

FLOSSMOOR

news

VOLUME 21 \ \ NUMBER 4 \ \ WINTER 2011



Wintertfest

December 3rd ❁ Downtown Flossmoor ❁ See Schedule Inside

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Village OFFICIALS

- Paul Braun
Mayor
- James Crum
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

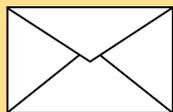
FLOSSMOOR NEWS

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
THE TIMES
MEDIA COMPANY
708/891.0744
Pamela.Stasil@nwtimes.com



Sign up for the Flossmoor electronic newsletter!

Would you like Village news delivered directly to your e-mail inbox? Then sign up for the Flossmoor E-News. The e-news provides current Village information and events bi-monthly that are of interest to residents and the business community. To join, go to www.flossmoor.org.

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

NOVEMBER 24 AND 25

Village Hall Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

JANUARY 7 AND 14

Community Holiday Tree Recycling Program

DECEMBER 3

Winterfest

JANUARY 16

Village Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

DECEMBER 23

Village Hall Closes At Noon

MARCH 1

Vehicle Stickers/ Animal Tags Sales Begin

DECEMBER 26

Village Hall Closed for Christmas Holiday

MARCH 11

Daylight Savings Time Begins

DECEMBER 30

Village Hall Closes at Noon

APRIL 16

Last Day to Purchase Vehicle Stickers/ Animal Tags Before Fee Increase

JANUARY 2

Village Hall Closed for New Year's Day

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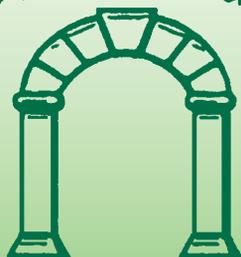
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Winterfest 2011

Celebrate The Holiday Season!
December 3, 2011
Downtown Flossmoor

Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Toys for Tots Drop Off at Coldwell Banker

1:00-2:00 p.m.
Children's Story Time at the Flossmoor Public Library
Guest Reader: Mayor Paul Braun

2:30-4:30 p.m.
Children's Holiday Party at the Flossmoor Public Library
Visit with Santa - Balloon Artists
Games - Crafts

3:00 p.m.
Hot Chocolate – Provided by the H-F Lions Club
Luminaria Sale to benefit Infant Welfare Society of Chicago

5:00 p.m.
Holiday Tree Lighting
with the H-F Vikings Choir

Sponsored by the Village of Flossmoor, Flossmoor Public Library, Flossmoor Volunteer Fire Corporation and H-F Park District

Special thank you to: Sweet Annie's Bakery, H-F High School: Vikings Choir, National Honor Society and Key Club, H-F Lions Club, Sunnycrest Greenhouse, Flossmoor Business Association, Homewood Area Chamber, and Coldwell Banker Real Estate Agency

**Shop Flossmoor
for the Holidays!**
See Page 6



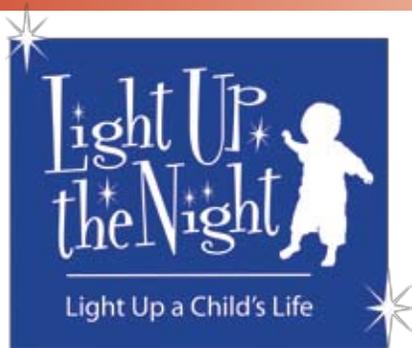
HOLIDAY happenings

Light Up the Night... Light Up a Child's Life

The Infant Welfare Society's Flossmoor Juniors are once again sponsoring a luminaria sale. Luminaria kits (includes 5 bags and candles) are on sale for \$6 and will be available at the Homewood Tree Lighting on Friday, December 2nd, and Flossmoor's Winterfest on Saturday, December 3rd. Select retail shops including Poppies, Marc Alan Day Spa, Art 4 Soul and Nathalie's Interior will also be selling kits beginning November 23rd and continuing through the month of December.

