February 2024

ne View from the Hil

NORTHFIELD HILLS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION



Happy Valentine's Bay

Inside this issue:

- Black History Month
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The View from the Hills Staff
Trude Naschak
Carrie Roberts
View E-mail Address:
c.roberts11958@gmail.com

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 20th of the month prior to publication.

Phone Numbers

Clubhouse	248-641-9070
Clubhouse Fax	248-641-8214
AMI	586-739-6001
AMI Fax	586-739-6006
Troy Emergency	
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

NHCA Website:
Amicondos.com/northfieldhills/

through Labor Day

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Happy New Year! It's hard to believe it's 2024 and a new year has begun. This is my first article of the year and unfortunately, it's coming with a bit of complaining. As we all know, we had our first major snowfall of the season and the courts were a mess. Vehicles were not being moved and we received many complaints from people who did move their cars, only to find their neighbors did not.

In these cases, we are forced to tell our residents that our plow drivers <u>absolutely</u> will not risk hitting a vehicle to clean out a parking spot, with cars on either side. We would appreciate you contacting your neighbor (if you feel comfortable) and asking them to move their vehicles. If you are not able to do so, call the clubhouse. If you think you know who the vehicle belongs to, the clubhouse staff will call and tell them they must move their vehicle(s) or be faced with a fine.

If you are unsure where to park your car during snow removal, call the clubhouse and we will help you with that. Also, if you will be out of town during the winter months and do not have a garage, call the clubhouse to make arrangements, so we can ensure your vehicle is moved if necessary. Even four days after the snowfall, I was surprised to see how many cars were parked with snow still on and around them. Meaning the vehicles had never been moved. Whenever this is discovered, we gather license plate numbers and research them with the city to find out who owns them. Fines are then levied to those individuals. This behavior is so unfair to the people who make the effort to move their vehicles, only to be told we can't plow their spot until their neighbor's vehicles have been moved. Hopefully, the next snow fall will go much smoother.

For all of you who received e-mails and/or texts about our new portal not accepting monthly payments, our Management Company AMI is diligently working on a solution to this problem. AMI has started a new operating system called Vantaca and hopefully, by the time you read this, the situation will be ironed out with the portal up and running. Any late fees that may have been applied to your account will be removed by AMI. If this does not happen, call us at the Clubhouse and we will make sure it is done for you. We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

In closing, during a recent holiday vacation with my family, I was pleasantly surprised to notice everywhere we went, the people who noticed us wearing Detroit Lions gear, received us with high fives and "hey good luck, the whole country is rooting for you," etc. Even a man in the Dominican Republic told me that when Detroit won its first playoff game, he wanted to cry tears of joy for all of Michigan. On Saturday in the Florida airport on the trip home it was a little different as we were playing Tampa Bay the next day. However, it was all in fun (and we beat them - yay). It's so refreshing to wear our Lions garb with pride and not get silly remarks about our team. Unfortunately, the Lions didn't make it to the Super Bowl, but they had a fantastic season. Hopefully next season will be as exciting as this season was and they will make it to the Super Bowl in 2025. GO LIONS!

Kathleen Deburgraeve



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Condo Corner

February 2024

WINTER BODY SHOP REMINDER



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

Ice melter is available in the Clubhouse



vestibule 24-7

Reminder

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

Please patronize our View

Advertisers

Please Do Not Feed Birds/Small Animals

Northfield Hills is having problems with small animals getting into some of the units due to the feeding of these animals.

(More info in this issue of the View from the Hills)





Movie Night February 19th at 6:45 PM

February's movie: "Call of the Wild"

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

☑ PARKING IN DRIVEWAY IS AGAINST THE NHCA BYLAWS

Please remember: <u>It is against our bylaws</u> to park in your driveway if your car covers any part of the sidewalk or street. It is also against the law in the City of Troy.

When we do get snow, both your and your neighbor's driveway, approach and porch will not be shoveled or plowed if your vehicle is in the driveway. Remind your guests of this rule too.

Important to remember: <u>If you have a garage</u>, the bylaws state that <u>your garage is your parking spot!</u> You must park your car there. Parking is at a premium.

