

# Moreland Hills at a Glance

News and Updates for the Residents of Moreland Hills



March 2016

## Message From Mayor Susan Renda

Dear Resident,

The Master Plan Committee is finishing up its work and will report to Planning Commission at the end of the month. Results of the online survey and the open house are summarized below and indicate that residents are mostly happy with life in the Village. They especially value the character and location of the Village and the services provided. Character is defined largely by natural features: the Village's semi-rural charm, proximity to parks and attractive lots. In terms of location, respondents value being near to Cleveland and all it has to offer and to their employment. They also report that they value public services and educational opportunities found in Moreland Hills.

In terms of future goals, all respondents agreed that maintaining the roads is a very important goal. A great majority of respondents see maintaining green space and parks as an important goal. There was also widely held support for increasing the number of bike trails in the park system and the number of bike paths on the roads. A majority of residents agreed we should continue to work with adjacent communities in an effort to be more efficient and save money. Improving the appearance of neighborhoods, redeveloping vacant properties and occupying vacant commercial spaces were important to more than 80 percent of respondents.

Eighty-three percent of respondents indicated they were either likely or very likely to stay in Moreland Hills over the next 10 years. When asked if they planned to downsize at some point, 73 percent answered "yes" or "maybe." Only those who responded yes or maybe were asked two follow-up questions: one about housing preferences and one about location. Hous-

ing preferences clearly supported single family bungalows on smaller lots and detached condos. Apartments were deemed least desirable, followed closely by duplexes. Finally, a majority of those who expressed an interest in downsizing would prefer to do so in the Chagrin Valley and/or Moreland Hills.

A majority of respondents preferred a "no change" approach to Moreland Hills governance and planning although they appeared to be open to some minor changes. For example, a majority want to see the appearance of neighborhoods improved and vacant properties redeveloped. The Committee is currently considering all these factors and will make recommendations to the Planning Commission Feb. 22.

**M. Dale Canter**, who served as the Village's Interim Police Chief from March 2013 to October 2014, and then as Assistant Safety Director until this past January, has retired. At the Feb. 10 Council meeting, I presented him with a proclamation honoring his service to the Village, and Council passed a resolution naming him Honorary Safety Director. We will miss his wisdom, wit and gentle presence in our lives. We all wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement.

Many people have asked about trees being cut down at 551 Chagrin Blvd. (the former Florence Anderson property). A new eight-house development is being built there, and the hill must be shaved to provide appropriate sight-line along Chagrin for egress from the development. The trees were cut down to accommodate that work.

Stay warm!  
Regards,

- Mayor Susan Renda

## Green Tip: Be Aware of Your Hair Products

I recently attended a meeting of the governing body for the Hazardous Materials Response Team that serves Moreland Hills. In their annual report, the team leader pointed out that they responded to three major incidents in 2015, one of which involved an accident on 271. One semi-truck plowed into another that was carrying women's hair products.

I looked around the room full of men and realized I was probably the only one there who had a potential Haz-Mat site on her head. I have cared deeply about the environment for as long as I can remember, but that day I realized that I have thoughtlessly used hair products and subsequently washed them down the drain without reading labels and without much thought. It turns out that there are a plethora of organic and botanical hair care products available in drug stores, grocery stores, online and salons.

I urge you to read labels, experiment with organic and/or botanical products, and try to avoid exposing yourself to chemicals that, in large amounts, can create a hazardous materials site.

### Mayor

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## Moreland Hills *at a Glance*

### Ordinances and Resolutions

The following Ordinances & Resolutions were passed in February:

**Resolution 2016-09** – appoints Dale Canter as Honorary Safety Director of the Village of Moreland Hills.

**Ordinance 2016-10** – authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Village of Bentleyville for the use of the Moreland Hills firing range.

**Ordinance 2016-11** – authorizes the Mayor to purchase an amount of salt tonnage to meet the requirements of the Village for each year through the State of Ohio Department of Transportation's contract. The amount purchased will correspond with the current State minimum and maximum percentages.

**Ordinance 2016-12** – authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Wichert Insurance Services, Inc., which includes general liability, police professional, public official, automobile, and property insurance at a total cost of \$63,583 per year.

### History in the Making: March is National Women's History Month

Join the Historical Society in paying tribute to **Mayor Susan Renda** as Moreland Hills' first female mayor.

We wish to thank Mayor Renda for service and contribution to our community!

### Recycling Pick-Up Change

Beginning the week of **March 7**, the Service Department will be picking up your recyclables **every week**. The Village has had a lot of feedback from residents requesting to have this service every week.

It will be done for a trial period (through the end of June) to see if there is a need for this service on a weekly basis.

### Safety Corner

Congratulations to **Ptl. Laura Park, Ptl. Anthony Buzecan**, and **Ptl. Josh White** for their recent awards from the OVI Task Force for 2015.

Ptl. Park received an award for Exemplary Leadership; Ptl. Buzecan received the Top Cop Award for the most seatbelt violations written; and Ptl. White received the Top Cop Award for the most OVI arrests in the Moreland Hills Police Department.

### Closings and Reminders

#### Chipping

This is just a reminder that Chipping will begin the week of April 18-22. The Chipping Program runs from April-October, on the third full week of every month.

#### Good Friday

Village Hall will be closed on Friday, March 25 in observance of Good Friday. There will be no yard waste pick-ups that day.

### Tax Information

#### RITA Reminder

Municipal income tax returns are due Monday, April 18, even if no income tax is due. For filing requirements, contact RITA **800.860.7482** or visit our website at [www.RITAOhio.com/faq](http://www.RITAOhio.com/faq).

File early and file electronically to avoid the "last minute" stress.

#### A Message From the Library

The IRS has reduced the amount of printed tax forms and publications available to the public libraries nationwide.

As a result, we have a limited amount of printed tax materials available in our branches for our customers.

- Visit [IRS.gov/order](http://IRS.gov/order) forms to order tax products to be delivered to your home by mail.
- Call the IRS at **1.800.829.3676** to order tax products to be delivered to your home by mail. This service is available **7 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday through Friday**, excluding federal holidays.

For more resources, visit: <http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org/Research/Tax-Information.aspx>

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