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2026 - Third Quarter

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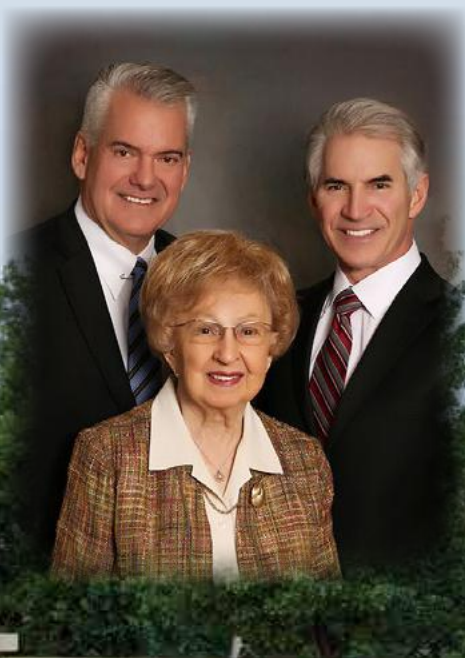




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TODAY
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Publisher Paul Martin
President Mark Fisher
Editor Angela Calabrese
Director of Business Development Gina Guarisco

Creative Director Kelly Nykanen
Graphic Designer Shannon Esper
Editorial Assistant Kelsi Klein
Sales Coordinator Ashley Hamilton
Marketing Coordinator Aylaina Thornton

Contributing Writers Terry Jacoby, Kelsi Klein, Pamela MacIntyre, Ryan M. Place, Brian Turnbull

Contributing Photographers Terry Jacoby, Pamela MacIntyre

Cover Photo Terry Jacoby

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From the SUPERVISOR

Connection is a Northville Township Tradition

EVERY tradition we cherish had a first year. Someone imagined it, neighbors embraced it and, over time, it became part of our community's identity. The memories we treasure don't happen by accident. They begin with people willing to create something new.

That spirit reflects Northville Township's vision of being a leading, innovative community.

We invest in pathways, parks and public safety, but building a great community also means investing in experiences that bring people together.

This fall, Northville Parks and Recreation is creating two of those experiences. Alive in Spirit, debuting October 22, blends seasonal fun with the colorful traditions of Día de los Muertos, offering families an opportunity to celebrate, learn and make memories together.

We come together again November 21-22 for the new Hometown Holiday Handmade Market, bringing a wide variety of artists and makers to the Northville Community Center. This gives residents a festive new way to shop local and support creative talent.

We're carving out connections for our youngest residents, too. After hearing from parents, teachers and school counselors about children struggling to build social skills, Northville Youth Network created Learn, Connect, Build. The four-week program will help students in grades three through five strengthen communication, cooperation and empathy to help them flourish.

We often think of Parks and Recreation as playgrounds and sports leagues, but its mission reaches further. Together with Northville Youth Network, it creates opportunities for neighbors to meet, families to connect and people to feel they belong.

Every cherished tradition has a beginning. Every stronger connection does, too.

These are ours.

Mark J. Abbo
Supervisor, Northville Township



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Summer sun, heat and time outdoors can leave more than a tan behind. If you're noticing persistent redness this fall, the first step is understanding **what's causing it**.

Redness can be associated with rosacea, sun exposure, visible blood vessels, irritation, acne, eczema and other skin conditions, which means the right treatment isn't the same for everyone.

At **MI Skin Center**, we look at the cause first. Depending on your skin, treatment may include medical care & treatments, or cosmetic options such as **DermaV for certain redness and vascular concerns** or **Red Light Therapy**.

Fall is the perfect time to check in with your skin.

Don't wait until the holidays to address a concern you've been putting off. **Same-day and next-day appointment are available with select providers.**

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SAVE THE DATE

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Fall is the Perfect Time to Remember and Experience Northville's Cider Mills

By Mayor Brian Turnbull

FALL is here and the weather is cooling, which means that it's cider mill time in the Ville. With Parmenter's Cider Mill open for the season, it's an indication that we're ready to transition into fall. In this issue of *Northville Today*, I will review mills and apple production in the area over time.



We've had many, many orchards in our "Hamlet in the Hills" or "Switzerland of Wayne County" we call Northville. Orchards in the area include Parmenter's, Eaton's, Foreman's, Obstbaum, Three Cedars Farm and Apple Crest, among others.

I grew up in Orchard Heights (site of the Eaton Orchard) and live there today. I can attest that there are still some of the original trees from the orchard days in the vicinity (apple, cherry, pear).

Let's look back at ways Northvillians have experienced cider mills over the years:

1873 – Northville's Parmenter's Cider Mill (Baseline Road) was established by two Civil War veterans and has been going strong ever since. It's the oldest cider mill in the area, and its cider press was originally powered by a team of horses walking in a circle. It is ranked as one of the top destinations for cider in Metro Detroit.



1898 – The Northville area by this time was known for its apples. *The Record* noted that at the Northville train station, scores of rail cars were loaded with barrels of local apples that were shipped throughout the country.

1909 – The apple crop in and around Northville proved to be one of the best in history. Thousands of barrels of apples were shipped out this year, mostly via train.

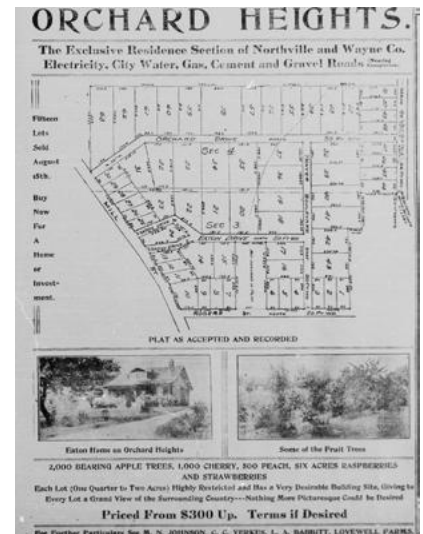
1918 – The second annual Wayne County Fair (the state's largest fair at the time) at Northville Downs hosted citizens from all over Michigan who sampled local apples and cider.

1919 – Northville's newly established Orchard Heights housing development was publicized in *The Record*. Geographically, it was the old Eaton family orchard that ran from Rogers to Clement and Seven Mile to Main. The four major historic areas of town are: The Historic District (Downtown), Cabbagetown (by Ford Field), Bealtown (Downs area) and Orchard Heights.

1998 – Foreman's Orchards (Seven Mile and Ridge area) transitioned from being an orchard to the subdivision known as Maybury Crossing (similar to Orchard Heights beginnings).

You can see that Northville and surrounding areas (including Novi and South Lyon) were quite a hot spot for apples and cider in years past. Take a trip down to Parmenter's Cider Mill and celebrate their 153rd year in business pressing apples into cider and making homemade doughnuts. Imagine the days when the apple press was turned by a team of horses, and farmers from around the area brought their fruit to sell to Parmenter's.

