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MOUNT PROSPECT
VILLAGE

news

OCTOBER 2026

HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST!

REGISTRATION OPEN THROUGH OCTOBER 19 | [MOUNTPROSPECT.ORG/HALLOWEEN](https://mountprospect.org/halloween)

Calling all ghosts, ghouls, and decorating daredevils! For the fourth year in a row, the Village of Mount Prospect Special Events Commission is holding the Spooktacular Halloween Decorating Contest.

There's more to this contest than cobwebs and pumpkins! It's a chance to show off your creativity, spread some Halloween cheer, discover new corners of town, and have some spooky fun with your neighbors. The contest is open to all properties within Mount Prospect, whether you rent or own a home, condo, or apartment or operate a business in the Village. Displays of all sizes, levels, and types are welcome! Please note that decorations must be safe for neighbors and the community.

REGISTRATION

Registration is both free and mandatory. It is open online now through October 19. To sign up, send us a snapshot of your spooktastic decorations, along with your name, address, and contact details. You can access the registration form online at mountprospect.org/halloween. Paper copies will be available on the third floor of Village Hall.

SPOOKTACULAR TOUR MAP

Unless you specify otherwise, all registered properties will be included on our Halloween Decoration map. This map will be made available to the public prior to Halloween so your fellow community members can enjoy your spooktacular creations! The map will include an address and photos of the display.

WHAT WILL YOU CREATE?

Award Categories:

- Most Frightfully Fun
- Most Creative
- Best Decorated Door/Windows
- Best Decorated Business
- Judges' Favorite
- People's Choice | *Voting will be held on the Village Facebook page (facebook.com/mountprospectIL) from October 22 at 10 am to October 26 at 10 am.*

A panel of judges from the Special Events Commission will cast their votes on October 25, and winners will be announced on October 27. Winners will not only receive a yard sign to proudly display on Halloween night, but they will also be presented with a certificate from Mayor Paul Hoefert at a Village Board meeting and get a special shout-out on the Village's communications channels. However, the real prize is bringing the community together!

Have questions or need assistance? Reach out to Special Events Commission Staff Liaison Kylie Cerk at kcerk@mountprospect.org or call 847.818.5201.



Flip to pages 2 and 3 to read about more seasonal fun, including a magical Movie on the Green, Downtown Mount Prospect trick-or-treating, and fun Halloween events for families with the Mt. Prospect & River Trails Park Districts.

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Community Events

OCTOBER
1

Senior Connections
Thursday | October 1
9 – 10:30 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Don't miss this special edition of Senior Connections as members of our Public Works Department discuss the trees of Mount Prospect. Senior Connections is for local older adults and provides great opportunity to foster community spirit, learn something new, and engage directly with Village staff. No registration is required, but the presentation is open only to Mount Prospect residents. Light refreshments will be served.

OCTOBER
2

Fit 4 Life
Fridays | October 2, 9, 16,
23 & 30
10 – 10:45 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Fit 4 Life is a free seated exercise program series for seniors that welcomes all fitness levels. Fit 4 Life programming alternates between seated exercise with the Village Nurse, Whole Body Wellness, and Zumba Gold classes. It is a fun and socially engaging way to stay active. Class is open to Mount Prospect residents only. No registration is required.

OCTOBER
3

Trick or Treat Trail
Saturday | October 3
8:30 – 11:30 am
RECPLEX



420 W. Dempster St.
Enjoy a fun-filled trail of Halloween games and treats featuring prizes, coupons, and candy at each station. Wear your costume if you like, pick up your bag at check-in, and make your way along the trail. Visit Champions Court for a spooky experience and head outdoors for more seasonal activities. Time slots are available every half hour. Register at mppd.org or call 847.640.1000 for more information.

OCTOBER
3

Obstacle Course Race (OCR)
Saturday | October 3
9:30 am
WOODLAND TRAILS PARK
1500 E. Euclid Ave.
The River Trails Park District Youth OCR is a 1.25 mile (2K) race for adventurous



youth. There will be ten to 14 natural and manmade obstacles throughout the course challenging determination and physical prowess. The races are held completely within the park footprint so there are no street crossings. All participants will receive a t-shirt, medal, goodie bag, and bragging rights for conquering the trail. Register at the regular rate of \$25 per person through October 1. The rate will be \$30 on October 2 and 3. Register online at rtpd.org.

OCTOBER
4

Lions Club Farmers Market
Sundays through October
8 am – 1 pm



WEST METRA
COMMUTER LOT
Head downtown and experience one of the busiest Farmers Markets in the suburbs. Enjoy a wonderful array of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, and much more. For more information, visit mplions.org.

OCTOBER
4

12th Annual Pink Lemonade 5K
Sunday | October 4 | 9 am
VILLAGE GREEN
50 S. Emerson St.



Gather your friends and family, lace up your shoes, and join in to walk or run for a great cause. All ages are welcome! This annual event raises funds and awareness for Lemons of Love, a Mount Prospect based nonprofit providing care packages, programs, and ongoing support to people impacted by cancer. Register now at runsignup.com/Race/IL/MountProspect/Lemons5K.

OCTOBER
5

Senior Game Day
Monday | October 5
9:30 – 11 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM
AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.
Get ready for some friendly competition and good company. Senior Game Day offers great games, friendly faces, and good conversation. No registration required and all are welcome.



