

Northville Matters

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City of Northville • 215 West Main Street • Northville, Michigan 48167

Skeletons delight visitors to Northville

The skeletons are coming, and they will attract countless visitors to Downtown Northville throughout the month of October. Each skeleton is uniquely clad and poised to amuse, many have sidekicks and special staging. New this year are Barbie and Ken at Town Square, along with other unique creations. Begonia Brothers of Northville fashions the skeletons and vignettes. Visitors delight in seeing skeletons cleverly matched to the businesses that sponsor them outside their stores, restaurants and offices.

The kickoff event – Skeletons are Alive – will be held Friday, Oct. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. in Town Square. Social Bones will take the stage and perform a family-friendly concert. Food trucks will sell a variety of foods and desserts. A stilt walker adds a special touch, and the Ghost

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Leaf collection begins soon

Please have your leaves at the curb by 7 a.m. on the week of your scheduled pickup. For details, visit the city website. The last compost pickup for the season is the week of Dec. 11.

South (of 8 Mile)	North (of 8 Mile)
week of Nov. 6	week of Oct. 30
week of Dec. 4	week of Nov. 27



Newly painted stripes at downtown intersections make the crosswalks more visible. Photo by Liz Cezat.

Street safety measures being enacted

F & V presented the second part of their study at a special meeting of City Council on Aug. 24.

They captured data on street speeds and traffic volume on several neighborhood streets and non-arterial roads between 7 Mile and 8 Mile, and between Rogers and S. Main/ Northville Road. This data was added to the city's GIS system.

To help calm traffic in neighborhoods, they presented a plan that offered a check-list/ petition signature form for residents to report a street safety issue to the city. Upon receipt of the form, the city would confirm it meets certain criteria and develop a plan of action that focuses on education, enforcement, and in some cases, physical changes to the street. City Council would vote on the city's recommendations.

Safety measures that most residents favored, in the surveys and at Open Houses, include radar signs that flash the driver's speed, improved crosswalk markings, and changes to street parking on narrow streets, including Wing and Rogers. The majority did not want speed humps and lane restrictors to slow traffic.

As part of the short-term solutions, DPW work crews painted new crosswalks at intersections throughout the downtown

to provide an added measure of security to pedestrians and visually alert drivers for the need to stop. New all-way stop signs were installed at Center and Cady, Griswold and Cady, and Church and Cady.

After receiving input from the Mobility Network and the public, F&V will present a final version of their report to City Council in the near future. The revised version will also contain recommendations on traffic flow around the seasonal street closures in Downtown Northville.

City Council approved the purchase of 43 manual-retractable bollards at a cost of \$83,013 in June to enhance safety when the streets are closed to traffic and provide a more attractive entrance to the social district on Main and Center streets. In September, Council approved the selection of low-bidder Industrial Fence, of Detroit, to install the bollards with a deadline of Nov. 1. The cost is \$64,977 plus a 15% contingency. All bollard-related costs will be split between the city and DDA. When the bollards are installed, the police cars parked on Main and Center and barricades will be removed.

Notices

Voting update on the Nov. 7 General Election

At the General Election on Nov. 7, voters will cast their ballot for mayor of the city of Northville and two seats on City Council. View the list of candidates here: <https://tinyurl.com/yfw247sj>

Absentee ballots

All registered voters have the right to vote by mail. To obtain an absentee ballot for the Nov. 7 election, complete and submit your application online through this link (<https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/avapplication>). Applications are also available in the City Hall 24-hour vestibule or at the clerk's office.

If you signed up to receive automatic absentee ballot applications, the Nov. 7 absentee ballot applications (red/white/blue postcard) have been mailed. There's a section where you can designate if you want to receive absentee ballots on a permanent basis. You must sign and return the application to have a ballot mailed to you. The deadline to have an absentee ballot mailed is 5 p.m. on Nov. 3. Apply earlier to avoid any mail delays. You can also pick up your own ballot in person at the clerk's office through 4 p.m. on Nov. 6. The photo ID requirement is in effect.

If you signed up for permanent absentee ballots, the Nov. 7 absentee ballots will be mailed the first week of October. If you have questions about your permanent status contact the clerk's office.

