



MORRIS ILLINOIS

Oh,
What Fun!



Morris Cruise Night - Downtown Morris
Every 2nd Saturday (June-October)

3 French Hens Country Market
Every 2nd Saturday (May-November)



Morris Municipal Services Building

700 N. Division St. • Morris IL 60450

Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM • Monday – Friday

Phone: (815) 942-0103 **Email:** cityhall@morrisil.org

City Meetings

The Morris City Council meets twice monthly. Committee meetings are held on an as needed basis.

All are held in the Community Room
700 N. Division St., Morris, IL 60450

December

4th Morris City Council 6:00PM

18th Morris City Council 6:00PM

January

2nd Morris City Council 6:00PM

16th Morris City Council 6:00PM

February

5th Morris City Council 6:00PM

20th Morris City Council 6:00PM

Closed for the following Holidays:

Christmas Monday, December 25th

New Year's Day Monday, January 1st

Martin Luther King Day Monday, January 15th

Presidents' Day Monday, February 19th

City Directory

Mayor's Office

815-942-5438

City Clerk

815-942-4026

City Treasurer

815-942-4108

Building & Zoning

815-942-1855

Business Development

815-941-3685

Morris Fire & Ambulance Non-Emergency

815-942-2830

Morris Police Non-Emergency

815-942-2131

Public Works Department

815-942-5063

Water Department Billing/Questions

815-942-4026

Water Department Maintenance

815-942-2205

Morris Municipal Airport

815-942-1600

Morris Swimming Pool

815-942-2919

Your Local Aldermen

Herb Wyeth

First Ward

hwyth@morrisil.org

Jake Duvick

First Ward

jduvick@morrisil.org

Julian Houston

Second Ward

jhouston@morrisil.org

Dean Tambling

Second Ward

dtambling@morrisil.org

Carrie Hall

Third Ward

chall@morrisil.org

Alex Clubb

Third Ward

aclubb@morrisil.org

Jim Black

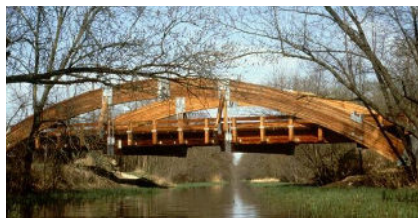
Fourth Ward

jblack@morrisil.org

Sarah Mettille

Fourth Ward

smettille@morrisil.org





Message from Mayor Chris Brown

Where has the year gone? It seems the past year has gone by me in the blink of an eye. I remember when I was a child and how it seemed that time could never go by fast enough. Now, I find myself looking for the pause button in hopes of slowing time down. You know as well as I do that is not a reality for us, so we must take the time to enjoy life as it happens and also take time to reflect on our past as we keep an eye on the future.

What a year it has been for the City of Morris. I am so pleased with the progress we have made as a city in hopes of making Morris the best it can possibly be. This is not something that is done alone, but as a team, and I want to thank all of the people that dedicate themselves to our community each and every day of the year. From our city teams, which includes our police department, public works, city council, and administrative folks, to all of the organizations within our community, a great debt is owed for all of their efforts in making Morris such a wonderful place to call home or own a business.

Some of the achievements of the past year that we can all celebrate include improvements to our infrastructure, neighborhoods, parks, and quality of life. Starting with infrastructure, it has been rewarding to see the progress made on the new water tower as I drive home every evening. Once completed, not only will this tower bring greater water capacity to our city, but it will also allow us to perform much needed maintenance on our existing water towers. Painting of the tower has started, and we hope to have the new tower in service by the end of the year.

The east side of Morris will benefit in 2024 from a \$650,000 housing rehabilitation grant we received from the Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity. 10 – 12 homes will be selected to receive major upgrades and repairs at zero cost to the homeowner. This program is there to benefit the elderly, those with disabilities, and households with lower income levels. More information regarding the application program will be released after the new year. This grant will bring help to some of our most vulnerable residents. I would like to take a moment to thank Community Affairs Director, Stan Knudson, for all his efforts and for making this grant opportunity and our OSLAD application realities. His efforts have netted the City of Morris approximately \$1.3 million in 2023.

