MARCH 2026

HUDSONVILLE
HOMETOWN NEWS

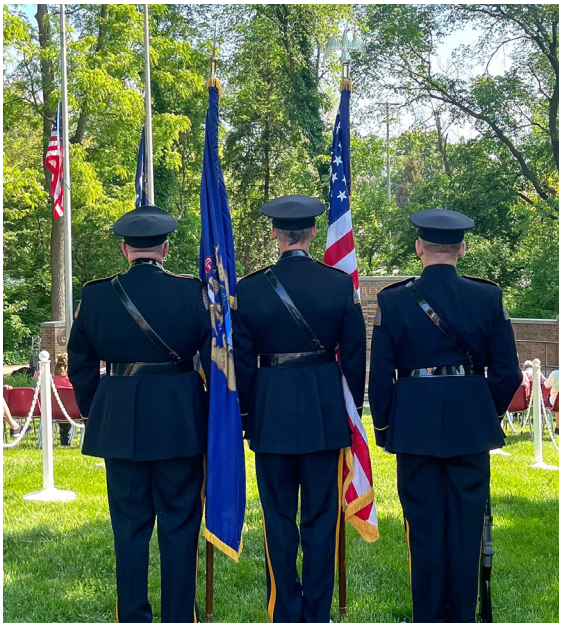
CITY OF HUDSONVILLE'S MISSION STATEMENT:
To grow a distinctive, livable, vibrant, and connected city offering excellent services and amenities.



ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Monday, May 25th at 10:00 a.m.

Memorial Day is a sacred time for our nation—a day set aside to honor and remember the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to the United States of America. Their courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to freedom have secured the liberties we enjoy today.



I warmly invite you and your family to join us for our annual Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 25, at 10:00 a.m. in Veteran's Park (3275 Central Blvd).

The ceremony will include the presentation of colors, a tribute to our fallen heroes, and a moment of silence to honor their memory. We will hear an invocation from Pastor Keoni Hughes of Grace Community Church, followed by keynote speaker Ron Jansen, a U.S. Marine combat veteran and author, who will share highlights from his experiences featured in his book, *An Otherwise Healthy Person.*

Let us stand together as a community—neighbors, families, veterans, and friends—to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

– Mayor, Mark Northrup

SOMETHING SWEET IS COMING TO HUDSONVILLE



Located in downtown Hudsonville, Huddy's, a locally owned ice cream shop, is opening this spring.

Co-owner Matt VanWoerkom says, "We are excited to become a part of Hudsonville's community. When we first dreamed up the idea of Huddy's five years ago, our vision was that it would be rooted in downtown Hudsonville. From the beginning, our goal was to create a space where people could gather and build community. What better way to bring people together than through the joy of ice cream?"

Huddy's is currently working alongside the City to develop a patio along Harvey Street, creating a welcoming outdoor space for the community to enjoy. The store will start by serving Hudsonville Ice Cream, with other menu items coming in the future.

The community is invited to celebrate the grand opening with a ribbon cutting on April 22 at 4:00 p.m. at 5340 Plaza Ave.

BLOOM & BROWSE SPRING MARKET

Spring is in full bloom at Terra Square! Join us for the first-ever Bloom & Browse Spring Market on Saturday, May 2, from 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. at Terra Square (3380 Chicago Dr).

Spend the day shopping a lively spring market filled with:

- Boutiques & Jewelry
- Fresh Flowers
- Baked Goods
- Handmade Gifts
- Wine, Coffee, & Beverages



Bloom & Browse is the perfect opportunity to find a thoughtful, one-of-a-kind gift just in time for Mother's Day or simply enjoy a fun afternoon out with mom! This year's event also features a special collaboration with 3rd-grade students from South Elementary School and Park Elementary School. Student artwork will be showcased during the market, and shoppers will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite class. The winning class will receive a celebratory class party!

Find more event details at www.terrasquare.com/community-events.

Don't forget to save the date for the first farmers market of the season on Wednesday, June 3, from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at Terra Square!

Each market features a wide variety of baked goods, fresh flowers, meats, produce, and handmade items. Kids activities will also be available, and the downtown splash pad will be open for families to enjoy.



DPW OPEN HOUSE COMMUNITY EVENT

Learn more about the Hudsonville Department of Public Works at our community open house on May 20 from 3:00–6:00 p.m. at 5713 Balsam Drive. Join us for hands-on activities, interactive booths, and heavy equipment demonstrations designed for all ages.

