







Mount Prospect Celebrates Our Shining Stars

While the pandemic impacted so much of our daily lives in 2020 the one thing it couldn't do was limit the talents, generosity, leadership, and inspiration of the people who live and work in Mount Prospect. We are proud to present the recipients of our 2020 Shining Star Awards, our annual recognition for your neighbors who make being part of our community more special.

Open Arms Award | Mount Prospect Junior Women's Club
Home Town Award | Joey Carbone
There Ought to Be More Like This Award | Nick Acerenza
Invigorated Youth Award | Sam Cannizzaro
Star Spangled Banner Award | Joe Scanlon
Community Partner Award | Nicholas & Associates, INC

Best Neighbor Award | Tom and Nancy Bussan

Our honorees will be introduced in a virtual Shining Star Award Ceremony that will debut on the Village of Mount Prospect's YouTube channel, Facebook page, the Mount Prospect Digital Communication video stream and Channel 17 on Comcast and WOW. More information on how to tune in on will be provided on the Village website as the date gets closer.

While we may not be able to gather for our annual gala to celebrate these amazing individuals as we would on February 6, we are planning a special way of recognizing their contributions to Mount Prospect and we invite everyone to participate. Simply make a purchase from a Mount Prospect restaurant or food establishment and then use your receipt from that day to enter a raffle to win \$500 in Mount Prospect goodies. To enter the raffle, visit mountprospect.org. Winners will be announced on Monday, February 8th.



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With the duration of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic still unknown, we advise you to check on the status of these events as each draws closer. We look forward to being able to celebrate as a community and hope each of these can take place as planned.

FEB

2020 Holiday Housewalk: **Dollhouse Edition**



January 1 – February 15 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Mount Prospect Historical Society will replace its annual Housewalk this year with in-depth video tours of six

furnished historic dollhouses—five from its collection and one owned by a Mount Prospect resident. The video tour will be available via the Society's website mtphist.org during January for \$10, payable through PayPal. Pass the word to dollhouse lovers everywhere as this year's Housewalk can be accessed from anywhere.



Winter Reading Program

January 1 – February 28 You're invited to take part in the Mount Prospect Public Library's annual all-ages winter reading program. Visit mppl.org to sign up, keep track of your

progress and to earn prizes.



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Moments INT Prospect Historical Society

Living in Mount Prospect, IL during the Pandemic of 2020

Pandemic Memories **Project**

Who will tell Mount Prospect's story of the pandemic? The Mount Prospect Historical Society, in partnership with the Village of Mount Prospect Community Engagement Committee and the Mount

Prospect Public Library, have begun a project to collect residents' memories and stories of this time in history. Residents and others associated with Mount Prospect are encouraged to submit essays, photos, videos, poems, an oral history, or other items through the Historical Society's website mtphist. org and give short answers to periodic questions via

padlet.com/MPHS/mpthankfulness. Much is being recorded by national news sources and others; however, the MPHS wants to create a legacy for future residents explaining how Mount Prospect residents lived during this challenging time. Please consider contributing to this important archive.



Walking Tours of Mount Prospect

The Mount Prospect Historical Society introduced five downloadable neighborhood walking tours this vear for those who are increasingly walking and biking through town.

Get some exercise, learn more about Mount Prospect and wear a newly designed inspirational MPHS t-shirt to show your Mount Prospect pride. For more information, visit mtphist.org.



Get some exercise and increase your knowledge of Mount Prospect

Free, Downloadable "Historic Walking Tour" maps of five different Mount Prospect neighborhoods are now available online!







Go to www.mtphist.org.