Enjoy the fall days, experience a cider mill and make a special memory in the Northville area.



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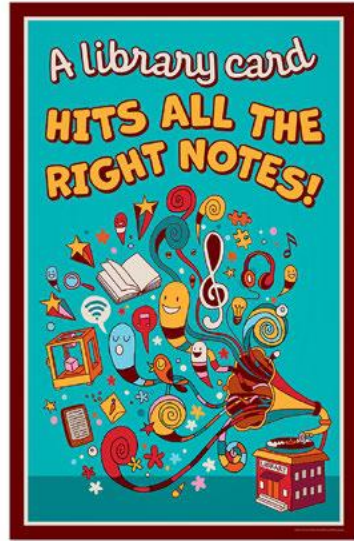
Fall Library Happenings

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, Sep 1-30 (Drop in)

For all ages.

Transform your life by signing up for a library card. This month Northville District Library joins the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind readers, parents, caregivers, students, workers of all kinds, and all learners of any age that signing up for a library card is an

essential step on the path to lifelong learning. Anyone who signs up for a library card this month will receive a tote bag to go with their new card, while supplies last.



Manhattan Short Film Festival 2026, Thursday, October 1 at 6 p.m. (Register)

Join over 100,000 film lovers in over 500 cities around the world to view and vote on the MSFF Finalists' Short Films. Sponsored by the Friends of NDL.

Snakenstein, October 1-3 (Drop in)

All ages. William Shakespeare is shedding his skin and turning into Snakenstein. Bring your own spooky painted rock to add to our snake as he slithers around the garden in front of the NDL.



Celebrate the Freedom to Read from October 4-10 (Drop in)

This year, during Banned Books Week, we invite you to read with us and enter a prize drawing! Everyone is welcome to participate. Get a raffle ticket at the checkout desk any time you borrow materials from October 4-10. Fill it out at the nearby table and drop it into one of six raffle boxes. Winners will be notified on Monday, October 12. Prizes to enter into: Banned Books tote bag, Reading Rainbow unisex blue t-shirt size small, "Let Books Be" panoramic white mug, "Let Our Stories Shine" light heather gray XL men's t-shirt, "I Read Banned Books" oval 4"x4" sticker, and "Free People Read Freely" recycled tote bag from ALA.

NDL's 30th Anniversary Party, Friday, October 9 from 6-8 p.m. (Drop in)

Join us at this special after-hours event for the NDL's 30th Anniversary celebration! Drop in any time between 6-8 p.m. to enjoy some family-friendly entertainment and light refreshments as we celebrate three decades at 212 W. Cady Street in fabulous downtown Northville. Sponsored by the Friends of NDL.



Rise & Write Northville Novel Writing Month Challenge, Wednesday, October 7 from 7-8:30 p.m., and Tuesdays, October 13, 20, and 27 at 7 p.m. (Register)

Challenge yourself to write every day in October and join facilitator-led sessions throughout the month.

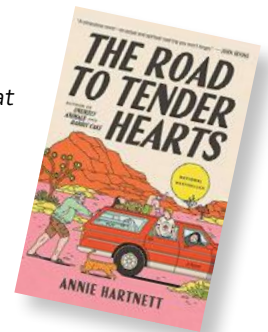
Mini Monster Mash, Friday, October 23 from 10:30-11:15 a.m. (Reg. opens 9/23)

For ages 0-5, with a caring adult. Celebrate the season with a spooktacular dance party followed by Trick-or-Treating in the library! Costumes are encouraged.



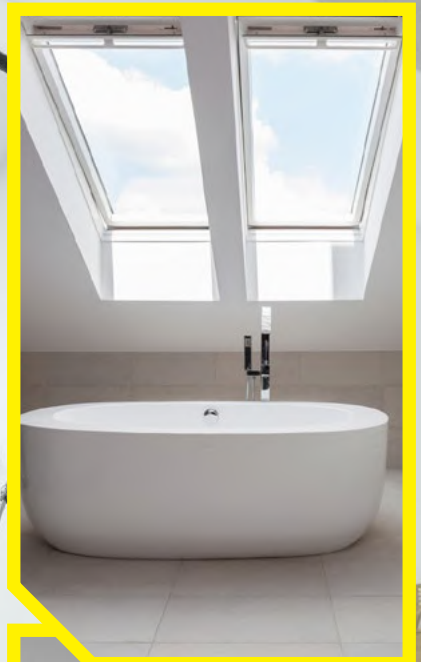
Annual Community Reads with Author Annie Hartnett, Tuesday, November 10 at 7 p.m. (Register at novilibrary.org)

Read the book then hear from author Annie Hartnett as she discusses her novel, "The Road to Tender Hearts". Books will be available for purchase and signing. Sponsored in part by the Friends of the Northville District Library.



For more information, please visit our website at www.northvillelibrary.org or call the library at (248) 349-3020. You may also find us on social media at Facebook, Instagram, X, Spotify, YouTube, TikTok, and Threads.

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Answering The Call

Northville Youth Network creates new program to help kids' socialization

AFTER hearing the same concern from parents, teachers and school counselors, Northville Youth Network has developed a new series of classes. Many of today's children are struggling to build

friendships, communicate effectively and navigate everyday social situations. These social skills are just as important in the classroom as they are on the playground.

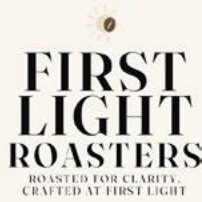
This fall, NYN is launching Learn, Connect, Build, a new four-week program for students in grades three through five. It's designed to strengthen social skills, build confidence and foster meaningful connections. Led by licensed psychologists from Galvin Growth Group, the program will give children practical tools they can use every day.

Through explicit instruction and supported play, students will practice joining in, initiating interactions, sharing ideas, taking turns and staying engaged with peers. The group will also focus on cooperation, flexibility, communication, problem solving and empathy. Parent education included at the end of each session will help children transfer these skills into their own social settings.

Registration is open through September 28, with classes beginning October 1. This program also will be offered in the spring.

For more information, contact Youth Support Specialist Bridget Drzewicki at bdrzewicki@northvilletownship.mi.gov.





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By: Gerald M. Morello, Jr., Esq. and Ryan J. Plantrich, Esq.

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Gerald M. Morello, Jr.



Ryan J. Plantrich



There are other strategies available to reduce potential federal estate tax exposure that can be implemented in addition, or as a substitute, to SLAT planning. If estate tax reduction is of interest to you, please contact our office at (248) 347-2950 to discuss in further detail.



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Helping the ‘Silver Tsunami’

Township Senior Services creates programs to support its seasoned residents

SOCIAL isolation is a priority at Senior Services. Currently, a quarter of Michigan’s population is 65 or older, the so-called “silver tsunami.”

Northville Township’s population is growing older as well. By 2045, our largest population growth area will be those aged 85 and older, with an 86 percent increase, according to SEMCOG.