As I just mentioned, our parks system received a big boost from grant funding as well. It sure was exciting to learn that our West Side Park application for OSLAD funding was approved in the amount of \$600,000. We will match those funds which will bring the total overhaul to \$1.2 million. The new park will feature an additional ball diamond, pickleball courts, play equipment, and a brand-new skate park. In addition, more walking trails will be added and connected to the trails at the new YMCA facility. Our work in our parks has only just begun. I look forward to continuing our progress in making major improvements to our park facilities and pursuing grant dollars to make it happen.

In more exciting news for our parks, we broke ground on Goodwill Park in September. Our investment in the east side park will bring brand new ball diamonds, playground equipment, a picnic gazebo, and greater ADA accessibility. This massive makeover and renovation will bring a much-needed new look to the park. I would like to thank Joan Sereno and the Jason Clearwater Foundation for their generous donations towards the project. Their dollars will be used to erect the brand-new picnic pavilion and improvements to the baseball fields.

Changing gears, our events and festivals this year were huge successes, and they drew more people to our area than ever before. It is so wonderful to have events at our front doorstep throughout the year for our residents to enjoy, but its even better when they draw visitors to our area. Visitors discover wonderful events, but they also discover that Morris is a place to visit anytime of the year. Visitors to Morris are vital to our local economy and have helped drive the surge we have seen in sales tax and hotel/motel tax. Making Morris a destination has driven our revenues to all-time high levels and allowed us to cut our property tax levy to historically low rates. This undoubtedly eases the burden placed on property owners and hopefully helps them navigate financially as we see no end in sight to inflation and higher prices for consumer goods and services.

In closing, I want to take a moment to wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous new year. Thank you for your support and for making Morris a special place to call home.



PUBLIC WORKS POINTERS

Snow Removal

The City of Morris Public Works crews begin an all-out plowing effort when the snow accumulation is greater than 1.5 inches. It is the city's goal to clear all streets, curb-to-curb, within 12 hours after the snowfall has ended. Heavier snow would be the exception, as it takes curb much longer to clear. The curb-to-curb policy is in effect to keep gutters and storm sewers open which allows for melting snow and rain to drain properly. This is essential in helping to prevent street flooding and also to accommodate trash pick-up and mail delivery. Snow routes are prioritized with main traffic routes being plowed first, thoroughfares through subdivisions are second, while smaller side streets and cul-de-sacs are cleared last.



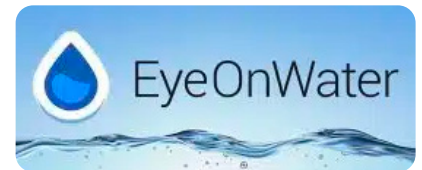
Please note that we will be enforcing a **no parking restriction** in the downtown area after 2 inches of accumulation.



Water Meter Exchange

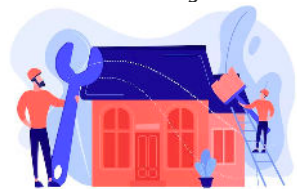
Did you know with new smart meter technology Morris residents can download an app which allows them to monitor water usage from their phone? This makes the detection of leaks much easier and can potentially save customers costs related to water usage caused by leaks.

Installation takes less than 20 minutes. Call 815-942-4026 to schedule your appointment today!



BUILDING AND ZONING CORNER

Winter is a great time to start thinking about spring home improvement projects. Before you start the work, remember to check with the City of Morris Building



and Zoning Office to see if permits are necessary for your projects.

Building permits are required for the following:

- New residences
- Building additions
- Decks and fences
- Sheds
- Gazebos and porches
- Signs
- Commercial remodeling
- Demolition of buildings

Please call the Building and Zoning Office if you have any questions or concerns about any home improvements you are planning. Building and Zoning Officer Bill Martin can be reached at 815-942-1855.

Make your picnic plans for 2024!

The City of Morris will begin taking park shelter reservations on Monday, April 1st. Reservations are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Shelters are available from May 1, 2023, through October 15, 2023. Fees are \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. You can find the application online under the "How Do I" tab at morrisil.org.



FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Every season is fire safety season in my opinion, but wintertime is arguably the most important time of year for paying attention to fire safety because home fires occur more in winter than in any other season.

Approximately half of all home fires occur in December, January, and February. Additionally, 1 in every 7 home fires involves the use of heating equipment. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!

Here are a few tips that should help put the freeze on winter fires:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.
- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away as possible.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms and smoke detectors at least once a month.
- Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an outlet at a time.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney vents every year.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby building.