Don't Pay the College Sticker Price

Tuesday | January 5 7 - 9 pmDuring this virtual presentation from the Mount Prospect Public Library, Joe Orsolini, President of College Aid Planners,

Inc., will provide information on how students can reduce the cost of a college education, including need-based aid, merit aid, scholarships, tax breaks, and student loans. This program will be presented via Zoom. Participants must register and provide a working email address to receive the login information. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.



in English

Thursdays | January 7 If you are learning English, practice your conversational skills virtually. Enjoy in-

your own home. For more information or



Monthly Blood Drive

Thursday | January 7 2 - 8 pm

FIRE STATION 14



their Everyday Heroes program. Through the program every donor generates a certain number of points which are then converted into a monetary award given by Vitalant to the Illinois Fire Chief's Association Scholarship Fund. For future drives, please register for an appointment at vitalant.org.



Meet Children's Author Amy Alznauer

Thursday | January 28 7 - 7:45 pm



Families with children in kindergarten and older are invited to join the Mount Prospect Public Library for a virtual visit with author

Amy Alznauer, who will lead participants through a fun game and Q&A session. Learn the story behind The Boy Who Dreamed Infinity: A Tale of the Genius Ramanujan. This program will be presented using Zoom. Participants must register and provide a working email address to receive the login information. To register, visit

mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.



Financial Forecast for 2021

Tuesday | February 2 7 - 8 pmWhat does 2021 hold for the stock market? John Daly, CFP of Daly Investment Management will discuss how the

markets fared in 2020 and the expectations for 2021. This program will be presented by the Mount Prospect Public Library via Zoom. Participants must register and provide a working email address to receive the login information. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.



Virtual Conversations in English

Thursdays | February 4 & 18 | 1 - 2 pm Thursdays | February 11 & 25 | 5 - 6 pm If you are learning English, practice your conversational skills virtually. Enjoy inter-

esting discussions while learning new conversational skills from the comfort of your own home. For more information or to register, call 847.506.4930.



Monthly Blood Drive

Thursday | February 4 2-8pm

FIRE STATION 14



2000 East Kensington Road Monthly blood drives will take place the first Thursday of every month. The Fire Department has partnered with Vitalant and their Everyday Heroes program.

Through the program every donor generates a certain number of points which are then converted into a monetary award given by Vitalant to the Illinois Fire Chief's Association Scholarship Fund. For future drives, please register for an appointment at vitalant.org.



Shining Stars | Support the Community

Saturday | February 6 MOUNT PROSPECT



Due to the pandemic the Shining Stars Gala planned for February 6, 2021 has been canceled. While we may not be able to gather for our annual gala to celebrate these amazing

individuals as we would on February 6, we are planning a special way of recognizing their contributions to Mount Prospect and we invite everyone to participate. Simply make a purchase from a Mount Prospect restaurant or food establishment and then use your receipt from that day to enter a raffle to win \$500 in Mount Prospect goodies. To enter the raffle, visit mountprospect.org. Winners will be announced on Monday, February 8th.

Virtual Conversations

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News

Things to know from the Building and Inspection Department

A Healthy Home is a Happy Home

Just like we are each impacted by the many fluctuations in temperature, moisture, and snowfall during the winter, your home is exposed to those same elements and variations.

Protecting your home during a Midwestern winter can go a long way to keeping it, and you, healthy.



- If your home is equipped with exhaust fans that vent through the ceiling, be sure that they are routed out of the home and not just into your attic. Keeping moisture out of the attic reduces the chance of ice dams forming in your gutters and damaging your roof and home.
- Once properly connected, run your bathroom fans during, and up to 15 minutes after, a shower
 to draw moisture out of the house. Do the same with your exhaust fan in the kitchen while
 cooking.
- A humidity gauge, or hygrometer, measures the humidity level in your home. During winter
 months the recommended level of humidity in your home is between 30 and 40 percent. If the
 humidity rises above that level you may have moisture issues in the house.
- After heavy snows, and especially after several days of freezing, check your roof for ice dams. Ice dams typically occur when a significant snowfall is followed by several days of freezing temperatures. Warm and dry air leaking from inside a home into the attic space or roof overhangs cause the ice dam to form as the warm air melts the snow on the roof. The melted snow drains along the roof and freezes when it crosses the cold overhang. Dams can damage a roof surface or cause water leaks into the home.
- If you are concerned about the amount of accumulated snow on your roof, do not try to remove it yourself. Contact a licensed roofer to remove the snow and check for any needed repairs.