Voter Registration

Now through Oct. 23: Register in any manner (online, by mail, in person)

Oct. 24 to 8 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 7: Register in person at the Northville City Clerk's Office, 215 W. Main Street. Residency verification (name and current Northville address) is required, digital copies are acceptable. You may vote by absentee ballot or at your polling place on Election Day or at the early voting location.

Nine-Day Early Voting

Following the passage of Proposal 22-2 to the Michigan Constitution in November 2022, all Michigan residents have the right to vote early and in person. Starting with the Nov. 7 election, the city of Northville is partnering with Oakland County and the city of Novi to provide this new voting option at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi.

New Ballot Drop Box

An election drop box is located in the circle drive at City Hall for voters to drop off applications and sealed ballots from their vehicle or by walking up to the box. The drop box will be checked daily.

Saturday hours

On Nov. 4, the City Clerk's Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for in-person voter registration and in-person absentee ballots.

Facts at a glance:

Polls open: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Precinct 1 (Wayne County voters): Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St.

Precinct 2 (Oakland County voters): Amerman School, 847 N. Center St.

Am I registered to vote? Where can I view the ballot? Do I need a photo ID?

To learn the answers to these questions and more, visit the Elections and Voting section of the city website. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at 248-349-1300 or email the City Clerk at msmith@ci.northville.mi.us or Deputy City Clerk at emilan@ci.northville.mi.us

Household Hazardous Waste Day and drop-off

Wayne County is hosting a fall event to collect hazardous waste on Oct. 21, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Wayne County Community College, 21000 Northline Rd., Taylor. Electronics, televisions and cell phones will also be accepted. Items not accepted include appliances, tires, roofing shingles and concrete. For details, see the flier on the city website (DPW/hazardous waste).

Northville residents can also take their household hazardous waste items to Environmental Recycling Group (ERG), 13040 Merriman Rd., Suite 200, Livonia, on weekdays for free disposal and recycling. View the company's website to see acceptable items: <https://tinyurl.com/ycaqvmv7>

The drop-off service has a 100 lb. limit. Plan to have a full load when you make a delivery. Any amount over 100 lbs. will be charged to the customer at 75¢ per pound. For more information, please visit ERG's website or call 734-437-9650.

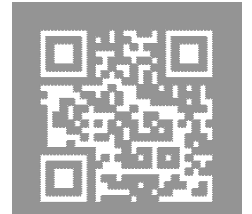
Stay connected to the city

City News, a weekly e-newsletter, and Nixle, an emergency alert system, are among the key ways that the city of Northville keeps residents and visitors informed of what's happening in the city and informs them of adverse and emergency situations that may require action on their part. While City News covers City Council decisions, DDA weekend events, service updates, and much more, Nixle is ideal for emergency notifications, such as flooding, road closures, and downed power lines.

Get timely information via City News and Nixle – for free. Take a picture of the QR code or visit <https://tinyurl.com/tld3opr> (directly type this into your browser) to sign up for City News. For Nixle alerts via text and/or email, visit nixle.com and register as a resident.

The city website is a great way to access a wide range of information – from agendas and minutes of City Council and all boards and commissions, to viewing the calendar of events, and reading about city happenings. You can also save time by viewing city department web pages for information and paying bills online.

We're also on social media – visit us at [northvillecityhall](https://www.facebook.com/northvillecityhall) on Facebook and [northvillecity](https://twitter.com/northvillecity) on Twitter (X). You'll see notices of important meetings, learn of fun events, and find out about city initiatives – complete with photos and graphics.



PC chair Tinberg receives



Northville resident and S. Willis Outstanding planning in the public Tinberg was nominated from city administration resident input, predicting missing middle housing. Tinberg was appointed Board of Zoning Appeals planning commission preliminary site plan. Speaking on behalf of with a variety of volu

a commission that can debate in a civil manner, pushing

Mayor Brian Turnbull noted, "Donna has consistently with various other transformational activities has made a

View the full article on the city website/news.