*Tracey Steffes
Fire Chief/Marshall*

The Morris Fire Protection & Ambulance District wishes you a safe and happy winter season!



CHIEF CHAT

While the holidays should be the merriest time of the year, the holiday season also brings opportunities for criminals to be the Grinch and take advantage of unsuspecting victims.

Identity theft is something that can happen at any time, but there is always a spike during the holidays. Tens of millions are shopping online creating the ability for your identity or bank account information to be easily recorded and stolen. This stolen information can then be used to make purchases, apply for credit cards, or even extortion in extreme cases.



*Alicia Steffes
Police Chief*

Here are some tips on how to protect your identity when holiday shopping.

- Always choose credit over debit.
- Use disposable prepaid credit cards if possible.
- Verify website security (look for the lock icon next the URL)
- Don't shop on a shared device in public.
- Don't store sensitive information on your computer.

At home you can follow these simple suggestions to minimize your chances of being targeted by criminals:

- Don't hide spare keys in mailboxes or under doormats.
- Place gifts where they can't be seen.
- Lock your vehicle and remove all valuables. Yes, even in your driveway!
- Use timers for lights throughout your home.
- Have packages delivered to work if you're not going to be home.
- Install security cameras.
- After the holidays, don't advertise expensive toys, electronics, or other gifts received by members of your household. Instead of placing them next to your garbage cans, compress large boxes and place them in black garbage bags for pick up.

Lastly, if you have travel plans over the holiday season, the Morris Police Department can put your residence on extra patrol while you're gone. If you live within the city limits, call Katie at 815-941-5233 and request that your residence be placed on house check.

Happy holidays from all of us at the Morris Police Department!



Experience the Magic of Christmas in Morris!

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

November 24th, 25th & 26th

Friday, November 24th

ALL DAY – WINDOW WALK

Downtown Morris

Stroll downtown window displays in search of items hidden in storefronts. Clue sheets are available in stores. Redeem for a chance to win a Morris Retail Association gift card.

A limited number of 2023 HFTH bags with coupons are available to early shoppers.

10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. – Festival of Trees

Grundy County Historical Society and Museum

510 W. Illinois Avenue

View and bid in-person at Museum or online at www.bidluckyauctions.com

1:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M. – Lantern Making (Free!)

Eagle's Hall - 120 Liberty St.

Hosted by Morris & Mazon Girl Scouts.

A parent or adult must remain with children.

Eagles Ladies Auxiliary 1024 will sell hot cocoa.

Proceeds benefit local charities.

3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. – Enchanting Horse Drawn Carriage Rides (Free!)

Washington and Liberty Streets

4:00 P.M. – Coal City High School Madrigals

Caroling throughout Downtown Morris

Saturday, November 25th

ALL DAY – WINDOW WALK

9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. – Hot Cider & Cookies (Free!)

Washington and Liberty Streets

Compliments of Streator Onized Credit Union

9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. – Visits With Santa (Free!)

Morris Area Public Library - 604 N. Liberty Street

Limited capacity Visit the library or call for reservations (815) 942-6880.

10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. – Children's Winter Carnival (Free!)

Morris American Legion - 212 W. Washington

Fun and games for children!

A parent or adult must remain with children.

10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. – Santa & His Reindeer (Free!)

Grundy County Courthouse Lawn

Visit Santa and pet his reindeer. Great photo opportunity. *Time extended in 2023!*

10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. – Festival of Trees

Grundy County Historical Society and Museum

510 W. Illinois Avenue

First bids close at 5:00 P.M.

Online bidding at www.bidluckyauctions.com

11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. – Enchanting Horse Drawn Carriage Rides (Free!)

Washington and Liberty Streets

18th Annual Lighted Holiday Parade

5:30 P.M.

Santa & Mrs. Claus Arrive in Morris!

East Washington Street, Liberty Street
from the Courthouse to Chapin Park

6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. – Lighting of Chapin Park (Free!)

Chapin and Wauponsee Streets

Caroling with the Coal City High School Madrigals, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, hot cocoa and horse drawn carriage rides!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS!

"Midnight in Morris" – Dec. 1, 4pm-midnight

Stores open 4pm-midnight with holidays specials

"Winterfest Market" – hosted by 3 French Hens

Dec. 10, 9am-3pm

Holiday vendors and treats will line Liberty Street as you shop your favorite Downtown destinations.

