

# Moreland Hills

News and Updates for the Residents of Moreland Hills

AUGUST 2022

*At a Glance*

## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIEL FRITZ

Hello Residents,

On behalf of my Administrative staff and your elected members of Village Council, I would like to extend our hopes that this summer is proving to be relaxing and healthy.

Our activities in Village Park have brought many of you out to our new Lang Pavilion for music, demonstrations, safety presentations and other events. Look for more upcoming events listed in this newsletter. Lang Pavilion is proving to be just as we had envisioned, a communal gathering place for residents in the heart of one of the most beautiful preserves in Northeast Ohio. Many of you are reserving the pavilion for family events and neighborhood cookouts. Recently, I had the distinct pleasure of presiding over the wedding ceremony for two of our wonderful residents. Lang Pavilion proved to be the perfect venue for this new couple. Our work here is not done and we will continue to improve the facility and further enhance our community events.

Speaking of improvement, special thanks to the members of the Moreland Hills Parks Commission who recently made a very generous donation to provide a three-panel, all-weather messaging station to be installed at Lang Pavilion. Through their hard work, this commission continues to raise funds dedicated to improvements within our parks. Please remember to support their efforts by registering for the annual "Head for the Hills" event this fall. More information can be found in this newsletter. The event features one of my favorite 5k courses in the Chagrin Valley. Join us as we participate in the hike, walk, run and other activities in Village Park.

Switching gears, I wanted to relate the current status of our solar energy system

regulations. Drafted in 2012, the use of solar panels had some restrictions that were less than ideal in terms of incentivizing use. Officials at that time were not against the use of solar, however, the Ohio Building Code did not fully address some important key issues. Many enforcement and regulation issues were left to the local communities to deal with. In an effort to ensure the safety for homeowners and firefighters, who potentially need to operate on the roofs, the Village made the use of solar energy systems a "Conditional Use." This designation had pros and cons. On the positive side, the more prolonged process provided for a more thorough review that took safety and appearance into account. On the negative side, this process resulted in delays and red tape that were less than ideal in terms of incentivizing the use of alternative energy. When I became Mayor, I made it one of my goals to streamline this process and to hopefully remove the "Conditional Use" designation. That change, however, cannot be made at the sole discretion of the mayor. Together with our Planning Commission, members of Village Council and under the guidance of professional staff in our Building Department, we have started the process to allow for a much easier application for the use of solar energy systems on one's home. New language has been drafted, items such as the prohibition of panels on the front of the home have been removed and the new ordinance is currently making its way through our defined legislative process. At the September 7th Council Meeting we will host a public hearing that will allow residents to express support or dissent for this less prohibitive use of solar energy systems. As Mayor, it is my hope that this ordinance will pass and that we continue to incentivize the use of alternative energy sources.

Lastly, we are in the process of updating our Council Chambers with fresh paint, wall repairs, new pictures and other cosmetic improvements. Along with these changes will be the integration of a new audiovisual system that will allow us to livestream our Council Meetings so that residents can watch from home. I believe this is another step toward the transparency that residents desire.

I wish you all the best as we enjoy another summer in our beautiful Moreland Hills.



## SAVE YOUR SPOT AT HEAD FOR THE HILLS! 2022

Don't miss Head for the Hills 2022. This annual event will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2022, at the Lang Pavilion at Forest Ridge. Enjoy a 5K run, 1.5-mile hike, fun run/walk, kids' activities and more. Last year, over 170 people joined family and friends for this fun community event in support of our local parks.

Head for the Hills is sponsored annually by the Moreland Hills Parks Commission, a non-profit within the Village of Moreland Hills. The funds raised go to improve our local green spaces for the public, like a recently approved project to make further enhancements at the new Lang Pavilion area.

Moreland Hills green spaces are one of our community's greatest treasures and are enjoyed by thousands each year. The Parks Commission's ability to make future improvements and help preserve these spaces relies on donations from the public, area businesses, and funds raised by the annual Head for the Hills event.

Learn more about Head for the Hills 2022 and help us hit our \$20,000 fundraising goal. You can register for the 5K run or 1.5-mile hike, or donate by scanning the QR code with your smart phone camera or go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/MorelandHills/HeadfortheHillsRun>.



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### Clerk of Council

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## CLOSURES

### Labor Day – September 5

Village Offices will be closed on **Monday, September 5** for Labor Day. There will be no Special Pick-Ups or Yard Waste Pick-Ups done that week. Regular Monday Rubbish/Recycling pick-ups will be done on Tuesday, September 6.





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# Moreland Hills

At a Glance

## STUDENT CIVIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Two students were chosen for our new Student Civic Leadership Program, which allows high school students to be voting members on certain Moreland Hills Commissions. Sofia Dewey, a rising senior, will serve on the Parks Commission while rising junior Joy Utech will serve on both the Green Commission and the newly formed Diversity & Inclusion Commission. The Village is proud and excited to implement this new program, headed up by Councilman David Emerman.



