The 2nd Annual Mount Prospect Celebration of Cultures will take place on September 14th between the hours of 11:30 am to 6pm, at Kopp Park, located just behind RecPlex, 420 Dempster Street. The Mayor and the Village Board have long recognized the diverse population that makes up the Village. A high priority on the Village’s strategic plan has been a way to celebrate the diversity in our population. As a result, the Mount Prospect Celebration of Cultures has been planned as commemoration to honor the many diverse populations that live side by side in the Village.

The Mount Prospect Celebration of Cultures is a partnership between the Village, the Mt. Prospect Park District and the Chamber of Commerce and will feature entertainment, cultural booths, craft fair and food from around the world. The day will kick off with an opening ceremonies which will begin with a parade of cultures and culminate with a multi-stranded ribbon will be tied together as a symbol of unity. There will be a day long line up of cultural entertainment featuring bands, singers, dancing groups and sports demos. Cultural booths manned by residents will feature each participating group and allow residents to learn about other cultures. There will be a variety of kids’ crafts celebrating cultural diversity. Ten Thousand Villages will sell fair trade crafts from a variety of countries. Local ethnic restaurants will offer tastes from around the world, featuring small plates with a three dollar price tag.

Parking in the RecPlex parking lot will be limited. Attendees are encouraged to park in the north end of the Kohls parking lot at 1500 Elmhurst Road, (Elmhurst Rd and Dempster Street.)

You can find out more information about participating cultures, performances, participating restaurants, and more on the Village Website mountprospect.org/celebrationofcultures.

If you would like your culture represented and want to volunteer to help with that effort, please email Julie Kane at jkane@mountprospect.org.
**SEPTEMBER 1**

Mount Prospect Lions Club Farmers’ Market
Sundays | 8am – 1pm through October 20

**EAST COMMUTER LOT**
Northwest Hwy & Emerson

Check out a wonderful array of fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers and other goodies. Sponsored by the MPLC. For more info, visit mpls.org.

**SEPTEMBER 2**

Old Fashioned Family Picnic in the Park
Sunday | September 2
10am – 3pm

WOODLAND TRAILS PARK
1500 East Euclid Avenue

Join River Trails Park District for a free end of the summer hoola. Enjoy huge inflatables, a petting zoo, kids craft area, games, face painting, and a DJ. Don’t miss Trusty the Turtle Race and the Kid’s Con Splasch as the pool closes for the season. For info, call 847.255.1200 or visit www.rpm.org.

**SEPTEMBER 3**

Senior Walking Club
Tuesday | September 3, 10, 17 & 24 | 8:30am

THE PARK ON CENTENNIAL DRIVE
Senior residents are invited to get some exercise and walk with the Mount Prospect Medical Reserve Corps.

**SEPTEMBER 3**

Bessie’s Story Hour
Tuesday | September 3
10 – 11am

MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101 South Maple Street

Kids of all ages will enjoy an hour of stories from the turn of the 20th century. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a snack and meet us by the stone bench under the crab tree. Free event. No registration required. For more info, call 847.392.9006.

**SEPTEMBER 3**

Play and Learn
Tuesday | September 3, 10, 17 & 24
11:30am – 12:30pm

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 West Algonquin Road

Bring your toddlers and preschool-age children to listen to books, dance to music, and enjoy making fun crafts. To learn more, call 847.506.4930.

**SEPTEMBER 5**

Conversations in English
Thursday | September 5 & 19 | 11:30am – 1pm

Thursday | September 12 & 26 | 1:30 – 7pm

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 West Algonquin Road

Practice your conversational skills in a friendly group setting with native English speakers. Available for Mount Prospect or Elk Grove Township residents. For more info or to register call 847.506.4930.

**SEPTEMBER 6**

Ageless Grace
Friday | September 6, 13, 20 & 27
11:30am

VILLAGE HALL FARLEY
COMMUNITY ROOM
50 South Emerson Street

The Village Nurse’s free seated exercise program with music that works the body and mind.

