

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIEL FRITZ

Dear Residents,

Winter has descended upon us as we round out another year in our beautiful Village. While 2020 presented some challenges, I'm proud to report that we administered substantial infrastructure improvements and will end the year with healthy reserves. As mentioned in earlier newsletters, this success is not borne from the efforts of any one individual. Members of my administrative staff, along with your Village Council, work incredibly hard to produce results in a fiscally responsible manner. As we move into 2022, we will be sure to post all relevant financial information in the form of a PowerPoint presentation that can be viewed from our website and Facebook page. Look for this report in the first quarter of the new year. I continue to be very proud, and consider myself fortunate to work alongside such dedicated individuals.

If you are driving by Village Park on River Road, you will undoubtedly notice our new and beautiful pavilion. As I write this letter, the structure has been completed and features a stone fireplace and several patios. Additional improvements will include a grill area, restroom facilities, firepit and improved landscaping. Residents will be able to reserve this structure in 2022 after we have completed the drafting of policy as it relates to such use.

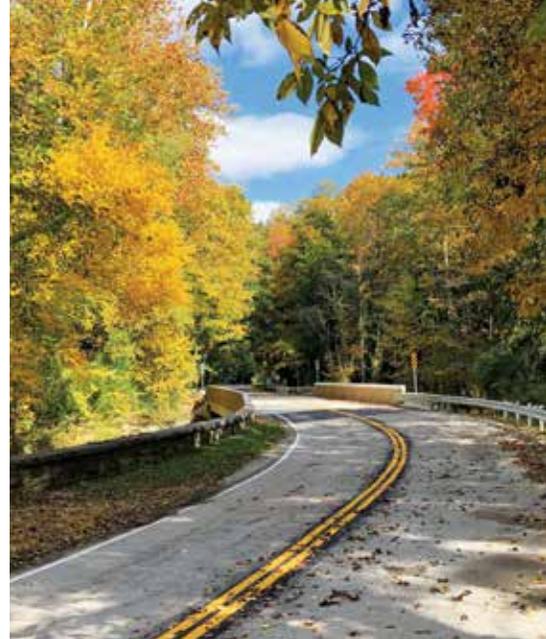
You may have recently noticed increased activity from our coyote population. I know that some of our residents continue to be concerned about their presence. To that end, I recently attended an Urban Coyote webinar that I found to be incredibly informative. We have posted the link to this presentation on our website and Village Facebook page. As we were advised by our good friends at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources this past year, these animals are here to stay and our best effort is to become better educated as we continue to coexist with our coyote population. As a cat owner (four of them), I share some of the concerns related to the safety of our pets. However, concerns for personal safety are not typically supported by data and this presentation reinforced the fact that coyote attacks on humans are very rare. However, there are some steps we can take to keep our pets safe and some of these practices are detailed in the presentation

I referenced earlier. Residents can also contact my Administrative Assistant Sherri Arietta who can provide notes from our meeting this past year with ODNR experts. Lastly, we have several copies of *Coyote America* by Dan Flores available for those interested. This book documents the behavior of these animals and also takes a look at the cultural evolution of the American coyote.

Last month I had the honor of attending the wreath ceremony in honor of President James A. Garfield. Our Village is fortunate to share in the history of this man. Since he was born in Moreland Hills, the day started with some brave souls who hiked from the birth site on our campus all the way to Lakeview Cemetery. Along with Council President Steve Richman, I attended the ceremony at Lakeview and was impressed at the pageantry and the beauty inside of the Garfield Monument. If you have never visited this site, I highly suggest that you add it to your list of places to see. Special thanks to Moreland Hills resident Maureen Geck and the Moreland Hills Historical Society who work so very hard to keep the legacy of this President alive. If you or a family member are interested in donating some time, I know that Maureen, as President of the Moreland Hills Historical Society, would love to chat with you regarding the mission of the Historical Society. Maureen can be reached at: mhshohio@gmail.com.

