farm Camp is purchased on a weekly session basis and limited to 22 campers per session. Campers may sign-up for all sessions. Enrollment fills up quickly so please register as early as possible.





### **Take advantage of Early Bird Pricing**

Registration and payment submitted by:

Feb. 28: \$165/week

March 31: \$180/week

April 1 or later: \$195/week

There will be no camp the week of July 3, 2018.

[Farm Camp Registration Form](#)

### **New This Year**

**Junior Counselor program for teens ages 15 to 18 years old**

This is a volunteer position that allows teens to assist farm camp counselors in working with the campers in all the farm camp activities. It's a great opportunity for work experience for teens who love kids, animals and agriculture. Interested? Submit the application below.

[Junior Counselor Application](#)



## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Making Maple Syrup Tours begin March 3**

Saturdays and Sundays | March 3 - March 31

Weekday group tours available. [Learn more...](#)

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The Northville Chamber of Commerce presents...



**March 17, 2018**  
11am - 2pm  
Northville High School

**Admission: \$2.00**  
per person  
Parking is free

*Family friendly event!*

**Retail • Service • Community... all in one place**

**Largest showcase of Northville businesses and organizations all in one place!**

We invite the Northville community to come out and take advantage of this opportunity to meet your local business owners and representatives and to see what products and services they provide to the Northville community.

With more than sixty (60) booth exhibitors including: retail and service, businesses, artisans, financial institutions, community and educational groups and restaurants. You are sure to see something that interests you!

**Event Highlights:**

- Exhibitors may sell merchandise, along with providing give-a-ways at their booths.
- Free samples of food from the area's restaurants
- Door prizes awarded at 1:15pm



**LEGO**  
Building Contest

March 17, 2018

Go to the Chamber website to download the entry form or stop by the Chamber office to pick one up!

[www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org)

Thank you to our sponsors:



For more information about the Northville Marketplace contact the Northville Chamber of Commerce at 248-349-0203 or visit our website [www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org).



## **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 August 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.

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.

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### **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.

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## **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 it has 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**

### **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).

## **At Home**

### **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 the Building Department at 248-449-9902.

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**Before the next snowfall, apply brine to driveway and sidewalks**

Help keep the Rouge River clear of dissolved rock salt by switching to a new de-icer method. Apply brine before a snowfall and shovel frequently to keep snow from accumulating and forming ice. City ordinance requires that sidewalks be cleared of snow within 24 hours of a snowfall.

Brine is a mixture of salt and water. A batch can be pre-mixed and stored in your basement. Here's the recipe:

- 1 ½ gallons hot water
- 3-4 cups rock or table salt
- Bucket
- Sprayer

Directions: Combine salt and hot water in a bucket until all salt is dissolved completely. Pour mixed brine into a sprayer and apply to sidewalk and driveway prior to a snowfall. Each gallon should cover 1,000 square feet of surface (about 200 feet of sidewalk).

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## **Sewage backups**

Homeowners may experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system. If you intend 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.

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## **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.

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto:lcezat@ci.northville.mi.us).

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

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