

# FEBRUARY 2022

NORTHFIELD HILLS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION

## the View from the Hills



### Inside this issue:

- Chinese New Year
- Groundhog Day
- Presidents' Day
- Valentine's Day
- American Heart Month
- Black History Month
- Recipes and more

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### The View from the Hills Staff

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### Editorial Policy

*The View from the Hills* is a publication for the residents of Northfield Hills Condominium Association compiled and published by its staff, which serves on a voluntary basis. The *View* is published monthly except January and August. Any resident of Northfield Hills is eligible to join the *View* staff in the variety of tasks related to publishing a newspaper.

*The View from the Hills* welcomes comments, suggestions and articles from its readers. All materials submitted for publication in the *View* must be true, factual and newsworthy. The staff reserves the right to hold items from publication pending validation of facts; and also reserves the right to decline advertising copy.

Where items are of a critical or controversial nature, the editors reserve the right to solicit comments from those with opposing viewpoints.

Opinions expressed on these pages do not necessarily reflect those of the *View* staff, Board of Directors, Committees, Association Management employees or our advertisers.

Materials submitted for publication must be given to the receptionist in the Clubhouse and must include his/her signature and name in print.

**No material will be accepted for publication in the upcoming issue after the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.**

### Phone Numbers

Clubhouse.....248-641-9070  
Clubhouse Fax.....248-641-8214  
AMI Emergency.....800-821-8800  
Troy Emergency.....911  
Police & Fire  
Non-Emergency..... 248-524-3477

**Clubhouse Address:**  
**Northfield Hills Condo Assoc**  
**Clubhouse East**  
**1750 Brentwood Drive**  
**Troy, MI 48098**

### Clubhouse Hours:

**Mon-Fri 9 AM--10 PM**  
**Saturday 11 AM--10 PM**  
**Sunday 11 AM--5 PM**  
**Sunday 11 AM--10 PM from**  
**Memorial Day weekend**  
**through Labor Day**

**NHCA Website:**  
[northfieldhillsoftroy.com](http://northfieldhillsoftroy.com)

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It is January 19<sup>th</sup> and luckily, we have had only two minor snowstorms. During both storms we had the same issue with people not moving their vehicles and/or parking in their driveways. Many residents move their vehicles, but the vehicle on either side of them do not. There are elderly people and people with mobility concerns who need the clean area to enter and exit their vehicles.

We will be putting flyers on vehicles that have not moved five to six days after the snow fall, in addition to a \$50. fine. We will also be giving fines to everyone who parks their cars (illegally) in their driveways. I have had people say that it is not fair and ask, "What if someone is out of town or in the hospital?" Many people who leave for the winter or an extended period of time, often leave their car keys with a neighbor or relative so the vehicle can be moved. Obviously, if someone is in the hospital, we would not levy a fine. The Board wants to solve this problem and are willing to try a number of plans to accomplish this.

Due to a recent minor fire in one of our condominiums, I would like to remind everyone that according to our Bylaws, "Every co-owner shall obtain insurance coverage at their own expense upon their unit and upon the Limited Common Elements for which the co-owner has maintenance, repair or replacement responsibility per the provisions of the Condominium documents." If you are a renter, you should carry renter's insurance and your landlord must also carry insurance. If you need further information on this matter, please contact me at the clubhouse.

As we near the end of January, I always see spring as right around the corner. I know that I am fooling myself, but you do start noticing that it's staying light longer, and you start saying "Well we got through December and January and February is a short month, and then it's March, and finally April starts bringing better weather," so in my mind it's almost summer ☺. Let's all get through these cold couple of months, stay healthy and look forward to spring coming.

I often start my spring cleaning now so that when the warm weather comes, I can be outdoors taking walks or planning my spring garden. Remember that the clubhouse has a workout room that is free to use, pool tables and a ping pong table. We also have a nice library and an ongoing puzzle table. Also, until further notice, masks must be worn in the clubhouse. We hope to change this policy as soon as possible.

Finally, in going over the final year-end financials, we have noticed how much we were over our NHCA budget in the following areas. Water usage was over by \$90,000. We realize that the cost of water went up last year, but we also believe that some of it has to do with leaky toilets, faucets etc. If you have leaks in your plumbing, you must get them fixed. I am going to start reviewing the water bill and look at each buildings usage and might have to get into units if we see that there is unusually high usage. If you are a renter, contact the owner and if the problem does not get fixed, call the clubhouse and we will call them.

Our heating fuel was over budget by \$28,000 and the cost per CFU's this year has increased, so we are predicting an even higher bill. I was surprised in driving through the complex in seeing how many people leave their windows partially open – this is just money being poured out the window.

When you go to bed at night turn your thermostat down, buy a programmable thermostat and change your furnace filters. When you leave for work or on vacation, turn your heat down. Little improvements like any of these multiplied by 646 units helps keep your maintenance fee down.

If you have any questions just call the clubhouse, ask for Sean and he will help you.

Kathleen Deburghgrave

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# Condo Corner

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## WINTER BODY SHOP REMINDER



If you plan to use  
the Body Shop you **must**  
bring extra shoes to enter  
and exercise.

### **Reminder:**

All holiday lights must be  
removed by March 1st and  
lights cannot be lit after  
January 15th.



### **2022 ELECTIONS**

Look for the Election  
Schedule Timeline in this  
issue of the *View from the  
Hills*.

Ice Melter is available in the  
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container to fill.  
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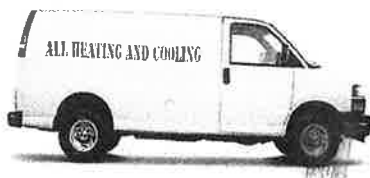
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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### ➤ **SLEDDING & CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING ON COMMONS:**

Now that we're into our winter months, with snow lurking around the corner, some might be sledding and cross-country skiing around Beechwood lake and along the Rouge River area. Please recognize with the freezing and thawing of the lake water, it is NOT safe to go onto its surface.

Although sledding in the back of the clubhouse is not advised, some will sled anyway – the deep fluffy snow would be a big attraction. Please make sure you stay within the higher grassy areas, and not sled or ski anywhere close to the lake or river water. No one wants to experience an unfortunate accident.



