

FLOSSMOOR NEWS

Summer 2024
Volume 34 / Number 1



BUILDING COMMUNITY ON THE BASES

The Flossmoor Bells Softball Team celebrates its spirit award at this year's opening day events.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game
Celebrate Flossmoor's Centennial birthday in Flossmoor Park.
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Welcoming New Businesses
Four recent ribbon cuttings held in the Village.
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HF: We're No. 1
Championship accomplished!
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Brian Driscoll, Trustee
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Gina LoGalbo, Village Clerk
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Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager
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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 p.m.

Community Relations Commission Meeting

4th Monday of the Month at 7 p.m.

Green Commission Meeting

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



#ThisIsFlossmoor

#Flossmoor365

Correction: Thank you to former long-time resident Richard Condon for letting us know that Laphim Pharmacy was never located in the Civic Center building, as indicated in the Spring 2024 newsletter. The pharmacy was located at Central Ave. & Park Dr.

calendar

flossmoor.org

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day / Taps Across America — 3 p.m. / Downtown Flagpole
Taps will be played in honor of those who gave their lives in U.S. military service. Note: Village Hall & Public Works are closed today.

Saturday, June 1

Bike the Gem — 10 a.m. / IJP Parking Lot

A community bike ride of a portion of the Hidden Gem Half Marathon. Enjoy this chance to meet neighbors and see the course. Join fellow riders for a post party celebration at the Flossmoor Station Restaurant & Brewery. Registration for the ride is required at www.hiddengemhalf.com.

Friday, June 7

H-F Pride Night — 5 p.m. / Irwin Park

Join the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District in partnership with the Villages of Flossmoor and Homewood for a shared community-wide pride celebration in Homewood's Irwin Park. The free party includes live music, refreshments and fun.

Wednesday, June 19

Juneteenth Parade — 9 a.m. / Western Avenue School Lot

Join in or watch this joyful parade that travels west on Flossmoor Road to Parker Junior High. For more information, visit www.Youmatter2.org.

Thursday, June 20

Take Me Out to the Ball Game / Flossmoor's Birthday —

4:30 p.m. / Flossmoor Park. Don't miss this once-in-a-centennial celebration of Flossmoor's 100th birthday! It includes three games to enjoy, food trucks, games, refreshments, classic car demo and an unforgettable drone show.

Thursday, July 4

Independence Day Parade — 9:30 a.m. / Parker Jr. High Lot

Decorate your bike and wagon in red, white and blue, then join the Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Corporation in its annual parade into Downtown Flossmoor.

Thursday, July 25

IPO Chamber Night — 5:45 p.m. / Downtown Flossmoor

The Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra entertains with an evening of music on the steps of the Flossmoor Public Library. New this year: Plein-air painters will amaze you with their work, sold via auction at the night's end.

Tuesday, August 6

National Night Out & Touch a Truck — 5-8 p.m. / Village Hall

Learn more about our Police, Fire & Public Works Departments. We'll feature games, refreshments and demonstrations from the departments.

Friday, August 16

Back to School Birthday Bash — 6-8 p.m. / Flossmoor Park

Enjoy fun activities, giveaways and birthday cupcakes with the Village of Flossmoor, Flossmoor Public Library, Flossmoor SD 161, H-F High School and the H-F Park District.



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

A FBBSB baseball team in 2024 and in 1972!

One of the most popular and lasting organized forms of recreation in Flossmoor is baseball. The Flossmoor Baseball League got started in the early 1960s as part of the Pony League — first only offering baseball, but later adding softball for girls in the mid-1970s.

According to long-time resident (and former Flossmoor Baseball player and coach) Tom Dobrez, the young league had a unique concept of naming its teams after a different sports conference. The Rookie League (ages 6 & 7) had teams named after the Big 10: Badgers, Spartans, Wolverines. Rookies graduated into the Triple-A level, where teams were named after National Hockey League teams: Blackhawks, Maple Leafs, Red Wings. In your fifth year of playing, you made it to the Majors, where you had the chance to wear the logo and colors of Major League Baseball Teams: Cubs, Red Sox, Yankees. The oldest players in the Pony League played for teams named after football teams: Bears, Lions, Vikings.

From the beginning, the Flossmoor Baseball & Softball League has been 100 percent organized and managed by volunteers. Volunteers organize and coach teams, care and clean up the fields, and promote and run the concession stand. Volunteers have also worked together to make big changes at the fields. In 1999, lights were added to Bronco Field, an effort led by Tom Blakemore and Rob Okleshen,

says Dobrez. He recalls that the first night the lights went on — April 30, 1999 — there were approximately 500 people in attendance to witness the ceremony and enjoy exhibition games.

Today's league, run by Carlo Gozzi, continues many of the traditions from the early league, including opening day ceremonies and a parade down Flossmoor Road. It continues to be a way for families to come together, make new friends and enjoy their community. This year's program features 14 baseball teams, 5 softball teams and 10 T-ball teams.

It seems appropriate that during Flossmoor's centennial year, the Village also celebrates this timeless sport and the spirit of volunteerism. On Thursday, June 20, — the date of Flossmoor's incorporation — the community is invited to Take Me Out to the Ball Game in Flossmoor Park. The event will feature three exhibition games at Bronco Field (Flossmoor Softball game, Flossmoor Baseball game and an old-time game featuring the Deep River Grinders vs. the Flossmoor Whistlestoppers), all colorfully announced by Flossmoor's famous Yellow Jackets. The event will also include kids' activities, food trucks, facepainting and birthday cupcakes. Don't miss the classic car show along Brassie Avenue and stay late for Flossmoor's first-ever drone show in the park at dusk. It will be a celebration to remember, as we celebrate Flossmoor, fun and friendship. (See page 6 for the evening's lineup.)



Bike the Gem: June 1

Flossmoor's Future is hosting the annual community bike ride on Saturday, June 1, at 11 a.m. to highlight the last half of the 13.1-mile Hidden Gem Half Marathon course. Residents, registered runners and the just plain curious are invited to Bike the Gem. Register at hiddengemhalf.com.



5TH HIDDEN GEM HALF MARATHON

In fall 2018, dozens of residents gathered to discuss Flossmoor's future and how they might promote our Village while strengthening our community. Out of that discussion rose The Hidden Gem Half Marathon.

Since September 2019, The Gem has captured the imagination of the entire Flossmoor community and exposed our wonderful Village to thousands of visitors from greater Chicagoland and dozens of states plus five countries. On Saturday, Sept. 7, we will again experience the thrill of shared community pride with the 5th running of The Hidden Gem Half Marathon, a two-time winner of CARA Race of the Year.

As exciting as that is, The Gem is so much more than a half marathon. It's a special day in our special community. It's a day we all feel proud to call Flossmoor home. This year the event will be followed by a special Kegs & Eggs celebration for all our runners, volunteers and residents. Plan on coming up to downtown Flossmoor to celebrate from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Over these past few years, the Gem has been fueled by wonderful business sponsors, a cooperative trove of Village departments, and you, our indispensable volunteers. If you are planning on running in this year's Gem, get registered now, as the race has sold out the last three years in a row. If you'd rather help out, The Gem can always use your assistance. You can register for the race or volunteer at: <https://www.hiddengemhalf.com/>

If all you do is cheer that day, that's okay, too. Just be sure to clear your calendar and plan on spending Sept. 7 in the the Gem of the South Suburbs: Flossmoor!



Thank You to our Centennial Sponsors

VIP Sponsors:

Eyes on Sterling; Flossmoor Station Restaurant & Brewery; Kathleen Field Orr; UChicago Medicine

Connected Sponsors:

Meijer; Prairie State College

Beautiful Sponsors:

Bank Financial; Bloom Township; The Center for Dental Excellence; Comcast; Flossmoor Animal Hospital; Foundation for the Preservation of Flossmoor History; Governors State University; Leland Grove Law, LLC; Nicor Gas; Rich Township Supervisor Calvin Jordan & Clerk Sugar Al-Amin; Southland Smiles

COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER THIS JUNE

This June, Flossmoor is thrilled to join forces once again with the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District and the Village of Homewood for the 2nd Annual Pride Fest, set to take place on Friday, June 7, at Irwin Park in Homewood. From 5-9 p.m., attendees can enjoy live music, including performances by Six of Spades (a talented act from Homewood-Flossmoor High School) and the Bel Canto Community Choir.

Headlining the event is Beyond the Blonde, renowned for its vibrant covers of artists such as Pink, Gwen Stefani and Lady Gaga. Food enthusiasts will also be delighted, with a showcase of culinary delights from Homewood and Flossmoor, including favorites Buona Beef, Rainbow Cone, Kona Ice, and cold beer from Flossmoor Station Restaurant & Brewery. Alongside the festivities, various resources and community groups supporting the LGBTQ community will be present to provide information and support.



"It's always a joy to collaborate with our community partners from the Village of Homewood and the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District," says Stephanie Wright, Flossmoor & Flossmoor SD161 Community Engagement Manager. "Our goal is to create a celebratory event that embraces diversity and unity and sprinkles in a whole lot of fun!"

Additionally, Pride attendees can contribute to a charitable cause as members of the Flossmoor Community Relations Commission will be collecting donations for the Center on Halsted, a comprehensive community center that is committed to promoting and ensuring the health and welfare of the LGBTQ community in the Chicagoland area. The Center on Halsted is in the Lakeview neighborhood and welcomes more than 1,000 community members daily. The CRC will be collecting personal care products. Donations can also be made inside Flossmoor Village Hall in the collection bin located on the main floor during the week leading up to the event. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

Later in the month, on Saturday, June 15, You Matter 2 will once again bring its amazing Juneteenth Festival to the H-F High School campus at 999 Kedzie Avenue in Flossmoor. The event hours are 11 a.m.- 6:30 p.m. You Matter 2 is taking its 2024 festival to new heights! As they gear up for another incredible celebration of Black culture and community, they are implementing a change this year: admission tickets. This

decision reflects their organization's commitment to ensuring the festival's growth and sustainability for years to come. The entrance fees are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 3-17. Kids age 2 and under are free. The fee provides a day filled with celebration, meaning and fun. The Juneteenth Festival has a lineup of amazing food, local Black-owned businesses, live entertainment, a cultural corner, a kid zone

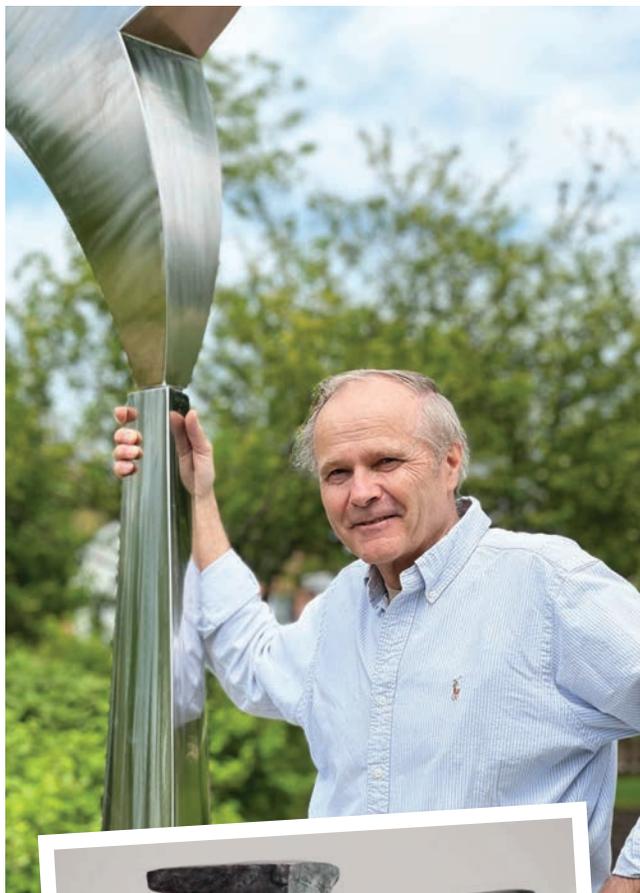


and so much more! Founder and CEO of You Matter 2, Destiny Watson, hopes you'll make plans to attend to experience a day celebrating Black Culture, Pride and Power.

Then, on Wednesday, June 19, Flossmoor will host the annual You Matter 2 Juneteenth Parade. Kicking off at 9 a.m. from the Western Avenue School parking lot on Vardon Place, the parade will journey south on Brassie Avenue before turning west on Flossmoor Road, concluding at Parker Junior High School. Jetoun Brown, Juneteenth parade coordinator says, "You Matter 2 is hoping for a much bigger turnout from our spectators, allowing us to spread the word about Juneteenth and the history it represents!" Brown also shares that spectators can expect, "an amazing line up of dance/drill teams, community awareness organizations, Divine 9 Fraternities and Sororities, city officials and more."

To learn more about You Matter 2, the Juneteenth Festival and parade, visit www.youmatter2.org.

NEWS TO USE!



New Sculptures to Enjoy This Summer

It is a busy season for the Flossmoor Public Art Commission! On Monday, May 6, Michigan-based artist Fritz Olsen installed his stainless-steel sculpture, *Eternal Flame*, in Leavitt Park, replacing Jack Howard Potter's *Marmeg*, whose time was up in the Village. *Eternal Flame*, designed by the artist to honor first responders and the sacrifices they make, will stay with us as part of the rotational public art collection in Flossmoor through May 2027.

Anticipated at the time of publication, three colorful *Untitled* pieces are expected to be installed at the southeast corner of Flossmoor Park. The pieces have been donated to Flossmoor by the generous artist, William O'Brien. O'Brien is a Chicago-based artist and also Chair of Ceramics at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Paradise, a 9-ft. tall bronze sculpture that evokes the natural landscapes found in America, is also expected to be installed in May. This impressive piece will grace a corner of Ballantrae Park. It was donated to the Village by the estate of late artist Hubert Phipps.

Be sure to visit these parks this summer to experience these new sculptures first-hand; learn more about the public art program — and about the Commission that works to maintain and grow Flossmoor's collection — at www.ArtFlossmoor.com.



Above: Fritz Olsen artist Below: *Paradise*

Free Brush Collection All Summer Long

Flossmoor offers free brush collection for single-family residential dwellings as an easy and convenient way for residents to dispose of tree branches from their property. Residents are invited to put branches out for collection no later than 7 a.m. on Monday of their scheduled week. Collection will take place during regular work hours from 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays the following weeks: June 3-7; July 8-12; Aug. 5-9; Sept. 9-13; and Oct. 7-11.

For complete information, contact Public Works at 708-957-4100 or visit: www.flossmoor.org/431/Free-Brush-Collection.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game Lineup!

Make plans to join us at Flossmoor Park for this community-wide birthday party celebrating Flossmoor's 100 years!

- 4:30-8:30 p.m. — Food trucks, concessions, facepainting, kiddie train, classic car show
- 5 p.m. — Opening Ceremony
- 5:30 p.m. — Softball Game
- 6:30 p.m. — Baseball Game
- 7:30 p.m. — Old-Time Baseball Game
- 8:30 p.m. — Birthday Cupcakes & Singing
- Dusk — Centennial Drone Show





Flooding Relief Coming in Near Future

In 2020 — after devastating flooding in the previous year — the Village of Flossmoor contracted with Baxter & Woodman Consulting Engineers to expand on previous studies and to develop a solution to the Village’s decades-old flooding problem. The first phase of the recommended improvements was the Berry Lane Drainage Improvements Project, which was substantially completed in fall 2022. This project involved the installation of permeable pavers and storm sewers along Berry Lane from Sunset Avenue to Bob O Link Road.

The second phase of the project includes the construction of a large-scale storm sewer that will run from the Flossmoor Road Viaduct, south on Sterling Avenue to Maryland Av-

enue, then south on Lawrence Crescent to the Heather Hill Elementary School site where a naturalized detention basin will be constructed. This basin would be dry approximately 99% of the time, filled with native grasses and plants, and enclosed with secured fencing.

The goal of this second phase is to alleviate flooding in the Berry Lane project area and in the Village’s treasured downtown, where community services — such as our public library and commuter train — reside, along with a valued and unique business district where more than 80% of business-owners are minority and/or women-owned businesses.

“This project will take the risk of uncontrolled flooding from a high-

Project rendering by Baxter & Woodman

traffic area and put it in a controlled, secured environment,” says Public Works Director John Brunke.

The basin portion of the overall project is expected to be completed by fall 2024. The remainder of the project will be completed in separate phases to align with the various grants that have been secured. Total grant money that has been secured for this \$7.8 million project is approximately \$4 million. Additional phases of the project are expected to begin this fall or winter with completion by fall 2025.

Residents can stay tuned to updates on this project and others by reading the biweekly Village newsletter or by visiting the construction page of the website at: www.flossmoor.org/325/Construction-Projects.

Summer House Watch Program

Are you going on vacation this summer? Check out the Flossmoor Police Department House Watch Program before you go. This program allows residents leaving town to notify the Police Department and request additional patrols while they are away. 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 does not guarantee that your home will not be damaged or burglarized, it gives you some added protection and peace of mind. Interested? Complete and return the House Watch Application Form, located at www.flossmoor.org.

Don’t Pass on Permits

If the warmer summer weather has you planning some construction at your home, remember that permits are required for many common home-improvement projects, including decks, patios, pools, driveways, sheds, garages, gazebos and windows. Permits are handled through Flossmoor’s Building & Zoning Department to ensure projects are completed safely. For a complete list on required permits and how to obtain them, visit the Flossmoor Building Department website here: www.flossmoor.org/154/Items-Requiring-Permits. Permit questions? Contact the Building Department at 708-957-4101.

business spotlight

It's been a busy spring in Flossmoor, as four businesses held ribbon-cutting ceremonies in the Village. Take some time this summer to welcome them to town!



House of Goshen / Oasis

Business owner Hakeem Bello hosted an uplifting ribbon-cutting event for House of Goshen / Oasis (19810 Governors Hwy.) on Thursday, April 11, that was celebrated by many friends, family, employees and neighbors. Services provided at his new business include in-home hospice care, in-patient hospice care and respite care. His team includes doctors, nurses, social workers, chaplains, therapists, trained volunteers and other experts dedicated to compassionate hospice care. Learn more at www.goshenhospicehouse.com.

The first customers enjoyed their lunch at The Bistro on Sterling (1040 Sterling Ave.), which reopened on International Women's Day (March 8). Chef/owner Yvette Zavala had been working as Executive Chef there for years before buying the restaurant and bar from previous owners upon their retirement in January. Visit her and her friendly staff for a delicious lunch or dinner Tuesdays through Saturdays, or for an amazing brunch on Sundays. Learn more at www.bistrosterling.com.



The Bistro on Sterling



Embassy Cigar Lounge

The Embassy Cigar Lounge (1615 Vollmer Road) was celebrated with a ribbon cutting on April 16. This unique establishment includes an indoor golf simulator, an on-site barber shop, smoking lounges, a bar and a membership program. The Embassy is an elegant spot with more than 4,500 sq. ft. of lounge and bar space, designed to promote meaningful interactions and friendships. Learn more at www.theembassy.vip.

There is a new, delicious spot to stop in on your way home from work or school: D's Cookie Dough Company (2601 Flossmoor Road). First located inside the Shops on Sterling, the shop was relocated around the corner by owners Staci & DK Stout in April. Enjoy specialty and classic cookies, cookie sandwiches, one-of-a-kind cookie bonbons and refreshments. Open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Learn more at www.dscookie doughco.com.



D's Cookie Dough Company

school spotlight

Resiliency Leads to History: HF Boys' Basketball Wins First-Ever State Title

The 2024 Homewood-Flossmoor High School Boys' Basketball team has etched its name in school history: On March 9, the Vikings fiercely defeated Normal Community High School 60-48 to take home the IHSA Class 4A State Championship. The title marks a first in HF's 65-year history. Led by Head Coach Jamere Dismukes and Assistant Coaches Kentrell King and Shea Sumpter, the win came just on the cusp of two years into their time at HF as a coaching staff.

"It means a lot to our community and stakeholders, but it means a lot to me, as well, because it puts me in a new category of coaches, where your name can be mentioned with some of the best," says Dismukes, who joined HF in

September 2022, after two seasons at Hyde Park Academy and a brief stint at his alma mater Rich East. "It's been a lot of ups and downs, but this team was not only focused on being good athletes, but also good students. At the beginning of the season, they set out to accomplish what they wanted."

The first battle on the road to the title came was the Super Sectional, when the then No. 2 Vikings faced No. 1 Curie Metro High School; it was a close match up with HF winning 60-58. Next, they headed to Champaign with hopes of coming back home with a trophy, first taking on New Trier High School.

"Every single day they're battling the discipline we put on them, the challenges, the adversity, then you get to see it pay off when they play the game," says Dismukes. The Vikings clinched the win 40-35 over New Trier, securing what would become their fateful Saturday final game against Normal.

It was an extra-special win for the team's eight seniors, who not only faced the pressure of the season ending, but the reality of their high school athletic careers also coming to a close. Dismukes says his seniors laid the foundation for their younger teammates on what it means — and what it takes — to be a Viking. Point Guard Gianni Cobb, committed to play at Columbia University, says he listened, worked hard and showed his coaches what he could do.

"With my team, I communicate with them a lot to keep



Viking Varsity Boys' Basketball players and Head Coach Jamere Dismukes celebrate on March 9.

them better, like saying 'do better and keep working hard,'" Cobb says. "I came in seeing that there were good players around me and that we could make a run."

The school motto, We Are HF, echoes among the halls of the school on any given day. The excitement could be clearly seen as the school and community banded together to send the team off, along with the Flossmoor Fire Department giving them a once-in-a-lifetime escort back home.

"It feels good having the community on our side, especially coming downstate to watch us. We made a big run and they trusted us," says Cobb.

Resiliency has been the team's personal theme this year, and it's no coincidence that Reflection & Resilience is one of HF's core competencies of their Profile of a Viking.

Junior Guard Bryce Heard has another year with his team, but knows the bar is set for the work ahead of him.

"This year, we just stayed resilient. We were down a lot of games, but we just always fought back," he says. "We stayed in the gym and came out with a state championship. We got this job done, but it's a whole other job to get done next year."

So as the celebration continues and the school year winds down, what's next for the Vikings? Dismukes has a clear plan: To repeat.

"We want to make winning state championships the standard. I believe in myself, our players and our coaching staff," he says. "I say 'We Are HF' proudly. For the people who really care about this place, it's an honor to be a part of that 'we!'"

flossmoor faces & places

Meet the Commons

At the far southwest corner of Flossmoor, you can find a robust shopping and dining area known as the Flossmoor Commons. The Commons was first developed in 1971 when Flossmoor's population was booming and clusters of retail businesses started to become a popular feature of suburban areas. One of its earliest businesses still in operation today is Kluger Furs. Besides selling coats, jackets and accessories, the store also offers on-site cold fur storage, fur coat cleaning, conditioning, fur repairs and fur coat restyling. At the other end of the strip, you can enjoy breakfast or lunch at Kingsberry Waffle House. Since 1994, this restaurant has been serving food with a hint of nostalgia to hungry customers coming in from a soccer game or a church service or ready to celebrate a special day. Take a look at all of the businesses you will find at the Flossmoor Commons today:



- Aid for Women — 3347 Vollmer Rd
- All the Smoke — 19854 S. Kedzie
- American Family Insurance: Adam Shears — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #103
- Bark N Bubbles — 19862 S. Kedzie
- Bodyscapes — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #204
- Cork Gaming & Wine Bar — 19870 S. Kedzie
- Creed 2 Restaurant (opening soon!) — 3331 Vollmer Rd
- The Cuvee Concierge, LLC — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #206
- Daniel J. Brown, DDS — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #115
- Definition & Meaning — 3321 Vollmer Rd
- Delorne Bridal — 3309 Vollmer Rd
- Dr. Eugene Mele, PsyD. — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #107
- ELIT8 — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #131
- Empathic Massage — 3235 Vollmer Rd, 142
- Envision Unlimited — 3325 Vollmer Rd
- Express Parcel Shipping — 19850 S. Kedzie
- First Merchants Bank — 3301 Vollmer Rd
- Flawless Barber & Hair Design — 3333 Vollmer Rd
- Flawless Imports — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #139
- Glow Salon & Spa — 3319 Vollmer Rd
- Health Solutions - Flossmoor — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #118-120
- Healthcare Research Network II — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #147
- Hill ASAP — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #101
- Jach Family Wellness Center — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #130
- Kingsberry Waffle House — 3345 Vollmer Rd
- Kluger Furs — 3303 Vollmer Rd
- Lou Malnati's Pizzeria — 3315 Vollmer Rd
- Neighborhood Pediatrics — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #126
- Opulence Gallery — 3313 Vollmer Rd
- PoppinCorks Bistro — 3311 Vollmer Rd
- Precise Healthcare Solutions — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #104
- Premier Treatment & Counseling Services — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #119
- Remedy Spa & Salon Suites — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #110
- Sole Retreat — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #138
- State Farm Insurance - Mike Fernandez, 3235 Vollmer Rd, #137
- Studio M — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #127
- Subway — 3323 Vollmer Rd
- Sunrise Health Foods — 19875 S. Kedzie
- Touched by Aja — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #207
- Totality of Care — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #200
- Wigs for Medical Patients — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #203
- Your Best Behavior — 3235 Vollmer Rd, #125
- Zahra's Playland — 3317 Vollmer Rd

commission corner

Green Volunteers Make a Difference at Coyote Run

On Saturday, April 27, Tristan Shaw, Chairperson of the Flossmoor Green Commission, teamed up with community members to complete a project initiated alongside Phil Knight and Dave Ward of Coyote Run Golf Course, a Homewood-Flossmoor Park District property.

The project began when Shaw spotted a grant notice from Nicor, offering \$10,000 towards removing invasive species — such as Buckthorn — and planting native trees and shrubs. This grant, facilitated by Morton Arboretum and the Chicago Region Tree Initiative, prioritized the restoration of native species, including White Oak, Burr Oak, Red Oak and Gray Dogwood, alongside a diverse array of native shrubs.

Shaw consistently acknowledges the invaluable contributions of the former Coyote Run Golf Course Superintendent Ward and the current staff, applauding their visionary stewardship of the course. He emphasizes the significance of their efforts, highlighting Coyote Run not only as a prized golfing destination within the community, but also as an exceptional example of environmental conservation. Ward was there at the course's creation in 2003 and 2004, and he appreciates the continuing efforts to keep it green.

"More than 600 yards of non-native invasive species were removed from the north fence line at the course. The invasive plants provided zero benefits for native insects, pollinators, birds and other wildlife," says Ward. "The new plants will enhance the local ecosystem, provide sustenance for native wildlife, and add to the beauty of the course."

Mayor Michelle Nelson was on hand to assist with the more than 200 planted shrubs and trees.

"This was a huge task! Thanks to residents, friends of the park district, and volunteers from a local business, we completed the project in record time," she says. "One of our superpowers is the support we get from volunteers, which allows us to take on large sustainability projects throughout the year."

The theory has always been that many hands make light work in Flossmoor. Community Relations Commission Chair Phillippa Leon-Thompson, who is no stranger to volunteerism, was on site with a shovel in hand, ready to get to work.

"Flossmoor thrives on volunteerism. I was happy to participate and give back to my community," she said.

Want to get involved? Watch for opportunities to volunteer with the Green Commission by visiting www.Flossmoor.org.



100 Acts of Kindness!

The Community Relations Commission encourages you to celebrate Flossmoor's 100th birthday with 100 acts of community kindness! Share on social media with #BeKindFlossmoor.