OCTOBER
6

Choosing Your Medicare Supplement Insurance Policy
Tuesday | October 6
2 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Tom Kilkenny from Weiss Financial Ratings will provide helpful guidance needed to navigate Medicare supplement options with a Medicare Supplement Insurance Buyers' Guide. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
6

Play and Learn Group
Tuesday | October 6, 13,
20 & 27
11:30 am – 12:15 pm
COMMUNITY
CONNECTIONS
CENTER
1711 W. Algonquin Rd.



Children with a caregiver are invited to join the Human Services Department for a weekly program that includes story time, music, and play-based learning.

OCTOBER
8

Mount Prospect Stories: From Farms to Data Centers
Thursday | October 8
7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Mount Prospect Historical Society Director Emily Dattilo will explore Mount Prospect's commercial history and trace how the changing needs of the community also changed the commercial landscape of the town. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
9

Free Outdoor Screening: The Extraordinary Caterpillar
Friday | October 9
6:30 pm/dusk
WOODLAND TRAILS PARK
1500 E. Euclid Ave.



Join Go Green Mount Prospect for a free outdoor viewing of Caterpillars. Meet near the gazebo, bring a blanket or lawn chair, and settle in for a family-friendly evening under the stars! *The Extraordinary Caterpillar* is a documentary exploring the fascinating world of caterpillars and their important role in our ecosystems. All are welcome to this free event. No registration needed.

OCTOBER
10

Coffee with Council
Saturday | October 10
9 – 11 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.
Join the Village Board for coffee and conversation. Community members are invited to speak with Mount Prospect officials about topics and concerns and ask questions in an informal setting.



OCTOBER
10

One Book, One Village Afternoon Tea Social
Saturday | October 10
Noon
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Socialize with your neighbors over snacks and tea while enjoying activities related to this year's featured title, *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
12

Understanding Medicare Choices
Monday | October 12
7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Financial educator Karen Chan provides an overview of Medicare options to help you understand your choices, avoid costly mistakes, and select coverage that fits your healthcare needs. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
13

Simple Home Composting by David Brooke
Tuesday | October 13
9:30 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



This program will dispel many of the common myths surrounding home composting and present options for getting started, dealing with potential problems, and tips to help you begin recycling your yard and kitchen waste. This Garden Club of Mount Prospect event will begin with a 30-minute social gathering, followed by an hour-long presentation by Brooke, and an 11 am business meeting. For more information, visit gcmp.weebly.com.

OCTOBER
14

Movies on the Green
Wednesday | October 14
No later than 6 pm
Wicked
CENTENNIAL GREEN
AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Bring a blanket and enjoy this magical motion picture under the stars.

OCTOBER
14

Bessie's Workbasket:
Kinusaiga
Wednesday | October 14
7 – 9 pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.
Test your creativity with this Japanese art form of



transforming fabric scraps into mosaic pictures without using needles or thread. Combine fabric colors and patterns to complete a 3D masterpiece. No experience necessary. Bring a pair of sharp scissors, a seam ripper, or a metal nail file if you have them. If you would like to use your own fabric, you can bring that as well. \$10 for members. \$15 for non-members. For more information, visit mtphist.org.

OCTOBER
17

Friends Book Sale
Saturday | October 17
9 am – 4:30 pm
Sunday | October 18
11 am – 4:00 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Stock up on great books at bargain prices during the Friends of the Library's used book sale. Funds raised through the sale will help the Friends support additional library programs, events, and services.

OCTOBER
18

Blacksmith Demonstration
Sunday | October 18
11 am – 3 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101 S. Maple St.
(outdoor event)



Learn about this historic trade as modern-day blacksmiths showcase their skills and strength during this unique opportunity to see history at work. Explore the John Meyn Blacksmith Shop exhibit that will be open for viewing as well. There is no charge to attend. For more information, visit mtphist.org.

OCTOBER
19

Listen to Your Heirlooms
Monday | October 19
2 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.
Uncover the stories



behind your family heirlooms with guidance from Carolyn Law, certified personal property appraiser. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
20

Coffee Talk & Construction
Tuesday | October 20
7:30 – 9 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Building and Inspection Services invites you to meet with the Department's team members to discuss any construction topics including aging in your current residence and steps to make your home more accessible. For more information, call 847.818.5289 or email building@mountprospect.org.

OCTOBER
22

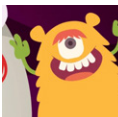
Making Sense of Menopause
Thursday | October 22
7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
Virtual
Clinical pharmacist Erin



Carson, coordinator of UIC Retzky College of Pharmacy's Women's Health course, will cover key terms and stages of menopause, common symptoms, important health considerations, and both prescription and non-prescription management options. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
23

Monster's Bash – Free Event
Friday | October 23
4 – 7 pm
WOODLAND TRAILS PARK
1500 E. Euclid Ave.
Wear your best costume to River Trails Park



District's annual Halloween event and join in the fun as they provide entertainment for the entire family. Decorate pumpkins, trick or treat through a character walk, play carnival games, jump in bounce houses, and enjoy a hayride. If the weather is poor, activities will be moved inside the Weiss Center. Learn more at rtpd.org.