Discover how our team delivers clean water, manages sewer systems, maintains roads year-round, and cares for our parks and public spaces. Meet the staff, ask questions, and get an inside look at the essential services that keep Hudsonville running every day.

Find more details on our community calendar at www.hudsonville.org/events.





PUBLIC WORKS JOB OPENING

The City is hiring an Equipment Operator! This is a full-time union position within the Department of Public Works. The Equipment Operator's primary responsibility is to install, maintain, and/or repair city sewers, water mains, streets, sidewalks, parks, buildings, and traffic signs. They operate and maintain a variety of vehicles and mechanical equipment.

For the full job description and to apply, please visit www.hudsonville.org/jobs.

SPRING ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

With the arrival of Spring, the DPW will be working through routine maintenance for water, sewer, and streets. This includes hydrant flushing, valve turning, sewer main jetting, street sweeping, pothole patching, and catch basin cleaning. When you see staff working in the road or right-of-way, please slow down and give our staff plenty of room to work safely.

Hudsonville Word Search

F O I T K L Y P E Q F R R H H Z X G P
X A V C R G I T E R C V M O C T H E Y
D K I P R A M Z U F B G Q L R B D M I
G K B R P O I X U O A V O O V U T K R
T Z F F G Q G L I W E Z F M P Y J Y V
I C F L A R Z N S N A H M W N S F S J
J B K W D W O G R C O M M U N I T Y I
F P S W E J R U I C E C R E A M X D S
E I A Q H B E T N M L G F J L F U L I
D K X R E B T M D D H E H P S C N W Z
V Q B V K L N V G D S O Z Q W B W F C
P A X U G S E H O M E R H U D S O N N
X F G L S O C M Y F C N N V Q G T G K
X A F K H R E S P L A S H P A D N B K
N W J L E M R A K R A T K W E K W V Y
O U S N S S U Z G K J F X P N W O P C
G U H A J O T H H T R J M U D O D L O
U N Z K J Z A N Z I B L H F W R Z F Q
Y K H Y H B N Z W L J E D C X O X G B

PARKS
NATURECENTER
DOWNTOWN
HOMERHUDSON
FAIRGROUNDS
ICECREAM
TRAILS
COMMUNITY
SPLASHPAD

E-BIKES, E-SCOOTERS, & GOLF CARTS



- Class 1 pedal-assist electric bikes are the only models appropriate for shared-use pathways. Class 2 and 3 e-bikes should use roads and bike lanes. All e-bikes should be labeled with their classification.
- Golf carts are prohibited on sidewalks.
- Keep your speed appropriate for the environment—slow down around pedestrians, curves, and crowded areas.
- Stay to the right and pass on the left, giving plenty of space.
- Use a bell or call out a friendly warning ("On your left!") when passing.
- Be predictable: signal turns, avoid sudden stops, and maintain a straight line.
- Stay alert—watch for dogs, children, runners, and driveway crossings.
- A helmet, lights, reflective gear, and well-maintained bike equipment improve safety.

SPRING CLEAN UP

The Department of Public Works will be offering a springtime yard waste drop off for City of Hudsonville residents on Saturday, April 25. This will be held at 5713 Balsam Drive and will be open from 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. to accept grass clippings, sticks, branches (4" diameter max), leaves, and landscape trimmings. We cannot take stumps or root balls. Any containers or trash bags used to transport the waste must be taken back by the resident to be disposed of.

OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS

In Ottawa County, sirens are tested at noon on the first Friday of each month from April–October.

Outdoor sirens are used to notify residents of many emergency situations, including severe weather, chemical release, or an incident that would require people to shelter-in-place.

If you hear sirens, you should go inside a safe structure and listen to a local radio, TV, or NOAA weather radio.

The City is home to four outdoor sirens. Not sure where your nearest siren is? Visit www.miottawa/sheriff/em/sirens for a map of Ottawa County's outdoor sirens.



PARK RENTALS

Facilities located at Hughes, Sunrise, and Hillside Parks are available to rent from May 1 to October 15. Our indoor and outdoor spaces are perfect for hosting senior open houses, birthday parties, family reunions, and other special occasions. Availability and reservations can be found on www.hudsonville.org/facility_rental.

DID YOU KNOW?

