

FLOSSMOOR NEWS

Summer 2022
Volume 32 / Number 1



PHOTO BY ANDREW BURKE-STEVENSON.

60422: THE PARTY OF A LIFETIME

Celebrate Flossmoor's Zip Code Day with Bike the Gem starting at 11 a.m., June 4, then head over to Flossmoor Park at 1 p.m. for food trucks, festivities and fun.

Zip Code Day
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Tip of the Cap
Chapter closes on 21-year career
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village officials

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Brian Driscoll, Trustee
bdriscoll@flossmoor.org

Gina LoGalbo, Village Clerk
glogalbo@flossmoor.org

Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager
bwachtel@flossmoor.org

village numbers

Village Hall: (708) 798-2300

Fire: (708) 798-3885

Non-Emergency Police: (708) 957-4500

Non-Emergency TDD: (708) 647-0179

Public Works: (708) 957-4100

Building Department: (708) 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 Monday 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

May 30

Memorial Day — Village Hall closed. Taps Across America will be performed at 3 p.m. in the center traffic circle in Downtown Flossmoor.

June 4

Bike the Gem — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A community bike ride of the 13.1 miles of the Hidden Gem Half Marathon course with a 13.1 block children's ride. A chance to meet fellow residents and see the course. Registration is required at www.hiddengemhalf.com.

June 4

60422 The Party — 1 to 8 p.m. Celebrate Flossmoor's Zip Code Day, 60422, at our free community block party. Enjoy specialty food trucks, live music, kid's activities, and best of all, the company of good friends and neighbors! VIP tickets available at www.the60422.com.

June 19

HF Juneteenth Festival & Parade — 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The parade steps off at 10 a.m. at Parker Junior High School, then travels through Downtown Flossmoor then returns and ends at Parker Junior High School. See page 5 for Juneteenth Festival details.

July 4

Independence Day Parade — 10 a.m. Participants 14 years old and younger are invited to decorate bikes and wagons in red, white and blue! Lineup is at 9:30 a.m. at Parker Junior High School.

July 21

IPO Chamber Night — 5:45 p.m. Join the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra for an evening of music on the steps of the Flossmoor Public Library. Dine and shop in Downtown Flossmoor starting at 5 p.m. then head to the Library with your own chair for music starting at 5:45 p.m.

July 21 & August 4

Grown Up Night at the Splash Pad — 6 to 8 p.m. Feel the excitement and carefree living of being a kid again! Play around in the splash pad, have water gun fights, play bags, giant pong, enjoy music and more with the HF Park District.

August 2

National Night Out & Touch a Truck — 5 to 8 p.m. Learn more about our Police, Fire and Public Works Departments at this fun night out at Flossmoor Village Hall and Parker Junior High School.

August 19

Back to School Night — 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy fun activities and giveaways with the Village of Flossmoor, Flossmoor School District 161, Homewood-Flossmoor High School and the Flossmoor Public Library. Then, enjoy movie in the park starting at dusk.



CELEBRATE ALL THINGS FLOSSMOOR

Community pride flows deep in Flossmoor. From celebrating the gem that Flossmoor is to committing selflessly to helping those in need, Flossmoor residents know how to come together to celebrate their community pride.

"What better way to celebrate community pride than with a once-in-a-lifetime, uniquely Flossmoor party on June 4, 2022? The Village is thrilled to have Flossmoor's Future produce this event on our behalf," said Mayor Michelle Nelson.

During the free June 4, 2022 (60422) community block party, affectionately coined Zip Code Day by residents and organizers, guests will enjoy a rotating assortment of specialty food trucks, live music, kid's activities, and best of all, the company of good friends and neighbors.

"The day's festivities will be focused on highlighting the greatness of our community," said Tom Dobrez, president of Flossmoor's Future, the non-profit organization producing the Village's 60422 Party and the founder of the Hidden Hem Half Marathon. "We plan on the day being welcoming, beautiful and connected, so don't miss it."

