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Beautification Commission - Monday, Oct. 1, 8:30 a.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall

City Council - Monday, Oct. 1, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall
Planning Commission - Tuesday, Oct. 2, 7 p.m. - Hillside Middle School, 775 N.
Center
Board of Zoning Appeals - Wed., Oct. 3, 7 p.m. - Council Chambers - City Hall
Agendas and minutes are available by clicking here

## This Just In...

Planning Commission meeting on the Downs Project will be at Hillside

## Middle School

The Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018 at 7 p.m. will be held at Hillside Middle School, 775 N. Center, Northville, rather than City Hall, to accommodate the public. There will be a presentation by Hunter Pasteur Homes on its Planned Unit Development (PUD) for Northville Downs.

People attending the meeting should use the main entrance (east doors near the flag pole).

The meeting agenda will be available online on Friday, Sept. 28; the Planning Commission package will be posted on Sat., Sept. 29. Visit the website (boards and commissions section) to see these items when posted.

## Beautification Commission recognizes awardees at annual luncheon

The 29th annual Beautification Awards Luncheon was hosted by the Rotary Club at the First Presbyterian Church in Northville on Sept. 25, drawing nearly 100 attendees. City of Northville Beautification Commission Chairperson Diane Pittaway presented awards to 27 City businesses and organizations. (See list below.) Copresenter Lynne Mosteller, of Northville Township, bestowed awards on 28 businesses in the township.

The two top City awards were presented to professional photographer Angela Carson for "The Best in Town" and Yerkes House gardens in Mill Race Village for "The Pride of Northville."
The Township's Best in Town award went to Deadwood Bar and Grill.
The "Pride of Northville" is a new award, presented to Kathy Galarneau and Liliana Miyahara, of the Yerkes House gardens in Mill Race Village. The garden also won a "Keep America Beautiful" award from the State of Michigan as an authentic historic garden and community project. Produce from their kitchen garden was donated to Northville Civic Concern.

Each of the City awardees was recognized with a Certificate of Recognition "for their outstanding efforts to beautify the building and grounds in the City of Northville."

The Beautification Commission also honored members and friends who planted flowers around the City. Pittaway said that planting flowers in the City is a team effort and recognized those in the City and community that helped make this year's planting and maintenance a success. She noted that it's fun to come up with new color combinations to brighten up the City streets.

Throughout Northville and the township, the award-winning businesses and
organizations contribute an immense benefit to the community through their lovely gardens and landscaping.

photo by Liz Cezat
Angela Carson proudly holds the Best in Town award, presented by Diane Pittaway (right).


# Members and friends of the Beautification Commission and some of the award-winners gathered for this photo. Holding the framed Pride of Northville award are Liliana Miyahara (left) and Kathy Galarneau (right). 

## 2018 City Award Winners

(in addition to Best in Town and Pride of Northville)
Allen Terrace Senior Housing
Casterline Funeral home
Corriveau Law
Elizabeth's Bridal manor
First Presbyterian Church
First United Methodist Church
Gardenviews
Good Time Party Store
Jerome Law
Kelly and Kelly, PC
Main-Seven, LLC/Cross Fit \& 540 S. Main
Marathon Judeh Corp.
Northville Academy
Northville City Hall
Northville Garden Club Park
Northville Town Square
Our Lady of Victory Church \& School
Pizza Cutter
Red Dot Coffee Co.
Rotary Park
Singh Development Co.
Starbucks
Tipping Point Theatre

## Community Forum on street bond - one held, one coming up

A community forum on Sept. 20 covered multiple aspects of the street bond that will appear on the Nov. 6 ballot, which asks voters to decide whether or not to approve a 0.98 millage for the issuance of a $\$ 3,050,000$ Street Improvement Bond to fund street repairs and upgrades for the next 10 years.

Another forum is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 20, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 303 W. Main.

At last week's forum, Mayor Ken Roth presented an overview of the ballot proposal: its cost, the impact on area streets, and the strategy of how repairs and replacement will be assessed and scheduled if the measure passes. Guests visited
stations set up in the room, where professionals in public works, engineering and finance provided information and answered questions.