My name is Sofia Dewey, and I am a rising senior at Hathaway Brown School. I grew up in Moreland Hills, and am delighted to represent my community and peers on the Village’s Parks Commission. In my free time, I love to work on short films with a crew of friends, and visit Lake Erie (rain or shine). I plan to pursue my studies at university in political science, international relations, and language, and am excited to gain hands-on experience in working with both our local government and its residents through this program.



Hello! I am Joy Utech and I attend Orange High School and will be a junior in the fall. At my school, I play volleyball and am involved in numerous clubs, including Spanish Club, Latin Club, Model UN, NHS, Amnesty International, and Creative Writing Club. Outside of school, I am part of the Cleveland Contemporary Youth Orchestra and I enjoy baking and studying Spanish. I am excited to be part of this Student Civic Leadership program and am thrilled to be involved in making positive changes in our community!

## ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

The following Ordinances and Resolutions were passed in July:

**ORDINANCE 2022-32** – amends Section 1171.11, “Supplemental Regulations for Certain Uses” to delete Subsection 1177.11(g), “Solar Energy Systems,” amend Schedule 1177.07, and enact new Chapter 1367 “Solar Energy Systems” of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Moreland Hills to remove the requirement for a conditional use certificate for solar panel installation. **Referred from Planning Commission – No Action Taken; will be placed on 2nd Reading in August and a Public Hearing will be held on September 7.**

**RESOLUTION 2022-37**– appoints the Diversity & Inclusion Commission members.

**ORDINANCE 2022-38** – authorizes the payment of an additional final amount due of \$37,708.00, to the Ohio Department of Transportation for repair of the slope along South Woodland Road.

**ORDINANCE 2022-39** – authorizes Change Order No. 1 with United Survey, Inc. for the 2021 Sewer Rehabilitation Program for an increase amount of \$4,205.00, which will reconcile and close out the contract.

**ORDINANCE 2022-40** – authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Grade Line, Inc., for the Jackson Valley Force Main Extension Project in the amount of \$58,694.00.

**ORDINANCE 2022-41** – an appropriations ordinance, which is a monthly financial housekeeping item.

## COMING EVENTS

### “MORE IN THE HILLS” EVENTS\*

#### Yoga at the Pavilion Featuring Marni Task Yoga – August Sessions – 6th & 20th

Yoga Sessions will be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, June through September at 9:00am, RAIN or SHINE. The suggested drop-in fee is \$10.00: Cash or check payable to *Marni Task Yoga*, or Venmo *@Marni-Bucchieri*.

#### August 4 @ 6:00pm

“Fight Like A Girl” Self Defense Class with Officer Laura Park

#### August 25 @ 6:00pm

Wine and Cheese Event featuring *Opus 216*. This local group features beautiful stringed instrument music including classical and contemporary. Great night for the whole family. Kids can fish at Potts Pier and the adults and kids can gather in our wonderful pavilion to enjoy *OPUS 216*. Bring your favorite bottle of wine to enjoy with some cheese, provided by the Village.

#### September 8 @ 6:00pm

Native vs. Invasive Plants hosted by the Moreland Hills Parks Commission

#### September 15 @ 6:00pm

Recycling Review and Preparing for Greening the Hills hosted by the Moreland Hills Green Commission

#### September 22 @ 7:00pm

Meet the Council Night

**\*Events continue to be scheduled so please check Facebook and our website for an up-to-date list of events.**

#### Greening the Hills – September 17

Our second Greening the Hills event of the year will be on Saturday, September 17 from 9:00 to Noon at our Village Campus. Residents can bring the following items to be disposed of properly: household hazardous waste, paper for shredding, tires, scrap metal, electronics, oil-based paint, and Rx medications.

## REMINDERS

#### Chipping Week – August 15-19

The Service Department will chip branches and sticks on your street. The branches should be cut into 4-foot lengths and stacked, in small bundles, facing the same direction; they DO NOT need to be tied. Piles with crisscrossed branches and anything over 5 inches in diameter WILL NOT be chipped. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. Please have the bundles stacked by the side of the road by 7:00am on August 15; the Service Department will chip them over the entire week. Please note: per Village Ordinances, the first 15 minutes will be provided without a charge. Any additional time needed for chipping will be charged at a rate of \$30 for each 15 minutes over the allotted time.

#### Block Party Information

If you and your neighbors are planning a Block Party, please notify the Police and Service Departments in advance, so that they can determine if roadblocks and/or barricades are needed. If you have the need for extra rubbish cans for the party, please let the Service Department know.

#### Employee Clambake

The Village is still accepting donations for the Employee Clambake, which will be held in September. Donations can be made by check payable to the Village of Moreland Hills and mailed or dropped off at Village Hall, 4350 SOM Center Road.