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MOUNT PROSPECT VILLAGE news

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER **2026**



SPREADING Cheer!

AROUND MOUNT PROSPECT

Everywhere you look around Mount Prospect, community members are giving and gathering to make the holiday season special. Together as a Village, all are invited to participate in our winter celebrations, charitable opportunities, and events that encourage you to explore all around Mount Prospect!

MOUNT PROSPECT KINDNESS WEEK

The Village's Special Events Commission is once again recognizing Kindness Week (November 8-15). This is a week-long celebration encouraging residents to see the good, be the good, and go the extra mile in our community. Complete a bingo card filled with acts of kindness and see how small changes can make a big difference. Pick up a Kindness Kit, bingo card included, at one of the kickoff events: November 7, 10 am to noon at the Mount Prospect Public Library (10 S. Emerson St.) and November 8, 9:30 to 11:30 am at RecPlex (420 W. Dempster St.). Get more information at mountprospect.org/kindnessweek.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY DONATIONS

Community members are encouraged to give what they can to make the holidays extra special for those in need. More details on page 10.

FIRE DEPARTMENT TOY DRIVE

The Mount Prospect Fire Department is hosting its annual Toy Drive through December 4. Donate new, unopened, and unwrapped toys for children up to age 17. Youth ages 13 to 17 are the most underserved group during holiday drives. Consider donating gift cards, electronics, cozy apparel, or games suited for older kids. See drop-off locations on page 6.

HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

Spread holiday cheer with the Special Events Commission's annual Holiday House Decorating Contest. This contest is open to all who live or have a business in Mount Prospect. Registration is free and runs from November 16 to end of day on December 14. Unless specified otherwise, all registered properties will be included on our Holiday Decoration map. The map will be made available to the public so all can enjoy the winter wonderland that is Mount Prospect! Get more information at mountprospect.org/holidaydecorations.

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY & CHRISTKINDLMARKET

Join us for the annual Mount Prospect Tree Lighting Ceremony and Christkindlmarket on November 25. The tree lighting ceremony will take place in the pocket park, located at the intersection of Emerson St. and Busse Ave. Listen to holiday tunes sung by the Prospect High School Madrigals and warm up with free hot chocolate and candy canes provided by the Mount Prospect Lions Club. Inside Village Hall, explore a wide assortment of holiday gifts for sale at the Christkindlmarket, sponsored by the Mount Prospect Special Events Commission. The Tree Lighting takes place at 5 pm and the Christkindlmarket is from 4 to 7 pm in the Farley Community Room.

ADOPT-A-SAILOR

Mount Prospect Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1337 and American Legion Post 525 plan to host 50 Navy recruits from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center on Thanksgiving Day for the "Adopt-a-Sailor" program. This heartfelt event has become a permanent fixture in Mount Prospect. Anyone interested in donating to the program can contact Marcie Kane with the VFW at mfkane6@gmail.com. All donations will be used for the Adopt-a-Sailor event and other local military programs.

HOLIDAY HOUSEWALK

On December 4, 3:30 - 9 pm, the Mount Prospect Historical Society will hold its 38th annual Holiday Housewalk inviting the public to tour beautifully decorated private homes during the holiday season. Tickets are $25 for members, $30 for non-members, and $35 at the event. Get more information at mtphist.org.

CHANUKAH CANDLE LIGHTING PROGRAM

Join us for a celebration of light and hope in the Farley Community Room at Village Hall on December 5. Starting at 5 pm, attendees will light candles on a traditional menorah and have some delicious Chanukah treats. A presentation about the story and history of Chanukah will be given. This event is free and open to all – no registration required.

Check out more seasonal events from the Library, Park District, and other community partners on pages 2 and 3!

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Community Events

NOVEMBER 3

Reclaiming Your Inner Wisdom: Sacred Indigenous Teachings



TUE | NOV 3 | 1 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Virtual

Join Indigenous Medicine Woman Asha Frost as she explores her groundbreaking book, *You Are the Medicine: 13 Indigenous Teachings to Connect to Your Inner Wisdom, Reclaim Your Power, and Heal*. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 3

Community Blood Drive



TUE | NOV 3 | 3 – 7 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

If you are 17 or older, roll up your sleeve and help save lives as the Library partners with Versiti. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 3

Play and Learn Group



TUE | NOV 3, 10, 17 & 24
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 W. Algonquin Rd.

Children with a caregiver are invited to join Human Services for a weekly program that includes story time, music, and play-based learning. There will be no group meetings in December.

NOVEMBER 4

Evening Creations



WED | NOV 4 | 7 PM
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.

Enjoy a lighthearted evening of creativity and good company—no craft experience needed! Bring a friend and join the fun for $10. Visit mtphist.org or Eventbrite for craft details.

NOVEMBER 5

Winterscaping: Beauty in the Quiet Season



THU | NOV 5 | 7 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

Get inspired to create a winter garden with Horticulturist Heather Prince who will consider plants for their architecture, their resilience to snow cover, and the simple pleasures of bark and berries. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 6

Fit 4 Life



FRI | NOV 6, 13, 20 & DEC 4 & 18
10 – 10:45 AM
FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.