OCTOBER
23

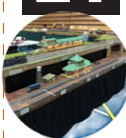
One Book, One Village After Hours Social
Friday | October 23
7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Socialize with friends and neighbors over snacks and wine while discussing this year's title *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir. This is a 21+ event and is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
24

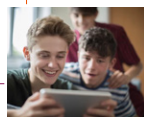
Model Train Display
Saturday | October 24
9 am – 5 pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.
As part of its celebration



of our country's 250th anniversary, the Mount Prospect Historical Society will host a model train display inside their 1896 Central Schoolhouse. The entire schoolhouse will be filled with running model trains from the Midwest Division of the Train Collectors Association Modular Group and members of the group will be on hand to answer questions and point out unique features. The Historical Society thanks Mrs. P & Me restaurant for sponsoring. This is a free event, but please register online at mtphist.org for timed entry to minimize your wait.

OCTOBER
24

Middle School Late Night Hang
Saturday | October 24
7 – 10 pm
THE ZONE
550 E. Business Center Dr.
Middle Schoolers – this one's for you. Whether



you're coming with friends or flying solo, you'll find good vibes, cool activities, and people who get you. Middle School Night includes parkour, music, turf games/sports, creative stations, video games, and space to chill, talk, and just be you! This event is for grades 6 through 8. Pre-registration is \$15 per person or \$20 at the door. Register online rtpd.org.

OCTOBER
26

How to Prepare for the Rising Cost of College
Monday | October 26 | 7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.
Thomas J. Jaworski of Quest College Consulting



will break down the cost of college and explain changes to the financial aid process. He'll discuss how to find scholarships in this program designed for both parents and students. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
28

Downtown Trick-or-Treat
Wednesday, October 28
4 – 6 pm
DOWNTOWN MOUNT
PROSPECT
Children of all ages are encouraged to dress



up in their favorite costumes and visit participating downtown businesses for treats and Halloween cheer. Look for orange signs in business windows to identify participating locations. Don't forget your treat bags! For more information, visit mpdowntown.com or facebook.com/mpdma.

OCTOBER
28

Gardening Can Be Murder
Wednesday | October 28
7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
Virtual
Author and gardener Marta



McDowell explores the many ways in which writers have found inspiration in the sinister side of gardening. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

OCTOBER
31

Trick-or-Treating Hours
Saturday | October 31
3 – 8 pm
VILLAGE OF MOUNT
PROSPECT



*Coming in
November!*

Christkindlmarket
Wednesday | November 25 | 4 – 7 pm
VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.

Tree Lighting Ceremony
Wednesday | November 25 | 5 pm
BUSSE POCKET PARK

News from the Finance Department

Finance Department Receives Fifth Triple Crown Award



The Village's Finance Department was awarded the 2024 Triple Crown by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The Triple Crown is awarded to agencies who receive the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award, and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award within the same fiscal year.

In May, the Finance Department received Outstanding Achievement on its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending in 2024, resulting in the Department's fifth consecutive Triple Crown Award. The Village is one of approximately 400 local governments in the U.S. and Canada to be awarded the 2024 Triple Crown. Congratulations to the Finance Department for this significant achievement in meeting the high standards for all three award programs.

News from the Village Clerk

Early Voting

Early voting for the 2026 Illinois Gubernatorial general election will begin October 19. Votes may be cast at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St. Voting will take place during the following times between October 19 and November 2:

- Monday through Saturday
9 am to 5 pm
- Sunday – 10 am to 4 pm

**Election Day is
November 3.**



News Around Town

Nominations Open for Shining Star Awards

We are now accepting nominations for the annual Shining Star Awards that recognize people who make a difference in our community. There are nine award categories that cover a wide range of interest areas, such as businesses, community organizations, and those working in public service.

Review the award categories and fill out the nomination form at mountprospect.org/shiningstars or scan the QR code. Paper forms will be available for download or can be picked up at Village Hall on the 3rd floor. Remember: the more details provided in your nomination, the better! The deadline to submit nominations is end of day on November 16.



Judging Process

The winners are selected by the Mount Prospect Special Events Commission and are chosen based solely on the information provided in the nomination. An ideal nomination includes specific details, multiple paragraphs, numerous strong examples, and even photos or other attachments. Judges also look at the number of nominations received per person, though this is not a deciding factor.

If your nominee was not selected, you may resubmit a nomination form the next year or any other year in the future. Winning a Shining Star Award in the past disqualifies you from winning again, with the exception of the esteemed *Living Legend Award*.

Email specialevents@mountprospect.org or call 847.818.5201 with questions on nominating.

SAVE THE DATE!

Awards will be presented at the Shining Stars Gala on February 6, 2027, at Crystal Palace Banquets. Watch for more details in the coming months.



Mosquitoes in Mount Prospect

Did you think mosquito activity was worse in September? The good news is as temperatures fall, so does their activity – but that is not our only line of defense. The Northwest Mosquito Abatement District (NWMAD) provides mosquito control and conducts tick surveillance from May to October in Mount Prospect and surrounding areas.

NWMAD's main goal is public safety. They conduct adulticide spraying (for adult mosquitoes) at night to protect the community from threats of West Nile Virus and other mosquito-borne illnesses. Larvicide treatment (for mosquito larvae) is applied in the daytime as the District's main form of mosquito control.