"Holiday in the Park" – Dec. 16, 3-6pm, Goold Park

An old-fashioned Christmas with Santa, carols, ice skating, cocoa, and more.

House Walk

11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

• Four •

Morris Destinations Decorated for the Season

Tickets are \$20

Proceeds for charity

Sunday, November 26th

Noon-4:00 P.M. –

WINDOW WALK CONTINUES!

Downtown Morris

Stroll downtown window displays in search of items listed on a clue sheet available at participating retailers. Return for a chance to win an MRA gift card.

Noon-3:00 P.M. –

Festival of Trees Auction Pick Up

Grundy County Historical Society and Museum

510 W. Illinois Avenue

City of Morris

House Walk Destinations:

Tim & Tracey Anderson

129 E. Chapin Street

Julie Hansen & Travis Nelson

300 Jefferson Street, Unit A

Green Acres Morris

Owners John & Caroline Cummings

3155 School Drive

Morris Municipal Services Building

Mayor Chris Brown

700 N. Division Street

Complementary tea featuring décor and refreshments from Downtown businesses.

Tickets for House Walk

MAY BE PURCHASED FOR \$20 AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

House Walk Destinations (day of event only)

Apple Butter & Shugie's

Brianna Lynn's Boutique

Grundy Bank

Grundy County Historical Society

Just Kidding Around

Old National Bank

The Thoughtful Spot

True North

Every House Walk Ticket Includes 25% Off Coupon To Participating Downtown Shops.

RETURN YOUR TICKET FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

- \$250 gift certificate donated by the Morris Retail Association
- \$250 gift certificate to Grundy County Chamber of Commerce member businesses, donated by the City of Morris and Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Julie Wilkinson

City of Morris Business Development

(815) 941-3685

Events are subject to change.



VISIT www.morrisil.org/home-for-the-holidays

FIND @homefortheholidaysmorrisil and @VisitMorris, IL on Facebook for info.



NEWEST CITY COUNCIL MEMBER SWORN IN

Carrie Hall was sworn in as the newest member of the Morris City Council at the regular meeting held on Monday, August 21st. Ms. Hall replaces Derrick Wren and represents third ward residents. She assumes all of Wren's committee appointment responsibilities. She currently serves as the chairperson of the Street & Alley Committee, vice chairperson of the Airport Committee, and member of the Water & Sewer Committee. She addressed Mayor Brown and current council members expressing her gratitude and overall excitement for having the opportunity to serve her community in her new role.



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DIRECTOR ATTENDS TWO-DAY GRANT SEMINAR



City of Morris Community Affairs Director Stan Knudson recently attended a two-day grant seminar hosted by the Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity in Springfield on October 18th and 19th. The seminar focused on grant administration and grant application procedures related to public infrastructure and housing rehabilitation. Knudson returned with a wealth of information and stated that he is excited for the execution of local grants and is looking forward to the pursuit of more grant opportunities in the future. In 2023, the Community Affairs Director was responsible for the City of Morris being awarded a total of \$1.25 million which will be used for park improvements in West Side Park and the housing rehabilitation program on the east side of Morris.

LYONDELLBASELL AWARDS CITY \$20,000 FOR REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE STATIONS

The City of Morris was honored to have Mike Middleton and Megan Borchers of LyondellBasell at the October 16th Morris City Council meeting. Mayor Brown announced that the City of Morris was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from LyondellBasell for the installation of four water bottle filling stations which will be installed in area parks. These stations encourage the use of reusable water bottles, which reduces plastic waste and helps promote the importance of sustainable living. Mike is the site manager at the Morris plant and Megan is the public relations lead. Thank you once again for your continued partnership with the City of Morris!



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT - OUR TIME TO SHINE

Thirty years ago, a group of committed business leaders came together to further cement Downtown Morris' place in our changing local economy. It was a time when big box stores were expanding their reach, providing convenience, selection, and economies of scale that attracted consumers who had grown up buying nearly everything in their neighborhoods. Unemployment was still recovering, and the web start-up era was just beginning. Downtown Morris was reinventing itself to remain relevant. One of the efforts born of this era was Home for the Holidays - a local shopping movement turned holiday tradition that has evolved with the times.