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

NOVEMBER 7

Kindness Week Kick-Off Event

SAT | NOV 7
10 AM – NOON
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

More details on page 1.

NOVEMBER 7

Afternoon Tea: Jacqueline Kennedy with Leslie Goddard



SAT | NOV 7 | 1 PM
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.

One year after her husband's assassination, the former first lady reflects on her marriage, struggle for privacy, restoration of the White House, and efforts to champion the arts. Tea and cucumber sandwiches will be served. $25 members/$30 non-members. For info, visit mtphist.org.

NOVEMBER 7

Fall Concert



SAT | NOV 7 | 4 PM
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
605 W. Golf Rd.

Enjoy a special performance by The Mt. Prospect Community Band.

NOVEMBER 8

Plastics: From Awareness to Action Workshop

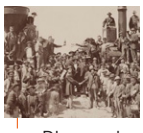


SUN | NOV 8 | 1 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

Explore the challenges of plastic pollution and discover practical ways to make a difference at home and in your community. This interactive workshop is presented by Jacquelyn Casazza, President and Co-Founder of Go Green Glen Ellyn, and co-hosted by Go Green Mount Prospect and Cool Cities Palatine. Registration is required at mppl.org or 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 9

Railroad Ties: A Collaborative Project on Local Railroad History



MON | NOV 9 | 7 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

Discover how the railroad shaped local communities with a screening of Railroad Ties, a documentary created by three local historical organizations. Presented in partnership with the Mount Prospect Historical Society. Register at mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 10

Shady Characters: Nifty Plants for Shady Sites



TUE | NOV 10 | 9:30 AM
FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.

Bring color and life to shady spaces! Join horticulturist Heather Prince, a 25-year industry veteran, to explore plants for all types of shade. Guests are welcome. Social time begins at 9:30 am, followed by the presentation at 10 am and business meeting at 11 am.

NOVEMBER 10

Bunco Night



TUE | NOV 10
6:30 – 8 PM
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.

No bunco experience needed! Bring a friend and enjoy a lighthearted evening of good company and plenty of laughs. Adults only. Free to play; $5 donation suggested. For info, visit mtphist.org.

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Ceremony

WED | NOV 11 | 10 AM
RECPLEX
420 Dempster St.

More details on page 2.

NOVEMBER 11

Bessie's Workbasket: Random Acts of Kindness Calendar



WED | NOV 11 | 7 – 9 PM
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.

Join the Historical Society for a workshop to create an Acts of Kindness Calendar. It is a beautiful reusable display, using envelopes and embellishments, to be filled with daily prompts – from simple good deeds like leaving a sweet note for a neighbor, to helping your community. $10 for members, $15 for non-members. For info, visit mtphist.org.

NOVEMBER 12

Native American and Mexican Cooking with Chef Pyet DeSpain

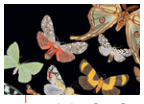


THU | NOV 12 | 1 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Virtual

Prepare your palate for a vibrant culinary journey with star chef Pyet DeSpain as she presents her debut cookbook, Rooted in Fire: A Celebration of Native American and Mexican Cooking. Presented in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 12

Local Voices: The Mysterious World of Moths



THU | NOV 12 | 7 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

Join Go Green MP for their next Local Voices event and discover the fascinating world of moths, their important role as pollinators, and the threats facing moths, butterflies, and other insects. Get an up-close look at local species with a collection of moth specimens and live moth cocoons. Free to attend; no registration required.

NOVEMBER 14

Friends Holiday Book Sale

SAT | NOV 14
9 AM – 3 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.

Just in time for the holidays! All items have been specially selected for this sale so you can find the right gift for the adults, teens, and children on your list.

NOVEMBER 14

Ladies Night Out – Harvest & Holiday



SAT | NOV 14
6:30 – 8:30 PM
FRIENDSHIP PARK CONSERVATORY
395 W. Algonquin Rd.

Support the Mt. Prospect Parks Foundation while learning floral arranging for centerpieces and at-home décor. Enjoy wine and charcuterie and a chance to win one of six fresh centerpieces created by Mary Cantrell, Senior Designer and Event Director at Lake Zurich Florist. $35 per person; for ages 21+. Register at mppd.org with code 53052.

NOVEMBER 17

Chicago: Aviation's Incubator

TUE | NOV 17 | 2 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Aviation historian Michael Haupt will explain the very critical role Chicago played in the development of aviation. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 18

Drop-in Gift Wrap Supplies and Holiday Decor Swap

WED | NOV 18 | 4 – 7 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Swap unused gift wrap, wrapping supplies, and holiday decor in good condition. Items for all holidays, seasons, and occasions are welcome. Donations accepted only during the event. No registration required.

NOVEMBER 19

Senior Connections

THU | NOV 19
9 – 10:30 AM
FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



More details on page 10.