We welcome residents and businesses to support the cause and join Flossmoor Juniors in this community-wide effort in lighting luminaria together throughout the streets of Homewood and Flossmoor on the night of Friday, December 16, starting at 5:00 pm.

In addition to showing community pride and spirit, your participation will help light up a child's life. Proceeds from this event benefit the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, which provides quality, community-based healthcare to underinsured and uninsured children and women who would otherwise lack access to basic medical services.



Help Feed Families this Holiday Season

Nearly 678,000 people each year rely on emergency and supplemental food. That figure represents a significant increase over previous study years and reflects recent census trends of poverty in Cook County. Growing numbers of Cook County residents are relying on agencies for stop-gap food assistance. Once again, the Flossmoor Community Relations Commission, in partnership with Rich and Bloom Townships, is collecting non-perishable food items for neighbors in need of assistance living in either township. The residents who come to these pantries for food are often feeding a family with children.

Collection Dates: November 15 – December 3

Collection Locations: Flossmoor Village Hall and Flossmoor Public Library

Most Needed Items:

Whole Grain Cereal • Rice • Pasta • Pasta Sauce • Mac and Cheese
Peanut Butter • Jelly • Beans • Canned Meat • Stew • Soup

Re-Gift for Charity

Leave It For Love is celebrating its 9th year of giving gifts for seniors during the holidays. Leave It For Love is a unique gift recycling program in which your unused gifts are collected and distributed among less fortunate elderly residents throughout the Chicagoland area. Easy on the pocketbook, good for the environment and great for the human spirit! Visit www.leaveitforlove.org for additional information and local drop off locations.

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We are thankful for all our loyal Flossmoor customers this holiday season.

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HOLIDAY happenings



Flossmoor's Very Own Gingerbread Village

When people were thinking of summer vacations and barbecues, Flossmoor resident Janet Gustafson was already at work baking gingerbread and creating all the individual parts that would make this year's gingerbread village in her home.

For 39 years, 16 in Flossmoor, Janet, along with her husband, Kurt, have made their gingerbread villages from scratch with different themes and an accompanying short story and poem. Over the years, more than a thousand neighbors, school children, community organizations, and interested spectators have passed through the Gustafson's home every holiday season to see the amazing gingerbread creations.

In 2010, Kurt, a retired structural engineer and a Flossmoor Plan Commissioner, passed away leaving Janet to continue the tradition on her own, with assistance from family and friends. This year, in honor of Kurt's memory and his love for Flossmoor, the theme of the gingerbread village is all about Flossmoor. If you are interested in learning more about the gingerbread village and how you can visit this wonder in person, visit www.flossmoor.org.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 10
Irwin Center in Homewood
9:00-10:00 a.m. &
10:15-11:15 a.m.

Music, merriment and wishes for holiday toys will be found at this event for ages 6 and under and their parents. Bring your children to visit with Santa and enjoy doughnuts, milk and orange juice. Get in the spirit with songs, face painting and a special gift from Santa. Digital pictures with Santa are included in your fee. Note: both adults and children must register for this event. Session fee is \$6 for residents and \$9 for non-residents (ages 6 months and under free).



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 M-TH: 10:30-10 pm; FRI-SAT: 10:30-11 pm; Closed Sunday

BUSINESS *corner*

Flossmoor Business Association

The Flossmoor Business Association (FBA,) formerly known as the Downtown Flossmoor Business Association, is a group of businesses whose purpose

is to promote the awareness of our growing business district. The organization is devoted to the goal of promoting the unique business district of Flossmoor through joint advertising, marketing, and promotional events. This year, the FBA boasts thirty (plus) members including restaurants, many professional services, boutique shopping, and salon and spa services!

The Village of Flossmoor is a unique and wonderful place to live and work. A vibrant and thriving central business district adds richness and character to the entire community. The FBA is essential for the continued development of Flossmoor as one of the premier suburbs in the Chicagoland area.

For a complete list of the member business directory and special holiday offers, visit www.flossmoorbusinessassociation.com.



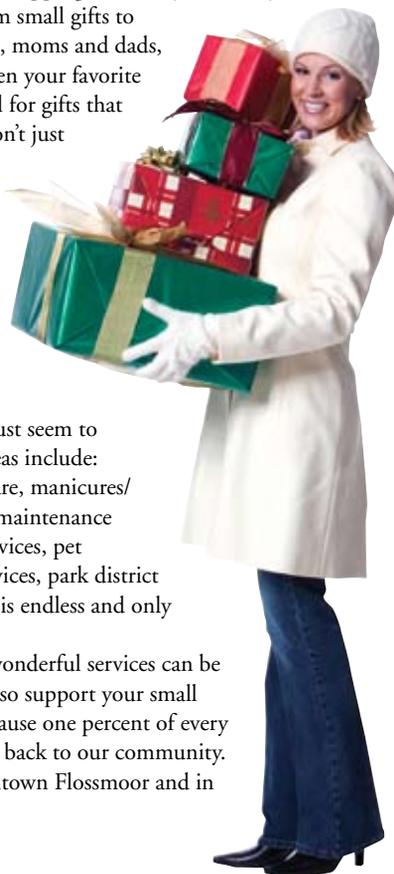
Shop Local for the Holidays

Instead of giving your money to the same chain stores and restaurants this holiday season, consider making a commitment to buy local during the busiest shopping season of the year. Conveniently located retail, service businesses and restaurants are an important component to the long-term prosperity of the community, and the Village of Flossmoor continues to seek, attract and retain high quality developments. Actually, Flossmoor has been truly fortunate to have some very well established businesses in the Village for many years.

So, if you are looking for unique shopping ideas for your family and friends, Flossmoor has it all. From small gifts to specialty items for children, teenagers, moms and dads, grandparents and seniors, and yes, even your favorite pet. Are you still shopping at the mall for gifts that neatly fit into wrapped gift boxes? Don't just limit yourself to retail shopping malls. Remember that most service businesses offer gift certificates or gift cards.

The availability of services that can be given as gifts is endless. The advantage of giving a service gift card or certificate is that they add a personal touch for that special person, especially those people who just seem to have everything. Some service gift ideas include: sweet holiday treats, massages, hair care, manicures/pedicures, cleaning services, car care/maintenance services, accounting services, legal services, pet boarding and grooming, banking services, park district activities, and travel services. The list is endless and only limited to your imagination.

Not convinced yet? All of these wonderful services can be found right here in Flossmoor. You also support your small businesses and your local Village, because one percent of every dollar you spend in Flossmoor comes back to our community. So remember, shop and dine in downtown Flossmoor and in Flossmoor Commons!



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Flossmoor Fest a Great Success

The 2011 Flossmoor Fest brought fantastic weather and Flossmoor families, neighbors and friends out once again to this annual community party. This year was extra special with Flossmoor Fest being named 2011 Best Fest by the readers of The Southtown. This year's festival added new musical talent, events, games and vendors. The Village extends a thank you to the H-F Racquet Club for a successful Flossmoor 5k run/walk. Over 160 participants ran or walked throughout the tree-lined streets of Flossmoor.

The Village Board would like to thank the Fest Committee members for their hard work in making Flossmoor Fest 2011 a terrific success: Chair Tom Fleming, Karen Hoag, Tom Tomaszewski, Laura Brennan-Levy, Amanda Pierce of the H-F Park District, Josh Levy of the H-F Racquet Club, Megan Millen of the Flossmoor Public Library and Doyle Sims of the Flossmoor Business Association.



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Accepting Brick Applications until January 3, 2012

The Flossmoor Public Art Commission cordially invites residents, organizations, and businesses to support the Flossmoor Sculpture Garden program. For a \$100 tax-deductible contribution, you will be able to purchase a personalized brick. The engraved bricks will be installed in the downtown circle located across from the train station. The exact placement of the bricks will be at the Village's discretion and will remain the sole property of the Village of Flossmoor. Deadline for applications is January 3, 2012.



ENGRAVED BRICK ORDER FORM

Please make checks payable to the Village of Flossmoor.
Complete the order form and mail with check to:
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Flossmoor, IL 60422

DONOR INFORMATION:

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ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

BRICK INFORMATION: Print the exact message that will be engraved in the brick in the boxes below. (Note: The donor information is not included unless it is placed in the message boxes.) Each line accommodates 13 characters, including blanks. Please remember to leave a blank box between words or wherever you would like a space.

<input type="text"/>													
<input type="text"/>													
<input type="text"/>													

*Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent the Internal Revenue Code allows. Since all items remain the property of the Village of Flossmoor, no goods or services are provided to the donor in exchange for a charitable donation.

Residents Can Protect Themselves and Reduce Potential Flooding

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. The cost for insurance depends on the 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 Department 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 www.floodsmart.gov, which is an official site for the National Flood Insurance Program.

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2nd Annual Tree Recycling Program

H-F Irons Oaks will once again offer free Christmas tree recycling this year. The premise behind this program is simple. It is an opportunity for residents, businesses and organizations to come together to collectively make a significant impact this holiday season. The Christmas Tree Recycling Program offers an easy, no-cost way for residents of the H-F community to repurpose their trees. This is an environmentally acceptable way to dispose of trees while at the same time benefiting a true gem of our community – Irons Oaks, which will use the mulch on trails and paths. Currently, most Christmas trees are simply collected and placed into landfills. This program is a better choice.

■ Drop-off Dates: Saturday, January 7 and Saturday, January 14, 2012

■ Times: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

■ Location: Irons Oaks – Drop off in the Vollmer lot just west of Western Avenue

■ Contact Information: Irons Oaks – 708.481.2330 or ironsoaks.com

Special thank you to Jennifer Molski and family and the Western Avenue School Green Team for their assistance.



Christmas Tree
RECYCLING PROGRAM

Electronics Landfill Ban Goes Into Effect January 1, 2012

On January 1, 2012 the following electronics will be banned from all Illinois landfills and therefore will be prohibited from being placed at curbside or in a waste container or recycling toter on your designated collection day.

Under the new law, solid waste haulers (Homewood Disposal and Skyline) are not allowed to collect and/or dispose of any of the electronics below as solid waste:

- Computers • Monitors • Printers • Laptops • Televisions • Keyboards
- Fax Machines • Recorders • MP3 Players • Video Consoles • DVD/R Players
- Computer Mouse • Scanners • Digital Converter Box • Small Servers
- Cable Satellite Receivers (**Visit flossmoor.org for a complete list.**)

The U.S. EPA estimates that about 85% of unwanted electronics are disposed in our nation's landfills. This is a huge problem because they contain toxic materials such as lead, cadmium, beryllium, mercury and other materials that eventually leach out of landfills. Recycling of electronics conserves natural resources and the considerable energy required to process and manufacture. Additionally, valuable resources, such as precious metals, copper, glass and engineered plastics are recovered. The U.S. EPA has found that recycling electronics recovers valuable materials, resulting in reduced greenhouse gas emissions, pollution reduction, energy savings, and resources conserved by extracting fewer raw materials from the earth.



