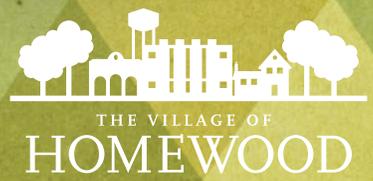


# HOMWOOD VILLAGE KEY

HOMESWEETHOMWOOD.COM | WINTER 2015



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*for Winter!*



1893

*We are a community dedicated to enhancing the lives of our residents and committed to the growth of our town.*

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Subscribe to the e-News community for bi-weekly reminders on the events and happenings around town, or visit the Village website: [homesweethomewood.com](http://homesweethomewood.com).

## NOVEMBER

**Downtown Homewood Business Association Merchant Holiday Open Houses**  
Friday, November 20 and Saturday, November 21  
Downtown Homewood  
*Contact the Downtown Homewood Business Association, [dbba.biz](http://dbba.biz)*

**Thanksgiving Holiday**  
Thursday, November 26, Friday, November 27 and Saturday, November 28  
Village Offices Closed

**Homewood Fire Department Blood Drive**  
Friday, November 27 | 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
17950 Dixie Highway

## DECEMBER

**Holiday Light in Homewood and Radiance on Ridge**  
Friday, December 4 | 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
Downtown Homewood / Irwin Park  
*Contact the Village of Homewood at (708) 798-3000*

**Foundation 153 Holiday Tree Sales**  
Friday, December 4 | 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
On Martin Avenue, during Holiday Lights

**Downtown Homewood Business Association Fashion Show at La Voûte**  
Saturday, December 5 | 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
*Contact the Downtown Homewood Business Association, [dbba.biz](http://dbba.biz)*

**Winter Begins**  
Tuesday, December 22

**Winter Holiday**  
Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25  
Village Offices Closed

**New Year's Eve Day Celebration**  
Thursday, December 31 | 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
Village Hall Auditorium, 2010 Chestnut Road  
*Contact the Village of Homewood at (708) 798-3000*

## JANUARY

**New Year's Day**  
Friday, January 1  
Village Offices Closed

**Martin Luther King Day**  
Monday, January 18  
Village Offices Closed

**St. Joseph's Winterfest**  
Saturday, January 30

**Homewood Baseball Registration**  
Saturday, January 30

**Homewood Fire Department Blood Drive**  
Saturday, January 30 | 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
17950 Dixie Highway

## FEBRUARY

**Daddy Daughter Date Night**  
Friday, February 19 | 6:30 PM and 8:30 PM  
H-F Sports Complex, 18211 Aberdeen Avenue  
*Contact the H-F Park District at (708) 957-0300*

**Homewood Baseball Registration**  
Friday, February 6

**Green Thumb Saturday**  
Friday, February 13  
Village Board Room

**President's Day**  
Monday, February 15  
Village Offices Closed

**Chocolate Fest**  
Friday, February 20 | 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
H-F Park District Auditorium  
*Contact the Village of Homewood at (708) 798-3000*

## SPRING AHEAD

**St. Joseph's Annual Fish Fry**  
begins Friday, February 12

**Foundation 153 Spring for Homewood Schools**  
Saturday, April 9

**Homewood Baseball Opening Day Parade**  
Saturday, April 16  
Ridge Road and Izaak Walton Little League Baseball Field

**Rail Days**  
Saturday, May 21  
H-F Park District Auditorium

Scan to view the Village Calendar



Scan to access the Village website



## PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTORY

Teach your children how to use **9-1-1** in an emergency

Village of Homewood (Main Number) **798-3000**

Police Emergency .....	9-1-1
Fire and Paramedic Emergency.....	9-1-1
Police Non-Emergency.....	206-3420
Fire Dept. Non-Emergency .....	206-3400
Manager's Office .....	206-3377
Public Works Dept.....	206-3470
Building Dept. ....	206-3858
Community Development .....	206-3385
After Hours Water Emergency.....	798-2131
Prop. Maint./Code Enforcement.....	206-3858
Homewood Public Library.....	798-0121
Homewood Post Office.....	798-5762
Homewood Area Chamber of Commerce .....	206-3384
Homewood-Flossmoor Park District .....	957-0300
Marie Irwin Community Center.....	957-7275
H-F Senior Activity Center.....	957-7275
Racquet and Fitness Club .....	799-1323
Ice Arena.....	957-0100
Lions Club Pool.....	799-2223
School District 153 .....	799-5661
School District 161 .....	647-7000
Homewood Flossmoor High School.....	799-3000
St. Joseph School.....	798-0467
Homewood Community Academy.....	799-6912

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Richard A. Hofeld  
Village President

Wow, has the year flown by! It's hard to believe that our Holiday Lights event is almost here. What a great time to visit our shops and restaurants, and to meet old friends and make new ones. This year, with La Banque Hotel and its restaurant, La Voûte, decorated for the Holiday season, our downtown should sparkle more than ever. We'll have more options for shopping and dining.

Some of my Holiday Lights favorite happenings are:

- The Southwest Community Concert Brass Ensemble (known by most as the Big Brass Band) will be playing on Martin Avenue just south of Ridge Road. They will honor any holiday musical requests that you may have. And so far I have never heard a request that they cannot play.
- The ice-carving that takes place

in front of the Gottschalk House. It's amazing to see a block of ice transformed into a work of art; intricately carved by the skillful use of a chainsaw.

- Next to them will be live reindeer, kids can actually view them close up or even pet them.
- The outdoor vendors along Martin Avenue, serving hot chocolate on a chilly night. Mulled wine and this year's collectable plaid-patterned mugs will also be sold.
- If you are in the market for a live Christmas tree, Foundation 153 will have a large selection available. And their staff of volunteers will even help you load it onto or into your car. All proceeds assist Homewood school programs; a very worthwhile contribution!
- At the south end of Martin, near Hickory, the A's R Us, Ford Model

A antique cars, in keeping with the evening, will be bedecked with holiday lights. The car's owners keep them in perfect condition and will be happy to explain their car's workings, especially to those younger drivers, who are only accustomed to a 2015 car's accessories.

- My favorite, however, is the window of the American Dance Center. Students dressed in ballet costumes will dance to the music of the Nutcracker. It reminds me of viewing the old Marshall Field's downtown store windows. Don't miss it, this window is exceptional. Our Holiday Lights event, the evening of Friday, December 4th, continues to extend our small town feel and brings even more families

President's Message  
*continued on page 4*



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with a new patient exam and x-rays.\*  
\*excludes periodontal treatment

Angie's list

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## President's Message

*continued from page 3*

into our downtown. And that is what our Homewood is all about: events and happenings for the whole family.

Once again, I encourage you to find the lone streetlight snowflake decoration that is different from the others. When you think you have it located, visit me at the Village Hall on a Saturday morning for your "finder's fee." Gift certificates for a cup of chili or soup at the Twisted Q Barbeque restaurant or an egg roll at Eat Rice will be available for you. My thanks to them for always being a part of the "contest."

A reminder about our indoor winter events: both will take place in the Village Hall Auditorium. Our family New Year's Eve Day

celebration will take place at 11:00 AM, with a count-down and balloon drop at the "stroke of noon". Hosted by White Castle, who will once again provide their delectable sliders. Chocolate Fest will take place on the third Saturday of February. If you have a secret, or not-so-secret recipe involving chocolate treats, do enter our bakeoff. We have a non-professional as well as professional category, so you need not be a Le Cordon Bleu or Kendall Culinary College alum to win.

We all look forward to our winter-time events: Holiday Lights, New Year's Eve Day and Chocolate Fest. They seem to bring a bit of warmth to the cold weather and make winter go by a bit faster.