NOVEMBER 19

Social Security Planning

THU | NOV 19 | 2 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



John Daly, CFP, of Daly Investment Management helps unlock the full potential of your retirement benefits as he guides you through crucial claiming strategies and highlights pitfalls to avoid. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

NOVEMBER 24

Senior Social Hour

TUE | NOV 24
1 – 2:30 PM
FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



Join Human Services for their very first Senior Social Hour offering a relaxed afternoon filled with warm drinks, delicious pies, and lighthearted conversation. Registration is required. Call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680. Mount Prospect residents only.

NOVEMBER 25

ChristkindlImarket & Tree Lighting Ceremony

WED | NOV 25
VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.



More details on page 1

NOVEMBER 28

Santa Photo Shoot

SAT | NOV 28
SUN | NOV 29
DOWNTOWN MOUNT PROSPECT



Capture a magical holiday memory with Santa in Downtown Mount Prospect! Bring the kids or gather the whole family to capture a festive holiday memory perfect for cards and keepsakes. Make a day of it and enjoy the sights, sounds, and holiday spirit of Downtown Mount Prospect. More info at mpdowntown.com.

DECEMBER 4

38th Annual Holiday Housewalk

FRI | DEC 4 | 3:30 – 9 PM



More details on page 1.

DECEMBER 5

Teddy Bear Walk: Winter Fun for Families

SAT | DEC 5
9:30 AM – NOON
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Bring the whole family and your favorite stuffed pal to enjoy a unique, multigenerational Mount Prospect tradition — the annual Teddy Bear Walk! No registration required.

DECEMBER 5

Holiday Concert

SAT | DEC 5 | 4 PM
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
605 W. Golf Rd.



Celebrate the holidays with the gift of music from the Mt. Prospect Community Band.

DECEMBER 5

Chanukah Candle Lighting

SAT | DEC 5 | 5 PM
FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM AT VILLAGE HALL
50 S. Emerson St.

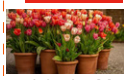


More details on page 1.

DECEMBER 8

Bulbs in Container Gardens

TUE | DEC 8 | 9:30 AM
FRIENDSHIP PARK CONSERVATORY
395 W. Algonquin Rd.



Join the Mount Prospect Garden Club as Stephanie Dalton shares creative ways to use bulbs in holiday and spring container gardens. The meeting will also feature a grab-bag gift exchange and holiday games. Social time begins at 9:30 am, followed by the presentation at 10 am and business meeting at 11 am.

DECEMBER 9

Bessie's Workbasket: Holiday Embroidered Cards and Tags

WED | DEC 9 | 7 PM
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.



Create stunning handmade cards and gift tags using embroidery floss at this cozy workshop. No previous embroidery experience is needed. $10 for members, $15 for non-members. For info, visit mtphist.org

DECEMBER 12

Breakfast with Santa

SAT | DEC 12
10 – 11:30 AM
ROB ROY GOLF COURSE
505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.



Santa is coming to River Trails Park District! Enjoy a breakfast buffet and a special visit with Santa. Register all attendees at rtpd.org, including children under age 1, and complete the family seating request form by December 9. Under 1: Free. Ages 1–15: $25. Ages 16+: $35.

DECEMBER 13

Warm Hearts, Warm Hands

SUN | DEC 13
12:30 – 2:30 PM
CENTRAL SCHOOL
103 S. Maple St.



Help keep our neighbors warm this winter! Bring mittens, scarves, hats, or other winter wear to decorate the Historical Society's bare tree. Admission is free, but registration is requested. Invite your friends! For details, visit mtphist.org.

DECEMBER 15

Holiday Concert: The Saddle Shoe Sisters

TUE | DEC 15 | 7 PM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Join The Saddle Shoe Sisters for a night of classic holiday songs and popular hits from the past. To register, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

DECEMBER 18

Mindful Chair Yoga

FRI | DEC 18 | 11 AM
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 S. Emerson St.



Join the Library for a gentle seated yoga practice incorporating breath awareness and meditation. This program is presented by Mather, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of adults ages 55 and older. To register, call 847.253.5675.

DECEMBER 19

Stocking Deliveries

SAT | DEC 19
10 AM – 1 PM



Santa is making special deliveries from the North Pole! Surprise your child or a friend with a personal visit from Santa and a stocking full of goodies. River Trails Park District residents only; ages 1+. Delivery times are not guaranteed. $24 for the first child/$16 each additional child. Register at rtpd.org/event/stocking-deliveries-4.

DECEMBER 19

Elf Academy: Earn your Ears

SAT | DEC 19
10 AM – 2:30 PM
WEISS COMMUNITY CENTER
1500 E. Euclid Ave.



Kids ages 6–13 can earn their ears at Elf Academy! Young elves will create holiday gifts and decorations, learn gift-wrapping techniques, complete fun challenges, and graduate as Certified Elves. Ages 6–8: 10 am–noon. Ages 9–13: 12:30–2:30 pm. $25 residents/$30 non-residents.

DECEMBER 30

New Year's Eve-Eve Family Celebration

WED | DEC 30
STATION 34
34 S. Main St.



Ring in 2027 early with a family-friendly celebration in Downtown Mount Prospect! Enjoy music, dancing, live entertainment, food, and an exciting midday balloon drop. Celebrate all the fun of New Year's Eve—without the late bedtime! More info at mpdowntown.com.