To learn more about NWMAD's mosquito control methods, their night spraying schedule, and tips on how to protect yourself from mosquitoes and ticks, visit their website at nwmadil.gov.

Community/Economic Development

What Do Planners Do and How Can They Help?

The Village of Mount Prospect's Planners work within the Community and Economic Development Department. Their work spans four key areas: long-range planning, current planning, economic development, and grant management.

Long-range planning includes developing and implementing the Village's recently completed Comprehensive Plan – Mount Prospect 2040 – along with area-specific plans such as Connect South Mount Prospect. Planning focuses on reviewing building permits for zoning compliance, processing zoning applications, administering the Village's business license program, and responding to questions. Planners strengthen Mount Prospect's economic base through business retention and attraction efforts, marketing strategies, and pilot programs like Prospect Avenue Alfresco Dining. In addition, the team oversees several grant programs, including the Green Building Grant; the Community Development Block Grant that allows the Village to invest funds back into the community; and the Facade Improvement and Interior Build-Out Grant to help businesses

refresh or open up a location in town. Planning staff collaborate closely with the Village's Planning and Zoning Commission and Economic Development Commission to support balanced growth and development throughout the community.

How Planners Can Assist You

Village Planners are available to provide guidance and information on topics such as:

1. Constructing improvements on your property
2. Requesting zoning relief or development entitlements
3. Opening a business in town

If you have questions, staff can be reached at comdevdept@mountprospect.org or 847.818.5328.

Local Flavor Now Open

Local Flavor Mount Prospect, a fresh grab-and-go dining concept, has opened at 105 W. Prospect Ave. This new destination offers a curated selection of premade meals, sweets, and locally or regionally sourced items, all created in partnership with area restaurants, businesses, and entrepreneurs. Designed with speed, value, and accessibility in mind, Local Flavor is an ideal stop for commuters, downtown employees, and anyone passing through. Its arrival to the downtown area adds to the growing mix of merchants along Prospect Avenue, further enhancing the area's vibrant and convenient appeal for residents and visitors.



Alfresco Season on Prospect Avenue Winding Down

As another summer comes to an end, the Village would like to thank everyone who helped make the alfresco dining season on Prospect Avenue a success. Nearly 17,000 visitors enjoyed the alfresco dining area this summer, while overall visits to Prospect Avenue increased from 233,000 in 2025 to 235,000 in 2026.

In early October, the alfresco dining area will make way for the return of six parking spaces, marking the close of another successful outdoor dining season. While the tables and chairs may be packed away for the year, there are still plenty of reasons to visit Prospect Avenue throughout every season.

The lineup of great dining and service businesses includes Games Plus, The Knee Law Firm, Edward Jones, Mosaic Yarn Studio, Vista Linda Eye Care, Synergy Fitness, Whiskey Hill, Salerno's, Berkshire Hathaway/Starck, Mia's Cantina, LTH Beauty, Splendid Day Spa, Local Flavor, Lady Dahlia, and Deba Sushi.

Whether you're stopping by for a meal, shopping, services, or an evening out, there's always something to discover on Prospect Avenue.

Ribbon Cuttings!



September 4, 2026
Skechers | Randhurst Village | 1057 N. Elmhurst Rd
skechers.com | 224.257.3796



September 10, 2026
Stretch Zone | 1 W. Rand Rd.
stretchzone.com | 224.310.2955



September 16, 2026
Deba Sushi | 133 W. Prospect Ave.
debasushibar.toast.site | 224.857.8098



Fire Prevention Week

Charging personal devices like phones and computers is the focus of this year's Fire Prevention Week, running from October 4 through 10.

From cell phones and laptops to e-bikes, scooters, and other rechargeable electronics, lithium-ion batteries have become part of everyday life. But when batteries are damaged, improperly charged, or overheated, they can pose a serious fire risk.

To bring attention to the concern, this year's Fire Prevention Week theme is "Charge Into Fire Safety: Safe Charging Is a Superpower!" Messages and activities throughout the week will encourage everyone to make safe charging habits part of their daily routine.

Safe charging doesn't require a cape, just a little awareness. Here are basic superpowers we can all embrace:

- Charge safely by following provided instructions.

- Never charge a device under a pillow, on a bed, or anywhere where it can become overheated.
- Use the charger and battery recommended by the manufacturer, and never use a battery or charger that is damaged, swollen, leaking, or unusually hot.
- Whenever possible, avoid charging devices while you are sleeping.
- Keep charging areas free of anything that could easily catch fire.

This Fire Prevention Week, the Mount Prospect Fire Department reminds residents that fire safety starts with everyday choices. Taking a few extra seconds to charge your devices safely can help protect your home, your family, and your community. So, before you charge, remember: **Plug in. Power up. Stay safe.**

Thank You, Firefighter Jim



October 9 will mark the end of the career of long-time Mount Prospect Fire Department member Jim Miller. Jim is retiring after 31 years of service to our community. He was hired in 1995 as a Fire Prevention Specialist/Inspector. Jim checked on fire systems and safety risks to ensure the occupants of commercial and residential buildings in Mount Prospect were safe. During this time, Jim also served as a Paid-on-Call Firefighter, rising to the rank of Captain, undergoing professional training to

respond to structure fires and other emergency calls, and assisting the on-duty shift.