On this past Veterans Day, I also had the honor of introducing Moreland Hills resident Ron Janke as our guest speaker in Veterans Park. Ron, a Vietnam veteran, and his wife, Mary Ann, have raised their beautiful family in Moreland Hills. Ron is no stranger to community involvement and we will continue to benefit from his input. Ron's son Bill will be assuming the role as your new member of Village Council this coming January. Ron delivered a very poignant speech that included his experience as a combat veteran as well as his father's experiences as a WW2 veteran. We are proud and thankful for the brave men and women who have served. On behalf of our Village, I wish them all good health and prosperity.

From my family to yours, I wish you all a most joyous holiday season and a wonderful 2022!



TREE DONATION FOR VILLAGE PARK

Our wonderful pavilion and the land at Forest Ridge Preserve has grown out of a partnership that involves our entire community. In keeping with this spirit, we are looking for interested parties to help increase the number of trees in Village Park.

We are looking for 10 residents who would be willing to buy a live (ball and burlap) Christmas tree this year that can be re-planted at Forest Ridge Village Park once the holidays are over. Any type of evergreen is acceptable and it should be at least 4-5 feet in height.

These trees can typically be purchased at any of the local Christmas tree farms in the area; one such farm is Sugar Pines Farm www.sugarpinesfarm.com. They will provide you with an instruction sheet for proper care of your tree so that it will be viable after the holidays. If you choose to buy your tree from them, please consider going during the week, as the weekends get very busy.

After the holidays, our Service Department will come to your home and pick up your tree, which will then be planted in the area surrounding our new pavilion.

If you are interested, please email Sherri at villagehall@morelandhills.com. Only the first 10 residents will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Families who participate will be recognized in our January newsletter.

Mayor

Daniel Fritz, dfritz@morelandhills.com

Council

David Emerman, demerman@morelandhills.com

Laura Kozminski-VanderHart,
lkvanderhart@morelandhills.com

Stephen Richman, srichman@morelandhills.com

Ethan Spencer, espencer@morelandhills.com

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Clerk of Council

Sherri Arrietta, villagehall@morelandhills.com



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4350 S.O.M. Center Road
Moreland Hills, Ohio 44022

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Moreland Hills *At a Glance*

HOLIDAY CLOSURES AT VILLAGE HALL:

Village CLOSED on Christmas Eve,
Friday, December 24

CLOSED for Christmas Day –
Observed Monday, December 27

CLOSED @ NOON on New Year’s Eve,
Friday, December 31

CLOSED for New Year’s Day –
Observed Monday, January 3

SERVICE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE & REMINDERS

- Christmas & New Year’s Rubbish/Recycling Pick-Ups: Tuesday and Thursday pick-ups will not be affected and will continue as regularly scheduled. If you have a Monday Pick-up Day, your rubbish and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday (December 28 and January 4).
- There will be NO Special Pick-Ups on Monday, December 27 and Monday January 3.
- The Service Department will start picking up Christmas trees January 4 and will continue through February 4.

MEETING SCHEDULE

There will not be a BZA or Planning Commission Meeting in January. The submittal deadline for the February 7, 2022 meeting will be January 18, 2022, by Noon.

Council will hold their Organizational Meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 7:00pm in the Village Council Chambers.

HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING

Residents can bring holiday lights to our Village Campus, Monday-Friday from 7:00am to 3:00pm, to be recycled. The drop-off box is located behind the Service Department in our recycling materials shed.

Please **DO NOT** place holiday lights in your curbside recycling. “Tanglers,” including holiday lights and power cords, cannot be recycled in your home recycling bin and will cause problems and shutdowns at the local recycling facility.

Thank you for your cooperation!

SHOP WITH A COP

This year the Moreland Hills Police Department will be participating in the Annual Shop with a Cop program. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 protocols, there will not be a shopping event with other police agencies. However, we still want to help those in need of assistance this holiday season.

If you would like to donate, you can do so in two different ways. Donations by check can be made to FOP Lodge #67 or to MHPD – Shop with a Cop. Raffle tickets can be purchased as well. (\$1.00 per ticket or \$5.00 for 6). The raffle prizes are:

- Grand Prize: 50" Color TV
- 2nd Prize: IPad
- 3rd Prize: \$100 cash

All donations need to be received by **December 4**. If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets or making a donation, please contact Lt. Todd Dietzel at 440-287-5099.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

The following Ordinances and Resolutions were passed in November:

Ordinance 2021-49 – authorizes Change Order No. 1 with Jadco Construction Services, Inc. for the patching and painting of the Miles Road Retaining Wall for an increase of \$38,847.25, which is a result of additional work necessary to complete the project.

