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MOUNT PROSPECT VILLAGE news

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

CELEBRATE MOUNT PROSPECT'S SHINING STARS *31st Annual Shining Stars Gala*

Each year, the Village of Mount Prospect's Special Events Commission honors individuals, businesses, and organizations that help make our community a great place to live, work, and visit. Through the annual Shining Star Awards, these individuals are recognized for going to the moon and back to make our community brighter.

The awards will be presented at the 31st Annual Shining Stars Gala on Saturday, February 3, 2024, from 6:00 pm to midnight at Olive Palace Banquets, 828 E. Rand Road in Mount Prospect. Award winners will be honored with special video tributes.

Please join us in congratulating Mount Prospect's 2023 Shining Stars:

- BEST NEIGHBOR AWARD | John Ward
- COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD | Claudia Boyle, Van Driel's Medical Support Wear
- INCLUSIVITY AWARD
Bob and Donna Alexander
- OPEN ARMS AWARD
Prospect Moose Lodge 660
- PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD | Officer Greg Sill
- STAR SPANGLED BANNER AWARD
Jim Parker
- UNSUNG HERO AWARD | Jill Johnson,
Mount Prospect Junior
Women's Club President

As a holiday surprise, the Special Events Commission is offering \$60 Early Bird tickets (\$10 off the regular

Shining Stars Gala

A Mount Prospect Celebration

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 3
OLIVE PALACE BANQUETS

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED
AT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE OR
BY SCANNING THE QR CODE



price) through January 3. The ticket price includes an open bar, dinner and a late-night snack, dessert, live music from Out of Control, dancing & entertainment. The cherry on top is getting to meet and celebrate the Shining Star Award winners who make Mount Prospect special. Gala tickets can be purchased at mountprospect.org/shiningstars or by scanning the QR code.

The Shining Stars Gala honors individuals and organizations that have a positive impact on Mount Prospect. The winners are selected by the Mount Prospect Special Events Commission from nominations submitted in the fall by members of the community. The categories cover a wide range of interest areas and are designed especially to seek out individuals who do things that often go unnoticed.

Whether or not you know one of the winners, the Special Events Commission invites everyone in the Mount Prospect community to enjoy a night out with their neighbors!

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Community Events

JANUARY
1

Free Outdoor Ice Rink
January & February
MOUNT PROSPECT
GOLF CLUB
600 See-Gwon Ave.

Ice rink will be open in January and February on days with freezing temperatures. Check mppd.org for updates and keep an eye out for a pop-up hot cocoa afternoon. The ice rink is sponsored by the Mount Prospect Parks Foundation.



JANUARY
4

Senior Connections Program
Thursday | January 4
9 – 11 am

FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM
AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.

Seniors are invited to join us for the opportunity to learn something new and meet their neighbors and Village staff. Do not miss the chance to make some new friends and get to know your community. Light snacks and beverages will be served.



JANUARY
4

Monthly Blood Drive
Thursday | January 4
2 – 8 pm
FIRE STATION 13
111 E. Rand Rd.

The Fire Department, partnered with Vitalant, hosts bi-monthly blood

drives from 2-7 pm. New for 2024, blood drives will be held at the Fire Department Headquarters (Station 13) located at 111 E. Rand Road. In order to increase donations, blood drives are being held on odd-numbered months only.



JANUARY
5

Fit 4 Life
Fridays | January 5 &
February 2 | 10 – 10:45 am
Thursdays | January 11 & 25
and February 8, 15 & 22 |
11 – 11:45 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. 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 MP residents only. No registration is required.



JANUARY
9

Growing Your First Orchid Successfully
by Don White

Tuesday | January 9 | 9:30 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY
ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Join the Mount Prospect Garden Club to learn best practices for taking care of orchids – lighting conditions, watering, and repotting. Longtime, award winning, orchid grower Don White will teach attendees how to be successful orchid growers and will have orchids for sale. Event will begin with a 30-minute social gathering, followed by a one hour business meeting with the presentation at 11 am. Guests are welcome.

JANUARY
9

Play and Learn Group

Tuesdays | January 9, 16,
23 & 30
Tuesdays | February 6, 13,
20 & 27
11:30 am – 12:15 pm
COMMUNITY



CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 W. Algonquin Rd.

Children aged 2 through 5 and their parents or caretakers are invited to join the Human Services Department for bilingual English/Spanish story time, music, and play-based learning. To reserve your spot, please call 847.506.4930.

JANUARY
10

Bessie's Workbasket
Wednesday | January 10
7 – 9 pm

CENTRAL SCHOOL AT
MOUNT PROSPECT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
103 S. Maple St.



Join the Mount Prospect Historical Society for its monthly Bessie's Workbasket class (formerly Needlecraft Night) and make Granny Squares. Who was the first grandmother to make a granny square? This class will look at several women from the late 19th century who are often credited with designing beautiful afghans made from crocheted blocks. Learn the basic stitches and how to read a pattern and chart. All levels of experience are welcome. Admission is \$10. Register at mtphist.org.

JANUARY
11

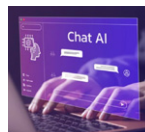
Speculating our AI Future

Thursday | January 11 | 7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Virtual library event

Join the Mount Prospect Public Library for a virtual panel discussion featuring

three best-selling science fiction writers, Cory Doctorow, Ken Liu, and Martha Wells. They will discuss the promise, perils, and possible impacts that AI will have on our future. To register, visit mopl.org or call 847.253.5675.



JANUARY
14

Second Sunday at the Society

Sunday | January 14
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL AT
MOUNT PROSPECT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1101 & 103 S. Maple St.



Stop by the Dietrich Friedrichs House and meet the Friedrichs, the first owners of the home. Costumed interpreters will guide you through the house and tell you what it was like in the early 1900s. Central School will also be open for fun seasonal make-and-takes and visits. This free event is for guests of all ages and no registration is necessary.

JANUARY
18

Conversations in English

Thursdays | January 18,
February 1 & 15 | 1 – 2 pm
Thursdays | January 11 and
25, February 8 and 22
5:30 – 6:30 pm



COMMUNITY
CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 W. Algonquin Rd.

If you are learning English, join the Human Services Department for classes where you can practice your conversational skills, learn new skills, and enjoy interesting discussions. For more information or to register, call 847.506.4930.

JANUARY
2021

Friends Book Sale

Saturday | January 20
9 am – 4:30 pm
Sunday | January 21
11 am – 4 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.

JANUARY
22

The Cutting-Edge Tech Series: Combating Blindness – The Future of Neural Prosthetics

Monday | January 22 | 6 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Virtual library event



Join Dr. Philip R. Troyk on his quest to minimize and eventually eradicate blindness in humans. Dr. Troyk is the executive director of the Pritzker Institute of Biomedical Science and Engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology and a professor of biomedical engineering. To register, visit mopl.org or call 847.253.5675.

JANUARY
22

Evening Creations at Mount Prospect Historical Society

Monday | January 22
6:30 pm
DOLORES HAUGH
EDUCATION CENTER
101 S. Maple St.



Use old costume jewelry or buttons to create a 5"x7" picture frame. Add your own picture and bring history to life. Basic black picture frames, some jewelry and buttons, and other supplies will be provided. If you have jewelry, buttons, or a picture frame of your own that you would like to use, feel free to bring them to class. Space is limited and admission is \$10 per person. Register at mtphist.org.

JANUARY
24

Dynamic Year Breakfast

Wednesday | January 24
7:30 am



OLD ORCHARD
COUNTRY CLUB
700 W. Rand Rd.

Join fellow business and community leaders to kick off a dynamic year at the Mount Prospect Chamber breakfast. Mayor Hoefert will deliver the State of the Village address at this annual gathering of the Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce. This event is open to the public. Tickets are \$25 per person and includes breakfast. Visit mountprospectchamber.org to register.

JANUARY
24

Preschool and Childcare Information Night

Wednesday | January 24
6:30 – 8 pm



MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

Find the right preschool or childcare center for your family. This annual open house is your chance to speak with

teachers and directors of the more than 20 preschools and childcare centers located in Mount Prospect. No registration is necessary.

JANUARY
25

Best Adult Fiction of 2023

Thursday | January 25 | 7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Join book-loving adult fiction department staff as they share their favorite books published in 2023. Hear about the biggest new books to add to your list. Light refreshments provided. No registration is necessary.

JANUARY
28

Comedy Cabaret featuring Vito Zatto

Sunday | January 28
5 – 7:30 pm
FRIENDSHIP PARK CONSERVATORY
395 W. Algonquin Rd
Des Plaines



Back by popular demand, Vito delivers a high energy, quick-witted and spontaneous Vegas style show. Enjoy dinner by Giuseppe's, a cash bar, and mystery wine grab with all proceeds supporting the Mount Prospect Parks Foundation Annual Scholarship Program. Purchase tickets by phone at 847.640.1000 or in person at the Conservatory, RecPlex (420 W. Dempster St.) or Central Community Center (1000 W. Central). Tickets are \$30 per person in advance and \$35 at the door.

JANUARY
29

Financial Forecast 2024

Monday | January 29 | 7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



High inflation, rising interest rates, slow economic growth. In this special presentation, John Daly, CFP of Daly Investment Management will analyze the events that took place in the market during 2023 and consider what it could mean for 2024. To register, visit mopl.org or call 847.253.5675.

FEBRUARY
2

Family Valentine's Dance

Friday | February 2
6 – 8 pm
ROB ROY GOLF COURSE
505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.
Bring your sweethearts to the River Trails Park District Family Valentine's dance. Event is open to all ages. Dance, enjoy family fun activities

and make a Valentine's craft to take home. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Ages two and under are free, ages 2-15 are \$16, ages 16+ are \$26 per person. Register online at rtpd.org by January 26.

FEBRUARY
3

Shining Stars Gala

Saturday | February 3 | 6 pm
OLIVE PALACE BANQUETS
828 E. Rand Rd.



It's that time of year when the Mount Prospect Special Events Commission celebrates individuals and organizations that help make our community a great place in which to live and work. You can find all the details on the cover of this newsletter.

FEBRUARY
7

Small Business Panel Discussion

Wednesday | February 7
6 – 7:30 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



The Mount Prospect Entrepreneurs Initiative will host a Small Business Panel Discussion where experts will discuss financial business planning, employee recruitment and retention, and marketing. Village staff will also be there to discuss local resources available for small businesses and entrepreneurs who are ready to move into a brick-and-mortar location. The event is free to attend. Register at mopl.org.