∠ LEAVING WINDOWS, DOORS AND GARAGE DOORS OPEN

With natural gas prices high, keep in mind there is <u>significant heat loss</u> through open garage doors, windows, <u>patio and front doors</u>. Remember <u>heating costs are part of your maintenance fee!</u> Help us save money (thereby saving you money,) by <u>keeping them closed through the cold winter months</u>. The other problem we are experiencing is small animals entering units through open doors/windows/garage doors. Please keep your doors and windows closed.

- SCAMS: Repeating NH reminder that during the holidays, there are more charity scams than at other times of the year. Once again, an **alert to families**: If you know someone who is living alone, remind them to not respond to unsolicited phone calls, texts or emails.
- LOST & FOUND: NHCA has a box at the Clubhouse where these items will be Anyone who has lost or found hats or gloves or any other item, may turn them in to staff. Smaller found items are kept at the front desk.
- LEAVE A KEY: We are reminding you again how important it is for all residents to leave a key to their unit at the Northfield Hills Clubhouse, which will kept in a secure lockbox and only be used in case of an emergency. With power outages possible, especially during winter months, it is imperative this is done. Just as important is to make sure your emergency contact information has been updated.
- PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE BIRDS/ANIMALS: We know everyone loves to feed the birds; however, bird feeders and other methods of feeding animals are causing problems with small animals throughout our Northfield Hills community. Leaving chunks of bread, feed in bird feeders, uncovered trash containers and garbage bags in your patio area, are attracting Mice, Voles, Squirrels, Raccoons, and Rats. These animals can make their way into our condominium units through open doors and cracks in your unit. In addition, animals including neighbor cats will sometimes nest in your vehicle's engine area and can cause damage to your car's engine parts by chewing wires and leaving nesting items in your vehicle's engine compartment. It had been suggested on local news to tap on the hood of your vehicle before starting your engine to chase away any animal that might be sleeping under the hood. Please stop using bird feeders and do not put food out for any wild animals. That along with loose trash only attracts nuisance animals. Thank you in advance for

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Elena Martinovici

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ACTIVE:				
5717 Whitfield	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$259,000
5053 Buckingham	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$215,000
PENDING:				
5210 Breeze Hill	2 Bed	1.1Bath	No Garage	\$249,000
5753 Northfield	2 Bed	2 Bath	No Garage	\$239,000
5109 Buckingham	3 Bed	3.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$345,000
SOLD:				
1784 Brentwood	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$225,000
1823 Brentwood	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$230,000
5216 Breeze Hill	3 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$231,647
5046 Buckingham	3 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$242,000
1562 Brentwood	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$245,000
1588 Brentwood	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$248,900
5226 Breeze Hill	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$245,000
5707 Whitfield	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$249,000
1528Brentwood	2 Bed	1.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$255,000
5173 Buckingham	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$267,000
1812 Brentwood	3 Bed	1.1 Bath	No Garage	\$275,000
5159 Buckingham	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$282,000
1827 Brentwood	3 Bed	1.1 Bath	1Garage	\$285,000
5751 Northfield Pkwy	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$301,000
1508 Brentwood	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$294,600
1612 Brentwood	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$295,000
5761 Northfield Pkwy	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$309,000
1478 Brentwood	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$310,000
5137 Buckingham	3 Bed	1.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$316,000
1536 Brentwood	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$332,000
5234 Breeze Hill	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$336,000
5693 Whitfield	3 Bed	2.1 Bath	1 Garage	\$348,000
			-	

If you need information on the rental or past sales give me a call!

Call your neighbor Realtor!

ELENA



Fun, Facts & Trivia

The month of February in 2024 will be one day longer than last year as it is a Leap Year! BUT, it is still the shortest month of the year. Leap year only occurs every four years, so imagine those born in a leap year on the 29th - when does the celebration take place?

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 as they thought 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 during February on the 10th and Mardi Gras on the 13th.

There is always Ground Hog Day on the 2nd and "Love Your Pet Day" on the 20th. 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 Hot Breakfast Month, Snack Food Month and "Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month."

Valentine's Day on the 14th is most likely the reason for February being National Chocolate Lover's Month.

Quite a few of us know that every month is a good time for enjoying a chocolate treat!



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~ Out & About ~

Many winter festivals are being held around our area. For event details check out each community's web page.

- -Detroit (Campus Martius Park and others)
- -Plymouth Ice Festival
- -Berkley Winterfest
- -Royal Oak
- -Oxford/Lake Orion
- -Rochester
- -Romeo
- --Most events are free, with a variety of activities, food choices and music.

