



March 22, 2018

Meetings

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Meetings

Parks & Recreation Commission - Wed., March 28, 6:30 p.m. - Township Hall

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

This Just In...

City Council recap March 19, 2018

Dogs on leash at condo commons - City Council waived the second reading and approved a change to ordinance 10.2, which now prohibits dogs from running at large on condominium common areas.

Rental agreement - City Council agreed to rent the City-owned home at 315 Griswold located just north of Mill Race Village to the Living, Learning Enrichment

Center for the monthly rate of \$1,300.

Master Plan to be reviewed - The City Council will review recommended changes to the Master Plan. The proposed changes relate to new development east of Griswold, south of Cady. - an area known as Foundry Flask. Key elements include removing the "density limits" and replacing it with a "form-based" approach so development is compatible visually and functionally with surrounding land uses; allowing some flexibility in building height, and requiring a certain percentage of first-floor commercial space in key locations. City Council said it would discuss these changes at a meeting on March 20 with the DDA and Planning Commission.

SMART Specialized Services contract approved - City Council approved a contract for fiscal year 2018 that allows the Northville Parks and Recreation Dept. to receive \$2,488 in funding from SMART to offset the operational cost of providing transportation services to seniors and individuals with disabilities.

See [video of the meeting here](#).

New DPW Director Named at City of Northville



Photo by Liz Cezat

Lloyd Cureton was named director of the Department of Public Works (DPW) for the City of Northville and began his new role on March 5. Cureton oversees the delivery of essential services to the community, including water service, sewer, snow plowing and roads maintenance.

He will develop and implement projects that impact the city infrastructure and capital improvements, and will provide oversight to new development in the city, working with community leaders to ensure new construction is built to quality standards set forth in the city code.

Cureton has more than 26 years of experience at all levels of government, from planning and zoning to building and road systems, and has managed a cemetery. He comes to the city from Ferndale, where he served as DPW director. Prior to that, he worked for the City of Walled Lake for 20 years, first as a water technician, then for 18 years as DPW director. He graduated from Northville High School and has numerous certifications in the public works field. He succeeds Jim Gallogly, who retired.

"Taking the job at Northville gives me the hands-on approach that I prefer. I like to interact with the staff and people in the field, and love being out in rain and snow." The Northville native added, "This job is a 'coming home' for me.

"You need public works every day to keep the streets plowed, keep the sewer system from backing up, and ensure the water is safe to drink. People assume that's it going to work, and it's my job to make sure it does," he said.

He is eager to meet the residents and business owners and work with contractors on public works projects. "I will be available and approachable. I will return phone calls as soon as possible. I want to get to know what people's concerns are."

Cureton and his wife, Dianne, live in New Hudson. They have three grown children and three grandchildren.

Art House offers creative canvas to a community that thrives on the arts



Photo by Liz Cezat

Amanda Barnett has big plans for the Art House since being named director earlier this year.

The [Northville Art House](#) at 215 W. Cady is nestled between the U.S. Post Office and the historically designated Oakwood Cemetery. The walk-out lower level of the two-story building faces a large green space bordered by trees where dogs can run within the fenced field (Okay, it's a dog park).

It's across the street from the library steps, kitty-corner from the City-owned green space, one block away from City Hall and a quick jog through a City parking lot to the Northville Community Center. Being a short walk from six community-centric buildings and green spaces puts the Art House in a desirable location. And people flock to it for exhibits, art classes, workshops, special events and rubbing elbows with artists. The Art House is highly regarded by Michigan's art culture and attracts artists nationally to exhibits and events.

The Art House often takes its show on the road. This year, it held a romantic fundraiser, aptly named Art Crush, at Cantoro's in Livonia. The first-time event raised \$3,000 through ticket sales and a silent auction. A sequel is planned in 2019.

The Young Artist Art Fair on March 10 at the First Presbyterian Church featured the artwork of 2nd graders through high school seniors who also sold their [artwork](#). Erin Maten, Programming and Operations manager, connects students to art-filled opportunities and coordinates after-school art programs in Northville Public Schools.