One of the ways we are combating social isolation is through connection. We’ve heard from some participants that sometimes as we get older, it is difficult to meet new people. There are many reasons why. Perhaps someone has been a caregiver for years and is now adjusting after the loss of a spouse or loved one, making it difficult to resume a “new normal.” Or someone has recently moved to the area to be closer to their children, and while that brings many positives, leaving behind friends and a familiar way of life can be a significant adjustment.

We have new programs that help make connections:

- New Paths, New Friends Group – Meets the first and third Thursday at 11 a.m., and is focused on meeting new people, sharing experiences, creating meaningful connections and building community.
- Armchair Adventures Travelogues – Meets quarterly and invites participants to explore new places, share memories and connect with friends as we travel the globe—one country at a time.
- Gentle Care Music Therapy – Meets quarterly and explores how music therapy supports mental health, helping people navigate depression, anxiety, stress and emotional challenges while building resilience and well-being.

- Seminars with NTPD – Special Services Lieutenant Patrick Reinke and Police Co-Response Clinician Brittany Patillo offer enriching lectures on various topics such as staying safe and avoiding scams, self-advocacy, empowerment and mindfulness.

We offer a low-cost crafting class that brings people together and sparks creativity:

- Crafting and Connections – Meets monthly and brings people together to create delightful projects.
- We offer ways to meet new friends and share a meal:
- Lunch Crew – Meets third Tuesday each month.
 - Friday Lunch Crew – Special Friday lunch crews are a way to continue friendship and connection after special programming, usually a lecture.

We have ways to make connections through caregiving:

- Caregivers Support Group – Meets the fourth Monday of the month and is where one can find a supportive, inclusive and informative environment where caregivers can share experiences, gain practical knowledge and find emotional support.
- Musical Memory Cafe with Northville Art House – Meets monthly and is a welcoming social gathering for people living with changes in their memory or thinking, as well as the people who care about them. A Cafe is a place to have fun together, talk with others who understand what you’re going through and express yourself creatively by trying something new!

For more information contact Senior Services Superintendent Debbie Giulianelli-Smith at (248) 305-2851 or dgsmith@NorthvilleTownshipMI.gov.

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MANAGING THE MADNESS

George Vlahakis helps lead Twiztid, Astronomicon and Majik Ninja Entertainment

By Ryan M. Place

FOR George Vlahakis, a childhood love of music eventually turned into a career helping to shape one of Michigan's most recognizable entertainment brands.

A 2004 graduate of Northville High School, Vlahakis has become a major figure behind the scenes in the worlds of music, touring and pop culture conventions.

Today, he manages Detroit hip hop duo Twiztid, Majik Ninja Entertainment and works for Los Angeles-based 10th Street Entertainment, whose roster includes artists such as Mötley Crüe, Papa Roach, Ice Nine Kills, and Five Finger Death Punch.

George and his colleague Mike Winagar are the driving force behind Astronomicon, Michigan's awesome pop culture and horror convention that draws celebrities, artists, wrestlers, musicians, and fans from across the country.

"I've always loved bringing people together," Vlahakis said. "Whether it's music, conventions, collectibles or fandom culture, there's something special about creating experiences people remember."

Though deeply connected to the entertainment industry, Vlahakis's roots remain firmly planted in Metro Detroit. Born in 1986, he spent his early childhood in Livonia before moving to Northville in fourth grade, attending Winchester Elementary and later Meads Mill Middle School.

"My grandparents lived across the street from us, so family was always close," he said. "Northville always felt like home."

His family heritage also remains important to him. His maternal grandparents immigrated from the island of Samos, Greece, and Vlahakis



speaks proudly about Greek culture and history, including the island of Crete.

"Greece has some of the deepest history on the planet," he said. "The mythology, plus the beaches, philoxenia (the hospitality), it's incredible."

His papou (Greek for grandfather), also named George Vlahakis, hails from Crete and is famous locally for crafting elaborate, handmade birdhouses that many longtime residents still remember.

Vlahakis's journey into music management began surprisingly early. At Meads Mill in the sixth grade, a friend known as Ajax wanted to become a rapper, while George handled the technical and organizational side.

"I realized pretty quickly I had an aptitude for managing and organizing things," he said.

By high school, Vlahakis was booking local performances at venues like the Token Lounge and the Bullfrog. That eventually led him to work with rapper Anybody Killa (ABK), Twiztid, and later with Insane Clown Posse at Psychopathic Records in Farmington Hills.

"It all snowballed from there," he said.

From 2009-2012, Vlahakis helped organize the legendary multi-day music fest, Gathering of the Juggalos, before officially joining Twiztid as part of its independent evolution after leaving Psychopathic Records in 2012.

Today, beyond managing artists and conventions, Vlahakis is also a passionate collector of toys and action figures.

"My office has basically become my son's toy room and my nostalgia machine," he laughed. "I love collecting with him and we love visiting Time Blaster Toys in Livonia."

Despite his national success, Vlahakis still treasures Northville's downtown atmosphere and the rich memories of growing up there.

"I loved walking around downtown as a kid," he said. "Places like the Wagon Wheel before Thanksgiving, the old bread shop samples, Dancing Eye Gallery, all of it."

Looking ahead, Vlahakis plans to continue expanding both Astronomicon and his music management work, including managing rising emo rock act, The Funeral Portrait.

"There's always another project coming," he said. "The excitement continues."

Anchored by Hard Work

George and Connie Vlahakis built a life, a business and a family in Northville By Ryan M. Place

FOR George and Connie Vlahakis, the American Dream wasn't handed to them. It was built through long hours, determination, family values, and a willingness to work hard every single day.

Today, the longtime Northville duo is known for their successful business, Seaway Painting, their deep ties to the local Greek community and George's remarkable craftsmanship as a wood carver. But their story begins thousands of miles away on the island of Crete.

George was born in 1934 in Souda, Crete, Greece, a harbor town overlooking Souda Bay, one of the deepest natural harbors in the Mediterranean.

"My parents were from the village of Gavalohori near Souda," George said. "After World War II came the Greek Civil War. There was no economy. My uncle Spyros came to America first, and when I was 17, I joined him."

The journey was anything but quick.

"It took 19 days to cross the ocean by ship," he said. "We arrived in New York City and then took the train to Detroit's fabulous Michigan Central train station."

Several of George's uncles had already settled in Michigan, giving the young immigrant a place to start. Like many newcomers, he took whatever work he could find.

"I was making about 10 dollars a week and working six days a week," he recalled. "I worked a lot of different jobs and just kept moving forward."

Connie's story also has roots in Greece. Born in Detroit in 1937, she was the daughter of Greek immigrants. Her father came from Souda while her mother was from mainland Greece. She graduated from Cooley High School and later attended Wayne State University.

The couple met shortly after George arrived in America.

"We met at a communal Kalamatianos dance in 1951," Connie said with a smile. "That's how a lot of young Greek people met back then."