MID-WINTER BREAK OPEN HOUSE

Troy Historic Village 60 W. Wattles (Free, donations accepted.) Monday, Feb. 19TH and Tuesday, Feb. 20th 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

-Explore the buildings, go on a scavenger hunt and learn about the programs offered. Details at: 248-524-3570

ROMEO AND JULIET

Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre



Main Stage 415 Lafayette Avenue, Royal Oak Feb. 9th - 25th

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Since 1976, Black History Month has been celebrated annually during February in the United

States and Canada. The month is a 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. This was



predominantly to the Americas, then later to Europe, the Middle East and other countries around the globe.

Events have been planned for this time of remembrance at The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, from February 1st through the 29th. This year's focus will be on "The African American and the Arts," featuring music, dance, original plays and performances.



The Museum will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, with programs highlighting the Harlem Renaissance in the 20s through

the 60s. New exhibits will debut this year.

The on-site Michigan Café will be offering African-American inspired recipes this month. All events are free for members, for non-member prices and details please visit: www.thehenryford.org



Valentine's Day, is a celebration of affection and love, expressed to someone by giving flowers, candy or

sending greeting cards, which are known as "valentines".

Historically it had been Saint Valentine's Day, 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. Its symbols are the heart - particularly in reds and pinks, and pictures or statues of Cupid.

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

Even though during the Middle Ages, valentine greetings were popular, it wasn't until after the year 1400 when written valentines began to appear.

Americans 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." Hers were elaborate creations with colorful pictures, lace and ribbons.





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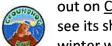


GROUNDHOG DAY

This year, Groundhog Day falls on Friday, February 2nd. Every year since the mid-1800s, Groundhog Day has been observed the second day of February - not only in the US, but also in Canada. Believe it or not, 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 2nd that winter would last for another six weeks. If there was no shadow, spring would come early.

A 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. When German

settlers came to Pennsylvania they continued this tradition, using groundhogs instead of hedgehogs to predict the weather. It may have begun as a bit of "folk humor."

Historically, this day is observed through the behavior of a particular "weather forecasting" groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil, who lives in his burrow on Gobler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania for a short period preceding February 2nd. (Myth has it that 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.

If you are wondering how Phil has lived so long 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!

Did you know we have our own Woody Woodchuck in Howell, Michigan? Make sure to watch our local weather reports to find out if Phil or Woody or any other groundhogs, have seen their shadows.

Hopefully, spring will be here soon!



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CHINESE NEW YEAR

- http://chinesenewyear.net

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 2024 the celebration begins on Saturday, February 10th.

The Chinese attach one of their 12 animal zodiac icons to each year. This year is the <u>Year of the Dragon</u>. The dragon is the only zodiac sign of an animal that doesn't exist and is a myth. It is described as being powerful, strong, authoritative and related to the masculine, "Yang." The dragon's interpretations may vary.

The Chinese New Year has been celebrated for 5,000 years, with the Chinese calendar being based on the phases of the moon, on the lunisolar calendar. The New Year can range traditionally from January 22nd to February 19th. The end of the festival is called the <u>Lantern Festival</u> which traditionally comes 14 or 15 days after the start of the New Year – in 2024 it will be on February 24th.

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 on whether or not it falls on a weekend.

Families frequently travel to meet with other family members, especially the elders of the family.

Festival meals consist of Chinese dumplings and fish., depending on what the individual family's tradition. Leading up to midnight; Dragon Dances, parades, and local festivities 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 like the Dick Clark and Guy Lombardo shows of the past.

Siobhan Gannon

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NORTHFIELD HILLS' FURRY FRIENDS

PHOTO GALLERY

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



Good Golly Miss Molly

Say hello to our February girl Molly.

Molly is a one-year-old Super Mutt (she is mixed with beagle, Bassett hound, plus 7 additional breeds)

She loves to play in the snow and loves chewing up everything in her sight.

What a pretty puppy!



PLEASE SEND US PICTURES OF YOUR FURRY (AND NOT SO FURRY) FRIENDS

*If you are interested in showing readers a picture of your pampered pet, (even one's with feathers, scales or warts,)
who gives you joy and is an important part of your family,
please send a <u>ipg photo with a caption</u> to: **c.roberts11958@gmail.com**.