The City's Department of Public Works maintains six parks throughout the community: Sunrise Park, Hughes Park, Buttermilk Creek Park, Hillside Park, Veterans Park, and the Nature Center. Each park offers a variety of amenities that require ongoing care and maintenance to ensure these spaces remain safe, welcoming, and enjoyable for everyone.

Now available for FREE with your library card:

WALL STREET JOURNAL. WSJ

Gary Byker LIBRARY OF HUDSONVILLE

SERVICES, PROGRAMS & MORE!

Adult Programs



March is Quilt Month!

Come view beautiful homemade quilts on display all month long. Attend the **Bed Turning** (a Quilt Show & Tell) on March 28 at 10:30am.

Game Night at the Library

Tues., April 7, 6pm - Adults, teens, & tweens are welcome to come play fast-paced card & table-top games.

Wonders of Bird Migration

Thurs., April 9, 1pm - Friends of the Library welcome Curtis Dykstra of Ottawa County Parks.

Suspense in the Stacks Book Club

Tues., April 14, 7pm - Book: *Before She Was Found* by Heather Gudenkauf

Diverse Readers Book Club

Tues., April 21, 7pm - Book: *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko

Puzzles & Pie

Tues., April 28, 5:30pm; Enjoy chilling with a puzzle and some delicious pie.

Windmill Sails & Millers' Tales: The Skills of a Miller

Thurs., May 14, 1pm - Friends of the Library welcome miller, Alisa Crawford. She will share how she learned to become a Dutch certified miller & why practicing these skills preserve the past.

Nimble Fingers Creative Circle

Wednesdays at 10am. Crafters: bring projects you're working on & join us!

Programs for Kids

Move to the Music

Mondays & Thursdays in March & April at 10:30am, ages Birth-PreK

Storytime @ Maggie's BE Cafe

Wednesdays, April 8 & May 13 at 9:30am, ages Birth-PreK

Quest Crew

April 27 & May 18 at 5pm for ages 6-9

NOT Your Normal Book Club

Tuesday, April 14 at 4:30pm for ages 9-12

Maker Mondays

April 20 at 4:30pm for ages 9+

Stitch & Chill for Teens & Tweens

Friday, April 10, & May 8, 2-4pm

For our complete calendar & details, or to register for any of these programs, go to HudsonvilleLibrary.org.

Summer Reading kicks off June 8!

Reading challenges and programming for kids, teens, & adults all summer long!

Kickoff Party: June 13





Next Friends of the Library Book Sale: June 4-6

Donations accepted in the library vestibule or 24/7 in the green outdoor book drop.

HOW DOES THE CITY CLERK SERVE YOU?

The City Clerk's Office plays a central role in keeping our local government running smoothly. For residents, business owners, and even visitors, it often serves as one of the most frequent and helpful points of contact within City Hall. From public records to elections, the Clerk's team works behind the scenes every day to ensure transparency, accessibility, and efficient city operations.

Supporting City Meetings and Public Transparency

A key responsibility of the Clerk's Office is serving as the recording secretary for the City Commission and various other boards. This includes preparing meeting agendas and packets, attending meetings, and carefully documenting minutes to maintain a clear public record. The Clerk also publishes official public notices for City Commission items, ensuring the community stays informed about upcoming meetings, hearings, and other important governmental actions.

Licensing, Permits, and Registrations

The Clerk's Office also helps keep the business community moving. It processes a variety of applications, including:

- Commercial and Industrial tax abatements (PA 210 & 198)
- Liquor licenses
- Snowplow permits
- Solicitation permits
- Business registrations

While the City Clerk helps with many administrative services, marriage licenses are issued exclusively through the Ottawa County Clerk's Office.



FOIA, Notary Services, and Official Records

As the City's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Coordinator, the Clerk manages all FOIA requests, ensuring public access to records in accordance with state law. Notary services are also available Monday through Thursday for the convenience of residents.

The Clerk additionally acts as the official record keeper for the City, maintaining documents, contracts, and agreements—and signing them when needed.

Administering Local Elections

Perhaps one of the most visible roles of the City Clerk is serving as the local election administrator. This includes overseeing all elections held within the city, registering new voters, maintaining accurate voting records, and ensuring that every election is run securely, efficiently, and in compliance with state regulations.

The Clerk's Office is also actively seeking election workers, specifically for the end-of-the-night responsibilities, and community members are encouraged to apply and help support fair and accessible elections. All election inspectors are paid, including for the required certification training, and should be available to work from 6:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. or later. The Receiving Board members (end of the night) would need to be available from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. or later.