The City has developed a set of questions and answers (Q\&As) so voters are well informed when they cast their ballot in the Nov. 6 election.

Here is one of the questions:

## How are other communities handling street repairs?

Canton approved a millage of 1.45 over 20 years on the township's Aug. 7 ballot. See details here. Novi passed a 1.5 millage for roads in 2012, it was enacted in 2013 and does not expire. See details here. In 2014, Royal Oak voters approved a 10-year, 2.5-mill tax increase to upgrade local streets. See details here. In 2016, Ann Arbor renewed a street, bridge and sidewalk millage, and bridges of up to 2.125 mills for five years (2017-2021). See details here. Brighton did not pass a recent request for a 4.34 mill increase to repair and maintain streets. See details here.

To see what your cost would be if the millage passes, find your taxable value for Oakland properties, for Wayne County properties. Multiply your taxable value by .00098 to determine your new annual rate during that 10-year period.

## Input needed on Residential Infill Study

The City Planning Commission is studying the trends of building larger homes and garages than are already located on those City blocks and nearby neighborhoods to determine if the City's policies and regulations provide the desired standards for new home construction and home additions. As part of this study, the Planning Commission is soliciting residents' opinions through an online survey.

You can also answer these questions on paper at the Building Dept. or the Northville District Library, and submit the completed questionnaire at those locations. Please tell your neighbors, family and friends that live or own residential property in the City about this study, and encourage them to participate in the survey. The survey is open until Friday, Nov. 2.

## Integrated public alert and warning system to conduct national test on

 Oct. 3The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will conduct a nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) on Oct. 3.

The test will assess the readiness to distribute an emergency message nationwide and determine whether improvements are needed. Sending the WEA test message will begin at 2:18 EDT. The EAS message will be sent at 2:20 p.m. This will be the first nationwide presidential-level WEA test and people cannot opt out.

When cell towers broadcast the WEA test, WEA-compatible cell phones that are on and within range of a cell tower, and whose wireless carrier participates in WEA, should receive the one-time test message that reads: "This is a test of the national wireless emergency alert system. No action is needed."

WEA messages are sent by public safety officials to warn the public about dangerous situations in critical emergencies. The national test will use the same special tone and vibration as with all WEA messages (e.g. tornado warnings and AMBER alerts.)

The EAS test message is distributed to radio and TV broadcasters, cable systems, satellite radio and TV providers, and wireline video providers. The test message will be similar to regular monthly EAS test messages, which interrupts programming for approximately one minute.

The EAS message will read, in part: This is a test of the National Emergency Alert system. This system was developed by broadcast and cable operators in voluntary cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Communications Commission, and local authorities to keep you informed in the event of an emergency. If this had been an actual emergency, an official message would have followed the tone alert you heard at the start of this message. No action is required."

## Events / Things to Do

Thursdays, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. (through Oct. 25) Farmer's Market



Photo by Liz Cezat
Shop at the Northville Farmers' Market at the corner of 7 Mile and Sheldon Road for a bounty of delicious, locally sourced food for your table from farmers and merchants. With the change of seasons, there are plenty of fall decorations for sale. Enjoy the best of Michigan apples, tomatoes and other flavorful produce. Park on site or across the street at Northville Downs. This event is sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

Corn maze at Maybury Farm through Oct. 28 weekends only (Fri.: 5-10 p.m., Sat.: noon-10 p.m., Sun.: noon to 7 p.m.

The Maybury Farm corn maze offers nine acres of thick, lush corn that features the theme: Farmers feed families. Participants can play games while winding their way through the maze. It's a fun outing for kids and adults alike. Those who complete the challenge may enter their names to win some fantastic prizes at the end of the season.


Maybury Farm has a new Kiddie Maze that includes a children's "Finger Find" game.

For those who want to try something more challenging and scary, the corn maze is open until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. In the evenings, you must find your way through the maze with just the moon and a flashlight.