You need only include your pet's name and something you want us to know about your special friend.

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References available upon request.



Presidents' Day is intended to honor all the American presidents, but most significantly **George Washington** and **Abraham Lincoln**. Washington was born on February 22, 1732 and Abraham Lincoln on February 12, 1809. It is celebrated as a federal holiday on the third Monday in February – this year on the 19th.

Many of us remember when Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays were celebrated as separate holidays. History notes that in 1971 the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved to a part of that year's *Uniform Monday Holiday Act* - an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers.

Today, although most Americans observe Presidents' Day, some communities still observe the individual birthdays of Washington and Lincoln by staging reenactments and pageants in their honor.

Since its initial inception, the term "Presidents' Day" has also become a US marketing phenomenon as advertisers capitalize on the opportunity for three-day or week-long February sales.





The Euchre Group, which has been playing together since 2012, has recently had two permanent players move out of the area. We are looking for two permanent players to fill their spots. We play every other Tuesday from 6:00 until 8:30 PM. We play with a total of 8 players (two tables of 4). The cost is \$1.00 to play. Members take turns bringing snacks each time we meet.

If you would be interested in joining our Euchre Group, please call the clubhouse (248-641-9070) and leave your name and phone number with the clubhouse staff.

Thank you.





Super Bowl Mexicali Bean Dip

Here's an easy-to-prepare dip which is a crowd pleaser at any party.

Ingredients:

1 can (15 oz.) refried beans
4 oz. cream cheese – softened
12 oz. cup of sour cream
1 bunch of chopped green onions (scallions)
1/2 jar (use 6 oz.) salsa
1 pack taco seasoning mix
4 oz. diced green chili peppers
dash of oregano
1/2 to 1 cup grated cheese (Mexican)

- -Combine all ingredients, except the cheese.
- -Place in an 8x10 pan, sprinkle top with cheese.

Bake in 300° oven for approx. 1 hr. Serve with corn chips, pita or crackers for dipping.

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 <u>February</u> 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 emergency care. If severe, call 9-1-1.

For information on heart and heart health,



CPR or ECC (Emergency Cardiovascular Care) training and education, visit: 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 severed headache with no known cause.

When any of these occur, <u>check the time</u> so you'll know when the first symptoms appeared. If a clot bursting drug is given within three hours of the start of symptoms, it can reduce long-term disability for the most common type of stroke.

<u>Don't delay on calling 9-1-1</u> or an EMS number immediately, so an ambulance can arrive.





Why do we need a Leap Year to add an extra day to our calendar? Since the Earth does not precisely orbit the Sun in 365 days each year, our calendars need a correction every fourth year to manage. The next Leap Year will be in 2028.

It was in the 15th century that Leap Year Day came into being. The day was given the name in 1907-08 by Pope Gregory XIII due to the creation of the Gregorian calendar. The Julian calendar had a leap month.

In non-Leap Years, those born on February 29th would celebrate their birthdays on either the 28th or March 1st. Although there is no "rule" regarding this, the person would not legally be the next year older until March 1st, known as the documented birthdate. Therefore, it would affect the right to legally vote, drive, drink and be eligible for social security.

Many folk tales in various countries around the world regarding this day include:

In Ireland a woman was allowed to propose marriage to a man on that day.

This tradition crossed to Scotland and England, where if a man refuses a proposal for marriage from a woman, he should buy her several pairs of gloves to cover the fact that she did not have an engagement ring

In Greece and Italy, it was considered bad luck to marry on Leap Day; yet other countries consider this day to bring luck and success.

Tony Robbins, Author and Life Coach was born on February 29th in 1960, as well as Composer and Orchestra Leader, Jimmy Dorsey in 1904. Both well-known and successful achievers!

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How To Brew Healthy Tea From 6 Different Kitchen Herbs

Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme aren't just song lyrics. They're the main ingredient for a variety of healthy teas!

By ROL Staff November 8, 2017

The short, dark, chilly days of winter can make us long for something hot to sip in the evenings. A windowsill herb garden will give you just what you need for tea that will fix whatever ails you.

Anything from sage to rosemary to ordinary basil can be used to make enjoyable, natural herbal teas. All you need is to steep a few teaspoons of the herb for several minutes. The length of time depends on the herb in question, but 10 to 15 minutes should do the trick.