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the Village Hall Board Room, 2020 Chestnut Road. Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays, as announced. The public is invited to all meetings and they may introduce appropriate items not listed on the agenda.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**  
Richard A. Hofeld

**VILLAGE CLERK**  
Maryilyn Thomas

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Trustee Anne Colton  
Trustee Barbara Dawkins  
Trustee Jay Heiferman  
Trustee Karen Washington  
Trustee Lisa Purcell  
Trustee Ray Robertson

## BOARD, COMMISSION & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Village Hall, 2020 Chestnut Road. A monthly schedule of all meetings is posted in the lobby of the Village Hall or visit the calendar online at [homesweethomewood.com](http://homesweethomewood.com)

**Appearance Commission**  
**Beautification Committee**  
**Cable TV Commission**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**Community Relations Commission**  
**Economic Development Committee**  
**Fire and Police Commission**  
**Heritage Committee**  
**Homewood Council for the Arts**  
**Homewood Rail Committee**  
**Plan Commission**  
**Police Chief's Citizens Advisory Committee**  
**Senior Advisory Committee**  
**Storm water Resource Committee**  
**Tree Committee**  
**Veterans Committee**  
**Village Board of Trustees**  
**Zone Board of Appeals**



SHOP • DINE • EXPLORE  
**HOMEWOOD**

## Shop Home Sweet Homewood

*Please join us in welcoming the following recently opened or relocated businesses in Homewood. Stop in to say hello, and don't forget to support local business by thinking Homewood first when you shop, dine, and buy!*

- S.M.A.R.T. Property Preservation  
17847 Bretz Drive
- Chicago Wholesale South  
17801 Bretz Drive
- KLT Enterprise  
1133 W. 175th Street
- Homewood Disposal Maintenance Facility  
17531 Ashland Avenue
- Serenity Marketing  
900 Ridge Road, Suite 1N
- Homelink Health Services  
17900 Dixie Highway, Suite 14
- Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1028  
17900 Dixie Highway, Suite 15
- Balloons 4 U Corporation  
17900 Dixie Highway, Suite. B
- Agape Counseling Services  
1820 Ridge Road, Suite 200
- Balance Counseling & Wellness  
17900 Dixie Highway, Suite 1
- Tozer Law Office  
1820 Ridge Road, Suite 101
- Dr. Shilpa Mailapur & Associates  
17926 Halsted Street, Suite 3NW
- American Family Insurance  
11611 Morris Avenue
- Tanysha Phillips  
2060 Ridge Road, Suite LL4
- Total Compliments by Veda  
18116 Martin Avenue
- Athletico Physical Therapy  
17751 Halsted Street
- Josephus Shepard CPA  
900 Ridge Road, Suite 3W
- Law at Last, Inc.  
2024 Hickory, Suite 102
- Portillo's Hot Dogs  
17500 Halsted Street
- Laitek, Inc.  
2024 Hickory Road, Suite 208

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**December 5th**  
**10 AM - 2 PM**

**2024 Ridge Road, Homewood, Illinois**  
**Monday-Friday: 9:30 am - 6:30pm • Saturday: 9:00am - 5:00pm**  
**Phone: (708) 922-0411 • [MarysHealthHut.org](http://MarysHealthHut.org)**

# SHOP HOME SWEET HOMEWOOD

## DHBA Launches “Unwrap Downtown Homewood” Program

Homewood has participated in the past with Shop Local/Community Auction campaigns with great success. This holiday season the Downtown Homewood Business Association (DHBA) has designed a program to jump start the shopping season with a shop DHBA campaign called “Unwrap Downtown Homewood.” DHBA Director Julie Lawton said, “This shop local campaign will prove to be a great success. We want to focus shoppers’ attention on the unique downtown Homewood businesses and encourage the community to shop and dine locally and be rewarded for shopping the DHBA businesses.”

“Unwrap Downtown Homewood” is an easy and fun program to participate in! Customers spend a large portion of their shopping budget in November and December, making this the perfect opportunity to direct those dollars to locally owned

businesses. “Unwrap Downtown Homewood” will start November 20, during the DHBA Holiday Preview, through December 24. Shoppers who spend \$300 on goods, services, or gift certificates at a minimum of three DHBA businesses are eligible to receive a gift card/certificate. January 30 is redeem your receipts day at the Indoor Farmers Market, located at the Marie Irwin Center. Be one of the first 50 eligible shoppers to have your receipts reviewed and choose an unmarked envelope with a gift card/certificate inside. Limit one per customer. Potential gift cards/certificates are from service businesses, restaurants, and shops all part of our vibrant business community. “Unwrap Downtown Homewood” is not exclusive to just Homewood residents; the program is open to everyone who shops the DHBA. Look for the “Unwrap Downtown Homewood” poster on participating businesses.

Visit the following DHBA businesses for chance to win.

- Arbor Eyecare
- Artistix Salon
- Art 4 Soul
- Art Corner
- Aurelios Pizza
- Cancer Support Center
- Civileta Gardens
- Edward Douglas
- Grady's Grille
- Homewood Florist
- Homewood Public Library
- Illinois Small Business Development Center @GSU
- Kirschner Vision Group
- Nail Savvy
- Padgett Business Services
- Ravisloe Country club
- Seattle Suttons Healthy Eating
- South Suburban Family Shelter
- Thomas Photography
- UpsaDaisy Boutique
- Village of Homewood
- Wellness Integrative Medicine
- Duos Nearly New
- Farmers Insurance
- La Banque
- La Voûte Bistro + Bar
- Melody Mart
- Natalie's Interiors
- Village Artists



### “Unwrap Downtown Homewood” Rules

Holiday Shoppers that spend a total of \$300 at any of the participating DHBA Businesses on retail products, gift certificates, or services will be eligible to choose an unmarked envelope with a \$25 gift certificate or gift card to a local service business, restaurant, or shop. Only receipts from the participating Downtown Homewood Business Association businesses will be accepted. Participating businesses can be found on marketing materials, social media, and DHBA website. Only receipts from participating Downtown Homewood Business Association businesses between the dates of November 20, 2015 through December 24, 2015 will be accepted. Holiday Shoppers will need to collect receipts from a minimum of 3 businesses totaling a minimum of \$300 collectively. A minimum of \$25 must be spent at each participating business for receipt to be included in total (before tax and gratuity). Receipts will be reviewed on January 30 at the Indoor Farmers Market, held at the Marie Irwin Center, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Gift cards/gift certificates will be in an unmarked envelope for the first 50 holiday shoppers that submit receipts on January 30. The unmarked envelope will have a gift card/certificate inside. There will be no indication on the envelope as to which gift card or certificate will be inside the envelope. Gift card/certificate only good while supplies last, one submission per person. Participants need not be a resident of Homewood. Must be 18 years or older to participate. Eligible receipts must be originals with an imprint of date, business name, address, and dollar amount (before tax and gratuity). Participants will have highlighted on their receipt the store name, date of purchase, and before amount. All receipts will be returned immediately after tallying has been completed. All participants must be present.



## LA BANQUE HOTEL

Your new hotel has exciting plans for the upcoming holidays. We would love to help you make those festivities memorable events for all.

La Banque's staff looks forward to welcoming your out-of-town guests over the holidays. Or why don't you treat yourself, stay with us and leave the housekeeping and cooking to us? Reserve Soon!

## LA VOÛTE BISTRO-BAR

### THANKSGIVING

We at La Voûte are thankful for the support we are getting from the entire community. We look forward to cooking our first Thanksgiving meal for you – we might add a little extra butter, a real French touch. Bring your family, friends, and loved ones and be thankful with us.

Chefs Dominique and Thomas are planning an extensive buffet. Upon arrival each guest will feast on Pumpkin soup and a petite salad before heading over to our extensive buffet which includes two decadent carving stations and all of the traditional Thanksgiving fare. Be sure to save room for the rich and luscious Desserts.

2-7PM ADULTS \$39.95 CHILDREN \$19.95

### CHRISTMAS EVE

La Voûte will offer a special a la carte menu reflecting both French and American traditions between the hours of 5 and 9 pm.

### CHRISTMAS DAY

La Voûte's Chefs are already planning a special a la carte menu for Christmas perfect for the whole family. It will be served between the hours of 11am and 4pm. There will be a Continental breakfast for hotel guests from 7am to 9:30am.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

The early celebration will start at 5pm with the last reservations at 7pm. You will have a choice of 3 appetizers, 3 entrees, and 3 desserts. They will all be the best La Voûte has to offer. Every adult will be treated to a champagne cocktail.

ADULTS \$75.00 BUSINESS ATTIRE

The New Year's Eve Ball will start at 9pm. There will be live music and dancing in the hotel lobby. You will be treated to passed hors d'oeuvres and an extensive buffet with carving stations. Open bars will be serving wine, selected cocktails and beer. Champagne will flow during the countdown to the New Year.

ADULTS ONLY \$130.00 BUSINESS ATTIRE

***Make your reservations soon!  
Please note that prices are before taxes and gratuity***



# LA BANQUE

HOTEL

2034 Ridge Road | Homewood, IL 60430  
708.798.6000 | Labanquehotel.com



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Indoor Farmers Market

Cold temperatures and snowy weather send many farmers markets into hibernation for the winter, but not in Homewood. Back for the second season, the Homewood Indoor Farmers Market will take place on the last of Saturday of each month January-April at the Marie Irwin Center, 18120 Highland Avenue. Shop at the booths of many of your favorite vendors from the summer market and get to know new vendors that will be joining the market for the first time. With a wide variety of vendors at the indoor market, you are sure to find just what you are looking for. Vendors

from the popular Homewood Hunt & Gather Market will be joining the indoor market for the first time, selling handcrafted items and collectibles for you and your home. Make sure to visit the market for soup, gumbo, cheesecake, veggie burgers, homemade granola bars, kettle corn, olive oils, pasta sauces, cheeses, pies, bread, chocolate, hydroponics, micro greens, plants, organic body products and more. And find out what's happening in town by talking with the many community groups at the market. The market will be open 9:00 AM to Noon with plenty of parking.

## Send Letters to Our Troops

Send a little "Home Sweet Homewood" to our troops. For many years Suzie's Hallmark has been sending letters to the troops and will be doing it again this holiday season. Stop by Suzie's Hallmark and send a sweet note to a soldier. Fred Sierzega, from Suzie's Hallmark, and his team started collecting non-perishable items in November for the USO to give to returning troops. Suzie's Hallmark will supply a list of items needed for donation and will accept items until Christmas. For more information, contact Suzie's Hallmark at (708) 799-2810.

Looking for something special



to do as a family this holiday season?

Consider adopting a soldier with Adopt A US Soldier, a non-profit organization that seeks volunteers to help show the brave men and women fighting for our freedom that their sacrifices will not go unnoticed. It connects civilians with deployed troops and offers a way to express gratitude to those brave men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces. For more information on Adopt a Soldier visit [adoptaussoldier.org](http://adoptaussoldier.org).



**SUZIE'S HALLMARK SHOP**  
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**We are donating cards and accepting non-perishable items for our Troops deployed overseas. Stop in to fill out a card and/or donate an item, and we will send it out for you!**

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Downtown Homewood  
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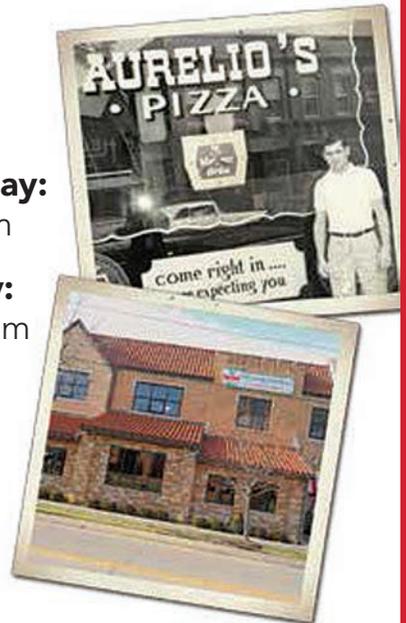
OPEN FOR LUNCH DAILY.

### HOURS:

**Monday – Thursday:**  
11:30 am – 9:30 pm

**Friday – Saturday:**  
11:30 am – 10:30 pm

**Sunday:**  
11:30 am – 9 pm



**HOMEWOOD**  
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Homewood, IL 60430

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# WINTER HAPPENINGS

## November

### TEE UP @ THE LIBRARY

November 21  
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Grades 7-12  
Homewood Library  
17917 Dixie Highway

Celebrate National Game Day by playing the miniature golf course set up through the library. Registration required.

### 3-ON-3 TURKEY SHOOTOUT

Saturday, November 28  
8:00 AM to 8:00 PM  
H-F Sports Complex  
18200 Aberdeen

Put together your best team and come out and compete in this 3 on 3 basketball tournament for great prizes! Half court games will be played up to 15 points. Format will be a round robin into a single elimination tournament with the top teams receiving prizes! Maximum of 4 participants per roster; League placement is based on your oldest team member. Team Fee: \$100 R / \$150 NR

## December

### LIGHT-UP HOLIDAY GREETING CARDS

Thursday, December 3  
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, All Ages  
Homewood Library  
17917 Dixie Highway

Come to the Digital Media Lab and learn how to make your own blinking robot greeting card. Registration required.

### FREE! HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Friday, December 4  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
Irwin Park & Downtown Homewood

*Sponsored by the Village of Homewood, Homewood Fire Department, Homewood-Flossmoor Park District, Homewood Lions Club and the Downtown Homewood Business Association*

Holiday Lights has become a treasured event in Homewood, capturing the joy, excitement and traditions of the season in one memorable evening! Welcome the holidays as we turn on the lights at this annual ceremony. Enjoy music, hot chocolate and a bonfire while awaiting the arrival of Santa. Give Santa your wish list at the Irwin Park Gazebo. After the tree lighting ceremony, enjoy

more festivities in downtown Homewood with the Christkindl Market. The holiday market will have live reindeer, delicious desserts, holiday tree sales, hot chocolate, mulled wine and ice sculpting demonstrations on Martin Avenue. Travel on the festive trolleys, making stops in downtown Homewood. Come out early before kicking off your Holiday Lights evening with a holiday sing-a-long inside the Irwin Center! The HF Piano Academy students will provide the music, just bring your voice and join us in bringing some holiday cheer! Singing will start at 5:45 PM.

### FOUNDATION 153 HOLIDAY TREE SALES

Friday, December 4  
3:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
On Martin Avenue,  
during Holiday Lights

Don't miss your chance to purchase a premium fresh holiday tree. Foundation 153 will provide convenient drive-through pick-up and loading during Homewood's Holiday Lights, on December 4. Choose a tree during Holiday Lights and when you are ready to go home, pull-up and have the tree loaded on your vehicle by our volunteers. Or come early! Foundation 153 will be on-site from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

### CELEBRATION OF ST. NICHOLAS

Friday, December 4  
5:45 PM  
Parish of St. Joseph  
17951 Dixie Highway

Join the St. Joseph Children's Choir as they sing holiday songs at 5:45 PM, the prelude to the celebration of Saint Nicholas at 6:00 PM. Following the celebration, a trolley will take you to Irwin Park for a tree lighting ceremony.

### HOLIDAY GIFT EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, December 5  
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Irons Oaks Western Avenue Lot  
20000 Western Ave, Olympia Fields

Get all of your local and unique holiday shopping completed in one place while supporting the Irons Oaks Foundation. We'll have homemade jewelry, purses, treats, pottery, pastas and more. Also some of the most popular consultants, including Scentsy, Tastefully Simple and many more. Raffle prizes and light refreshments will be served.



Children's activities are available for ages 2-12 while parents concentrate on their holiday list. Can't attend? Stop by the Irons Oaks office to purchase your raffle tickets in advance.

### A NIGHT OF FRANK SINATRA

Wednesday, December 9  
7:00 PM  
Homewood Library  
17917 Dixie Highway

Homewood Historical Society will host an evening of the wonderful songs Frank Sinatra. Singer Peter Oprisko will sing the classic songs of "Ol' Blue Eyes." Registration required. Please call (708) 798-0121 ext 278.

### MOTHER & SON DATE NIGHT

Saturday, December 12  
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
H-F Sports Complex  
18200 Aberdeen

The Homewood-Flossmoor Park District is hosting a special night just for moms and their sons. No need to get all dressed up, it's a pajama party! The night will start off with a delicious holiday themed buffet that is sure to satisfy everyone's appetite. Moms and Sons are encouraged to wear their most comfortable pair of pajamas, bring cozy blankets, sleeping bags and pillows so they can snuggle up and watch a holiday classic film. Then we will treat you to a movie on a 12-foot screen along with your favorite salty movie snacks. This event is sure to create some memories that will last a lifetime! Participation is limited so please register early. Registration Deadline: December 4. Sponsored by: State Farm and Heiferman's AAA Rental. Fee: \$25 R / \$38 NR. \$12 R / \$18 NR (additional son).