Savor the sights, sounds and scents of the Farmers' Market

When making your grocery list, include a stop at the Farmers' Market each Thursday through Oct. 26 to get the freshest produce and be part of the community vibe. Market attendance is strong, with an average of more than 2,000 people weekly. Market hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the corner of 7 Mile and Sheldon. There is parking on site and across the street at the Downs.

Next May, the market will open in a new, temporary site, due to the Downs redevelopment project. The development agreement between the city and Hunter Pasteur Northville and site location for the market were still being finalized at the time this issue went to print.

The market has snapped back from the Covid years, now at 56 seasonal and drop-in vendors, according to Matt Zook, event planner for the Northville Chamber of Commerce, which manages the market. The chamber uses Facebook and Instagram for photos, weather information, schedules, and comments.



Customer Aliece Montgomery (left) and Edie Phelps, owner of Michigan Squared, a market vendor. Photo by Liz Cezat.

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New city attorney and prosecutor

Giarmarco, Mullins and Horton, P.C., of Troy, also known as GMH, was chosen by City Council to represent the city in legal matters related to general municipal services and certain specialized services. Anthony Chubb is now serving as city attorney, and Karie Miller is the city's new prosecutor. Chubb will be present at designated City Council meetings, based on agenda items, to provide legal guidance. GMH's services for the city covers contracts, leases and other legal documents; land acquisition and real estate matters; labor and employment matters involving contract negotiations, mediations, and



Anthony Chubb and Karie Miller

arbitrations; and prosecuting/defending civil actions involving the city.

es outstanding commissioner award

and volunteer commissioner Donna Tinberg received the Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) Helen G. Commissioner Award. The annual award honors an individual who advanced or promoted the cause of public planning. An awards presentation will be held Oct. 4 in Traverse City.

Donna was nominated for the award by City Planner Sally Elmiger, of Carlisle Wortman Associates, with letters of support from city council members and elected officials. Elmiger noted Tinberg "adheres to and advocates for the following principles: transparency in the planning process, and adherence to state and municipal law. She has been a champion of public planning and walkability."

Donna joined the Northville Planning Commission in 2017 and became the Planning Commission liaison to the city in 2018. She has served as chair of the Planning Commission since 2021. During her tenure, she has helped revise the Master Plan update of three subareas, meticulously reviewed and ultimately approved the plan for the Downs development, and approved several other residential and commercial developments.

Donna is a member of the PC team, Tinberg said in an email, "Our members come from diverse backgrounds and are involved in various roles, and they bring that depth of experience to the table at every meeting. I think we've grown into a team that works well together on issues and viewpoints, but always demonstrating personal respect."

Donna has led in a professional and engaging manner, and her leadership role in the Northville Downs project along with her dedication to the community, which will last for decades."

Plan to connect city walkways, paths to regional trails

Greenway Collaborative's Norm Cox presented a draft report to City Council on Aug. 24 that shows how paths, trails and sidewalks in the city can be better connected within the city and also link to regional pathways. It is a robust update to the non-motorized plan developed 10 years ago, taking into account plans for a roundabout, the proposed Riverwalk pathway, and new developments at the Downs and Foundry Flask.

The Mobility Network has been involved in providing input and review of the draft document, which was developed by Cox and Carolyn Prudhomme. The plan received favorable feedback from City Council members, who noted it is an important document and will help support the case for grants.

Ideas presented include narrowing some four-lane streets to three lanes, using the inside lane for turns and adding bike paths to both sides of the street. Green-painted boxes for bike paths at busy intersections would alert drivers to bicyclists. The consultants propose extending sidewalks to connect gaps and build walkways on street shoulders where feasible. Examples include Baseline Road near Parmenter's Cider Mill, and 7 Mile between River and S. Center.

To improve safe school routes, the consultants propose making a sidewalk connection to Amerman Elementary School, installing a shared-use path along Doheny Drive to Silver Springs Elementary, completing the sidewalk along 8 Mile between Randolph and Hillside Middle School, and replacing the existing pedestrian bridge at Moraine Elementary School with a pedestrian hybrid beacon and a crossing island.

In one section of the report, the consultants focus on key corridors in the city and those leading to regional connections, showing what's left undone from the 2013 plan, as well as observations and recommendations.