In 2005, Jim stepped into a more community-focused role when he became the Public Education Officer. Known as "Firefighter Jim," he spent many days in the schools and at other community gatherings teaching the public about fire safety and escape plans. In this role, Jim always kept his audience engaged with specially designed age-appropriate fire safety curriculum. He interacted with countless residents at numerous community workshops, safety fairs, and Village events. He often installed smoke detectors in homes to ensure they were fire safe and all residents were protected.

In 2005, Jim also became certified as a fire investigator. An investigator responds to fire scenes to investigate a structure fire to determine the exact origin and cause. Investigating and report-writing are no easy task and include looking for burn patterns, collecting evidence, and interviewing neighbors, witnesses, and other first responders.

In 2017, Jim moved into his current role as the Emergency Management Coordinator. In this position, Jim developed the Village's Emergency Response Plan. He monitored severe weather incidents, keeping staff and the community aware of potential risks. A few of Jim's biggest accomplishments were coordinating the replacement of all the Village's weather sirens and obtaining all the requirements to certify Mount Prospect as a Storm Ready Community. In addition, Jim led the Mount Prospect Community Emergency Response Team, known commonly as CERT.

Over the years, Jim received 65 commendation letters and was the recipient of several life safety awards from the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance. The Fire Department would like to express its heartfelt gratitude for Jim's dedication and service. His tireless efforts and contributions have not gone unnoticed, and he will leave a lasting impression on this department. Wishing Jim a happy and fulfilling retirement!

Seasonal Preparedness

Being prepared for severe weather starts with three essentials: **Make a Plan**, **Build a Kit**, and **Be Informed**. Be sure to consider the needs of pets, older adults, and family members with disabilities.

Make a Plan

Decide where your household will meet if you're separated and how you'll communicate if cell service is disrupted. Keep electronic copies of important documents, including identification and insurance information, securely stored and accessible.

Build a Kit

Keep enough supplies to be self-sufficient for several days, including one gallon of water per person per day, non-perishable food, flashlights with fresh batteries, and a first-aid kit. Include medications, extra prescription glasses, hand sanitizer, and other personal necessities.

Be Informed

Sign up for National Weather Service watches and warnings, keep a trusted weather app on your phone, and download the FEMA app for emergency alerts, disaster information, and shelter locations.



Halloween Safety

With Halloween rapidly approaching, here are some tips to keep our trick-or-treaters safe this year:

- Adhere to the suggested 3 to 8 pm hours.
- Avoid dark-colored costumes as they're hard to see at night. If a dark costume is worn, have your kids carry a flashlight, glow stick, or wear a reflective belt or vest to make sure they are seen.
- Avoid wearing masks as they restrict vision; use face paint instead.
- Make sure kids trick-or-treat in groups and have an adult tag along for extra safety.
- Cross streets at the crosswalks and never walk between parked cars.

- For all the drivers out that night, make sure you go a little slower in residential areas and watch for kids who may have forgotten the last tip and run out from between parked cars.
- An adult should check all the candy that comes home before any is consumed.

Let's all work together to make it a safe and happy Halloween!

Year-End Awards

Congratulations to the Mount Prospect Police Department 2025 award recipients:

- Investigator Christopher Johansen has been selected as Officer of the Year.
- Runner-up winners are Officers Andrew Lee and William Wagner.
- Police Social Worker Karyn Nelson was selected as the George E. Whittenberg Award recipient for service above and beyond to the community.

The selection committee was comprised of fellow officers and supervisors. Congratulations to all the deserving winners, and thank you for serving this community with excellence.



Christopher Johansen
Investigator



Andrew Lee
Officer



William Wagner
Officer



Karyn Nelson
Social Worker

Fall Meetings

Beat Meetings are a terrific way to meet your neighborhood officers, learn about crime trends in the area, and hear brief presentations about a variety of police-related topics. Everyone is welcome to attend any meetings regardless of which neighborhood you live in.

Our fall schedule is as follows:

Beat 3160 | Oct 7 | 6 pm | Moretti's, 1799 S. Busse Rd.

Beat 3170 | Oct 8 | 7 pm | Weiss Community Center,
1500 E. Euclid Ave.

Beat 3162 | Oct 21 | 7 pm | John Jay School, 1835 W. Pheasant Tr.

Beat 3164 | Nov 4 | 7 pm | Lincoln Middle School, 700 W. Lincoln St.

Beat 3168 | Nov 12 | 9 am | Old Orchard Country Club,
700 W. Rand Rd.

Beat 3166 | Nov 19 | 6 pm | Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St.

To learn the beat boundaries and find out more details, visit mountprospect.org/beatmeetings.

How Automated License Plate Reader Cameras Work and Why They Are Used

There has been recent news about Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras, known by the brand name Flock, so the Police Department wants to share information on how this tool is used.

These cameras read license plates on vehicles on public roads and check them against law enforcement databases. If a plate comes back connected to a stolen vehicle, a wanted person, a missing person, or an open investigation, officers receive an alert. Investigators can also enter a partial plate or vehicle description from a victim or witness to help generate leads.

An officer or investigator must verify that the plate was read correctly and that the alert is still valid before any action is taken. This tool points us in the right direction, but it doesn't replace the work our officers do to confirm the specifics. It is important to note that no alert results in action on its own.