After finishing the maze, head back to the Maybury Farm General Store to enjoy delicious Parmenter's cider and donuts, along with other tasty treats. You can also visit Maybury Farm's U-pick pumpkin patch.

The last wagon leaves for the maze one hour prior to close. The corn maze runs through Oct. 28. Admission is $\$ 9$ per person for the maze, and includes farm admission and a tractor-drawn wagon ride to and from the maze. Children ages 2 and under attend for free.

Maybury Farm is operated by the Northville Community Foundation; funds raised from the corn maze are used to help support the work of the Farm, and its mission of connecting the community to animals and agriculture.

## September 28, 2018 <br> Northvile High School Homecoming Parade 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

The Northville High School Homecoming parade will stage behind the Community Center on Cady, stepping off at 6p.m. sharp. The parade will proceed east on Cady to north on Wing, east on Main to north on Center to west on 8 mile and enter the stadium. Please note that some streets will be closed and/or traffic may be held until after the parade passes.

## Sept. 28 - Deadline to register

 Bug hunters needed for Oct. 13

Friends of the Rouge needs volunteers to help look for stoneflies, mayflies and other aquatic insects at the annual Fall Bug Hunt on Oct. 13. Interested volunteers must pre-register by Sept. 28. Children are welcome when accompanied by an adult.

The event begins at 9 a.m. at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College. Volunteers are assigned to teams of 4-8 people that each travel to two sites where they look for living things in samples collected from the river under the direction of a trained team leader. The number and type of bugs found is used to assess each site and data are submitted to the state and Rouge communities, the hunt is part of a long-term monitoring program.

For more information or to sign up, visit www.therouge.org


Howell Nature Center presents: All About Owls @ The Northville Community Center
Sponsored by The Friends of Maybury State Park and the
Northville District Library Youth Department
Wed., Oct. 24, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Online registration begins Oct. 1 (Limited to 140 attendees; sorry, no groups)

Meet a variety of live owls and learn about these fascinating nocturnal birds during a presentation by the Howell Nature Center at the Northville Community Center. All ages are welcome. Learn more.

## Business

## Online payments for utility bills and taxes

If you want the convenience of paying taxes and utilities online, you can do so by visiting the City's website and using the services of Point \& Pay, which processes the payment and charges a convenience fee. Click here and select either Property Tax and Assessing Lookup or Utility Bill Statement and Payments from the Quick Links menu (left side, green column). Search for your property and click on the "Pay Online" button. You will be re-directed to the Point \& Pay website to make a payment.

Fees:
Credit Cards: 3\% Fee (min. \$2)
E-Checks: Flat fee of $\$ 3$, up to $\$ 10,000$ and flat fee of $\$ 10$ for anything over \$10,000

## Get social with City Hall online

Follow our Facebook page (Northville City Hall, Michigan) and our Twitter account @NorthvilleCity.

## follow us on <br> facebook

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 Icezat@ci.northville.mi.us.

## Around Town

## 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.

## 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.

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).

Residents may need to rake up small branches after the large brush piles are removed.

## 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: www.mhpn.org (see the publications page).

## At Home

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.

## Sewage backups

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.

In 2001, the State of Michigan adopted Public Act 222 of 2001, known as sewer backup legislation. The legislation clarifies when municipalities are liable for sewer backups, sets standards to determine the extent to which a municipality is liable for sewer backups, and established a process to seek compensation when a backup occurs.

Persons making a claim for property damage or physical injury must prove that the public sewer had a defect. In addition, it must be proven that the governmental agency knew, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have known about the defect, and that the governmental agency, having the legal authority to do so, failed to take reasonable steps in a reasonable amount of time to repair, correct, or remedy the defect.

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the City of Northville within 45 days after the overflow or backup is discovered. Notice should be mailed to the City of Northville, Attn: City Clerk, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167. Claim forms may be obtained by calling the City of Northville 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.

City of Northville, Michigan | 248-349-1300| Website

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