



Mount Prospect

Village Newsletter

Fall 2008

Digital Television Upgrade: What you need to know

In February of 2009, all broadcasters in the United States will stop transmitting analog signals and begin sending signals in a digital format only. We have all been inundated lately with information about the rapidly approaching end of analog broadcasting. It is important to note that this change will only affect people who get their television programming from roof top antennas or television rabbit ears. There are a few options for these households: either get a converter box, purchase a digital television, or sign up for a paid cable or satellite service.



Consumers beware

There is a lot of confusion as to what will continue to work after February of 2009. Most tube television sets in the United States are analog and will continue to work with cable and satellite services without modification. If you don't use a set-top box for your cable service, then you are receiving an analog signal. The cable companies are committed to continuing to send out analog signals through 2013. Don't let the cable companies talk you into getting a digital package if you are happy with what you already have.

It is also not necessary to purchase a digital television. The prices on digital televisions continue to drop at a terrific rate, however, they still have not dropped to a price level that everyone considers affordable.

If you have further questions about the digital conversion taking place in February of 2009 or to find out about the converter box coupon program, go to www.dtv2009.gov.

Randhurst Redevelopment Update

The Village Board approved plans for the redevelopment of the Randhurst Mall at their August 19th board meeting. Casto Lifestyle Properties will transform the mall portion of the property into the Randhurst Village lifestyle center that will include numerous restaurants, shops, a new movie theater, 40,000 square feet of office, a 150-room hotel and 200 rental housing units. The Mall is scheduled to close in early October and demolition work will begin immediately on the mall structure. Casto anticipates that Randhurst Village will open to the public in the summer of 2010. All remaining stores (Costco, Carsons, Bed Bath and Beyond) and existing outlots will remain open during the construction process.



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The Mount Prospect Newsletter is published by the Village as a public information service for residents.

Village of Mount Prospect

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Village Hall

Village Hall hours are: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Village Hall is located at 50 S. Emerson Street, on the northwest corner of Emerson Street and Busse Avenue.

Web Site: www.mountprospect.org

E-Mail the Village at pio@mountprospect.org.

Village Board Meetings

Village Board meetings are held in the Village Board Room of the Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Committee of the Whole (COW)

Committee of the Whole meetings are held in the Village Board Room of the Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street. Committee of the Whole (COW) meetings are held by the Village Board on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

MPTV - Channel 17

Village Board meetings and Committee of the Whole meetings are cable cast on MPTV - Channel 17. Consult your program schedule listings. MPTV is also streaming live 24/7 on the Village web site, www.mountprospect.org. For replays of Village Board Meetings, there are links to meetings via Video On Demand (VOD.)



Village Phone Numbers

Emergency.....	9-1-1
Village Hall	392-6000
TDD	392-6064
Television Services.....	870-5685
Community Development	
Building Division	870-5675
Environmental Health.....	870-5668
Planning Division.....	818-5328
Fire Dept. (non-emergency)	870-5666
Human Services Dept.....	870-5680
Police Dept. (non-emergency)	870-5656
Crime Line.....	870-5649
Crime Prevention	870-5650
Records	870-5655
Public Works Dept.	870-5640
Water Billing	392-6000

TDD numbers are for hearing-impaired callers only who must use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD or TTY).

All phone numbers in the Newsletter are (847) area code unless otherwise noted.

Coffee with Council

Meet informally with the Village's Board of Trustees and Department Directors about anything concerning Mount Prospect that's on your mind. Coffee with Council is held on the second Saturday of every month (unless there is a conflict with a holiday) from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street. For more information about Coffee with Council, please call the Village Manager's Office at 392-6000, or visit the Village's web site at www.mountprospect.org.

Upcoming Coffee with Council Dates:

October 11

November 8

December 13

www.mountprospect.org



Check out our exciting "Experience Mount Prospect" web site for news on shopping, dining and events.

Sign up for our E-Newsletter to be in the know on the best places to go and things to do!

News, Notes & Reminders

Transportation Study Grant

The Village of Mount Prospect received a grant from the Regional Transportation Authority through their Regional Technical Assistance Program (RTAP) to evaluate the Village's public transportation system. The study will investigate the current level of service, usage, and access to Metra, Pace and bicycle routes and provide recommendations for enhanced service. The Village has retained the consultant team of TranSystems, KLOA, and the Lakota Group to perform the study. As part of the study, the Village is conducting an online survey to assess how residents, visitors, and businesses utilize public transportation. The survey is available on the Village's website, www.mountprospect.org. Please contact Clare O'Shea, Senior Planner at 818-5312 or coshea@mountprospect.org for more information.

Radon Awareness Program

Have you tested your home for radon? Radon is the nation's second leading cause of lung cancer after cigarette smoking. The U.S.E.P.A. and the Surgeon General recommend testing all homes for radon from the third floor down. Call Cook County Department of Environmental Control at 708/865-6177 for a free packet of radon information and a free test kit!

A Friendly Reminder - Clean up After your Pet!

Please, as a courtesy to your neighbors, clean up after your pet! It is your responsibility to remove and properly dispose of your pet's waste. Please discard your pet's waste by wrapping it in a plastic bag and throwing it in the garbage.



Vehicle Stickers Required

The deadline for displaying 2007-2008 vehicle stickers was April 30. The Police Department issues citations to drivers of locally registered vehicles on which 2008-2009 vehicle stickers are not displayed. The penalty does not initially apply to new Village residents or to residents who have purchased replacement vehicles after May 1. In either case, you have 30 days to purchase your sticker. During the grace period, proof of purchase or move-in date will be required to assure that a surcharge penalty is not imposed if you change vehicles during the year. Call the Finance Department at 392-6000 for more information.

Property Tax Relief Grant

The Board of Trustees approved funds to provide 2008 Mount Prospect real estate tax relief for qualifying owners of single-family residences. This opportunity is available to households having a gross annual income equal to or less than: \$20,800 for 1 person; or \$28,000 for 2 or more persons. The Village will rebate 50 percent (to a maximum of \$100) of its portion of the total 2007 Cook County real estate tax bill. Please apply after you have received and then paid the 2nd installment of your 2007 tax bill.

Assistance in completing the application will be available at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street in the Finance Department, between 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. on November 6, 11, 13, 18 and December 4. Applications must be submitted by December 5. For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Lisa in the Finance Department at 818-5277.

**Trick-or-Treating hours are
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on
Friday, October 31**

(See Page 12 for safety tips)

Shining Star Nominations

Each year the Village recognizes individuals and organizations that contribute to making Mount Prospect a better community at the Celestial Celebration. The event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7 and the Special Events Commission is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Shining Star Awards. The deadline for nominations is November 15. Details are available on the web site, www.mountprospect.org.



Flu Shot Information

Although we cannot give the exact dates for this year's flu clinics, we have been told by our supplier that we will receive our vaccine by October and plan to have a flu shot clinic shortly after receiving the vaccine. Starting in October, you can call our flu shot hotline 870-6622 for more information. Also watch for additional information in the local newspapers, Mount Prospect Cable TV Channel 17, and on the Civic Events sign. The vaccine will be given in the Community Center of Village Hall. Contact the Human Services Department with questions at 870-5680.