### FINALS CAFÉ

Homewood Library  
17917 Dixie Highway  
Monday, December 14 and  
Tuesday, December 15  
7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

End of the year is a time for students to prepare for their final exams. High

School students can cram for finals at the Homewood Library at Finals Café, tutors will be available. Must show school ID.

### HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG

Homewood Library  
17917 Dixie Highway  
Saturday, December 19  
1:30 PM, All Ages

Come in from the cold and warm up with hot chocolate all while singing holiday favorite songs.

### CHRISTMAS SKATING EXHIBITION

Sunday, December 21  
1:00 PM  
H-F Ice Arena  
777 Kedzie Avenue

Take a few hours away from holiday preparations and come celebrate the holiday season with us! Enjoy a variety of holiday music while watching competitive skaters of all ages and levels perform. A very special guest will be joining us immediately following the show. Can you guess who he is? Admission \$3.00.

### SKATE WITH SANTA

Sunday, December 21  
H-F Ice Arena  
777 Kedzie Ave  
2:30 PM

Enjoy a special opportunity to take the ice with Santa Claus, just moments before Christmas! Bring along the kids and a camera to capture these holiday memories during this popular annual event. Admission: \$6, Skate Rental: \$4

## January

### STORY LAUNCH

Homewood Library  
17917 Dixie Highway  
Saturday, January 9  
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Homewood Public Library is pleased to enter the world of storytelling by offering programs for youth, teen, and adults.

### EXPLORE THE POUR

Friday, January 15  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
The Clubhouse at Dolphin Lake  
2700 W. 183rd Street

Beer Here! Vendors from all across the state are coming to Homewood-Flossmoor to give you the opportunity

to sample some of their most delicious beers. Each vendor/ brewery will give their presentation of individual beers they brought, while you sip back and enjoy. No pun intended! Need something to snack on between tastings? Wiley's grill has got that covered too! Wait, there's more: each participant will receive a raffle ticket upon entry that could win a variety of door prizes that will leave all the neighbors jealous. Please register fast because tickets are limited and this event will fill up faster than your glass. Registration Deadline: Friday, January 8. Event Sponsors: Wiley's Grill featuring the following breweries: Blue Island Brewery, Brickstone, Flossmoor Station, Hail Storm, Lagunitas, One Trick Pony, Revolution and more! Fee: \$20 R / \$30 NR

**FREE! CELEBRATION OF WINTER**

Saturday, January 23  
3:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
Coyote Run Golf Course and Wiley's Grill  
800 Kedzie, Flossmoor  
*Sponsored by Lisa Grant Orthodontics*

Get your snow pants out and come join us for a fun Saturday in the snow with your community! Enjoy cross country skiing, snow hayrides, making S'mores with the family, snowman building, with food and drink specials throughout the event. This event truly has something for everyone! Please note that some activities are weather dependent. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Cross Country Skiing, Hayrides, S'more around the Fire Pit, Kool-Aide Snow Spraying, Snowman Building (Bring your own supplies) 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Karaoke at Wiley's Grill with Interactive DJ Greg Carter

**ST. JOSEPH WINTER PICNIC**

Saturday, January 30  
4:00 PM to 10:00 PM  
St. Joseph Parish Gym

After the tree is down and we wait for Super Bowl Sunday, St. Joe's will host their annual community event. St. Joe's invites the town to catch up with friends and neighbors after the busy holidays with a one-of-a-kind community gathering—an indoor winter picnic! The evening will be filled with summer fare, live entertainment, cake walk, and entertainment for kids. St. Joe's has served the Homewood community for over a century, providing fellowship through more than 28 ministries. Visit

us at [posjhomewood.org](http://posjhomewood.org) or find on Facebook, 'St. Joseph School Homewood'

**ART CLASS WITH A WINE GLASS**

Thursday,  
February 18  
7:00 PM  
The Clubhouse at Dolphin Lake  
2700 W. 183rd Street

With this class, you will enjoy step by step painting instruction with our artist, Christine Molenhouse. No experience is necessary as this class is a great method to explore your creative side but also a great time to make some lasting memories! Fee includes: canvas, brushes, paint, aprons and your first class of wine brought to you by Wiley's Grill. Registration Deadline: February 12 at 5:00 PM. Fee: \$50 R / \$75 NR

**ANNUAL CHOCOLATE FEST**

Saturday, February 20  
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
H-F Park District Auditorium  
2010 Chestnut Road  
*Sponsored by the Homewood Community Relations Commission*

Sample and purchase scrumptious chocolate creations from renowned chocolatiers as they offer the latest and most decadent recipes. The Community Relations Commission will host its annual bake-off contest. This year, the open tasting will benefit a local not-for-profit. Bake-off applications will be available at Village Hall or online in January. Enjoy demonstrations from professional dessert chefs, and delicious activities for the entire family.

**SWEETHEART DANCE**

Friday, February 19  
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, Ages 4-8  
8:30 PM to 10:00 PM, Ages 9-13  
H-F Sports Complex  
18200 Aberdeen

Girls grab your favorite guy (dad, grandfather, uncle, etc). This event is packed with dancing, pictures, crafts, snacks and a keepsake to take home. Digital pictures will be available at [hfparks.com](http://hfparks.com) following the dance. If you have girls that are different ages, they can attend the same dance. Having dinner before the dance? Check out the special menu at Wiley's! They will be doing something special for all of the sweethearts attending the dance. Fee: \$20 R / \$30 NR. \$10 R / \$15 NR (Extra Child)

**Holiday Fashion Show**

Saturday, December 5  
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
La Voûte Bistro  
located inside La Banque Hotel  
2034 Ridge Road



It is that time of year when weekends are filled with holiday parties and you need something other than the "Little Black Dress." The boutique shops from the Downtown Homewood Business Associations (DHBA) will host a breakfast fashion show at La Voûte Bistro. On Saturday, December 5 view the latest trends in holiday fashions and enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet at La Voûte. Models will stroll between tables wearing festive clothes and accessories from local DHBA boutiques. Like what you see at the fashion show? After the show, purchase your favorite piece at participating boutiques.

Make your reservation today by calling La Voûte Bistro at (708) 798-6000. For more fashion show information call (708) 799-7640.

**New Year's Eve Day Celebration**

Thursday, December 31  
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
H-F Park District  
2010 Chestnut Road

*Sponsored by*



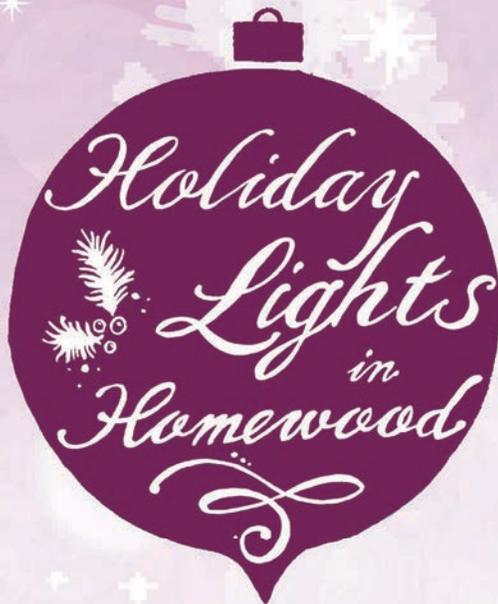
The world may tune in to Times Square (NYC) at midnight, but in Homewood, families gather for a count down and balloon drop at the stroke of noon – on Thursday, December 31. Join the Community Relations Commission as they welcome back to Homewood the Chicago Boyz Acrobatic Team. Their performance includes amazing acrobatic stunts and tricks inside twirling jump ropes, catapulting off mini trampolines and thundering tumbling routines with impeccable timing. Doors open at 10:30 AM, so don't be late! Seating is limited. The fun does not stop after the balloons drop; take your New Years Eve picture in a photo booth and enjoy sliders from White Castle!

