

# HAWTHORN WOODS HAPPENINGS



Winter  
—  
2019-2020  
Issue 4



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## Enjoy the Parks All Year Round

Did You Know...

Did you know that all the Village parks are open all year round? Even if there is snow on the ground our residents can continue to visit and enjoy the Village parks no matter the weather. All Village parks are open at sunrise and close at sunset. Go for a walk or head to a playground with family for outdoor play no matter the time of the year.



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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Upcoming Public Meetings

### December 2019

#### January 2020

Environmental Committee Meeting	Thursday, Jan. 2, 7:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Planning, Building & Zoning Commission Meeting	Tuesday, Jan. 14, 6:30 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Business Continuity Work Group	Thursday, Jan 16, 10:00 a.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Village Board of Trustees Meeting	Monday, Jan 27, 7:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Planning, Building & Zoning Commission Meeting	Tuesday, Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn

#### February 2020

Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, Feb. 10, 6:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Planning Building & Zoning Commission Meeting	Tuesday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Police Commissioners Board Meeting	Wednesday, Feb. 12, 3:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Police Department
Board of Trustees of the Police Pension	Thursday, Feb. 18, 1:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Village Board of Trustees Meeting	Monday, Feb. 24, 7:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Planning, Building & Zoning Commission Meeting	Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6:30 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
Hawthorn Woods in Bloom Meeting	Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn

## Upcoming Special Events

<b>Hometown Holiday</b> Santa Lights the Village Tree	Saturday, December 7, 2019 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Community Park
<b>Movie in the Barn</b> <i>The Grinch</i>	Friday, December 13, 2019 Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show starts at 7:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn
<b>Sweetheart Barn Dance</b> (Children ages 3-12; Registration & fee required)	Saturday, February 8, 2020 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Village Hall - Barn

Please visit [www.vhw.org](http://www.vhw.org) for calendar updates.



# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

From Mayor Joseph Mancino

Dear Neighbors,

As the end of the calendar year draws to a close, we turn our thoughts to the holidays and would like to express our appreciation to the community this Thanksgiving and holiday season.

Many of you know that this summer we hosted the America in Bloom judges as part of a national hometown competition that evaluates communities based off of several criteria including urban forestry, community vitality and engagement, environmental initiatives, cultural heritage, and overall impression. The judges reviewed our budget, our ordinances, and visited our places of business, houses of worship, and our residential neighborhoods. They inspected our legislative resolutions, met with the Village officials, and toured our community for several days.

This year, we were awarded the America in Bloom first place National Champion Award, the only community in our population category to win the award in the United States. We received more points from the list of hundreds of criteria than other tourist and resort towns who were finalists in California, Mississippi, and Ohio. Hawthorn Woods won the overall Best Landscaped Areas award. We also won Best in the Nation for our Environmental Efforts over any other city, large or small, in America. We are thankful to all of you, especially this Thanksgiving Season, for your investment of volunteer time and pride of ownership in Hawthorn Woods. Collectively, we have showcased our hometown on a national stage, and we were not only recognized for our accomplishments, but we have been awarded as the model community across the country by America in Bloom. Thank you, Hawthorn Woods Businesses and Residents!



Mayor Mancino and COO Pam Newton displaying the Best Landscaped Areas Award.

We are also Thankful that the residents of Hawthorn Woods helped defeat the Route 53 Tollway that was under study to proceed directly through our town with a major highway that would have had a permanent impact to our beautiful community. Instead, we are working to utilize that right of way corridor through our neighborhoods as a greenway corridor, and we are working with various state officials to propose a collaborative effort to ensure an environmental reuse of the right of way property.

We have much to celebrate and show our appreciation as the winter holidays draw near. As we look ahead to 2020, our community will plan to be counted in the U.S. Census, present a referendum question to the Hawthorn Woods electorate regarding the funding of our street maintenance program, and once again be awarded as one of the safest cities in Illinois.

From all of our officials at the Village, we wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday season!

Warmest personal regards,

*Joe*

# Snow Plow Know How

During the winter season, the Village performs snow and ice removal operations on village owned streets. The Village's Public Works Department offers the following information to help ensure snowplow operations are accomplished in a safe and effective manner:

- Obstructions in the Village right-of-way are not allowed. Placement of obstacles such as rocks, boulders, trees, shrubs, monument columns and monument mailboxes that inhibit snowplowing and vehicular traffic movement or that prohibit maintenance of the right-of-way or obstruct vision are prohibited in the Village right-of-way.
- Depositing snow to streets creates a hazard and is very dangerous after it freezes. When removing snow from private property, please avoid shoveling snow onto or across village streets or sidewalks.
- Parking is prohibited on any street during snowfall events. On-street vehicles impede the ability to clear the street of snow.