Ordinance 2021-50 – authorizes Change Order No. 1 with Terrace Construction Co. for the 2021 Drainage Program, for an increase of \$1,542.67, which is a result of additional work necessary to complete the project.

Ordinance 2021-51 – authorizes Change Order No. 3 with Carron Asphalt paving, Inc. for the Forest Ridge Preserve Pavilion – Contract B Site Work for a decrease amount of \$9,907.22, which will reconcile and close out the contract.

Ordinance 2021-52 – amends Section 141.01 “Composition,” of the Codified Ordinances to authorize the Mayor to appoint full-time patrol officers to ensure appropriate staffing levels in connection with anticipated vacancies, for further protection of public peace, health, safety, and welfare.

Ordinance 2021-53 – authorizes the donation of the Village Police in-car digital video recording devices that are no longer needed, to the Village of Convoy, Ohio who are in need of the devices.

Ordinance 2021-54 – authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Guardian Life Insurance Company of America for the provision of Life Insurance and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance to Village Employees for 2022.

Ordinance 2021-55 – authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Medical Mutual for the provision of Health Care Insurance to Village Employees for 2022.

Ordinance 2021-56 – authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with MetLife for the provision of Dental Coverage to Village Employees for 2022.

Ordinance 2021-57 – authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Auditor of the State of Ohio to compile annual financial statements for the year 2021 and issue an accountant report thereon.

Ordinance 2021-58 – an appropriations ordinance, which is a monthly financial housekeeping item.

Ordinance 2021-59 – amends Section 153.02 of the Codified Ordinances, “Paid Holidays,” to modify the schedule of paid holidays when Christmas Day falls on Saturday or Monday and to authorize the Mayor to modify that schedule when New Year’s Day falls on Saturday. **Placed on First Reading**

Ordinance 2021-60 – enacts new Chapter 161, “Diversity and Inclusion Commission,” of the Codified Ordinances to establish the Moreland Hills Diversity and Inclusion Commission and prescribe its responsibilities and organizations. **Placed on First Reading**

Resolution 2021-61 – approves the petition for special assessments for special energy improvement projects under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1710 and approves the necessity of acquiring, installing, equipping, and improving certain public improvements in the Village of Moreland Hills in cooperation with the Northeast Ohio Advanced Energy District.

Ordinance 2021-62 – determines to proceed with the acquisition, installation, equipping, and improvement of certain public improvements in the Village of Moreland Hills in cooperation with the Northeast Ohio Advanced Energy District.

Ordinance 2021-63 – levies special assessments for the purpose of acquiring, installing, equipping, and improving certain public improvements in the Village of Moreland Hills in cooperation with the Northeast Ohio Advanced Energy District and authorizing an energy project cooperative agreement and a special assessment agreement (34555 Chagrin Blvd.).

MORELAND HILLS POLICE AND EMPLOYEES FOUNDATION

Please watch your mailbox for the Foundation's annual donation request letter. Since 1966, the Foundation has provided a simple option for you to show your appreciation for the work the Village police and employees do to help make our community a great place to live. Please consider being a part of this longstanding tradition and make a tax-deductible contribution to say thank you for a job well done. If you did not receive the Foundation letter, please contact Village Hall.

BOOK SALE @ ORANGE BRANCH LIBRARY

The Orange Branch Library, located at 31975 Chagrin Blvd., Pepper Pike, will be holding their first in-person book sale since the pandemic on December 3-5. Sale hours are as follows:

Friday, December 3:	1pm-5pm (Teacher Discount 50% off)
Saturday, December 4:	9am-5pm
Sunday, December 5:	1pm-3pm (\$5 Bag Sale)

Build your own personal library by supporting the Friends of the Orange Branch Library!

*Masks are Required per CDC guidance for all library visitors age 2 and up. If you do not have a mask, the library can provide one.