MPTV on the Web

MPTV is now streaming on the web. You can see MPTV's fine local programming anywhere in the world with just an internet connection. MPTV is also providing Video on Demand replays of all Village Board and Committee of the Whole Meetings, and Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings. The Video on Demand meetings are fully indexed with the ability to jump straight to the agenda item that interests you. You can find the link to these features on the home page of the Village's website, www.mountprospect.org.

News, Notes & Reminders

Lions Club Farmers' Market

Sundays Through October 19

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Commuter Parking Lot (northwest corner of Northwest Hwy. and Rte. 83)

For a wonderful array of fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers and other goodies, stop by and check it out!

Fall Festival & NEW! OKTOBERFEST!

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Fall Festival)

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Oktoberfest)

Saturday, October 25

Emerson St. & Busse Ave.

Sponsored by the Downtown Merchants Association. The family will enjoy hayrides, candy lines, macaroni soup, and entertainment.

Following the Fall Festival, the Downtown Merchants Association is pleased to present their first ever Oktoberfest! Live entertainment, including a German band, food, and dancing are expected to bring in the crowds for a fun night out in downtown Mount Prospect! (See insert)



Veterans' Day

Tuesday, November 11

10:30 a.m.

Lions Park - Veterans' Band Shell

The Veterans' Day Parade and Ceremony will be held Sunday, November 11, in Lions Park at the Veterans' Memorial Band Shell. The procession will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Lions Park recreation center and will march around to the band shell where a ceremony will be held. Please come out to honor and support our veterans.

Community Band Fall Concert

Sunday, November 9, 2:00 p.m.

Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Rd., Arlington Hts.

The concert will feature the most loved themes from the world of classical music. Tickets are available at the Mt. Prospect Park District Rec Plex, 640-1000.

Experience Mount Prospect for the Holidays

Discover all the latest shopping, dining and events Mount Prospect has to offer by visiting mountprospect.org and clicking on "Experience Mount Prospect." When you sign up for our e-newsletter you'll receive special shopping and dining offers, plus a chance to win gift certificates to local businesses. So browse our shops, specialty stores and fine restaurants to experience Mount Prospect this holiday season.

Holiday House Decorating Contest

December 3 - 10

If your holiday lights are on the evenings of December 3 through 10, your home will be considered for the Village's Holiday Decorating Contest. Judges will be touring the Village on those dates to scout all the beautifully decorated houses of Mount Prospect. Winners will be announced at the December 16 Village Board Meeting. Award categories include Best Use of Lights, Best Block, Simple yet Elegant, and The Clark Griswold Abundance of Lights Award among others.



Winter Festival Parade

Saturday, December 6

5:00 p.m., Prospect Ave.

The parade will feature live reindeer, marching bands, floats, choral groups and Santa and Mrs. Claus. A refreshment tent will be located at Prospect Avenue and Wille Street. Choral groups will be stationed along the parade route to add to the holiday spirit. The Village is looking for interested participants to join in the celebration. For more information, please call 392-6000 or visit the web site, www.mountprospect.org.

Toys for Kids

Donations accepted through Dec. 11

The Mount Prospect Police, Fire and Human Services Departments are once again conducting their annual Christmas Toys for Kids program. Only NEW, UNWRAPPED toys will be accepted at any Mount Prospect Fire Station from November 28 until December 11. Toys will also be collected at the Winter Parade on Dec. 6 at the end of parade route.

Junior Women's Club Luminaria Sale

December 13

The Junior Women's Club annual Luminaria sale will be held on Saturday, December 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Weiss Community Center (1500 E. Euclid - Miniature Golf Building). The luminaria are \$4 for a set of 5 kits which includes the bags, candles and sand. All proceeds benefit various Mount Prospect charities and families in need. Any questions or pre-orders, please email jrsluminaria@comcast.net or call 847.414.5813.



Upcoming Events



Mount Prospect Public Library
847/253-5675
www.mpppl.org

Cultural Month: Channeling the British Isles

Discover the music, dance, history, and beautiful vistas of the British Isles at one of the Library's ten programs being held in October. See Web site for event descriptions and registration.

Teddy Bear Walk

Saturday, December 6, 10 a.m. - Noon

Bring your favorite Teddy Bear and see nationally known story-performer Chris Fascione act out best-loved stories. We will also sing along with Parents' Choice Gold Winner Mark Dvorak. Ted E. Bear will then lead the march over to the Village Hall to welcome the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus, escorted by our own Mount Prospect Fire Department. The Friends of the Library sponsor this program.



Mount Prospect Historical Society
847/392-9006
www.mtphist.org

Fashion Show: October 19, 12:00 noon Bristol Court Banquets, 828 E. Rand Rd.

The Fashion Show will feature Chico's fall line of sophisticated, yet comfortable, private label apparel, with hair and makeup styling by Mario Tricocci's Woodfield hair salon and Bare Escentuals Boutique. Tickets are \$40 and all proceeds benefit the Society. For tickets and information, phone 392-9006 or log onto www.mphist.org.

Housewalk Tickets on Sale Nov. 3

Tickets for the 21st Annual Christmas Housewalk go on sale Monday, Nov. 3. The tour, scheduled for 3:30-9 p.m. on Fri., Dec. 5, will feature homes decorated for the holidays by their owners, with additional floral arrangements and décor provided by area florists. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance (\$18 for members -- at the museum only) and \$22 on the day of the walk. For tickets and information, phone 392-9006 or log onto www.mphist.org.

Sub Express - Oct. 20

Stop by at The Submarine Express, located at the corner of Northwest Hwy. and Rte. 83 on October 20. A percentage of your order will be donated to the Historical Society.

Veterans' Day Programs at MPPL

See our web site for special Veterans' Day Programs co-sponsored with the MPPL on Nov. 11 and 18.



Mt. Prospect Park District
847/255-5380
www.mppd.org

Howlin' Halloween Fest

Saturday, October 18, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Lions Recreation Center

Children age 3 to 8 years

Fee: \$4 per child (payable at the door), adults free

Come on over to our annual indoor/outdoor Halloween celebration! Features games to play, face painters, hayrides, kiddie train and more. Strollers permitted.

Spooky Skating Special

Saturday, October 25 @ Central Community Center

Skate in costume during open skate and family skate hours, and get \$1 discount on admission!

Halloween Costume Party (adults only)

Saturday, October 25, 8-11pm

Friendship Park Conservatory

Cost: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door

Come in costume and dance the night away! Prizes, cash bar and light refreshments. Must register!



River Trails Park District
847/255-1200
www.rtpd.org

Children's Festival of Art

Saturday, October 4, 9:30-Noon

Clayground Art Studio, 550 Business Center Drive

Holiday Catering Preview - November 22,

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Rob Roy Golf Course Clubhouse

See and sample selections from the Rob Roy Catering menu to help you plan your holiday menus. Orders placed at the preview will receive a \$5 discount.

Pizza & Pasta Night 'Kid Friendly'

October 22, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Rob Roy Golf Course Clubhouse

Wine & Hors D'Oeuvres -December 4

Rob Roy Golf Course Clubhouse

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Hosting a wine & hors d'oeuvre party is the elegant new wave in entertaining. Brad Smith, representing Heritage Wine Cellars will introduce a variety of wine to compliment flights of both hot & cold appetizers & desserts. \$22.00 per person.