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LOCAL ELECTRONICS RECYCLERS

<p>Salvation Army</p> <p>150 North Halsted Street Chicago Heights, IL 60411 708.754.4859</p> <p>Donation Drop-off Hours</p> <p>Monday - Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Habitat ReStore</p> <p>Habitat for Humanity 139 W. Joe Orr Road Chicago Heights, IL 60411 708.756.2015</p> <p>Donation Drop-off Hours</p> <p>Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p>
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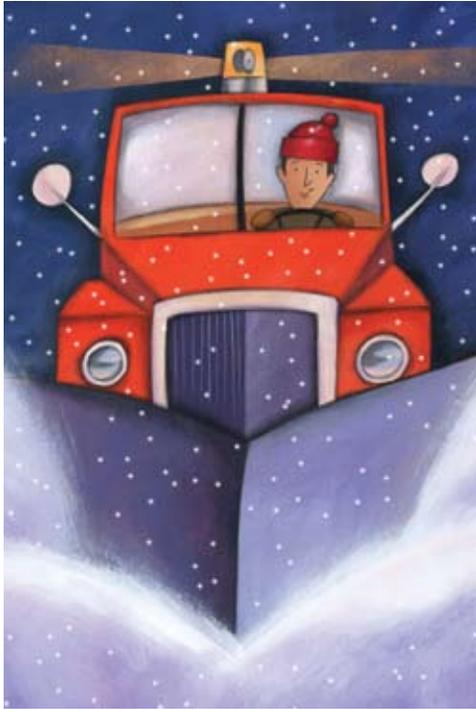
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Snow Removal Information



Despite the beautiful summer and fall, the Chicagoland area can expect more snowfall this winter than last year. The Village of Flossmoor is committed to providing safe, accessible streets during inclement weather. The policy for street salting and snow removal is below:

SALTING

Salting of streets in the Central Business District and along principal routes, key intersections, hills, and curves is conducted whenever icy or slippery conditions become

hazardous. The Village tries to balance its priority of insuring public safety with concern for the severe pollutant effects of salt on the environment.

PLOWING

Snow plowing begins when snow accumulation amounts to more than two (2) inches. Plowing continues as long as required to maintain passable roadways. Plowing priorities are as follows:

- Central Business District
- Principal arterial streets
- Collector streets and parking lots
- Local through streets
- Cul-de-sacs and alleys

RESIDENT ASSISTANCE

In order to make everyone's winter safe, enjoyable and free from unnecessary back pain, the Village offers these suggestions:

- If possible, shovel driveway aprons only after roadways are completely cleared. This will eliminate the need to shovel more than once.
- Pile all snow away from the edge of the road on the left side of the driveway as you face the house. Should the snowplow make an additional pass after you have shoveled, it will not push the same snow back into your driveway.
- Do not push snow into or across the street. This not only creates an additional hazard, but also may result in the same snow being deposited in your neighbor's driveway should the snowplow make an additional pass.
- In order to make pedestrian travel safer and easier for everyone, clear snow and ice from the walks adjacent to your property.
- Keep parked cars off the street.
- Do not forget to clear snow away from fire hydrants to permit easy access in the event of an emergency.

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HHC

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SHERI LARKS, MA CCC-A, FAAA**

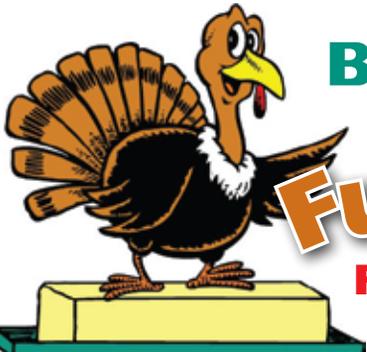
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(708) 799-5520



RACQUET & FITNESS CLUB
a facility of the homewood-flossmoor park district



Annual Butterball Burner Fun Run

Friday, Nov. 25

9 a.m. Start of Race
8 a.m. Check-in & Race Day Registration

Fee: \$12 Residents / \$15 Non-Residents (Day of Race: \$17 R/ \$20 NR)

2920 W. 183rd., Homewood, IL • (708) 799-1323
www.hfracquetandfitness.com

Preparing for Inclement Weather

Winter brings with it dangerously cold temperatures that can cause health and safety problems if you are not prepared. Follow these few simple suggestions to prepare yourself and your home for the season.

AT HOME

■ Winterize your home by insulating walls and attics, caulking and weather stripping doors and windows, and installing storm windows.

■ Insulate pipes that are located on exterior walls. During a period of severe cold, open cabinet doors below fixtures located on an exterior wall to avoid freezing. If a pipe should freeze, use a heat gun to thaw it. NEVER use a torch!