The romance blossomed quickly, and they married in 1955. Early in his career, George worked at Detroit's historic Whittier Hotel.

"I'd go out in the garden in the morning and cut roses," he said. "Then I'd put one in my suit jacket and some in glasses on the tables for everyone."

But painting was always his passion. In 1967, he founded Seaway Painting, a company that grew into one of the region's most respected commercial painting contractors.

"We painted everything from automotive facilities to major landmarks," George said. "The Mackinac Bridge, Ambassador Bridge, Comerica Park, and many other projects."

The couple raised two children, Steve (1960) and Irene (1961), first in Livonia and later in Northville, where they moved in 1970.



"We loved the small-town atmosphere, and the people," Connie said. "Northville has always felt like a real community."

Even in their later years, both remain active in the family business. When George isn't working, he can often be found in his workshop creating intricate hand-carved birdhouses and detailed wooden replica boats.

"A birdhouse takes two or three weeks," he said. "The boats can take six months."

George contributed several birdhouses to charity over the years, and several to his friend George Dimopoulos, the owner of George's Senate Coney on Haggerty.

An avid sailor for many years, George also kept a 44-foot sailboat at the Detroit Yacht Club and Toledo Beach Marina, spending countless days on Lake St. Clair.

Looking back on more than seven decades together, their advice remains simple.

"Work hard every day," George said. "Nothing replaces hard work."

For George and Connie Vlahakis, it's a philosophy that carried them across an ocean, through a lifetime of challenges, and into a Northville legacy that continues today.

From the editor: George Vlahakis died shortly after this interview took place. Since we had already interviewed his grandson – also named George – for a separate profile, we decided to run this together, as a tribute to George Sr. Our sincere condolences to his family. We hope these profiles bring you a little joy during this difficult time.



Nicole's TLC Cleaning

Celebrating 30 Years of Trusted Professional House Cleaning

THIS year marks a major milestone for Nicole's TLC Cleaning, with the business celebrating 30 years of providing reliable, high-quality house cleaning services to the local community.

What began as a small cleaning business three decades ago has grown into a trusted company known for professionalism, consistency and care.

Despite the business' growth it remains client-focused, and its 30th anniversary celebrates not only its longevity but the relationships it has built along the way.

"From day one, our mission has been simple: to treat every home with the same care and respect we would our own," said owner Nicole Bernath.

Nicole began Nicole's TLC Cleaning as an independent venture in 1996. Through hard work and a commitment to quality, the business steadily grew, allowing her to assemble a trusted team to support her vision.

Since its start, Nicole's TLC Cleaning has provided its top-notch services to thousands of clients, many of whom rely on its services week after week, year after year.

Bernath believes that trust is essential when it comes to homeowners inviting cleaning services into their homes, which is why every cleaning technician is fully insured and bonded, providing clients not only peace of mind, but also protection.

"I want our customers to know that they are working with a professional business that prioritizes safety, accountability and integrity," Bernath said.

Nicole's TLC Cleaning invests in ongoing training to ensure its technicians use best practices, professional techniques and efficient cleaning methods.

Throughout the years, as both the cleaning industry and clients' expectations have evolved, Nicole's TLC Cleaning

has grown with these changes by improving processes, adopting new tools and refining its services.

"While we've embraced growth and innovation, our focus on personalized service has never changed," Bernath said. "We understand every home is different and we take time to tailor cleaning services to each client's preferences, schedules and priorities."



Serving the Canton, Plymouth, Novi, Northville and Livonia areas with services from deep cleaning and recurring cleaning to move in/ move out cleaning and office cleaning, Nicole's TLC Cleaning is well equipped to take on jobs of all kinds.



Safety is also a priority for the business, and in 2005 they launched its own 100 percent natural, eco-friendly, non-toxic alternative cleaner. In addition to the non-toxic cleaner, Nicole's TLC Cleaning uses HEPA filter vacuums and microfiber cloths to eliminate the chance of cross contamination.

Dedicated to quality, the business also has a field supervisor who conducts quality control inspections, randomly checking homes that her team has cleaned, ensuring they meet the high standards Bernath is committed to.

"We are committed to upholding the values that inspired us in the early days," said Bernath, emphasizing their commitment to giving back to the community.

Since 2009, Nicole's TLC Cleaning has partnered with the nonprofit organization Cleaning for a Reason and provides two consecutive free cleanings to anyone undergoing cancer treatments.

With 30 years under its belt, the future still looks bright for Nicole's TLC Cleaning.

"As we celebrate this milestone, we want to thank our loyal clients, dedicated team members and community partners who have supported us along the way," Bernath said.

For more information or to request a quote, visit www.nicoletlccleaning.com or call (734) 404-5627.





When Aging Gets Complicated... **Who is Coordinating Everything?**

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Never Stop Learning

Brent Muller becomes Northville City Fire Department's first ever deputy chief

By Kelsi Klein

AFTER 28 years of fire service with Northville Township Fire Department, Brent Muller joined the Northville City Department as deputy fire chief at the end of May.

This newly created position was designed to "help support the department's operations and leadership while strengthening service to both the city of Northville and the city of Plymouth."

For Muller, a career in the fire service was never a question. He grew up in a family of firefighters, including his father, uncle and cousin, and always knew it was what he wanted to do.

"I'm one of the lucky ones that knew what he wanted to do right from the get-go," Muller said.

After he graduated high school, Muller immediately went to emergency medical technician (EMT) school followed by the fire academy. In 1997, he started his career as a paid-on-call firefighter with Northville Township and transitioned into one of the Township's first full-time positions in 1999.

Muller spent nearly three decades with the Township, moving up to

battalion chief before retiring in 2026 and quickly stepping into his new role with the City.

The biggest change for Muller has been the shift from working in the field, responding to calls, to now focusing on administrative responsibilities.

"The great thing is, I wanted to expand my horizons or challenge myself more and try something new," he said. "And that's what this is."

To Muller, one of the best parts about his new job is getting more family time. Instead of working 24-hour shifts as a firefighter, he now works 40 hours a week, Monday-Friday, while still being available to respond to any major incidents that occur outside of regular work hours.

This new schedule allows Muller to be more present for his three children, all of whom are in high school and participate in multiple sports.

"You don't get that time back," he said.

In his new role, Muller has been working closely with Fire Chief Matthew Samhat to understand the ins and outs of the deputy chief position and establish a foundation for the future.

"The major goal is to streamline operations between the City and the Township, which is why we're working on joint policies," he said. "And learning this position from Chief Samhat has been really great over the last couple months."



As Muller recalls once being a young firefighter and looking up to his more experienced coworkers, he strives to use his position to help support the department and be someone the next generation can look up to.

"When I came to the department, I saw everyone's eagerness," Muller said. "There's a lot of young people and they all work hard and strive to learn, and I've been impressed by that."

Although leaving the department he called home for 28 years was a big change, Muller said the warm welcome he's received in his new role has made that change pretty easy.

