

FLOSSMOOR NEWS

Spring 2019
Volume 28 / Number 4



PHOTO BY AMY KENT.

SPRING BRINGS NEW PROGRAMS TO FLOSSMOOR

Flossmoor Police Officer Lisa Morris spends time with the Daisy Scouts during the annual DARE education program at Western Avenue school.

Stack Your Sticks
FREE Brush Collection
Beginning in April
Page 3

Fun in Flossmoor
Spring & Summer
Community Events
Page 4

New Parker Program
How Connections
Help Learning
Page 8

village officials

Paul Braun, Mayor
pbraun@flossmoor.org

Brian Driscoll, Trustee
bdriscoll@flossmoor.org

Perry Hoag, Trustee
phoag@flossmoor.org

James Mitros, Trustee
jmitros@flossmoor.org

Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager
bwachtel@flossmoor.org

James Wilder, Trustee
jwilder@flossmoor.org

Diane Williams, Trustee
dwilliams@flossmoor.org

Joni Bradley-Scott, Clerk
jbradleyscott@flossmoor.org

village numbers

Village Hall: 798-2300

Fire: 798-3885

Non-Emergency Police: 957-4500

Non-Emergency TDD: 647-0179

Public Works: 957-4100

Building Department: 957-4101

Emergency Only: 911

village meetings

Village Board Meeting

1st & 3rd Mondays of the Month at 7:30 p.m.

Plan Commission Meeting

3rd Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

4th Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 p.m.

Public Art Commission Meeting

2nd Monday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

Community Relations Commission Meeting

4th Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

Green Commission Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.



#Flossmoor365

Find us on social media! Look for updates, photos, videos and good conversation on Facebook and Instagram! We truly appreciate all the residents, business owners and visitors who have supported us and joined the conversation!

calendar

flossmoor.org

April 2

Election Day – find your polling place at www.cookcountyclerk.com.

April 6

HF Community Cleanup and Tree Planting Day

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Various Locations

April 12

Flashlight Egg Hunt – 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Irons Oaks Vollmer Lot.

Decorate a unique basket first, then head outside to find goody-filled eggs that have been left in the forest at Irons Oaks. Bring your flashlight – all children will find eggs. Spaces fill fast, so register early!

April 21

Bunny Brunch – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Wiley's Grill. Bring your camera as the Bunny visits Wiley's Grill! Traditional brunch menu will be served and expect a few surprises. Reservations required. Call (708) 957-8774.

April 26

Adult Egg Hunt – 8 to 10 p.m. at Irons Oaks Main Office. Eggs will be hidden along the trails ... bring your own flashlight and basket.

Awards will be given for the most creative basket and best hat! Don't miss out on the beverages and fun. Register early!

April 27

Baseball & Softball Parade – 9:30 a.m. from Parker Junior High to Flossmoor Park. Come cheer on our community kids as they parade through town ending at Bronco Field for first pitch to start the season!

May 4

Park Pride – 8:30 am to 11 a.m. – All Area Parks. Join in the fun as volunteers come together to beautify their parks for summer!

Call the park district at (708) 957-0300 to become a Park Captain.

May 4

Recyclepalooza – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Parker Junior High Parking Lot

May 6

Board of Trustees meeting rescheduled to May 13.

May 13

*Board of Trustees Swearing In – 7:30 p.m., Flossmoor Village Hall
Newly elected village officials will be sworn in during the rescheduled Board of Trustees meeting.*

May 28

Village Hall closed in observance of Memorial Day



FREE BRUSH COLLECTION BEGINS IN FLOSSMOOR

Starting this April, the Village will offer FREE brush collection service once per month from April through October. This service is intended to provide an easy and convenient way for residents to dispose of tree branches from their property. The program will only be available to single-family residential dwellings. Multiple-family dwellings (i.e. apartments, condominiums, etc.) and commercial businesses are not eligible. Residents will be invited to put branches out for collection no later than 7:00 a.m. on Monday of their scheduled week.