News from the Finance Department

Property Tax Relief Grant



The Village Board of Trustees approved funds to provide 2026 Mount Prospect real estate tax relief for qualifying single-family homeowners in the Village. This opportunity is available to households with annual gross income equal to or less than: $31,300 for one person; or $42,300 for two or more people. The rebate is equal to 50% of the Village's portion of the total 2025 Cook County real estate tax bill, up to a maximum of $250. Please apply after you have paid the 2nd installment of your 2025 tax bill.

Assistance with completing the application will be available in the Finance Department at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St., on Friday, November 6, from 9:30 am to noon, and Tuesday, November 10, from 1:30 to 4 pm.

No appointment is needed. For questions, contact the Finance Department at 847.392.6000.

News Around Town

2026 Community Survey



Every three years, the Village of Mount Prospect conducts a community survey asking residents to share their thoughts on the Village's services and performance. The survey is administered by ETC Institute, a national market research organization, to assure equity in representation across the entire Village and statistically relevant results.

The community survey includes questions ranging from overall quality of life to specific department services. The survey also gives residents the opportunity to share their opinion on community priorities–helping to identify areas of focus for the Village in the coming years. The 2026 Community Survey is currently in development and will arrive in November. It is expected to be completed in December 2026. Results will be published presented at a Village Board meeting and on the Village's website.

Results from the last community survey in 2023 reported a 91% satisfaction level with the overall quality of Village services. The Village of Mount Prospect received ETC Institute's "Leading the Way" award, recognizing a government's exceptional performance in delivering services to residents.

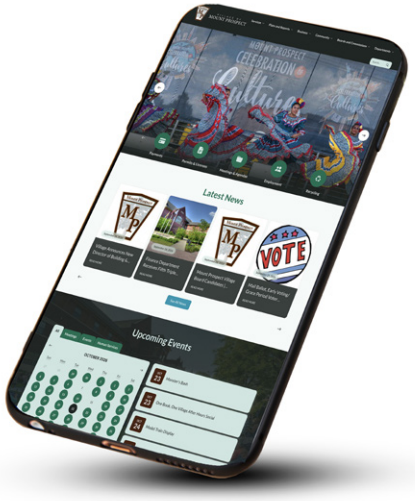
To view the full results of previous community surveys, go to mountprospect.org/communitysurvey.

Veterans Day



Mount Prospect's local veterans' groups–Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1337 and American Legion Post 525–are gearing up for Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11. Veterans Day functions include school visits to educate children on patriotism and an annual ceremony. This year's Veterans Day Ceremony will be at RecPlex, 420 Dempster St., at 10 am. Fellow veterans and community members are encouraged to join.

New Village Website!



Discover what's new in Mount Prospect! Explore the latest community news, upcoming events, Village services, and more, all in one convenient place.

Check out our new site and let us know what you think! Go to **mountprospect.org**.

Mount Prospect Adopts MP2040, a New Comprehensive Plan for the Village's Future

After more than a year of community input, technical analysis, and public review, including pop-up engagement events, visioning workshops, stakeholder interviews, and hundreds of survey responses and conversations, the Village Board has adopted MP2040, Mount Prospect's new Comprehensive Plan.

The plan replaces the Village's prior long-range guide and lays out a vision organized around a few key themes: housing, sustainability, community facilities, connectivity between neighborhoods, parks, schools, and businesses, and continued strengthening of the Village's commercial areas and tax base.

Adoption is just the starting point. The plan includes an Implementation Matrix of 153 specific action items assigned across Village groups, and staff will use MP2040 as a framework for evaluating future development proposals, prioritizing projects, and updating regulations where needed. Residents can expect to see the plan referenced in staff reports and public hearings going forward. The full plan document is available on the Village's website, mountprospect.org/mp2040, and questions can be directed to the Community Development Department at 847.818.5328.

MOUNT PROSPECT 2040
PLANNING OUR FUTURE

Village of Mount Prospect Makes Headway on Monument Signage Project

The Village of Mount Prospect initiated a Request for Proposal (RFP) in June 2024 for the creation of monument signs at key locations throughout the Village. Enhancing the community's identity was central to the project, with sites being selected in South Mount Prospect and the Kensington Business Center (KBC).

Construction began earlier this summer for the South Mount Prospect gateway sign, located on the east side of Busse Rd., just north of Interstate 90, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026. Additionally, the Kensington Business Center monument sign, situated at the key intersection of Rand Rd. and Business Center Dr., also began construction and has since been completed. The RFP included three monument signs, two of which are located at the KBC. The second KBC monument sign, located at the intersection of Feehanville Dr. and Wolf Rd., is expected to begin construction in the future.

To learn more about the Village's signage project, please contact the Community Development Department at 847.818.5328.





Ribbon Cuttings!



September 17, 2026
VASA Fitness
1490 S. Elmhurst Rd.
vasafitness.com | 847.500.1480



September 18, 2026
KidStrong
1072 Mount Prospect Plaza
mountprospect-il.kidstrong.com | 847.457.0135



October 1, 2026
Mount Prospect Public Library | 2nd Floor Expansion
10 S. Emerson St.
mppl.org | 847.253.5675

A Firefighter's Holiday Wish List

The best gifts on a firefighter's list can't all be found under a tree – they are the things that keep your family safe all year long. So, what would make the Mount Prospect Fire Department's Holiday Wish List?

