

# Moreland Hills

News and Updates for the Residents of Moreland Hills

SEPTEMBER 2020

*At a Glance*

## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIEL FRITZ

Hello Residents,

As fall approaches we are all aware of the associated change that this season ushers in. For Moreland Hills residents that change means beautiful autumn colors, raking leaves, fishing for steelhead in the river and preparations for the upcoming winter. We navigate this change every year. This year, however, is much different. We continue to adhere to COVID related protocols, our children are facing unprecedented changes to their school experience and many of us are facing stressors that are significant and unique. The good news continues to be the resilience we are demonstrating. I have spoken with many residents who have related some positives that have come about due to our current situation. For some it has been increased family time. Others have taken to the parks more frequently and have visited Forest Ridge for the first time. For my family it was a recent getaway where we isolated in a rented home and were unaffected by the scheduling normally associated with a fast-paced exciting vacation. Our time was spent together without visiting restaurants, shopping or visiting nearby towns. That slow-paced vacation just may have been the best one we have ever taken together.

Change continues to take shape at Forest Ridge near Potts Pier. The "House on the Hill" is now gone and is covered by a new grass field. The area is now staked to illustrate where our new community gathering place will be constructed next year. Our pavilion will include restroom facilities and newly improved parking. It will be an amazing place to gather with family and friends. Our adjacent fishing pond will round out the perfect area for picnics and other gatherings such as acoustic music events and other community sponsored gatherings.

Speaking of the fishing pond. We recently submitted a plan to hold our annual Community Kids Fishing Event on Saturday September 12th. Our plan was submitted to the Cuyahoga County Board of Health for their approval. Like many gatherings in 2020 this event will

be dramatically different from previous years and will require pre-registration along with a very limited number of participants. All of those attending will be spaced far apart at designated areas along the banks of the fishing pond. See the Police Chief's submission in this newsletter for more details.

Many of you have heard that residents on Miles Road have decided to sell their property to a developer with the goal of creating a new housing subdivision. Some of you have expressed concerns regarding issues such as density, traffic and tree removal. As of the printing of this newsletter, the developer has submitted a "preliminary development plan" that includes 8 new lots on a near 20 acre parcel. The two existing homes on this parcel are proposed to remain in place thus being approximately one home per 2 acres (10 total homes on approximately 20 acres). The developer has also submitted two variance requests that have been presented to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), relating to the density proposed on this near 20-acre parcel. The variance requests were considered on August 31. The results of the variance requests can be related by contacting the Building Department at 440.248.1188. The issue of development within our beautiful borders is of major interest to our residents. I can assure you that I, along with members of Village Council and members of the Planning Commission do not take our responsibilities lightly. We will continue to ensure that any proposed development will be properly vetted within our zoning regulations and ultimately adheres to the zoning map approved by our voters. As always, any resident can contact me any day of the week to discuss this important issue.

I pride myself on access and transparency. I can always be reached through Village Hall by contacting my Administrative Assistant Sherri Arrietta. Many have taken advantage of that interaction. It is my responsibility to be present and efficient when communicating with our residents. To that end I look forward to speaking with many of you. It continues to be my sincere pleasure to serve as your Mayor.



## FROM THE CHIEF...

### **Moreland Hills Kids Fishing Event Saturday, September 12**

Due to COVID-19 mandates, parents with kids who wish to participate in the 2020 Moreland Hills Community Kids Fishing Event will be required to pre-register. This year we will schedule two groups of up to 35 participants. The first group will fish from 9am – 12pm and the second group will fish from 1pm to 4pm. The fishing poles will be sanitized before the second group starts to fish.

Although this year has created some challenges, the event will be a fun time shared by all as there are plenty of fish in the pond. This year, we are unable to serve food and no awards will be distributed.

We will have the area around the pond marked to allow families to fish with plenty of space for social distancing. This event has been cleared with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health.

Please contact my office directly by email to [kwyant@morelandhills.com](mailto:kwyant@morelandhills.com) in order to register for the event or to ask any questions. As always the Village of Moreland Hills Police Department and other employees look forward to hosting this event; this year marks our 6th Annual.

See you at the fishing pond located at Potts Pier within the Forest Ridge Preserve, Moreland Hills, on September 12, 2020.

Note: If for any reason the event has to be canceled, you will be notified using your required registration information. Thank you for your understanding during these unique times.

— Chief Kevin Wyant

## FIRE HYDRANTS

A safety reminder to our residents: You must keep 3 feet of clearance around a fire hydrant so that they can be easily seen by the Fire Department. Please DO NOT plant anything around fire hydrants. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our community safe!

### **Mayor**

**Daniel Fritz**, [dfritz@morelandhills.com](mailto:dfritz@morelandhills.com)

### **Council**

**David Emerman**, [demerman@morelandhills.com](mailto:demerman@morelandhills.com)

**Laura Kozminski-VanderHart**,

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**Stephen Richman**, [srichman@morelandhills.com](mailto:srichman@morelandhills.com)

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**Monica Sturgis**, [msturgis@morelandhills.com](mailto:msturgis@morelandhills.com)

### **Clerk of Council**

**Sherri Arrietta**, [villagehall@morelandhills.com](mailto:villagehall@morelandhills.com)





Village of Moreland Hills  
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Moreland Hills, Ohio 44022

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At a Glance

## CLOSINGS

Village Offices will be closed Monday, September 7 for the Labor Day holiday. Senior pick-ups will be done on Tuesday that week; regular rubbish/recycling pick-up days will **not** be affected. Yard waste and special pick-ups will not be done that week

## COMING EVENTS

**The Community Kids Fishing Day** – This event will be held on Saturday, September 12, split into two different groups. You must pre-register for this event as space is limited. For more information or to register, see the article from Chief Wyant elsewhere in this newsletter or email him at [kwyant@morelandhills.com](mailto:kwyant@morelandhills.com).