While herbs and herbal supplements can interfere with certain drugs such as heart disease or thyroid medications, a single cup of herbal tea won't come with a high enough dose to cause harm.

Here are six common herbs, along with simple directions for quickly turning them into healthy, tasty teas.

Sa Ot

Sage

Often recommended by herbalists as a salve for sore throats, laryngitis, and tonsillitis, sage may also boost your mood.

To brew sage tea, place two teaspoons of sage leaves into a teapot, add a cup of boiling water, and let steep for 10 minutes. Try pineapple sage for a tropical twist.



Basil

Basil is another proven mood booster. "Holy basil, Tulsi basil, Thai basil—are all pretty marvelous for making tea.

Steep one to two teaspoons of basil leaves per cup of water for 10 to 15 minutes.

Thyme

German researchers have found that thyme acts as an expectorant (an agent that loosens mucus in your chest), so keeping a thyme plant on hand could help with coughs and colds this time of year.

Steep two teaspoons of fresh thyme in a cup of water for 10 minutes.

Rosemary



Rosemary helps with upset stomachs, headaches, and bad breath, among other ailments.

Enjoy a tea made by steeping one teaspoon per cup of water for 10 to 15 minutes.

Peppermint



Many believe that **peppermint** and spearmint teas help settle your stomach

after a heavy dinner. There's also evidence that peppermint can help with headaches because it calms muscle spasms.

Brew it by steeping one to two teaspoons of dried or fresh peppermint leaves per cup of water for 10 minutes.



Parsley

Parsley may help lower your blood pressure and may decrease allergy symptoms.

To make parsley tea, brew two teaspoons of the leaves or the roots, or one teaspoon of crushed seeds, per cup of water for 10 minutes.





Too many people put off things that brings them joy just because they haven't thought about it, don't have it on their schedule, didn't know it was coming or are too rigid to depart from their routine.

How often have your kids dropped in to talk and sat in silence while you watched 'Jeopardy' on television?

Because Americans cram so much into their lives, we tend to schedule our headaches. We live on a sparse diet of promises we make to ourselves when all the conditions are perfect!

We'll go back and visit the grandparents when we get Steve toilet trained. We'll entertain when we replace the living-room carpet. We'll go on a second honeymoon when we get two more kids out of college.

Life has a way of accelerating as we get older. The days get shorter, and the list of promises to ourselves gets longer. One morning, we awaken, and all we have to show for our lives is a litany of 'I'm going to,' 'I plan on,' and 'Someday, when things are settled down a bit.'

Now...go on and have a nice day. Do something you WANT to...not something on your SHOULD DO list. If you were going to die tomorrow and had only one phone call you could make, who would you call and what would you say? What are you waiting for?



STEPHEN F. BADALAMENT

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28581 Northwestern Hwy Southfield, MI 48034



This four layer dessert has been raved about, so we thought it deserved full attention for St. Valentine's Day.

DELICIOUSLY DECADENT DESSERT

- Connie Kohn -

Ingredients:

- 1-1/2 cups flour
- 1-1/2 cups margarine
- ½ cup chopped nuts
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1 cup confectioner's (powdered) sugar
- 1 large container Cool Whip^R
- 2 small boxes (3 oz.) instant pudding (your choice of chocolate, banana, or lemon)
- 3 cups of milk
- 1. Combine 1-1/2 cups of flour, ½ cup chopped nuts, 1-1/2 sticks margarine. Pat this mixture onto bottom of 9x13x2 pan. Bake 20 minutes until brown at 350°. Cool this layer.
- 2. Cream the package of cream cheese with confectioner's sugar, and 1 cup of the Cool Whip^R with hand mixer. Spread this mixture on first layer when it is completely cooled.
- 3. Combine the two packages of your favorite flavor of instant pudding with 3 cups of milk. Beat 2 minutes then spread on the above layer.
- 4. Spread remainder of the Cool Whip^R on the top.
- Refrigerate overnight or for several hours.*
- *Chocolate pieces or extra chopped nuts can be sprinkled on the top.
 - And now for the <u>heart</u> of the matter; the following is a recipe for everyone's favorite Meatloaf. Shape your loaf into a heart just for the one you love this Valentine's Day.