You should have smoke alarms on every floor of your home, inside the bedrooms, and outside the sleeping areas. Test them regularly and replace them with new ones once they are over ten years old. Never take them down and never remove the batteries.

- Carbon monoxide (CO) is known as the silent killer because you can't smell it, taste it, or see it. A working CO alarm can provide an early warning and potentially save lives.
- Every home should have an appropriately rated fire extinguisher that all household members know how to use. Keep it accessible, but remember, if a fire is spreading or you are unsure what to do, get out and call 911. Never put yourself in danger trying to fight a fire.
- Keep flashlights where everyone in the household can easily find them, and check batteries regularly. When it's dark in the hallways, or there is an emergency, having a flashlight can make all the difference. Battery-powered lanterns are also a much safer alternative to candles in a power outage.



- Here's one that's free: sit down with your family and develop an escape plan. Identify two ways out of every room, choose a meeting spot outside, and practice your plan a few times a year. Make sure your family knows how to open every door and window and what to do in an emergency. A fire is not the time to figure out how to escape. The true gift is peace of mind knowing that you and your family are prepared.
- You may not be able to wrap this gift, but giving space to your space heater will keep everyone safe. Keep portable heaters at least 3' away from anything that can burn, place them on a solid, level surface, and turn them off when you leave the room. Never place the space heater so that it blocks any exits.
- Along with the gifts everyone wants this year, such as new phones, tablets, laptops, e-bikes and e-scooters, as well as other battery-powered devices, we want the gift of safe charging. Use the charger that is designed for the device, follow the manufacturer's instructions, and charge devices on hard, flat surfaces away from beds, couches, and other materials that can burn.
- This holiday season, give your family something that lasts long after the decorations come down: the gift of fire safety.



From all of us at the Mount Prospect Fire Department, we wish you a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season!

Provide a Safe Setting for Holiday Celebrations

Hosting Thanksgiving this year? Keep guests safe with a few simple precautions you can take in the home and the kitchen.



- Check steps and railings, secure rugs, and move electrical cords out of walkways.
- Keep entrances well lit.
- Set timers to prevent food from boiling over or burning.
- Keep flammable items away from burners.
- Avoid loose clothing and dangling sleeves while cooking.
- Clean surfaces to prevent grease buildup.
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy.
- Place hot food and liquids in the center of the table to prevent spills.

Follow these tips to enjoy a safe Thanksgiving and let the turkey be the only thing heating up!

Police Department

Welcome New Officers

We are excited to announce the swearing in of four new police officers to the Department! Welcome to the team Officers Vanessa Vasquez, Paola Gomez, Michelle Sorto, and Skyler Doss. All officers have begun their academy training at the Police Training Institute in Champaign.

Congratulations to our new members!



Snow Parking Guidelines

As winter approaches, we would like to remind everyone that after a minimum 2" snowfall, parking is not permitted on any Village street for at least 24 hours. Designed to allow snow removal crews to clear streets, this ordinance takes precedence over any previously granted overnight parking permission. Vehicles that violate the ordinance will be towed by the Village, and the cost of the towing will be charged to the vehicle owners. Regardless of the time of day, it is each vehicle owner's responsibility to monitor the weather conditions for a 2" or greater snowfall if they are parked on a Village street.

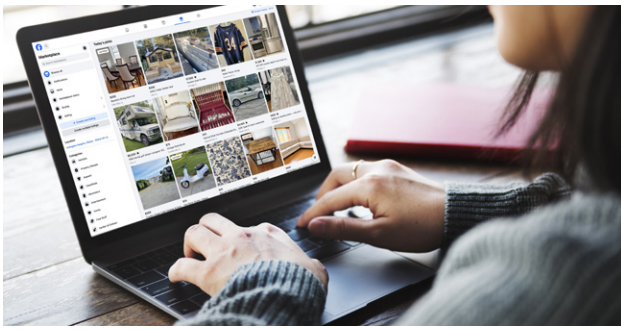


Firearm Safety

If you own a firearm, please be a responsible owner and ensure it is safely and securely stored. Our department offers free firearm cable locks, courtesy of Project ChildSafe. They are available at the front desk of Police Headquarters, 911 E. Kensington Rd. Residents may request one by stopping by the front desk.



Make It a Safe Exchange



As buying, selling, and trading goods through online marketplaces continues to grow, the Police Department would like to offer some tips to ensure you have a safe transaction. First, always meet the buyer or seller in a safe and neutral location. We encourage you to use the front parking lot or front lobby of Police Headquarters at 911 E. Kensington Rd. for any transaction you have arranged online. You do not need to alert the Police Department or request permission to use the space for this purpose. Officers and staff will not participate in the transaction, but the area is under 24-hour video surveillance.