"This job is continuous learning, you're going to learn for however long you're in it," he said, motivated to do the best he can to continue to serve the Northville community as deputy fire chief.



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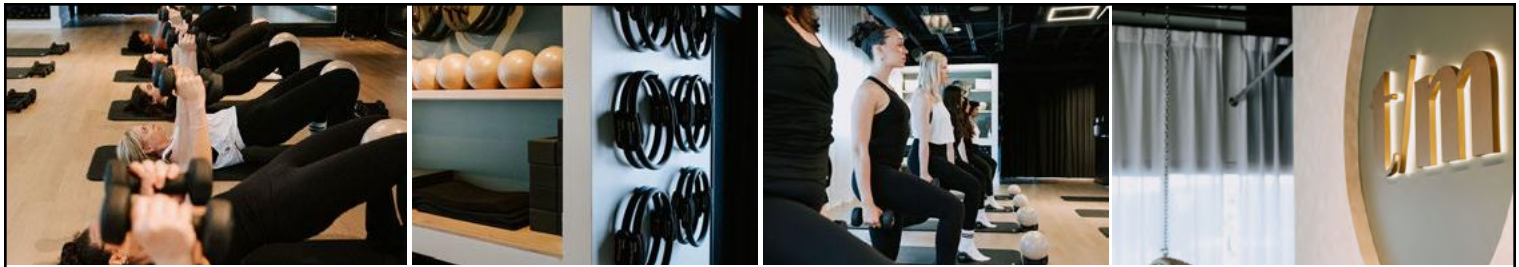
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At Jacob Matthew Jewelers, we believe purchasing or repairing jewelry should feel personal, educational and meaningful. That's why we guide each customer through the process with care, transparency and expertise. With advice and consultation, you can then make an informed decision confidently.

"It's not just a purchase or repair to us at Jacob Matthew Jewelers," said owner Tammy Haggerty. "We want to establish a relationship for generations to come. Our favorite thing to see is a young man who starts buying for mom, then a girlfriend. That girlfriend may then turn into his wife, and then comes baby! We enjoy growing with their family and experiencing their joy."

Whether designing a custom piece, restoring a treasured family heirloom or helping someone celebrate a milestone, our focus extends beyond the jewelry itself – we focus on the story behind it.



With almost a decade in business, Jacob Matthew Jewelers has built a reputation of not only expertise and trust, but also of exceptional customer service and a deep commitment to our community. We are invested in our neighbors and community in both Canton and Plymouth, as well as surrounding areas.

"We view Canton and Plymouth as one community," Haggerty said. "Our schools work collectively on one campus. We as a store are fluidly involved in each town's events and celebrations."

Haggerty sits on the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce board to further her commitment to businesses and residents in the community.

Jewelry matters because the moment matters. Every piece represents a relationship, memory, celebration or milestone. One customer, one family, one meaningful moment at a time.



Plymouth Dental Associates

Generations of Care, Built on Trust

By Pamela MacIntyre

FOR generations, Plymouth Dental Associates has been a familiar part of the Plymouth community, caring for families throughout Plymouth, Livonia and neighboring areas. Over the years, the practice has earned a reputation for building lasting relationships and providing care that keeps patients coming back decade after decade.



Today, the practice is led by co-owners Dr. Steven J. Olds and Dr. Edward A. Van Esley, alongside associate dentists Dr. Margaret M. Stanhouse and Dr. Megan A. Width. Together, they continue a tradition of personalized care while embracing advancements that enhance the patient experience.

That commitment is reflected in the loyalty of the practice's patients. Many families have trusted Plymouth Dental Associates for multiple generations, with grandparents, parents and children all receiving care from the same office. Some former residents even continue returning to the practice long after moving away.

For Dr. Olds and Dr. Van Esley, dentistry is about more than procedures. Both enjoy helping patients achieve their oral health goals while building relationships that often last for years. Whether restoring a damaged tooth, improving a smile or helping a patient feel more confident, they find fulfillment in making a positive impact on people's lives.

Those relationships are one of the reasons many patients remain with the practice for decades. The team takes pride in creating an environment where patients feel known and valued.

The practice recently completed a renovation of its office, creating a more modern, open and inviting environment for patients while preserving the welcoming atmosphere they have come to expect. The updates were designed to enhance comfort while supporting the needs of a growing practice that continues to serve families across the region.

At the same time, Plymouth Dental Associates continues to invest in technology that improves both efficiency and patient care. Digital scanning has replaced many traditional impressions, providing a more comfortable experience for

patients. An in-house milling unit allows many crowns to be designed and completed in a single visit, reducing the need for multiple appointments.

Comprehensive care is another hallmark of the practice. Patients have access to an oral surgeon and



periodontist who work closely with the dental team, allowing treatment plans to be coordinated under one roof. This collaborative approach helps streamline care while offering added convenience for patients.

Plymouth Dental Associates provides evening and weekend appointment options designed to accommodate busy schedules. The practice participates with multiple insurance plans, accepts CareCredit and offers an in-office membership plan for patients without traditional dental coverage.

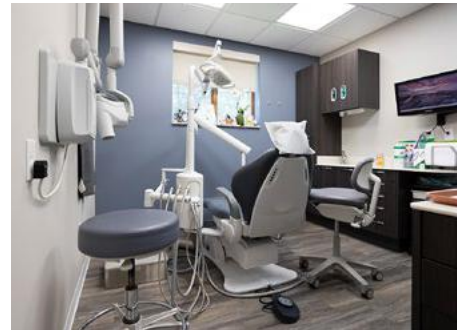
While technology continues to evolve, the dentists maintain a conservative approach to treatment recommendations. Their focus remains on providing honest guidance and helping patients make informed decisions about their care.

Beyond the office, Plymouth Dental Associates remains actively involved in the community through school partnerships, sponsorships, charitable giving and support for local organizations and events. The team believes that being a part of the community means giving back to the people and organizations that help make Plymouth a vibrant place to live.

As the practice looks ahead, its mission remains rooted in the values that have guided it for generations: quality care, trusted relationships and a commitment to serving the community.

For many local families, Plymouth Dental Associates is more than a dental office. It is a place where familiar faces, trusted care and long-standing relationships continue to bring generations together.

Plymouth Dental Associates is located at 42801 Schoolcraft. Visit www.plymouthdental.com or call (734) 420-2326 for more information.





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Bonding on

Northville elementary principals help incoming students prepare for school

By Terry Jacoby

YOU only get one chance to make a first impression – especially with young kids. And Northville's long-running Porch Visit tradition has been highly successful in not only taking some of the stress out of the first day of school for kindergartners but giving them a familiar face to see as they take that very small step – but giant leap – into their inaugural school year.

"Many of these kids have never been in a school setting before, and the program gives them a welcoming face to get to know before that first day. It really is a big deal," said Moraine Elementary Principal Joe Reimann. "Five year olds come from a wealth of different experiences and school is going to be their day home, so us taking time to go spend time at their home before that gets started is a really great thing."