**Holiday Yard Card**

Now through Saturday, December 5  
Paint Sessions:  
Thursday and Fridays 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Saturdays 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
18022 Dixie Highway



Join several community members in continuing the yard card tradition and spreading holiday cheer throughout H-F! Re-create your favorite holiday card, or paint your own masterpiece on a 4' x 5' board to display in your yard. Come prepared to trace and paint, and leave the mess with us. Guidance from the Holiday Yard Instructor, Teri Cann, and project supplies are included (light package and stakes must be purchased separately). Register early! Fee: \$98/New Card; \$30/2-Hr. Touch up of existing card. To register or for more info, call (708) 957-PARK or visit [hfparks.com](http://hfparks.com).



**ANNUAL CELEBRATION BOASTS  
UNIQUE SHOPPING AND  
SPECTACULAR TREE-LIGHTING**

Experience the festivity of the season at the annual Holiday Lights in Homewood celebration featuring a tree lighting ceremony, outdoor marketplace, and unique shopping opportunities on December 4 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Enjoy shopping downtown Homewood at our local shops. It will be a great opportunity to purchase that unique one-of-a-kind item that you can't find at a mall.

Holiday Lights begins on Friday, when visitors can capture the joy, excitement, and traditions of the season in one memorable evening. Kicking off at Irwin Park with the annual tree lighting ceremony at 7:00 PM, participants can enjoy the splendor of the holiday tree, warm their hands by the bonfire and then welcome Santa on his traditional fire engine arrival. There is an exciting countdown for Santa to flip the switch to illuminate the tree with thousands of lights. Children can also share their wish list with Santa in this classic community event.

Visitors are then  
welcome

Special thanks to our sponsors

**CHEVROLET**   
*of Homewood*

**KIRSCHNER**  
*VISION SOURCE™*

**Friday, December 4  
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

to stroll down Ridge Road to the Martin Avenue festivities. While walking, capture the holiday spirit by viewing the magical ballerinas dancing in the windows of American Dance Center. Musical trolleys will also travel through downtown Homewood to visit the outdoor market or simply take a tour around town to shop. Riders can hop on and off as merchants are open late serving up holiday goodies and offering generous discounts on unique gifts found only in the Downtown Homewood business district. Visitors should keep an eye out for the Open flags fluttering outside stores to signify participating businesses. Trolley rides are free.

On Martin Avenue there will be fun family activities. Visitors can shop the outdoor market, take pictures next to live reindeer, sample festive desserts, hot chocolate and mulled wine and hear traditional holiday music performed by Dr. Kirschner's brass band. Attendees also will witness an exciting ice sculpting demonstration by Nadeau's Ice Sculptures – Chicago's premier ice carving company (demonstrations begin at 7:15 PM). A variety of holiday-themed shapes will take form from blocks of ice in this dynamic display. Finally, adding to the full experience of the evening, Foundation 153, a fundraising non-profit for School District 153, will sell premium-grade Fraser Firs and garlands from

Michigan with easy pick-up and loading assistance. Sales will begin as early as 3:00 PM on Friday, December 4.

Holiday Lights  
in Homewood



**HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN  
HOMEWOOD  
DECEMBER 4**

- TREE LIGHTING
- VISITS WITH SANTA
- MUSICAL TROLLEY RIDES
- LIVE ICE CARVINGS
- REAL REINDEER PETTING ZOO
- ANTIQUE CAR PARADE
- CHRISTMAS TREE SALES
- OUTDOOR MARKET VENDORS
- HOLIDAY WINDOW WALKING TOUR
- HOLIDAY BRASS BAND

on December 4 is sponsored by the Village of Homewood, Homewood-Flossmoor Park District, Homewood-Flossmoor Lions Club, Homewood Fire Department, and members of the Downtown Homewood Business Association.

**HOLIDAY SOUVENIR MUG**

Look for the 2015 Holiday Lights souvenir mug. The 2015 mug will be available while supplies last. Purchase a mug by itself or with warm mulled wine in it.

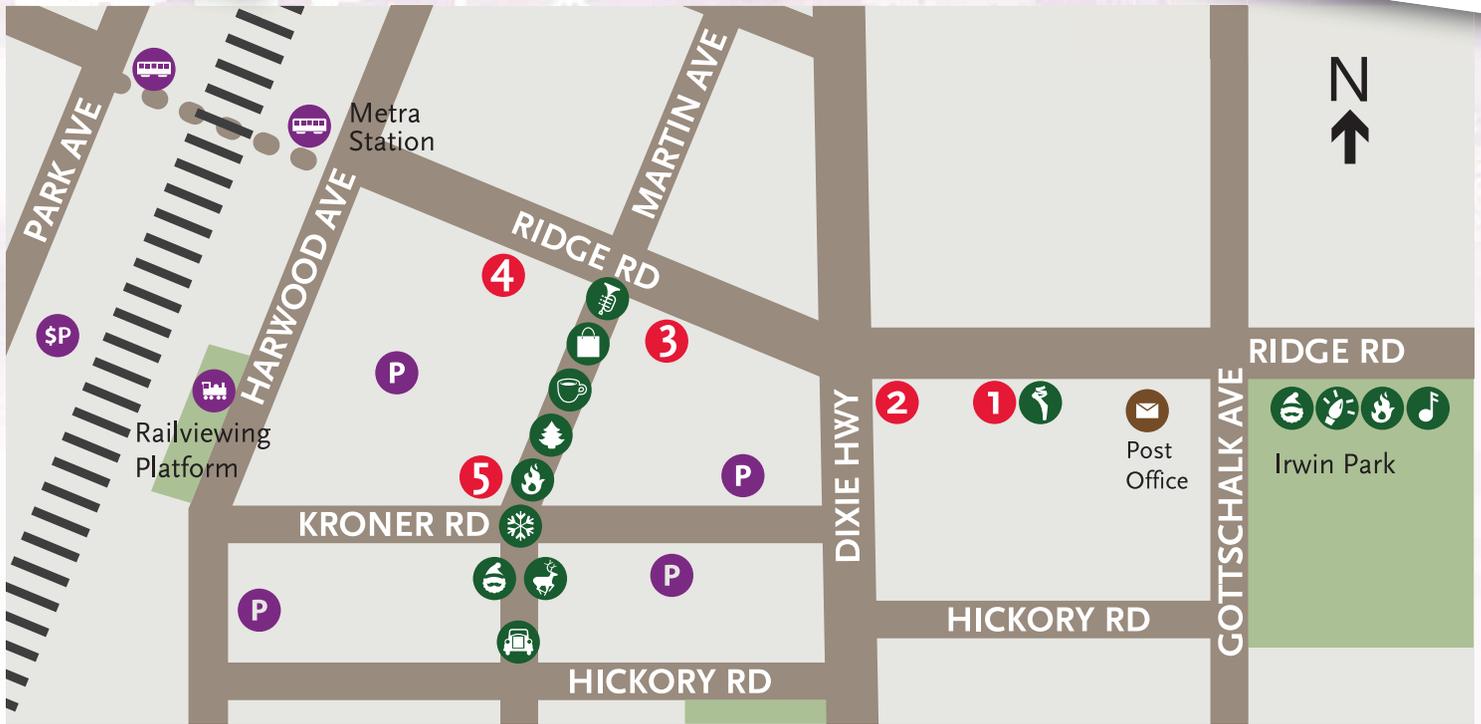
**MARTIN AVENUE  
HOLIDAY LIGHTS MARKET**

In addition to the festive activities on Martin Ave, visit the Martin Avenue Holiday Lights Market. Purchase from vendors delicious sweets and festive goodies to keep you warm!

The Community Relations Commission will be selling the 2015 Holiday Lights souvenir mug, with or without mulled wine.

The Homewood Woman's Club will sell pies and cookies at Holiday Lights and sell tickets for items that can be picked up at their sponsor. The Homewood Women's Club promotes the welfare of the community through philanthropic community activities.





Homewood-Flossmoor High School Choir will be selling tasty, sweet candied almonds. The Choir is raising money for their performing European tour spring 2016.

The Cottage will be selling their warm, festive cider and spicy mixed nuts.

From Mother Wilma's Marshmallow Factory, enjoy decadent flavored marshmallows and s'mores made with quality ingredients and warm up with their scrumptious hot chocolate. And many more!

**HOLIDAY WINDOW WALKING TOUR**

While shopping downtown Homewood, tour the Holiday Winter Windows. Margot Hallahan, window display designer, has once again created festive windows. This year the windows follow Robert Frost's poem, Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening. Each window will tell the story of the admiration of a snowy, winter woods. All windows are marked with a number for easy viewing, starting on Ridge Road and with the complete poem at 18102 Martin Avenue.

**HOLIDAY LIGHT MAP LEGEND**

- MARKET VENDORS
- BRASS BAND
- MUG SALES
- TREE SALES
- BONFIRE
- ICE SCULPTURES
- SANTA
- REINDEER
- ANTIQUE CARS
- TREE LIGHTING
- CAROLING
- AMERICAN DANCE BALLET
- WALKING TOUR WINDOWS
- PUBLIC PARKING



# FINANCE & MANAGER'S OFFICE NEWS

## Monthly Water Bills Are Here!

The Village of Homewood has transitioned from quarterly water billing to monthly water billing. Water bills will be mailed the 1st of each month and due on the 20th of each month.

Payments can be made in a number of ways:

- Enroll in Direct Debit (ask for an application today!)
- Placed in the drop box outside the Village Hall
- Online at HomeSweetHomewood.com, click "Pay Your Water Bill Online" icon
- Mailed in with the envelope provided
- At the counter located on the first floor of Village Hall

## Water Billing Snow Birds

Residents who "fly south" during the cold season should contact the water billing clerk for two reasons: 1) so the Village can expect low water use, avoiding an estimated bill, and 2) so they can request their next bill be mailed to their winter address. If a change of a winter billing address is requested, please remember to call and have it changed back to the service address upon your return to the Village. For more information contact Paulette Wysocki at (708) 206-3365.

## Plan to be out of Town for the Winter?

If you expect to be away from your home through next April, you may submit a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Village Hall so that your vehicle sticker application can be mailed to you. Please be sure to include your Homewood address with your request. We must have your request by February 1, 2016.



Vehicle sticker applications are not forwarded by the Post Office. For those residents who have given the post office a temporary address during the winter/spring months, please contact Floyd at (708) 206-3366 for forwarding instructions. Applications returned by the Post Office marked "Temporarily Away" will be held at Village Hall if a forwarding envelope was not submitted.

## Going to Chicago for the Day?

The Village Hall parking lot at Chestnut Road and Harwood Avenue may have 1 to 5 parking spaces available for rent on most business days. The Village also offers 2 parking spaces for seniors who periodically need to travel to Chicago. Daily rental is \$2.00 and senior spaces are available for Homewood residents only.

## Homewood Science Center Update

This past year, the Homewood Science Center Project Team and Advisory Board have worked with the Exploratorium to create an Experience Plan for The Center, temporarily named the Homewood Art & Science Studio. The Experience Plan utilizes the existing building and space with options of expansion in the future as programs and needs grow.



The Experience Plan complements the Homewood Science Center's program framework, which is the intersection of temporal activities, spaces, exhibits, and the people who bring them to life. Visitors to the Center can expect to be delighted by the space, exhibits, and programs. Exhibits of varying scale will provide a landscape of opportunities to interact with ideas, materials, phenomena, and other people. Workshops and programs that nurture creativity, exploration, and problem solving will activities the space



## ROTATING/ PROTOTYPE GALLERY

The Rotating/Prototype Gallery support the strategies of engaging the creative community and deeply involving them with this science center, as well as providing a significant space where an ever-changing array of exhibits, experiences, art installations, and creations can be presented. These exhibits will be developed and built by the science center in conjunction with area artists, tech people, and other creative individuals of all ages. Sample exhibits might include a large series of tape tunnels, an ever-evolving cardboard box city,



things that spin, robots, cars and trucks, train engineering, balls, sand sculpting, or a bubble festival. The exhibits may last a few weeks or six months. During transitional periods visitors can be invited into part of the gallery to help build or test the exhibits. This space can also host periodic national traveling exhibits.

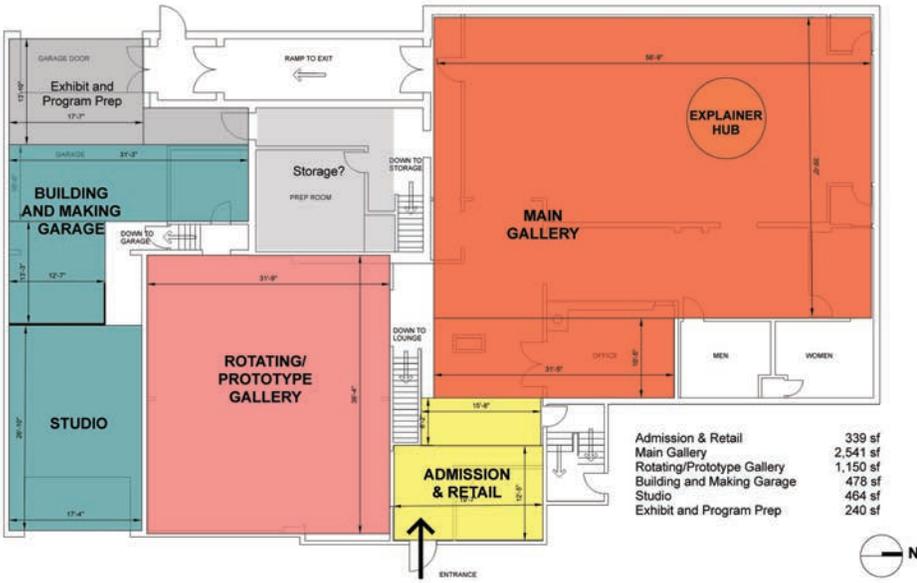
The Building and Making Garage is adjacent to the Exhibit Prep space and with access to a garage door to the outside. Access to the two labs is through the rotating gallery and down a ramp. Total public space is about 5,000 sf.



## IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION MARCH 15, 2016

12/16/15	First day to apply for a mail ballot
2/16/16	Last day to register to vote
2/17/16 to 3/14/16	Grace Period registration and voting
2/29/16 to 3/14/16	Early Voting
3/10/16	Last day to request a mail ballot, including military and overseas voters
3/15/16	Election Day

### HOMEWOOD SCIENCE CENTER SPACE PLAN



The large room on the north side of the building with higher ceilings fits the Main Exhibit Gallery, with the Rotating Gallery in the second largest room. The Main exhibit Gallery will have the welcoming feel of a living room, where visitors can sample different topics as well as sit down and deeply engage in an activity of their choice with others or their own. The two Labs will be located in the former garage area, accessible through the Rotating/Prototype Gallery. Exhibits will be chosen that:

- Engage students, children, and parents
- Develop creativity
- Foster collaboration
- Explore Science phenomenon that relate to the surrounding Lab areas (technology, science and art, and life)

on weekdays, weekends, and evenings. Programs that emphasize the connections between science and art will support people in

developing 21st-century skills and will support connections to the school curriculum.

- Main Exhibits Gallery

- Rotating/Prototype Gallery
- Explainer Hub
- Life Lab
- Building & Making Garage

- Digital Media Lab
- Atelier
- Workshop
- Outdoor Exhibits

#### LABS

Through the Rotating/Prototype Gallery are two Lab spaces each with an in-depth focus as well as opportunities for longer engagement. These Labs can also serve as spaces for reserved group experiences. For example, during a Make Festival, special activities or guest Makers will be the focus in the labs, or they may be used for a scout program or for camps.

The Lab spaces will be places for greater facilitation by both staff and community members. They encourage community members to contribute to the center by



sharing their profession or passion or by creating exhibits or program experiences for visitors.

#### LAB I: BUILDING AND MAKING GARAGE

The focus of this area will be on technology and engineering. This hybrid space can be open for public making activities, and used by community makers, for events and activities, and by staff to build and create new exhibits and events. For visitors, there will be carefully designed, very open-ended material-rich exploration that supports inquiry and problem solving. A key

component of the space will be an array of tools – some available all of the time and others, like glue guns, 3D printers, and soldering irons that can be used with staff and volunteer supervision. This space will also house digital technology activities, such as making animated movies, stop-action photography, electronic wearables, robots, and other projects by using or taking apart technology.

#### LAB II: STUDIO

While art and science will be



blended in many of the exhibits and lab experiences, this space will use art and typical art materials as a starting place for exploration. The focus will be on things such as materials, color, and mixing colors, as well as art projects that kids as well as adults may not always have access to such as printmaking, ceramics, or stained glass work. Some of the projects visitors may keep and take home, although the focus will be on the intersection of science, art, and technology and the creative process, and less on the end product.