Here are a few more tips to keep you safe:

- Insist on a public meeting place.
- Do not go into someone's house, and do not let anyone into yours.
- Buy, sell, or trade only with local individuals.
- Never go to a transaction alone.
- Inform a friend or family member of the details of the meeting before you go.
- Complete transactions only during daytime hours.
- Be extra cautious when buying or selling valuable items such as vehicles and jewelry.
- Trust your instincts. Avoid anything that seems suspicious or that could be a scam.
- If somebody is not willing to come to the police station to make a transaction, it is probably not a legitimate transaction.



Loose Leaf Collection Available Until December 4

Public Works crews will continue collecting loose leaves at the curb through December 4, weather permitting. The program provides residents with a convenient, no-cost way to dispose of their fall leaves.

There will be no collection on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, and the day following, November 27. During that week, crews will attempt to collect across the entire Village between Monday and Wednesday, so please have your leaves ready by Monday the 23rd.

Here are a few reminders to help Public Works crews maintain an efficient program:

- Place only loose leaves at the curb; no grass clippings, twigs, branches, or other debris will be picked up. It is the homeowner's responsibility to separate those materials prior to collection.
- Rake the leaves to the street, piling them approximately one foot from the curb.
- Do not put out leaves any sooner than the day before scheduled collection, except for the week of Thanksgiving.
- Crews pass each side of the street only once, so if you miss the pick-up you will need to wait until the following week.

Thank you for doing your part to keep the leaf collection program running smoothly, safely, and efficiently.

Yard Waste and Organics Pick-up Season Ending Soon

December 18 will be the final day for the Village's organics and yard waste pick-up service. Please put all properly prepared organics and yard waste at the curb in time for your final pickup; there will be no subsequent dates offered.

The program will return next year, so keep an eye out for the schedule at mountprospect.org/organics.

Thank you for helping keep our community clean and green!





Care for Your Car and Local Waterways at the Same Time



Vehicle maintenance is not only good for your car - it also helps protect local waterways. Oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids can be harmful to people, fish, and wildlife. When these materials reach a storm drain or are washed from pavement, they can eventually make their way into local creeks and the Des Plaines River.

If you like to perform your own vehicle maintenance, please keep the environment in mind. If you change your own oil, be sure to properly recycle the used oil by storing it in a sturdy, clearly marked container and taking it to a local oil recycling facility. For a current list of locations, contact Public Works at 847.870.5640.

The same is true of used antifreeze. Never pour these materials into the ground, a storm drain, or down the sink.

If a spill occurs involving oil, antifreeze, or other vehicle fluid, use kitty litter, sawdust, corn meal, or a commercial absorbent to clean it up. Once the fluid is fully absorbed, sweep it up and dispose of it properly.

For information about household hazardous waste collection events, visit mountprospect.org/hhw.

Protect Your Home This Winter by Preventing Frozen Water Lines



When water freezes, it expands and can cause pipes to crack or rupture, potentially leading to flooding and significant water damage. It doesn't take long for water lines in your home to freeze during extreme cold.

A little preparation can help reduce the risk of frozen pipes in your home.

- Insulate exposed pipes. Pay special attention to water lines in unheated areas, crawl spaces, garages, and along exterior walls.
- Disconnect outdoor hoses. Remove hoses from exterior hose bibbs, drain the bibbs, and consider installing insulated covers for added protection.
- Keep water moving by allowing a slow stream of cold water to run from a faucet located in the lower portion of your home.
- Know the location of your main shut-off valve and how to operate it. Knowing how to quickly access it and turn it off can help minimize damage if a pipe ruptures.

Frozen water lines generally occur where pipes enter the basement or crawl space. If you suspect a pipe may be frozen, do not use a torch or open flame to thaw it; applying too much heat too quickly can cause the pipe to rupture.

Instead, gradually warm the affected area using a hair dryer, space heater, or towels soaked in warm water. Never leave heating equipment unattended, and keep electrical equipment away from standing water.

Check Your Mailbox

Each winter, Public Works shares a reminder to make sure your mailbox is securely mounted and in good condition. If you need to replace your mailbox, you must adhere to the Village requirements on placement.

- The front of the mailbox must be 12" from the back of the curb, or 24" from the edge of pavement where there is no curb.
- The bottom of the mailbox must be 48" above grade.
- Mailboxes may be mounted on a wood post no larger than 16" or a metal post no more than 2½" in outside diameter.
- Decorative mailboxes may be permitted provided they meet the Village's spacing requirements.

If you are replacing your mailbox post, remember to have underground utilities located before digging. Call JULIE at 811 or 800.892.0123 to have utilities marked.

Residents with questions about mailbox requirements should contact the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640 or publicworksdept@mountprospect.org for clarification.

Human Services

Senior Game Day



Senior Game Day is a fun and casual way to connect with other community members and enjoy a morning out. Staff will have all sorts of games available, including old classics, new games, card games, and dice games. Join us in the Farley Community Room at Village Hall on November 9 from 9:30 to 11 am. No registration required; this is a drop-in program, and all are welcome. For more information, call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680.

Senior Connections

Connect with fellow community members at the next Senior Connections gathering on November 19 from 9 to 10:30 am in the Farley Community Room at Village Hall. This morning event offers a welcoming space for older adults in Mount Prospect to socialize, connect with other community members, hear what's new in the Village, and chat with Village staff.