The program, which started over a decade ago by now retired principal Dr. Denise Bryan, has been a huge hit with students, parents, administrators and the entire Northville community.

"Everything about it is positive, and it's so well embedded into the culture in our school district that the older students will see me driving through their neighborhood and come up to me on their bikes and ask where I'm doing a porch visit," Reimann said. "It's almost like it's the rite of passage. And what's great is these kids will tell me how excited they are for school to start and how they remember their porch visit."

Deagon Jewett, principal at Thornton Creek Elementary, first learned about the program when his daughters were at Moraine Elementary.

"Their principal at the time (Dr. Bryan) sent an email announcing she'd be traveling through the neighborhoods to visit every single incoming kindergartener," he said. "And I remember thinking, 'That is the absolute coolest thing ever.' I made a mental promise right then and there: wherever I became a principal, this tradition was coming with me."



Principal Kelly Lindsay (top) from Winchester Elementary and Moraine Elementary Principal (bottom) Joe Reimann.

the Porch

Fast forward through “nine amazing years” at Thornton Creek and it remains one of Jewett’s highlights of his year.

“It’s the ultimate community connector,” he said. “There is something truly magical about meeting our new Kinder-Gators on their own home turf, where they feel comfortable talking about all those big feelings that come with starting school. Now, do these conversations always go according to script? Absolutely not. And honestly, when they go completely off the rails, those are the best visits! You learn so much about a child’s wonderful little personality when things get unscripted.”

Jewett said his favorite part of the visits is simply listening.

“Whether a child chats my ear off or barely utters two words, every single interaction tells a story and helps me get to know them,” he said. “Though, I have to admit, I’m a total sucker for the extra sweet moments like when they show off a custom drawing, hit me with their best knock-knock joke or end the visit with a giant hug.”

These aren’t just random visits. The Northville principals try to meet every incoming kindergartner because they feel it’s such a big deal. Reimann said he visits anywhere between 60 and 80 students every summer.



“So many students have the wrong impression of a principal or don’t know what we do all day,” Reimann said. “When they learn that principals have the amazing job of helping people every day, they see us differently.”

“We know that connection comes before content. Relationships before rigor. This was a tradition rooted in love and community. The tradition of meeting kids on their porches prior to the start of school sends the message that we want to get to know you. It is my favorite way to start the year: with kids. Building relationships start before students step on campus. Having a friendly face to welcome them to the school sets the tone that this is a place where they belong.”

Jewett said it’s impossible to pick just one favorite visit because “every single doorstep brings its own hilarious, heartwarming story.”

“The whole nine-year experience is really just one big, continuous ‘favorite memory,’” he said. “But if I had to pick a favorite part, it’s what happens during the first few months of the school year. Without fail, I’ll be walking down the hallway and a tiny Kinder-Gator will freeze, point at me with absolute awe, and yell, ‘Hey! You were at my house!’ It never gets old!”



Northville Lumber Company: Then. Now. Next.

By Pamela MacIntyre

FOR nearly two centuries, Northville Lumber has watched Southeast Michigan grow from a small settlement into thriving communities. Through changing technologies, generations of homeowners and an ever-evolving building industry, some things have remained constant: knowledgeable service, quality products and treating customers like neighbors.

For owner Stewart Oldford Jr., the company's story can be summed up in three words: **Then. Now. Next.**

Then

Northville Lumber's story began in 1827 as Northville Mills along the Middle Branch of the River Rouge, near what is now Mill Race Village. The Yerkes family took over the business in 1890, helping shape the company through generations of growth and change.

Oldford believes Northville Lumber was fortunate to establish itself in one of Southeast Michigan's strongest markets.

"We were lucky enough to be in one of the greatest areas," he said. "People want to live here."

Serving customers throughout Northville and the surrounding communities, the company has grown alongside neighborhoods where homeowners continue to build, remodel and invest in their homes. As the region has expanded, Northville Lumber has continued to evolve with it.

Now

Today, Northville Lumber is a specialty lumberyard serving professional builders, remodelers, homeowners and do-it-yourselfers with quality lumber, specialty building products and expert guidance.

As customer preferences have evolved, so has Northville Lumber's product selection.

"The biggest thing people ask for today is durable, low-maintenance products," Oldford said.



For more than 30 years, the company has specialized in innovative composite and wood-alternative products that offer long-lasting performance while reducing maintenance for homeowners.



While products continue to change, relationships remain one of Northville Lumber's greatest strengths. The company is known for experienced employees and remarkably low turnover, allowing customers to work with familiar faces year after year. Many customers have been doing business with Northville Lumber for decades, and over time, many have become friends.

That commitment to customer service is reflected in the company's guiding principle, **P.L.E.A.S.E. — Provide a Legendary Experience Always Surpassing Expectations.**

Next

Northville Lumber's next chapter began in 2025, with the move from its longtime two-acre Baseline Road location to a new 25-acre headquarters at the corner of Five Mile and Napier roads.

The expanded property provides a larger lumber yard, increased warehouse capacity, a spacious customer service desk and easier access for trucks and trailers. It also allows Northville Lumber to stock a wider selection of products while providing faster, more efficient service.

"The new location lets us better serve our customers," Oldford said.

Northville Lumber also continues investing in education through contractor showcases, vendor events and live product demonstrations, giving builders and homeowners opportunities to learn about new materials, innovative products and efficient installation techniques.

As Northville Lumber approaches its 200th anniversary, the company remains focused on serving the communities that have supported it for generations. With experienced employees, trusted products, lasting customer relationships and a new facility built for the future, Northville Lumber continues to grow alongside the people and communities it proudly serves.

Northville Lumber is located at 51300 Five Mile Road. For more information call (248) 349-0220 or visit northvillelumber.com.

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Northville Parks & Recreation Offers two New Events this Fall

Northville Parks and Recreation Launches 'Alive in Spirit,' A New Family Fall Tradition

Northville Parks and Recreation is introducing a new signature family event that reimagines the traditional Halloween celebration by blending seasonal fun with the vibrant traditions of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead).

Replacing the Spooktacular Halloween party, Alive in Spirit is designed to be more than an exhilarating children's event. Instead, the Northville Community Center will transform into an interactive experience where families explore hands-on crafts, festive decorations, traditional food tastings, face painting, music, photo opportunities and activities that celebrate creativity, family and remembrance.

The event will take place October 22 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main Street, with activities indoors and outdoors, weather permitting.

Alive in Spirit is designed primarily for families with children ages 4-13, while offering activities and experiences that parents, grandparents, older siblings, and guests of all ages can enjoy together.

While inspired by one of the world's most colorful cultural celebrations, Alive in Spirit is first and foremost a fun, welcoming fall event for families. Guests don't need any prior knowledge of Día de los Muertos to participate. Whether children arrive in Halloween costumes, families come to enjoy seasonal activities, or visitors are curious to learn about the traditions behind the iconic colorful skeletons that have become part of Northville's fall landscape, everyone is welcome.