For more information, contact us at building@mountprospect.org or call 847.818.5289.

News from the Village Clerk

Local Elections April 6

Everyone is encouraged to once again exercise your right to vote and have your voice be heard in the 2021 municipal elections taking place April 6. Mount Prospect will be electing a new mayor and three Board of Trustee members. Each position is for a 4-year term. There will be an early voting period from March 22 through April 5. If you are not registered to vote contact cookcountyclerk.com or call the Village Clerk's office at 847.818.5333. You may also inquire via email at kagoranos@mountprospect.org. To stay current on updates regarding local elections visit mountprospect.org.

Village Board Action on Recreational Cannabis

Following an August 11 vote by the Village Board authorizing a non-binding referendum to gauge the interest of Mount Prospect residents regarding the sale of recreational cannabis in the Village, voters had their say during the November 3 General Election.

Just over 64% of votes cast were in favor of allowing the sale to take place within the Village. Subsequently, on December 1, the Village Board passed an opt-in ordinance allowing sales to take place within guidelines established in the ordinance. Among the critical zoning regulations established in the ordinance are:

- Cannabis Dispensing Organizations (adult-use recreational dispensaries) would require a conditional use permit in the B3 and I-1 zoning districts. Conditional uses require Village Board approval.
- All others (growers/cultivators, infusers, processors or transporters) would require a conditional permit use in the I-1 zoning district.
- Village Code would further restrict location, prohibiting any facility from operating within 100 feet of any pre-existing public, private or parochial school, primary, or secondary school, churches, synagogues, mosques, or other houses of worship, or hospital. This restriction mirrors the liquor code. The code also ensures that cannabis business establishments are located a minimum of 1,500 feet from each other.

Based on the projections derived from sales in other communities, it is estimated that a single recreational cannabis dispensary will annually generate over \$920,000 in tax revenue to the Village.



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Public Works

Christmas Tree Collection

We invite residents to participate in the Village's Christmas tree composting program. Simply place your whole tree (do not cut or trim them) at the curb on your regularly-scheduled refuse collection day between January 4 and 15. There is no charge for the pick-up. Trees must be free of all decorations including lights, tinsel, ornaments, bulbs, and strings or wire. Trees placed at the curb prior to the 4th and after the 15th will be picked up but will not be composted. Live

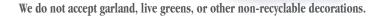


wreathes should be placed in your green refuse cart as the metal rung prevents them from being composted. Artificial wreathes can also be placed in the green cart as they are not recyclable.

Holiday Light and Extension Cord Recycling

Before you pack away the holiday decorations, set aside all string lights and extension cords which no longer work, or which you no longer need, and recycle them.

Residents can drop off unwanted holiday string lights and extension cords at the Public Works Department, 1700 West Central Road on weekdays between 7:30 am and 5 pm. The program is available year-round. Call 847.870.5640 for more information.



What's the Forecast?

Unless you are new to the Midwest you should know what winter weather brings to Mt. Prospect — unpredictability. While our annual average snowfall is 36", Chicago-area extremes for a season have ranged from just 9.8" to 89.7". Snow incidents of 2" or less are common, and while we don't experience lake-effect snow as communities closer to Lake Michigan do, snowfalls of 10" or more over a few days happen every few years.

Our average high and low temperatures for January are 31° and 16.5° , and the number of days with sub-zero temperatures for a season can be any-



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where from zero to twenty. Since 2014, data from NOAA's National Climatic Data Center lists Chicago as the 6th coldest city in the U.S.

When the cold and snow start to get to you, keep in mind that in 2012 we had 8 days in March with temperatures in the 80's! Let's all think spring.