Snack on light refreshments and enjoy special musical performances by the Prospect High School Madrigals and Lincoln Middle School Choir. No registration is needed-just drop in and enjoy the morning!

Winterfest Senior Game Day Pop-up

If you've been a part of the Department's Game Day events in the past, you know how much fun they can be. Join us for a special Pop-up Game Day on December 14 from 10 am to 12:30 pm. We'll meet in the Farley Community Room at Village Hall for a morning of fun, games, and great company. A light lunch will be provided. Register today by visiting the Human Services Department or calling 847.870.5680. Space is limited and open to Mount Prospect residents only.

Hearts & Hands Service Club

Introducing a hands-on service group designed for older adults looking to connect and give back! No special skills required, just a willing heart and a pair of hands. Join Human Services every other month to stay active, share your time, and build connections.

The first club meeting is Wednesday, January 6, from 10 to 11:30 am in the Farley Community Room at Village Hall. Participants will work on a service project and brainstorm future service ideas. Registration is required. Call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680.

Holiday Donations

The Human Services Department and the Mount Prospect Fire Department are partnering to help make the holiday season brighter for local families who participate in the food pantry program or have recently experienced a hardship.

There are several ways you can support the program:

- Donating nonperishable food items to the Human Services Department. Needed items can also be donated through our Amazon Wish List.
- Organizing your own food drive.
- Making a monetary donation through PayPal.

If you would like to donate new unwrapped toys, they can be dropped off at any Mount Prospect Fire Department location.

SCAN TO MAKE A DONATION THROUGH OUR AMAZON WISH LIST

SCAN TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION ON PAYPAL



Your generosity can help bring joy to families in our community this holiday season. For more information, call 847.870.5680.

Snow Shoveling Program

Teens ages 13 through 18 are invited to participate in our annual Teen Snow Shoveling program to assist seniors and those with special needs in our community. We will match the teens with residents who have a need, but rate of pay will be negotiated between the two groups. For more information, call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680.



community connections center

1711 West Algonquin Road
Mount Prospect | IL 60056
847.506.4930

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

November is Family Caregiver Month. Follow the Human Services Facebook page at **facebook.com/MPHumanServices** for information and resources on this topic.

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

November 2026 December

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	**2**	**3** Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC Sacred Indigenous Teachings, 1pm, MPPL, Virtual Community Blood Drive, 3-7pm, MPPL	**4** Evening Creations, 7pm, Central School	**5** Winterscaping: Beauty in the Quiet Season, 7pm, MPPL	**6** Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH	**7** Kindness Week Kick-Off Event, 10am-noon, MPPL Afternoon Tea: Jacqueline Kennedy with Leslie Goddard, 1pm, Central School Fall Concert, 4pm Trinity United Methodist Church
8 Plastics: From Awareness to Action Workshop, 1pm, MPPL	**9** Railroad Ties: A Collaborative Project on Local Railroad History, 7pm, MPPL	**10** Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC Shady Characters: Nifty Plants for Shady Sites, 9:30am, VH Bunco Night, 6:30-8pm Central School	**11** Veterans Day Ceremony, 10am, RecPlex Bessie's Workbasket: Random Acts of Kindness, 7-9pm, Central School	**12** Native American & Mexican Cooking with Chef Pyet DeSpain, 1pm, MPPL Local Voices: The Mysterious World of Moths, 7pm, MPPL	**13** Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH	**14** Friends Holiday Book Sale, 9am-3pm, MPPL Coffee with Council, 9-11am, VH Ladies Night Out – Harvest & Holiday, 6:30-8:30pm, Friendship Park Conservatory
15	**16**	**17** Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC Chicago: Aviation's Incubator, 2pm, MPPL	**18** Drop-in Gift Wrap Supplies and Holiday Decor Swap, 4-7pm, MPPL	**19** Senior Connections, 9-10:30am, VH Social Security Planning, 2pm, MPPL	**20** Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH	**21**
22	**23**	**24** Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC Senior Social Hour, 1-2:30pm, VH	**25** Christkindlmarket 4-7pm, VH Tree Lighting Ceremony, 5pm Edwin & Elsie (Meyn) Busse Pocket Park	**26** Village Offices Closed 	**27** Village Offices Closed	**28** Santa Photo Shoot Downtown Mount Prospect
29 Santa Photo Shoot Downtown Mount Prospect	**30**					