The biggest fundraiser for the Art House is [Arts and Acts](#), which includes Art in the

Sun, the 30th annual juried fine arts festival; musical entertainment; and a new maker's fair. This year, it spans two days, June 23 and 24, and relocates (from downtown Northville) to Millennium Park, on 6 Mile Road between Beck and Sheldon, in Northville Township.

"It's a bigger venue with ample parking. It will expose artists to new audiences and be more accommodating to visitors," notes Art House Director Amanda Barnett. The event raises approximately \$20,000 for the Art House. It will take place in tandem with the Northville Chamber's Tapped in the 'Ville (craft beer) event on June 23, held in an adjoining soccer field.

Barnett, a graduate of Albion College who earned a master's degree in arts administration and cultural policy from Goldsmiths, University of London, is highly qualified for the job with immense experience in all types of art - from live performance to still life. An Ann Arbor resident, she started with the Art House as an event coordinator and became director in January 2018, when Abigail Wright-Geddes left the non-profit. Barnett's biggest challenge is finding the right balance between administrative work (knowing accounting is helpful) and directing events.

Weekly, monthly and annually, the Art House's collective offerings touch the lives of hundreds of thousands of people - whether it's through art classes, the mega summer festival or the exhibits that light up the small but impressive gallery on the second-floor. Among some of the annual exhibitions the Art House is known for:

- * [Annual Member Exhibition](#) (March 2-24)
- * Student Juried Art Exhibit (May 4-19)

With widespread support and engaging outreach, the Art House has delivered on the promise to bring art and culture to the community since its founding in March 2005. It flows with the community vibe, taking part in First Fridays by opening the gallery and offering an art expert's review along with refreshments. Beloved and accomplished art instructors draw hundreds of students to their classes. The artisan store on the first floor sells home goods, jewelry and accessories from more than 50 Michigan artists.

Barnett wants to expand the Art House's services by offering lectures and specialized art classes to specific age groups, from toddlers to senior citizens. "We want to grow to serve the community," she said.

Despite its compact size, the Art House plays big with the arts. PBS, in its [Project for Public Spaces](#), notes that communities that bring people together to create and celebrate culture have an evolved social capital. By this measure, Northville is on the leading edge of cultural engagement.

PBS also reports that "participation in cultural activities (as opposed to spectatorship) connects people to each other and to their community institutions, providing pathways to other forms of participation, such as political expression, community dialogue, shared cultural experiences, and civic work." Benefits of a

thriving, inclusive arts community are higher levels of economic development, civic participation and healthy living.

"Having cultural space in a community helps bring people here and attracts young professionals, who want more than an on-ramp to the local freeway," said Barnett.

There's active involvement by the [Northville Art Commissioners](#), City-appointed volunteers who have a passion for art, and advise and support the staff. Art House Exhibits Director Ryan Kaltenbach hangs the exhibits and promotes them. He also heads the Exhibit Committee, which curates the main gallery space. An Emerging Artist Exhibition wall allows up-and-coming artists to showcase their talents.

The Art House was founded with support from the City of Northville, which provides the building rent-free as well as services in accounting, public works and governance. Otherwise, the nonprofit is self-funded through programs, services and grants, and accepts donations made through the City to pay for staffing, building maintenance and improvements, and community outreach.

Art House hours are Tuesday - Friday, noon to 5 p.m., Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. and First Fridays, 6 to 9 p.m.



One class yielded these self portraits of young adults.

Communications survey is underway - please provide your input

The City of Northville is conducting a survey to help evaluate the effectiveness of

existing publications (City News and Northville Matters) and social media (Facebook and Twitter). Thank you to the nearly 200 people who have already taken the survey. We invite residents and business owners to participate. [Click here for the online survey link.](#)

Those who prefer to complete the survey on paper can do so at City Hall by visiting the receptionist desk inside the front lobby. If you can't access the survey in person or online, please call 248-449-9905 and request a survey be mailed to you. All surveys must be completed and received by April 6, 2018.

Survey questions focus on readability, organization and reader engagement. Responses will help us understand and respond to the community's preferences while improving our communication efforts. If you haven't yet participated, please check it out.