The event also reflects Northville Parks and Recreation's commitment to expanding cultural programming while creating memorable experiences that appeal to multiple generations. Rather than replacing Halloween traditions, Alive in Spirit complements them by offering families another way to celebrate the season together.



With Detroit hosting some of Michigan's largest Día de los Muertos celebrations,

Alive in Spirit brings a similar family-friendly cultural experience closer to residents of the western suburbs, making it accessible to families who may be experiencing the tradition for the first time.

Why it matters: As communities look for meaningful ways to celebrate together, Alive in Spirit offers an inclusive event that combines fun, food, art, and culture in a way that encourages curiosity, connection and family participation, creating what Northville hopes will become a new signature fall tradition.



Northville Introduces New Holiday Tradition with Inaugural Hometown Holiday Handmade Market

Holiday shoppers will discover a new destination for unique, handcrafted gifts this season as Northville Parks and Recreation launches the Hometown



Holiday Handmade Market.

This curated indoor market features a wide variety of vendors, festive experiences and opportunities to support local artists and small businesses. Held during Northville's beloved Hometown Holiday weekend, the event is designed to become a new annual tradition celebrating creativity, community and shopping local.

The inaugural Northville Hometown Holiday Handmade Market will take place Saturday, November 21, and Sunday, November 22 at the Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main Street, as part of the community's beloved Hometown Holiday weekend.

Unlike traditional craft fairs, the juried indoor market will feature carefully curated artisans offering original handmade goods, including artwork, home décor, jewelry, accessories, specialty foods, holiday gifts and one-of-a-kind creations. The event also highlights makers of all ages and abilities by providing opportunities for youth entrepreneurs, Northville senior artists, and participants from the Living and Learning Enrichment Center.

"This market is about more than shopping," said Northville Parks and Recreation Director Derek O. Smith. "It's about celebrating the incredible talent in our community, supporting small businesses and creating a welcoming holiday experience where every purchase has a story behind it."



Visitors can also enjoy:

- Festive food and refreshments
- Raffle baskets featuring local goods and experiences
- Light acoustic music and live demonstrations
- A warm indoor holiday atmosphere during Northville's Hometown Holiday weekend

Admission is \$4 in advance or \$5 at the door, and includes five raffle tickets.

Event Information at a glance

Northville Hometown Holiday Handmade Market

Location: Northville Community Center,
303 W. Main Street

Dates and Times

- Saturday, November 21 | 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Sunday, November 22 | 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Purchase tickets: <https://npar.info/market-attendee2026>

A New Opportunity for Michigan Makers

Applications are now open for artists and makers interested in participating in the inaugural market.

The event is seeking creators who design and produce their own original work, including fine art, home décor, accessories, specialty goods and handcrafted gifts. To maintain a curated experience, commercial products, direct sales and mass-produced merchandise will not be accepted.

For more information contact Northville Parks and Recreation Director Derek O. Smith at (248) 449-9941 or dsmith@NorthvilleTownshipMI.gov

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MAYBURY FARM

The Place to be this Fall, and for the Holidays!

WHAT better place to enjoy autumn than at Maybury Farm, where you can experience the pastoral color changes, a corn maze complete with tractor-drawn wagon rides, a fall festival, apple cider and donut offerings, and animals actively enjoying the cool down.

Fall weekends are perfect for a corn maze outing, and Maybury Farm is ready to challenge you! Every Saturday and Sunday – September 26 through November 1, enjoy a tractor-drawn wagon ride through our fields and forests to our 10-acre family friendly corn maze (including a scavenger hunt) and our kid-friendly mini-maze – explore one or both! The maze is open after sundown but be sure to bring or pick up a flashlight in the General Store.

Also at the store: fresh, delicious cider and donuts! These traditional fall treats tend to run out, so plan ahead and grab them right away! Our barn stays open until 7 p.m. during corn maze weekends so be sure to visit our farm animals, educational displays and playground.

The Great Fall Festival will take place on Saturday, October 10. The festival features live music, new games and activities, special animal engagement opportunities and educational demonstrations – all included in your ticket price! Purchase optional tickets for our tractor-drawn wagon ride to explore the corn maze for the complete fall experience.

Food trucks will be on site with delicious eats, treats and beverages for purchase. We'll also offer cider and donuts plus other snacks in our General Store. Purchase tickets early online at a reduced cost.

While our educator-led farm tours continue through the fall, our special Fall on the Farm Tour will run in October. The tour includes the mini-corn maze, games and more. It's a great opportunity for school or senior groups, children and families to "get behind the scenes" and engage in hands-on learning experiences. Our tours can accommodate groups from 15 to 125.

If you're planning a celebration this fall, check out our party packages. Your guests can enjoy the tractor-drawn wagon ride and corn maze. Consider adding a bonfire to your party to warm your guests on those chilly fall days and make it truly memorable!

Continuing through October, goat yoga sessions will take place Saturday mornings. A new and popular offering, our sessions are led by certified yogis and are beginner-friendly, so come on out and see why it's become such a hit!

Get inspired and get in the holiday spirit with the Holiday Home Tour,



Friday and Saturday, November 20 and 21. Tour five Northville homes, beautifully decorated for the holidays! Ticket sales support Northville Community Foundation's mission to enhance the community through scholarships, grants and contributions toward the care of Maybury Farm's animals during the winter.

Next, Santa arrives at Maybury Farm for holiday fun and Santa visits! December weekends – 5/6 and 12/13 from 10 a.m.-3

p.m., enjoy the magic of the season with holiday music, decorations, crafts, farm animals, our old-fashioned General Store and Santa – ready to hear your child's wish list!

It's been another incredible season shared with our community. Thanks to our visitors, Maybury Farm was voted "The Top Place to Take Kids" by Kids Out and About for the fourth consecutive year! To support our mission, please consider making a donation. You can even choose where your dollars are spent at mayburyfarm.org/donate!

For details about Maybury Farm including its programs and events, see our website, mayburyfarm.org, and plan your visit today!



**Maybury Farm's
October weekday hours:**
Tuesday-Thursday:
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Fridays: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Extended weekend hours
for corn maze:**
Saturday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.





FALL EVENTS

Streets of Treats • Downtown Northville
Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join the Northville Chamber of Commerce for a family-friendly Halloween celebration in Downtown Northville! More than 50 local businesses and organizations will line Main and Center streets with treat stations for an afternoon of trick-or-treating and Halloween fun. Enjoy live entertainment, games, mini donuts and cider, and more!



Holiday Lighted Parade • Downtown Northville
Friday, November 20, 6:30 p.m.



Join the thousands of parade-goers as the holiday season officially kicks off with the Holiday Lighted Parade. Bands, dancers, floats, and of course, Santa, make this annual favorite a great family tradition! The parade begins at 6:30 p.m., and will be followed by the official tree lighting in Town Square, Downtown Northville.