## Dental Implants: A Special Consumer Awareness Seminar

Discover The Secret To Smiling More Confidently



- ✓ Does your smile embarrass you?
- ✓ Do you have missing teeth or ill-fitting dentures?
- ✓ Do you seriously desire to chew comfortably?
- ✓ Would you like to look 10 years younger?

Monday November 16 at 5:30 p.m.

Call 708.794.4241 NOW – Space Limited

Seating Is Limited to 17 | No Obligation | Refreshments Will Be Served

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FlossmoorDental.com



**Bill Frank**  
Agent / Owner / Grandpa  
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Homewood, IL 60430  
(708)206-1234  
bfrank@travel-brokers.com

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Dr. Paul Kirschner • Dr. Ken Kirschner • Dr. Lisa Wilson  
Dr. Sasha Murphy • Dr. Genine Graff

# PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Department of Public Works  
17755 South Ashland Avenue  
206-3470

## Homewood Works Together Providing Holiday Cheer for Children

12 Years ago, Lisa Syren with the Village of Homewood and Lynn Calhoun, Social Worker with Homewood School District, teamed up to start the Homewood Giving Tree. It started as a small grassroots project, helping just a few families that came to the attention of the school. Once teamed up with the Village, the project took on a life of its own and we are now able to help 25 families. Teachers at the schools, community members, Village employees and local businesses all come together to make sure all wishes are granted. The “wishes” are hung on mittens on the Giving Tree located at the Homewood Village Hall. Mittens



are hung in the teacher lounges at each school as well. The gifts are dropped off at the Homewood Public Works Department or to the school social workers at each building, and then distributed to the families prior to Christmas. This year the tree will go up the week of November 16, in the lobby of the Village Hall.

## Snow Plowing Operations

Snow and ice control is considered emergency work in that pavement must be cleared anytime of the day or night. Variables such as the rate and accumulation of snowfall, moisture content, temperature, time of day or night, wind direction and velocity and duration all interact to make each storm unique. The responsibility for providing snow and ice control for the Village of Homewood’s 65 miles of streets, 118 cul-de-sacs/alleys, 5 public parking lots and Central Business District sidewalks, rests with the Department of Public Works. The goal of the Public Works Department is to make streets safe and accessible during and after a storm.

The first priority is the main streets, as these streets carry the most traffic throughout the Village. The following are listed as Main Streets: Governors Highway, Dixie Highway, Kedzie Avenue, Harwood Avenue, Ridge Road,

Riegel Road, Holbrook Road, 175th Street, 183rd Street and 187th Street. The second priority is our Secondary Streets. This group of streets carries less traffic than the mains and consists of a much larger group of streets including most residential and some commercial developments. These streets will be plowed curb-to-curb and salted in one direction down the center of the street. This group also includes salting around Village-owned buildings and parking lots. The third priority is cul-de-sacs, alleys and dead-ends, as these streets carry the least amount of traffic.

### SNOW PARKING RESTRICTION REMINDER

Residents are reminded that parking restrictions shall be in effect for the entire village during any snowfall that accumulates 2" or more. Cars must be moved off of the street until the street has been cleared of snow.



### IMMEDIATE CARE

Care that keeps you on the go.



### EMERGENCY ROOM

Wait from home, not the ER.



### DOCTOR'S OFFICE

A doctor is waiting to see you.

## The doctor is waiting to see you. Schedule appointments online for the quickest access possible.

**Click to schedule a doctor visit.** Ingalls now offers the convenience of online appointment scheduling with many of the physicians on our medical staff. Just choose the desired time and office location from our list of participating physicians and nurse practitioners, and click. [Ingalls.org/InQuicker](http://Ingalls.org/InQuicker)

**Avoid the ER waiting room.** Ingalls online scheduling shows the next available opening at Ingalls emergency facilities so you can be seen as quickly as possible, or at a time that works with your schedule. Either way, you'll be waiting in the comfort of your own home instead of the ER. [Ingalls.org/InQuicker](http://Ingalls.org/InQuicker)

**Call for help finding a doctor.** Do you need help choosing a primary care doctor or specialist for ongoing care? **Ingalls CareConnection** will help you find the perfect match. An operator is available 24/7 to help you get connected to the right doctor, right now. [708.915.CARE \(2273\)](tel:708.915.CARE)



Flossmoor • Tinley Park • Calumet City  
Harvey • Matteson • Crestwood



## PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

### Alert!!! IRS Tax Scam is An On-Going Threat

Residents are warned to be on alert for phone calls impersonating the IRS. An aggressive and sophisticated phone scam targeting taxpayers, including recent immigrants, has been making the rounds throughout the country.

If you receive a call and answer it here's what happens: Callers claim to be employees of the IRS, but are not. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. They may know a lot about their targets, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling.

Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting.

Or, victims may be told they have a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information.

If the phone isn't answered, the scammers will leave an "urgent" callback request. A voice mail message stating "This call is officially a final notice from IRS and the reason is to inform you that IRS is filing a lawsuit against you. To get more information about this case file call (202) 864-1122".

Note that the IRS will never:

- 1) call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill;
- 2) demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe;
- 3) require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card;
- 4) ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone; or
- 5) threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

**WARNING: There have been recent residents in Homewood who have become victims!! Don't fall for it! Also pay careful attention and be on guard against scammers during the upcoming holidays.**

### Candles—A Beautiful, Dangerous Accessory

We all have candles in our home. They light our dinner tables, provide fragrance, create mood lighting in other areas of our living spaces and sometimes we use them to provide light when we are without power. As beautiful and helpful as candles might be, they are also a real source of fire danger in the home. National Fire Protection Association reports that in an average year more than 10,500 home fires are caused by candles, 115 deaths, and about \$418 million in property damage.

There is an alternative to traditional live flame candles — battery operated ones. The battery operated candles on the market today are not the window candles of the past. The new battery operated candles come in all shapes and sizes and can be controlled by remote control. Many battery candles have built in timers which turn them on and off at pre-set times. The light source in these candles is generally LED, so they won't heat up as old-fashioned electric bulb candle used to. As a bonus, LED lights burn longer than an electric light and the batteries to

run a new battery operated candle will last a long time.

If you must use real candles, be sure to follow the following tips:

- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 18 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down—put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

### Could You Use a Little Help With Holiday Gift Ideas?

The holidays are fast approaching and you may be stumped for gift ideas for family and friends. Why not give the gift of safety? A gift of safety is a great way to say you really care.

Some items to consider:

Flashlight—everyone can use an extra one. Having one which is hand cranked means never being without power.

NOAA weather radio—Midwest weather is unpredictable during most seasons of the year. Keep loved ones informed about possible severe weather conditions.

Road rescue kit—important for any driver on your list. For a stocking stuffer, try a car escape tool. The two basic functions of the tool are to cut a seat belt and to break a car window.

Fully stocked first-aid kit—perfect for home, office or college dorm room.

Gift certificate for a chimney sweep—for homeowners of a house with a wood burning fireplace or gas fireplace. Fireplaces which are not properly maintained from year to year run a much higher risk of experiencing a chimney fire.

Chimney sweeps come in, check your fireplace, its flue and chimney for possible problems and remove the build-up of creosote or carbon. Creosote is a highly combustible flaky, crusty tar-like substance that builds up in a chimney and should be removed once a year. "A Village Sweeps," a Homewood business, says the cost of a gas fireplace cleaning runs about \$100 and a wood burning fireplace about \$150.

And then, of course, there are the fire safety stand-by gifts of fire extinguishers and smoke/CO detectors. Not very exciting,

but these are really important to have in a home, office or college dorm room. New homeowners or newlyweds may not have taken the time or gone to the expense to have acquired these items. They would make a particularly thoughtful gift for those two groups. There is a great website, [preparednessmama.com/fire-safety-gifts/](http://preparednessmama.com/fire-safety-gifts/), that has some cute, funny gift tags for these items.

If you decide to give a fire extinguisher as a gift, stop by the Homewood Fire Department and we will provide you with a brochure about how to properly use it.