- **SCAMS:** Alerts on numerous scams have been previously published in *the View*, but now there are more. Many have been fooled by those selling Covid test kits via email, online or over the phone. Do not respond to these, as the sources take your money, kits are not reliable and are not accurate! Please be aware of the danger of responding and inform your family and friends of them as well.



- **POOCH WASTE PICKUP:** Snow is still covering the grassy areas, but the donations from our four-legged friends should be picked up from the grounds. Perhaps some residents are still not aware that picking up after your pet is a part of Chapter 28 of Troy's ordinance as well as NHCA's rules & regulations, stating pets waste is to be picked up and disposed of properly. There are trash cans in the area for this purpose if you don't want to carry it home, plus even during the winter months staff regularly empties the cans. Thank you for following through on this on every walk throughout the year!

- **KEEP YOUR UNIT'S WINDOWS, DOORS AND GARAGE DOORS CLOSED:** With natural gas prices high, keep in mind there is **significant heat loss** through open garage doors, windows, patio and front doors. Remember heating costs are part of your maintenance fee. Help us to save money, thereby saving you money, by keeping them closed through the cold winter months.

- **RESIDENT FEEDBACK:** A resident had volunteered this month to give some "common sense" ideas on staying warm and saving energy, thereby keeping our fees stable.
- Open window coverings when sun is shining into your home, close at night to keep cold out.
  - Adjust ceiling fans to bring up warmer air.
  - Install a storm door on front entrance.
  - Install a glass fireplace door to keep cold air out and stop drafts.
  - Check faucets for dripping water, repair if needed.



- **SNOW REMOVAL RULES:** Please read the attached rules, including the NHCA fine schedule.

# NEW CLIENTS

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| 5840 Northfield      | 3 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$190,000 |
| 1556 Brentwood       | 3 Bed | 2.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$198,000 |
| 5236 Breeze Hill     | 2Bed  | 1.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$202,500 |
| 1444 Brentwood       | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$201,000 |
| 1646 Brentwood       | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$203,000 |
| 1559 Brentwood       | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$207,000 |
| 1571 Brentwood       | 3 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$215,000 |
| 1528 Brentwood       | 3Bed  | 2.1Bath  | 1 Garage  | \$227,000 |
| 1798 Brentwood       | 3 Bed | 2.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$220,000 |
| 5086 Buckingham      | 3 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$221,000 |
| 1751 Brentwood       | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$225,000 |
| 5733 Northfield      | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$235,000 |
| 5376 Breeze Hill     | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$227,000 |
| 5307 Breeze Hill     | 3 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$226,000 |
| 1662 Brentwood       | 3Bed  | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$230,000 |
| 5733 Northfield      | 2 Bed | 1.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$235,000 |
| 1599 Brentwood Dr    | 3 Bed | 1.1 Bath | No Garage | \$245,000 |
| 5199 Buckingham      | 3 Bed | 2.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$256,000 |
| 5719 Whitfield Drive | 3 Bed | 2.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$263,000 |
| 5246 Breeze Hill     | 3 Bed | 2.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$266,000 |
| 1711 Brentwood       | 3 Bed | 2.1 Bath | 1 Garage  | \$278,000 |
| 5055 Buckingham      | 3Bed  | 2.1 Bath | 1Garage   | \$285,000 |

**If you need information on the rental, please give me a call!**  
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**WEIR MANUEL**

**Elena**

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Hi Folks,

Al Sloan here. You may remember me from the memorial I placed in the View for my wife Deb, who passed away in June of 2021. About that same time, you may have seen some pics online of an albino deer spotted along the woods in Court H. FYI: An albino deer is one which is white in color. I shared my story with the staff at the View, and they asked if I would share it with our community. So here it is.

For years Deb would enjoy watching the deer in the morning, from our dining room table while having our morning coffee.

When Deb passed away last summer, it was an exceedingly difficult time for me. After 36 years together, I was not sure how I would carry on. Then out of the clear blue, in the city of Troy, appeared an albino deer. Some data shows that only one in a hundred thousand deer is born albino. Not only did this albino deer appear in Troy, but at the Northfield Hills Condos. And in our back yard? I called it my Little Angel, as it was white as snow. And what are the odds it would appear at such a dark time in my life?

I shared this story with my friend Samuel in Kenya, whom I had met while on a medical mission in 2019. Samuel said they will occasionally see albino Rhinos and Giraffes in Kenya. There they have a belief that if you gaze upon an albino animal, a loved one is watching over you and you will have peace. That confirmed everything I was thinking.

Some will look upon this albino deer as an oddity. I look at it as my Salvation. And I will go to my grave believing that I was blessed with the presence of my Little Angel, who was helping to console me during those challenging times. Thanks Deb!

Al Sloan





*\*View sources include <http://chinahighlights.com>  
and published article by Chuck Roberts*

New Year's Eve is celebrated in China in much the same way as it is here in the United States. It is the last day of the last month of the traditional Chinese calendar. It is also called the spring festival since it comes at the end of winter. In 2022 the Lunar New Year celebration begins on Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and ends with the Lantern Festival on Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Chinese attach one of their 12 zodiac icons to each year. This year is the **"Year of the Tiger."** The tiger is valued for its strength, bravery and exorcising evil.

This Lunar New Year has been celebrated for 5,000 years, with the Chinese calendar being based on the phases of the moon. The New Year can range traditionally from January 22<sup>nd</sup> to February 19<sup>th</sup>.

The end of the festival is called the **Lantern Festival** which traditionally comes 14 or 15 days after the start of the New Year.

The Chinese people celebrate the good fortunes of the last year and hope for health and prosperity in the coming year. The eve of the New Year is just the start of the celebration. Although the traditional holiday festival can last up to two weeks, most modern day Chinese citizens only recognize the first few days, depending whether or not it falls on a weekend. In the U.S. many states hold festivities during the Chinese New Year.

Families frequently travel to meet with other family members, especially the elders of the family. Festival meals consist of Chinese dumplings and fish. Leading up to midnight on New Year's Eve, Dragon Dances, parades, and various local activities are common. Fireworks after sunset are widespread and plentiful nationwide.

In modern day China a variety TV show is shared with family members and includes dancing, singing, magic, comedy skits and interviews with celebrities and movie stars. This tradition is similar to the American Dick Clark and Guy Lombardo shows of the past.