**SEPTEMBER 7**

A Spot of Tea with a Side of Gossip
Saturday | September 7 | 1pm

MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
103 South Maple Street

Join the Historical Society as Martina Mathisen portrays Luella Parsons, Hollywood’s most dynamic gossip columnist. Luella could make or break a career with a few taps of her typewriter. Sip tea and enjoy light refreshments while hearing about some of the era’s biggest stars. $12 per person, reservations required. To reserve your spot, visit mphpist.org or call 847.392.9006.

**SEPTEMBER 8**

Second Sunday at the Society: Make and Take Apple Prints
Sunday | September 8, 11:30am – 1:30pm

MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101/103 South Maple Street

Come on by for bushels of fun and a make-and-take activity in Central School. All ages are welcome at this free event. The Dietrich Friedichs House will also be open for tours.

**SEPTEMBER 11**

Dahila – Living Fireworks by Carol Cuchorski
Wednesday | September 11
11:30am

FRIENDSHIP PARK CONSERVATORY
395 Algonquin Rd, Des Plaines

Former president of the Elk Grove Garden Club Carol Cuchorski who speaks regularly at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show and manages their on-site seminars will share her dahila passion and let you know how you can grow them. Tool Refreshments at 11:30am, social hour and meeting at 12:15pm, program will begin at 1pm. Guests welcome.

**SEPTEMBER 12**

Fishing Derby
Saturday | September 14
9 – 11:30am

ROBERT T. JACKSON CLEARWATER PARK
1717 West Lonnquist

Grab your gear for a morning of family fishing! Worms will be provided, but bring your own rod, reel, and tackle. $8 for residents and $12 for non-residents age 4-14. Register online with code 37475 or visit mphp.org for details. Sponsored by the Mt. Prospect Park District.

**SEPTEMBER 14**

Celebration of Cultures
Saturday | September 14
11:30am – 6pm

KOPP PARK
420 Dempster Street

Join the fun and celebrate our cultural diversity! Taste foods from Poland, Korea, Mexico, Serbia, Middle East, Italy, Asia, vanilla ice creams from around the World and cultural entertainment, live music, booths & crafts!

**SEPTEMBER 14**

Summer Slide Pub Crawl
Saturday | September 14
3 – 7pm

CHECK IN AT CENTENNIAL GREEN

Enjoy a great time out with neighbors and visiting some of your favorite downtown eating and drinking establishments. For more information, visit downtownmountprospect.com.

**SEPTEMBER 18**

Movie Night at Central School: Royal Wedding
Wed | September 18 | 16pm

MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
103 South Maple Street

Come enjoy a classic movie in the historic Central School. Doors open at 6pm for this free event, and the movie starts at 6:30pm.

**SEPTEMBER 24**

City Lit Theater Company Presents: Books on the Chopping Block
Tuesday | September 24
7:30 – 9pm

MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 South Emerson Street

In honor of Banned Books Week, City Lit will spotlight recently banned or challenged books. Join the MPPL for a captivating performance and themed snacks, prizes, and an opportunity for discussion. To register, visit mphp.org, call 847.253.5675, or stop by the library.

**SEPTEMBER 25**

Rules of the Road Class
Wednesday | September 25
1:30pm

VILLAGE HALL FARLEY
COMMUNITY ROOM
103 South Maple Street

Non-residents age 4-14. Register online with code 37476 or visit mphp.org for details. Sponsored by the Mt. Prospect Park District.

**SEPTEMBER 26**

The Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce Annual Fall Classic Golf Outing
Thursday | September 26
10am Registration
11am Shotgun Start
MT. PROSPECT GOLF CLUB
600 S. See-Gwun Avenue
Enjoy a fun day filled with contests, raffle prizes, breakfast, lunch, Taste of Mount Prospect dinner, courtesy beverage cart, and more! $150 per person or $550 for foursome. Open to the public! Contact meghan@mountprospectchamber.org

**SEPTEMBER 28**

Fire Department Open House
Saturday | September 28
10am – 2pm

POLICE AND FIRE HEADQUARTERS
112 East Northwest Highway
Come meet the firefighters and see firetrucks, ambulances, and more! All ages are welcome to attend. Enjoy activities for young and old, including a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog. A free lunch will be provided. For more information, call the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847.818.5253.
Senior Walking Club
Tuesday | October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 | 8:30am
THE PARK ON CENTENNIAL DRIVE
Senior residents are invited to get some exercise and walk with the Mount Prospect Medical Reserve Corps.