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC	**2**	**3**	**4** Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH 38th Annual Holiday Housewalk, 3:30-9pm	**5** Teddy Bear Walk 9:30am-noon, MPPL Holiday Concert, 4 pm, Trinity United Methodist Church Chanukah Candle Lighting, 5pm, VH 
6	**7**	**8** Bulbs in Container Gardens, 9:30am, Friendship Park Conservatory Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC	**9** Bessie's Workbasket: Holiday Embroidered Cards and Tags, 7pm, Central School	**10**	**11**	**12** Coffee with Council, 9-11am, VH Breakfast with Santa 10am-11:30am Rob Roy Golf Course
13 Warm Hearts, Warm Hands, 12:30-2:30pm, Central School	**14**	**15** Play and Learn Group, 11:30am -12:15pm, CCC Holiday Concert: The Saddle Shoe Sisters, 7pm, MPPL	**16**	**17**	**18** Fit 4 Life 10-10:45am, VH Mindful Chair Yoga,11am, MPPL	**19** Stocking Deliveries, 10am-1pm Elf Academy: Eam your Ears, 10am-2:30pm, Weiss Community Center
20	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24** Village Offices Closed	**25** Village Offices Closed 	**26**
27	**28**	**29**	**30** New Year's Eve-Eve Celebration Station 34 Pizza Pub	**31** 		

MPPL Mount Prospect Public Library
MPHist Mount Prospect Historical Society
MPPD Mt. Prospect Park District
MPLC Mount Prospect Lions Club
RTPD River Trails Park District
Chamber Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce
MPDMA Mount Prospect Downtown Merchants Assoc.
VH Village Hall

Mount Prospect

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Message from the Mayor

HERE'S TO FINISHING 2026 STRONG AND LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027

As we approach the end of 2026, there is much to celebrate in the Village of Mount Prospect. During this year, we have seen continued growth and development, we have welcomed new shopping and dining opportunities, and we have made important investments in public safety and Village facilities.

One of the things I am most proud of is that Mount Prospect is entering 2027 in an exceptionally strong financial position. We continue to invest in our community, improve services, and plan for a future with prosperity, while keeping the financial burden on residents as low as possible. Towards that end, our budget for 2027 calls for a 1.8% reduction to our Village portion of the overall tax levy.

As this newsletter goes to print, the Village Board is finalizing the proposed 2027 Budget. I would like to share some highlights around what this budget means for you.

Keeping Property Taxes Low
I am pleased to report that the Village is yet again proposing to reduce its portion of your property tax bill by 1.8%. This means the average homeowner could see a savings of approximately $15 on the Village portion of their annual property taxes. To offset rising costs, the Village is relying on other revenue sources like sales taxes, which have been exceedingly strong, while reducing the reliance on property taxes. In fact, our proposed 2027 property tax levy from the Village will be the lowest in the past 12 years.

A Responsible, Balanced Budget
The proposed Budget includes approximately $193.3 million in revenue and $196.9 million in spending. While spending is higher than revenue, the difference is covered by money the Village has already saved for major improvement projects.

Investing in Essential Services
The 2027 Budget continues to invest in the basic services residents rely on every day.

- **Public Safety** | Public Safety being our #1 Priority, we are adding two new police officers to our new traffic unit to strengthen enforcement and roadway safety.
- **Human Services** | We are adding staff to expand services at the Village Resource Center (formerly known as the Community Connections Center), helping more residents and families access the support they need.
- **Community Development** | We are adding staff to planning services and the building review process to improve turnaround for residents and businesses.
- **Transportation Assistance** | We have created a pilot program for 2027 based on a recent study to help residents with basic transportation needs.
- **Streets and Facilities** | We are also planning significant improvements to our streets and community facilities, including approximately $5 million for street resurfacing and $7 million toward the new Village Resource Center in South Mount Prospect. Overall, the Village will be staying ahead by investing a total of $37.8 million in improvements to aging infrastructure.
- **Pensions/Planning Today to Save Money Tomorrow** | We are setting aside an additional $5 million for police and firefighter pensions, using sales tax revenue rather than increasing property taxes. By making these payments now, we expect to reduce future pressure on property tax needed to fund pensions by approximately $11.5 million through 2040.
- **Managing Rising Utility Costs** | Like many communities, Mount Prospect continues to face increasing costs for water, sewer, and refuse services -- some due to unfunded mandates. However, through careful planning, a 7% increase for water has been reduced to a 5% increase. The sewer increase has also been reduced from 6.75% to 3%.

A Strong Future for Mount Prospect
I have often said that the annual Village Budget and Strategic Plan are two of the most important documents guiding Mount Prospect's future. These two documents reflect our priorities, our commitment to responsible spending, and our Vision for tomorrow. It also reflects the focus of your Village Board, our Village Manager, our Department Leadership Teams, and our dedicated Village Employees.

I also want to take a moment to thank you, our Residents, for your involvement, your ideas, and your commitment to our overall community. Whether you send your Village Board an email or a text, whether you come to a Village Board meeting to speak, or you simply talk with us as we are out in the community, please know that you have provided valuable input to help guide your Village Board in determining a better tomorrow.

Wishing You Happy Holidays
In closing, if you celebrate your holidays at this time of the year, your Village Board wishes their very best for a Holiday Season filled with joy. And we also wish everyone a fruitful new year in 2027.

It is my belief that the people of Mount Prospect are inherently kind and help their fellow citizens without any expectation of receiving anything in return. We are all on this journey together, and from time to time we need the help of others to get through more difficult times. In my opinion, helping people who cannot help themselves is one of the most important things we can do in this life.

Here's to a strong finish to 2026 and an even brighter 2027 for our Village of Mount Prospect!

Paul Wm. Hoefert
MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT