

# HAWTHORN WOODS

# HAPPENINGS



Winter  
—  
2025-26  
Issue 4



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## Did You Know...

As the holidays approach, the Village would like to remind residents of temporary lighting regulations. Per our Village Code:

- Temporary holiday lighting is allowed for up to sixty (60) consecutive days. After this period, the lights must be removed and may not be reinstalled for at least thirty (30) days.
- The total annual usage of temporary lighting cannot exceed ninety (90) days.

These guidelines help maintain a balance between celebrating the seasons and preserving our community's rural atmosphere.



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# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

As winter begins to settle in Hawthorn Woods, I am proud to share several exciting accomplishments that highlight the ecological integrity, vitality, and community spirit that define our hometown, both locally and nationally.

This past September, Hawthorn Woods was honored to receive several prestigious awards at the 2025 America in Bloom Symposium & Awards Celebration, held in Rochester, Michigan. Our Village earned, in the 8,000–13,000 Population Category Award, a national championship recognition of our ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, community engagement, and overall visual aesthetics. In addition, we were named Curb Appeal Champions – Best Residential Beautification Efforts in America, a testament to the pride our residents take in maintaining their homes and landscapes. We were also recognized for our Community Vitality, highlighting the strong sense of connection and civic pride that defines the character of Hawthorn Woods. We celebrate, that our hometown has once again, been selected as one of the best places to live in the United States.



These awards reflect the heart of our community highlighting the teamwork, creativity, and dedication that make Hawthorn Woods a place where natural beauty and neighborly spirit thrive together. I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to our shared vision. Your continued involvement in Village programs, events, and initiatives keeps our community flourishing year after year.

We are also pleased to announce that the Village of Hawthorn Woods was proudly chosen, once again, as a recipient of the Lake County Tree Initiative grant earlier this year, with fifteen native trees planted at Brierwoods Preserve this past spring and another fifteen trees scheduled to be planted along our Hawthorn Heritage Outdoor Museum Trail located in Community Park. This initiative provides a value of \$1,000 per tree that is gifted to our community with this grant representing a meaningful investment in both environmental sustainability and fiscal responsibility.

Hawthorn Woods is pleased to be part of the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded program and supports Lake County's commitment to environmental stewardship and community well-being. As a grant recipient, we are creating a significant step towards expanding tree canopy coverage, diversifying our native urban forest, and addressing stormwater runoff areas in town.

I hope to see you out in the community with our many winter events this year, including our special Hometown Holiday celebration on Friday, December 5th, to include Santa's arrival and the lighting of our Village tree in Community Park. Please join us for additional winter activities, which include a Movie in the Barn on January 16th and our Sweetheart Family Barn Dance on February 7th.

As we look forward to the 2026 turn of the calendar, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our residents, volunteers, staff, and partners who make these achievements possible. My family and I wish you and your family a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year ahead.

Warmest Regards,

*Mayor Dominick DiMaggio*

# Hawthorn Woods Paves the Way

## Road Program Update

### Roads Completed Since Passing the 2022 Road Referendum

Hickory Road  
Hawthorn Drive  
Glen Road  
Squire Road  
Arthur Court  
Lancelot Lane  
Foxtail Road  
Cattail Court  
Indian Creek Road  
Sequoia Road  
Blackhawk Road  
Shenandoah Lane  
Rutgers Court

The Village recently completed the third year of the Road Program which included resurfacing the roads and installing concrete ribbon within Indian Creek Country Estates, Tiffany Estates, and Rutgers Court. Streets included in this year's road program were Sequoia Road, Blackhawk Road, Shenandoah Lane, and Rutgers Court. Additionally, the Village took the initiative to seal the crack between the new or existing ribbon and the new pavement within the area of this year's road program as a preventive maintenance strategy.

After a successful 2025 Road Program, the Village is focusing on other aspects of the road program's maintenance. The Village completed the first year of the Pavement Rejuvenation Program. We rejuvenated all streets that were resurfaced over the last few years, including the streets from the 2023, 2024 and 2025 Road Programs. This program is a maintenance strategy that extends the life of the pavement by up to five years.

In addition to the rejuvenation maintenance strategy, the Village performed this year's contractual pavement patching program this Fall. Streets that were included for spot pavement patching were James Drive, Stone Haven Drive, Croydon Road, Falkirk Road, Highview Circle, and Carlisle Road. A contractor performed a grind and overlay on the most degraded sections of Owens Road. Public Works staff worked diligently to perform in-house patching, in one neighborhood a month, throughout summer and fall.

The Village secured Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding, administered through the Lake County Council of Mayors, to resurface Acorn Drive from Old McHenry Road to Bruce Circle North, to Brierwoods Lane, to the Village limits. Eighty percent of the cost to resurface these streets will be paid for with STP funds, with the remaining paid with Village funding. In addition, the Village intends to resurface the remaining streets in the Acorn and Brierwoods neighborhood as part of the annual road program in 2026.

The Village has begun to design these projects, with construction occurring next year.

If you have any questions regarding these projects, please reach out to the Public Works Department at (847) 540-5227.



## Community Development Update

### New Businesses Coming Soon

The Village is excited to share some great news about new businesses coming to our community! Construction is moving along quickly for the new Starbucks and dental office at the corner of Quentin Road and Route 22. The project is progressing on schedule, with completion anticipated by mid-January.



We're also thrilled to announce the upcoming transformation of the former Oregon's restaurant in Cherry Hill Plaza. The space is being redeveloped into Moonrakers' Tavern, a new restaurant the owners are working hard to open by the end of the year. Renovations are well underway, and we can't wait to welcome this new addition to Hawthorn Woods!



### Lake County Symphony Orchestra Ignite the Future Candlelight Concert

Saturday, November 15  
5:00 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

*Tickets Required*

### Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, November 29  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

FREE Admission

### Hometown Holiday

Friday, December 5  
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Public Works

FREE Santa Visits

### Lake County Symphony Orchestra Holiday Brass Concert

Saturday, December 13  
3:30 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

*Tickets Required*

### Movie in the Barn A Minecraft Movie

Friday, January 16  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.  
Movie begins at 6:30 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

### Sweetheart Barn Dance

Saturday, February 7  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Village Hall - Barn

*Tickets Required*

[www.vhw.org/SpecialEvents](http://www.vhw.org/SpecialEvents)



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## Hawthorn Woods Police Department Reminder Secure Your Vehicles

Take your keys | Remove your valuables | Lock your vehicle

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping Hawthorn Woods safe, we want to remind everyone of the importance of securing your vehicles. With the rise in vehicle thefts across the region, it's crucial to take simple precautions to protect your property. Leaving your keys inside your car or your doors unlocked can make them an easy target for thieves. Even a momentary lapse in security can lead to significant consequences, including the loss of your vehicle and any belongings inside.

We encourage all residents to develop the habit of always locking your doors and removing the keys from your vehicle, even when parked in your driveway or at home. Never leave valuable items, such as a purse or laptop, in plain sight. Additionally, consider using steering wheel locks or other anti-theft devices to deter potential thieves. By working together to stay vigilant and proactive, we can help ensure that Hawthorn Woods remains a safe and welcoming community for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and support!