VILLAGE CLERK

ACROSS THE BOARD

Since the last publication of the Mount Prospect Newsletter, the Village Board of Trustees has enacted the following ordinances from May 28, 2008 through September 2, 2008:

5694 amends Chapter 13 (Alcoholic Liquors) of the Village Code by deleting (1) Class "R" (restaurant only) liquor license for JJAAT Enterprises d/b/a Tuccios Fresh Italian Kitchen, 106 West Northwest Highway;

5695 amends Chapter 13 (Alcoholic Liquors) of the Village Code by adding (1) Class "E" (catering) liquor license for Victoria in the Park Banquets, 1700 South Elmhurst Road;

5696 amends Chapter 13 (Alcoholic Liquors) of the Village Code by adding (1) Class "G" (park district) liquor license for Prospect Heights Park District/Banya, Inc. Management Company, 700 West Rand Road;

5697 amends the Annual Budget adopted for Fiscal Year commencing January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2008;

5698 amends Chapter 13 (Alcoholic Liquors) of the Village Code by adding (1) Class "S" (restaurant with lounge) liquor license for Santa Napoli Pizzeria, 90 East Busse Avenue;

5699 adopts the prevailing wages established by the State of Illinois for public works projects provided by contractors;

5700 amends Chapter 19, Section 19.202 "Regulations with Respect to Customers of Solid Waste Collection Services," of the Village Code by authorizing solid waste collection for nonresidential property within the corporate limits of the Village by the exclusive solid waste nonresidential contractor servicing the Village;

5701 grants a variation to allow side yard setback for property located at 100 North School Street;

5702 amends Chapter 22 (Floodplain Regulations), Section 22.102, entitled "Definitions" and Section 22.105 entitled "Base Flood Elevation" under Article I Floodplain Management Regulations of the Village Code;

5703 amends Chapter 18 (Traffic) by eliminating the one-way designations along School Street and Busse Avenue adjacent to St. Paul Lutheran School and Church;

5704 amends Chapter 18 (Traffic) Section 18.2014 entitled "Scheduled XIV Fire Lanes" of the Village Code by adding fire lanes created by new construction or renovation;

5705 grants a Conditional Use permit, certain variations and a special use for signage for property located at 999 North Elmhurst Avenue (Randhurst);

5706 amends Chapter 18 (Traffic) of the Village Code by implementing components of the Village's Residential Intersection "Traffic Control" and Residential Speed Limit" post-studies; Zones 7, 8 and 13;

5707 designates a representative to the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency for the Village of Mount Prospect;

5708 authorizes the Village President and Village Clerk to execute certain intergovernmental agreements for flood control as part of the US Army Corps of Engineers' Upper Des Plaines River flood damage reduction project;

5709 authorizes the sale of certain personal property owned by the Village of Mount Prospect.

Voter Registration

To be eligible to vote in the General Election you must be registered to vote by October 7th. (If you have moved or changed your name since the last election you need to re-register.)

Voter registration requirements:

- United States Citizen
- *At least 18 years of age by Election Day
- A resident of your precinct for at least 30 days prior to an election.
- You must present two forms of identification with at least one showing your current address.

Voter registration is available in the Village Clerk's Office at Village Hall, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

* High School Students - If you are 18 or will be 18 by November 4th, be sure to register to vote and be a part of the electoral process.



Early voting

Early voting for the Presidential General Election will be held Monday October 13 through Thursday October 30. Village Hall is NOT an early voting site - contact the Cook County Clerk's office at 312/603-0906 or www.voterinfonet.com for locations in our area. Early voters are required to present valid identification to vote early. Valid forms include a current driver's license or state-issued ID card.

Election Day!

November 4th is Election Day and the polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To find out your polling place and other election day information, please visit the Cook County Clerk's Office website at www.voterinfonet.com.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Rain Gardens

We have heard a lot recently about environmentalism and how we can “go green.” Many people are interested and want to do their share, but aren’t sure how. One way homeowners can improve the local environment is by installing rain gardens on their property. Rain gardens are landscaped areas that are planted with wild flowers and other native vegetation that soak up and filter rain water.



Typical turf grass lawns absorb only small amounts of water during rain events and can be costly for property owners to maintain. They require the application of fertilizers and pesticides to keep them green and weed free and do little to regenerate the water table or promote natural cleansing of the stormwater that falls on them. Rain water which is not absorbed travels off the property in the form of “runoff”. When a turf grass lawn becomes saturated during a rain event, the excess water, chemicals, and fertilizers used to treat the lawn run offsite and end up downstream in nearby Mount Prospect neighborhoods, neighboring communities, and rivers.

Unlike turf grass lawns or paved areas, rain gardens have significantly higher water infiltration. They utilize native plantings which have deeper root systems that allow water to filter deeper into the soil. A rain garden for instance would allow approximately 30% more water to soak into the ground when compared to a conventional turf grass lawn.

One rain garden may seem small, but collectively they produce substantial community and environmental benefits. Rain gardens use little or no fertilizer or pesticides and need minimal maintenance once established. Information is readily available on the internet on how to design or construct one of these gardens. Additionally, landscape contractors in the area have experience in both designing and constructing rain gardens. If you have any questions regarding rain gardens you can contact the Community Development Department’s Planning Division at 847.818.5328.

Protecting Your Investment:

The Importance of Building Permits and Inspections

People often wonder why it is important to get building permits for construction work - the fact is that avoiding permits can create life safety hazards and even affect the value of your property. Frequently, we hear concerns about the Village requiring permits for items such as water heaters, furnaces, air conditioners, and generators. While it may seem tedious, the Village specifically requires permits on any project that involves gas, electricity, and/or water for our residents’ safety.

Just this summer, the Mount Prospect Fire Department was called out on a carbon monoxide alarm at a single family home. The deadly gas was leaking from a recently installed water heater. It was found that the water heater was installed without a permit and therefore, was not inspected. The improper installation did not allow for sufficient ventilation of the poisonous gas and caused a potentially deadly situation for the homeowner; something that an inspector would have recognized during inspection and ordered the contractor to remedy immediately.

Most importantly, inspections are conducted to protect life safety; however, permits and inspections are also important in protecting the value of your investment. For instance, if you install a gas fireplace without a mechanical permit and your house burns down because of faulty installation, your insurance may not cover the damage.

When it comes time to sell your home, permits and inspections can help validate the value of your home. Many times appraisers ask for verification that the improvements were, in fact, done with permit. If the sellers can't substantiate that the work was done with permits, the appraiser might not give full value for the improvements. If the house doesn't appraise for the sale price, your sale could be in jeopardy. If you have questions regarding work requiring permits, please do not hesitate to call us at 870-5675 or email us at building@mountprospect.org.

Current Plat of Survey Required for Building Permits

The Building Division requires an accurate Plat of Survey to process a variety of permits. The purpose in requiring the Plat of Survey is to ensure the work is occurring on the applicant’s property and to review zoning conformance; including the land use and density of the project, setbacks from the property line, and lot coverage. Calculating lot coverage is important because the more impervious the surface, more water is displaced into the stormwater maintenance system, contributing to flooding in high rain events. Questions may be directed to the Permit Coordinator at 818-5396.