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## GROUNDHOG DAY

Every year since the 1800s, Groundhog Day has been observed the second day of February in both the U.S. and in Canada. This year, Groundhog Day falls on Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hard to believe, but in some states this day is observed as a public holiday.

Groundhog Day came about because of a German superstition. They thought if a hibernating animal cast a shadow on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, that winter weather would last for another six weeks. If there was no shadow, spring would come early.

The German tradition holds that if the sun comes out on Candlemas, the hedgehog will see its shadow and six more weeks of winter will follow. It may have begun as a bit of "folk humor." When German settlers came to Pennsylvania they continued this practice, using groundhogs instead of hedgehogs to predict the weather.

Historically, this day is observed through the behavior of a particular "weather forecasting" groundhog named *Punxsutawney Phil*, who lives in his burrow on Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania for a short period preceding February 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Myth states at other times he lives downtown with another groundhog named Phyllis.)



On the 2nd of February, Phil comes out from his burrow and looks for his shadow. If he sees his shadow and goes back into the burrow, then the United States will have an extended winter of six more weeks. But if he does not see his shadow, and remains outside, it means winter will soon end and spring will arrive very shortly.

Perhaps you're wondering how Phil has lived long enough to still be carrying out this tradition. Legend has it that he has been given a secret potion over the years which has the power to extend the life of a groundhog by six years every time he drinks it!

Remember to watch the local weather stories to find out if either Phil or our very own Woody (who lives in Howell,) has seen his shadow.

Let's keep our fingers crossed that spring is coming soon!



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## February Fun, Facts & Trivia

The month of February is the shortest month of the year, unless it is a leap year which occurs every four years.

Depending on the source, its name comes from either the Italian god *Februus* or from *februa*, which signifies the festivals of purification celebrated in Rome during this time.

Believe it or not, up until 713BC the Romans had no name for January or February on the grounds the winter months didn't deserve them. Plus, had you known February is the most misspelled and mispronounced of all months?

- The birthstone is the Amethyst which symbolizes spirituality, wisdom and security
- The flower is the Violet or Primrose

February is Black History Month and American Heart Association Month. This year the Chinese New Year is celebrated on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Let's not forget for those football fans, Super Bowl LVI will be held on February 13<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles.

There is always Ground Hog Day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> with people waiting to hear if there will be an early spring or a long winter! Since it is Dental Health Month - for us, as well as our furry friends, it is natural for February to be the American Tooth Fairy Smile Drive Month!



It is also Bird-feeding Month, Hot Breakfast Month, Snack food month and "Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month."

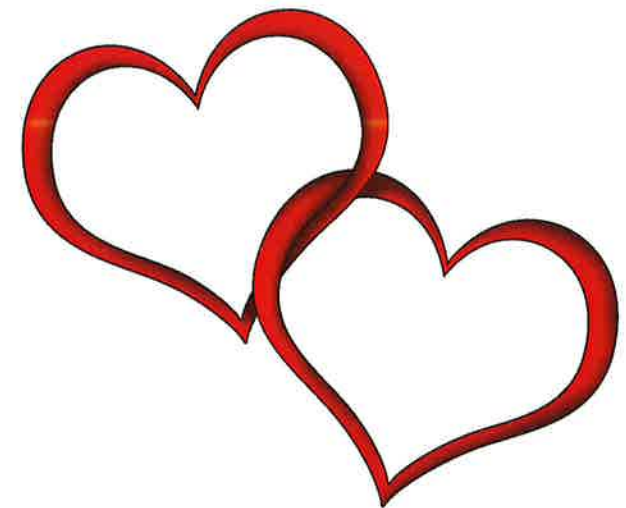
Had you known about these February historical events that had occurred in the past?

- The "Little Ice Age" began in Europe in 1046.
- The first session of the U.S. Supreme Court was held in New York City in 1790.
- The first Teddy Bear was introduced in Brooklyn, NY in 1903.
- The Boy Scouts of America was founded in 1910.
- In 1925 dog sleds, led by Gunnar Kasson reached Nome, Alaska with diphtheria serum, inspiring the *Iditarod Race*.
- YouTube was activated on line in 2005.

February has its "Love Your Pet Day" on Monday, the 20<sup>th</sup>. It is also Responsible Pet Parent's Month focusing on our furry friends.



Whichever days you choose to celebrate, remember there's always an occasion to enjoy chocolate!







This federal holiday will be observed on Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> this year. It is intended to honor all our American presidents, but most significantly George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Washington was born on February 22, 1732 and Lincoln on February 12, 1809.

Some might remember when Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays were celebrated as separate holidays. In 1971 these holidays were moved to become part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, in order to create more three-day weekends for our nation's workers. It then became known as Presidents' Day.

Although most states do observe Presidents' Day, others still observe the individual birthdays of Washington and Lincoln by staging reenactments and pageants in their honor.

"Presidents' Day" has also become known as an opportunity for advertisers to capitalize on the February event by holding three-day or week-long sales.

Let's give thanks for all of our U.S. Presidents by honoring and being respectful of those who are with us today and those who have passed.



## 2022 ELECTION

### LETTERS OF INTENT:

If you plan to be a candidate for the Board of Directors, you must complete a Letter of Intent and submit a resume. Letter of Intent forms are now available at the clubhouse.

### ELECTION TIMETABLE

<u>Monday, March 7, 2022</u>	Proposals are due at the clubhouse
<u>Friday, March 11, 2022</u>	Candidates' Letters of Intent and resumes are due at the clubhouse
<u>Thursday, April 14, 2022</u>	Ballots will be mailed
<u>Monday, May 2, 2022</u>	5 PM -- Deadline to receive all ballots
<u>Tuesday, May 3, 2022</u>	Annual Meeting 7:30 PM

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# VALENTINE'S DAY



**Saint Valentine's Day**, commonly shortened to **Valentine's Day**, is traditionally a day celebrating love and affection, which is expressed to someone by giving flowers or candy, or sending greeting cards - known as "*valentines*".

Historically, the day was named after one or more early Christian martyrs named Valentine. In 1969, Pope Paul VI deleted it from the Roman calendar of saints, but its religious observance is still allowed and followed.

