

FLOSSMOOR

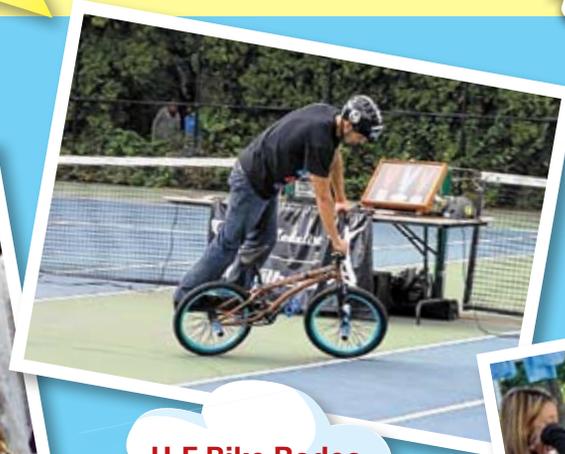
news

VOLUME 21 \ \ NUMBER 2 \ \ SUMMER 2011

**Homewood
Area Chamber
Fine Arts Fair**
June 4 & 5



Farmers Market
June 17 -
October 14



H-F Bike Rodeo
June 4



**H-F Starry Nights
Concert Series**
June 10, June 24
& July 22

**Independence Day
Children's Parade**
July 4th

Summer Fun

**Movies in
Our Parks**
July 29 &
August 18



Flossmoor Fest
September 10



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Enjoy our new **COLOR** newsletter! This enhanced publication is provided at no extra production cost.

Village OFFICIALS

Paul Braun
Mayor

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Trustee

Perry Hoag
Trustee

Philip Minga
Trustee

James Mitros
Trustee

James Wilder
Trustee

Diane Williams
Trustee

Pamela Nixon
Clerk

Bridget Wachtel
Village Manager

Village PHONE NUMBERS

Village Hall \ \ 798.2300

Fire \ \ 798.3885
non-emergency

Police \ \ 957.4500
non-emergency

TDD \ \ 647.0179

Public Works \ \ 957.4100

Building Dept. \ \ 957.4101

EMERGENCY ONLY \ \ 9.1.1

www.flossmoor.org

FLOSSMOOR NEWS

is published for residents and businesses in the Village. Please address comments to:

Office of the Village Manager
c/o Flossmoor News
2800 Flossmoor Road
Flossmoor, IL 60422

To place an ad in FLOSSMOOR NEWS please contact:

PAM STASIL
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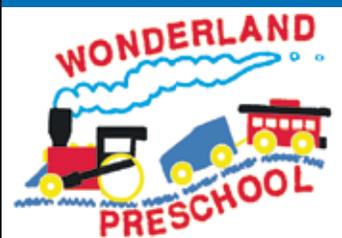
DID YOU KNOW...

Anyone planning an outdoor project that requires digging, regardless of the depth or size of the outdoor project, should call J.U.L.I.E. at 8-1-1



To place an advertisement in the Flossmoor News, please contact Pam Stasil of Lee Publications at 708-891-0744.

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DATES to know

MAY 15
Lawn Sprinkling Ban Begins (effective from 12-6p.m.)

MAY 30
Village Hall Closed for Memorial Day

JUNE 4
HF Bike Rodeo at James Hart School -Homewood

JUNE 4 & 5
Homewood Area Chamber Fine Arts Fair - Downtown Flossmoor

JUNE 17
Farmers Market Begins at Flossmoor Library (Fridays)

JUNE 18
Drivin' the Dixie

JULY 4
Children's Parade

JULY 4
Village Hall Closed for Independence Day

JULY 29
Movies In Our Parks:
Despicable Me
@ Irwin Park, Homewood (begins at dusk)

AUG 18
Movies In Our Parks:
Tangled
@ Flossmoor Park (begins at dusk)

SEPT 5
Village Hall Closed for Labor Day

SEPTEMBER 10
Flossmoor Fest/ 5k Run

SEPTEMBER 15
Lawn Sprinkling Ban Ends

OCTOBER 14
Farmers Market Ends



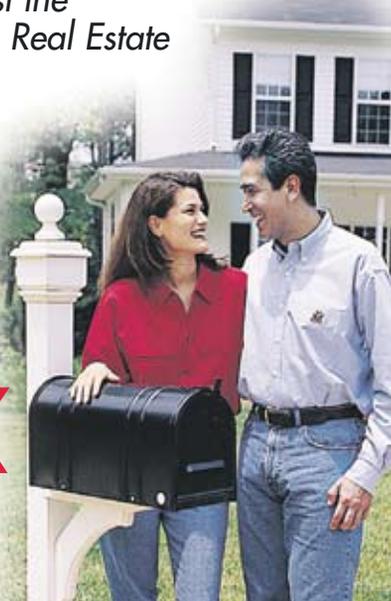
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MAYOR'S *message*

Village Budget Maintains Standards, Prepares for Future

The Village Board has approved next year's budget. During the budget review process, the Village Board and staff looked at every item in the budget to confirm that each expense is in fact necessary in order to continue the current service levels that our residents expect and are required to keep Flossmoor a great place to live, work, and raise our families.

Since the Great Recession started in 2008, several Village revenues have decreased while expenses have stayed the same or in several cases have increased. A majority of Village revenues are derived from property taxes, various funds shared with the state of Illinois including income and sales taxes, and various fees for service. In addition to a loss of revenues that are dependent upon the economy, currently, one of the greatest threats to our financial health is the instability and poor financial management by the State of Illinois. The Village's local share of sales and income taxes has also been less than expected, and as I write this, it is in danger of being further reduced or possibly eliminated as a result of the State of Illinois' attempts to reduce the State's tremendous deficit.

Because of prudent financial management and the Village Board's decision to defer many infrastructure improvements, Flossmoor has weathered the recession so far better than most communities. Going forward, the Village cannot continue to defer necessary capital infrastructure improvements, like water main replacement, into the future. As a result, the Village Board and I have directed staff to review possible new revenues and fees, financing options, and where applicable, review service delivery methods for savings.

Staff has identified a

substantial budgetary imbalance with regard to the costs associated with providing storm water management services to residents. These services include general repairs, cleaning and reconstruction, street sweeping, drainage ditch cleaning, and flood control measures, to name a few. The monies used to pay for storm water management have in the past been funded from the Village's general operating fund at a loss. Similar to the Village's approach for payment to provide potable water for residents, it is necessary that a separate fund dedicated to storm water management be created so as to provide for payment of the costs of providing this important utility for residents. The Board decided that in order to maintain the Village's long term financial stability that a storm water utility fee must be implemented to directly fund these services. This will result in an approximate increase cost to residents of about \$12.00 per month. Payment of the storm water management fee will be collected through the water bill and is based on a flat calculation of \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons of water used. Being sensitive to the effect on everyone's pocketbook, staff and the Village Board worked hard to find the least expensive way to implement the program.

Please know that new fees are not the only way that the Village is trying to maintain current service levels to residents. The Village Board, staff, and I have in the past and will continue to work hard in the future to obtain grants and other funding wherever possible. Over the past year and a half the Village has received approximately \$1 million in grants for capital improvements. Recent successes for outside funding have included \$325,000 for the automation of the water

system, \$385,000 for the street resurfacing of Flossmoor Road, \$100,000 in an energy efficiency grant for the replacement of the Village's boiler at Village Hall and \$200,000 towards the replacement of street lighting in the downtown business area.

The Village Board and I are committed to ensure that the high service levels that our residents expect are maintained and that the financial stability that Flossmoor has enjoyed continues into the future.

We welcome your questions and thoughts as we work together for our community's health and vitality. Part of that effort will include in the near future, a resident survey in order to identify residents' concerns and priorities regarding Village services and programs. The resident survey will be cost



Paul Braun
Mayor of Flossmoor

effective and will help Village staff and the Village Board make decisions going forward for Flossmoor.

I look forward to seeing you and your family this summer at one or more of Flossmoor's upcoming events. Stay well and enjoy the summer!

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If you are planning on putting up a fence, adding on to your house, building a deck or shed, or replacing your roof, it is important to contact the Village's Inspectional Services Department prior to making any changes to your property because all new construction work is subject to the Flossmoor Building Code. The Village's Inspectional Services Department may be reached by phone at 708.957.4101 or you may visit the Village website (www.flossmoor.org) to download applications.

Village Receives Highest Recognition

The Village of Flossmoor has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report. The certificate was awarded for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2010, and it's the 33rd time the Village received the award.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and the determination is made by an impartial panel to ensure that awardees prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that demonstrate the spirit of transparency and full disclosure.

According to the most recent statistics, this prestigious award places the Village in an elite company of only 4.92% of all municipal units nationwide. Further, Flossmoor is one of only 0.88% of municipalities in the United States with populations of less than 10,000 that receive the CAFR award.

Flossmoor Farmers Market Begins in June

The Flossmoor Farmers Market will open on Friday, June 17 and continue every Friday through October 14 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Flossmoor Public Library parking lot (located at 1000 Sterling Avenue).

Shopping at a farmers market is an investment in you, your family, and your community. At many farmers markets, products have traveled less than a couple hours from the farm to your neighborhood and are available to you at the peak of freshness and nutritional value. In addition, every dollar you spend at a farmers market is more likely to stay in your local economy.

Now that's a healthy investment.

Movies In Our Parks

This summer we celebrate our 7th season of Movies in Our Parks with a fun line-up of two family-friendly films. The movies are sponsored by the H-F Joint Community Relations Commission, Homewood and Flossmoor Libraries and the H-F Park District. Grab a blanket and lawn chair and enjoy the show. Boy Scout Troop 342 will provide snacks and beverages for sale. Both movies are on Fridays, and the "curtain" goes up when the sun goes down.

2011 Movie Schedule

Despicable Me

Friday, July 29 | Irwin Park in Homewood (Ridge Road and Highland)

Tangled

Friday, August 18 | Flossmoor Park (Flossmoor Road and Brassie Road)



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Fine Arts Comes to Flossmoor

June 4 & 5, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The 30th Annual Homewood Area Chamber of Commerce Fine Arts Fair will be held on Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5 in Downtown Flossmoor. The Fair will display for purchase 2-D and 3-D mediums such as photography, oils, watercolors, and charcoal sketches.



Summer Watering Restrictions

Village of Flossmoor conservation measures are in effect between May 15 and September 15. The use of sprinklers for watering lawns or turf areas is prohibited between 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. during this time. Lawn watering permits may be obtained from the Village for watering newly sodded or seeded turf in order to help the area get off to a good start. Violators of any of the above conservation regulations are subject to fines and eventual court appearance.

25th Starry Nights Concert Series

It's the 25th anniversary of Homewood-Flossmoor Park District's Starry Nights Concert Series, and the biggest stars from past shows are returning to the stage at the Marie Irwin Bandshell in Homewood's Irwin Park. The Homewood-Flossmoor Park District is proud to continue this affordable tradition of great music in a fun outdoor setting for area residents. Three shows are scheduled for this summer: the Stanley Paul Orchestra on Friday, June 10; the Buckingham's on Friday, June 24; and American English (Beatles tribute) on Friday, July 22.

Tickets can be purchased beginning Monday, May 2, by phone at 708.957.0300 or 708.957.PARK, or in person at the Goldberg Center, 3301 Flossmoor Road, or the Irwin Center, 18120 Highland Avenue. Day-of-show tickets will be an additional \$3 each.

Cruise the Dixie

Attention special interest automobile owners! The annual Drivin' the Dixie, a 45-mile tour of historic Dixie Highway, will be Saturday, June 18. The event was established to celebrate history along the road. The day begins in Blue Island with a brief orientation meeting prior to the scavenger hunt at 10:00 a.m. Pre-register by June 12, 2011 for \$15 or register on the day of the event for \$20. Presented by A's R US. For more information, visit www.drivingthedixie.com.

H-F Bike Rodeo

The H-F Bike Rodeo is a free safety bike program coordinated by Active Transportation Alliance, Flossmoor and Homewood Police Departments and the H-F Park District. Skills are judged by your local bicycle police officer; complete the entire circuit to enter into a raffle. Bicycles and helmets will be available to rent for 50 cents. Age 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, visit HFParks.com or call 708.957.0300. A special thank you to our local businesses for their support: Drew Mormann, State Farm Insurance, Good Speed, Folks on Spokes, Walts, JR's Johns, Dairy Queen, Dino Jump, and Kluger Furs.



Why Have A Block Party?

Block parties are a great opportunity for neighbors to get together in a relaxed setting. A group of neighbors can gather together to enjoy themselves within their own neighborhood. The Flossmoor Community Relations Commission encourages neighbors to throw block parties. You and your neighbors can actually increase the safety of your neighborhood just by getting to know each other.

You don't have to live in a neighborhood of single-family homes to be involved in a block party. Block parties can happen anywhere — in townhouse complexes, apartment buildings, or even in a park near a condominium.

So don't hesitate. Gather a couple of neighbors, pick a date and start a yearly neighborhood tradition. Please fill out the block party application on page 11 of this newsletter or visit www.flossmoor.org to download an application and neighborhood block party guide.


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Village Gears Up for Flossmoor Fest

Flossmoor Fest is set for Saturday, September 10, 2011, and the Village is now accepting booth registrations. Contact Dawn Lencioni at dlencioni@flossmoor.org or by phone by 708.957.4100 for a registration form. Please note that there are several requirements that must be met in order to apply for a booth.

- All participating businesses and organizations must be Flossmoor-based.
- All booths must contribute something fun and enhance the atmosphere of the Fest.
- Applications will be reviewed on a first come, first serve basis. Deadline for registration is July 29, 2011.

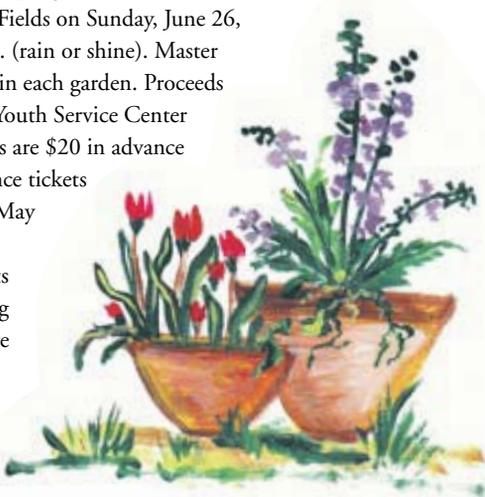
Sign Up for Flossmoor's E-Newsletter

The Village of Flossmoor now offers a free, voluntary e-mail service to anyone interested in learning more about Flossmoor's services, activities, events and updates. You decide what type of information you want to receive. You may also choose to unsubscribe at any time using a link within the e-mails. Sign up for one or more of these e-news publications today! Go to the Village website www.flossmoor.org.

Southland Community Garden Walk

Presented by the National Council of Jewish Women of South Cook

Come and visit seven unique gardens in Flossmoor, Homewood, and Olympia Fields on Sunday, June 26, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (rain or shine). Master Gardeners will be available in each garden. Proceeds will benefit Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center and Respond Now. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on that day. Advance tickets may be purchased starting May 1 at Sunnycrest Nursery in Flossmoor. "Day of" tickets will be available at Goldberg Park in Flossmoor. For more information, please contact southlandgardenwalk@gmail.com or call (708.957.3781).



Independence Day Children's Parade

Please join the Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday, July 4, at 10:00 a.m. for the annual Independence Day Children's Parade. As always, the parade is for children of all ages and everything from strollers to two-wheelers are allowed. Children decorate their bikes, trikes, or wagons and parade down Flossmoor Road to the Central Business District. Once there, the Homewood-Flossmoor High School Band will be playing, and children can ride around the downtown circle proudly displaying their decorations. Following the parade, the Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Department will be demonstrating some techniques used in emergency fire department operations and passing out free refreshments. The parade lineup is at 9:30 a.m. at Parker Jr. High School. For additional information, please contact the Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Department at 708-798-3885.

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FEST news

Help Support Flossmoor Fest

The Village's Fest Committee is planning for this year's Flossmoor Fest to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011. Flossmoor Fest continues to receive rave reviews from Flossmoor families and their friends. As in the past, we are asking for financial support from businesses and individuals to help defray the expense of the Fest so that we can continue to have top quality entertainment and activities. We are asking you to show your support for our community through a donation to help fund the Fest. Donations of \$25 or more will receive a complimentary Fest shirt and a mention in all Village communications.

Please fill out the form below and return it with your donation to the Village of Flossmoor, Fest Committee, 2800 Flossmoor Road, Flossmoor, IL 60422.

Finally, the most important support for our Fest is your presence. Please invite your family and friends to join us for another wonderful celebration in Flossmoor's downtown.

Flossmoor Fest 2011 Donation Form

YES, I/We would like to donate to Flossmoor Fest 2011. This donation is tax deductible as provided by law. Please return this form with your check by July 29, 2011 to: Village of Flossmoor, 2800 Flossmoor Rd., Flossmoor, IL 60422

\$

Donation Amount

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At Home Recycling - Dos and Don'ts

When recycling at home, it's smart to know what is recyclable, but just as important to know is what's not. Sometimes placing non-recyclables in a bin can get a whole bundle of actual recycling goods tossed, because not all facilities have the time or inclination to sort. Sorting recyclables is something you need to do at home. Following are some items you don't want to toss in your recycling bins.

NOT ACCEPTED

- Pizza boxes. The oil from pizza can contaminate cardboard boxes, making it impossible to process them into clean paper.
- Napkins and paper towels. It's not the paper goods themselves that present a problem, but the fact that they're typically used to wipe up food, cleaning products, and other "hazardous waste."
- Sticky notes. Their size, color, and the adhesive strip make them a better bet for the trash bin.
- Plastic caps. Curbside programs won't recycle them.
- Wet paper. Paper fibers that have been exposed to water are shorter and therefore less valuable to paper mills, making it unprofitable to recycle.
- Paper/Other Fibers: No carbon paper, gum/candy wrappers, waxed paper, paper cups, or paper towels.
- Plastics Containers: No plastics marked #6 (including take-out containers, Styrofoam, packing peanuts, cd/dvd covers). No film plastics (plastic bags, Saran Wrap, etc.) No plastic silverware.
- Tin and Aluminum Cans: No aerosol cans or foil.
- Glass Bottles & Jars: No flat glass, light bulbs, dinnerware, ceramics, or Pyrex.