PUBLIC WORKS

Wheeled Cart Do's & Don'ts

Usage

- Refuse and recycling will only be collected in the wheeled carts. All households must use the wheeled cart for refuse and recycling collection.
- Old recycling bins are no longer accepted. Recycling not in the cart will no longer be collected. If your current recycling cart is not accommodating your needs please contact Public Works to request a larger or additional recycling cart.
- The use of containers other than the wheeled cart for refuse is not allowed. If your current refuse cart is not accommodating your needs please contact Public Works to request a larger or additional cart. Additional refuse carts cost \$25 each.
- If you do not have a refuse or recycling cart or both, please contact the Public Works department to arrange for delivery.



Storage

- Carts may be stored in the garage, side or back of property.
- Corner houses - if carts are stored on the side of the house facing the adjacent street, they must be screened (by bushes or a fence).
- DO NOT store carts in front of the property. Storing carts in front of the property is a violation of Village Code and may result in a citation.
- DO NOT leave carts at the curb beyond your scheduled collection day. Leaving carts at the curb beyond your scheduled collection day is a violation of Village Code and may result in a citation.
- Multi-Family Residents (townhome) - check with your association, which may have further restrictions for cart storage.

SWANCC Events

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County offers many opportunities for residents to recycle...

Document Destruction Events

To assist SWANCC-area residents with recycling old paper documents in a secure manner, a Document Destruction event has been scheduled. SWANCC-area residents can bring out-dated paper documents to be cross-shredded onsite at no cost. Please visit www.swancc.org for details on document destruction events and updated event listings.

Check the SWANCC web site for details on upcoming Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb (CFL) Recycling and Computer & Electronic Recycling events.

Help Protect Waterways *Caring For Your Car and the Environment*

Proper car care and maintenance is an important part of efforts to protect the local environment; particularly local creeks and the Des Plaines River. Vehicle fluids, including engine oil, transmission fluid, power steering fluid, hydraulic fluids, and radiator fluids can be hazardous to waterways. For more information about household hazardous waste and how to properly dispose of it, visit the web site www.mountprospect.org.

2009 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 Day
- New Years 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 (1) day. Friday pickups will be done on Saturday.

Christmas Tree Collection

Christmas trees and wreaths will be collected by the refuse hauler at no additional cost on your regular refuse collection day; no stickers required.

Collection of Christmas Trees for Composting January 5 - 16

Residents are encouraged to participate in the Village's Christmas tree composting program. Clean Christmas trees will be collected at no additional charge on your regular refuse collection day from January 5 - 16. Christmas trees set out for composting must be free of all decorative debris including lights, tinsel, ornaments and strings. Trees may be placed at the curb prior to January 5 and after January 16, but these trees will be collected as regular refuse and will not be composted.

Wreaths are considered refuse due to the metal frame and will be collected as refuse. Please place your wreath in your green refuse cart for disposal. In addition, artificial wreaths are not recyclable. Artificial wreaths should be placed in the green refuse cart for disposal not the blue recycling cart

Last day of yard waste collection is December 12

PUBLIC WORKS

Fall Leaf Collection Program

The Village's fall leaf collection program provides residents with a no-cost, convenient way to get rid of leaves. The program allows residents to set out loose leaves at the curb for collection by Public Works crews from October 6 through November 21. Additionally bagged leaves will be collected from November 24 through December 12.

Preparing leaves for pickup:

- Rake leaves onto the pavement one foot from the curb line on the day before your scheduled pickup day and not prior to that.
- Do not rake your leaves onto the street if the vacuum truck has already passed your home. The machines travel each street weekly during the collection period, but only once on each side.

Bagged leaf collection

ARC Disposal will conduct the extended leaf collection program for bagged leaves on your regularly scheduled refuse collection day from November 24 through December 12.

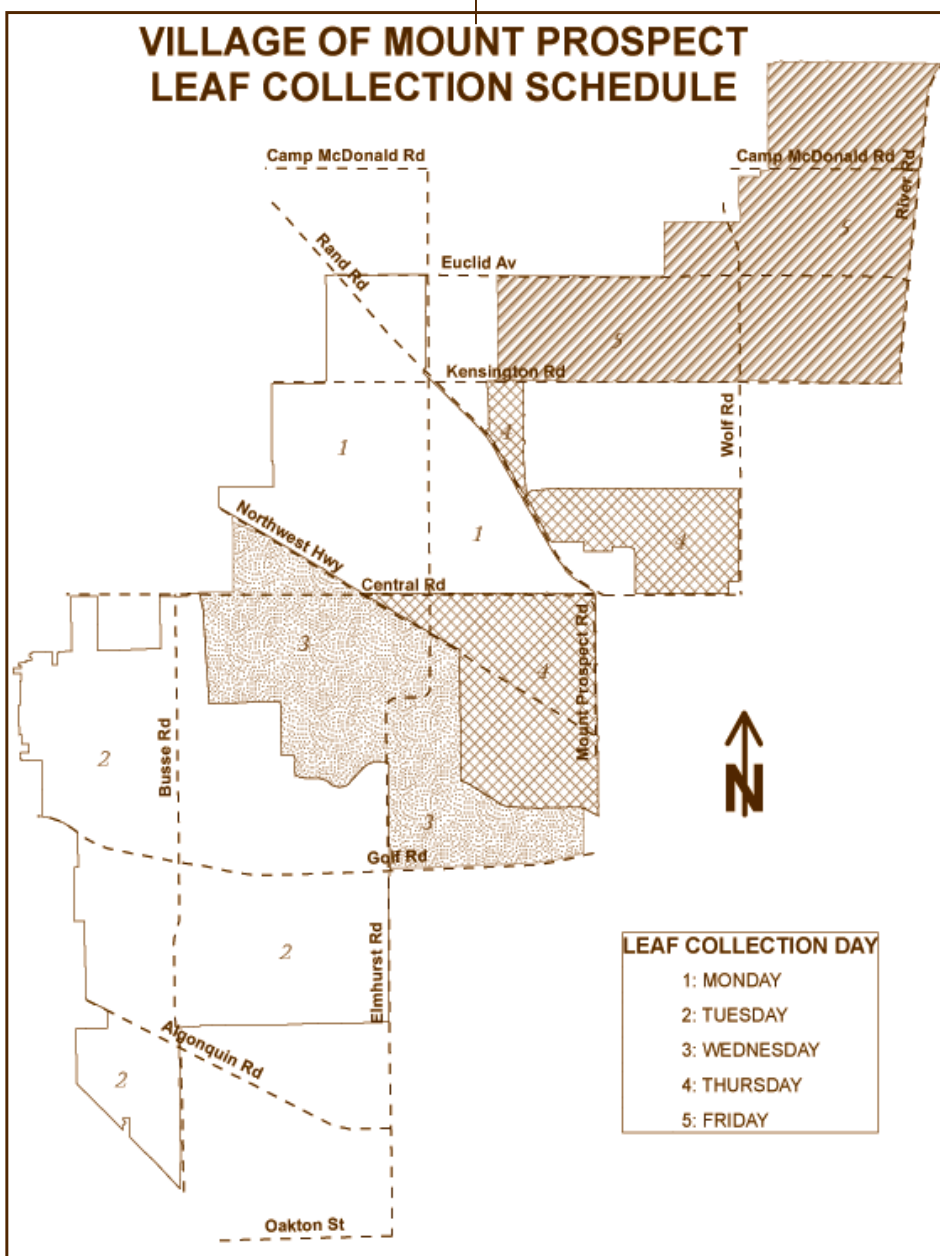
- Biodegradable compost bags containing leaves only will be collected without the Village-imprinted sticker.
- All other yard material and/or leaves in rigid containers must have the Village-imprinted sticker affixed to pay for collection and disposal of the yard material. Bags and/or containers must not exceed 50 lb. Rigid containers must also have the yard waste decal affixed.