Collection will take place once per month from April through October during Public Works regular work hours, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Guidelines for the program are below. Please note that brush generated by a private contractor is to be disposed of by the contractor. For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at (708) 957-4100.

Brush will ONLY be collected the week of scheduled collection. Do not set out more than 48 hours in advance. Brush left out for collection not in accordance with Public Works guidelines may be subject to a citation by the Village's property maintenance inspector.

Items not collected by the village:

1. Root balls or stumps
2. Brush cleared or cut by contractors
3. Any yard waste including but not limited to leaves, grass clippings, compost
4. Any type of lumber, including construction lumber, landscape timbers, fence posts, or other processed wood products
5. Brush put in bags, boxes or containers of any kind
6. Foreign objects such as metal

Brush pile requirements:

Branches must be stacked in a pile on the parkway, with cut ends facing the curb, and placed away from parkway trees, mailboxes, utility poles/boxes, sidewalks, and hydrants.

1. Maximum diameter: 6 inches
2. Maximum length: 12 feet
3. Brush must not be tied and should not be placed in containers
4. Brush must not overhang into the street or sidewalk
5. Do not pile higher than 4 feet
6. Do not pile wider than 20 feet

Brush collection will occur monthly on the first and third week of the month starting in April and continuing through the end of October. All brush to be collected must be set out by 7:00 a.m. the Monday of collection week, but no earlier than 48 hours prior to collection.

Please be patient as volume, mechanical problems, and inclement weather may also create delays. Various weather events may change the schedule. No prior notice will be given to the residents for any changes to the schedule.

2019 Brush Collection Schedule:

East of Railroad Tracks

April 1
May 6
June 3
July 1
Aug 5
Sept 3
Oct 7

West of Railroad Tracks

April 15
May 20
June 17
July 15
Aug 19
Sept 16
Oct 21

Neighborhoods east of the railroad tracks will be serviced on the first week of the month, while the neighborhoods west of the railroad tracks will be serviced on the third week of the month.

FLOSSMOOR FUN

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!



HF COMMUNITY CLEANUP & TREE PLANTING DAY

Saturday, April 6 • 9 am – 12 pm

Various Volunteer Locations

Spring is springing! Time for planting and cleaning. Volunteer with your neighbors to spruce up our community. See flossmoor.org to sign up.



VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHILDREN'S 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Thursday, July 4 • 10 am

(Line Up 9:30 Parker Jr. High)

Flossmoor Road & Downtown Flossmoor

Decorate your bikes, wagons and strollers and join the parade to celebrate Flossmoor families, neighbors and our freedom.



BASEBALL & SOFTBALL PARADE

Saturday, April 27 • 9:30 am

Parker through Downtown to Fields

It's Opening Day! Come cheer on our community kids as they parade through town ending at Bronco Field for the first pitch to start the season. Time to play ball!



MOVIES IN OUR PARKS

Friday, July 19 • Movie at Dusk

Irwin Park in Homewood

Grab some friends and a blanket and come out for a FREE movie under the stars. Watch for details about this year's features. This family-friendly annual event never disappoints!



RECYCLEPALOOZA

Saturday, May 4 • 10 am – 1 pm

Parker Junior High Parking Lot

It's so EASY being GREEN! Gather your goods, clean out the garage and attack the attic. Then head on over to this community recycling event.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 6 • 5 - 8 pm

Flossmoor Village Hall Parking Lot

Flossmoor joins the nation for this community-building campaign promoting police-community partnerships. Treats and activities for all!



FLOSSMOOR PUBLIC ART FUNDRAISER

June-Flossmoor Fest (September 7)

Outdoor Art Auction in Downtown Flossmoor

Enjoy viewing the outdoor art auction items all summer long, then bid online and bring your favorite home from Flossmoor Fest.



BACK TO SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Saturday, August 10 • Movie at Dusk

Flossmoor Park in Flossmoor

Ready for school to start? All are invited to celebrate with fun activities and giveaways ... then stay for the movie! Pick up supplies to "Chalk the Walk" on the first day of school.