ACCEPTED

- Paper/Other Fibers: White/colored copy paper, computer paper, glossy paper, envelopes, newspapers, telephone books, file folders, magazines, junk mail, post-it notes, paper bags and cardboard. Staples are accepted.
- Plastic Containers: Plastic containers marked #1 - #7 (excluding #6). This includes water and pop bottles, milk and juice jugs, margarine/butter tubs, yogurt cups, ketchup bottles, household cleaners, coffee creamer containers, etc. Trays from frozen meals can also be recycled as long as they are rinsed clean.
- Tin & Aluminum Cans: Empty cans including pop cans and soup cans.
- Glass Bottles & Jars: Empty clear and colored glass bottles and jars.



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Maintenance of Drainage Systems

Flossmoor has a storm drainage system composed of both open and closed segments. The open sections are drainage swales/ditches that are utilized to carry storm water away from homes to larger drainage areas, such as creeks or streams. The closed system is comprised of storm water inlets and piping which also carries the water from streets and developments to larger drainage areas.

Maintenance of these systems is very important. Debris in ditches and streams obstructs the flow of water, which can cause overflow onto roads

and into yards. Partial or complete filling in of these ditches can reduce the flood flow capacity, which will also result in overflow into roads or onto private property.

Residents are asked to perform routine maintenance on ditches located on right-of-ways, or in the front, sides or rear of their properties. This includes the removal of high weeds, branches, trees, litter, or other items which may be considered a nuisance and/or impede the flow of water. Also, property should be maintained so that water cannot become stagnant, which provides breeding areas for mosquitoes.

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How to Check if You're in a Flood Area

Flooding can be a costly problem that isn't always covered by standard homeowners' insurance policies. It can be helpful determining if your home is in an identified flood hazard area. In order to obtain this information, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided newly revised flood maps for the Flossmoor area. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) identify flood hazard areas and provide additional information, including the flood zone and base flood elevations of particular properties.

The Village of Flossmoor participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This program provides federally subsidized flood insurance to Flossmoor residents who desire or are required to carry this coverage. Cost for insurance depends on amount of coverage and the degree of the flood hazard. Continuing Village efforts to improve storm water management have resulted in a 10% premium reduction for policies purchased by Flossmoor residents.

To obtain more information on flood hazard areas, residents can call the Public Works Director's Office at 708.957.4100. Your insurance agent can provide specific information regarding the NFIP policy and how it relates to your residence. Several flooding publications have been written for homeowners. These documents are available for review at flood protection libraries set up at the Public Works Service Center and the Flossmoor Public Library. You can also visit the website at www.floodsmart.gov which is an official site for the National Flood Insurance Program. Here you will be able to learn the basics, know your flood risk, NFIP in the community, estimate your premium and find an agent.

Property Maintenance Reminder

The time of the year is upon us when all residents need to step outside and look at their homes. Ordinance Officers have been compiling a list of all properties in the Village that require maintenance. Peeling paint, roofs, fences, and dead vegetation that has accumulated on property are all issues that need to be addressed.

Also, the following are reminders of ordinances that are strictly enforced:

- Garbage containers, when not out for pickup, must be stored where they are not in view of the public.

Containers can be seen twenty-four hours prior to pickup and must be removed within twenty-four hours after pickup.

- Inoperable motor vehicles are a violation of Flossmoor ordinance. A vehicle parked on property or on the street with a flat tire is considered inoperable.

- Vegetation cannot hang over any sidewalk: there must be a 10 foot high clearance for any vegetation along sidewalks.

- Weeds are prohibited and grass exceeding 5 inches in height is a violation.

- Flossmoor also has a Village-wide ordinance prohibiting parking on Village streets for longer than five (5) hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except Saturday, Sunday and holidays unless another time limit is posted.

Step outside and start making your list of issues that need to be addressed. Do not hesitate to contact the Ordinance Officer with any questions or concerns you may have. A list of all ordinances can be found at the Flossmoor Public Library. They can be found in the Flossmoor Municipal Code, and the majority of the violations listed above can be found in Chapter 12, Sections 207 and 208. The Village of Flossmoor takes great pride in the appearance of our community. Let's all contribute!



Jonathan **KANE**

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