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.

St. Patty's Day party at Community Center brings out the Irish in everyone



Photo by Liz Cezat

From left, Alice Brooks, and Marian and Jim Priebe, all of Northville.

Sixty-six seniors from Northville and nearby communities celebrated St. Patrick's Day at a festive party sponsored by Northville Senior Adult Services on March 16 at the Northville Community Center. Many wore unique clothing, jewelry, hats and accessories in shades of green or studded with glitter to show their affinity to the Irish during a holiday that sparks fun and fanfare in the United States.

Senior Services Supervisor Pam Cameron and her staff put on this first-time event with lively entertainment and an Irish-based meal. The talented duo Balancing Earth played traditional Irish music, including "Danny Boy," as guests listened in awe. The striking sentimentality of that song was leavened by laughter as guests engaged with the duo over jokes and antics.

The buffet meal offered delicious corned beef and cabbage, sausage and sauerkraut and hearty vegetables. The crowning touch was cake. The meal was sponsored by Waltonwood of 12 Oaks and Griffin Funeral Home. Employees from those businesses also helped serve the food and provided refills.

A costume contest and give-away prizes rounded out the festive party. One guest noted that Northville throws the best parties for seniors and the Community Center provides more programs than neighboring communities, which is a testament to the dedication and efforts of the Senior Services staff.

GREAT NEWS: Spring Bug Hunt is on

The Friends of The Rouge will hold the Spring Bug Hunt on April 14. The hunt is back on after FOTR raised sufficient funds to replace a shortfall. Volunteers are needed and encouraged to [sign up here](#).

Events / Things to Do



Maybury Farm making maple syrup tours
Saturdays and Sundays, through March 31
1 p.m., 1:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.
50165 8 Mile Rd.
Northville, MI

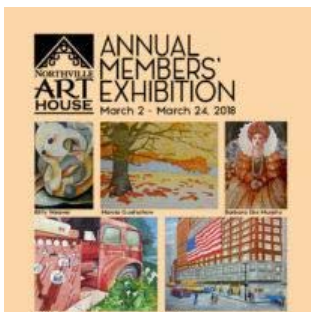
Looking for something fun to do with your family and friends? Ever wondered how delicious maple syrup gets made? Come to Maybury Farm and find out.

The tour begins with a wagon ride out to the Sugar Bush. Once you arrive, you will head into the woods where you will learn about the maple tree, how to tap it, and then collect the sap. You may even get a chance to taste the sap straight from the tree. Take a wagon ride back to the Sugar Shack where you will watch and learn how the sap is converted into delicious maple syrup, how syrup is graded, and also how to make maple syrup at home.

Once your tour is finished, you are invited to warm up in the Maybury Farm Welcome Center where hot drinks and snacks are available to enjoy next to the toasty wood stove. Pure Michigan Maple Syrup is available for purchase and we offer free recipes for you to try with your maple syrup at home.

Space is limited for this popular event, so arrive early to reserve your spot. To schedule a private Farm Tour for groups of 15 or more, call 248-374-0200.

The cost for the Making Maple Syrup Tours is \$7 per person and children 2 and under are free. Visit www.mayburyfarm.org to learn more. You can also contact Cindy Kern, Farm Director, at 248-916-3033 or Cindykern72@icloud.com



Through March 24
12th Annual Members' Exhibition
Northville Art House
215 W. Cady

This exhibition showcases the talents of 57 current member artists through original works of art created in a variety of media and styles. Gallery hours: Tues. - Fri. 12-5 p.m., Sat. 12-4 p.m. (Read about the Art House in the news section of this issue of City News.)



Friday, March 23 | 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday, March 24 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Handcrafters Spring Fling Craft Show
Northville Community Center, 303 West Main Street

Shake off cabin fever and experience a new season at the annual Spring Fling. Stock up on Easter gifts, garden art, seasonal décor, fashion and more. Admission: \$3, 12 & under: free

SKYWARN 2018



SKYWARN

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

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

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
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.