**Last Two Chipping Weeks of the Year – September 21-25 and October 19-23** – 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. Please have the bundles stacked by the side of the road by 7:00am on Monday of the chipping week; 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.

**Greening the Hills** – Greening the Hills will be held on Saturday, October 31, from 9:00am to Noon at Village Hall. \*Please note the following procedures that must be followed: All items will need to be in your trunk/pick-up bed. When pulling into our campus, follow the directional signage. Do not get out of your vehicle. Open your trunk/hatchback when instructed to, so that our employees can then remove the items; they will not take anything from inside your vehicle including from the passenger seat or back seat. Please note that our employees will be taking proper precautionary measures by wearing masks and gloves.

## REMINDERS

**James A. Garfield Cabin Open** – The cabin is open and accepting visitors every Saturday from 10:00am to 1:00pm until October 1, and by appointment. Contact [www.mhhsOhio.com](http://www.mhhsOhio.com) to make an appointment or to receive more information. All visitors must practice social distancing and wear masks. Please note, there will be no access to public restrooms.

**Senior Snow Plow Program** – Please call the Service Department to obtain an application for the 2020-2021 winter season. Deadline for returning the completed form will be October 9, 2020.

## FROM THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY...

The Moreland Hills Historical Society is grateful for the support of our members. Since we serve the entire Village, we are asking you to become a member by mailing your check for \$15 (individual) or \$25 (household) to 4350 SOM Center Road, payable to Moreland Hills Historical Society.

Our income is used to preserve and share the history of Moreland Hills, including the James A. Garfield Birth Site. We have experienced additional expenses responding to COVID-related guidelines and reduced income from private tour cancellations. At this time, we would appreciate the support of our community.

We are excited to share a 1931 film clip we found in the archives, which has been digitized and narrated by freelance reporter Scott Newell on our behalf. You can view the original 1931 Dedication of the James Garfield Birth Site Memorial at [www.MHHSohio.com](http://www.MHHSohio.com).

We wish to thank our volunteers who have helped keep the James A. Garfield story alive at the cabin this summer! We are hosting approximately 10 visitors per week who step back in time to remember the humble beginnings of the 20th President of the United States. Won't you join us?

## FROM THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT...

### Residential Sanitary/Storm Sewer Lateral Connection Maintenance

The Village Service Department receives calls regularly concerning blocked or broken sewer lateral connections that run from a resident's home to the Village's Storm or Sanitary sewer line at the street. The Service Department responds to these requests by providing guidance of possible problems and solutions for the blockage. The department may help in locating the approximate location of the lateral tie-in to the sewer lines utilizing the limited information that the Village may have on file. Many building plans do not show the location of the connections, which makes it very difficult to locate at times.

General maintenance, repairs, and clearing blockages via snaking, jetting, or excavation of the lateral lines are the responsibility of the property owner. The Village Service Department does not have the equipment to jet out or snake private sewer laterals; therefore, we are unable to assist with this task when a blockage occurs.

## RECYCLE CART STICKERS

The Village Service Department placed recycling stickers on residents' carts last summer, which provide current information on what can and cannot be put in the curbside recycling program.

It has come to our attention that numerous residents still do not have one. If you did not get one on your cart, please email the Service Department at [service@morelandhills.com](mailto:service@morelandhills.com) and let them know. They will place the new sticker on your cart on your rubbish/recycling day.

## LIGHT IT UP FOR OUR FIRST RESPONDERS!

Every year the Chagrin Valley Chamber of Commerce hosts *We Salute Our First Responders Week* September 6-12. Please show your support by proudly displaying a red or blue bulb in your porch lamp, driveway lamp, or a lamp in your window to show your appreciation for all that our local first responders do for us!

## ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

The following Ordinances & Resolutions were passed in August:

- Ordinance 2020-47** – amends Chapter 159, "Green Commission" of the Administrative Code to designate the Chair or their designee as the commission secretary.
- Ordinance 2020-48** – amends Chapter 157, "Parks Commission" of the Administrative Code to designate the Chair or their designee as the commission secretary.
- Ordinance 2020-49** – creates the Village Parks Donation and Improvement Fund within the financial records of the Village of Moreland Hills.
- Ordinance 2020-50** – authorizes the Mayor to execute the agreement for solid waste disposal and recycling processing services between the Village and Kimble Company.
- Ordinance 2020-51** – authorizes Change Order No. 1 with Nerone and Sons, Inc. for the project requiring modification to piping and valves at various pump stations, in the decrease amount of \$8,400, which reconciles and closes the contract.
- Ordinance 2020-52** - an appropriations ordinance, which is a monthly financial housekeeping item.