Keep your leaves

Leaves make terrific mulch - instead of raking them into the street this year, pack them around your perennials and on your flowerbeds as insulation against the cold. If you have a vegetable garden, spread the leaves on top of it, then rototill them into the soil to enrich it for the next year's crop. Leaves are also a valuable addition to a well-maintained compost pile.

And more leaves

Every year some residents ask about ordering truckloads of free leaves to use as mulch and compost. However, to order a supply, you must order a whole truckload. If that's too much for your needs, get together with your neighbors and share it. For more information, call the Public Works Department at 870-5640.



**BURNING LEAVES IN
MOUNT PROSPECT
VIOLATES
SECTION 24.115
OF THE VILLAGE CODE**

PUBLIC WORKS

When Will My Street be Plowed?

Since all streets can't be plowed at the same time after a snowfall, there is a priority system.

1. Principal intersections are plowed and salted first.
2. Primary collector streets are then plowed enough to allow two-way traffic to pass safely. Cul-de-sacs are plowed after a 2- inch accumulation of snow.
3. Feeder streets and dead ends are plowed last.

When all roads have been opened, repeat passes will be made to clear them curb-to-curb, and intersections also will be cleared completely.

No Parking Reminder

No parking between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any Village street at any time of the year. After a minimum 2-inch snowfall, parking is not permitted on any Village street for at least 24 hours. The Village will tow parked vehicles not removed in time by their owner. Cost of the towing will be borne by the vehicle owner. It is each vehicle owner's responsibility to monitor the weather conditions and to avoid problems if a 2-inch or greater snowfall occurs anytime. For more information about permission to park overnight on Village streets, call the Police Department at 870-5656.



Snow Shoveling Tips

- Remember, it is hazardous and illegal to shovel or blow snow into any public street once the street has been plowed. All shoveled or blown snow should be piled in your yard or parkway. Please follow the suggestion below to minimize windrows in your driveway opening. One way to assure that minimal snow will be piled in your driveway entrance is to follow the simple guideline below.
- 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.

See the web site, www.mountprospect.org for an illustration on how to properly clear your driveway area.

Snowplow Drivers Wanted

If you have experience driving large trucks, have a valid Illinois Class A or B commercial driver's license (CDL) with air brake endorsement, can be available whenever needed and could use some extra money, the Public Works Department wants you! The Department is currently looking for supplemental snow plow drivers. If you were on the Department's driver resource list last year, we hope you'll be on it again this year. Call 870-5640 for more details.



Road Salt and Winter Driving Cautions

Salt is spread throughout the entire length of all streets, but more heavily at intersections. Drivers should be aware, however, that the effectiveness of salt is affected by several factors: principle among them are traffic volume, type of street surface (concrete vs. asphalt), shade patterns and most importantly temperature.

When the thermometer dips below 25° F, salt effectiveness begins to diminish. In extreme cold, it may have no effect at all. Currently the Village does put an additive on the salt to make it more effective in colder temperatures, but at 0° F and below even the additive has its limitations.

Salt effectiveness also is reduced, or even eliminated altogether, by freezing rain because it is washed off the pavement surface and dissolved.

When you're driving in slick, wintertime conditions, a good idea is to imagine there's no salt on the pavement at all. Allow longer distances between you and the vehicle ahead, drive more slowly, and begin stopping well before you would in warmer weather.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Prevention Week: October 5 - October 11

"Prevent Home Fires"

Mount Prospect Fire Department is teaming up with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) from October 5-11 to urge residents to "Prevent Home Fires" during Fire Prevention Week. This year's campaign focuses on preventing all the leading causes of home fires - cooking, heating and electrical equipment, and smoking materials. Additionally, fire department personnel will be visiting each school to discuss with students how to plan and practice escape from a home in case a fire occurs. In conjunction with the Fire Prevention Week theme, the Fire Department will be conducting their annual poster contest for elementary school students and essay contest for the junior high school students. Please encourage your child to participate. For more information, contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 818-5253.



Change Your Clock, Change your Batteries

When changing your clocks on November 2, remember to also change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors! The Fire Department recommends the following guidelines for installing and maintaining your smoke detectors.

- Install new batteries at least once a year. Immediately install a new battery if the detector "chirps" warning of a low battery.
- Smoke detectors should be tested monthly.
- Install detectors on every level of the home and outside all sleeping areas. Smoke detectors should also be installed in every room where people sleep.

Residents who cannot afford a smoke detector or have physical limitations that would hinder them from installing or maintaining their smoke detector should contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 818-5253.



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Class

The Fire Department is offering a free 20-hour disaster preparedness course that will help you, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a local disaster. The training will give you a basic overview on disaster preparedness, disaster fire suppression, basic medical operations, light search and rescue and terrorism preparedness at no cost. The seven-week training course will begin October 8, and end on November 12. Classes will be held at Police Fire Headquarters, 112 E. Northwest Highway. For further information, please contact Jim Miller at the Fire Department, 818-5253.



Winter Fire Safety

As winter approaches, remember and heed these few but precious life saving tips to help you keep warm and safe this winter season.

- Have your fuel burning appliances professionally checked once a year.
- Keep all combustibles away from any heating device. All space heaters must have ample space, at least three feet away from any combustible object or wall, and remember to unplug it when not in use.
- If you have a fireplace, keep the fires small and always use a fireplace screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room. Never burn trash or paper in a fireplace. Remove ashes in a metal container and store them outside. Never leave children unattended in the presence of fire.



- Have a fire escape plan. Know at least two ways out of every room and designate a meeting place outside of your home. Share the plan with your family members and practice it regularly.
- Carbon monoxide is also a serious problem this time of year. The Mount Prospect Fire Department urges everyone to have a working carbon monoxide detector in their home.

For more information please contact the Mount Prospect Fire Prevention Bureau at 818-5253.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chat with the Chief



Mount Prospect Police Chief John Dahlberg will be holding several informal citizen discussion sessions during the fall. Chief Dahlberg and members of his command staff will make themselves available to answer residents' questions, take their comments and/or hear their concerns. No advance notification of your attendance is necessary – just come as you are. These meetings will provide residents with a great opportunity to meet Chief Dahlberg and his staff and converse with them in a relaxed and open atmosphere. The meetings will be held at the Mount Prospect Public Library, 10 S. Emerson Street, on the following dates: Thursday evenings, September 25, October 16, and October 30 (7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) and Saturday, November 1 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Halloween Safety - Friday, October 31

Halloween will soon be here, and here are some helpful tips to keep all of our little ghosts and ghouls safe.

- Make sure kids trick-or-treat during the suggested times of 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Children should always trick or treat in a group or be accompanied by an adult. It's always safer in a group and more fun.
- An adult should check all candy and treats before children eat them. A "suspicious candy" drum will be posted by the main entrance to the Police Department.