## Black Friday Blood Drive

The Homewood Fire Department Black Friday Blood Drive is scheduled for Friday, November 27 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Homewood Fire Station on Dixie Highway. Appointments to donate blood can be made by going to [lifesource.org](http://lifesource.org) or by calling 1-877-LIFESOURCE. Walk-ins are always welcome.

## A Hidden Hazard of Winter

Sadly winter is upon us and that means our houses will be closed against the cold and snow. Closed houses mean an increased risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide, also known as CO, is called the “Invisible Killer” because it’s a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. More than 150 people in the United States die every year from accidental nonfire-related CO poisoning.

Everyone in the family should know the symptoms of CO poisoning and what to do about it. The Consumer Product Safety Commission says that because CO is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to the

human senses, people may not know that they are being exposed. The initial symptoms of low to moderate CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include: headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. High level CO poisoning results in progressively more severe symptoms, such as: mental confusion, vomiting, loss of muscular coordination, loss of consciousness, and possibly death

If you believe you have a CO emergency, exit the house immediately, do not open doors or windows and call 9-1-1. Firefighters will ventilate the building when they arrive.

## Alarm Registration

All alarms, burglar and fire, must be registered annually with the police department. The annual registration fee is \$20.00 for a single family residence and \$35.00 for commercial and multi-family locations. Alarm registration must be renewed annually by January 1. Registration forms are available 24 hours a day at the Homewood Police Department, or online at [homesweethomewood.com](http://homesweethomewood.com). If your alarm system is already registered you will receive a renewal notice in the mail during the month of November for the upcoming year. Registration is not required for medical alert alarms.



## Time to Check your Furnace for the Winter

According to FEMA, heating is second only to cooking as the leading culprit of residential fires in the fall and winter months. The good news? The percentage of heating-related fires is on the decline, dramatically down from about 30 years ago when a surge in the use of space heaters and natural wood stoves (due to the energy shortage and environmental concerns) caused a spike in the nation’s heating-related fires.

### How can you help prevent heating-related fires?

Generally speaking, there are three leading factors in ignition: operational error, misuse of heating equipment and mechanical failure. For starters, before the first hard freeze hits, it’s a good idea to fire up your furnace (no pun intended) and make sure everything’s running smoothly. Pick a mild day when you can open the windows and air out that musty odor that emanates from a furnace that’s been idle for the summer months.

With furnace fires, something as simple as a ball of lint trapped in the heating ducts can start trouble. Thus, routine maintenance—at least yearly—is key. Have a professional cleaning service check your ductwork for any obstructions or buildup; they have professional-grade vacuum equipment that ensures a thorough cleaning. It’s also recommended to schedule an annual house call for your furnace (especially if it’s an older model) by an HVAC professional, who will perform a careful inspection and make sure everything is up to code.

### Furnace 101: Don’t be caught unfiltered

Do-it-yourselfers, here’s a recurring item to add to your honey-do list: Stock up on properly sized furnace filters and change them often! It’s a small task that can make a big difference in safety, not to mention the health of your family and friends—especially allergy sufferers—by providing improved air quality. On average,

it’s suggested that furnace filters should be changed every three to four months.

Here are a few more tips to consider while trying to stay toasty:

- Remove all flammable materials and chemicals from the area surrounding your furnace
- Be aware of changes in the air, such as an unusual odor, that may indicate your furnace is on the fritz
- Newer furnaces have a hot-surface ignition system which is safer than old pilot-light systems; however, even newer models should be regularly maintained for safety
- If your home is heated by a hot-water radiator, bleed the valves by opening them slightly; close them when water appears
- Consider swapping out your old system for a programmable thermostat for energy and cost savings
- Be sure to have at least one working carbon monoxide detector in your home

## Here is a Unique Gift Idea

As the holidays approach, most of us have at least one person on our gift list for which we just can’t think of a great gift. Here is a suggestion. Make a donation in their name to the Homewood Emergency Medical Fund.

The Emergency Medical fund is used to help support the cost of putting a new ambulance in service or to provide new, state-of-the-art equipment for the existing ambulances. Recently the EMF purchased two hydraulic cots and supplied funds for two 12-lead cardiac monitors.

To make a donation to the Emergency Medical Fund, send your donation to the Homewood Fire Department—marked Emergency Medical Fund. Include your name, your address, the name of the person in whose name you are making the donation, and their address. We’ll take care of the rest.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Dixie Highway Centennial Awards

The effort by the Village of Homewood's Heritage Committee to promote the Dixie Highway as an important historic route is gaining statewide recognition during the 100th anniversary of the highway. The Illinois State Historical Society is acknowledging the road with a Centennial Award Certificate, the first highway so recognized in the state and signed by Governor Bruce Rauner. The Chicago Southland and Convention and Visitors Bureau presented an "Award of Merit to Drivin' the Dixie for your tireless efforts in promoting the Historic Dixie Highway throughout the Chicago Southland and in recognition of the Dixie Highway's 100th Anniversary" at their annual meeting. Governor Rauner was the keynote speaker. Heritage Committee chair, Elaine Egdorf, accepted the award. Robert Lucas and Martin Monahan are members of the committee. The Drivin' the Dixie is an annual cooperative auto tour by the towns of Blue Island, Posen, Markham, Hazel Crest, Homewood, Flossmoor, Chicago Heights, Steger, Crete,



Beecher, Grant Park and Mokence, The A's R Us Model A Ford Car Club of America and the Tri Town Radio Amateur Club for 14 years. In celebration of the Dixie's Centennial, large signs are being posted in the Dixie towns featuring the history of the road and the towns along the road with photos and a national map of the highway. The signs were donated with proceeds of the Drive. Homewood's Dixie Highway sign is located in Independence Park at Hickory Road and Dixie Highway next to the Illinois State Historical Marker for Dixie Highway.

## Chicago Southland Visitors Bureau Awards



Chicago Southland Visitors Bureau awarded the Tourism Award of Merit to Drivin the Dixie for their dedication in promoting activities in the 12 municipalities along the Dixie Highway and for their involvement in the Centennial Celebration. Pictured left to right, Greg Lochow, Elaine Egdorf and Robert Lucas.



Chicago Southland Visitors Bureau awarded Dr. Claude Gendreau, owner of La Banque Hotel and La Voûte Bistro + Bar, the Aldo DeAngelis Leadership Award for his outstanding leadership and vision.

## 6th Annual Christmas Tree and Holiday Lights Recycling Program

Mark your calendars for the 6th Annual Christmas Tree and Holiday Lights Recycling Program. The Community Christmas Tree drop off date is Saturday, January 2, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Irons Oaks Vollmer Road parking lot. Our volunteers make it easy for you to drive in and assist in grabbing your tree from your vehicle and adding it to our pile. In most cases you don't even need to exit your vehicle. Join us for refreshments and a warm fire as we ring in the New Year!

Alternatively, for your convenience we are pleased to



announce that trees can be dropped off any time at Irons Oaks Vollmer Road parking lot between the dates of Saturday, December 26, 2015 - Monday, January 18, 2016. Please note that all Christmas trees must be completely bare and free of any ornaments, plastic bags, lights, tinsel, and wire. Trees should be placed on the pile with the trunks facing Vollmer Road. No wreaths or garland (with wire or plastic) can be accepted.

Holiday Lights may be dropped off for recycling anytime between Monday, November 23 and Monday, January 18, 2016 at any



of the following locations:

- Flossmoor Village Hall
- HF Ice Arena
- HF Racquet Club
- Irons Oaks
- Irwin Center
- Wiley's Grill

For additional information please visit our website at [hfchristmastreerecycling.com](http://hfchristmastreerecycling.com)



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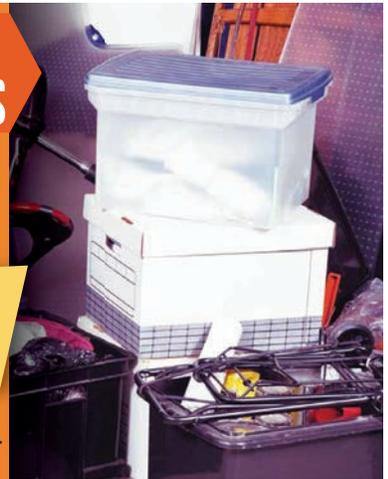
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