FEBRUARY
8

Downtown Merchants Association Progressive Dinner

Thursday | February 8
6:30 pm
DOWNTOWN MOUNT PROSPECT



Join the Mount Prospect Downtown Merchants Association for a fine dining progressive dinner. Each restaurant will feature a signature entree, drink, and dessert, and there will be a trolley ride between stops. Check-in is at 6 pm and the dinner tour begins at 6:30 pm. Space is limited. Visit mpdowntown.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

FEBRUARY
11

Second Sunday at the Society

Sunday | February 11
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL AT MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101 & 103 S. Maple St.



This month's theme is Valentines. Join the Mount Prospect Historical Society to make

a Valentine for someone special, indulge your craftiness with a make-and-take, and learn the history of this beloved holiday. The Dietrich Friedrichs House will also be open for tours. This free event is open to guests of all ages and no registration is necessary.

FEBRUARY
13

Literary Gardens by Cindy Crosby

Tuesday | February 13
9:30 am
FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Join Cindy Crosby for a fun look at gardens in literature and poetry. From

Agatha Christie's mystery series to Brother Cadfael's medieval herb garden, or Michael Pollan's garden in *Second Nature*, to the *The Secret Garden*. Cindy is a master gardener, speaker, and natural history writer. She is the author, compiler, or contributor to more than 20 books. This event will begin with a 30-minute social gathering, followed by a one hour Mount Prospect Garden Club business meeting with the presentation at 11 am. Guests are always welcome.

FEBRUARY
14

Bessie's Workbasket

Wednesday | February 14
7 – 9 pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL AT MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
103 S. Maple St.



This month, attendees will knit like a Viking. Trichinopoly, or Viking knitting, results in a filigree cord made of metal. Early examples of this ancient technique were found in 8th century Scandinavian burial sites, and the design is still fashionable today. Learn how to make a bracelet using simple tools and wire. Admission is \$10. Register at mthpist.org.

FEBRUARY
17

Afternoon Tea – Barbie: The History of America's Most Famous Doll

Saturday | February 17 | 1 pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL AT MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
103 S. Maple St.



For more than 60 years, Barbie has been played with, analyzed, collected, criticized, and loved. In this illustrated lecture, historian Leslie Goddard delves into the history of Barbie and her inventor, the passionately creative – and intensely competitive – Ruth Handler. Learn what inspired Handler to develop Barbie in 1959, how Barbie helped make Mattel

one of the world's most successful toy companies, and what Barbie's impact has been on American culture. Space is limited and admission is \$25. Register at mthpist.org.

FEBRUARY
19

Pre-Civil War Quilts: Secret Codes to Freedom on the Underground Railroad

Monday | February 19 | 7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Connie Martin, a sixth-generation descendant of captured slaves, tells the history of the Underground Railroad and shares fascinating family stories of quilt codes and their meanings. To register, visit mopl.org or call 847.253.5675.

FEBRUARY
24

FanFest

Saturday | February 24
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Geek out at the Mount Prospect Public Library with a day dedicated to your favorite fandoms. This family-friendly event will include games, activities, crafts, a cosplay runway, virtual reality, a scavenger hunt, trivia, and more. For more information, visit mopl.org or call 847.253.5675.

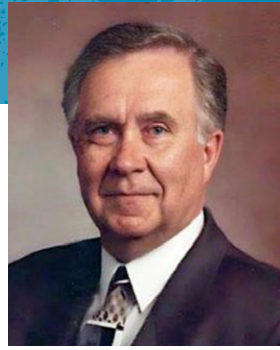
FEBRUARY
27

The Palace Papers: Inside the House of Windsor

Tuesday | February 27 | 7 pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Americans are fascinated by the doings of England's Royal family, and Tina Brown tries to satisfy our curiosity in her new tell-all book. Join Jenny Riddle as she portrays the nemesis of Princess Di – Camilla Parker Bowles. You'll hear plenty of Buckingham Palace insights and some downright gossip about the Royal family.



In Memoriam

Gerald *Skip* Farley, the 10th Mayor of the Village of Mount Prospect, passed away on November 13, 2023 at the age of 92. He is survived by his spouse of 72 years, Janice Farley, who still lives in Mount Prospect, and his children Susan and David as well as many extended family members.

A resident of Mount Prospect since 1973, Gerald *Skip* Farley served the Village first, as appointed member of the Planning Commission, then as an elected Trustee, and finally as our 10th Mayor. He is the longest serving Mayor of Mount Prospect, serving 16 years from 1989 to 2005. *Skip* Farley did all that he did for our Village purely out of *love of community* with no other goal other than to make Mount Prospect a better place to live for all of our citizens.

During Mayor Farley's time, our Village made remarkable progress. He played a significant role in O'Hare Airport Noise Reduction, our local Solid Waste Management Program, and our 20-year Street Resurfacing Program. He also began the Celestial Celebration Shining Stars Awards, and created our Special Events Commission and our Sister City's Commission.

He will definitely be remembered for three major accomplishments. The first was *Downtown Redevelopment* which created significant new property value for our Village. Second was the *Village-wide Neighborhood Flood Remediation Program* which was established to keep water out of people's homes. And, finally, Mayor Farley championed and advocated tirelessly to making *Levee 37* along River Road a reality which today keeps hundreds and hundreds of homes from flooding whenever the Des Plaines River crests its banks.

Mayor Farley was truly a *person of the people*, dedicating a significant part of his time on this earth to make Mount Prospect a better place for all. With his passing, our Village has lost an incredible former leader. Mayor Farley, on behalf of a grateful community, thank you for all that you did for Mount Prospect in your time. May you rest in peace.

Celebrating 20 Years of CERT Contributions

In September of 2004, the Mount Prospect Community Emergency Response Team, (CERT) was developed and thus began the start of their 20-years of service to the community. Under the direction of then President George W. Bush, the USA Freedom Corps initiative was started and began the call to help each other in times of disaster. Over the past 20 years, CERT has developed into a support organization that has been always available to help the community in times of crisis and when help is needed most.



Mount Prospect's 30-person team donates roughly 2,600 hours a year helping the community in both planned and unplanned events. Planned events include community festivals, open houses, the 4th of July Parade, 5K runs, and bike rides. Unplanned events include, fires, storms, down power lines, large traffic situations, missing persons scenarios, or any other instances as requested by the police or fire department. These volunteers work under the direction of the Mount Prospect Emergency Management Division.

According to Emergency Management Coordinator Jim Miller, "I couldn't do my job to keep our community safe without the help of the CERT members. They are a family and very dedicated to help at any time of the day and night. The team works hard, and they work well together, all from the goodness of their hearts because they truly care about the community."

In coming issues of the newsletter, you will get to meet some of the CERT Team members serving our community.

Mount Prospect Entrepreneurs Initiative

The Mount Prospect Entrepreneurs Initiative (MPEI) is an effort by the Village in collaboration with the Mount Prospect Public Library and the Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce to support local small business owners and entrepreneurs by connecting them with resources that will help them succeed.

MPEI and the library will be hosting events throughout the year to gather business experts, small business owners, and entrepreneurs for networking and learning events. These events will provide opportunities to expand your professional network, exchange ideas, and make valuable connections.

Financial business planning, employee recruitment and retention, and marketing will be among the topics discussed at a free Small Business Panel Discussion on February 7 at the Mount Prospect Public Library. Key members of the Village staff will be on hand to discuss local resources available for small businesses and entrepreneurs who are ready to move into a brick-and-mortar location. Registration will open soon at mppl.org.

Other local resources available to small businesses and entrepreneurs include the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Harper College and the North Cook-Lake County Chapter of SCORE. SCORE is a nationwide organization that supports small businesses through mentoring and education. You can learn more about each organization at harpercollege.edu/business/sbdc and score.org/northchicago.

You can see a list of upcoming business workshops and webinars hosted by local business organizations at mountprospect.org/mpei. If you have questions regarding MPEI or upcoming events, call 847.818.5328.

Veterans Assistance

U.S. military veterans or family members seeking support for veterans' services are invited to a free meeting hosted by VFW Post 1337 on the first Monday of each month. A Veterans Affairs Certified Veterans Service Officer will be on hand at the Frisbie Senior Center, 52 East Northwest Highway in Des Plaines from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm to explain VA benefits and provide resources to those looking for assistance.



Appointments are not required, and walk-ins are welcome.



The VFW Post and American Legion Post 525 also each host monthly meetings to share some of

the great work each does in the community. VFW Post 1337 meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at Moose Lodge 660, 601 North Main Street while American Legion Post 525 gathers the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the same location. All are welcome.

How Development Planners Can Assist You

The Village of Mount Prospect's Development Planners are a part of the Economic Development and Planning & Zoning Division of the Community Development Department.

The Development Planners work to solidify the economic base of the community by encouraging new development and retaining existing businesses through various economic development programs. They are also tasked with administering the Zoning and Development Code to ensure orderly development in the Village. Some duties include reviewing building and development permits for zoning compliance, processing zoning entitlement applications, creation and application of long-range plans such as the Comprehensive Plan, and administering the Community Development Block Grant program.

You may want to meet with Development Planners for issues like constructing improvements on your property, requesting zoning relief and entitlements, bringing new businesses or developments to the Village, or the Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan and Home Weatherization Grant programs.

If you have questions, contact the Development team at comdevdept@mountprospect.org or 847.818.5328.

Ribbon Cutting Program

Did you know that the Village of Mount Prospect, in conjunction with the Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce, has a ribbon cutting program for businesses in town? Ribbon cutting ceremonies are a great way to share news about your business to the community. Mount Prospect businesses celebrating a grand opening, anniversary, or other milestone may request a ribbon cutting at any time – even if your business has already been open for a few months or years. More details and the online form can be found at mountprospect.org/ribboncuttings.

Ribbon Cuttings



November 28, 2023
Lady Dahlia
Tequila Bar
127 W Prospect Ave
ladydahlia.com
847.313.3909



Close Before You Doze

Do you know that the average time to escape a home fire 30 years ago was 17 minutes, while today it is down to 2 to 3 minutes? What has caused this dramatic and concerning change? Factors such as open layouts and construction materials used in modern homes means that fire spreads much quicker and smoke is more toxic than in older homes.

Research conducted on bedrooms on the first and second floors of homes has documented the effect of doors and windows in the spread of a fire. Using thermal imaging cameras, researchers found that closed-door rooms on both floors had average temperatures of less than 100° F versus more than 1,000° in open-door rooms. Gas concentrations were markedly different as well. The open-door bedroom measured an extremely toxic 10,000 PPM CO (parts per million of Carbon Monoxide), while the closed-door had approximately 100 PPM CO.