Northville Historical Society 2018 Lecture Series
Great Lakes Lighthouse Preservation
March 28, 2018

All around the Michigan Great Lakes Shoreline, there are old lighthouses that have guided ships for centuries. People are working tirelessly to restore and maintain these lighthouses because of the history they represent. This lecture will discuss the history of these lighthouses, the work that has been done to restore them and the work still to be done to assure that this part of Michigan's history is maintained.

Historian, author, and photographer Wayne S. Sapulski has physically visited (not just flown over) every one of them. A graduate of the Great Lakes Maritime Academy in Traverse City, Michigan, Wayne once served as a deck officer licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard to pilot ships of unlimited tonnage upon the waters of the Great Lakes. Still licensed but no longer sailing, Wayne remains active in several maritime historical societies and lighthouse groups, especially the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association (www.gllka.com). He is a regular contributor to their quarterly publication, *The Beacon*. Wayne's photographs and articles have appeared in many other regional publications as well. He is the author/photographer of **Lighthouses of Lake Michigan, Past and Present** (2001) and coauthor/photographer of the popular guidebook **Great Lakes Lighthouses, American and Canadian** (1998), of which over 37,000 have been sold to date.

The lecture will be at the New School Church at Mill Race Historical Village, 215 Griswold St, Northville at 7:00pm. The lecture is free of charge although donations are accepted at the door to help defray costs.



Egg Hunts * Farm Animals * Seed Planting * Easter Bunny * Smokey The Bear *
Concessions

SATURDAY, APRIL 14
GATES OPEN at 9:30 a.m.
EGG HUNTS BEGIN at 11a.m.

11 a.m.- 2-3 year olds
11:30 a.m. - 4-6 year olds
12 p.m. - 7-10 year olds

Kids ages 2 - 10 can redeem eggs for a prize bag filled with candy and treats from local businesses.

Admission is \$5 per vehicle (cash only)
All activities are included with admission except food & drink.

Limited free parking at Maybury Farm, additional parking at Maybury State Park
(Annual Recreation Passport required)

Egg Hunts are limited to the first 700 children.

Business

Online payments for utility bills and taxes

Online payments for taxes and utilities is available on the City's website offered through Point & Pay, for a convenience fee. [Click here to access this option.](#) On the left side of your screen, select either Property Tax and Assessing Lookup or Utility Bill Lookup. Search for your property and click on the "Pay Online" button. You will then be re-directed to the Point & Pay website to make a payment.

Fees: Please note there is a convenience fee paid directly to Point & Pay if you choose to utilize this option:

Credit Cards: 3% Fee (minimum \$2)

E-Checks: Flat Fee of \$3, up to \$10,000 or Flat Fee of \$10.00, anything over \$10,000

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).

Streetlights

Streetlight out? Businesses and residents can [report streetlight outages online](#). This link goes directly to the DTE streetlight outage reporting tool.

Businesses and residents who have a DTE wooden power pole on or adjacent to their property are eligible to have outdoor protective lighting installed on the pole to illuminate their private property. Residents may even qualify for no up-front cost installation. Please call 866-503-0627 and leave a detailed message that includes name, address, city, zip code and phone number with area code for a DTE representative to contact you within 3 business days.

At Home

Brush collection program

The City of Northville allows residents to place branches at the curb without bundling or bagging them. Branches 6 feet long and up to 6 inches in diameter can be placed at the curb for removal by the City's solid waste collection contractor.

Residents can dispose of large piles of branches by placing them at the curb. Every Tuesday, year-round, a crew will come through each neighborhood and chip any branches left at the curb.

Branches must be in the street right-of-way (Between the street and the sidewalk).

Simply stack the branches neatly behind the curb with the cut ends facing the street.

For safety sake we cannot take roots, stumps dirt, lumber, railroad ties or any wood with metal in it.

Residents can dispose of firewood pieces and stumps with their normal weekly garbage (Maximum 35 gallon cans and 60 lb. weight limit).

Collection crews will not rake up small branches after the large brush piles are removed. Residents may have to rake these areas after bulk brush collection has been made.

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.

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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