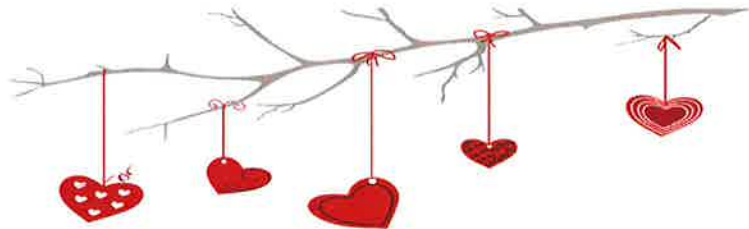
The two most common Valentine's Day symbols are the **heart** - particularly in reds and pinks, and pictures or models of Cupid.

**Cupid** is usually portrayed as a small winged figure with a bow and arrow. In mythology, he uses his arrow to strike the hearts of people. People who have fallen in love are sometimes said to be "struck by Cupid's arrow."

Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, although it wasn't until after the 1400s when written notes began to appear.

Americans probably began exchanging handmade valentines in the early 1700s. The first commercially produced Valentine's Day greeting cards were created in the 1840s by Esther A. Howland. Known as the "Mother of the Valentine," she made elaborate creations with lace, ribbons and colorful pictures.

Although sending "paper" Valentine's Day cards has been offset by email or text, this day is second only to Christmas in card purchases!



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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In both the United States and in Canada, since 1976 the month of February has been designated as Black History Month. It is a month to pay tribute to those people and events in the history of the African Diaspora - the movement of Black Africans and their descendants to places around the world.



It had been suggested in 1970 by black educators and Kent State students, but six years later during America's bicentennial, President Gerald Ford recognized February as Black History month. He urged Americans to seize the opportunity to honor the accomplishments of Black Americans in the nation's history.

Celebrations being held will include accounts of people, places and happenings; such as, the beginning of jazz, the civil rights movement, and other meaningful historic events.



The commemorations will run through the month of February. Some will be virtual, others will be guided tours with reservations needed. Please check website venues for information, including the Henry Ford Museum at [www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org).



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(Jan -- Dec. 2021 ) (Data From Realcomp)

### Sold ( 39 Units)

2 Beds , 1 Full Bath (2 Units)

2 Beds , 1.1 Full Bath (19 Units)

2 Beds, 2 Full Bath (1 Units)

3 Beds , 1.1 Full BathS (11 Units)

3 Beds , 2.1 Full Bath (6 Units)

Listing Median Price \$ \$205,000

Sale Median Price \$215,000

Sold Median per square foot \$ \$162.81    Days on the Market 18 days

+++++

### Leased (26 Units)

2 Beds , 1.1 Full Bath (11 Units)

3 Beds, 1.1 Full Bath (9 Units)

3 Beds , 2.1 Full Bath (6 Units)

Listing Median Rent \$ 1,700

Leased Median Rent \$ 1,700

Leased Median per square foot \$ \$1.28    Days on the Market 14 days



Blessed is to bless the people

मैं तुम्हें आशीर्वाद देने के लिए धन्य हूँ।

다른 사람을 축복하는 자가 축복 받는 자이다

恩を受けたらなら、今度はあなたが誰かに授けましょう

BUY, SELL , LEASE WITH ME HELP NEEDED COMMUNITIES.

\$4,500 HONOR TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOUP KITCHENS & SHELTERS IN YEAR 2021.



## ~ OUT & ABOUT ~

The following event will be featured on local television:

**-Outdoorama**, Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi February 24<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> - a four-day event. Hours & discount tickets available. Call: 800-328-6550 or go to [www.outdoorama.com](http://www.outdoorama.com)

### "9 to 5"

Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre (Main Stage)  
415 So. Lafayette, Royal Oak  
January 28<sup>th</sup> through February 20<sup>th</sup> PG-13  
Cost: \$35 all seats      Masks required



-Being tired of their egotistical and tyrannical boss, three women side line him and take over the company. They change policies, redo the office and make the job more employee oriented. This musical is upbeat, with music and lyrics written by Dolly Parton. Times and reservations: [www.stagecrafters.org](http://www.stagecrafters.org)



### Owl Encounters

Stage Nature Center, 6685 Coolidge, Troy  
Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

-Tours to visit the five rehabilitated that call Troy home. Learn about the different owl species and ask questions of the handlers. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Programs and registration: 248-688-9703

### Macomb Spring Home Show

Macomb Community Sports & Expo Center  
14500 E. 12 Mile, Warren (corner of 12 mile & Hayes)  
Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: Free



-This show features over 100 home improvement professionals for both inside and outside yard ideas with displays and free advice. Information: 586-498-4198

# American Heart Month\*

*\*Repeated each February as it is important information for our NH residents.*



Through efforts of the American Heart Association, in 1963 Congress required the president every year to proclaim February as American Heart Month.

Cardiovascular diseases, including strokes and heart attacks, are still considered our nation's leading cause of death.

Family history, eating habits, and sleeping patterns all come into the picture for susceptibility for a heart attack or stroke.



Sometimes symptoms of a heart attack or stroke are difficult to identify, as they may be different in women from men. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster.

Here are a few signs to check for:

- Shortness of breath when you are used to doing an activity.
- Irregular pain in the lower or upper back.
- Jaw pain when doing an activity, with no dental issues.
- Lightheadedness
- Nausea or vomiting

If you are experiencing any of the above symptoms, go to your doctor immediately or to the emergency room.



For information on heart and heart health, CPR or ECC (Emergency Cardiovascular Care) training and education, visit: [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)

## Stroke Warning Signs

- Compiled from Life is Why®

A stroke is a medical emergency. Every second counts, because time lost is brain lost.

Know these warning signs and share them:

- Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

Also, when these occur, check the time so you'll know when the first symptoms appeared. If given within three hours of the start of symptoms, a clot busting drug can reduce long-term disability for the most common type of stroke.

**Don't delay on calling 9-1-1** or an EMS number immediately so an ambulance (ideally one with life support) can arrive.







## NORTHFIELD HILLS' FURRY FRIENDS PHOTO GALLERY

Presenting *the View's* furry friend for this February issue...



### ***SAY HELLO TO JACK***

*Jack is one of our favorite pups within the community of Northfield Hills and he belongs to our very own Trude from the View from the Hills.*

*What a sweet boy!*



~~~~~

\*If you are interested in showing readers a picture of your pampered pet, (even one with no fur,) who gives you joy and is an important part of your family, please send a jpg photo with a caption to: **c.roberts11958@gmail.com**.  
You need only include your pet's name and something you want us to know about your special friend.