Gwen's Meatloaf

1 lb. Ground Beef

1/2 lb. Ground Pork

1/2 lb. Ground Veal

2 Cups Oatmeal

2 Eggs

1 Small Onion Chopped

1/4 Green Pepper Chopped

Salt and Pepper to taste

Paprika

Mix meat, oatmeal, eggs, onions, green pepper, salt and pepper together and form into a loaf, sprinkle paprika on top of the loaf and put in oven dish with lid. Cut up potatoes and carrots and place in dish around the meat loaf, add enough water to cover the bottom of the dish. Cover and bake at 400° for 1 hour. Use a meat thermometer to ensure meat is cooked through. **Enjoy!**

(Hollywood Market's Meatloaf Mix is really tasty if you don't want to buy 3 kinds of meat)

IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION

Northfield Hills Snow Removal Rules - Including Fine Schedule

Vehicles <u>MUST</u> 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 <u>fine</u> <u>being levied</u>. 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 <u>NOT</u> 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.

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.

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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.









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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NORTHFIELD HILLS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Board Members Present:

Josh West, Chair; Kent Cathcart, Treasurer; Mike Malley, Secretary; Kathy Katz, Director; John Ballantine, Director; Community Manager, Kathleen Deburghgraeve; Sean O'Brien, Maintenance Superintendent

Absent: Kristy Watkins,
Gary Newville (attended by Zoom)

1. Chairman's Comments

N/A

2. Resident Forum

- A homeowner asked if the Board would consider not allowing parties to use the pool room? We will add it to next month's agenda. Can we put a policy in place that if a resident does not cancel within so many days that we can keep their security deposit? Rentals generate money and there never is a report to see this. K. Deburghgraeve responded that the balance of the clubhouse bank account can be given at any time.
- A homeowner asked if the clubhouse rental fee is still \$150? The answer is no, it has been \$200 for quite some time. They think that maybe we should increase it to \$250. J. West asked that we add clubhouse cost increase to next month's agenda.

3. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

4. Agenda

- Approved as amended.
- Add: Maintenance Staff under New Business.

5. Approval of Minutes

Approved as written.

6. Treasurer's Report

- Bank statements were just received, therefore, there is no treasurer's report this month.
- We are in really good shape. We will discuss the employee compensation and employee healthcare in the Executive Session.

7. Management Report

Report Included.

8. Committee Reports

Activities Report

o N/A

Clubhouse

o N/A

Grounds

o N/A.

City Liaison

o We have 3 new light-up speed limit signs.

CANH

o The benches and garbage cans are in. The garbage cans did not come with a lid, we are looking into getting them.

9. Correspondence

N/A

10. Unfinished Business

N/A

11. New Business

 Maintenance Staff – J. Chirco and J. Kaminski are doing a wonderful job. We should look into getting them hats and hoodies with our logo.

12. Residents Comments

- Homeowner said that K. Cathcart did a great job filling in for J. West at the last minute.
- Homeowner asked if the Board is aware of how Status letters work with AMI? They take a long time to get. J. West asked Kathleen to check with Curt, from AMI, on this. Standard turnaround time is one week.

13. Announcements

N/A

15. Next Meeting

• 01/24/24 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by S. Quintana

NHCA BOARD ELECTION TIMETABLE



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 will be available at the clubhouse after February 3.

ELECTION TIMETABLE

Monday, March 4, 2024 Candidates' Letters of Intent and resumes are due

at the clubhouse, addressed to the Bylaws &

Elections Committee

Monday, April 1, 2024 Ballots will be mailed

Monday, May 6, 2024 5 PM -- Deadline to receive all ballots

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 Annual Meeting -- 7:00 PM

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^{*} 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.

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

For further information, please call

Carrie Roberts - 248-641-9070



MONTH of FEBRUARY 2023 Northfield Hills Condominium Association

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Groundhogs Day	3 Letters of Intent Due
4	5 Clubhouse Committee Meeting 7PM	6	7 Knitting Club 7PM	8	9 Lunch at the Clubhouse 12:00 Noon	10 Chinese New Year
11 Super Bowl Sunday	12 CANH Meeting 5PM	13 GRAS	14 Ash Wednesday HAPPY VALENTINE'S	15	16	17
18	19 Presidents' Day Movie Night 6:45	20			23	24
25	26	27 Vote in Primary Election	28 Board of Directors Meeting 6PM	29 Leap Year Day		