Please use the following guidelines to report hazardous road conditions such as ice, over two inches of snow accumulation, or drift over roads:

- Any hour of the day, visit our website ([www.vhw.org](http://www.vhw.org)) and use the Report a Concern function to send a message directly to our Public Works department regarding road conditions.
- Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., please call (847) 540-5227 to report any concerns regarding road conditions.

The Village acts with great care during snow and ice events. However, snow removal efforts may result in damage to right of ways, parkways, and mailboxes. When a properly installed mailbox is damaged during Village snow plow operations, the mailbox will be repaired or replaced with a standard issue mailbox as soon as possible. Please be sure your mailbox is located according to U.S. Postal regulations, as box placement too close to the roadway may result in damage. Thank you, be safe, and we'll see you out and about this Winter!



# Streets Referendum Update

Hawthorn Woods Paves the Way is moving forward in 2020. Our infrastructure is aging, with an independent engineering study finding that 90% of the Village's streets urgently need either resurfacing or reconstruction. Over the next 20 years, all the Village's streets will need either resurfacing or reconstruction.

Since the fall of 2017, the Village has worked closely with the community to "Pave the Way" for the future of our Village. We are so proud of how our Village came together, showing why Hawthorn Woods continues to win awards as one of the best places to live in the United States. Over 1,000 residents participated in this collaboration. The Village Board will be moving forward to consider a referendum question in the upcoming election in March of 2020. The electorate will determine if the Village proceeds with the Streets Program.

The proposed plan is sustainable, which is necessary because the repair and maintenance of streets never ends. Failing to properly maintain streets leads to those streets deteriorating faster and needing reconstruction rather than resurfacing, which costs three times more. Unlike the unsustainable infrastructure plan implemented 15 years ago using SSA's, which was based on a one-time revenue source, our new plan is a long-term solution that uses a permanent funding mechanism to proactively maintain our streets long into the future.

The plan is also fiscally responsible, because while we are all willing to invest in our hometown, we must be certain that our tax dollars are being used wisely. The Village has proven its commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility, getting our Village's finances on solid footing and balancing the budget. Our infrastructure plan follows that same path, implementing the most economic, cost-effective solution. We are moving quickly, because each year we delay the start of the plan, the overall cost increases approximately \$1 million as more streets reach the end of their lifespan. Additionally, the plan will save taxpayers \$13.5 million in interest over the next 20 years.

Finally, the plan is comprehensive, covering all streets under the Village's control. The previous infrastructure plan was established to fix only a portion of the streets in the Village. Our current plan covers all our streets, ensuring that all our residents see the benefits as we invest in our hometown.

# Upcoming Senior Gatherings

Our Hawthorn Woods senior group gathers for a luncheon the second Wednesday of each month from Noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Barn at Village Hall. Each month a different speaker is featured. Attendance is always free and newcomers are always welcome. Enjoy good friends, good food, and memorable moments.



## Upcoming Gatherings

- December 11, 2019 at Noon - Village Barn
- January 8, 2020 at Noon - Village Barn
- February 12, 2020 at Noon - Village Barn

# The 2020 Census Is Coming!

Mark your calendars – April 1, 2020 is Census Day. Postcards regarding the 2020 decennial count will be mailed to residents by the US Census Bureau late February 2020. If you are interested in being a census taker during the upcoming census, please apply online at [www.2020census.gov/jobs](http://www.2020census.gov/jobs) or call (855) JOB-2020.