~~~~~



### **PATTI'S PET SERVICES**

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**Dog Walking ~ Pet Taxi Service ~ Pet Sitting**

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***References available upon request.***

# Rewards of Rescuing a Pet

Taken from: Home Again News Letter



***Love comes in all sizes, ages and breeds in America's animal shelters and rescue organizations, where the next four-footed member of your family may be found.***

Where will you turn the next time there's room in your heart and your household for a new pet? Adopting one from a humane animal shelter, breed rescue group, or the local animal control agency — as opposed to a breeder or a pet store — has strong advantages.

Today some 4-to-6 million dogs and cats await new homes in the nation's shelters. And the majority ended up there through no fault of their own: Families move to new places where pets aren't allowed; an owner dies or gets divorced; a baby overwhelms a new parent and the pet suffers for it; a family can no longer afford to feed a pet; a natural disaster occurs.

Regardless of the circumstances that got them into a shelter or rescue group, a bounty of adoptable pets is available for the choosing. You'll find a wide variety in size, age, and temperament. And don't expect them all to be mixed breeds: Nearly 25 percent of pets in shelters are purebreds.

## Reasons to Adopt, Rather Than Buy, A Pet

**You Take Home a Sure Thing.** Since they spend time caring for them, most shelter and rescue workers become familiar with the animals. The time in custody allows staff to assess their behavior and know whether they have been house-trained. That screening enables them to help you pick a dog or cat that will be the right fit for your family and lifestyle.

**Your New Pet Arrives in Good Health.** Before a shelter dog is put up for adoption, he gets a full physical examination that normally includes vaccinations, a

heartworm test, and microchipping. If he has not yet been neutered or she has not been spayed, the shelter vet takes care of that before the animal meets the public. Although there is a charge for adoption, it is usually far below what an owner would pay for medical services on the outside.

**You Save Two Animals' Lives.** Crowded shelters force staff members to make difficult decisions about euthanizing pets no one wants. When you adopt, not only do you save the life of your new pet, you free up space in the facility to give another one a chance at finding a new home.

## Benefits of Adopting an Older Pet

People who give an older pet a second chance are rewarded for their choice in many ways.

**Your Pet is Already Trained.** When you choose an older cat who already uses a litter box, or an older dog who has been housetrained and knows the basic commands, you don't have to take time to teach them.

**Your Pet is Calm.** Kittens and puppies, cute as they are, are a handful to manage. A calm older cat isn't likely to climb up your curtains (or claw up your leg). A fully grown dog doesn't require as many bathroom breaks as a pup, and he's less likely to chew furniture, wires, shoes, clothing or anything else that reminds him of you.

**Your Pet is Grateful.** Animals are sensitive, and they know when they've reached a safe and loving place. Adopt an older cat or dog, and they will repay you with love and loyalty that lasts a lifetime.

When you're ready for a new pet, visit [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com) for a list of available dogs and cats close to where you live.



## FANCY CASHEW BRITTLE

- from Lois's Kitchen

Makes about 16 pieces, 2 by 3 inches

### Ingredients:

- 1 can (9.5 oz. or 2 cups) roasted, salted, cashew halves with pieces
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- 1 tsp. butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1. Tsp. baking soda



### Procedure:

- In a 2-quart microwave safe bowl (glass measuring cup,) stir together the nuts, sugar and corn syrup.
  - \*Microwave on high, stirring halfway through, for about 6-8 minutes or until mixture is light brown.
  - While waiting, grease a cookie sheet with some butter and set aside.
  - Using mitts, remove the nut mixture from the microwave. Stir in the butter and vanilla.
  - Return to microwave, on high for another 1 to 2 minutes.
  - Remove mixture and add baking soda, stirring quickly until the mix is light and foamy as it is thoroughly mixed in.
  - Immediately pour it onto the baking sheet, using back of a spoon to spread it out as quickly as possible.
  - Let the brittle stand until completely cooled, about 30 minutes.
  - Break it into pieces and serve or store in airtight container for up to 2 weeks.
- \*Since microwave wattages differ, please watch mixture carefully.

## EASY SMORES' DESSERT

-from [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)



Preheat oven to 350°. Lightly butter a 9x13 pan.

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup melted butter
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 3 cups graham cracker crumbs (Use gluten-free if desired.)
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 3 cups mini-marshmallows

- In medium bowl, mix butter, sugar and graham cracker crumbs until well coated.
- Put one-half of this mix into bottom of pan.
- Top with chocolate chips, then marshmallows.
- Sprinkle remaining graham cracker crumb mix on top.
- Press down with spatula.

Bake for 10 minutes, or until marshmallows are melted.  
Cut into squares.

## **Cindy's Clean-up & Planting Service**

Too tired/busy to clean up  
your patio beds for the fall?  
Too tired/busy to plant your  
beds in the spring?

Let me help!  
Reasonable rates!  
Northfield Hills resident.

Call Cindy Gulis  
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Available Now

**\$1,900 per month**

**Includes Heat, Water, Gas, Association  
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Private End Unit, 3 large bedrooms with ample closet space. One and a half baths. Dining room. Living room with Double Doorwalls. Freshly cleaned, Beautiful Flooring and Updates throughout! Minutes from Woodward Avenue and I-75. Central Air, Large Basement, Move In Ready, Updated Kitchen, All appliances including washer and dryer! Private Enclosed Patio. Clubhouse, pool, tennis courts, fitness center, large lake and walking trails. **\$1,900 per month includes Association fee, gas, water, heat!**

**Call 248-930-1361**







## Will your ocean of paper become a tsunami?

**Hurry! Grab your shredder and get to higher ground!**

### ***You can shred these items ...eventually.***

ATM and deposit receipts after they appear on your bank statement.

Store receipts – unless needed for warranty or tax purposes.

Utility bills after you pay them – unless you claim them for a home-based business.

Credit card and bank statements at year's end – unless tax related.

Monthly or quarterly loan and mortgage statements after receiving year-end statement. Save mortgage tax forms for 7 years.

Medical, dental, & pharmacy bills and receipts – save bills until paid in full, then keep final proof of payment for 1 year.

Pay stubs after you receive your W-2 tax statement in January.

Unwanted pages with your name and address, Social Security number, birthdate, phone number, pre-printed credit card applications, and catalogue order numbers.