We all have been taught the importance of Stop Drop and Roll in the event of your clothing catching on fire. When it comes to fire



prevention, Close Before You Doze is a more recent fire safety education program that comes as a result of over a decade of research conducted by UL's Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI). After proving that a closed door could potentially save lives in a fire, FSRI has committed to sharing this finding with the world.

Working smoke alarms and a fire escape plan are crucial to increasing your odds of exiting your home should a fire occur. With the start of 2024, please consider adding closing your bedroom door to your fire safety routine. This will give you extra time to execute an escape plan or give firefighters ample time to rescue you.

Poster Contest Winner

We would like to thank all the schools and students who participated in this year's Fire Prevention Week poster contest. The theme for 2023 Fire Prevention Week was *Cooking Safety Starts with YOU*. This event gave students a chance to be creative and display their talents, all while learning about and spreading a very important fire safety message. Thanks to all who participated.

Our 1st Place Winners were:

Kindergarten | GABI WOJEWODA | St. Emily

1st Grade | MARA WESTER | St. Emily

2nd Grade | GENEVIEVE O'DEA | Robert Frost

3rd Grade | ETHAN BALIWAN | Robert Frost

4th Grade | KAILEY ESQUIVEL | Robert Frost

5th Grade | SOFIA CHIHAI | Euclid School



Toy Drive Makes an Impact

We would like to express sincere gratitude to all who donated during our annual Toy Drive.

Once again, thanks to the generous donations from our community, the joy of Christmas was brought to many less fortunate children in the area. The smiles on their faces exemplify what the Christmas spirit truly means. Thank you for spreading holiday cheer in our community.





Welcome New Officers

Two new police officers were sworn in as members of the Mount Prospect Police Department. Please join us in welcoming Officers Alan Thibeault and Casey Kasper.

Officer Thibeault proudly served our country for 8 years as a Staff Sergeant with the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserves. He has also worked as a Correctional Officer with the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Chicago and was a Community Service Officer with Northwestern University. He is familiar with the area as he previously served as a member of the Prospect Heights Police Department for 8 years and most recently served as a School Resource Officer for the Collier County Sheriff's Office in Naples, Florida.

Officer Kasper comes to Mount Prospect from the Sugar Grove Police Department. His background also includes serving the City of Chicago as a Police Officer for 9 years and 5 years spent as a special education teacher.

If you see Officers Thibeault or Kasper, please welcome them to our community.



Staying Safe on Snowy Roads

If you need to be out on the roads during or after snow has accumulated, please follow these important tips to keep everyone safe.

- Drive slowly as reduced speeds will compensate for reduced traction when roads are covered with snow or ice.
- Accelerate and decelerate slowly as well. A slower acceleration will allow your car to gain greater traction when starting to move. Braking sooner helps keep you safe as it takes longer to slow down at intersections and stop lights when there is snow or ice on the road.
- Allow more space between you and the vehicle in front of you, increasing your interval up to 5 or 6 seconds to allow for longer stopping time.
- Be sure the heel of your braking foot is on the floor of your car and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- Provided you obey all traffic laws and watch for other vehicles and pedestrians, try slowing down rather than coming to a complete stop on snowy roads. This will minimize the inertia needed to start moving again when there is limited traction due to snow or ice.



- Applying extra acceleration on snow-covered roads will just make your wheels spin. When approaching a hill or incline, attempt to get a little inertia going and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed, and proceed downhill slowly.
- When moving up a hill, do your best not to stop. Trying to get moving again on a snowy or icy incline can be difficult.

Let's make it a safe winter on Village roadways and wherever your travels take you.


Request for Services

The Mount Prospect Police Department is utilizing Frontline Public Safety Solutions online portal for residents to request overnight parking permission, set up a home watch while on vacation, or register a pet or bicycle with the police department. The online portal is available to all residents and can be found at mountprospect.org/departments/police-department or by visiting frontlinepss.com/mountprospect. Requesting overnight parking permission or a vacation home watch can be done through the online portal or by calling the police department at 847.870.5656.



Stay Connected

Follow the Mount Prospect Police Department on your favorite social platforms.

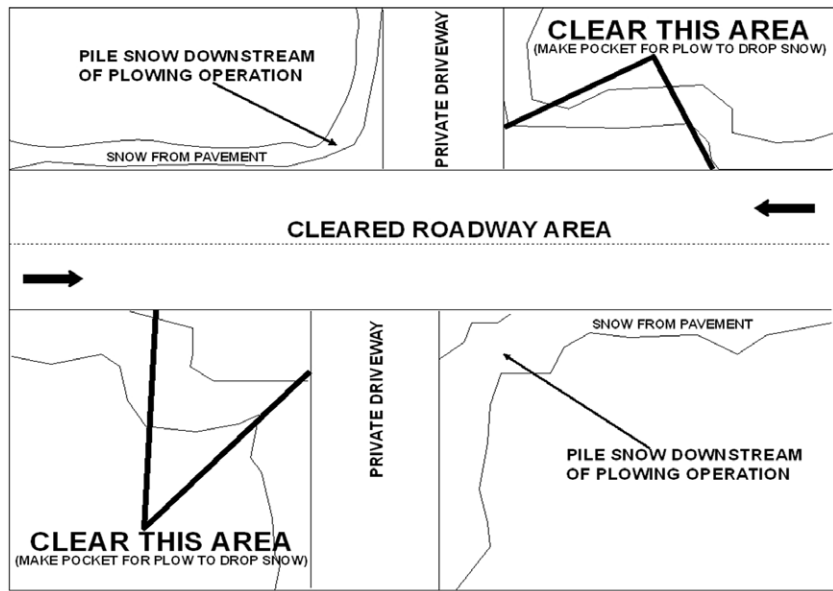
-  facebook.com/mountprospectpolice
-  [@MountProspectPD](https://www.instagram.com/MountProspectPD)
-  [@MountProspectPD](https://www.twitter.com/MountProspectPD)
-  youtube.com/mountprospectpolice
-  Mount Prospect Police Department