FIRE CADETS WANTED

We need you! The City of Hudsonville is seeking dedicated individuals to join our firefighting team. As a firefighter, you will be at the forefront of emergency response within Hudsonville, protecting lives, property, and the community.

- No experience is necessary (training provided)
- Must live or work in the City of Hudsonville
- Paid-On Call

Ready to serve your community? View the full job description and apply at www.hudsonville.org/jobs.



NATURE CENTER HIKES

City Naturalist, Craig Elston, leads free family-friendly walks in the Nature Center.

Participants should be prepared for weather and wear long pants and closed shoes or hiking boots.

Sunday, April 26, 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 3, 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, May 12, 6:00 p.m.

No registration is required to attend. All walks will begin from the parking area at the end of New Holland Ave., east of 32nd Ave.

DO YOU HAVE A CONCERN?

Did you know that you can report any non-urgent concerns on the city's website? Visit www.hudsonville.org then click on the "Report a Concern " button on the center of the page. If you have an urgent matter that needs immediate attention, such as a water main break, please call Central Dispatch at 1-800-249-0911.

BOARD APPLICANTS NEEDED

The City is seeking applicants for open board positions with the Zoning Board of Appeals, Terra Square Advisory Board, and the Downtown Development Authority.

The ZBA discerns and decides appeals of administrative decisions made in implementing zoning ordinances as well as requests for variances from the strict terms of a zoning ordinance. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The Terra Square Advisory Board oversees the recommendations from the Market/Event Manager for farmers market vendor rates, event contracts, and policies for use at Terra Square. Meetings are held every second Wednesday of every third month at 3:00 p.m.

The DDA develops and implements long-range plans to prevent deterioration in central business districts, promote historic preservation, encourage economic growth, and create jobs within the Authority district. Meets are held the first Wednesday of every other month at 3:30 p.m.

To join or for more information, contact the City Clerk or visit www.hudsonville.org/boards_commisions.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

Hudsonville
good people good living

City Hall:
3275 Central Blvd., Hudsonville, MI 49426
Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
(616) 669-0200

Library:
3338 Van Buren St., Hudsonville, MI 49426
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
(616) 669-1255

@city-of-hudsonville @cityofhudsonville @hudsonvillemi

CITY COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

Mayor	Mark Northrup	(616) 669-0200	mnorthrup@hudsonville.org
Commissioner - Ward 1	Toben DeVree	(616) 669-0200	tdevree@hudsonville.org
Commissioner - Ward 1	Jack Groot	(616) 669-0200	jgroot@hudsonville.org
Commissioner - Ward 2	Dan Bolhuis	(616) 669-0200	dbolhuis@hudsonville.org
Commissioner - Ward 2	David Nyitray	(616) 669-0200	dnyitray@hudsonville.org
Commissioner - Ward 3	Larry Brandsen	(616) 669-0200	lbrandsen@hudsonville.org
Commissioner - Ward 3	Jeremy Kamp	(616) 669-0200	jkamp@hudsonville.org
City Manager	R. Tyler Dotson	(616) 669-0200 x 1418	rtdotson@hudsonville.org
City Clerk	Jill Gruppen	(616) 669-0200 x 1412	jgruppen@hudsonville.org
Facilities Director	Mike Kloosterhouse	(616) 669-0200 x 1425	mkloosterhouse@hudsonville.org
Planning/Zoning Director	Dan Strikwerda	(616) 669-0200 x 1414	dstrikwe@hudsonville.org
Community Engagement Director	Lindsey Hicks	(616) 669-0200 x 1411	lhicks@hudsonville.org
Economic Development Director	Jakob Bigard	(616) 669-0200 x 1454	jbigard@hudsonville.org
Fire Chief	Steve Essenburg	(616) 669-0200 x 1429	sessenburg@hudsonville.org
Library Director	Mary Cook	(616) 669-1255	mcook@hudsonville.org
Emergency Services Director	Dave Dahl	(616) 669-0200 x 1404	ddahl@hudsonville.org
Finance Director	Andrew Smith	(616) 669-0200 x 1420	asmith@hudsonville.org
Human Resources Director	Andrea Rabineau	(616) 669-0200 x 1436	arabineau@hudsonville.org
Assessing Division Manager	Thad Pepper	(616) 994-4776	tpepper@miottawa.org