Store coupons after the use-by date.

### ***Always keep these important papers in a safe place.***

Certificates of birth and death, marriage, and divorce, adoption papers, military service and discharge papers.

Wills, Social Security cards, professional licenses, passport, citizenship or naturalization papers, power of attorney paperwork, legal casework, and contracts.

Tax returns, stock certificates, investment transaction receipts and annual statements, insurance policies, car title and bill of sale, home deed and title insurance, and burial plot deeds.

Sources: Arianne Cohen, Contributor to *Woman's Day*, Aug. 2011; MP Dunleavy, *Womans Day*, Dec., 2012

### ***Organize your "stuff"***

Make a copy of the contents (front and back) of cards in your wallet and store in a safe place.

Make a folder for "Tax Documents." Drop in statements, receipts, and other tax-related items as they arrive to be ready for tax prep.

Keep a copy of your will in a safe place and perhaps a copy with a trusted family member.

Three good websites from Better Homes and Gardens, Jan. 2013.

[BHG.com/ClutterVideo](http://BHG.com/ClutterVideo)

[BHG.com/FamilyOrganization](http://BHG.com/FamilyOrganization)

[BHG.com/JensPicks](http://BHG.com/JensPicks)





"Lexophile" is a word used to describe those that have a love for words, such as "you can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish", or "to write with a broken pencil is pointless."

A competition to see who can come up with the best lexophiles is held each year.

Here is one of the winning submissions :

- When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.
- The batteries were given out free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- A boiled egg is hard to beat.
- When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.



- Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off? He's all right now.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.

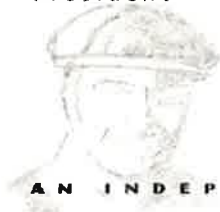


- He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
- When she saw her first strands of grey hair she thought she'd dye.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- Those who get too big for their pants will be totally exposed in the end.

**ALWAYS LAUGH WHEN YOU CAN .... IT'S CHEAP MEDICINE.**

## **PALLOTTA HEATING & COOLING**

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*President*



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## February Kids Jokes

You will have everyone laughing out loud with these funny jokes. Try them out on your friends to get a few laughs.



Q: What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day?

A: Forget-me-nuts.

Q: What did the stamp say to the envelope?

A: I'm stuck on you.

Q: What did the light bulb say to the switch?

A: You turn me on.

Q: What did one snake say to the other snake?

A: Give me a little hug and a hiss, honey.

Q: Why did the banana go out with the prune?

A: Because it couldn't get a date.

Q: What travels around the world but stays in one corner?

A: A stamp.

Q: What do farmers give their wives on Valentine's Day?

A: Hogs and Kisses!

Q: Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?

A: Sure, they're very scent-imental!

Q: What did the paper clip say to the magnet?

A: I find you very attractive.

Q: What did the bat say to his girlfriend?

A: You're fun to hang around with.

Q: What did one light bulb say to the other?

A: I love you a whole watt!

Q: What did the elephant say to his girlfriend?

A: I love you a ton!

Q: Did you hear about the nearsighted porcupine?