The cameras photograph only plates and vehicles on public roads. They do not identify anyone in the vehicle. Data that does not match any records in our system will be deleted in 30 days, though that period will soon be reduced to seven days.

Only authorized personnel can search the system, every search is logged, and we run regular audits to make sure the database is being used only for legitimate law enforcement purposes. Any lead that comes from ALPR must hold up under the same constitutional protections, including the Fourth Amendment, as any other part of an investigation.

Since the introduction of ALPRs in our community, they have helped in several cases, including locating missing persons. For example, an incident in June involved subjects who fired a gun into the air in one of our residential neighborhoods with families, children, and neighbors nearby. Officers used the ALPR system to identify the vehicle almost immediately, and within 20 minutes of the shooting, it was tracked to a neighboring jurisdiction. We alerted that department, and their officers took the suspects into custody without incident.

This instance provides a good example of how this technology helps us turn a partial plate number or witness description into a meaningful lead in minutes instead of days.

For all of us who live, shop, and raise our families in Mount Prospect, this is not a form of surveillance from afar, but another useful tool to support the work our department does every day as we patrol the community.

You can learn more about this topic on the Community Information & Fact Check Portal on the Village website under the Flock License Plate Reader (LPR) Cameras page.



Take Advantage of Fall Leaf Collection

The Village's fall loose-leaf collection program begins October 19 and will run through December 4. The program allows residents to place loose leaves at the curb once each week on designated collection days for free pick-up by the Village, weather depending. No bagging is required.

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

- Place only loose leaves at the curb; no grass clippings, twigs, branches, or other debris will be picked up. Those may be placed in collection bags for pickup in the standard yard waste collection process.
- Leaves can be piled in the street approximately one foot from the curb.
- Do not put out leaves any sooner than the day before your

scheduled collection.

- Crews pass each side of the street only once, so you must wait until the following week if you miss pickup.
- Burning leaves is prohibited in Mount Prospect.

For collection dates, additional information, and a map showing the collection schedule, visit mountprospect.org/leafcollection.

Overhead Sewer Rebate Program

The Village's Overhead Sewer Rebate Program provides financial assistance to eligible homeowners who convert an existing gravity-fed sanitary sewer system to an overhead sewer system. Eligible homeowners may receive a rebate of 50% of the actual project cost up to \$7,500.

The program is available to owners of single-family homes who are Village of Mount Prospect wastewater customers. Multi-family and commercial properties are not eligible. Homeowners who receive wastewater service from other sources are also not eligible for this program.

The rebate helps offset the cost of converting an existing gravity sanitary sewer system to an overhead sewer system but does not cover backwater valves, alternative flood-control systems, or solutions for overland stormwater flooding.

If you are considering an overhead sewer conversion, review the program requirements before beginning work to determine whether your project qualifies for a rebate.

Visit mountprospect.org/water-sewer for more information.

Dual Special Collection

Get ready to take care of two things at once and be environmentally friendly. On November 7, Public Works will hold a special collection event where Mount Prospect residents can responsibly recycle pumpkins and Styrofoam materials.

Pumpkins of all sizes will be accepted provided that stickers, decorations, candles, string, and other items have been removed. Pumpkins with acrylic paint will be accepted.

Styrofoam-type materials must be free of tape and labels. Packaging from televisions, appliances, computers, and furniture is acceptable. Foam coolers and food-service foam including egg cartons, trays, takeout containers, cups, and plates may also be dropped off.

The collection will take place from 8 to 11 am at the Public Works Facility, 1700 W. Central Rd. and is open to all Mount Prospect residents and residents of other SWANCC communities. This collection event is not open to businesses.

This event will be for pumpkins and foam packing materials only. No other items will be accepted.

For more information, call Public Works at 847.870.5640.



Only Rain Down the Drain

Do you know the difference of how rainwater and wastewater from your home are handled?

Rainwater and other run-off are not treated before being carried via storm drains to local waterways, including streams, rivers, and other bodies of water. Wastewater from your home water system follows a separate path to local water treatment facilities.

That means that everyday activities around your home can have a direct impact on water quality. Before pouring or sweeping anything into the street or storm drain, be aware of where that water goes and the impact it can have on multiple ecosystems.

As rain falls, snow melts, or hoses and sprinklers run on your property, the following materials can make their way into natural waterways:

- Oil, grease, and auto fluids
- Fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides
- Paint, solvents, and cleaning products
- Pet and animal waste
- Leaves, grass clippings, and soil
- Trash and litter
- Pool and spa chemicals
- Brake dust and other auto debris

Dumping pollutants into the storm drain system is illegal and can harm local waterways and aquatic life. Even if you don't purposely pour something into a drain, runoff from storms will pick up debris and pollutants from your driveway, sidewalk, and lawn and carry them into storm drains that lead to waterways. For example, just one pint of motor oil can create an oil slick covering approximately one acre of water.

There are many ways you can help protect our waterways:

AT HOME

- Choose environmentally friendly or non-toxic products when possible.
- Never pour household chemicals, cleaners, or other hazardous materials into a storm drain.
- Clean up spills with an absorbent material and dispose of the material properly.