Snow Shoveling

Please remember that it is hazardous to shovel, plow, or blow snow onto any public street. All shoveled, plowed, or blown snow should be piled in your yard or parkway. Please follow the suggestion to the right to minimize windrows in your driveway opening.

Shovel the snow to the side, in the direction of traffic, and clear a pocket of snow on the opposite side of your driveway. The accumulated snow in the plow will dump into the pocket and NOT in your driveway. This simple procedure will minimize the amount of residual snow being plowed from the street into your driveway.



Holiday Light and Extension Cord Recycling

Before you pack away the holiday decorations, set aside all string lights which no longer work, or which you no longer need, and recycle them. Residents can drop off unwanted holiday string lights at the Public Works Department, 1700 West Central Road Recycling Center 24/7. The program is available year-round. Call 847.870.5640 for more information.

The Village cannot accept garland, live greens, wreaths, or other non-recyclable materials.



2024 Holiday Solid Waste Collection Schedule

There will be no solid waste collection on the following holidays:

Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day
Christmas
New Year's Day 2025

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 (1) day. Friday pickups will be done on Saturday.

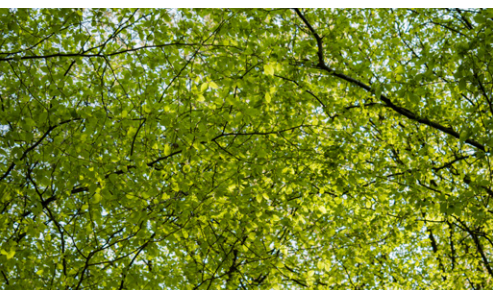
Beautiful Trees in Summer Begin with a Healthy Winter

Although the trees have gone dormant, winter can be a good time for tree maintenance. Now that they've made it through an exceptionally dry summer, winter is the time to start rejuvenating the trees for next year.

Winter is a great time to prune all trees. This is especially true for oaks, elms, and fruit trees. These species are highly sensitive to being pruned during the growing season. Doing so in the winter helps to reduce the possibility of insect damage to fresh wounds. Removing broken, dead, diseased, and branches with poor attachments, can benefit the overall health of the tree. Caution should be used to avoid removing live limbs or more than 25% of the crown. A professional arborist should be contacted for larger trees and to answer questions, as improper pruning can cause more problems in the future if not done correctly.

Young plants with thin/smooth bark can be wrapped to help prevent frost cracks, which can split the bark and create a wound. Also, applying an anti-desiccant can help evergreens retain moisture throughout the winter.

Finally, watering can play an important part in the health of a tree making it through the winter. Young plants should be watered if temperatures rise above freezing and stay there for an extended time.



Winter Driving Tips

Even for those of us who have encountered midwestern winter for many years, it's always good to get a refresher on some safe winter driving tips. Start with these basics:

- Keep your gas tank full.
- You can reduce glare and reflection during a snowstorm by not using high beam headlights.
- Completely clear snow and ice from all windows on your vehicle before driving.
- Reduce skidding by applying brakes slowly and gently.
- Reduce your chances of an accident by allowing more space between you and the vehicle in front of you when snow and ice are present.
- Allow for more travel time.
- Bridges and roads that host less traffic will freeze more rapidly than main roadways.
- If you are involved in a minor accident, attempt to move your vehicle to a less busy spot before exiting the vehicle.
- When Village trucks are plowing or salting, do not follow closely and do not attempt to pass.
- And of course, follow all driving laws – buckle up, turn headlights on when windshield wipers are on.



Christmas Tree Collection

Residents are invited to be a part of the Village's Christmas tree composting program. Simply place your whole tree (don't cut or trim them) at the curb on your regularly scheduled refuse collection day between January 2 and 12 for free pick-up. Trees must be free of all decorations including lights, tinsel, ornaments, bulbs, strings, and wire. Trees placed at the curb before or after these dates will be picked up but will not be composted. Fresh wreaths should be placed in your green refuse cart as the metal ring prevents composting.



Lead and Galvanized Steel Water Service Replacement Cost Sharing Program

The Village of Mount Prospect has established the Lead and Galvanized Steel Water Service Replacement Cost Sharing Program. The program will provide financial assistance to residents who want to replace their existing lead or galvanized steel water service with a copper water service from the public water main to the water meter inside the property. Homeowners, multi-family homes, and commercial buildings are all eligible to participate.