A: He fell in love with a pin cushion!

~~~~~

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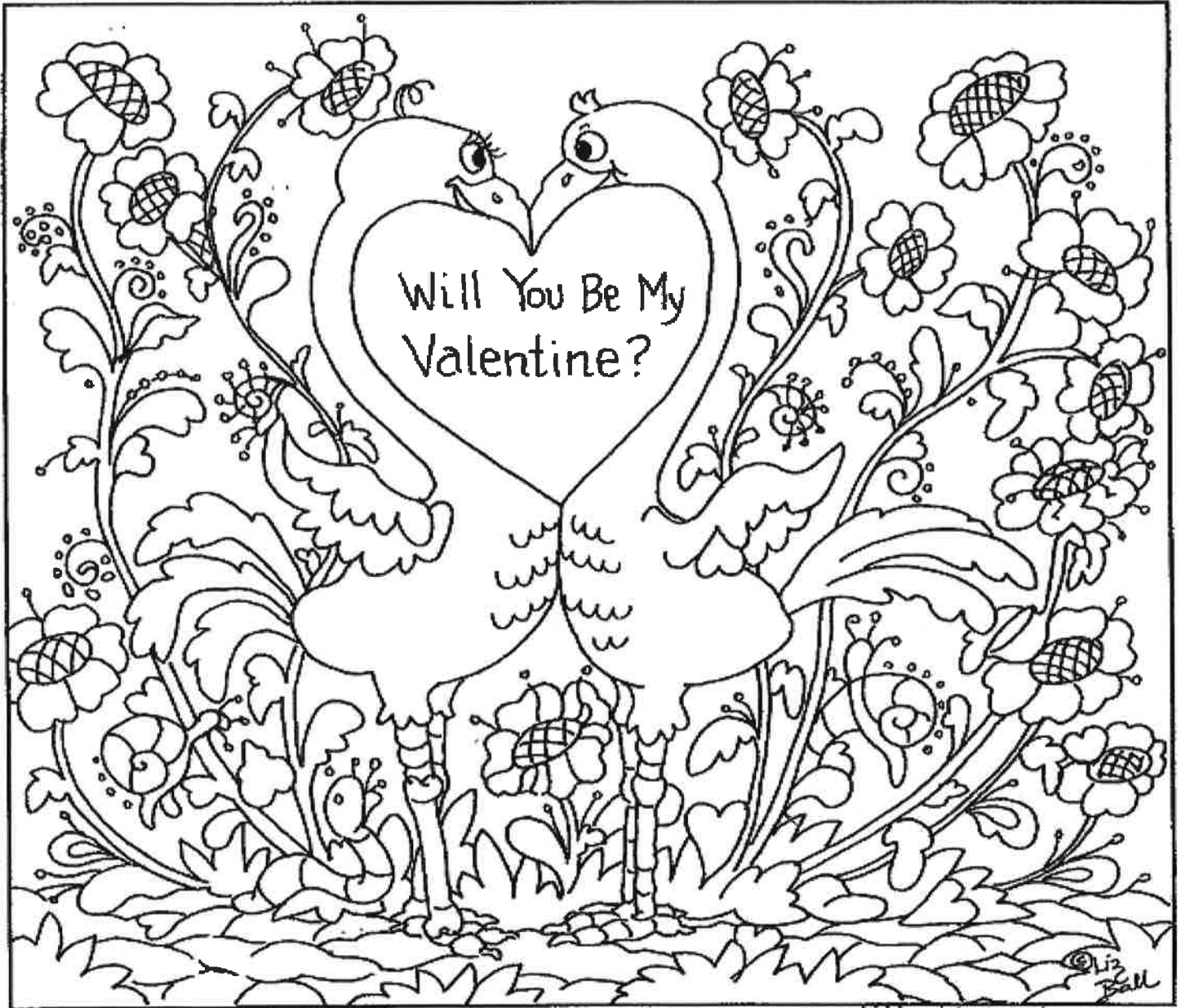
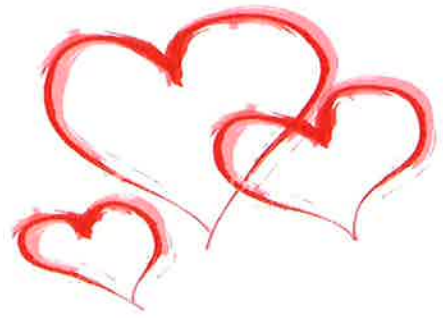
Unit must be in working order;  
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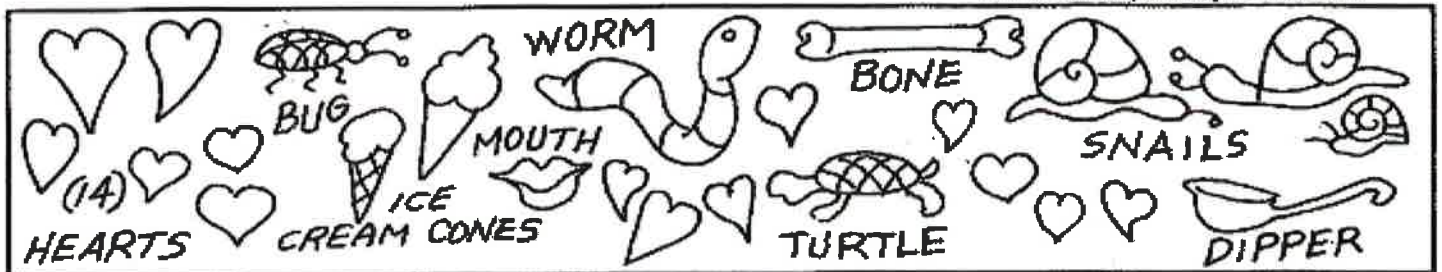




# Kids Valentine Puzzle



[www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com](http://www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com)





# WINTER PARKING INFORMATION

**Due to the importance of the information listed below, we felt it necessary to repeat this message and insist the following parking rules be observed. The Northfield Hills Condominium Association has 646 units and it takes much time, and big money to keep our parking areas, sidewalks and streets free of snow. Your cooperation and extra effort during the winter months is essential and very much appreciated.**

## **PARKING**

With parking at such a premium, we must remind everyone that if you have a garage you **MUST** park your vehicle in it. Curbside parking is also illegal as they are Fire Lanes.

If you have company, please remind them they cannot park in someone's reserved parking spot. Let everyone know that if there is a number on the parking spot then it belongs to someone and that they **CANNOT** park there. Thank you.

## **WINTER PARKING**

Vehicles must be moved out of the court parking spaces when the plows arrive in each area. The snowplow drivers will perform an initial clean-up and then return a second time to allow Co-owners extra time if necessary.

Exercise caution when plow trucks are present – the drivers' vision is limited.

Salt your porch and sidewalk before a light snow. Spreading salt will help prevent ice buildup and slippery conditions. Salt is effective only for temperatures above 20 degrees.

Co-owners should not leave dog leashes, children's toys, and newspapers on sidewalks and porches. These items can become buried beneath the snow and cause injury to workers or damage to the blowers.

Vehicles should not be parked in or around the traffic circles at the end of Breeze Hill Place and Buckingham Place as this may prevent the snowplows from turning efficiently and prevent moving snow from the street. Also, large emergency vehicles use these traffic circles and parked vehicles impede their movement, slowing their response time.

Co-owners must remove cars parked in the driveway of their condo. Snowplow drivers are instructed not to plow adjoining driveways if a vehicle is parked in one of them. This pertains to all driveways, however long or short.

The City of Troy prohibits sidewalks from being obstructed. Cars parked in short driveways, where they cross the sidewalk, prevents the staff from effectively clearing your sidewalks. If the snow blower cannot be driven straight down the sidewalk to your condo's walkway, your sidewalks will not be shoveled.

Snowplows will **not** return to plow parking spaces after the day we sweep through the courts.

Do not leave decorative items on your front porch which may be damaged and will slow the shoveling process.

Thank you for your cooperation.



## **IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION**

### **Northfield Hills Snow Removal Rules – Including Fine Schedule**

Vehicles **MUST** be moved out of the court parking spaces when the plows arrive in each area. The snowplow drivers will perform an initial clean-up and then return a second time to allow co-owners extra time if necessary. Vehicles that have not moved after the second sweep will result in a **fine being levied**. **Fine are fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the first fine, seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for the second fine and five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the third and each subsequent fine.** Buckingham, Breeze Hill and Brentwood are always plowed first so you can park your car there and move it back after the plows have left. **FOR ANYONE WHO HAS QUESTIONS ON PARKING YOU CAN CALL THE CLUBHOUSE AND ASK FOR SEAN, 248-641-9070.**

Exercise caution when plow trucks are present – the drivers' vision is limited.

**Salt your porch and sidewalk before a light snow.** Spreading salt will help prevent ice buildup and slippery conditions. Salt is effective only for temperatures above 20 degrees.

Co-owners should **NOT** leave dog leashes, children's toys, and newspapers on sidewalks and porches. These items can become buried beneath the snow and cause injury or damage to the snow blower.

Vehicles should not be parked in or around the traffic circles at the end of Breeze Hill and Buckingham Place as this may prevent the snowplows from turning efficiently and prevent moving snow from the street. Also, large emergency vehicles use these traffic circles and parked vehicles impede their movement, slowing their response time.

**Co-owners must remove cars parked in the driveway of their condo.** Snowplow drivers are instructed not to plow adjoining driveways if a vehicle is parked in one of them. This pertains to all driveways, however long or short. Cars parked in driveways are subject to ticket and/or towing.

The City of Troy prohibits sidewalks from being obstructed. Cars parked in short driveways, where they cross the sidewalk, prevents the staff from effectively clearing your sidewalk. If the snow blower cannot be driven straight down the sidewalk to your condo's walkway, your sidewalks will not be shoveled. Snowplows will **not** return to plow parking spaces after the day we sweep through the courts.

These rules were approved by the Board of Directors December 15, 2002.

# **NORTHFIELD HILLS CONDIMINIUM ASSOCIATION**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

### **Board Members Present:**

Josh West, Chair; Kristy Watkins, Vice Chair; Kent Cathcart, Treasurer; Mike Malley, Secretary; John Ballantine, Director; Neal Moore, Director; Gary Newville, Director; Kathleen Deburghraeve, Community Manager

### **1. Chairman's Comments**

- We are meeting a week ahead of time due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- We will continue hybrid meetings. People may either come in-person or participate on Zoom. If you speak please use the microphone so people on Zoom can hear you.
- Fall clean-up is currently going on.

### **2. Resident's Forum**

- N/A

### **3. Call to Order**

- Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

### **4. Agenda**

- Approved as written.

### **5. Approval of Minutes**

- Approved as written.

### **6. Treasurer's Report**

- Included in packet.
- Good news. Last week The Board voted by email to approve a 3-year contract with Dillon Energy. Through 3/31/22 we are paying \$3.09/cu. ft., starting 4/1/22 it will be increased to \$3.35/cu. ft. Consumer's Energy is currently at \$4.69.