The all-day event begins with the annual Bike the Gem, a 13.1-mile bike ride exploring the route of the 2022 Hidden Gem Half Marathon. Riders will gather at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 4, at the Infant Jesus of Prague (IJP) parking lot before launching at 11:30 a.m. for the community ride. A "13.1 blocks" kid's ride will start at noon.

The 60422 festival kicks off at 1 p.m. at Flossmoor Park with DJ Tony Fields, owner of Conservatory Vintage & Vinyl, spinning trendy and energetic tunes until Mayor Michelle Nelson, Village Trustees, organizers and a few special guests officially open the event at 1:30 p.m.

Enjoy some hits from Motown starting at 2 p.m. when Motown Soul Revue, sponsored by Kluger Furs, takes the stage and kick starts the day's live music. Motown Soul Revue will be followed by The Lotus Kings, a Santana tribute band sponsored by The Dober Group, until headliner Deacon Blues, a Steely Dan tribute band sponsored by Cutrara and Company, takes the stage at 6:30 p.m.

Additional activities of the day include a wiffleball home run derby sponsored by Flossmoor Baseball and Softball, a soccer clinic featuring players from the Chicago Red Stars, a kid's sports zone sponsored by IJP, a pop-up shopping tent featuring local Flossmoor businesses coined "Vendor Village" sponsored by Great Estate, campground activities with the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District, and three special programs presented by Flossmoor's volunteer commissions (details on page 11.)

VIP tickets are also available for those interested and include free drinks, a commemorative t-shirt, premiere seating and more. Visit www.the60422.com for VIP ticket information and to learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime Flossmoor celebration.

flossmoor faces & places

New Leadership Joins the Falcons



Ursula Parris

Following an extensive search and several rounds of interviews, Flossmoor School District 161 announced earlier this year that Ursula Parris would join the administrative team at Parker Junior High School as principal. Parris will officially assume the role of principal on July 1, 2022, replacing existing principal

Amabel Crawford, who will return to the District Office as Director of Learning and Instruction.

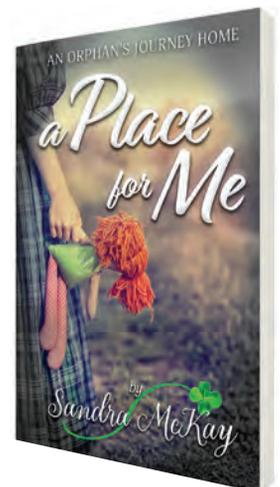
“Parker Junior High is a special place with incredible children and amazing staff members, so it is important that we find the right fit. Through (an) inclusive, community-driven process, I believe we have found a great leader in Ms. Parris,” said Dr. Dana Smith, Superintendent.

Parris joins District 161 with an impressive administrative resume, including a number of professional certifications and nearly 30 years in public education. Parris’ career in education ranges from her beginning as a science and mathematics teacher to eventually serving as Principal of Pinellas County Schools’ Meadowlawn Middle School in Largo, Florida, a role she has served in since 2017. Prior to that, Parris worked as the Assistant Principal of Curriculum with Pinellas County Schools’ Seminole High School and Duval County Public Schools’ Andrew Jackson High School, prior to that.

Parris holds a Master’s of Science in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and a Bachelor of Science in Food Service Administration from Florida State University.

Flossmoor Author Hits the Bookshelves

Flossmoor resident Sandra McKay can now add published writer to her family’s legacy with her debut novel, *A Place for Me: An Orphan’s Journey Home*. Inspired by the story of her grandmother Dora Kelly, who lived in an orphanage in Chicago before being adopted by Joseph Leopold Murphy, a wealthy and influential lawyer, *A Place for Me* is based in what McKay calls “historical fiction” and explores Kelly’s drastic, life-altering change from poverty to privilege. *A Place for Me* is a blending of stories from McKay’s grandmother’s writings, years of genealogical research, and McKay’s imagination. After publishing her first novel, McKay is already working on the research portion of a sequel to her grandmother’s story. McKay will showcase her work for the Flossmoor community from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, during a book signing at the Flossmoor Public Library. Copies of *A Place for Me* will be available for purchase at the event as well.