Cox said many of the changes can be done near-term since they involve city-owned right of ways and would not alter the curbs. One simple improvement is to plant more trees in right of ways to provide a buffer for pedestrians and make the street appear narrower to motorists, which helps reduce speed. The consultants recommend removing some street parking and creating a bike path for greater safety and visibility in several areas, including Randolph near High, and Wing between Main and Cady.

A SEMCOG planning grant for FY 2023 will reimburse approximately 90% of the \$40,000 contract cost. View the draft report on the city website. It was open for public comment in September.

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Farmers' Market ... continued from page 3

New features this year are chefs' cooking demonstrations, and live music on certain market days. The nonprofit booth has been a success for the charities, which get a free booth for the day, and for the community, which learns more about these organizations and how to support them.

Food trucks are a mainstay on market day, selling a variety of food items, beverages and lunches to hungry shoppers. A success story, spawned in part by the market, is that the food truck Brava Empanadas opened a permanent location at 1053 Novi Road, just north of 8 Mile.

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Busters and their vehicle know how to party with the crowd. Expect to see kids with faces that look like tigers, butterflies and other creatures – transformed through the magic of face painting on site. A pumpkin carver will convert the orange orbs into works of art. The DDA puts on this annual event with sponsors to help fund the street party.

The skeleton displays offer a Halloween paradise for those who like to post thematic, local happenings on their social media accounts. To share the fun, use the hashtag #skeletonsAreAlive. While posing for pictures with the skeletons, visit local shops and restaurants – all individual proprietors or family-owned. The social district extends from the closed downtown streets to the bars and restaurants along S. Center to Cady and up the east side of Wing St. to the Garage Grill and Fuel Bar on W. Main.

The fun isn't only in downtown, many residential streets also decorate their homes for Halloween. Years past had skeletons lounging in Adirondack chairs, a skeleton on a swing fastened to a tree, and another reaching over a balcony. Homeowners are getting more elaborate each year to extend the Halloween vibe. Take a walk through the historic neighborhoods of Cady, Rogers, West, Linden, Dubuar, High, Randolph and Dunlap. Other hometown institutions, including Parmenter's Cider Mill and Guernsey Farms, are only a short drive or bike ride from downtown.

Other Halloween-related events

- Northville Parks and Recreation will host a Halloween Spooktacular at the Northville Community Center on Tuesday, Oct. 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. Little ghosts and goblins who attend will partake in crafts, a spooky maze, dancing and other activities, and be treated to fresh cider and donuts. The cost is \$13 for children three and older. Register in advance on the Parks and Recreation website (NorthvilleParksandRec.org).
- On Saturday, Oct. 28, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Chamber of Commerce sponsors Streets of Treats along the business section of Center and Main streets where kids dressed in Halloween costumes visit businesses for candy.
- The Fire Department holds an annual open house on Halloween evening, offering free refreshments to people on their way to or from trick-or-treating. Many families come to the historic district neighborhoods for trick-or-treating since they offer a unique setting and the streets are closed to traffic on Halloween evening. The official start of trick-or-treating in the city is 6 p.m. The Fire Department will sound the siren at that time and at 8 p.m., when trick-or-treating ends.

City Directory

Allen Terrace.....	248-349-8030
Assessing Department.....	248-305-2704
Building Department.....	248-449-9902
Cemetery.....	248-305-2702
City Manager.....	248-449-9905
City Clerk.....	248-349-1300
Communications (print, online).....	248-305-2703
DDA.....	248-349-0345
Finance Department.....	248-449-9907
Fire Department.....	248-449-9920
Parks and Recreation.....	248-349-0203
Police Dispatch (non-emergency).....	248-349-1234
Police.....	248-349-5100
Public Works.....	248-449-9930
Community Center.....	248-305-2851
Tax Department/Treasurer.....	248-449-9901
Youth Assistance.....	248-344-1618

Frequently Called Numbers

Art House.....	248-344-0497
Chamber of Commerce.....	248-349-7640
Civic Concern.....	248-344-1033
Historical Society.....	248-348-1845
Library.....	248-349-3020
Mill Race Village.....	248-348-1845
Post Office.....	248-349-2062
Waste Management.....	800-796-9696

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City News
of Northville

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