

FLOSSMOOR NEWS

Fall 2019
Volume 29 / Number 2



PHOTO BY AMY KENT.

FEST SEASON IN FLOSSMOOR!

Sisters Tabitha (top left) and Hadassa Waita (top right) enjoy piggyback rides from their friends Leah Lucas (bottom left) and Josephine Bristol (bottom right) during the annual Back-to-School Fun Night celebration in Flossmoor Park.

Flossmoor Fest Fun

Food, entertainment and community!

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Academics in Action

HFHS shaping skilled workers.

Page 8

Business Spotlight

Old and new businesses thrive.

Page 9



Flossmoor's Hidden Gem Half Marathon is September 7!
See page 10 for more information on neighborhood spirit teams and the morning's road closure list. Come out and Cheer The Gem!



village officials

Paul Braun, Mayor
pbraun@flossmoor.org

Brian Driscoll, Trustee
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Perry Hoag, Trustee
phoag@flossmoor.org

James Mitros, Trustee
jmitros@flossmoor.org

Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager
bwachtel@flossmoor.org

Gyata Kimmons, Trustee
gkimmons@flossmoor.org

Joni Bradley-Scott, Trustee
jbradleyscott@flossmoor.org

Diane Williams, Trustee
dwilliams@flossmoor.org

Ananda Billings, Clerk
abilings@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

Now through September 7

Flags of Flossmoor Public Art Auction — Enjoy viewing the flags on display now through Flossmoor Fest. Bid online and bring your favorite home from Flossmoor Fest. Other auction items include public bench plaques, framed art and jewelry. Visit flossmoor.org to view all items and start bidding today!

September 7

Hidden Gem Half Marathon — Race Start: 7:45 a.m. Flossmoor's inaugural Hidden Gem Half Marathon will showcase our beautiful community with a course that weaves throughout all of Flossmoor's neighborhoods. Come out and cheer the Gem!

September 7

Flossmoor Fest 2019 — 1 to 10 p.m. | Downtown Flossmoor It's time for Flossmoor Fest! Enjoy a full day of activities for all featuring food, music, games, rides and more! A great day to play with friends and neighbors. Visit flossmoor.org for the day's scheduled entertainment.

October 12

Flossmoor BrewFest — 2 to 6 p.m. | Downtown Flossmoor The second Flossmoor BrewFest will spotlight southside craft breweries (with a few other suburbs as well). Taste the Top Hops ... rain or shine! Come and join us for this unique experience.

October 31

Enjoy Village-wide trick-or-treating from 3 to 7 p.m.

October 31

Children's Halloween Party — 7 to 8:30 p.m. | Parker Jr. High School Gymnasium. Absolutely no tricks...just treats! All young residents (pre-school through 3rd grade) are invited to attend. Stop in for sweet treats, games and fun with friends. Hosted by the Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Department.

November 3

Pumpkin Smash — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Coyote Run Golf Course Green your Halloween by bringing your old pumpkins to be composted. Don't trash it ... smash it! Sponsored by the Homewood-Flossmoor Area Green Committee.

November 30

Small Business Saturday — Make a dent in your holiday to do list! Show your support by shopping local. Celebrate Flossmoor's small businesses and all that they have to offer. Hosted by the Flossmoor Business Association in partnership with the Village of Flossmoor.



FLOSSMOOR FEST RETURNS SEPTEMBER 7

Year after year, Flossmoor residents, visitors and business owners take to Downtown Flossmoor for the annual Flossmoor Fest celebration. The all-day street party is more than music, children's activities and delicious Flossmoor dining options; it's the tradition of people coming together to celebrate community.

This year's Flossmoor Fest, which starts at 1 p.m., combines old favorites with new activities and performers and a change to the event layout. The old familiar format where Flossmoor Fest was split between Downtown Flossmoor and Flossmoor Park will shift this year, instead taking place exclusively in the downtown area. All amusement rides will be placed along Central Drive just west of the public parking lot, while the remainder of Fest activities, including the Jesse White Tumblers, musical performers, rolling video games and local vendors, will remain along Sterling Avenue.

Despite the change in layout, 2019 Flossmoor Fest will still feature all of the family favorites. As always, the event kicks off with the Homewood-Flossmoor High School Marching Band, this time at 1 p.m., followed by the National Anthem sung by HF's very own, Kalind Haynes.

Additional musical acts, in order of performance, will

include TiMELESS Band, Oliv Blu, Staff Infection and Dynamic Sound Band. A Chicago-style stepping dance lesson with Milton Payton and a fashion show with Love, Noa round out all of Flossmoor Fest's entertainment options.