FLOSSMOOR

Welcoming. Beautiful. Connected.

Visit flossmoor.org for more information.



PROPER VETTING IS KEY TO SPRING RENOVATION PROJECTS

It's easy to forget the joys of spring and summer when stuck inside for three or more months. Especially when stuck staring at warped floorboards, peeling paint, the same decades-old window frames, and other aging sections of a home.

That is why many people erase their winter blues with a string of spring renovation projects. A fresh coat of paint, some new home décor, and a façade facelift can rejuvenate a home and its homeowner. While some homeowners prefer to be a little more hands on with renovation projects, there are plenty of Flossmoor residents who'd rather leave the fixing to the professionals.

But, unfortunately, not every contractor or home services professional is right for the job. In selecting a quality partner for a home improvement project, Scott Bugner, Flossmoor Inspectional Services Administrator has a few pieces of advice to share.

"Do your homework ahead of time," said Bugner. "You should have as detailed a plan as possible to keep unanticipated costs from piling up on you."

That homework should include anything from pricing out building materials and hardware to requesting a minimum of three cost estimates from local contractors. One thing to keep in mind when evaluating estimates – the lowest cost certainly doesn't equate the best option.

It is also important that homeowners are diligent in requesting references and then asking very specific and direct questions when following up with those references.

If possible, ask to see completed work. A quality contractor should perform to their highest ability no matter the project.

"Keep in mind, too, that busy contractors tend to be busy for a reason. Be wary of any contractor who says 'we can start today,'" said Bugner. "If you're planning a summer project, now is the time to start vetting contractors."

In addition to properly vetting a contractor, which should end with a written proposal and proof of insurance, most major renovation projects will require proper permitting from the Village of Flossmoor.

A complete list of permits can be found at www.flossmoor.org or at Village Hall, but the most common residential permits include interior remodels, new construction (interior or exterior), roof replacement or repair greater than 100-square feet, and fencing, among others. While the majority of contractors will request the homeowner obtain the permit themselves, some will add the permit cost to the project total. Most renovation projects will require some type of permitting, so be wary of any contractor who says a permit is unnecessary.

"Permits are an important protection for homeowners, the Village and contractors alike. It's also a way to assure the work is being done to Village code," said Bugner.

Planning a spring or summer renovation project? Visit www.flossmoor.org or visit the Building and Inspectional Service Department at Flossmoor Village Hall for more information on how to prepare.

NEWS TO USE!

Take Part in the Flossmoor 365 Photo Campaign

Today's smart phone technology can make anyone of us an instant photographer. Sometimes all you need to capture that perfect image is to be in the right place at the right time. Knowing that, the Village of Flossmoor would like to enlist the help of our community by participating in our promotional marketing efforts #Flossmoor365.

There's a lot to celebrate in Flossmoor and we'd like your help in capturing it. Whether it's the beautiful tree lined streets, the people, the places, the parks, or the dining experiences, the downtown, the architecture, even your backyard, whatever your Flossmoor moment is, we want to see it. The Village will then pick one image monthly that best exemplifies what makes Flossmoor great and reward its photographer with a \$25 gift card to one of Flossmoor's restaurants.

This #Flossmoor365 effort will be communicated initially through Instagram, but will eventually be shared across all Village of Flossmoor communication vehicles. We will also partner with Flossmoor School District 161, local businesses and other community leaders. Additionally, a grassroots, on-the-ground marketing initiative will include printed materials, social sites and the HF broadcasting department. Also, monthly winners will be part of Flossmoor social marketing efforts and all winning photos will be displayed in a gallery at the Flossmoor Library and featured at other community events to be determined.



February's winner came from Eric Bauer. Submit your photos using #Flossmoor365 on Instagram or at flossmoor365@flossmoor.org.

Water Leaks

Few things are worse than an unexpectedly high water bill. Taking a simple, proactive step can help you detect and fix a leak before it costs you money. Once a month, read your water meter before and after you leave home. If your meter is in a convenient location, the best way to determine if you have a leak is to see if it changes when you're not using any water. Turn off all faucets. Write down the reading on your meter or take a picture with your phone. Check it when you come home a few hours later. If the number changes while you're gone, you likely have a leak.

Also, don't forget to regularly check outdoor faucets too! The cost of forgetting an outdoor faucet can be steep. Remember to turn off your hose and check it for leaks. If your indoor faucets are leaking, you may be able to complete the repair yourself with a simple DIY video on YouTube, or you can search the Flossmoor area for a reputable plumber.

Water Bills

Water bills are mailed quarterly. A third of the community is billed each month. Keep these dates in mind so you know when to expect your bill. If you're worried your bill hasn't arrived, call Village Hall and we'll provide you with your balance.

- Account number begins with "01": Bill is mailed on the 25th of January, April, July and October.
- Account number begins with "02": Bill is mailed on the 25th of February, May, August and November.
- Account number begins with "03": Bill is mailed on the 25th of March, June, September and December.

Bills are due 28 days after the mailing date and are subject to increasing late fees if not paid.

Recyclepalooza 2019!

The time is here once again to come together to make Flossmoor the green community we know and love! It's so easy being green in Flossmoor, thanks to the community-wide Recyclepalooza extravaganza! Clean out your closets, garage, attic, basement and cupboards for all types of recyclable items and bring them to Recyclepalooza from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday May 4 in the parking lot of Parker Junior High. Recyclable items include:

- TVs (\$20 per set)
- Electronics
- Metals*
- Ink/laser jets
- Bikes
- Clothes (gently used)
- Batteries
- Sporting goods
- American flags
- Plastic bags/wrap
- Hotel shampoos & soaps (new)
- Small household items
- Crayons & markers

Recyclepalooza is sponsored by the Village of Flossmoor Green Commission, HF Area Green Committee, H-F Chronicle, Homewood and Flossmoor Libraries and Homewood Disposal, and Flossmoor School District 161.

The Hidden Benefits of Community's Trees

Warm weather and spring rains are on the way, which means blooming flowers and trees are soon to follow. Purple redbuds, white serviceberries, yellow-green buckeyes and beautiful clusters of black cherry blossoms announce the beginning of spring when they burst into color. Trees use stored nutrients in the root systems and trunk for this initial flush of growth, providing great beauty to the new spring landscape.

Not only do trees offer natural beauty in the community, but the environmental benefits are far reaching. Because trees clean the air we breathe by filtering it of particles and pollutants, research shows communities with more trees are healthier and have lower risks of asthma. Trees also have a cooling effect on the community and can reduce temperatures by 10 to 15 degrees, on average. Conversely, in the winter, evergreen trees block winter winds to reduce heating.

Of course, planting trees has many environmental benefits, but, they also offer considerable economic benefits as well. Statistics show that shoppers tend to spend more money and travel farther to shop in towns with tree lined streets. Trees also increase property values. Homes sell for 3.5 to 10-percent more in neighborhoods with mature trees, than neighborhoods without trees. Every tree planted this spring is an investment in the community, including trees planted on private property. The cost of a tree planting is small compared to the monetary value the tree could have in the future.

As spring approaches, we look forward to the great display of color our community's trees provide, but we must also remember and appreciate the other benefits trees provide to Flossmoor. Trees may be planted by residents or contractors, if approved by the Village's Forestry Maintenance Technician, Dave Becker. Permit Forms are available at www.flossmoor.org or contact the Public Works Department. For additional information or tree selection assistance contact Flossmoor Public Works at (708) 957-4100.

Martin Luther King Junior Day of Service Keeps Growing!

Nearly 900 volunteers served the community through 18 different projects, which ranged from serving the homeless to supporting active military and veterans to outdoor environmental projects. The largest project took place at Flossmoor Village Hall, where the Jack and Jill of America, South Suburban Chicago Chapter connected hundreds of community members through a Respond Now Food Drive and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service program.

Thank you to all the project hosts, volunteer groups, families, and individuals who participated. To keep the community service spirit going all year long, we will be creating a Community Service Opportunities page on our website, featuring direct links to local organizations with on-going volunteer needs.

Vehicle Sticker and Animal Tags

2019 vehicle stickers must be purchased and displayed by Wednesday, April 15. For all vehicles registered to a Flossmoor address, including leased vehicles, company cars and vehicles

kept outside of the Village, you are required to purchase and display a current Flossmoor vehicle sticker. Animal tags for your dogs and cats also must be purchased by

April 15. Applications are included with the vehicle sticker renewal form sent to all households. Visit www.flossmoor.org for more information.



school spotlight

Capturing Kids' Hearts Makes Impact at Parker Junior High

Teachers are faced with unique challenges each and every day. Not only are they tasked with molding the minds of generations, they're also responsible for helping adolescents understand their emotions, navigate social relationships, and maintain focus in the classroom.

Administrators in Flossmoor School District 161 recognize the daily challenges teachers face, so they've worked diligently to implement tools that can assist educators. One such tool recently implemented at Parker Junior High School is a nationwide program known as Capturing Kids' Hearts.

According to program developer Flippen Group, Capturing Kids' Hearts introduces techniques and behaviors that help educators create high-achieving centers of learning by strengthening students' connectedness to others through enhancing healthy bonds with their teachers and establishing collaborative agreements of acceptable behavior.

Since implementing the program at the start of the 2018-2019 school year, District Superintendent Dr. Dana Smith said the program has significantly impacted the entire building, teachers and students, alike.

"Capturing Kids' Hearts has dramatically increased the quality of relationships and the climate at Parker," said Smith. "The students are forming strong bonds and positive practices and it is our hope that they carry those forward into high school and beyond."

In addition to carrying those positive practices into high school and beyond, District 161 administrators also recognize the importance of introducing those positive practices at an even younger age than junior high.

Implementing Capturing Kids' Hearts at Parker is only the first step. Phase two of the program is establishing the same positive practices at all four elementary schools. Eventually, said Jennifer Hartmann Assistant Principal at Parker, the standards and expectations learned through Capturing Kids' Hearts will become the norm for all District 161 students.

"Longitudinally, by year five or six, this will just be the way the district does things," said Hartmann.

The foundation of Capturing Kids' Hearts stems from the EXCEL Teaching Model. Teachers are encouraged to "Engage, X-Plore, Communicate, Empower, and Launch" students in meaningful ways. At the core of the EXCEL model and the entire Capturing Kids' Hearts program is a social contract. The contract is built in each classroom between students and teachers to establish guidelines and expectations for how they treat one another.

The social contract is also designed to help students internalize and practice character traits and skills that they will use in their future lives. The social contracts at Parker haven't just helped students develop self-managing skills and be accountable for their actions, but also motivated Parker staff to create a social contract that governs how colleagues interact and treat one another.

"This program allows us to make one-on-one connections with students and with our peers," said Fred Hunter, Parker Junior High principal. "By creating and improving personal relationships, we're able to establish a deeper understanding of each other. When you know people on a personal level, you can build better working relationships with them."

Building relationships is at the core of Capturing Kids' Hearts and Hartmann says she's seen first-hand how impactful it has become for everyone at Parker Junior High.

"A lot of our teachers have said this is a career changing program for them," said Hartmann. "It's given them new perspective and new tools, and has recharged their passion as teachers."



Mallory Tehako (right) welcomes students to her 7th grade English language arts class as part of the Capturing Kids' Hearts program.



Social contracts are posted throughout classrooms at Parker.

business spotlight

A New Home for Home Insurance: Country Financial Moves to Downtown Flossmoor

Randall Cox and Elliot Day may be “new” to town, but they are no strangers to the Village of Flossmoor. The two raised their families in the area, sent their children to H-F High School, and participated in the area’s programming and events. They’ve also spent more than a decade helping other Flossmoor families as Country Financial representatives.

Now, after years of wanting a change of scenery, the two can finally call Downtown Flossmoor home.

Day remembers passing by the vacant storefront at 2559 Flossmoor Road for months as the two looked for a new home for their independent Country Financial office, and when he presented the option to his partner Randall, it was a done deal.

“We wanted to do business where we live,” said Day. “And, we feel like we can grow and thrive in the community in a way we couldn’t at our old location.”

Since opening the storefront in December, the two have already been welcomed with open arms by their clients and by the larger Downtown Flossmoor business community, something Cox is pleased with.

“Our old office wasn’t visible at all. Unless you had a scheduled appointment, you wouldn’t know we were there,” said Cox. “Now, we have clients walking in while they’re out and about, other business owners welcoming us to the building. We feel much more connected to our clients.”

The two also appreciate the renewed sense of ownership they’ve gained since moving to the new location. As representatives of the larger Country Financial brand, one of the largest insurance providers in the country, Cox and



Randall Cox and Elliot Day outside the new home of Country Financial Home Insurance.

Day said they sometimes felt disconnected with their roles as small business owners.

Because, as Day said, even though they are part of a nationwide brand, the day-to-day operation of their Country Financial office is theirs and theirs alone.

“Having Dunning’s and The Bistro (on Sterling) around the corner and Coldwell Banker and other small businesses right next door, we’re finally surrounded by people just like us,” said Day. “It’s nice to be connected to the downtown business community and not stuck in a corporate office building somewhere.”

Country Financial is open for business and accepting new customers. Services include auto, home and life insurance policies, as well as business services and retirement planning. For more information contact Elliot Day or Randall Cox at (708) 679-1870.

February Celebration of Business Owners

Throughout the month of February, the Village of Flossmoor was fortunate to celebrate Black History Month by highlighting some of our wonderful African-American business owners. We featured six prominent business owners: Dr. Bridgette Arnett M.D. Ph.D. (Arnett Associates); Kelly Evans (Love, Noa); Michael Miller (Yesterday’s Gentlemen Barbershoppe); Nnadozie Nwabara (Royalty Cleaners); Brenda Livingston (Maxine’s Boutique); and Yolanda Bernard (Pop ‘N By).

Huge thanks go out to all our participating business owners and the volunteers who made the project a possibility. In addition to Community Relations Commissioners Rosalind Mustafa, Myron Graham and Tony Parker, we’d also like to extend our gratitude to Linda Stanford who helped make this project a reality.

Check out all six Black History Month business features and revisit last year’s features at www.flossmoor.org.

commission corner



Public Art Commission Sends a Heartfelt Thank You to Donors

The Flossmoor Art Commission would like to extend a huge thank you to two anonymous donors who contributed \$3,000 to fill a vacant sculpture space on Sterling Avenue. While the identity of the two donors will remain anonymous, their generosity should still be celebrated. For years, the concrete pad near the Metra south commuter lot sat vacant as the rotating sculpture program moved to other areas of the community. The two residents decided they wanted to be part of bringing a sculpture back to the neighborhood, something they had cherished when the original sculpture was installed.

Bruce Niemi's *Coming Together* now stands tall in the once vacant spot and has reinvigorated the connection the Heather Hill neighborhood feels toward the Flossmoor Public Art sculpture program. If interested, residents can donate to the Flossmoor Public Art Program in a number of ways including direct donations, purchasing an engraved brick, water bill contributions, and our annual fundraiser. Applications and more information can be found at www.artflossmoor.com.

The Flossmoor Community Relations Commission is Looking for New Members!

The Community Relations Commission is a group of nine citizens appointed by the Mayor and Board of Trustees who are charged with providing a conduit for all segments of the community to talk and work together for the benefit of the entire Village. The commission's role is to encourage inclusion and connectivity through Flossmoor events and programs, and act as ambassadors to connect residents with each other and to the Village. Throughout the year, the commission participates in key events including Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, Black History Month, Back-to-School Celebration and Movie in the Park, Flossmoor Fest, Winterfest, and special new resident events. In 2018, the commission researched and recommended Guiding Principles for Diversity and Inclusion, which were adopted by a Village Board Resolution in August. The Commission may also receive special assignments from the Village Board from time to time. Public meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Interested in serving on a commission? Apply Now! Visit www.flossmoor.org and find the Apply Now button under the "How Do I..." navigation tab. Click on Boards/Commissions to fill out the application.

Green Commission Spring Events

April 6 Community Cleanup & Spring Tree Planting 9 am – 12 pm

Meet at Flossmoor Village Hall 2800 Flossmoor Road — Help plant trees throughout Flossmoor, or sign-up with the HF Area Green Committee for a Community Cleanup project. Visit flossmoor.org for more information.

April 13 Flossmoor Seed Library Meet & Greet 10 am – 12 pm

Flossmoor Library, 1000 Sterling Avenue, Flossmoor — Come and join other gardening enthusiasts for an informal gathering at the Flossmoor Library. Get information on how to start saving and sharing seeds. Learn how the Seed Library works and how you can be a part of this great community resource.

May 4 2019 Recyclepalooza 10 am – 1 pm

Parker Jr. High School Parking Lot (enter on Flossmoor Road across from Flossmoor Village Hall) — Gather your goods, clean out the garage and attack the attic. Then head on over to this community recycling event. Includes hard to recycle items like electronics, TV's, metal, and bikes. Watch website for information on complete list.

May 11 Irons Oaks Native Plant Sale 9 am – 12 pm

Irons Oaks Environmental Learning Center, 20000 Western Ave, Olympia Fields, www.ironsoaks.com — Irons Oaks is your place to get locally sourced and grown native plants that enhance the beauty of any landscape and flower bed, while requiring less water and less daily care. A wide variety of plants, shrubs and trees will be available this year. All pre-orders due by May 1.



flossmoor faces & places

Congratulations to Retiring Officer Theisen

Since 2008, Officer Dan Theisen has been a fixture of enforcement during the rush hour commute at Flossmoor Road and Sterling Avenue. His role to ensure the safety of residents, students and commuters rarely went unnoticed, with Flossmoor citizens sending in letters of gratitude, bringing warm treats and hot coffee on cold mornings, and offering friendly waves as they passed by.

Not only did Theisen serve as morning traffic director for the Village of Flossmoor, he also took on the responsibility of enforcing parking regulations in the public spaces and downtown business district, enforcing property maintenance codes, and providing traffic direction during special Village events.

Theisen also served as one of the Flossmoor Police Department's Certified Child Passenger Seat Technicians, tasked with installing children's car seats and educating parents and caregivers on the importance of proper car seat use and installation.

Prior to serving the Village of Flossmoor, Theisen served for 25 years with the Cook County Department of Corrections, retiring in 2003 at the rank of Superintendent.

The Village of Flossmoor would like to thank Officer Dan Theisen for his years of dedicated service in keeping our community safe.



Officer Dan Theisen

HF Student's Love Lesson Published

Homewood-Flossmoor High School student Jada Seaton recently earned recognition from Teen Ink Magazine which featured her poem "Let This Love Be a Lesson." According to Jada, the poem came from a Creative Writing class assignment to write a piece that gave a sense of "beautiful brutality." The purpose of the assignment was to take something unpleasant, unhappy, and write it in a way that made it more acceptable.

Jada is the daughter of Tanya and Len Seaton of Flossmoor and plans to major in Creative Writing in college. Also featured in Teen Ink magazine was HF senior Oyindasola Chelsea Ayorinde of Homewood and her essay "I Have Two Names."

(This story originally appeared in the Homewood-Flossmoor Chronicle, authored by Marilyn Thomas.)



Jada Seaton

Sergeant Tim Filkins Graduates from School of Police Staff and Command

Flossmoor Police Department Sergeant Tim Filkins successfully completed the School of Police Staff and Command (SPSC) at Northwestern University, graduating at the top of his class. Sergeant Filkins participated in the Staff and Command program online from July 9 to December 16, 2018. Sergeant Filkins joins more than 15,000 students nationally and internationally who have graduated from the SPSC, a program created in 1983 by the Center for Public Safety. Sergeant Tim Filkins was a student in SPSC Class 441 which accommodated a total of 25 students.

The SPSC provides high-level college instruction in a total of 27 core areas of instruction, with additional optional blocks available during each session. The areas of study include leadership, human resources, employee relations, organizational behavior, applied statistics, planning and policy development, budgeting, and resource allocation.

Each student is challenged academically through a curriculum comprised of written examinations, projects, presentations and quizzes, in addition to a comprehensive study paper to complete the course. Upon successful completion, students may be awarded a total of 6 units of undergraduate credit from Northwestern University.

Northwestern University established the Center for Public Safety in 1936 with the specific goal of expanding university-based education and training for the law enforcement community. Since its inception, the Center has broadened its original objective and now provides a variety of courses and programs in the area of police training, management training, and executive development.

The Flossmoor Police Department anticipates a variety of benefits from Sergeant Filkins' graduation from the program. It is expected that he, as many of the program's graduates do, will go on to achieve a variety of leadership positions within the Flossmoor Police Department.

Village of Flossmoor

2800 Flossmoor Road
Flossmoor, IL 60422

flossmoor.org

*****ECRWSSSEDDM****

**LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS 60422**

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FLOSSMOOR, IL
PERMIT NO. 1
ECRWSS

FLOSSMOOR FLOOD INSURANCE

Flood season is upon us and if you're not prepared ahead of time, it may sneak up on you, and a sneaky flood is a dangerous situation. There are a number of ways to prepare for flood season, but one of the best ways to protect yourself, your family and your home, is by signing up for flood insurance. Unfortunately, most homeowner's and renter's insurance policies do not cover flood losses.

But, Flossmoor residents are in luck! Because the Village of Flossmoor participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), you can protect your home and property by purchasing a flood insurance policy. Flood insurance should be purchased sooner rather than later, as there is a three-day waiting period before the policy becomes effective. Flood insurance plans can be purchased through any licensed insurance agent, so contact your local agent to see if you qualify for flood insurance.

Why Purchase Flood Insurance

- Flood insurance claims are paid even if a disaster is not declared by the President
- More than 20-percent of NFIP claims come from outside of mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas
- There is no payback requirement
- Flood insurance policies are continuous and are not non-renewed or cancelled for repeat losses.
- Flood insurance reimburses you for all covered building losses up to \$250,000 for residential occupancies and up to \$500,000 for businesses. Contents coverage is also available up to \$100,000 for residential and up to \$500,000 for businesses.
- The average cost of a flood insurance policy is about \$600 annually. The cost of a preferred risk policy is less than \$200 annually, if you live in a low to moderate risk area.

Tips to Prevent Flooding

Floods can happen quickly. Preparation before a disaster is key. Here are suggestions on how you can prepare for and also prevent flooding.

- Keep storm sewer inlets and drainage ditches clear of debris, including leaves and grass clippings.
- Make sure your sump pump is working. Consider a battery backup unit.
- Monitor potential flood hazards on all All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio, local radio, television, or online at noaawatch.gov/floods.php.
- Copy important papers (mortgage papers, deeds, passports, bank and credit card information). Keep the copies in your home and place the originals outside your home in a secure place like a safe deposit box.
- Go through your basement (if not your entire house) and take photos of your most valuable possessions (furniture, musical instruments and electronic equipment). Store these photos with your other papers.
- Save and store receipts for any expensive household items, so you have proof of their original cost.
- Assess your flood risk and make sure you have adequate flood insurance coverage.