Art Opportunities

Three installations are happening in parks in Flossmoor in the month of May for all residents and visitors to enjoy (see details on page 6). The installations and projects are all made possible by donations from public art fans in and around the community. Don't miss out on the Commission's special fundraiser being held this summer: the **Garden Art Benefit & Auction**. Garden art items — such as bird houses and flower pots — are being created by local artists; they will be posted online and opened up for bids in early June. In July, the annual **Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra Concert** in Downtown Flossmoor will take place on Thursday, July 25, with an added feature: The Public Art Commission is hosting plein air artists to paint scenes of Flossmoor during the event that will be auctioned off at the night's end. Another way to support public art is by purchasing an **engraved brick** for the downtown traffic circle in front of the Flossmoor Public Library. For \$125, you will get to craft a special message to a loved one, and the proceeds will help support public art in your community. Learn more at www.ArtFlossmoor.org.

Village of Flossmoor

2800 Flossmoor Road
Flossmoor, IL 60422

flossmoor.org | discoverflossmoor.com | [@FlossmoorIL](https://twitter.com/FlossmoorIL)

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Mayor Michelle Nelson

Emmy. Fly girl. Golden Apple. Grammy. Gubernatorial candidate. Guggenheim. Guinness. Heavyweight Champion. MLB All Star. NASA satellite. National Radio Hall of Fame. Nobel. Smithsonian. U.S. Ambassador. Volunteer of the Year. Neighbor and friend. What do the recipients of these recognitions and titles have in common? They have all been residents of our beautiful Village

of Flossmoor over the years. Today, as we celebrate 100 years of Flossmoor, our Village continues to be the home of history makers from an incredibly diverse cross-section of talents and intellectual pursuits. The Foundation for the Preservation of Flossmoor History is a newly formed non-profit that is collecting stories of past and present residents who have contributed to our prominence and success. They are working to restore the building located at 2709 Flossmoor Road to become a multi-faceted civic space to celebrate our history and promising future. They have several summertime events planned to showcase aspects of our history. To get involved in the effort, attend a future event, or add to the collection, please email flossmoorhistory@gmail.com.

We have been working relentlessly to garner local, state and federal grants for infrastructure projects throughout the Village. These funds allow us to complete key projects that support our daily lives and protect our biggest investments (for many of us), our homes. We are completing the grant-funded Brookwood Bridge project this summer. We have assembled a record of \$3.95 million of additional funding to mitigate flooding along Berry Lane and at the Flossmoor Road viaduct. We have been awarded more than \$1 million to improve safety and beautify our downtown area in summer 2025. We are working to obtain grant funding for additional

flood-relief projects and replacement of the Dartmouth Road pedestrian bridge. Please sign up for our biweekly newsletter to stay up to date and provide feedback on future projects by emailing info@flossmoor.org.

This summer will see the return of numerous local events, such as Bike the Gem, Pride Night, Juneteenth, the 4th of July Children's Parade, Chamber Night with the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, National Night Out and Touch a Truck, and Back to School Night, in addition to several Flossmoor Business Association-sponsored events. Chamber Night will have a special artistic addition this year: Plein air painters situated on our sidewalks and painting scenes from our lively downtown area! Be sure to follow the Village on social media, sign up for news alerts, and visit www.flossmoor.org for more details on these exciting community events.

Economic development continues to be a focus for us. With both interest rates and the supply chain stabilizing, the climate for development is becoming more favorable, which is increasing interest in village-owned properties. We are actively working on developing eatertainment, dining and mixed-use spaces to increase our tax revenue and support Village services.

Without a doubt, our success lies in our ability to work together to support each other all year long. That spirit is especially prevalent at Flossmoor Park in the summertime during Flossmoor Baseball & Softball games. Please stop by the park to grab a walking taco or a brat at the concession stand and take in great local games. Evening games feature a wide range of entertainment that includes locally and even internationally known celebrities.

Wishing you and your family a safe and memorable summer of fun; I cannot wait to see you out and about at one of our many events. Happy birthday, Flossmoor!