The program offers a rebate for costs incurred by an owner to replace an existing lead or galvanized service line with copper. The Village will reimburse 100% of the cost to replace the service line from the water main to the water shutoff valve, known as the B-box. And 2/3 of the cost to replace the shutoff valve to the water meter, but not more than \$10,000 of the actual expenses incurred.

For more information, please visit the Village website at mountprospect.org/leadshare.

Human Services

A Big Thank You for Your Caring and Sharing

The Human Services Department team would like to extend our gratitude to the entire Mount Prospect community for your continued support and generosity in 2023. Donations received from residents, civic organizations, businesses, churches, kids clubs and schools directly supported the Emergency Assistance program which includes the food pantry, emergency financial assistance, and seasonal holiday programs for residents experiencing a financial crisis or hardship. We appreciate the support and partnership we share with the Mount Prospect Fire and Police Departments which lend support with food drives and donations from fundraising events.

We would also like to acknowledge our food pantry volunteers. With the volume of generous donations we receive, we count on our volunteers to keep the food pantry operation organized and help sort donated items, check expiration dates, stock shelves, and pack bags of food. We could not run the Client Shop and Food Pantry Program without them. In 2023, the food pantry served an average of 61 households per month.

We continue to see an increase in new residents applying for food pantry services as SNAP benefits have been significantly reduced post COVID-19. Residents in need of assistance can meet with a Social Worker for an assessment to determine eligibility. The Human Services Department team knows firsthand what these programs mean to those that receive assistance and we are grateful to have such an incredible community backing the work we do.

We want to remind you that food and monetary donations are welcome year-round. Your donations make a difference every day as the need of families is not just limited to the holiday season. Donations are accepted at the Human Services Department located on the second floor of Village Hall during business hours and online at mountprospect.org/departments/human-services/online-donations.

Behavioral Health Subsidy Program

The Human Services Department offers a Behavioral Health Subsidy Program for uninsured or underinsured Mount Prospect residents that are experiencing a barrier to timely mental health services. To apply, call 847.870.5680 to schedule an appointment with a social worker. Eligibility is based on household income, family size, insurance provider, and financial hardship.

Senior Services

If you are an older adult in Mount Prospect, be sure to stay up to date on services and activities designed especially for you by signing up to receive our Senior Buzz newsletter. It is published 6 times a year and is full of great community information, resources, and a calendar of activities. The Senior Buzz is available online by scanning the QR code and in print at Village Hall in the Human Services Department. If you would like to receive the Senior Buzz via email or would like a hard copy mailed to you, call 847.870.5680 to be placed on our mailing list.



Senior Connections

Join us January 4 at 9 a.m. for the Senior Connections program. This program offers seniors the opportunity to learn something new and meet their neighbors and Village staff. Don't miss the chance to make some new friends and get to know your community. Light snacks and beverages will be served at the event.



Strong Like a Girl

Strong Like a Girl is a 6-session in-person group for preteen and teen girls in grades 6 through 8. The classes empower and help build resiliency. Our next group begins March 5. Limited space is available, so if you would like to register your teen for the group, please contact Esther Salutillo at 847.506.4930.



Community Connections Center

January is National Stalking Awareness Month and February is Heart Health Awareness Month. Please follow the Human Services Facebook Page for information and resources about each topic. Like us at facebook.com/MPHumanServices.



**community
connections
center**

1711 West Algonquin Road
Mount Prospect | IL 60056
847.506.4930

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


2024

January

February



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 Free Outdoor Ice Rink through February, Mount Prospect Golf Club	2 Growing Your First Orchid, 9:30am, VH Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC	3 Bessie's Workbook, 7-9pm, Central School, MPHist	4 Senior Connections 9-11am, VH Blood Drive 2-8pm Fire Station 13	5 Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Second Sundays at the Society 11:30am-1:30pm, MPHist	Friends Book Sale 11am-4pm, MPPL	Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC	Dynamic Year Breakfast, 7-9am Old Orchard Country Club Preschool and Childcare Info Night, 6:30-8pm MPPL	Fit 4 Life 11-11:45am, VH Conversations in English, 5:30-6:30pm CCC Best Adult Fiction of 2023, 7pm MPPL	Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH	Friends Book Sale 9am-4:30pm, MPPL
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Friends Book Sale 11am-4pm, MPPL	Combating Blindness – The Future of Neural Prosthetics, 6pm Virtual, MPPL Evening Creations at MPHist, 6:30pm, Dolores Haugh Education Center	Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC	Dynamic Year Breakfast, 7-9am Old Orchard Country Club Preschool and Childcare Info Night, 6:30-8pm MPPL	Fit 4 Life 11-11:45am, VH Conversations in English, 5:30-6:30pm CCC Best Adult Fiction of 2023, 7pm MPPL	Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH	
28	29	30	31			
Comedy Cabaret featuring Vito Zaitto, 5-7:30pm Friendship Park Conservatory	Financial Forecast 2024, 7pm MPPL	Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC				