Winter Tree Care

While most trees are dormant in winter, the season does provide a good opportunity to prepare for healthy growth in the spring. Begin by finishing up any fall clean-up that did not get done before the holidays arrived. Removing leaves from around trees will reduce any inoculum which could infect the tree in the future. This will also improve the aesthetics of the tree in the summer as well.

A good pruning can help keep trees healthy. Removing broken, dead, diseased, or damaged branches will benefit the overall growth of the tree. Be careful not to remove healthy limbs and limit any removal to under 25% of the crown. There are many reliable professional tree services in the area who can assist if needed.

A 2"- 4" layer of mulch around the base of a tree will help control the temperature and reduce water loss. Be careful not to pile the mulch up against the tree itself, as that can have an adverse effect.

Feel free to continue watering your trees up until the time that the ground freezes. Adequate watering will keep trees healthy in advance of spring rainfall.



MOUNT PROSPECT VILLAGE **NEWS I** JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

Damaged Mailboxes

If your street-side mailbox is damaged by Village snow and ice removal operations you may be eligible for repair or replacement. Eligibility may come from being struck by a Village snowplow, snow removal equipment, or other impact from our snow removal operations. Simply notify the Village of suspected damage and we will evaluate and verify eligibility. Once confirmed, the Village will provide a temporary, barricade-mounted mailbox until weather allows for permanent repair or replacement.

If repair is not possible, the Village will provide a replacement mailbox with a wood post and anchor stake, along with a standard black or white steel mailbox that aligns with Village code. If you prefer a different style mailbox, installation will be your responsibility.

In the case that a resident prefers to replace their own mailbox, they may be eligible for up to a \$125 reimbursement. Reimbursement is dependent on meeting specifications of the Village code.

For more information contact the Public Works department at publicworksdept@mountprospect.org or 847.870.5640.





FROM MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Holiday Solid Waste Collection Schedule

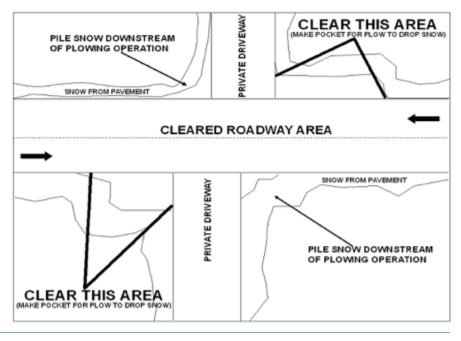
There will be no waste collection services on the following days in 2021.

NEW YEAR'S DAY MEMORIAL DAY INDEPENDENCE DAY (OBSERVED JULY 5 IN 2021) LABOR DAY THANKSGIVING DAY

If a holiday falls on a weekday and your regularly scheduled pickup is on that day or after, your pickup will be delayed by one day. Friday pickups will be done on Saturday.

Help Us Keep Streets Clear of Snow

Each year at this time we call on our residents and business owners to assist in keeping our streets safe with a reminder that shoveling, plowing, or blowing snow into public streets can create hazardous conditions. When clearing your driveway and sidewalks, all snow should be directed into your yard or the parkway. When clearing your driveway opening, shovel all snow to the side, in the direction of traffic, and clear a pocket of snow on the opposite side of your driveway. This will allow snow that accumulates from Village plowing services to fill in the pocket rather than block your driveway.



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Fire Department

Keep Fire Hydrants Clear

While keeping your driveway and sidewalks clear can be a big job in our winter weather, it is equally important that you remove snow from around fire hydrants that are located on your property. During an emergency it is critical that fire department vehicles set up and have unobstructed access to hydrants. Every minute counts during a fire, so having the ability to immediately connect to a hydrant is critical to protecting property and potentially saving lives.

Ideally, there should be a 3' diameter cleared around hydrants including an open path to the street. When you are busy with the driveway, clearing space around the hydrant can be a fun project for the kids.