Play and Learn
Tuesday | October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 | 11:30am – 12:30pm
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 West Algonquin Road
Bring your toddlers and preschool-age children to listen to books, dance to music, and enjoy making fun crafts. To learn more, call 847.506.4930.

The 50s Plus Breakfast Hour
Thursday | October 3 & 9 | 7:30am – 9am
VILLAGE HALL FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM
50 South Emerson Street
Residents 50 years of age and older are invited to attend. Come join your Village team and the Chamber of Commerce to learn and have fun. For more information, please call 847.870.5680.

Conversations in English
Thursday | October 3 & 17 | 11:30am – 1pm
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CENTER
1711 West Algonquin Road
Practice your conversational skills in a friendly group setting with native English speakers. Available for Mount Prospect or Elk Grove Township residents. For more info or to register call 847.506.4930.

Ageless Grace
Friday | October 4, 11, 18 & 25 | 1:30pm
VILLAGE HALL FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM
50 South Emerson Street
The Village Nurse’s free seated exercise program with music that works the body and mind.

TRAILS CHALLENGE Youth Obstacle Course Race
Saturday | October 5 | 9:30 – 11:30am
WOODLAND TRAILS PARK
1500 East Euclid Avenue
1.25 Mile (2K) obstacle course hosted by the River Trails Park District. The course will take adventurous youth throughout the Woodland Trails Park with 14 to 16 natural and man-made obstacles throughout. All participants will receive a t-shirt, medal, goodie bag, and bragging rights. Registration ends 45 minutes prior to each race. Early bird rate is $18 per person until September 2, $23 per person until October 3 and $28 per person on October 4 and 5. Visit rtpd.org for exact race times, age groups, and registration.

Fabulous Fall Fest
Saturday | October 5 | 11am – 3pm
LIONS RECREATION CENTER
411 South Maple Street
Join the Mount Prospect Park District for an autumn afternoon of family fun with a petting zoo, inflatables, hay rides, games and prizes, face painting, and seasonal treats. Tickets are $5 at the door for children age 3 to 8—adults are free. For more information, visit mppd.org.

John Meyn Blacksmith Exhibit Grand Opening
Saturday | October 5 | 11am MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101 South Maple Street
Come take a look at the Historical Society's brand-new exhibit. Be one of the first to get a peek at this fabulous new addition to the Society campus which showcases a somewhat hidden but crucial part of Mount Prospect’s history. All ages are welcome at this free event.

Mount Prospect Lions Club Farmers’ Market
Sundays | 8am – 1pm through October 20
EAST COMMUTER LOT
Northwest Hwy & Emerson
Check out a wonderful array of fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers and other goodies. Sponsored by the MPLC. For more info, visit mplions.org.

Library Foundation Presents: Barbara Renilla in Fly Girls
Monday | October 7 | 7 – 8:30pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 South Emerson Street
The Library Foundation welcomes back acclaimed book dramatist Barbara Renilla for an evening presentation of Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History by Keith O’Brien. Meet Amelia Earhart together with her fantastic friends and hear the remarkable story of the women who broke the original glass ceiling and changed the course of air travel. This is a fundraiser for the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation. Light refreshments will be served. Tickets are $20 and must be purchased in person at the Registration Desk. For more info, visit mppl.org, call 847.253.5675, or stop by the library.

Conservation@Home
Wednesday | October 9 | 11:30am
FRIENDSHIP PARK CONSERVATORY
395 Algonquin Rd, De Plaines
Pete Landwehr has been a Master Gardener since 2014, been raising vegetables for more than 30 years and has been involved in the Conservation@Home program since 2016. Pete will introduce the program and its main objectives, including sustainable gardening, good water and soil practices, ecological practices to support wildlife and the plant environment, etc. Refreshments at 11:30am, social hour and the meeting at 12:15pm, the program will begin at 1pm. Guests are welcome.

Take Charge of Your Health
Thursdays from October 10 to November 14 | 9 – 11:30am
VILLAGE HALL
50 South Emerson Street
As part of Senior Health Month, the Human Services Department is offering a six-week national program from Stanford University that will teach seniors practical ways to manage their chronic health condition to lead a fuller life. The program needs 15 registrants to be offered. For information or to register, please call 847.870.5680.

Fall Fest/Oktobefest
Friday | October 11 | 4-11 pm
Saturday | October 12 | 1-11pm
EMERSON STREET AND BLUSE AVENUE
Join in the fun of celebrating Mount Prospect’s heritage with authentic German food, spirits, and music at Oktobefest on Friday. Then on Saturday Fall Fest will take place (1-4pm). Enjoy pumpkin decorating, a trick-or-treat candy line, hay rides, food, and music in the downtown area. For more info, visit mppd.org.

Second Sunday at the Society: Make and Take Pumpkins
Sunday | October 13 | 11:30am – 1:30pm
MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101/103 South Maple St.
Join us at Central School to make a mini paper pumpkin and learn how a seed grows into a pumpkin. All ages are welcome at this free event. The Dietrich Friedichs House will also be open for tours.

Explore Your Mind
Thursday | October 17 | 7pm
VILLAGE HALL FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM
50 South Emerson Street
The Village Nurse and Senior Services Social Worker will teach an Explore Your Mind workshop where seniors can learn memory cues and apply their know-how to fun-filled activities. For information or to register, please call 847.870.5680.

Halloween Trivia
Friday | October 18 | 6 – 9pm
VILLAGE HALL FARLEY COMMUNITY ROOM
50 South Emerson Street
$200 per team of 8-10. Bring your own food, snacks & beverages (no on-site food/beverage sales), decorate your table and wear costumes! There will be awards for best costume/theme, spooky music, raffle sales and lots of prizes! For more info, call 847.398.0616 or email meghan@mountprospectchamber.org.

Friends Book Sale
Saturday | October 19 | 9am – 4:30pm
Sunday | October 20 | Noon – 4pm
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 South Emerson Street
Stock up on great books at bargain prices! Special members-only preview sale on Friday, October 18 from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. Funds raised help the Friends support Library programs, events and services. For info on the Friends and how to become a member, visit mppl.org or call 847.253.5675.

Using Herbs in Your Eco-Friendly Home
Wednesday | October 23 | 10 – 11am
MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 South Emerson Street
Join the Village Nurse and learn how to make homemade soaps, deodorant, glass cleaners, and other household products. Sponsored by the Human Services Department as part of Senior Health Month. To register, please call 847.870.5680.
The Village of Mount Prospect is on Instagram
You may follow the Village’s Instagram account
#villageofmountprospect
and see photos, videos and other content that will inform, entertain and amuse Mount Prospect residents.

Sign up for Meeting Notifications
If residents want to be informed when the official agendas come out for Village Board Meetings, Committee of the Whole Meetings or Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings, they may sign up to be informed by email on a weekly basis. Go to the Village website mountprospect.org, under the How Do I tab select VILLAGE SUBSCRIPTION SIGN UP and click on E-NEWSLETTERS SUBSCRIPTIONS. Fill out the form and select Meeting Agenda Notifications.

Finance
Water/Sewer/Refuse Bills
Access your utility account at mountprospect.org to:
• View Account Summary
• View Current Bill
• View Consumption Analysis
• View Account History
• Make a Payment (no service fee)

Planning to Move?
If you are moving out of a Mount Prospect residence, please call 847.818.5266 to close your utility account and address any outstanding balance.

Vehicle Stickers
The deadline for purchasing 2019-2020 vehicle stickers was April 30. The Police Department may issue citations to owners of locally registered vehicles in which the current sticker is not displayed. If a citation is issued for not having the current sticker, the recipient may have to pay a fine, the basic cost of the new sticker, and the late purchase penalty. The penalty will not initially apply to new Village residents or to residents who have purchased new vehicles after May 1. In these limited cases, residents have 30 days to purchase a sticker in person at Village Hall, as proof of purchase or move-in date is required to assure that a penalty is not imposed. Residents who change vehicles after having purchased a 2019-2020 vehicle sticker should contact the Finance Department at 847.392.6000 with updated vehicle information to determine eligibility for transference of the sticker from one vehicle to another for no additional fee. For more information about vehicle stickers, contact the Finance Department at 847.392.6000 or visit mountprospect.org.

Building and Inspections Department
Checking on Your Home’s Health
Fall is the right time to check your house and make sure that it is ready for our winter weather. Start with these basic steps:
• Clean your windows and doors to maintain tight closures; if you have weather stripping, make sure it is properly installed and in good condition.
• Having your furnace and heating system checked is less expensive and far safer than waiting until it needs repair.
• Keeping your gutters and downspouts clean can prevent damaging ice dams from forming on your roof. Call a professional service to clean them out if necessary.
• If you have any indoor painting to do, get it done in the fall when you can keep windows open for fresh air while you paint.
• If you have a pool or hot tub, take all safety precautions while winterizing them. Keep a locked cover in place, make sure fence gates are secure and perform all suggested maintenance.
• Avoid pipes bursting by draining all pipes leading to outdoor spigots before the first freeze.
• Check your GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) receptacles both inside and outside your home. Use a GFCI test device with trip-button which can be found at most home centers. When adding outdoor decorations and lights for the holidays, think safety first.
• Test and replace batteries on all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors when you turn your clocks back on November 3.
Elmhurst Road/Rand Road Commercial Corridor Gets Boost

A prime commercial property at 920 North Elmhurst Road is undergoing a major makeover as the Village has given GW Properties approval for a new development. The building, adjacent to Randhurst Village Shopping Mall, has been vacant for more than a year since the departure of the previous tenant, Firestone Tires. GW Properties is splitting the existing building into 3 tenant spaces which are tentatively planned to include Verizon Wireless, Aspen Dental, and Tropical Smoothie Café. In addition to the remodel and build out, the site will be entirely landscaped to improve the character of this very visible commercial corridor. For additional information on the site, please contact the Community Development Department at 847.818.5328.

New Downtown Park Coming Soon

The Mount Prospect Village Board recently approved the final design proposal for the new Edwin and Elsie (Meyn) Busse Park at the northeast corner of Busse Avenue and Emerson Street in downtown. With the approval, construction crews from Clauss Brothers, Inc. have begun working on the site with completion targeted for the end of November.

The inclusive planning process involved multiple public meetings and the completion of more than 200 surveys by residents. That cumulative feedback factored into the final design which will include a large, programmable lawn space, a pavilion, string lights, an array of seating options, bollards, pole lights, and brick pavers. Many existing trees will be preserved for the new park. While a water feature is not part of the design at this time, underground utilities will be installed on site to support the construction of one in the future.

If you have any questions about the park, please contact the Planning Division at 847.818.5328.

Check out the Village of Mount Prospect’s Development Update webpage at mountprospect.org/business/development-updates to learn about new and upcoming projects.
Holiday Tree Wanted

It’s time for the Village to find the centerpiece of our 2019 Tree Lighting Ceremony. If you have a fir or spruce tree at least 30 feet tall in your yard that you no longer want, you can consider donating it to the Village for use in our holiday display. We are accepting requests from homeowners for a tree with full and uniform growth which we will cut and transport at no cost to you. To learn more, contact the Public Works Department at publicworksdept@mountprospect.org or 847.870.5640.

Fall Leaf Collection

The Village’s fall loose leaf collection period will run from October 21 through December 6 this year. The program allows residents to dispose of loose (not bagged) leaves at no cost by setting them at the curb in conjunction with our weekly pick-up schedule. You may rake leaves onto the pavement one foot from the curb line one day prior to the scheduled collection day. Do not rake leaves into the street after the truck has passed your home. The machines travel each street weekly during the collection period, but only once on each side.

Please visit the Village’s website for more information on leaf collection and a map identifying the collection schedule. The loose-leaf collection program is for leaves only; yard material other than leaves must be disposed of according to the Village’s yard waste collection guidelines. Leaf piles will not be collected if the pile contains grass clippings or other yard material.

Burning leaves is a violation of Village Ordinance 24.115 and is strictly prohibited.

Supplemental Snowplow Drivers

As winter approaches, the Public Works Department is looking for supplemental snowplow drivers. To qualify, you must have experience driving large trucks and have a valid-approved Class A or B commercial driver’s license (CDL) with air brake endorsement. This can be a great way for you to earn some extra income if your schedule allows you to be available whenever needed. First year drivers must attend an orientation class hosted by the Public Works Department. Please contact the Public Works Department at publicworksdept@mountprospect.org or call 847.870.5640 for details.
Fall Tree Care Tips

With fall just around the corner it is time for leaves to begin turning color and eventually falling. Although we’re coming to the end of the growing season, proper care will ensure that your trees go into dormancy on a healthy note. Following these tips below can protect your trees this winter:

- Keep trees adequately watered this fall. An inch of rainfall per week is generally sufficient, but with our unpredictable weather, be prepared to supplement with additional watering from a sprinkler set under the canopy of the tree. Remember that roots can extend as far out as the tree is tall so keep the entire area watered for best results.
- Mulching around the base of the tree will help retain soil moisture and keep the ground from freezing, allowing more time for roots to grow. Wood chips are a great, and natural, material to use as mulch. A 2”- 3” thick layer of mulch will help reduce weeds allowing you to keep weed whips and lawn mowers away from the trunk of the tree. Mulch should not be piled up against the trunk of the tree, but rather at ground level right next to the trunk.
- Fall can be a good time to fertilize trees that are lacking nutrients. Timing is important to not promote a flush of new growth that will not be hardened off prior to freezing temperatures. If not completed early enough (September), wait until the tree has gone into dormancy in late November to fertilize.
- Fall is a good time to evaluate trees for insect damage. The life cycle of most insects differs, so a tree care professional should be consulted if significant damage is noted.
- Use the season to get a dormant prune scheduled. Removing dead and broken limbs can help improve the health of the tree, as well as reduce insect and fungi damage during the winter.

Recycle Your Old Mercury Thermostat or Thermometer

The Village and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) offer a recycling program for thermometers, thermostats and wall switches which contain mercury. These devices should be properly recycled as mercury poses health and environmental risks. Old thermometers may contain up to 700 milligrams of mercury, 140 times the amount found in a CFL.

Residents may bring their mercury thermometers, thermostats and switches to the Public Works Department, 1700 West Central Road, Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm to be properly recycled.

Home Hot Spots for Water Quality

Your activities can affect water quality in various spots throughout your yard. Look around your property with an eye toward these conditions.

- Directing downspouts to unpaved areas lets rainwater soak into the ground which reduces the flow of runoff into the lakes.
- Composting converts leaves and grass clippings into a nutrient-rich mulch for your planting beds and gardens minimizing the need for fertilizers.
- Natural areas and planting beds lend variety to a residential lawn, attract wildlife and mean you have less lawn to mow and fertilize.
- Keep lawn chemicals, car care products and household cleaners properly sealed in their containers. Safely store these containers away from people, pets and runoff water.
- Limit the use of fertilizer and pesticides. If you do use those products, sweep excess off paved areas to keep them from entering the water supply through storm sewers.
- A small oil drip or gas leak may not seem like a big deal, but after a good rain these toxic chemicals become runoff that washes into bodies of water.
- Cover bare spots in your lawn to reduce water runoff by planting the area with grass or some other vegetation, and then immediately covering with mulch or hay until vegetation takes root.
Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries
Daylight Savings Time ends November 3. Remember to change your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector batteries while changing your clocks.

Smoke Alarms Save Lives
According to the National Fire Protection Association, smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. Three of every five home fire deaths are caused by fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and a working smoke alarm will give you time to get out safely.

What you need to know about smoke alarms
- Install new batteries at least twice a year and immediately if the alarm chirps warning of a low battery.
- Test smoke alarms every month.
- Choose a device that bears the label of a recognized testing UL laboratory.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, including every room where someone sleeps, as well as outside all sleeping areas.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years and carbon monoxide detectors every 5 years. An easy way to remember is to write the install date on the base of the device.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms that feature strobe lights and bed shakers.

Residents who have purchased a smoke alarm and need assistance with installation should contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847.818.5253. The Fire Prevention Bureau can also inspect existing smoke alarms to verify they are working properly.

National Preparedness Month
September is National Preparedness month and it’s a great time to think about how you and your family would handle natural disasters such as flooding, thunderstorms, extreme heat, extreme cold, and tornadoes. Consider taking these steps:
- Make a 72-hour preparedness kit in the event you are unable to leave your home.
- Put together a plan to store additional food and water supplies.
- Develop a readiness plan to implement in case you lose power.
- Consider installing a home or portable generator.
- Equip your home with flashlights with working batteries.

Take time to prepare for these and other emergency situations so you are ready should they occur.

Citizen Emergency Preparedness Training
The Village offers free Citizen Emergency Preparedness Training to learn the basics of emergency preparedness. The program promotes a partnering effort between emergency responders and the citizens they serve, and classes meet once a week for 7 weeks. The training covers topics like basic first aid, search and rescue, severe weather, and how to build an emergency kit, to make sure you and your family are prepared for a local disaster.

This year’s class will start on Wednesday, October 2 and run every Wednesday through November 13. Classes are held at the Mount Prospect Fire Station 14, 2000 East Kensington, from 6:30 – 9:30pm.

For more information about the free training, call 847.818.5253 or visit mountprospect.org, and click on the tabs How Do I and Emergency Preparedness. Also visit www.ready.gov for ways you and your family can plan and act when needed.
Drive Safely Near Schools

School districts throughout Mount Prospect invest heavily in security hardware, video cameras, and hall monitors, as well as extensive staff training to keep your children safe. However, the greatest threat to your child’s well-being and safety may be a parent dropping off and picking up their child.

Drop off and pick up times produce heavy traffic congestion on the streets surrounding schools. Parents sometimes park blocking driveways, preventing homeowners’ access to their property while other cars park in fire lanes and crosswalks. The most dangerous incidents occur when parents double or triple park in the street and then call out to their children who dart out between parked cars to get to the waiting parent. Regrettably, adult volunteers are verbally abused daily when they ask parents to comply with the safety rules. If we all obey the traffic and parking laws, and follow the school’s pickup and drop off procedures, we can prevent the injury or death of a child.

The Mount Prospect Police are asking parents to schedule after school events and appointments accordingly so that you have the time to park safely and drive away from the school at a safe speed. And remember, unless your vehicle is parked, the use of cell phones by drivers in a vehicle is strictly prohibited.

Upcoming Beat Meetings

The Police Department invites residents and business owners to join the officers working in their patrol beat to attend upcoming beat meetings to receive updated information on crime trends and prevention tips. The fall beat meetings will take place between September 9 and October 17. For specific dates, times and locations of your next beat meeting please visit mountprospect.org/departments/police-department.

Make it a Safe Halloween

Here are some helpful tips to keep our little vampires and princesses safe this Halloween.