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	<p style="text-align: center;">LEARN MORE AT</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">EXPERIENCE MOUNT PROSPECT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.experiencemountprospect.org</p>					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Second Sundays at the Society 11:30am-1:30pm, MPHist	Literary Gardens by Cindy Crosby 9:30am, VH Play and Learn Group 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC	Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC	Bessie's Workbook, 7-9pm, Central School, MPHist	Fit 4 Life 11-11:45am, VH Conversations in English, 5:30-6:30pm CCC MPDMA Progressive Dinner, 6:30pm	Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH Family Valentine's Dance, 6-8pm Rob Roy Golf Course	Afternoon Tea – Barbie, 1pm Central School at MPHist
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Pre-Civil War Quilts: Secret Codes to Freedom on the Underground Railroad, 7pm MPPL	Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC	Pre-Civil War Quilts: Secret Codes to Freedom on the Underground Railroad, 7pm MPPL	Fit 4 Life 11-11:45am, VH Conversations in English, 5:30-6:30pm CCC	Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH Family Valentine's Dance, 6-8pm Rob Roy Golf Course	FanFest, MPPL
25	26	27	28	29		
		Play and Learn Group 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC The Palace Papers: Inside the House of Windsor, 7pm MPPL	Play and Learn Group 11:30am -12:15 pm, CCC The Palace Papers: Inside the House of Windsor, 7pm MPPL	Fit 4 Life 11-11:45am, VH		



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Message from the Mayor

In 2023, your Mayor and Village Board identified and/or supported policies and actions that allowed for the following 10 major accomplishments to be executed by our highly capability Village Manager Mike Cassidy, Village Leadership Team, and Staff. Many of these actions reduced *current* out of pocket taxes and fees to our taxpaying residents and many created potential revenue producing opportunities which will position your Village Board to reduce taxes and fees on our taxpaying residents in the future.

1. As a result of a strong business environment, the Village's 2024 balanced budget was prepared by our Finance staff and then approved by the Village Board in November 2023 with a 5.0 % reduction in our municipal property tax levy. In addition, Vehicle Stickers were permanently eliminated as a source of revenue in the 2024 budget and all future budgets after a temporary elimination in 2023. Hallelujah...no more Vehicle Stickers!
2. In an effort to increase Citizen Safety, a primary goal of your Village Board, we hired 6 additional sworn Police Officers in 2023 to reinforce our Investigations Division as well as create a highly mobile *Special Response Team* designed to address what appears to be organized criminal activity coming to the suburbs from the City of Chicago. We also created the new position of Community Relations Officer to positively engage with and be sensitive to our increasingly diverse population.
3. The Elk Grove Rural Township Fire Protection District came under the control of the Village of Mount Prospect allowing for improved emergency response times by our Fire Department to all areas of Mount Prospect and allowing for potential critical annexations and future development in South Mount Prospect.
4. To reduce the risk of water flow interruptions to our residents and businesses who are on the Village water system should our primary source through NSMJAWA be compromised, construction began on an interconnection with the Northwest Water Commission providing a secondary source of Lake Michigan water.
5. Several additional downtown residential buildings, Prospect Place, The Dawson, Lions Park Townhomes, and HQ Residences, were begun and/or completed which will add 262 living units and \$20 million of new equalized assessed value to the Village. This new residential density is driving new restaurant and retail investments, including Lady Dahlia, Patina Wine Bar, Whiskey Hill Brewing Co., and Salerno's Pizza. Stay tuned for pipeline projects for 2024, including The Prospect, Mia's Cantina expansion, Main Street Social, and Mount Prospect Public House.

6. 91 number of licenses were issued for new businesses opening their doors throughout the Village in 2023, strengthening our already strong business environment. This has a definite corresponding positive, multi-faceted impact on our residential community.
7. After a nearly 40 plus year absence of a grocery in downtown Mount Prospect, Caputo's Fresh Markets, a full-service grocery store, opened on Prospect Avenue in downtown Mount Prospect. Caputo's Market is fulfilling a critical need identified by our residents for many years. Shop Mount Prospect!
8. A Tax Increment Financing Taxing District was created in South Mount Prospect to promote future residential and commercial development in this underdeveloped, key area of opportunity of the Village.
9. Improvements at the intersection of Rand Road, Central Road, and Mount Prospect Road have begun that will greatly improve the traffic movement and flow at this key intersection which has been a safety issue and source of frustration for many years.
10. Under our annual infrastructure improvement programs, 8.0 miles of road were resurfaced providing for safe and smooth travel within Mount Prospect, 2.5 miles of new water lines were replaced insuring reliable water service to thousands of residents, and 580 new trees were planted beautifying our Village for all.

There is no doubt that 2023 was a banner year for our Village. I can tell you, as any year passes, we tend to forget what occurred in that previous year and the impact those previous year's accomplishments have and will have on our citizens and businesses. While the forgoing list is certainly not all-inclusive, the list does highlight and remind us of the accomplishments which will improve the quality of our lives in Mount Prospect and create opportunities for growth in 2024 and far beyond.

As your Mayor, I know your Village Board is looking forward to the opportunities and challenges the coming year of 2024 will bring to our Village. Trust me, your Village Board, our Village Manager, our Village Leadership Team, and our Village Staff are prepared and ready to seize those opportunities and meet those challenges.

Bring on 2024!

Paul Wm. Hoefert

MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT

VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT

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

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday | 8:30 am to 5 pm

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

No Parking on Village Streets | 2 am to 6 am

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR | Paul Wm. Hoefert

TRUSTEES | Vincent J. Dante, Agostino S. Filippone, Terri Gens, William A. Grossi, John J. Matuszak & Colleen E. Saccotelli

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 mountprospect.org.

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