■ Keep fire extinguishers on hand and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them. House fires pose an additional risk as people turn to alternate heating sources without taking the necessary safety precautions.

■ Learn how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts.

■ Remember to check on the well being of elderly or disabled friends and neighbors.

IN YOUR CAR

■ Have your car inspected and fully winterized prior to the winter season. Pay particular attention to your vehicle's battery connection, vehicle charging system, defroster, tires, brakes, wiper blades, and belts.

■ As a general rule of thumb, during the winter months try not to go below a half tank of fuel. This prevents condensation from building up in your vehicle's fuel line and freezing, plus it ensures that you will have enough fuel to run your vehicle's heater in the event of any emergency.

■ Keep windows, mirrors, wiper blades, headlights, taillights, and license

plate areas free of snow and ice. This will ensure that you can both see and be seen.

■ Have a windshield ice scraper/snow brush.

■ Carry in your truck a shovel, sand or kitty litter, booster cables, and a flashlight. For personal protection: boots, a hat, gloves or mittens, and a blanket.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

■ Wear several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.

■ Wear mittens, which are warmer than gloves.

■ Wear a hat.

■ Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

COMMON SENSE IS THE BEST DEFENSE

■ Wear layers of warm, dry clothing including hat and gloves; wet clothing negates the insulating effect.

■ Cover exposed skin surfaces as protection from frostbite (numbness, red-white nose, chin, fingers, forehead, stiff cheeks.)

■ Be aware of hypothermia (body temperature 95 degrees or less): stiff muscles, puffy face, slowed breathing, poor physical condition, mental confusion. If these signs are recognized, call 9.1.1 immediately.

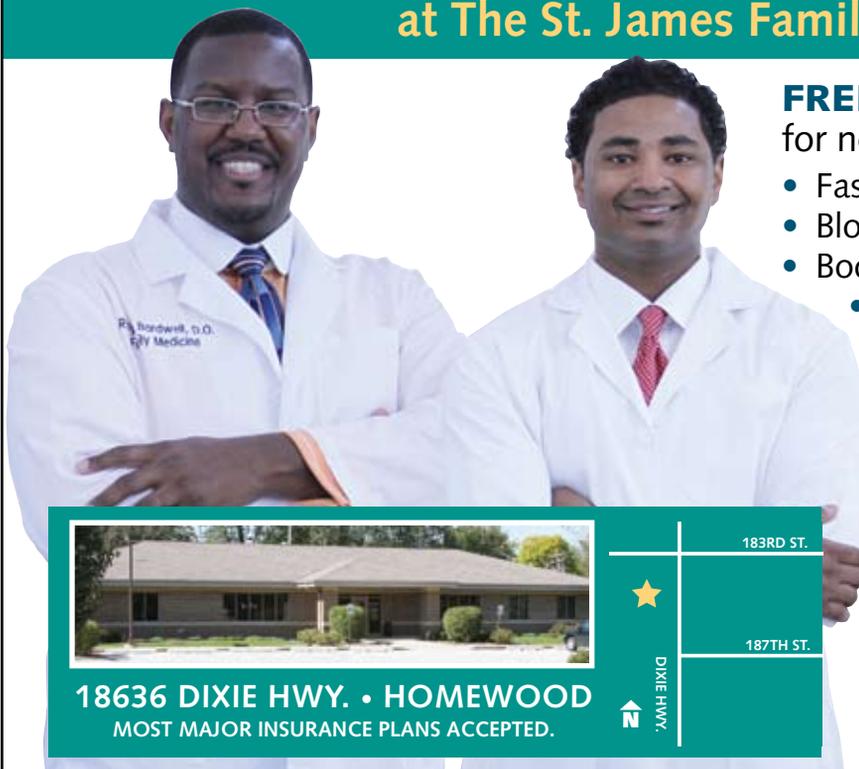
■ Drink non-alcoholic beverages such as tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and soup.

■ Maintain good nutrition and obtain plenty of rest.

■ Be aware of elderly and disabled persons living alone; offer assistance.

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