HANDLING PAINTING MATERIALS

- After completing a painting project, clean water-based paint brushes and supplies in a sink connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Follow local guidelines for disposal of oil-based paints and solvents.
- Never pour paint thinner, solvents, or leftover paint into a storm drain.

FOR YOUR VEHICLE

- Keep up with maintenance schedules and monitor vehicles for any leaks.
- Clean up oil and other fluid spills with an absorbent material and dispose of it properly.
- Never pour used automotive fluids onto the ground or into a storm drain.

LAWN AND GARDEN

- Sweep up grass clippings, leaves, soil, and other yard debris from the street and around storm drains.
- Follow label directions when using fertilizers and pesticides.
- Avoid applying anything to your lawn before rain is expected.

PETS

- Promptly pick up waste and place it in the trash.

TRASH AND RECYCLING

- Keep litter and other waste out of streets and storm drains.
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle whenever possible.

POOLS AND SPAS

- Water from pools and spas may contain chemicals that can harm aquatic life, so follow applicable guidelines before draining and contact the Village with any questions.

What we do in our yards, driveways, and streets can make a big difference in the health of our waterways. Do your part to keep pollutants out of the storm drain system to help protect our local rivers and streams.

Last Call for Electronics Recycling

Our electronics recycling drop-off dates for this year will end on October 29. We will accept electronics at Public Works, 1700 W. Central Rd., from 10 am to noon every Wednesday through the 29th.

Our partner in this program, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), offers year-round drop-off opportunities every Saturday from 9 to 11 am at their Glenview Transfer Station located at 1151 N. River Rd. The only exception will be Saturdays that follow a holiday.

For more information, call 847.870.5640 or visit mountprospect.org/solidwaste.



Snowplow Drivers Needed

Looking for a little extra income this winter? If you have experience driving large trucks and have a valid-approved Class A or B commercial driver's license (CDL) with air brake endorsement, consider a role as a supplemental snowplow driver for the Village. You will need to be available during snow events.

If you are new to the program, you will need to attend an orientation class hosted by the Public Works Department. To find out more, call 847.870.5640 or email us at publicworksdept@mountprospect.org.





Opportunity for Teens

The Human Services Department is once again looking for teens (age 13 to 18) to be a part of our annual Teen Snow Shoveling program. Teens looking for work will be matched with nearby seniors or residents with disabilities who need assistance with snow shoveling. The Village will not be responsible for screening residents or teens, and the rate of pay is to be negotiated between the resident and teen. For more information, call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680.



The Pillars of Healthy Aging

On October 7, a multidisciplinary team of health and wellness experts will present a special community event for aging well. **Fuel, Move, Connect: The Pillars of Healthy Aging** will take place at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St., from 2 to 3:30 pm. With a view on a happier, healthier lifestyle, the presenters will focus on three key essentials: moving safely, eating right for sustained energy, and staying socially connected. Registration is required. Call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680 to reserve your spot.



Transit Subsidy Pilot Program

Transportation was identified as a high priority in the Village's Aging in Community Action Plan. The Village partnered with Civiltech Engineering, Inc. to conduct a comprehensive assessment of village-wide transportation options. A final report with recommendations was presented to the Village Board. The Board approved a Rideshare Subsidy Pilot Program that is scheduled to launch in 2027. This program will target low-income residents with transportation barriers. Those interested in applying will be required to meet with a Human Services Department social worker to explore existing transportation options and to assess eligibility for this program. Additional information will be coming in January of 2027.



Stronger Minds Group

The Human Services Department is launching Stronger Minds, a new group for youth in 3rd through 5th grade at the Community Connections Center, 1711 W. Algonquin Rd. The group will focus on building resilience, social and emotional skills, trust, and connection. The group will run for six weeks from 5:30 – 6:30 pm every Tuesday from October 6 to November 10. Call 847.506.4930 to register.



**community
connections
center**

1711 West Algonquin Road
Mount Prospect | IL 60056
847.506.4930

Hours

Monday-Friday 11 am – 7:30 pm
Saturdays 11 am – 3 pm
(South Branch Library only)



October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Follow the Human Services Facebook page at facebook.com/MPHumanServices for information and resources on this topic.

Stay tuned for updates on the new location – coming in 2027!

VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT

50 South Emerson Street
Mount Prospect | Illinois 60056
www.mountprospect.org

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency 911
Village Hall 847.392.6000
(includes Finance & Village Administration)
Village Clerk 847.818.5355
Television Services 847.870.5685
Community Development
Building Division 847.870.5675
Environmental Health 847.870.5668
Planning Division 847.818.5328
Fire Department (non-emergency) 847.870.5666
Human Services 847.870.5680
Police Department (non-emergency) 847.870.5656
Public Works 847.870.5640
Water Billing 847.392.6000

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR | Paul Wm. Hoefert
TRUSTEES | Vincent J. Dante, Beth DiPrima,
Terri Gens, William A. Grossi,
John J. Matuszak & Colleen E. Sacotelli
VILLAGE MANAGER | Michael J. Cassidy
VILLAGE CLERK | Karen Agoranos

Mount Prospect E-News

Sign up to receive the latest information
on community events, news and alerts at
www.mountprospect.org/notifications.