Holiday Security Tips

As we approach another holiday season our schedules become quite full of activities and we become very busy. We need to take a moment out of our busy schedules to remind ourselves of holiday safety. Typically as the holidays approach we see an increase in thefts and burglaries. Here are some tips to keep the holidays safe and merry:



- When shopping, don't overburden yourself with too many packages or bags. Your purse or wallet could be an easy mark for thieves. Don't become too engrossed in your shopping as to let your guard down.
- When you park your car, make sure all your vehicle doors are locked. This simple prevention measure makes a big impact. The vast majority of thefts from motor vehicles occur from vehicles with unlocked doors.
- Don't place purchases inside your vehicle for all to see. While you are in the stores shopping, some thieves are in the parking lot shopping. Place bags and packages in your vehicle's trunk or out of sight. If a thief can't see that they are assured of a good score, they usually won't risk getting caught.

Traffic Unit

The Police Department's Traffic Unit employs unmarked police vehicles, each of which are equipped with three different state of-the-art speed detection (radar) systems that afford officers a great deal of flexibility when deploying radar in the field. To find out where the Traffic Unit will be concentrating their efforts in the coming months, visit the web site, www.mountprospect.org. Contact Sergeant Mike Eterno at 818-5248 with your traffic law enforcement concerns or questions.



GPS Devices #1 With Car Burglars

Car burglaries are very difficult cases to solve as there is usually very little physical evidence left behind after one has occurred. In order to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of a car burglary we are providing some easy tips to follow:

- Close your windows and lock your doors. An open window or unlocked door is an invitation to a criminal.
- Remove loose valuables from your vehicle. G.P.S. devices and radar detectors are popular items for car thieves.
- If you must leave valuables in your car place them out of sight in the trunk or under the seats.
- Don't hesitate to call 9-1-1 to report suspicious persons seen wandering around in parking lots or driveways or looking into cars as they walk by (your call can be anonymous).
- Park in well lit areas. Criminals look for cars parked out of the way in order to help ensure less attention is drawn to them.
- Turning on outside driveway and porch light are still the cheapest form of security.

These simple steps should be used whenever you park your car, whether you are just "running in for a minute" or parking for the evening. If you would like more information on car burglaries or other police matters, please contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 870-5650 or e-mail us at crimeprevention@mountprospect.org.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1040A Forms for Stimulus Payments

For individuals who do not usually file income tax, you may be eligible for a \$300 stimulus payment from the government. Time is running out, though. Although your income must be \$3,000 or higher, social security is considered "countable" income for this program. Forms must be mailed by Oct. 15. Call the Human Services Dept. at 870-5680 for assistance.

Medicare D Prescription Drug Open Enrollment

Open enrollment for Medicare D takes place November 15 through December 31. Anyone who did not sign up for Medicare D and is on Medicare A &/or B, or anyone who would like to change their Medicare D plan, must apply during this period. For help determining what you should do, there are a number of agencies that can help including Northwest Community Hospital's SHIP program at 618-7440 or the Mount Prospect Human Services Department at 870-5680, or go on-line to www.socialsecurity.gov or www.medicare.gov.



Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

The deadline for filing your application for the 2006 Circuit Breaker and Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is December 31. The State of Illinois offers a grant program to help individuals sixty-five years of age and older and disabled citizens who pay taxes on their homes, or to refund some of the taxes paid as part of their rent. Illinois residents who qualify for this grant may also participate in the Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, and will receive a discount on their State of Illinois license plates. Income guidelines are: \$24,808 for a one-person household; \$32,916 for a two-person household; \$41,023 for a three-person or more household. For information, call the Human Services Department at 870-5680.

Holiday Programs

Help is available to low-income individuals living in Mount Prospect who need assistance during the Holiday Season. For additional information or to schedule an appointment to apply for the Holiday assistance, please call the Human Services Department at 870-5680.



If you would like to donate, non-perishable food items should be dropped off at the Human Services Department, 50 S. Emerson Street between November 1 and November 18 for the Thanksgiving program, and by December 16 for the Christmas program. We are also looking for volunteers to help sort the items or package the food. For more details, call 870-5680.

Special Needs Advisory Panel Registry

The Human Services Department, in conjunction with the Fire Department, has established a special tracking program that will assist individuals who have been identified as needing special attention in a time of crisis or disaster. For example, we are placing people in this database that are on oxygen; wheelchair or bed bound; blind or visually impaired; deaf or hearing impaired; on ventilators; some form of dementia/memory loss and/or Alzheimer's; dialysis patient; an organ transplant recipient. If you have any one of these criteria or some other form of special needs, and would like to be placed in this database, please call 870-5680.

Call Check Program

The Call Check Program provides support for residents in the form of telephone reassurance, advocacy, and referrals to appropriate parties. It is intended for frail individuals who do not have the physical or mental resources; or family available, to provide such support. The program goes into effect in times of extreme weather conditions. Contact Human Services at 870-5680 to register for the program.



Transportation to Medical Appointments

TRIP (Township Riders Initiative Pilot) provides rides to medical appointments for residents who are sixty years of age and older or eighteen years of age and disabled. Individuals are able to cross township boundaries, plus the townships of Maine and Barrington, go to Cook County Hospital, and the Veteran's Hospitals in Maywood and Elgin for a nominal fee.

The ETS/NW (Escorted Transportation Service) provides rides by volunteers for medical appointments. In addition, the volunteers act as escorts by remaining with the individual. On the way home, if a prescription needs to be filled, the volunteer will make a stop at the desired pharmacy. A small donation is requested. The person requesting the ride must be sixty years of age or older. For more information, or to register, request a ride, or to volunteer call 222-9227. For additional information, call the Human Services Department at 870-5680.

Come One, Come All

Members of the senior programs are always looking for new friends to join their activities, so don't be shy about visiting the activities during their scheduled meeting times, or just drop in to check out the Community Center and pick up the monthly calendar.

The activities for your pleasure include Sentimentalists Senior Chorus, Men's Club, Open Door Social, St. Raymond Senior Club, Young At Heart Club, Senior Citizen's Advisory Council, Pool, Bingo, four separate Bridge groups, Pinochle, Scrabble, and Sunday Games group.

Why not bring a friend or neighbor and enjoy yourselves? The Community Center is located on the first floor of new Village Hall at 50 S. Emerson. The Center hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. and Wednesday Evening Pinochle 6:45 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.



Computer Partners

This program matches seniors (55+) who reside in Mount Prospect with teenagers or adults who are skilled in computer science. Meetings are held at the Mount Prospect Public Library and there are no charges for the instruction. Meetings are held weekly for one hour each. There is a maximum of eight sessions per student.

This is an opportunity to learn to "surf the web", learn basics about e-mail correspondence and feel more comfortable using the computer in every day life. An ability to type or find letters on the keyboard quickly is necessary for the classes. If you are interested in this program, contact the Human Services Department at 870-5680.

Driver Refresher Class

The Secretary of State sponsors Rules of the Road driver refresher classes for senior citizens who need to renew their driver's license. It is designed to reinforce knowledge of rules of the road and cover any changes in the driving laws. The next class at the Village of Mount Prospect Community Center will be held on November 19 at 1:30 p.m. You do not need to wait to take the class until your license expiration date. You may take it ahead of time if you hope to avoid bad weather or conflicts with travel plans. Call 870-5680 to register.