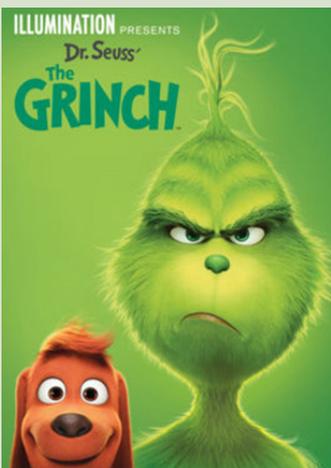
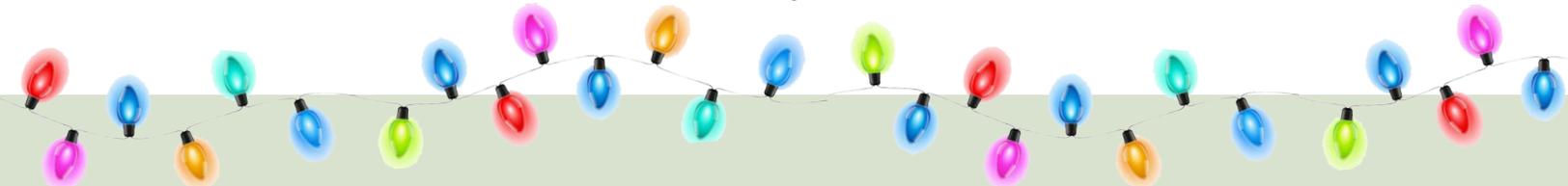


Usher in the holiday season with our Hawthorn Woods community at our annual Hometown Holiday event. Children can visit with Santa in our North Pole tent, and families can enjoy wagon rides! Bring your Toys for Tots donation to give to children in need this holiday. With the sound of holiday carols in the background, we will end the evening by lighting our community tree to officially start the Hawthorn Woods holiday season. Attractions include: Visits with Santa, wagon rides, an inflatable obstacle course, mini train rides, games and more! Visit [www.vhw.org/HometownHoliday](http://www.vhw.org/HometownHoliday) for complete details.

**Bring your Toys for Tots donation to the Hometown Holiday event!**



The Village of Hawthorn Woods collects new, unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots program. These toys are distributed as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. Please join the effort and help those in need by bringing your donation to the Hometown Holiday event, or the collection box at Village Hall.



## Movie in the Barn

Friday, December 13

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Show starts at 7:00 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

Start off the holiday season with The Grinch! Join us at 6:30 p.m. for a craft and settle in for the feature presentation at 7:00 p.m. Holiday pajamas are encouraged. Everyone will receive one free bag of popcorn at this event. This movie is rated PG for viewing audiences.

# Sweetheart Family Barn Dance

Saturday, February 8

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn



Young children ages 3-12 can have a date night with their mom, dad, or grandparents! Spend a sweet night out together dancing the night away in our rustic community barn. Light appetizers, desserts, and refreshments will be available. Our DJ will play your favorite songs and lead fun games. Formal attire is suggested. All children are encouraged to wear their favorite dress, princess gown, tie, or bow tie. Pre-registration is required for all attendees.

## Fees & Registration:

\$35 Res/\$50 Non-Res per couple | Code: 2680

\$10 Res/\$20 Non-Res per additional child | Code: 2681

Resident only registration through January 10, 2020; Registration closes February 2

Min: 30 couples; Max: 120 people

## Parks & Recreation Brochure

### Winter/Spring 2020 Programs and Events

See what is happening this upcoming winter and spring in Hawthorn Woods by viewing the Parks and Recreation seasonal happenings brochure. The e-brochure will be available in early December. It features programs for all ages and a variety of events for the family to enjoy together. View the 2020 Winter/Spring brochure online at [www.vhw.org/ParksAndRecreation](http://www.vhw.org/ParksAndRecreation).



## Women's Self Defense

Mondays & Tuesdays, Feb. 10 - Feb. 18

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

Learn to defend yourself with confidence in this interactive program which provides training in recognizing dangerous situations, and techniques for defending against attacks. The Hawthorn Woods Police Department proudly educates women in our community to defend themselves in an unforeseen and potentially dangerous situation.



Fees: \$20/res; \$25/non-res

Code: 2679



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Community Development:  
(847) 847-3586

Public Works:  
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Recreation:  
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## Village Board

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### Trustee Jayne Kosik

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### Trustee Steve Riess

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## Village Vehicle Stickers and Dog Tags Expiring Soon

Your current vehicle sticker(s) will expire January 31, 2020. You will receive your renewal form in the mail the first week of January. Per Village Code, stickers must be displayed by January 31. Failure to purchase new stickers and/or dog tags will subject you to a penalty.



The Village of Hawthorn Woods offers residents three convenient ways to renew their vehicle stickers and dog tags during the month of January. Payment for renewals can be made in-person at Village Hall, by mail, or by phone. Senior rates are available for residents 65 years of age or older. To qualify for a senior rate, a copy of each driver's license is required. Watch for the applications in the mail the first week of January.

If you have any questions, or if you need to update any of your information at this time, please call either Amy at (847) 847-3537 or Erica at (847) 847-3586.