Get Out and Play with the HF Park District

Community Bonfire

Get to know your neighbors and community members in a relaxed setting while enjoying roasting marshmallows in your local park. Join the festivities from 8 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, at Leavitt Park.

Grown Up Night at the Splash Pad

Feel the excitement and carefree living of being a kid again! Come out and play at the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District splash pad from 6 to 8 p.m. on July 21 and August 4. Enjoy water gun fights, play bags, giant pong, music and more. Visit www.hfparks.com for more information.

Irons Oaks

Did you know that Irons Oaks is more than just a school field trip destination? The park is open to the public daily from sunrise to sunset and trails are well marked. Additionally, Irons Oaks is hosting a family camp night on June 25 and 26. Bring your tent, sleeping bag and flashlight for an overnight adventure at Irons Oaks. You can also enjoy summer camp with your kids on July 16. Visit www.ironsoaks.com.

Block Party

More than just brats, beers and buds in the ‘burbs, block parties are the get togethers that keep neighbors connected and create long lasting bonds. It just takes a handful of organizers to make the party happen! You provide us with a date and time; we’ll drop off barricades to block the streets. Visit www.flossmoor.org for more information.

Community Events

Keep an eye out for a few other community events to add to your calendar this summer including the annual Back to School Celebration on August 19 in Flossmoor Park.

Flossmoor's Newest Community Service Office



Nicholas Mayden

When Nicholas Mayden applied to be a Community Service Officer with the Flossmoor Police Department, he did so with the goal of pursuing a career in law enforcement. That desire has only grown as he continues to

interact and make connections with the residents of Flossmoor.

"I have enjoyed meeting people in the community and I look forward to meeting more people," said Mayden. "I also look forward to making a positive impact with the people of Flossmoor."

In addition to serving as CSO in Flossmoor, Mayden also works for the Rich Township Emergency Management Agency aiding with crowd and traffic control for surrounding agencies. Mayden's next pursuit is to start applying and testing to further his law enforcement career. When Mayden isn't serving the residents of Flossmoor, he enjoys working on his 1994 Ford Mustang GT. Be sure to give Mayden a wave next time he's out during traffic control or at the next Village event!

Juneteenth 2022

Celebrate the second Homewood-Flossmoor Juneteenth Festival and inaugural Juneteenth Parade! Sponsored and organized by You Matter 2, Inc., a south suburban based youth group focused on building a better world, the H-F Juneteenth Festival's mission is to provide an environment that celebrates and showcases the uniqueness, power and endurance of African Americans, as expressed through food, music, dance and arts. As a first-time element of the event, the Juneteenth Parade will be more than a procession of bands, floats and marchers. According to organizers, it will be a commemoration of African American history and a celebration of the future, encompassed with the national celebration of Emancipation Day!

Want to get involved? Visit www.youmatter2.org/juneteenth or email hfuneteenthfest@youmatter2.org.

Schedule of Events:

- Parade: 10:00 AM – Starts/Ends at Parker Junior High School (2810 School Street in Flossmoor)
- Festival 11:00 AM – 6:30 PM | Homewood-Flossmoor High School South Parking Lot (999 Kedzie Ave., Flossmoor)

The Final Bow

After a decorated, 21-year career, Dr. Von Mansfield, Superintendent at Homewood-Flossmoor High School is taking his final bow as an HF Viking and embracing a well-deserved retirement.

Mansfield's career with Homewood-Flossmoor School District spans nearly two decades. He has served as the District 233 superintendent since the 2008-2009 school year; prior to that he served as Homewood-Flossmoor Community High School principal from 2001-2008 and as a science teacher with an emphasis on chemistry and physics. During the 2021-2022 school year, Mansfield worked alongside fellow superintendent Dr. Scott Wakeley in a relay race of leadership, as the two coined it, to ease the transition from one superintendent to the other. With the end of the relay in sight, Mansfield looks back on his career at HF High School fondly, despite recent challenges, in large part thanks to the greater HF community.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, parents, staff and the entire HF community on the courage and steadfastness that has contributed to overcoming the most challenging years as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Mansfield. "Though memorable for this event alone, our collective community has maintained the greater characteristics of caring, supporting and providing the best resources available that are critical to promote and exceed the quality of life that we have come to expect in the HF community."