No Parking on Village Streets

2 am to 6 am

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Director of Marketing and Public Relations
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October 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Senior Connections, 9-10:30am, VH	2 Fit 4 Life, 10-10:45am, VH	3 Trick or Treat Trail, 8:30-11:30am, RecPlex Obstacle Course Race (OCR), 9:30am, Woodland Trails Park
4 Lions Club Farmers Market, 8am-1pm, West Meira Commuter Lot 12th Annual Pink Lemonade 5K, 9am, Village Green	5 Senior Game Day, 9:30-11am, VH	6 Play and Learn, 11:30am- 12:15pm, Community Connections Center Choosing Your Medicare Supplement Insurance Policy, 2pm, MPPL	7	8 Mount Prospect Stories: From Farms to Data Centers, 7pm, MPPL	9 Fit 4 Life, 10-10:45am, VH Free Outdoor Screening: <i>The Extraordinary Caterpillar</i> , 6:30pm/dusk, Woodland Trails Park	10 Coffee with Council, 9am-11am, VH One Book, One Village Afternoon Tea Social, 12pm, MPPL
11 Lions Club Farmers Market, 8am-1pm, West Meira Commuter Lot	12 <i>Village Offices Closed</i> Understanding Medicare Choices, 7pm, MPPL	13 Simple Home Composting, 9:30am, VH Play and Learn, 11:30am- 12:15pm, Community Connections Center	14 Movies on the Green, No later than 6pm, <i>Wicked</i> , Centennial Green at Village Hall Bessie's Workbasket: Kinusaiga, 7-9pm, Central School	15	16 Fit 4 Life, 10-10:45am, VH	17 Friends Book Sale, 9am-4:30pm, MPPL
18 Lions Club Farmers Market, 8am-1pm, West Meira Commuter Lot Friends Book Sale, 11am-4pm, MPPL Blacksmith Demonstration, 11am-3pm, MPHist	19 Early Voting Begins Mon-Sat 9am-5pm Sun 10am-4pm Listen to Your Heritoms, 2pm, MPPL	20 Coffee Talk & Construction, 7:30-9pm, Village Hall Play and Learn, 11:30am- 12:15pm, Community Connections Center	21	22 Making Sense of Menopause, 7pm, MPPL	23 Fit 4 Life, 10-10:45am, VH Monster's Bash, 4-7pm, Woodland Trails Park One Book, One Village After Hours Social, 7pm, MPPL	24 Model Train Display, 9am-5pm, Central School Middle School Late Night Hang, 7-10pm, The Zone
25 Lions Club Farmers Market, 8am-1pm, West Meira Commuter Lot Model Train Display, 9am-5pm, Central School	26 How to Prepare for the Rising Cost of College, 7pm, MPPL	27 Play and Learn, 11:30am- 12:15pm, Community Connections Center	28 Downtown Trick-or-Treat, 4-6pm, Downtown Mount Prospect Gardening Can Be Murder, 7pm, MPPL Virtual	29	30 Fit 4 Life, 10-10:45am, VH	31 <i>Halloween</i> Trick-or-Treating Hours 3-8pm
MPPL Mount Prospect Public Library MPHist Mount Prospect Historical Society	MPPD Mt. Prospect Park District MPPLC Mount Prospect Lions Club		RTPD River Trails Park District Chamber Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce		MPDMA Mount Prospect Downtown Merchants Assoc. VH Village Hall	



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Message from the Mayor

All the people of Mount Prospect have come from other places or have ancestors who came from other lands. Our annual Celebration of Cultures honors and celebrates our people and their diverse origins. The Celebration of Cultures provides an opportunity to understand and appreciate our fellow citizens and their traditions. And finally, the Celebration of Cultures helps us to strengthen our bond of “community unity.” The following are my opening comments from the 8th Annual Celebration of Cultures held on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at Kopp Park.

Good morning, and welcome to the 8th Annual Mount Prospect Celebration of Cultures.

I am Paul Hoefert, the Mayor of Mount Prospect, and on behalf of the Village Board and the entire Village of Mount Prospect, I’m delighted to welcome all of you here today. The Village Board and I believe events like this are essential to community life. They remind us that our differences don’t divide us; they enrich us. They give us opportunities to experience traditions, foods, music, and stories that may be different from our own.

One of the things that makes Mount Prospect such a special place is the extraordinary variety of people and cultures that make up our community.

Mount Prospect is home to almost 60,000 residents, and our diversity isn’t just a statistic — it’s our strength. We’re richer because we learn from one another, and stronger because we stand together. Today gives us a chance to celebrate those things.

As you enjoy the food, music, performances, and cultural displays, I hope you will experience something new. Learn about a tradition you didn’t grow up with. Taste something new. Start a conversation with someone whose story may be different from your own. Because that’s what makes events like this so important.

A strong community is more than people who happen to live within the same boundaries. It is people who know one another, learn from one another, and understand that our differences can bring us closer together.

I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make today possible, especially the organizations, performers, volunteers, and residents sharing their cultures with us.

So explore, taste, listen, and most importantly, connect with your neighbors.

This is Mount Prospect at its very best!

So, . . . to all of my fellow citizens of Mount Prospect, no matter where you or your family hails from, thank you for choosing to live in Mount Prospect and for bringing your individual uniqueness to our incredible Village. Each and every one of you makes Mount Prospect an extremely rich place to live, and because of that, we are truly a blessed community!

Paul Wm. Hoefert
MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT