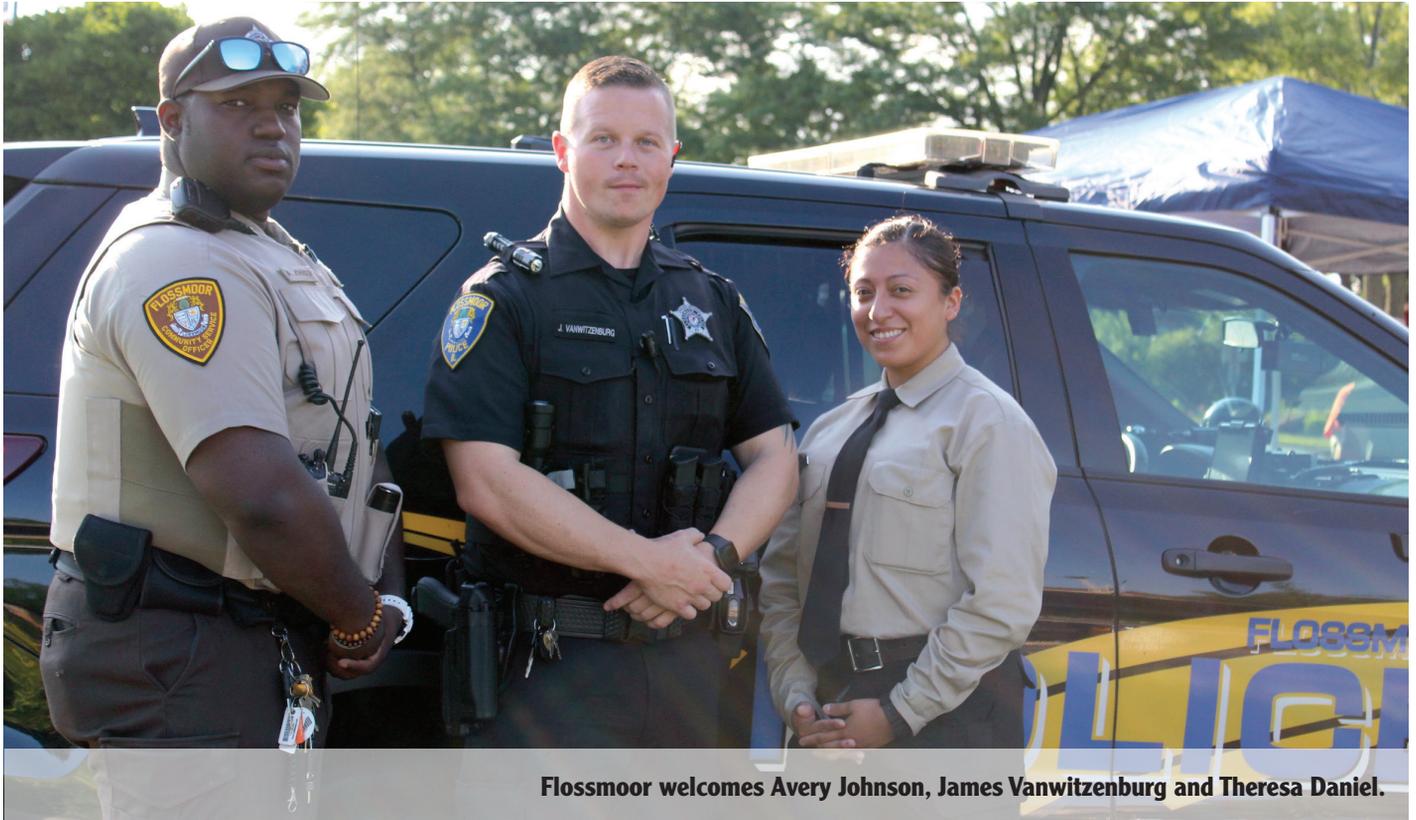
As always, Flossmoor Fest will also feature information booths from local businesses and restaurants, local organizations and Village committees.

Prior to the start of Flossmoor Fest, the inaugural Hidden Gem Marathon kicks off at 7:45 a.m. starting at Infant Jesus of Prague School. From there, runners will traverse the 13.1 mile course through Flossmoor neighborhoods, passing by schools, activities centers, and finishing off north of the Flossmoor Library. See page 10 for more information.

Help Flossmoor and race organizers, Flossmoor's Future, welcome runners from across the country, and some internationally, to our beautiful community by cheering them on along the race course and at Flossmoor Fest. Local musician MG Bailey will perform at noon during the transition from the Hidden Gem Half Marathon and Flossmoor Fest.

Visit www.flossmoor.org for more information about Flossmoor Fest or visit www.hiddengemhalf.com to learn how to get involved!

flossmoor faces & places



Flossmoor welcomes Avery Johnson, James Vanwittenburg and Theresa Daniel.

Flossmoor Police Adds to the Department

Three new faces have joined the Flossmoor Police Department, adding valuable experience and resources to the first-rate police department. James Vanwittenburg and Theresa Daniel will fill positions as full-time police officers, while Avery Johnson serves as the department's newest community service officer.

Prior to joining the Flossmoor Police Department, Vanwittenburg worked in his family's construction business, but his passion for law enforcement consistently surfaced throughout his career. Around 2010, as the economy recovered from the Great Recession, Vanwittenburg decided to pursue his long-term passion for law enforcement.

After being hired in 2014 as a booking officer at the Chicago Ridge Police Department, Vanwittenburg graduated from the NEMRT police academy in 2015 before joining the Crestwood Police Department. He now looks forward to bringing his experience and skills to the Flossmoor Police Department.

Unlike Vanwittenburg, Daniel's entire career arc has always featured an element of law enforcement or military service. A Carver Military Academy High School graduate, Daniel served in the United States Air Force Reserve for 10 years as an Aerospace Ground Equipment Manager prior to pursuing her career in law enforcement.

It was her military experience, said Daniel, that influenced her passion for law enforcement. Prior to being hired by the Flossmoor Police Department, Daniel served as a community service officer at the Matteson Police Department. As a recent graduate from Cook County Sheriff's Police Training Academy, Daniel will now transition to a full-time patrol officer in Flossmoor.

Johnson's ambition for law enforcement came during his undergraduate studies at DeVry University. The impact of his education led Johnson to graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice with a concentration on Homeland Security.

It wasn't just the lessons he learned in how policing was formed or the purpose police serve in the government that influenced his desire. What truly attracted Johnson to applying to the Flossmoor Police Department were the community connections he would be able to make.

That's a shared feeling among Vanwittenburg and Daniel as well. When asked what the best part of joining the Flossmoor Police Department, all three mentioned the connections they are able to make with the residents they serve.

"The best part about being with the Flossmoor Police Department is being a good role model for the community," said Johnson.

Joni Bradley-Scott Named Village Trustee

Joni Bradley-Scott, former Village Clerk, is the newest Village Trustee after being appointed by Mayor Paul Braun, an appointment that was unanimously supported by the Village Board.

“Joni brings a wealth of knowledge and experience as a result of her having served as Village Clerk the past two years and she has demonstrated her ability to work collaboratively with the Board of Trustees,” said Mayor Braun. “We are confident that Joni will be an effective trustee upon appointment.”

Scott joined the Village as Clerk in July 2017 and has performed a number of duties alongside the Village Board of Trustees during those two years. As Clerk, Scott’s main responsibilities included maintaining the minutes and records of Trustee meetings, certifying administrative oaths, and performing other duties in accordance

to Illinois state law and the ordinances of the Village of Flossmoor.

In addition to serving on the Village Board, Scott has enjoyed a career as a real estate broker working with local buyers and sellers on residential and commercial properties as well as volunteering with the Heather Hill Elementary School PTO. She also holds a Masters Degree in Organizational Leadership from Lewis University.

Scott commented, “I am honored to be selected by Mayor Braun to serve in the appointed Trustee seat on the Village of Flossmoor Board. I thank the Trustees for their confidence and am committed to working with residents and community stakeholders. The Board has a dynamic reputation and history of making tough decisions on items that matter most to residents such as creating a safe, financially solvent, beautiful destination we can all call home. This appointment means a



Joni Bradley-Scott

great deal and is a huge responsibility that I respect and am looking forward to fulfill.”

Scott’s appointment fills a vacancy following the resignation of former Trustee Philip Minga. Scott will serve the remainder of Minga’s term which ends in 2021.

New Village Clerk Joins Flossmoor: Flossmoor Resident Ananda Billings Fills Vacancy



Ananda Billings

Alongside the appointment of former Village Clerk Joni Bradley-Scott to the Village Board of Trustees, the Village of Flossmoor welcomed Ananda Billings to the vacant Village Clerk position.

“Ms. Billings was one of 13 candidates to apply for the vacant Trustee position and her application came with a highly impressive resume,” said Mayor Braun. “Not only did her resume impress me, but I was extremely impressed with Ms. Billings’ love for and positive attitude toward Flossmoor, where she’s lived for two years. Her professional experience and passion for this community are very well suited for the role of Village Clerk.”

Prior to being appointed Village Clerk, Billings has spent more than 15 years working in the private sector specializing in business development and sales. Billings currently serves as the Director of Business Development for Gray Matter Analytics, a nationwide company that uses predictive and prescriptive analytics to enable health-care organizations to be proactive in reducing costs, increasing returns and improving outcomes. As Director of Business Development, Billings is part of the Gray Matter Analytics management team that is responsible for positively affecting the growth

and mission of the company, steering the direction of company business ventures, and maintaining positive employee motivation. Billings is confident that her professional experience will play a vital role in her position as Village Clerk.