- Make sure kids only trick or treat during the suggested times of 3 to 8pm.
- Avoid dark colored costumes as they are much harder to see at night. If dark costumes are worn, make sure your kids carry a flashlight, glow stick, or wear a reflective belt or vest to make sure they are seen.
- Avoid masks as they restrict vision; use face paint instead.
- Make sure kids trick or treat in groups with an adult for extra safety.
- Always cross streets at the cross walks and never go between parked cars.
- If you are out driving on Halloween, be sure to drive with caution in residential areas and watch for kids that run out from between parked cars.
- When the kids return home, an adult should check all candy.

Police Department Portal for Special Services

The Police Department has begun utilizing Frontline Public Safety Solutions online portal to provide residents with a convenient way to request overnight parking permission, a home watch while on vacation or register a pet. The online portal, which can be found on the Village website mountprospect.org or by visiting frontlinepss.com/mountprospect, is available to all residents. Requesting overnight parking permission or a vacation home watch can also be made by calling the Police Department at 847.870.5656.

Street of the Week Program

Mount Prospect police officers will concentrate their traffic enforcement efforts by implementing the Street of the Week program on designated roadways for one week periods. Here are the dates and the corresponding roadways for the program in the months ahead:

- September 2-8 | Golf Road (Rt. 58)
- September 9-15 | Burning Bush Lane
- September 16-22 | Busse Road
- September 23-29 | Euclid Avenue
- September 30-October 6 | Lincoln Street
- October 7-13 | Wolf Road
- October 14-20 | Rand Road (Rt. 12)
- October 21-27 | Central Road
Community Connections Center

September is National Recovery Awareness Month and October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Please follow the Community Connections Facebook Page for information and resources about each topic.

Medicare D Prescription Drug Open Enrollment Period

This year’s open enrollment for Medicare D begins October 15 and runs through December 7. Changes in premiums, co-pays, deductibles and drugs covered for all drug plans may change from year to year.

Assistance with the enrollment process is available through the Village. Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) volunteers and staff use a tool from the Medicare website to help you determine which plan is best for you for the coming year. They will also assess whether you are eligible for extra help with your plan premiums and co-pays. If you would like assistance with enrolling or reviewing your current plan, please call 847.870.5680 to obtain a worksheet prior to scheduling an appointment. There is limited availability for appointments so be sure to call soon.

Opportunities for Teens to Assist Residents with Snow Shoveling

The Human Services Department is looking for Mt. Prospect teenagers (13 – 18 years old) to assist residents with keeping their driveways and sidewalks shoveled this winter. The program will match teens with residents but will not be responsible for screening participants or negotiating rates. For more information, please call the Human Services Department at 847.870.5680.

October is Senior Mental Health Month

See the Community Events calendar on pages 2 and 3 in this newsletter for a series of fun and helpful classes and activities to keep your mind healthy and vibrant. Offerings include Take Charge of Your Health, Explore Your Mind, Using Herbs in Your Eco-Friendly Home and Lighthouse for the Blind Roadshow. For information or to register for these activities please call 847.870.5680.

State Award for Medical Reserve Corps

The Illinois Department of Public Health recognized the Mount Prospect Medical Reserve Corps with a state award for the Most Creative Exercise/Drill in Illinois in 2019. The Corps planned, prepared and conducted a drill for dispensing medication to residents in the event of an emergency. The drill took place at Village Hall on April 27.

The Medical Reserve Corps is made up of medical, dental, behavioral health, pharmaceutical, veterinary, and non-medical professionals who reside in Mount Prospect and volunteer their time to train and prepare to assist emergency responders in the event of a natural or man-made disaster in the community.

For more information or to volunteer please contact Jill Heinking, RN at 847.870.5680 or jheinkin@mountprospect.org.
Coffee with Council
Meet informally with the Village Board of Trustees and Department Directors about anything concerning Mount Prospect. Coffee with Council is held on the second Saturday of every month (unless there is a conflict with a holiday) from 9 to 11 am at Village Hall, 50 South Emerson Street.

For more information call the Village Manager's Office at 847.392.6000 or visit mountprospect.org.