- Later tonight we will approve the operating budget.
- In 2022 we are budgeting for asphalt, finish siding and painting, \$20k for mulch, \$20k for tree trimming, and \$34k for new court signs and clubhouse sign. We will start looking for roofs for 2023.

## **7. Management Report**

- included

## **8. Committee Reports**

### **Activities Report**

- o Movie night was 11/15, Downton Abbey.

### **Clubhouse**

- o N/A

### **Grounds**

- o N/A

### **City Liaison**

- o N/A

### **CANH**

- o There is a new Property Manager, Penny Smith, she is from AML.

## **9. Correspondence**

- N/A

## **10. Unfinished Business**

- N/A

## **11. New Business**

- N/A

## **12. Residents Comments**

- A resident states that Covid cases are rising, hospitals are full again. 80% of the people hospitalized are unvaccinated. Death rates are lower though. The symptoms are a little bit different this time around.
- A resident stated that 3 bids were received for remodeling the kitchen, where are we on it? Per K. Deburghraeve, the Clubhouse Committee is not ready to present them yet.

## **13. Announcements**

- N/A



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## Appliance Repair

Art Adams Appliance Repair.....1-800-791-4144

## Computer Technical Services

EMC Computer (Elie Nichols).....248-680-9701

## Gardening Services

Cindy's Clean-up/Planting Service....248-321-2160

## Home Improvement / Handyman Services

Community Home Services.....248-217-2850

E & V Construction .....586-295-6584

## HVAC

All Mechanical Heating & Cooling..248-909-7228

American Heating, Inc.....248-414-9071

Pallotta Heating & Cooling.....248-431-2172

## Miscellaneous Services

Aria (Blind Cleaning/Repair).....1-855-261-2742

Dryer Vent Cleaning (Glen Moore).....586-565-1777

Patti's Pet Services .....248-310-6364

## Plumbing & Electrical

Steve Gordon, Electrician.....248-420-6748

## Realtors

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Tony Tsai.....248-730-0076

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel

Anita Lancot.....248-709-7887

Barbara Draplin.....248-613-2092

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Jenny Buchman.....248-631-4730

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Prices published December, 2003 And still in effect in 2022 !

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR VIEW ADVERTISERS

|                | Rate<br><u>per month</u>            | Cost for ten issues<br><u>if paid monthly</u> | Prepay for ten issues<br><u>GET ONE FREE!!!</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Full Page      | \$75                                | \$750                                         | \$675                                           |
| Half Page      | \$55                                | \$550                                         | \$495                                           |
| Quarter Page   | \$40                                | \$400                                         | \$360                                           |
| Business Card  | \$15                                | \$150                                         | \$135                                           |
| Classified ads | \$2 per line, with limit of 5 lines |                                               |                                                 |
| * Typesetting  |                                     |                                               |                                                 |

\* An additional charge of at least \$10 will be added for all ads which must be reworked before publication (for example, handwritten ads which require typing and/or design). Ads with dark backgrounds will not be accepted due to increased toner used for printing.

The 'View from the Hills' is published ten times each year, with combined issues for July/August and December/January. Advertising materials must be received by the 20th of the month for publication in the next issue. All first-time advertisements and all classified ads must be accompanied by your payment. Advertising also appears on our Website in full color at [northfieldhillsoftroy.com](http://northfieldhillsoftroy.com).

To advertise for a full year for the price of nine issues (a savings of 10%), payment for the year must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the first month of advertising. If cancellation during the year is necessary, the rate will revert to the "rate per month" charge and the balance will be refunded.

Make checks payable to "View from the Hills," 1750 Brentwood Drive, Troy, MI 48098

For further information, please call

Carrie Roberts - 248-641-9070



# FEBRUARY

## MONTH of FEBRUARY 2022

### Northfield Hills Condominium Association

| Sunday                                                                                                      | Monday                                                                                                             | Tuesday                                                                                                                    | Wednesday                                                                                                                | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                    | 1<br><br>HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR<br>新年快乐 | 2 Knitting Club 7PM<br><br>Ground Hog Day                                                                                | 3        | 4      | 5        |
| 6                                                                                                           | 7 Clubhouse Committee Meeting 7PM                                                                                  | 8 Eucher 6:30PM<br>                     | 9 CANH Meeting 7PM                                                                                                       | 10       | 11     | 12       |
| 13 Super Bowl Sunday<br> | 14<br><br>HAPPY Valentine's DAY | 15                                                                                                                         | 16                                                                                                                       | 17       | 18     | 19       |
| 20                                                                                                          | 21<br><br>PRESIDENTS DAY        | 22 Eucher 6:30PM<br>                    | 23 Board of Directors Meeting 7PM<br> | 24       | 25     | 26       |
| 27                                                                                                          | 28                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                          |          |        |          |