Keeping hydrants accessible is a year-round concern so please always eliminate obstructions like parked vehicles, overgrown landscaping, construction work or materials, and other items that could slow the response by firefighters.



Keep Warm but Keep Safe

If you are using a space heater in your home, please follow all safety precautions to keep you, your family, and your guests safe.

- Use only electric heaters.
- Never use extension cords or power strips for your space heater.
- Do not run the power cord under rugs or carpeting.
- Before using a space heater, inspect it for damage. Check the frame, the cord and plug for any visible damage. Be sure you understand and follow all operating instructions.
- Make sure that the heater plug fits into the wall outlet. If it does not, do not use that outlet for powering the heater.
- Never leave a space heater on in an unattended room.
- Do not run a heater while you are sleeping.
- Maintain a space around any portable heater of at least 3' on all sides, including front and back. This includes separation from beds, sofas, curtains, paper, and clothes.
- When in use, periodically check the heater for proper operation. If the faceplate is hot, unplug the unit and discontinue use.
- Only place space heaters on stable, level surfaces. Avoid placing one where it could be knocked over.



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Emergency Kits for Vehicles

With cold, snow, ice and wind all likely throughout the next few months, we encourage you to be prepared by keeping a personal emergency kit in your vehicle and take precautions before traveling.

A good emergency kit will include:

- Jumper cables
- Reflective warning triangle or HELP sign
- Ice scraper
- Phone charger
- Blanket

- Map
- Cat litter or sand to provide tire traction
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Wrench or pliers

Before leaving home, check the weather forecast and road conditions. Keep your gas tank more than half-full and monitor tire pressure. Periodically check your anti-freeze levels, exhaust system, all lights and flashers, windshield wiper blades, and wiper fluid levels.



Police Department

Tips for Safe Winter Driving

In order to keep you and other drivers safe on Village streets this winter, we ask that everyone adhere to these winter driving safety tips:

- Keep at least half a tank of fuel in your vehicle at all times.
- Before driving remove all snow and ice from all windows on your vehicle.
- Allow for more travel time when driving in the winter.
- During a snowstorm you can reduce glare and reflection by avoiding the use of high-beam headlights.
- If snow and ice are present, allow for more space between you and the car
 in front of you.
- When stopping in snowy or icy conditions, don't slam on your brakes. If you feel like you're getting into trouble, gradually let off the accelerator.
- Be cautious on bridges as they will freeze more quickly than surface streets.
- Should a minor accident occur, relocate off the roadway before exiting your vehicle.
- Keep a safe distance when behind Village snow-removal trucks; do not pass trucks when they are plowing or salting streets.
- Buckle up, turn headlights on when your wipers are on, and be extra-attentive to all driving laws.



Most of the thefts from vehicles in Mount Prospect occur because something of value has been left in the car and the doors have been left unlocked. Criminals don't take the winter months off and the theft of items from an unattended car is one of the most difficult to solve as there is generally very little physical evidence left behind.

If your car is left outdoors during the winter months, help prevent theft by following these steps:

- Keep windows closed and doors locked.
- Remove loose items from your car. Anything visible is an easy invitation to a thief.
- Anything that must be left in the car should be placed out of sight, under seats, or in the trunk.
- If you see any suspicious behavior around parked cars in a driveway, on the street, or in a parking lot, call 9-1-1. Calls can be made anonymously.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- If you park a car in your driveway, keep porch, garage or other lights on.
- Don't leave your car running or even just unlocked when *running in* somewhere for a minute. That brief time may be all a thief needs.

Crime-Free Housing Seminar

Our next Crime Free Housing Seminar will take place on Saturday, February 27 from 8 am to noon. Registration is required and can be completed at mountprospect.org/departments/police-department/crime-free-housing or by calling 847.818.5251.

Don't Leave Your Car Running

During the winter months many residents start their vehicles and let the engines run while sitting in the driveways or parking lots unattended. Last year several cars were stolen or taken for a joyride. This behavior is not only dangerous but also illegal regardless if the car is locked or not. You can also be held responsible in civil court for damages or injuries if your car is taken and involved in an accident. The bottom line is, never leave your car running unattended.

Tips for Buying a Car Seat

Ready to welcome a child or grandchild into the family? Congratulations! As you prepare to have them in your vehicle, the best way to keep them safe is to buy and properly install a quality seat.

- Safety begins with the right fit make sure the seat fits your child, fits your car, and fits your budget.
- Before you buy, read the labels on the car seat or booster seat. Look for
 the weight, height, and age limits to make sure the car seat is right for
 your child. If you are buying online, you can find this information in the
 product description. Look for a section called *specification* or *specs*.
- It is not recommended to buy a used car seat from garage sales, flea markets, second-hand stores, or online when you don't know the previous owner or the complete history of the car seat. Avoid borrowing one from someone you don't know. A used car seat is unsafe if it has been in a crash or if it is missing parts, labels, or instructions. A car seat is also unsafe if the manufacturer has issued a safety recall and the seat has not been fixed. There's just no way to be sure that a used car seat is safe.
- Complete and mail in the registration card that comes with your car seat
 or booster seat, or register the seat online. If you register your car seat,
 the car seat manufacturer can notify you if there is a safety recall. The
 information you provide on the registration card cannot be used for
 marketing or any other purpose except to notify you about a recall.
- Some car seats have additional features so we recommend that you purchase a car seat that already comes with the extra features you want. If you add extra features such as padding for the harness straps (called

aftermarket products)
later, they can make your
child less safe and may not
be approved to be used by
the car seat
manufacturer.







Human Services

Thank You for Caring and Sharing

Thank you to all who made donations throughout the year to our Village Food Pantry. Your generosity allows us to meet the monthly demand for food among local families in need, as well as supporting our Holiday Meal Basket program. Information regarding donations during COVID can be found on the Human Services Department webpage.

Benefits Program for Seniors

Be sure to make an appointment with the Human Services Department to take advantage of certain benefits for senior citizens provided by Cook County and the State of Illinois.

- Those 65 and older can apply for the Real Estate Senior Exemption and Tax Freeze. If you are applying for the Tax Freeze bring information about your 2020 income.
- The State of Illinois offers multiple forms of assistance to seniors including the Benefits Access Program License Plate discount, Seniors Ride Free, and Persons with Disabilities Ride Free benefits. Certificates are good for two years. If you are applying for the first time, please do so 90 days prior to the expiration date on your license plate sticker.

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Keeping Seniors Connected

The Human Service Department publishes a monthly newsletter for seniors that provide information on events, activities, and social opportunities in the Village. Copies are available at Village Hall in the Farley Room on the 1st floor, the Human Services Department on the 2nd floor or on line at mountprospect.org/departments/human-services/senior-sentinel-newsletter.

Community Connections Center

January is National Blood Donor Awareness Month and February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Please follow the Community Connections Facebook Page for information and resources about each topic.

Strong Like a Girl

Strong Like a Girl is a 6-session virtual group for teen girls in grades 6 through 8 that empowers and helps build resiliency. Sessions begin February 1 and space is limited. If you would like to register your teen for the group, please contact Esther Martinez at 847.506.4930.



1711 West Algonquin Road Mount Prospect | IL 60056 847.506.4930

Hours

Monday-Friday 11am - 7:30pm
Friday prior to the 2nd Saturday of each month 11am-3pm
2nd Saturday of each month 11am-3pm



VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT 50 South Emerson Street Mount Prospect I Illinois 60056 WWW.mountprospect.org VILLAGE HALL HOURS Monday - Friday I 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS Emergency VILLAGE HALL HOURS Monday - Friday I 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS Emergency VIIIage Hall VIIIage Clerk VIIIage Clerk VIIIage Clerk Suliding Division Services Building Division Services Serv
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