Senior Advisory Council Party

The Advisory Council Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 7, at the Wellington of Arlington, 2121 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. The cost is \$20 per person and the entree choices are prime rib, chicken or salmon. Doors will open at 12:00 noon, luncheon will be served at 1:00 p.m. and entertainment will follow. A cash bar will be available. Reservations can be made in person at the Human Services Department, or by mail addressed to the Human Services Department, 50 South Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, IL 60056. Reservations must be made by December 2. For additional information, call 870-5680.

Mount Prospect Business News

New Business/Change of Ownership/Relocation

9221NC
800 W Central Rd 132
(847) 368-9600
Office

A Central North Animal Hospital
418 W Northwest Hw
(847) 818-7387
Animal Hospital

Advanced Health Concepts
200 E Evergreen Av 128
(847) 439-7411
Massage Therapy

Am Core Bank, N.A.
1800 S Elmhurst Rd
(847) 583-5729
Banks & Financial Inst

Balyk Auto Repair Inc
2070 S Elmhurst Rd
(847) 690-1930
Service

Binoy's Cable Installation
259 E Rand Rd 103
(847) 361-4530
Service

Boulevard Caffe, Inc.
143 W Prospect Av
(847) 797-4007
Restaurant

Elemental Teamworks Inc.
1699 Wall St 520
(847) 690-9921
Other

Europe Spa
940 E Northwest Hw
(847) 800-6777
Health Club

Foto Direct, Inc.
800 W Central Rd 156
(847) 253-8473
Service

G & G Fashion Inc.
1843 W Algonquin Rd
(847) 439-4602
Retail

Gammerler Systec Llc
431 Lakeview Ct B
(941) 465-4400
Retail

Law Office Kathleen Murphy
1100 W Northwest Hw 112
(847) 259-3131
Law Office

Linda Floreria Ltd.
1825 W Algonquin Rd
(847) 640-0926
Florist

Massage Spa & Beyond
1050 S Elmhurst Rd
(847) 357-1233
Health Club

Mirzeta Pajazetovic Agency
1100 W Northwest Hw 218
(847) 392-3600
Insurance Sales

Ravenswood Bank
320 E Northwest Hw
(847) 398-6100
Banks & Financial Inst

Repair Shop, Inc.
726 N Main St
(847) 404-3700
Auto Repair

Smartwash Laundry
1631 W Algonquin Rd
(630) 628-4500
Service

Steven J Dabrowski CPA
350 W Kensington Rd 106w
(847) 670-3562
Accounting

Su Chang Lim / Gorilla Paper
800 W Central Rd 140
(847) 483-8947
Retail

Windy City Gift Baskets, Llc.
800 W Central Rd 105
(877) 424-4387
Retail

Your Choice Gifts
999 N Elmhurst Rd 2165
(847) 361-9778
Gift Shop



**Mount Prospect
Chamber of Commerce**
107 S. Main Street, Phone: 398-6616
www.mountprospectchamber.org

Upcoming Chamber Events

Thursday, October 16, 7:30am Breakfast with the Mayor – Annual “Economic Development Commission” Address. 5:00-7:00 p.m. Mobile Print, Premier Networking @ Nite, entertainment and fun networking with members and Mobile Print customers, 201 W. Central Rd.

Thursday October 23, Multi Chamber Business to Business Expo &, Chateau Ritz, Niles

Thursday, November 20, After-hours Mixer, Ravenswood Bank

Thursday, December 4, Holiday After-hours Mixer, Busse Flowers and Gifts, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 6, Winter Festival Parade & Extravaganza

Thursday, December 11, Annual Holiday Luncheon & Membership Meeting sponsored by American Chartered Bank. A salute to our service clubs and non-profit organizations. Radisson Hotel.

New Business

Boulevard Caffe
143 W. Prospect Ave.
222-0667
www.boulevardcaffe.com



Boulevard Caffe, the newest downtown eatery, opened in August. The cafe provides an affordable, unique menu featuring European continental cuisine with enough variety to satisfy all cravings. It is described as having a warm atmosphere where patrons can relax and enjoy their dining experience.

SPEAK OUT

Village of Mount Prospect
50 S. Emerson Street
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

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Mount Prospect, IL 60056

"Speak Out" provides a way in which YOU can communicate with Mount Prospect elected officials and administration. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated and will receive response. If you need more space, please attach a separate sheet.

Date: _____ *As a citizen of Mount Prospect, it is my opinion that:* _____

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

Mail to: 'Speak Out,' Village of Mount Prospect, 50 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect, IL 60056 OR Email to: speakout@mountprospect.org
(Name and Mailing Address or E-mail Address required for response).



Mount Prospect's Shining Star Awards

Do you have a neighbor that would
bend over backward for anyone in need?

Do you know
a Mount
Prospect
resident or
group that is a
true treasure?

Do you know someone
who is always there but
asks nothing in return?

Do you know someone whose life
is a living example of the Golden
Rule - Do unto others as you
would have them do unto you?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you might know a Shining Star candidate. They can only win if they are nominated. Please go to www.mountprospect.org or come to Village Hall to find out what the Shining Star Awards are all about. If you think you know a worthy candidate, please consider nominating them for a Mount Prospect Shining Star Award.

Nomination forms and category descriptions now
available on the Village's web site,
www.mountprospect.org.

Nominations are due by November 15



Mount Prospect Downtown Merchants' Association

Spotlight on Oktoberfest

Fall 2008

Oktoberfest Historical Roots

Oktoberfest is a sixteen-day festival held in Germany in late September or early October. For centuries, the city of Munich in Bavaria has held the world's largest fair, with some six million people attending the festival each year. Like so many holidays, here in America we have adopted the Oktoberfest tradition when we celebrate another successful harvest and our German heritage with foods, music and good German beer.



Mount Prospect has reason to celebrate Oktoberfest. Many of the early settlers in the area were farmers who came to this country from Germany. Names like Busse, Wille, and Friedrichs dot the history of the village. As late as the 1970s, you could still hear German spoken in the shops along Prospect Avenue.

This year the Mount Prospect Downtown Merchants Association will sponsor an Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 25, 2008 with a celebration of all things German. Join us in downtown Mount Prospect for food, music and fun and an over all feeling of Gemutlichkeit. For more information, see following page.

Downtown News.....

The latest in downtown Mount Prospect!

Newest Restaurant: *Boulevard Caffe* –
143 W. Prospect Ave, 847.222.0667
Great food and atmosphere!

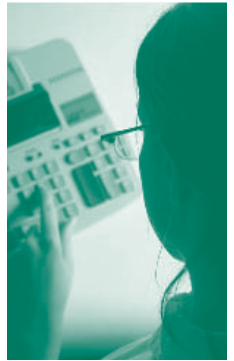
Business Expansion: *Stay Fit Physical Therapy* –
127 W Prospect Ave, 847.255.2348

Grand Opening: *Ravenswood Bank* –
320 E Northwest Hwy, 847.398.6100

Understanding New Tax Changes Can Yield Big Benefits

New mileage rates effective July 1, 2008

Most recently, the IRS announced an increase in the optional standard mileage rates for the final six months of 2008. Taxpayers may use the optional standard mileage rates to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical, or moving purposes.



The rate will increase to 58.5 cents per business mile beginning July 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008. This is an increase from the 50.5 cents per mile that has been in effect for the first six months of 2008. The optional rate for medical or moving miles increases to 27 cents per mile. The rate for charity remains at 14 cents per mile.

Incentives for businesses to stimulate the economy in 2008

The same Stimulus Act that delivered many taxpaying Americans some extra cash this spring also included a provision to encourage businesses to make economy-stimulating purchases in 2008 in an effort to help out the current slump. The Act increases the deduction under Section 179 to \$250,000 for purchases of business assets that are placed in service in 2008. This deduction applies only if you elect the deduction. These incentives can provide a significant tax savings for taxpayers, but it is not automatic – you must elect to take it.

These incentives also include a special 50% depreciation allowance for 2008 purchases for tax years beginning in 2008. As defined by the IRS, depreciation is an income tax deduction that allows a taxpayer to recover the cost or other basis of certain property over several years. This 50-percent depreciation allowance only applies to new items purchased and placed in service in 2008. The benefit expires on December 31, 2008.

Fall Festival & Oktoberfest



Bring your whole family out for the Annual Fall Festival! This year, the event is on Saturday, October 25, 2008 and begins at 1 p.m. and lasts until 4 p.m. The family will enjoy hayrides, candy lines, macaroni soup, and entertainment. The event will be near the Emerson Street and Busse Street intersection in Downtown Mount Prospect.

The Downtown Merchants Association is pleased to present their first Annual Oktoberfest! The event will be after the Fall Festival from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Live entertainment, including a German band, food, and dancing are expected to bring in the crowds for a fun night out in downtown Mount Prospect!

Join us on
October 25!

Fall Festival

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Oktoberfest

4 p.m. to 9 p.m.



Thanks to our Oktoberfest and Fall Festival Sponsors!

Find out how you can sponsor the event! Call Tom at 847.670.9125

Byte Me Computers
718 E Northwest Hwy
847.670.9125

Van Driels Medical Supply
720 E Northwest Hwy
847.253.6494

Picket Fence Realty
113 S Main Street
847.259.8600

Capannari Ice Cream
10 S Pine Street
847.392.2277

Village of Mount Prospect
50 S Emerson St
847.392.6000

MB Financial
15 E Prospect Ave.
847.255.6400

Friedrich's Funeral Home
320 W Central Road
847.255.7800

Vino 100
110 S Emerson Street
847.352.8466

The Green Page

October is Energy Awareness Month



No-cost Tips for Saving Energy and Money

The following energy-saving tips won't cost you a penny – but they can save you bucks on your energy bills.

- Turn off the lights when you leave the room (Who knew? Dad was right).
- Keep your home at 78 degrees in the summer, or at the warmest temperature that is comfortable for you.
- When leaving home for more than 4 hours, raise the thermostat 5 to 10 degrees in summer and lower it 5 to 10 degrees in winter. Do the same at night before going to bed.
- Close south-, east-, and west-facing curtains during the day to keep out solar heat during the summer.
- Clean the coils at the back of your refrigerator twice a year.
- Only heat and cool rooms you use; close vents and doors to rooms that are not being used.
- Keep windows closed and shades down when air conditioning is on.
- Check and clean air conditioning filters monthly and replace as needed.
- Unplug electric chargers, televisions and audio/video equipment when not in use (or plug them into a power strip you can turn off and on). These devices use electricity even when they are not in use.
- Turn off your computer or put it in "sleep" mode when it is not being used.
- Run energy-intensive appliances such as the dishwasher and clothes washer at night. The heat produced by these appliances will not need to be offset by your air conditioner during the day.
- Wait till you have a full load to run the dishwasher and clothes washer and use cold water when possible.
- Keep lamps and televisions away from the thermostat. The heat they generate will cause your air conditioner to work harder.
- If you're running an old refrigerator in your basement that isn't being used, unplug it. Old refrigerators can use three times the electricity of modern ones.

Low-cost Tips for Saving Energy and Money

If you think cutting your energy usage requires a big investment, think again. Small changes like those below can have a noticeable impact on your energy bill.

- When you're out of your house (and at night, when you're asleep), use a programmable thermostat to automatically raise the temperature 5 to 10 degrees in summer and lower it 5 to 10 degrees in winter.
- Install weather stripping on all doors and windows.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR®-qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). They're relatively cheap, use about 75% less energy and typically last ten times longer. Replacing a 60 watt incandescent bulb with a 13 watt ENERGY STAR-qualified equivalent CFL could save you, on average, \$30 over the life of the bulb.
- Install electric timers on exterior lighting, small appliances and room air conditioners.
- Add dimmers or occupancy sensors to your home's lighting system.
- If you have any exposed ductwork in your house, seal all joints with a caulk, such as mastic. Otherwise, heating (and cooling) could escape before getting where it's supposed to go.
- If you have less than 6 to 10 inches of insulation in your attic, you probably need more.
- Consider installing low-flow showerheads and sink aerators to reduce hot water use.
- When buying new appliances, lights, electronics or other products, look for the ENERGY STAR label.



Shop Mount Prospect for the Holidays

Your sales tax dollars come back home.

Of your sales tax dollars, 2% comes back to Mount Prospect to help pay for public services like snow, leaf and waste removal. That may not seem like a lot, but an estimated total of \$12.7 million dollars in sales tax revenue came back into Mount Prospect in 2007 from Mount Prospect businesses.

Local businesses donate generously to support your schools, sport teams and charity fundraisers.

Your children's schools and sport teams, your family's churches and charities depend heavily on local businesses for charitable donations of money, goods and services. And research has shown that small firms give an average of 2.5 times the amount per employee than do medium to large companies.

Shopping, dining and services are diverse, easy and close by.

And parking is free. If you're already a big supporter of local businesses, you know this. But if you're not, go out and explore the businesses in Mount Prospect. Guaranteed, you'll discover something new and wonderful that you didn't know existed. Could there be more? Of course. But if you support what's here, more will come, and Mount Prospect will get more and more vibrant.



The owners, managers and employees could be your neighbors.

Local businesses are often owned by people who live in Mount Prospect and often employ local residents. Therefore, they care deeply about the community. They want to contribute to its wellbeing, and the money they earn tends to come back into the community. In addition, resident or not, you will often find the owner right there managing the day-to-day business while working directly with customers.

What's more, because you're shopping in your hometown, you bump into your friends and

neighbors, and see friendly faces all around. Shopping, dining and doing errands become pleasant social activities that enhance your life.

It feels great to be important.

Every customer that comes through the door of a small business is important. Isn't it nice to walk into a place and they know your name? Smaller businesses differentiate themselves with excellent service. They will take care of you in a way you'll relish. Because hospitality is not a forgotten concept and neighborliness is status quo.

More of the money you spend stays in our community.

Here's an enlightening fact: a regional study showed that locally owned businesses spend 45% of their revenue in the surrounding area vs 14% that comes back to the local economy from national retailers. Yet another study supported the economic impact of dollars spent at independent businesses as 2-3 times that of spending at national chains. Those are pretty persuasive statistics.