This 3-day festival is the kickoff to the holiday season in Morris. Embedded in the spirit of Home for the Holidays is the element of shopping, staying, and spending locally. When Black Friday ads and doorbuster deals fill our inboxes, this Hallmark-like weekend of festivities presents residents and visitors with a respite from loud and commercial. It is our time to shine. Through the House Walk, carriage rides, lighted parade, festival of trees, and window walk, Morris offers charm, warmth, and a slower pace people crave. Volunteers, nonprofits, businesses, and the City Public Works team help make it possible.



From now through the new year, there is no shortage of activity. The wildly popular Midnight in Morris returns December 1st from 4pm until midnight. On its heels is the Winterfest Market December 10th, hosted this year by the 3 French Hens. Vendors will line Liberty Street for this outdoor Sunday market from 9AM-3PM. Morris Retail Association stores and restaurants will have outdoor booths, hands-on classes, and in-store features. It's going to be a memorable day

of holiday merriment! Holiday in the Park returns to Goold Park on December 16th from 3-6PM. This event includes visits with Santa under the bandshell, cocoa, carols, and holiday cocktails while skaters take to the City's free ice-skating rink. From Thanksgiving to Christmas, Santa will welcome children in his house on Illinois Avenue every weekend. This a free offering is a treasured tradition.

When visitors and residents attend events, they eat, purchase gas, and spend dollars locally. By spurring other sales, Downtown Morris is an anchor for economic development benefiting businesses across our community.

It is important to note that winter initiatives hosted by the City are funded by local businesses through sponsorship. Additionally, a portion of the City's healthy Hotel & Motel Tax Fund aids in year-round marketing and promotion of our area as a great place to do business. One percent of the state tax paid on hotel stays comes back to the city. Those dollars are reinvested in multiple ways- including events- to generate future hotel stays.

There is exciting work ahead. But numbers indicate that the strategies in place are working. City revenues will soon eclipse \$10 million- a record figure for Morris. By increasing revenue from other sources, Morris has been able to lower its tax levy, reducing the burden on residents two years in a row.

Our community remains vibrant because of the people in it. As we enter a season of gratitude, we are reminded of their commitment- as volunteers, elected leaders, staff, and businesses owners- which make it all possible.



*Julie Wilkinson
Business Development
Director*



Special Events



Visit us online at morrisil.org and follow us on social media to see more info and updates on these and future events!

November

25th Small Business Saturday Downtown Morris

24-26th Home for the Holidays Downtown Morris
Festival of trees, lighted parade, house/window walk, and carriage rides!

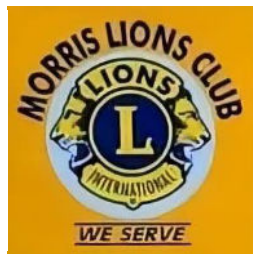
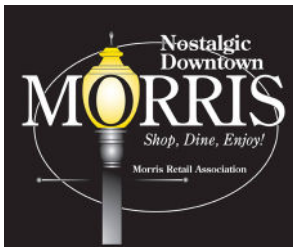
December

1st	Midnight in Morris	Downtown Morris
10th	Winterfest Market	Downtown Morris
16th	Holiday in the Park	Goold Park

SHOP, DINE, SUPPORT LOCAL

Look no further than Morris. Check out our extensive business directory!

www.morrisil.org/business-directory



WRESTLING GIRLS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent
11/22/2023	Minooka Invitational
11/25/2023	Normal Community Invite
12/16/2023	Morris Wrestling Invitational
12/28/2023	Ottawa Invite
01/13/2024	Mahomet-Seymour Invite

WRESTLING BOYS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent	H/A
11/21/2023	Tinley Park & Manteno	A
11/28/2023	Princeton & Braidwood	H
11/30/2023	Sandwich & Seneca	A
12/02/2023	Plainfield North Tournament	A
12/07/2023	Sycamore & Kaneland	A
12/09/2023	Rex Lewis Invite	A
12/13/2023	Rochelle	H
12/16/2023	Varsity Quad	H
12/30/2023	Huntley Mega Quad	A
01/06/2024	Morris Quad	H
01/11/2024	LaSalle-Peru	A
01/13/2024	Marty Williams Invitational	A
01/18/2024	Ottawa & Kankakee	H
01/25/2024	Dwight & Plainfield South	H
01/26/2024	Yorkville Christian, Rock Falls, Newman Catholic	A
02/03/2024	IHSA Regionals	A
02/09/2024	IHSA Regionals	A
02/10/2024	IHSA Regionals	A
02/15/2024	State Championships	A
02/16/2024	State Championships	A
02/17/2024	State Championships	A

SWIMMING BOYS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent
12/07/2023	Pontiac
12/12/2023	LaSalle-Peru
12/16/2023	Joliet Invite
01/04/2024	Joliet Central
01/09/2024	LaSalle-Peru
01/12/2024	Riverside Brookfield Invite - Diving
01/13/2024	Riverside Brookfield Invite
01/18/2024	West Aurora
01/20/2024	Pentathlon
01/23/2024	Oswego East
01/26/2024	IMSA Invite
01/27/2024	IMSA Invite
02/01/2024	Kankakee
02/03/2024	SPC Meet
02/17/2024	IHSA Sectionals
02/23/2024	IHSA State Finals
02/24/2024	IHSA State Finals

BASKETBALL GIRLS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent	H/A
11/14/2023	Turkey Tournament – Coal City	A
11/15/2023	Turkey Tournament – GSW	A
11/16/2023	Turkey Tournament – Manteno	H
11/18/2023	Turkey Tournament	A
11/20/2023	Streator	A
11/21/2023	Flanagan	H
11/27/2023	Newark	A
12/01/2023	Coal City	A
12/04/2023	Illinois Math & Science Academy	H
12/06/2023	LaSalle-Peru	H
12/08/2023	Rochelle	A
12/09/2023	Princeton	H
12/12/2023	Sycamore	H
12/16/2023	Ottawa Tournament	A
12/20/2023	Ottawa Tournament	A
12/21/2023	Ottawa Tournament	A
12/22/2023	Ottawa Tournament	A
01/03/2024	Kaneland	H
01/05/2024	Hinckley Big Rock	A
01/06/2024	Ottawa	A
01/12/2024	Manteno	H
01/17/2024	LaSalle-Peru	A
01/19/2024	Rochelle	H
01/23/2024	Sycamore	A
01/26/2024	Kaneland	H
01/30/2024	Ottawa	H
02/01/2024	Yorkville Christian	A
02/03/2024	Wilmington	H
02/06/2024	Aurora Central Catholic	H

BOWLING GIRLS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent	H/A
11/24/2023	Wildcat Invite	A
11/27/2023	St. Bede Invite	A
11/28/2023	Ottawa	A
11/29/2023	Sycamore	H
12/04/2023	Kaneland	A
12/06/2023	Rochelle	H
12/13/2023	Lasalle-Peru	H
12/16/2023	Lockport Invitational	A
12/18/2023	Kaneland	H
01/08/2024	Rochelle	A
01/10/2024	Ottawa	H
01/13/2024	Charles Butterfield Invite	H
01/16/2024	Sycamore	A
01/17/2024	Yorkville	A
01/20/2024	Minooka Invitational	A
01/22/2024	LaSalle-Peru	A
01/29/2024	I8 Conference Tournament	A
01/31/2024	Streator	A
02/03/2024	IHSA Regionals	A
02/10/2024	IHSA Sectionals	A
02/16/2024	IHSA State Finals	A
02/17/2024	IHSA State Finals	A

BASKETBALL BOYS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent	H/A
11/14/2023	Coaler Turkey Tournament	A
11/21/2023	Coaler Turkey Tournament	A
11/24/2023	Coaler Turkey Tournament	A
11/25/2023	Coaler Turkey Tournament	A
11/28/2023	Seneca	A
12/01/2023	Sandwich	H
12/08/2023	Rochelle	A
12/15/2023	Sycamore	H
12/16/2023	Morris Grade School Night	H
12/19/2023	Kaneland	H
12/27/2023	Plano Christmas Classic	A
12/28/2023	Plano Christmas Classic	A
12/29/2023	Plano Christmas Classic	A
12/30/2023	Plano Christmas Classic	A
01/03/2024	Ottawa	A
01/05/2024	Plano	H
01/06/2024	Glenbard South	A
01/09/2024	Pontiac	H
01/13/2024	Streator	A
01/16/2024	LaSalle-Peru	H
01/19/2024	Rochelle	H
01/23/2024	Newark	H
01/25/2024	Providence Catholic	A
01/27/2024	Sycamore	A
01/30/2024	LaSalle-Peru	A
02/02/2024	Kaneland	A
02/03/2024	Wilmington	H
02/06/2024	Coal City	A
02/09/2024	Ottawa	H
02/10/2024	IC Shootout	A
02/15/2024	Lincoln Way Central	A
02/21/2024	IHSA Regionals	A
02/23/2024	IHSA Regionals	A

CHEERLEADING GIRLS VARSITY

Date	Event/Opponent	H/A
12/17/2023	Cheer Fest	A
01/06/2024	Lakes Cheer Invitational	A
01/07/2024	Bison Invite	A
01/13/2024	Porter Frost Invitational	A
01/17/2024	I8 Conference Competition	H
01/19/2024	Grayslake Central	A
01/27/2024	IHSA Sectionals	A
02/02/2024	IHSA State	A
02/03/2024	IHSA State	A



CALHOUN STREET BRIDGE RE-OPENED

Mayor Chris Brown cut the ribbon and re-opened the Calhoun Street Bridge over the I & M Canal at a ceremony held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. Members of the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce, city administration, local elected officials, D Construction, Chamlin & Associates,



and the Grundy County Corn Festival Committee, were all in attendance for the occasion. The bid for the Calhoun Street Bridge replacement was awarded to D Construction at the June 19, 2023, city council meeting in the amount of \$521,179 which was well under the budgeted amount of \$1.1 million. The bridge was completed two weeks ahead of schedule.

GOODWILL PARK GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY



The City of Morris hosted a ceremonial groundbreaking at Goodwill Park on Friday, September 15, 2023. Several city council members were in attendance along with city administrators, the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce, project construction manager Narvick Brothers Construction, numerous business leaders, and chamber of commerce members. Improvements to Goodwill include new playground equipment, a picnic pavilion, renovations to the ball diamonds, new bleachers, fencing, and ADA accessible pathways. The new multi-component play

system will include multiple slides, climbing walls, a rock wall, swings, and a sensory wall panel. The park is scheduled to re-open in Spring/Summer 2025.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS ATHLETES RECOGNIZED

Mayor Chris Brown and the Morris City Council hosted some wonderfully talented athletes at their September 18th meeting. These athletes competed in the Spring/Summer Special Olympics in varying events including swimming, golf, softball skills, and bocce. Thank you and congratulations to all the athletes and coaches at Special Connections!



GRUNDY RESILIANCY PROJECT

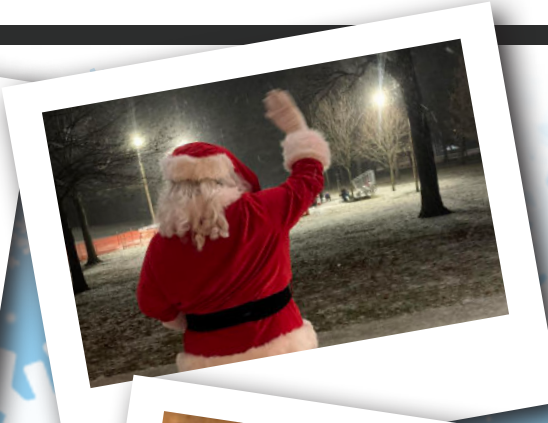
Grundy Economic Development Council President & CEO Nancy Norton and her team



hosted an educational luncheon to update business and community leaders on growth in Grundy County. The Grundy Resiliency Project is funded by a \$600K US Economic Development Administration grant which helps nuclear host communities plan for and build more diverse, resilient economies. The economic overview was completed by the University of Michigan's Economic Growth Institute. The full report is available on resilientgrundy.com.



MORRIS
ILLINOIS



Holiday in the Park

Saturday, December 16th

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm • Lower Goold Park

Enjoy cocoa, festive music, and sweet treats around the city ice rink. Santa will be waiting in the bandshell, ready to hear last minute requests before Christmas!

Admission is free! Hosted by the City of Morris

More to Morris THE PODCAST



Check Out the New City of Morris Podcast! “More To Morris”

Here is yet another way of staying connected with the City of Morris and all that is happening in our great city. “More to Morris” is hosted by the City of Morris. Our goal is to highlight how the city operates, explain what each department does, introduce you to city team members, local organizations, & businesses, and of course, keep you informed on all of the great events taking place in and around town! To find the “More to Morris” podcast on your favorite listening platform, please visit morrisil.org for a complete list of options.