“I am looking forward to serving the Village of Flossmoor as its Village Clerk. During my tenure in Flossmoor I have been overwhelmed by the friendliness, inclusivity and positivity exhibited by everyone who calls Flossmoor home. I am excited to take this next step in helping our community thrive.”

NEWS TO USE!

FREE Leaf Collection Coming to Flossmoor

Fall leaf collection is a request often raised from residents across the community. Since staff implemented a brush collection program this spring, it was natural to discuss and review a leaf collection program, as well. After thorough research and cost analysis, the Village of Flossmoor is introducing a 4-week program (Nov. 4 to Nov. 30) in which residents collect, bag leaves and place them at the curb unstickered, at no cost. Similar to the brush collection program, leaf collection will not only help beautify residential areas in the community, but it also protects our storm system and streets from fall debris. More information will be shared as the program unfolds, so be sure to connect with the Village of Flossmoor via the bi-weekly E-Newsletter and social media at www.flossmoor.org!

Revival of the Flossmoor Business Association

Established to promote and connect businesses across Flossmoor, the Flossmoor Business Association has experienced a number of iterations throughout the years. Newly appointed president Maureen Mader, owner of Dunning's Market and Deli, explained that because businesses have come and gone, keeping the FBA active and enthusiastic has long been a difficult thing. Along with former president Doyle Simms and fellow members, Mader has worked to reengage the outreach, support and promotion, the purpose and mission of the FBA, among her fellow business owners.

Another commitment the FBA has made is working hand-in-hand with Village officials for the betterment of the community, said Mader.

"We all love the Village and we feel blessed to have formed this really great bond with each other," said Mader. "We want to see our Village grow and prosper. We wouldn't be investing so much into our businesses if we didn't love Flossmoor."

Currently there are 27 businesses interested in joining the FBA. To encourage more participation, Mader and her partners are also actively recruiting business membership in Flossmoor Commons and near the Meijer shopping area. By expanding the reach of the FBA, one goal is to be able to sponsor and support new events and activities in the community as well as continuing to support existing events. The other goal, which Mader feels is especially important to the benefit of Flossmoor, is supporting new businesses.

Join Our Fire Department as a Paid-On-Call Firefighter

The Flossmoor Fire Department is always looking for reliable, high-quality professionals to join the battalion, but very few applicants know what benefits come along with joining the Flossmoor Fire Department as a paid-on-call firefighter. Outside of the camaraderie that is synonymous with a firehouse, paid-on-call firefighters are also given significant career training at no cost to them.

In order to qualify, paid-on-call firefighter applicants must be 18 years or older, have a high school diploma, and live within five miles of the Village of Flossmoor. Applicants must also be able to pass a physical exam and comprehensive background check. Following a clear physical exam and background check, new paid-on-call firefighters receive in-house training upon being hired. After four months on the department, new firefighters are enrolled in fire academy.

Another four months after graduating from fire academy, new hires are then enrolled in EMT school, training that typically costs anywhere from \$5,000 to \$10,000. After graduating from EMT school, Flossmoor Fire Department paid-on-call firefighters then have the potential to earn their paramedic's license, again, at no cost to them.

In order to take advantage of these career advancements, paid-on-call employees are required to respond to 25 percent of all available calls. Probationary firefighters start out at \$9 per call and then receive an increase to \$10 per call after completing the fire academy. As candidates continue to advance through the department, additional promotional opportunities are available, as well as the potential for full-time employment, either as sworn or contracted employees.

For those interested in applying to be a paid-on-call firefighter, visit www.flossmoor.org or pay a trip to the Flossmoor Fire Department at 2800 Flossmoor Road.



2nd Annual Brew Fest is Coming!

Save the date for the Flossmoor Brew Fest on October 12. Last year, more than 300 attendees filled Downtown Flossmoor to sample beer from 15 brewers. This year will be even better, with live music, great food, and more than 30+ beer, cider and wine vendors expected. It's a wonderful way to spend a fall afternoon. Even if you're not a fan of craft beer, you'll love the vibe of the event.

Save the Date
TASTE THE TOP HOPS!
30+ BREWS PLUS FOOD & MUSIC!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2019
flossmoor.org

Flossmoor Counts!

Ensure you are counted in the 2020 Census. Every 10 years, the federal government undertakes the census – the official population count of every person in the United States. The next census begins in March 2020.

- Having a full count of everyone in Flossmoor is critical to ensure our village gets the federal and state funding we deserve for public health, transportation, education and more. Census data directly affects how \$675 billion in federal funding is allocated each year in the United States and determines how congressional districts are set. Spending just a few minutes filling out the census form online, on paper or by phone is a worthwhile investment.
- The census is also critical to show the strength and buying power of our community – which is what businesses look for when opening new locations. Flossmoor’s median household income is the highest in the area and shows we can support new businesses that locate here.
- When it’s time to respond to the census, you’ll receive an invitation in the mail with the option of responding online, by mail or by phone. If you don’t respond, you’ll eventually receive a paper questionnaire and the census will follow up in person with all households that don’t respond.

Here are some key dates to keep in mind for the census:

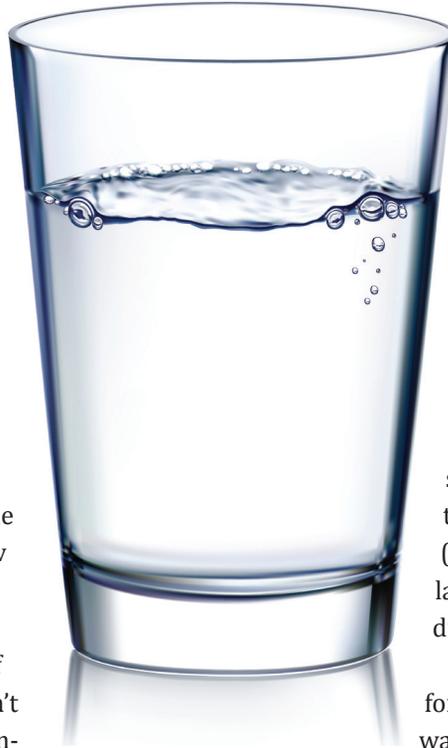
- March 12-20, 2020 — You’ll receive an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census
- March 16-24, 2020 — You’ll receive a reminder letter
- March 26-April 3, 2020 — You’ll receive a reminder postcard if you haven’t responded
- April 8-16, 2020 — The census will mail you a reminder and a paper questionnaire
- April 20-27, 2020 — One last reminder postcard will arrive before a census worker follows up in person

Water Meter Service

The Flossmoor Public Works Department may occasionally leave notice asking for access to residential and commercial water meters. This notice is to allow for inspection, repair or replacement. The use of water meters is not only important to homeowners in understanding their water usage, but the Village uses this information to verify the functionality and efficiency of the water system. When there are abnormalities in meter readings, it can mean a number of things. It may mean a leak, which when repaired could mean cost savings for residents or it could be something more severe. When these abnormalities are left undiscovered and unresolved, they can lead to larger issues that can affect the entire Village water system. All residents and business owners who receive a water meter service notice should contact the Flossmoor Public Works Department immediately to schedule their appointment. Failure to do so may mean water shutoff and the cost of reconnection fees. Contact the Flossmoor Public Works Department at (708) 957-4100 with questions or concerns.

Flossmoor's Water is Safe

Due to recent issues with increased lead levels in the drinking water supply in the Village of University Park, the Village of Flossmoor wants to remind residents that our drinking water supply is safe. Please



note that the Village’s Public Works Department collects water samples from twenty sites throughout the water distribution system and sends them to a third-party laboratory for lead testing.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency requires that this testing is completed every three years at locations specified by the IEPA. In 2018, the Village’s lead level was 0 ppb (parts per billion) for the Village’s water supply and distribution system.

The Village cannot account for the water quality once the water enters the service lines on private property.

While the Village does not perform water testing in-house, residents are welcome to have their water tested by a laboratory. Below are a few water testing laboratories in the Chicago Area.

- Suburban Laboratories, Inc. — (708) 544-3260
- First Environmental Laboratories, Inc. — (630) 778-1200
- ARRO Laboratory, Inc. — (815) 727-5436

Residents can also refer to the recently mailed 2018 Water Quality Report that contains information about our drinking water supply.

If you have additional questions, contact the Flossmoor Public Works Department at (708) 957-4100.

school spotlight

Not Your Grandfather's Shop Class: How H-F Applied Academics is Shaping America's Skilled Workers

As a comprehensive high school, Homewood-Flossmoor High School offers students a unique opportunity to explore career opportunities without the financial risk or long-term commitment often experienced post-graduation. One educational program that exemplifies that on the highest level at HF High School is the Applied Academics department.



Students use their problem-solving skills when creating robotics in HFHS's Applied Academics engineering class.

In Applied Academics, students can explore engineering, manufacturing and automotive technologies, as well as business and family consumer sciences. Unlike industrial technology programs of the past, today's generation of students are experiencing hands-on lessons that can equate to nearly two years of real-world career experiences.

As Kevin Thomas, Department Chair of HF Applied Academics explains – this is not your grandfather's shop class.

"We are creating a number of career pathways for students," said Thomas. "It's up to them if they want to go straight into a career after graduation or go into post-secondary education. Either way, when they leave the Applied Academics program, they have two years of professional,

hands-on experience."

In some cases, Thomas adds, students are able to establish their career pathways even before graduation. Currently, 16 of Benjamin May's automotive technology students have either accepted job offers from area car dealerships or been accepted into post-secondary education. Not only do these job offers provide students direct working experience and opportunities after graduation, but more often than not the dealerships will pay for additional training and certifications.

A big reason for those incentive programs is the national demand for skilled laborers. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, for the first time in nearly two decades there are more jobs than there are people to fill them, specifically as it relates to the "hard skills" sector of the economy.

"For the first time in the 14 years of my career I have dealerships hunting me down for kids," said May. "It used to be, we might place one or two students but now, I have dealerships asking me for five to 10 kids and then coming back a few months later saying they need more. Needless to say, HF has become well represented at the local dealerships."

While 17-year-old senior Liam Hughes isn't one of May's 16 students headed for the dealership, he does have a very clear path ahead of him in mechanical engineering, and credits much of that to the Applied Academics department.

Hughes, a self-described "hands-on" learner, has always wanted to pursue a career in engineering and the Applied Academics department allowed him the flexibility and experience to know what direction to take his interests.

"It's a very different learning style because it's not all book material. It's not just memorizing things; we're really learning how to think and how to problem solve," said Hughes. "If you think you want to do something as a career, you can find out if you really like it or if it's something you're good at without the risk."

That's the beauty of having a robust catalogue of options, said Thomas. Students have the freedom to explore their interests and challenge themselves to new things. Most importantly, added Thomas, the Applied Academics program allows students the opportunity to fail and learn from their mistakes.

"This is a safe place for students to explore their interests while also providing them with the necessary skills in whatever the direction they want to go," said Thomas. "We're very fortunate that our board and administration understand how important these programs are and support us every step of the way."

business spotlight

Mid-Century Modern Furniture for a Mid-Century Modern Community

Clean lines, modern designs and most importantly, functionality. Those are the words Chogie Fields uses to describe the mid-century modern furniture that fills the gallery at Conservatory Vintage & Vinyl (1042 Sterling Ave). Her passion for the generation-defying furniture is why she and her husband Tony wanted to open their new store in Downtown Flossmoor.

Not only did the store location on Sterling Avenue offer a space for them to showcase some of their favorite pieces, but it also became the perfect place for mid-century modern furniture to flourish in the South Suburbs.

“Conservatory Vintage & Vinyl brings mid-century furniture to a mid-century community, and the reception has been amazing,” said Chogie.

Matching Chogie’s passion for mid-century furniture is Tony’s love for vintage, nearly mint vinyl records. His eclectic collection ranges from funk and soul to hip hop, gospel and dance. While many of his records are musical classics, one thing Tony takes pride and personal responsibility in is discovering unique records and unknown artists.

He’s also extremely interested in exploring new music genres and artists with members of the community.

“I really appreciate learning what people are interested in and what they want to see,” said Tony. “Our goal is to serve the community so it’s important that we listen to what people want and adapt the business to serve their needs.”

Chogie shares the same passion for serving the community and agrees that in order to serve their customers the best, adaptation and flexibility is a must-have in business.

Which is why the two are constantly exploring unique

pieces at furniture shows, estate sales, from notable designers and antique stores. While Chogie said she appreciates the name-brand styles she’s found from designers like Herman Miller, Erik Jørganson or Noël, it’s more about finding high-quality products that carry the essence of mid-century design.



Chogie and Tony Fields have brought their love of mid-century modern furniture and vintage vinyl records to Flossmoor.

“We’re really focused on the style and the quality, more so than the names of the designers. We’re always looking for rare, somewhat notable pieces but they have to be authentic,” said Chogie.

Conservatory Vintage & Vinyl is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday and Thursday; from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; 12 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, and by appointment on Tuesday and Wednesday. For more information or to shop online, visit conservatoryvintageandvinyl.com or follow on Facebook.

15 Years of Keeping Us Healthy

For nearly 15 years, Sunrise Health Foods (3203 Vollmer Rd) has provided Flossmoor residents with the fresh, organic and all-natural foods they crave. From fresh produce and organic dairy products to grass-fed meats and farm fresh eggs and poultry, Sunrise Health Foods is dedicated to providing the highest-quality products that promote health and happiness in its customers.

Sunrise Health Foods also carries a vast selection of frozen and dry goods. These items are especially popular

among customers who have specific dietary restrictions and food allergies, said store manager Brian Bresnahan.

Another hugely popular section of the Sunrise Health Foods market is the organic juice bar. There, customers can select from fruits and vegetables freshly delivered from certified vendors and local farms. One promise Sunrise Health Foods makes to its customers, said Bresnahan, is it always holds the highest standards for the products it sells. It’s the reason Bresnahan takes pride in his role as manager and product buyer, and

why he is proud to be part of the nearly 60-year-old family owned company.

“The reason that I want people to come here is the same reason I want to be here,” said Bresnahan. “These are the foods my family eats and the kind of food the community deserves.”

For newcomers, Bresnahan said this is the perfect time of year to start exploring the options offered at Sunrise Health Foods. And, with a highly trained staff of employees, they can answer any questions new customers may have about the natural food trade.



PREPARING FOR THE HIDDEN GEM HALF MARATHON

Show Your Spirit Flossmoor!

The inaugural Hidden Gem Half Marathon is just around the corner. On the morning of September 7, more than 450 runners will lace up their shoes to run 13.1 miles through Flossmoor. The race is sponsored by a local not-for-profit organization called Flossmoor's Future, founded by Flossmoor residents with the goal of raising the profile of Flossmoor. All residents are invited to show support for the runners by lining the race route or joining a neighborhood spirit team. (For spirit team information, contact atukwenewell@gmail.com.)

Attention Friday Homewood Disposal Clients ... A Trash Pick Up Change

Typically, when your trash pick-up day falls on a holiday, collection is delayed until the next day. For collections on Friday, for example, the trash pick-up will happen on Saturday. However, for residents along the Hidden Gem Half Marathon race course, Homewood Disposal and Republic Services have announced that your trash will still be picked up on Friday, September, 6 in preparation for the 13.1-mile race. If you are not on the race route and your trash is normally picked up on Friday, it will be picked up on Saturday. Flossmoor Public Works will be distributing letters of information in the coming weeks, so please help spread the word to your neighbors.

Road Closures

Holding a 13.1 mile race within Flossmoor will require road closures to ensure the safety of runners. Homes along the race route will have limited access in and out of driveways during the race. Residents are asked to exercise extreme caution if they need to enter or exit their driveways during this time. Please allow extra time and follow the instructions of course marshals, who will be wearing Hidden Gem shirts and located at intersections along the route. They will allow you to pass when it is safe. If your home is on the race route, you may wish to move your car to another street before the race starts at 7:45 a.m.

Road closures throughout the Village include the major streets of Flossmoor Road, Governors Highway, Kedzie and Western Avenue. The race begins at 7:45 a.m. on Flossmoor Road near Village Hall and travels west on Flossmoor Road and then through Baythorne, Ballantrae, and Flossmoor Hills and Highlands before turning back east to wind through Heather Hill, Flossmoor Estates, Flossmoor Park and Old Flossmoor. The major thoroughfares (Flossmoor Road, Kedzie and Governors) will be closed to ensure the safety of the runners.

Portions of the route, including the major streets, will be reopened as soon as all runners pass through. Kedzie, Governors and Flossmoor Road (west of Governors) are expected to be back open by 10 a.m. There will be limited access to Downtown Flossmoor throughout the race. Flossmoor Road and Sterling Avenue will be closed to traffic beginning at 7 a.m. on September 7. For more information on the race and to view the course map, visit hiddengemhalf.com.

The following streets are on the route (visit hiddengemhalf.com to view a map of the Gem course). Homes directly along the route have been notified with door hangers.

- Flossmoor Road between Pulaski and Western Avenue
- Governors Highway
- Kedzie Avenue
- 192nd Street between Kedzie and Central Park
- Dunfries Street
- Culloden Street
- Hamlin Avenue
- Beech Street
- Central Park Avenue
- Braemar Road
- Heather Hill Crescent
- Lawrence Crescent
- Sterling Avenue
- Brassie Avenue
- Braeburn Avenue
- Vardon Lane
- Western Avenue
- Evans Road
- Hutchison Road
- Latimer Lane
- Collett Lane
- Gardner Road
- Leavitt Avenue
- Park Drive
- Heather Road
- Dundee Avenue
- Travers Lane

commission corner

Flags of Flossmoor Public Art Fundraiser

Bidding is now live for the Flags of Flossmoor Public Art Auction. This year's annual fundraiser for the Flossmoor Public Art Program features original designs from local artists inspired by the Village of Flossmoor tagline: Welcoming. Beautiful. Connected. The designs were then printed on flags that are currently displayed across Downtown Flossmoor. The flags will remain on display through Flossmoor Fest on September 7. Additionally, personal dedication plaques on wrought iron benches and custom handmade jewelry are also available for auction. To support Flossmoor Public Art, bid on auction items, give a cash donation, or simply share the auction with friends across social media using the hashtag, #flagsofflossmoor. Auction winners will be announced at Flossmoor Fest. Contact Laura Brennan-Levy, Flossmoor Program and Events Coordinator, at (708) 798-2300 or lbrennan-levy@flossmoor.org with questions.



Visit flossmoor.org to place your bid today!

Striving for a Green Flossmoor Fest

The Village Green Commission is once again working toward making Flossmoor Fest zero-waste. We have eliminated plastic tablecloths, purchased compostable/recyclable cups for the Pop-Up Pub, encouraged vendors to make sustainable single use service ware choices and recycle cardboard and plastic bread bags from booths. Here are some tips that you can use to help reduce the carbon footprint of Flossmoor Fest. If you do participate in number one or two, stop by our tent to be entered to win an eco-friendly prize!

1. Ride your bike to the Fest
2. Bring your own water bottle (a water filling station will be located at the Flossmoor Green Commission tent)
3. Recycle Right — There will be a central recycling/landfill tent that will offer recycling options for:
 - Empty candy, chip and granola wrappers
 - Plastic water bottles and aluminum cans
 - Cardboard, paper
 - Combustible / Recyclable cups



At the Flossmoor Green Commission Booth...

Learn how to reduce or eliminate single use plastic from your daily life and test your recycling knowledge by playing the Recycle Right game.

Community Relations Commission Adds New Members

John Flynn, Jackie Riffice and Leonard Harris are the newest commissioners to join the Community Relations Commissions, and all three long-time Flossmoor residents have a wealth of volunteer experience to add to the group.

Riffice, a 30-year Flossmoor resident, has spent the majority of her volunteer work helping to green the community, working with the Center for Multicultural Communities and acting as a founding member of the Flossmoor Green Commission.

Flynn's volunteer experience spans his nearly 30 years as a Flossmoor resident and has highly personal connections to his love for the community. In addition to formerly serving on the Irons Oaks Foundation Board of Trustees, Flynn also continues to commit his time volunteering with local events and supporting local non-profit organizations.

Harris is another 30-plus year resident of Flossmoor who boasts hours of volunteer experience along with a wealth of experience serving on local boards and commissions, some related to his profession and some related to his community. Currently Harris serves as the President of the Flossmoor Hills/Highlands Civic Association, a position he has held for two years.

As members of the Community Relations Commission, Riffice, Flynn and Harris will serve as conduits for all segments of the community to talk and work together for the benefit of the entire Village, to act as liaisons for the Village in regional activities relating to diversity and inclusion, and to study matters that are referred by the Mayor or Board of Trustees. The committee meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month and is open to public attendance. Find out more at www.flossmoor.org.

Village of Flossmoor

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Mayor Paul Braun

I hope you and your family enjoyed a terrific summer filled with fun and relaxation. As the familiar school-year routine returns, I hope you also look forward to the fall traditions in Flossmoor. The events that take place this time of year are great opportunities to come together, meet neighbors and celebrate what makes Flossmoor so special.

Our favorite Village event, Flossmoor Fest, returns on September 7.

I am sure Flossmoor Fest will be better than ever with the opening ceremony featuring the HF High School Marching Band to kick off the festivities at 1 p.m. in Downtown Flossmoor, followed immediately by the Jesse White Tumblers at 1:30 p.m. If you missed the Jesse White Tumblers last year, be sure to be there this year. Your whole family will be mesmerized by their high-flying acrobatics and the energy they bring. Children's activities begin at 2 p.m. along Central Drive and the downtown will be filled with music, activities and food until 10 p.m.

If you haven't been to Downtown Flossmoor to see the nearly 50 beautiful flags on display for the Flags of Flossmoor fundraiser, be sure to check them out. This year, the Village's Public Art Commission is auctioning off these custom flags to raise funds in support of our outdoor sculpture program. Local artists submitted flag designs that are on

display along Flossmoor Road, Sterling Avenue and Central Drive and you can take a flag home with you if you're the winning bidder. You can also place a bid to put a plaque on one of the wrought-iron benches in our downtown, which is a wonderful way to honor loved ones. Find the link to the online auction at www.flossmoor.org and bid online through the end of Flossmoor Fest. I'd like to thank our Public Art Commission for the creativity and effort behind this terrific fundraiser. The outdoor sculpture program is a truly unique cultural feature in Flossmoor and without financial support from residents, we wouldn't have wonderful outdoor art to enjoy.

The newest event coming to Flossmoor is the inaugural Hidden Gem Half Marathon on September 7, which promises to bring 450 or more runners to Flossmoor from around the country on the morning of Flossmoor Fest. Hats off to the volunteers who brought this event forward and are making it happen. So many residents are coming together to make this a premier running event in the Chicago area and to cheer on runners along the route. Running a 13.1-mile race is a major accomplishment, and I look forward to seeing the winners cross the finish line on Sterling.

Finally, save the date for Flossmoor Brew Fest on October 12. Last year, more than 300 attendees filled Downtown Flossmoor to sample beer from 15 brewers. This year will be even better, with live music, great food, and more than 30 beer, cider and wine vendors expected. It will be a wonderful way to spend a fall afternoon.

The Board of Trustees and I look forward to seeing you this fall. As always, if you have a comment or concern, reach out to us via email or join us at a Village Board meeting on the first and third Mondays of the month.

— Paul S. Braun
Mayor of Flossmoor