Holiday Greens Market and Hometown Holiday Festival
Hometown Holiday Greens Market

Saturday, November 21: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday, November 22: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Hometown Holiday Festival
Saturday, November 21: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The Holiday Greens Market is a two-day event featuring holiday greens vendors, crafters, specialty food vendors, food trucks, and more. Alongside the market, the Hometown Holiday Festival brings festive activities to Downtown Northville, including holiday attractions, Santa visits, family entertainment, photo opportunities, and additional shopping. Join us in Downtown Northville as we kick off the holiday season!



Welcome New Chamber Members!

BC Pilates
 Bambu Desserts & Drinks
 Broughton Music & Art Center
 Cambridge Homes, Inc.
 Dutcher Media
 Festive Flamingo
 House of Umami
 Keller-Williams Amy Duncan
 Law Office of Mark Mandell
 M Architects
 The Mahjong Mingle
 Mosra, Abhinav

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AROUND Northville

October – December

ONGOING

- Enjoy Maybury Farm's Corn Maze September 26-November 1, Saturdays 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sundays 10 a.m.-7 p.m. You can also plan a private party in the evening Tuesday-Friday by visiting www.mayburyfarm.org and booking the event.



- Visit the Northville Farmers Market on Thursdays through October 29 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at 550 Seven Mile Road and enjoy offerings from local growers, vendors and artisans. There will be live music and food trucks on site. Learn more at www.northville.org.

OCTOBER

October 1-31

Skeletons Are Alive

5-10 p.m.
Downtown Northville
Over 200 life-sized skeletons will be posed and displayed around Downtown Northville throughout the month, featuring food trucks, live music, street performers and family-friendly activities for all. The launch party will take place on October 2, from 5-10 p.m. Learn more at www.downtownnorthville.com.

October 10

Great Fall Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Maybury Farm
50165 Eight Mile Road
Enjoy a fun-filled fall day at the farm. Admission starts at \$14/person at the door and includes live music, activities, games, photo ops, a playground, story walk around the pond and more. Add a wagon ride or corn maze to your ticket and enjoy delicious food, drinks and treats. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit www.mayburyfarm.org/events.

October 24

Streets of Treats

10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Main and Center streets
Join the Northville Chamber of Commerce for a fun, family-friendly Halloween event in Downtown Northville. There will be trick-or-treating, live entertainment, games, mini donuts and cider and more. Learn more at www.northville.org.

NOVEMBER

November 20

Holiday Lighted Parade and Tree Lighting

6:30 p.m.
Downtown Northville
Join the thousands of parade-goers as the holiday season officially kicks off with the Holiday Lighted Parade. Bands, dancers, floats, and of course, Santa, make this annual favorite a great family tradition! The parade begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by the official tree lighting in Town Square, Downtown Northville.

November 20-21

Holiday Home Tour

10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Tour five Northville homes, beautifully decorated for the holidays! Ticket sales support Northville Community Foundation's mission to enhance the community through scholarships, grants and contributions toward the care of Maybury Farm's animals during the winter. For ticket information, visit <http://www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org/>.

November 21

Hometown Holiday Festival

10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Downtown Northville
The Hometown Holiday Festival brings festive activities to Downtown Northville, including holiday attractions, Santa visits, family entertainment, photo opportunities, and additional shopping. Visit www.northville.org for more information.

November 21-22

Hometown Holiday Greens Market

Saturday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Downtown Northville
A two-day event featuring holiday greens vendors, crafters, specialty food vendors, food trucks, and more. For more information visit www.northville.org.

DECEMBER

December 5/6 & 12/13

Holiday Fun and Santa Visits

10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Maybury Farm
Enjoy the magic of the season with holiday music, decorations, crafts, farm animals, our old-fashioned General Store and Santa - ready to hear your child's wish list! Visit www.mayburyfarm.org for more information.

December 31

Noon Year's Eve

11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Northville Art House
215 W. Cady Street
Ring in 2027 before lunchtime with New Year-themed crafts, a hot chocolate bar, music, dancing, a festive countdown and more. For more information, visit www.northvilleearthhouse.org/nye.

PLEASE NOTE: Event details may have changed. Please check event website or social pages for the most up-to-date information.



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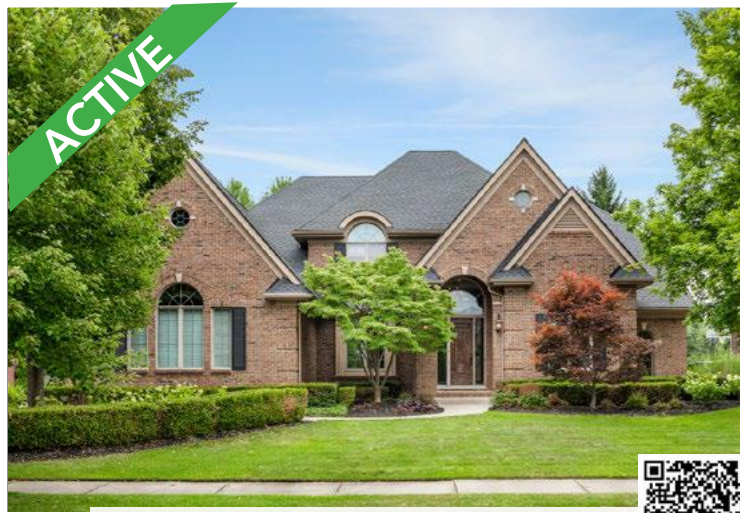
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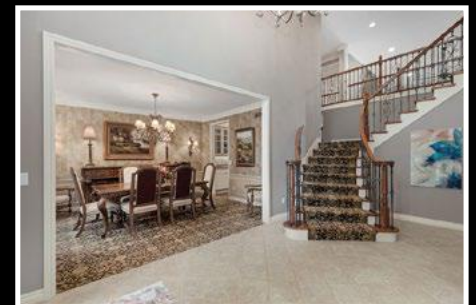
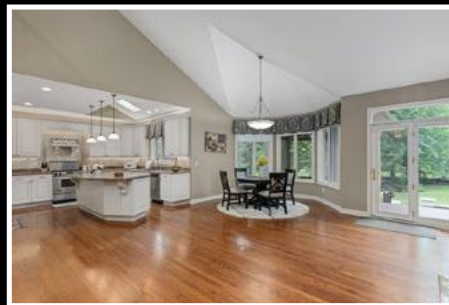
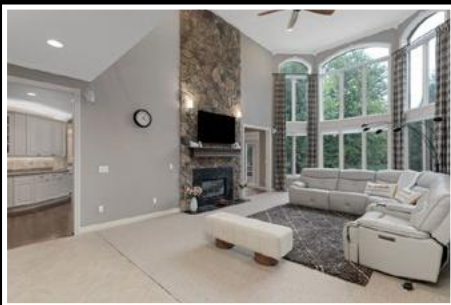


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