As superintendent, Mansfield earned a number of recognitions and awards in education including the 2022 Superintendent of Distinction from the Illinois Association of Superintendents and double honors as a two-time recipient of the Those Who Excel Awards from the Illinois State Board of Education. As Mansfield reflects on the closing chapter and embraces his next, he looks forward to the new opportunities that await and spending more time with his wife Tina, his children, Vonzell, Lauren and Elyse, and his extended family.

Congratulations to Dr. Mansfield on a storied career filled with years of recognitions and accomplishments. Enjoy retirement!



Von Mansfield

NEWS TO USE!



Sunshine and smiles are all a part of the Flossmoor Fire Department's annual 4th of July Parade.

Join Our Supplier Registry

Each year, the Village of Flossmoor procures services and goods from businesses small and large — ranging from photography to road construction to office supplies and more! While still following state procurement regulations, the Village of Flossmoor is committed to increasing the diversity within our supply chain. Whenever possible, it is our goal to seek pricing or proposals for goods and services from businesses that reflect the diversity of our community. As a step toward that goal, we invite you to create a profile in the Flossmoor supplier registration database. This will be used as a sourcing tool for future RFP and procurement opportunities. Flossmoor-based businesses interested in doing business with the Village are also encouraged to register using the online form.

All businesses are invited to register. We ask businesses to check whether they fall within the following categories: minority owned, woman owned, veteran owned, LGBTQ+ owned and disability owned. Visit www.flossmoor.org to complete our supplier registration form and help Flossmoor boast a diverse and inclusive database.

Reminders on Trash Collection

Throughout spring, the Village of Flossmoor received complaints regarding blowing trash in neighborhoods following waste collection. As a remedy for this issue, Homewood Disposal wants to remind residents that bagging their trash can significantly reduce loose garbage blowing around. Trash receptacles are to be placed at the street no more than 24 hours before pickup and removed from the street no later than 24 hours after pickup. The Village of Flossmoor is serviced by multiple companies, which may mean different collection schedules. Please keep this in mind when submitting complaints or concerns.

Festive Fourth in Flossmoor

What is one of your favorite Flossmoor summer traditions? Want to know one of ours? The festive Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Department Fourth of July Parade! Participants 14 years old and younger are invited to put on their brightest reds, whites and blues, and decorate bikes, wagons, scooters, or skates to help us celebrate Independence Day with a parade down Flossmoor Road. The parade line up starts at 9:30 a.m. in the Parker Junior High School parking lot and will start promptly at 10 a.m. After the parade concludes in Downtown Flossmoor, stick around to enjoy free refreshments and a demonstration by the Flossmoor Fire Department. Thanks go out to the Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Department Corporation for always hosting and supporting such a great event!

House Watch Program

For the first time in nearly two years, summer vacation travel is a real possibility! If you are planning a summer vacation this year, remember to check out the Flossmoor House Watch Program before you go! The Flossmoor Police Department house watch program allows residents who are leaving town on business or vacation to notify the Police Department and request additional patrols. Officers will periodically conduct security checks of the residence, which includes ensuring all exterior doors are locked and no damage or entry into the home is apparent. Although this is not a guarantee that your home will not be damaged or burglarized, it gives you some added protection and peace of mind. This program is not only specific to residents who are going out of town but can also be used by victims of crimes. Additional patrol security may be needed after a resident has been a victim of crime or has the potential to become a victim. Those interested are encouraged to complete and return the House Watch Application Form, available at www.flossmoor.org, to the Flossmoor Police Department.

Know the Code:

Tall Grass & Weeds

Rain and hot weather, which have been abundant this spring, are the main ingredients for tall, uneven grass growth. It is a violation of Village code to permit any weeds, grass or plants, other than trees, bushes, flowers or other ornamental plants, to grow to a height exceeding eight inches on unimproved property and five inches on improved property anywhere in the Village. It is also the responsibility of property owners to mow the parkway adjacent to their homes and road.

The Village addresses tall grass and weed complaints by visiting the property or contacting the owner, landlord or property manager. The Village issues a notice to comply within three days. As a last resort, when multiple attempts at compliance have been sought, the Village may mow the property without notice and charge the owner or place a lien on the property, if the issue remains unresolved.

Did you know that keeping yards free of tall grass and weeds can prevent mosquitos, rodents and wildlife from invading your property? Keep your yard healthy this summer!

Join Fire Camp This Summer

Interested in becoming a fire fighter or emergency medical service (EMS) provider? Great News! Prairie State College is offering an all-day Fire & EMS Camp on Saturday, June 18, with recruiters and representatives from area emergency departments. During the camp, students will be able to gain knowledge about the fire service, have the opportunity to experience real life skill building activities, and network with professionals in the field, including with leaders of the Flossmoor Fire Department. Fire and EMS Camp activities will include a live burn demonstration, search and rescue stations, a smoke crawl, victim rescue, forcible entry, extrication demonstration, a medical helicopter exerciser and hands-on EMS stations. Participants must be 16 years old and older and be able to provide their own transportation. Visit www.flossmoor.org to download the registration and permission slip, and return it to Chad Vlietstra via email to cvlietstra@prairiestate.edu by June 8, 2022. Enrollment is limited to 30 students, so be sure to sign up now.

Village Continues Free Brush Collection All Summer Long

All brush must be set out by 7 a.m. the Monday of collection week, but no earlier than three days prior to collection. For additional information, contact the Flossmoor Public Works Department at (708) 957-4100 or visit www.flossmoor.org for complete details.

Brush Collection Schedule

- June 6 to June 10
- July 5* to July 8 (adjusted for holiday)
- Aug. 1 to Aug. 5
- Sept. 12* to Sept. 16 (adjusted for Flossmoor Fest)
- Oct. 3 to Oct. 7

Items not collected by the Village during brush pick up:

- Root balls or stumps
- Brush cleared or cut by contractors
- Any yard waste, including but not limited to leaves, grass clippings and compost
- Any type of lumber, including construction lumber, landscape timbers, fence posts or other processed wood products
- Brush put in bags, boxes or containers of any kind
- Other 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.
- Maximum diameter: 6 inches
- Maximum length: 12 feet
- Brush piles should not be bundled in any way (string, twine, wire, zip ties, etc.)
- Brush should not be placed in containers
- Brush must not overhang into the street or sidewalk
- Do not pile higher than 4 feet
- Do not pile wider than 20 feet



business spotlight

A Reflection on 25 Years



Maureen Mader sits proudly in front of her new business, Dunning's Gourmet Market & Deli, 25 years ago in Homewood. Right, Mader embraces her new home for Dunning's in Downtown Flossmoor.

Dunning's every step of the way. Through three location changes, including her 2018 move to Flossmoor, the ebbs and flow of the industry, and the COVID-19 shut downs, Mader genuinely feels that it's because of her loyal customers that she is able to celebrate 25 years.

"I have customers that have shopped with me since I bought Dunning's. People were so supportive and understanding back then as I was learning the industry," said Maureen. "I am blessed beyond my wildest dreams. I have, and continue to have, a career that I love and I am surrounded by a community that has always had my back."

Dunning's celebrated its 25-year anniversary with a week of specials culminating with a customer appreciation day and community celebration on May 14 at the store in Downtown Flossmoor (1050 Sterling Avenue.)

Boss Ladies

Flossmoor Commons experienced quite the business boost this spring as three new businesses opened their doors. Each business brings a new service to Flossmoor but they all have one thing in common. They are all women owned.

Karyn's Inner Beauty (3329 W. Vollmer Rd. is a holistic healing and wellness spa specializing in relaxation and rejuvenation. Karyn Calabrese, one of the most popular and innovative leaders in the holistic health industry, has spent her career advocating for vegan and holistic living to balance the body, mind and spirit. Wellness services include a hyperbaric chamber, infrared spa, an oxygen bar, ozone bath therapy

and private consultations with Calabrese herself. In addition to her wellness spa, Calabrese will be opening a new vegan restaurant later this summer. Visit www.shopkaryns.com to explore the center's services and wellness products.

DeLorne Bridal Boutique (3309 Vollmer Rd.) owner Sheila Humphrey wanted to bring her rich knowledge and experience of the wedding industry to her community in the South Suburbs. In doing so, Humphrey created a luxury bridal boutique to ensure every bride finds the dress of her dreams. Products include wedding dresses, prom dresses, tuxedo rentals,

accessories and wedding concierge services. Visit www.delornebridal.net to view the selection of dresses and accessories.

Selfies are in style at **The Mommie Experience** (3327 Vollmer Rd. as owners Nicole Johnson, Ladonna Bradford and Kesha Williams-Kimble invite the Flossmoor community to celebrate the stages of motherhood at the themed selfie adventure studio. With 12 interactive stations uniquely designed by Johnson, guests can immerse themselves in the surroundings while striking a pose. The selfie venue is available for private events as well as hourly rentals. Learn more about The Mommie Experience at www.mommieexperience.com.

school spotlight

\$600,000+ Grant Helps Flossmoor School District 161 Support Mental Health

Flossmoor School District 161 recently earned a \$635,000 Community Partnership Grant from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to support mental health services for students and educators following the COVID-19 pandemic.

The District's goals for the grant funding include addressing out-of-school barriers through partnerships with community health and services agencies, establishing collaborative leadership practices in the community, and building active parent/guardian and community engagement.

"This grant is going to allow us to expand services to our entire education population, so we're really going to be revamping how we use SEL (social emotional learning)," said Jackie Janicke, Director of Special Education in District 161.

While the administrative team in District 161 continues to explore and establish community engagement efforts to achieve goal number three, Janicke has already secured the opportunities to achieve the District's first two goals.

Currently, the District has partnered with Minds Empowered Counseling Services in Homewood, to provide mental health counseling services to a select handful of District students. With the grant funding, however, the District will be able to offer free counseling services through Minds Empowered to every student in the District.

"This will be really important for parents to not have to worry about insurance," said Janicke. "Especially the parents with any kind of public insurance, like Medicaid, they often have to wait for approvals and in some cases, some therapists don't even accept public insurance. So, this is really important for those families."

Minds Empowered provides a wide range of therapies to families and adolescents, among others, in individual and group settings. With an experienced team of clinicians, Minds Empowered emphasizes its ability to serve the entire community no matter age, gender, culture, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or spirituality.

Through the community partnership, Minds Empow-

ered founder and CEO Dr. Kres Snyder and Laura Miller, the center's Communications Director, are looking forward to raising awareness on the benefits of childhood counseling and clarifying the misconceptions.

"We see this as a great opportunity to get more visibility of our space and let as many people as possible learn about the services we offer," said Miller. "The hesitancy for many when it comes to therapy is assuming that it's like television. It's a little more informal than that. It's still very professional, but it has less layers and more comfort for the client than one might expect."



Flossmoor School District 161's special education department is headed by Simone Wilson, behavior specialist, Director Jackie Janicke, Confidential Associate Susan Fox, Amber Gumm, lead psychologist, and Miasha Avery, psychologist (not pictured).

"It can be difficult for children to open up so we really make sure that we show them that they are in charge in the space. We're up front with them and say 'I really want to get to know you. We're going to do it how you want to do it,'" added Snyder.

Janicke is hopeful to begin the District-wide roll out for counseling at the start of the 2022-2023 school year. It is anticipated that the grant funding will provide students up to three years of counseling service, free of charge.

The District will continue to explore additional community partnerships using the ISBE grant funding to enhance its social and emotional learning programming across the District.



FLOSSMOOR ROLLS OUT BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM



Throughout the month of May, the Flossmoor Police Department began a body-worn camera program for the entire Department. Nationwide, the use of body-worn cameras has become a common practice for police departments, and

seven states now mandate statewide use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers. As part of the criminal justice reform bill HB 3653, recently signed by Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker, Illinois will require every police officer in the state to wear a body camera by 2025.

“By implementing our body-worn camera program ahead of the required date, the Flossmoor Police Department is making an important statement that transparency and accountability are essential components of our ability to fulfill our law enforcement mission and keep our community safe,” said Tod Kamleiter, Flossmoor Police Chief.

Body-worn cameras are used for a number of reasons, including improving evidence collection, strengthening officer performance and accountability, enhancing transparency, and assisting in the investigation of complaints, among others. Review some of the frequently asked questions and answers related to the implementation of body-worn cameras and view all of the FAQs at www.flossmoor.org or by scanning the QR code.

How will residents know if an officer is using the camera correctly? Cameras will be activated manually by the officer on every call under the law or when the officer’s squad car camera is activated. Cameras will display a red flashing light when recording. Cameras can and may function in “dark mode” to allow an officer to conceal their location; this is for the officer’s safety in certain situations. The command staff will conduct audit checks on the proper use of the BWC.

What kind of training have officers received in relation to the BWC policy? Representatives from the BWC vendor have conducted in-house training on the use and operation of BWC. Command staff will conduct policy training and basic operation with the entire department.

What happens if I suspect an officer has turned off the camera or never turned it on? Anyone may ask an officer if he or she is following the state statute regarding the use of BWC or why they don’t see the flashing red light.

How will I know whether Flossmoor is following procedures recommended national or by nearby municipalities? Our BWC policy was written by Lexipol, a private company that specializes in public safety policy and training solutions for public safety agencies and local government. Lexipol has developed BWC policies for a number of other municipalities. The Flossmoor BWC policy will be updated regularly to comply with state law and best practices. Other policies are also reviewed regularly to assure they comply with state law and recommended best practices for BWC.

commission corner: 60422 edition!

Community Relations Commission: Connect the 60422

Connect with the Village of Flossmoor at the Community Relations Commission's mix and mingle booth during 60422. Get to know your Village representatives, members of the community and your very own neighbors through fun icebreaker games, conversation starters and topics of interest. Additionally, the Commission will be helping residents stay in the know by getting them signed up for the Village's bi-weekly E-news blasts, and getting connected to neighborhood social media pages and groups. Lastly, get your hands on some commemorative Flossmoor merch with a collector's special edition print highlighting Flossmoor's neighborhoods. In partnership with 60422 Party organizers, who will sell the prints, the Community Relations Commission created these prints to celebrate the uniqueness and unity of Flossmoor. The Community Relations Commission has generously earmarked the proceeds from this sale to support Flossmoor's sculpture collection. Don't miss your chance to get a piece of Flossmoor history!

Art Commission: See the 60422

As part of the 60422 Party's mission, organizers and volunteers invite guests to "see the 60422" with a guided walking tour of Flossmoor's world-class sculpture collection. The guided tour will step off at 3:30 p.m. at Flossmoor Park. Guests will start the tour at *Red Cross Lines* by Luis Kaiulani at Flossmoor Park then travel through Downtown Flossmoor, approximately a mile, to Leavitt Park to enjoy a handful of the collection's permanent and rotational pieces. The Flossmoor Sculpture Collection is a unique public art collection because the sculptures are installed throughout the Village square, along charming residential streets and in the Flossmoor sculpture garden at Leavitt Park. The award-winning park was designed by the notable Chicago landscape architect, Peter Lindsay Schaudt. According to Schaudt, the environment around a sculpture should integrate with the work of art. In Flossmoor, Schaudt created a natural setting that compliments, integrates, supports and enhances the outdoor sculptures individually as well as collectively. The Flossmoor Sculpture Collection consists of six permanent sculptures by distinguished artists Bruce Beasley, Howard Kalish, Terry Karpowicz, Mark Lundeen, Richard Hunt and Judith Shea.



Green Commission: Green the 60422

For the first time at a Village-sponsored event, the Flossmoor Green Commission is thrilled to bring composting to the 60422 Party. With the help of Collective Resource Compost, this is the Village's first effort to take a giant step forward in greening our fests. Composting is an easy, effective way to add to the sustainability efforts of any restaurant, school, office or event. According to Collective Resource Compost, composting reduces what is being sent to the landfill. Fewer food scraps sitting in the landfill means that less methane gas is created and precious space is not being used for food waste. The Green Commission, in partnership with Collective Resource Compost and Home-wood Disposal, will be creating three waste stations at the 60422 Party where volunteers will help guests sort their waste into three containers; compost, landfill and recycling. All compostable materials will be collected and taken away at the close of the event by Collective Resource Compost. Compostable materials include uneaten foods, food soiled paper products and paper food packaging. Recycled items and waste products will be collected by Homewood Disposal which will provide recycling receptacles and trash containers for the other two stations. If you are interested in joining up to 25 "green" volunteers toward these reducing waste efforts, contact Stephanie Wright at swright@flossmoor.org.

Village of Flossmoor

2800 Flossmoor Road
Flossmoor, IL 60422

flossmoor.org

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Mayor Michelle Nelson

Hi friends and neighbors! It feels great to finally make it to summer! We've had a busy year so far in the Village of Flossmoor and all of our hard work is about to pay off as we enter festival and construction season. There are some amazing events on the horizon, including our special Zip Code Day party, Bike the Gem, the Fourth of July bicycle parade, the return of

Chamber Night with the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, our National Night Out and Touch a Truck evening, and of course, our annual Flossmoor Fest and Hidden Gem Half Marathon, in addition to several other business sponsored events. Be sure to follow the Village's social media, sign up for E-news alerts and visit www.flossmoor.org frequently for more details on these exciting community events.

In addition to planning our summer activities, Village staff, the Village Board and I have been working hard on two very important elements of municipal planning — the annual operating budget and our four-year strategic plan.

The Village is projecting to end the current fiscal year with a total fund surplus due in part to improved sales tax revenues, deferred capital and operating expenses, and vacant positions. Next year's budget accounts for an inflationary market with increased operating expenses, several carryover projects from the current fiscal year, and some capital projects that are funded with savings. Short term, the Village's savings can account for these

increased costs and planned use of funds to support capital improvements. The approved FY 22-23 budget can be found on the Village website at www.flossmoor.org.

Thanks to excellent work by our Public Works and Finance Departments, a number of the Village's major infrastructure projects are being supported by several state and federal grants, allowing us to complete more capital projects with little to no impact to our budget. The first phase of our stormwater infrastructure improvements to Berry Lane and surrounding area are underway. Later this summer, we will begin tackling a number of our streets and sidewalks repair and resurfacing projects, so keep an eye out for potential road closures and delays. We continue to seek additional grant funds for viaduct flood mitigation and downtown streetscape improvements. Stay tuned!

In the Village's four-year strategic plan, we identified five strategic themes; finances and services, infrastructure and housing, economic development and business retention, inclusivity and equity, and Village staffing. The initiatives for our strategic themes include financially supporting Village services, increasing property values, recruiting and retaining businesses, continuing to foster relationships that nurture a united and engaged community, and promoting excellence in service delivery.

Implementing our strategic plan is a multi-level project. The Board, Village staff and the community have taken great care in providing valuable feedback, engaging discussions and thought-provoking questions. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the strategic planning process. We look forward to sharing it with you this summer.

I'm looking forward to seeing you out and about at one of our many festivals and events!

Mayor Michelle Nelson