A Message from Mayor Dan DiMaria

Dear Neighbors,

From the Cubs’ World Series win to the national election, 2016 was one for the record books. I am proud of our many accomplishments here in Morton Grove as we continue to implement our strategic plan. Highlights include maintaining our top-notch Village services without raising property taxes; developing our new Village logo; improving Village communications, increasing community participation in programs like our Citizens Police Academy, National Night Out, Adopt a Planter, Community Garage Sale; and approving economic development agreements to bring the Moretti’s Restaurant to our Village as well as new residential and shopping opportunities to the Waukegan and Dempster area.

2017 promises to be busy for us. Moretti’s is expected to open this fall. Revitalizing the Prairie View Shopping Center remains a top priority. While I am not satisfied with the slow progress - we won’t give up and will continue to work with the current owners until we are successful.

In January, we finalized a 40 year contract with the City of Evanston to purchase Lake Michigan water. Evanston has been providing high quality reliable water to Skokie and other suburbs for many years. The rate we will pay to Evanston is much lower than what we currently pay the City of Chicago. Over 40 years our projected savings are almost $100 million dollars, which we will use to improve our infrastructure while keeping water rates as low as possible.

We can all be proud of this team effort which will benefit Village residents now and for many years to come.

Your Mayor, Dan DiMaria

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**Dine-In, Take Out & Delivery**

**DINE MG**

February Is National Restaurant Month

Win 1 of 10 - $25 Gift Cards

Bring your Morton Grove restaurant dining receipts, dated in February 2017, to Village Hall by March 3

Each group of receipts or individual receipt for $25 will be considered an entry

*1 receipt greater than $50 is entitled to 1 entry/$25 increment

Winning entries will be drawn at the March 13 Village Board Meeting

Maximum one winner per household

Visit Village Hall or www.mortongroveil.org to find the MG Restaurant Guide

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Village Approves 40-Year Water Supply Agreement with Evanston

On January 23, the Village Board approved an agreement with the City of Evanston to allow Morton Grove and Niles to purchase Lake Michigan water for 40 years beginning in 2019. Mayor DiMaria thanked the Board for their long term planning in this inter-governmental cooperative effort. “This is a legacy decision”, he stated. After including conservative estimates for infrastructure costs, Morton Grove is projected to save approximately $100 million dollars over the life of the contract.

Morton Grove currently purchases water from the City of Chicago. Since 2008, the water rate charged by Chicago has risen by 114%. Because of these large and unpredictable rate increases, Niles and Morton Grove began working together in 2013 to evaluate alternative water supply options. The Villages received proposals for long-term water supply agreements from the City of Evanston and the Villages of Wilmette and Glenview. Both proposals offered a safe, high quality, reliable supply of Lake Michigan water, but the proposal from Evanston offered the best long term savings.

The 40 year agreement with Evanston includes an option for two ten-year extensions. Water rates will be calculated based on a fixed formula. The initial 2019 Evanston water rate is expected to be $.81 per 1,000 gallons. The Villages will need to construct transmission mains and other infrastructure to transport the water from Evanston to Morton Grove and Niles. The cost to design and construct this infrastructure is conservatively estimated at approximately $90,000,000, which will be financed by bonds. After adding the infrastructure construction and operations costs to the Evanston wholesale water rate, the total Evanston rate is projected to be $3.47 in 2019; 15% less than the projected Chicago rate. Larger savings will be realized after the construction bonds are paid off.

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Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski noted that cost estimates are conservative; additional savings will be realized if the Village qualifies for low interest state and federal loans. The Village has begun an engineering study to determine the optimal route and financing terms for the new water mains and required infrastructure.

Upcoming Community Events
March 2
Taste of Morton Grove
May 13
MG Farmers’ Market
May 13
MG Days Pancake Breakfast
Benefitting “Santa Comes to Town”
Details at Village Hall or www.mortongroveil.org
Economic Development Updates

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

NOW OPEN
The following businesses opened in 2016:
- Dynamic Group—8230 Austin (Kitchen/Bath Cabinetry/Showroom & Warehouse)
- Sprint—6947 Dempster (Mobile Devices)
- Wings R Us—6037 Dempster (Restaurant/Carry Out)
- Legacy Agency—6950 Dempster (Legal Services)
- P3 Global—6212 Oakton—(Design/development new consumer products)
- RxOs Medical—6241 Park—(R&D/manufacturer of medical products)
- Publications International—8140 Lehigh (Publishing)
- Sto Express—6109 Dempster (Shipping)
- Children’s Dental Word—5826 Dempster
- Smile Dentistry—9211 Waukegan
- Montessori Academy—9320 Waukegan
- National Hardwood Flooring—8121 Austin (Wood Flooring Showroom & Warehouse)
- Roy’s Red Hots—6301 Oakton (Food Cart)
- Mazalae—9216 Waukegan (Restaurant)
- U-Spy Store—5627 Dempster (Retail—surveillance equipment)
- Suburban Pediatrics—9000 Waukegan

Support MG—Shop Local!

Moretti’s Ristorante
6415 Dempster
Opening - Fall of 2017
Site work began on the new 12,000+ sq. ft. Moretti’s Ristorante at a site that has been vacant for almost 10 years

8700 Waukegan Rd.
Luxury Apartments
Construction 2017
Occupancy 2018
180+ units / 7-story luxury development

8700 Waukegan Rd.
Commercial Development
Opening - Fall of 2018
14,000 sq. ft. of new retail space

Morton Grove Animal Hospital
9128 Waukegan
Opening - Fall of 2017

2016 - Growth - Opportunity - Responsiveness

Sales Tax Receipts
Increased 12.4%

Residential Development
Increased 10%

Retail Development
Increased 10%

Infrastructure Investment
Increased 10%

Economic Development

Village Share Property Taxes
No Increase

Village Fees
No Increase
Citizens Police Academy

Are you interested in getting an up-close look at what our police officers do? The Citizens Police Academy is a 10 week program designed to give participants an understanding of the operation of the Morton Grove Police Department and a working knowledge of what law enforcement is all about. The academy classes are held once a week and are approximately 2 hours in duration. The next Academy runs from March 21 to May 23 from 6:30 pm—8:30 pm. Applications are available now at the police station or on the police department’s web page.

The Morton Grove Police Department adheres to the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing and is committed to developing partnerships with our citizens. The Citizens Police Academy provides an opportunity for residents to enhance trust and confidence in the Police Department, and strengthen the police-community rapport by establishing direct lines of communications, enhancing understanding of police practices and procedures, and eliminating stereotypes and misconceptions. Our police officers also enjoy meeting residents in this informal setting while increasing their understanding of the questions and concerns of our community.

BEWARE Of DOOR-TO-DOOR SCAMS!!!

Door-to-Door Scams are becoming more common. In this crime, burglars often work in teams and pose as salesmen, contractors, utility or municipal workers in order to gain the homeowner’s confidence and entry into a home. Once inside, one burglar keeps the victim busy or distracted while the other steals valuables from another part of the residence.

Several residents have become victims of this scam in recent weeks. In one instance a man, who claimed to work for the Village’s Public Works Department, was allowed into a resident’s home by stating that the resident’s water was contaminated and needed to be checked. He distracted the homeowner by walking throughout the home turning on faucets. After the criminal left, the resident discovered that items had been stolen from the home.

Village Public Works employees always carry Village-issued photo identification cards, and drive in vehicles displaying the Village’s Public Works logo. First responders (police & fire personnel) will be in uniform and have a “marked” emergency vehicle. If a person claims to be a Village employee but does not have proper identification, or you are suspicious for any reason, do not let the person inside your residence and call 911.

Remember: When in doubt, keep them out!
Public Safety & Services

Updates

Fire Department Takes Delivery of New Ambulance with Unique Safety Features

New ambulance in service at the west side fire station (Station #5)
The Village invested $295,000 for the ambulance replacing a 1998 model that had reached the end of its service life.

State-of-the industry apparatus provides new capabilities for patient care

- Stryker Power Cot and Power Load: This equipment will reduce the risks to patients while reducing stress to the firefighter/paramedics’ backs and legs.
- Ziamatic Oxygen Cylinder Lift: This equipment will load the 100 lb. oxygen cylinder into the ambulance with the push of a button.

DID YOU KNOW......?

- The MGFD responded to over 3,700 Fire and EMS calls in 2016.
  - Of those responses, 65% were emergency medical calls.
- With donations, the MG Firefighters Association provided food and gifts for nearly 260 people during the holidays through the Annual Holiday Food Drive.
- When a department ambulance responds to your medical emergency, a crew of at least 4 firefighter/paramedics will arrive to assist you.
- When there is a confirmed building fire in Morton Grove, a minimum of 25 firefighters will respond with support from neighboring Fire Departments.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms Save Lives

More than 400 Americans die each year from unintentional Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning not linked to fires. Furthermore, over 20,000 Americans visit the emergency room and more than 4,000 are hospitalized. Your best protection is to have CO detectors in, or outside of, sleeping areas and to have your appliances inspected annually.

Incredibly Close / Amazingly Open....we want to hear from you....

There are several ways to communicate your thoughts. You can email at vmg@mortongroveil.org, visit the “contact us” section on our website in “Quick Links” at http://www.mortongroveil.org, call 847.965-4100, or fill out the following form. Return it to Village of Morton Grove, 6101 Capulina Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053.
Include your name and mailing or email address to receive a response.

Name: __________________________________________ Email: __________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Date: _______________ Address: ____________________________________ Phone: ________________________
Winter is Here; Take a Snow Day
We understand that not everyone has this luxury. However, avoiding trips on the road during winter storm conditions by working from home or postponing errands is one way to ease congestion and reduce risk. Less traffic will assist in clearing roads safely and efficiently.

Helpful Snow Removal Tips & Practices

- Be sure to use your driveway and/or garage to park your car whenever possible. Removing vehicles from the streets allows for a more complete clearing of snow.
- Shovel the Snow onto the lawn or down-slope of paved surfaces where melting snow can soak into the ground and help prevent slippery conditions.
- During snowmelt intervals, please pick up any trash on your property that may have accumulated. This will prevent the debris from washing down storm sewers and going into our waterways.
- Move your vehicles after a snowfall of over one inch if you live on a snow route. Crews will be plowing those streets overnight.

FIRE HYDRANT WINTER “FOSTER CARE”
Public Works maintains over 1,250 fire hydrants in the Village and winter weather can be particularly hard on our hydrants. Residents are encouraged to assist the Village by periodically observing the condition of hydrants near their homes. Hydrants that show signs of leakage or that have hanging icicles could be frozen. Some hydrants, because of their location, are more prone to be buried in drifted or plowed snow. If any of these conditions are observed, please notify Public Works at 847 470-5235 or the Fire Department at 847 470-5226.

PUBLIC WORKS - 2016
- 3.4 miles of streets were re-surfaced
- Streetscapes were enhanced with planters (Adopt-a-Planter Program)
- Planted 448 new trees throughout the community
- Moody/Meade sewer reconditioning/replacement
- Lincoln Ave crosswalks reconditioned
- Named Tree City USA for the 15th consecutive year
Community Senior Updates

Music and MORE

Evening Series: Music & MORE!
Thursday, March 9, April 13, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Join our Thursday Night Concert series when we’ll gather for an entertaining concert, snacks—and maybe even some dancing. Registration required. Cost: $5.

Gentle Yoga
Every Thursday, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Come to chair yoga class! Yoga has been proved to increase flexibility and muscle tone. It is an enduring total body workout. No experience necessary and all skill levels welcome. Cost: $4 per class

Zumba Gold
Every Friday, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Zumba is a cardio-based fitness class that fuses Latin and International rhythms and movements. Zumba Gold format is designed for the active older adult or the beginner participants. It features dances from popular rhythms such as merengue, salsa, cha-cha, flamenco, tango, rock and roll and more. Come join the class and get ready to have fun. No dance experience required. Cost: $4 per class

Foot Screening-FREE
Friday, March 3, April 7, 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Podiatrist, Dr. Alice Cisneros, D.P.M with De “Feet” Pain Center, will be providing podiatry screenings. Get your questions answered and a free foot screening. Registration required.

Ask the Tech Expert- FREE
2nd, 3rd, and 4th Friday of every month, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Save up your questions about computers, cell phones, iPads, websites, and more, and ask our friendly tech guru. NO Registration Required.

Cholesterol Screening
Tuesday, February 21, March 21, April 18, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
It takes only 3 minutes (and a simple finger stick blood test) to find out if your total cholesterol is where it should be. It will do your heart good. Registration required. Cost $15

All events, luncheons, concerts, and classes take place at the American Legion Memorial Civic Center 6140 Dempster • Morton Grove • Illinois
For a complete schedule of programs please visit moreways.org, www.mortongroveil.org or CALL THE SENIOR HOT-LINE: 847 663-3070

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!
The American Legion Memorial Senior Center in Morton Grove wants YOU! Can you dedicate some time to having fun and helping out? We need folks to help at the front desk, call Bingo, and more. Give Ovie a call at (847) 663-3075 to find out more.

In honor of the Ides of March, our next luncheon will also be a toga party. So don your best bedsheet and “Rome-on” over for the festivities on March 3. We’ll feast on a buffet fit for an emperor and enjoy some live entertainment.

Make a reservation by calling (888) 600-2560

...and Even MORE
Fall Photo Contests Winners

Congratulations to Photo Contest Winners Sascha Hedjbeli, Mizzy Vo, Sandra Covey, Lani Pruess and Jan Matik. All incredible and amazing photos submitted can be seen on the Village’s Facebook page. Our Winter contest ends on March 3. Photos can be emailed to CRC@mortongroveil.org. Contest rules and details are at: www.mortongroveil.org.