

Volume 3, Number 2 March, 1978

JAYCEES PRESENT VILLAGE AWARDS

On Tuesday, February 28, the Bloomingdale Jaycees held their annual awards night dinner at Indian Lakes Country Club. Guest speakers for the evening were Richard McLaughlin, Regional Director of the Northeast Region of Jaycees and the honorable Viola Morrisroe, Mayor of Bloomingdale.

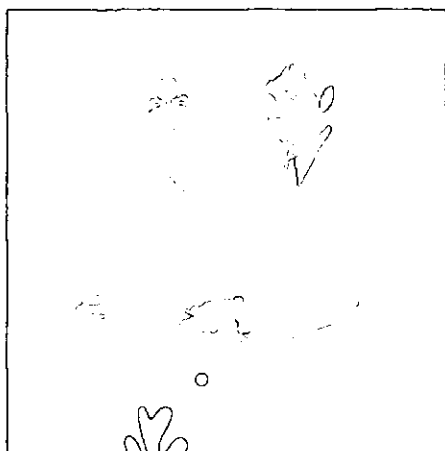
The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Citizen of the Year award and the newly instituted Robert J. Homola Memorial Award.

Primarily for her performance as Chairperson of the 5th annual Septemberfest of 1977, Dolores Howe, corresponding secretary to the Historical Society and the Garden Club, was presented the Jaycee 3rd Annual Outstanding Citizen Award by Village Trustee John Mahoney. Mrs. Howe was responsible for the largest Septemberfest to date and worked against seemingly insurmountable odds such as volunteer shortages and rain.

In addition to Mrs. Howe's volunteer efforts on behalf of all Village organizations who participated in the Septemberfest, she is a member of the Friends of the Bloomingdale Public Library, Historian for the Winnebago P.T.O., a volunteer to the OBLIO Children's Theater, sustaining membership enrollment Chairman of Cub Scout Pack 414 and a room mother at the Winnebago School. Mrs. Howe fulfilled her community responsibilities while having full-time employment and maintaining a home for her husband Ronald and their 8 year-old son.

Two runners-up were also given special mention at the Awards dinner. They were Sandra Luedecke and Trinity Bianco.

Sandra "Sundee" Luedecke was an unsuccessful candidate for Village trustee in the 1977 special election. Mrs. Luedecke was a telephone volunteer Chairman for the Committee for Passage of the Library Bond Issue which was defeated in a special referendum February 28th, and was an



Village Trustee John Mahoney Presents Outstanding Citizen Award to Dolores Howe.

area worker for the District 13 Bond issue which was narrowly defeated in the 2nd such special referendum on February 28th. Mrs. Luedecke is the Area Co-Chairman for the Channel 11 "Go-Getters" and is a member of the Friends of Channel 11.

Mrs. Trinity Bianco is a commissioner on the Zoning Board and on the Plan Commission. In 1977 Mrs. Bianco served as a judge for the Miss Bloomingdale Queen Contest.

The Jaycees nominated Eleanor "Ellie" Alumbaugh for the Robert J. Homola Memorial Award. External Vice President Jim Veto stated that Mrs. Alumbaugh had served the Village continuously since 1969. She is presently responsible for many of the bookkeeping functions in the Village. During her tenure Ellie has many times assisted the elderly in the Village with the obtaining of Village stickers and other required permits. She has also been active in providing relief to the destitute and poor during the Holiday season.

After Mr. Veto read the citation he asked Marilyn Homola, wife of the late Mayor, to present the award.

Enough is Enough!

by Paul Greening

After metropolitan Chicago broke the snowfall record in February with a total of 79 inches for the season, DPW Director Bob Mundo and the four-man snow removal crew feel that enough is enough.

The Bloomingdale Department of Public Works is responsible for snow removal of more than 32 miles of Village streets, not including cul-de-sacs.

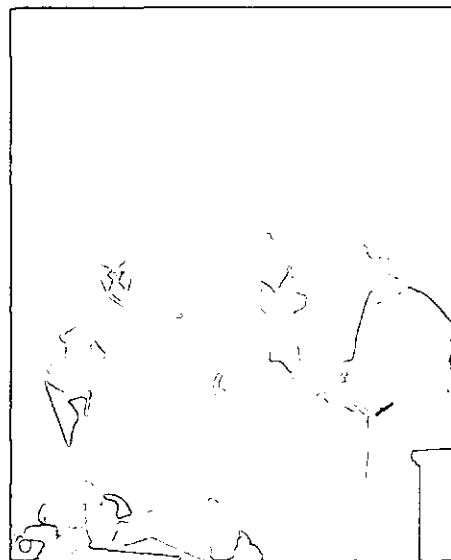
During the latest heavy snowfall the beginning of last month the DPW crew worked for 54 hours straight, attempting to keep up with snow and blowing snow which piled up drifts six feet high on some roads.

Presently the Village uses two 2½-ton dump trucks with 10-ft. plows, one 1-ton dump with a 7-ft. plow, 2 three-quarter-ton pickups and two tractors with plows.

What is the priority on snow removal? According to Bob the police must first advise that the roads require plowing (normally a minimum of two inches of snow). Main thoroughfares within the Village such as Edgewater, Schick Road and Glen Ellyn Road get first priority. Also high on the list are school zones, busy intersections and roads with hills.

When snowfall does not meet plowing levels the same crews must man salt trucks to reduce skidding hazards. This season the Village has used 325 tons of salt. Bloomingdale was one of the few communities not to run out of salt.

Stated Bob, "Our snow removal crew has logged approximately 950 hours of overtime since the first snowfall. To me that is real dedication. All of the Village should be proud of their work."



Marilyn Homola presents award to Eleanor Alumbaugh.

VILLAGE HALL HAPPENINGS

BLOOD DRIVE EXCEEDS QUOTA

NEW GRANTS

On February 15, Village Administrator Robert Reeves forwarded to the Community Development Commission applications for six projects which would help the Village. The projects and allocated amounts are:

1. Old Town Sanitary Sewer . \$230,000.00
2. Flood Hazard Control 402,000.00
3. Old Town Water Lines 140,000.00
4. Old Village Hall Restora-
tion and Rehabilitation 160,000.00
5. Housing Rehabilitation 100,000.00
6. Acquisition of Land
and Parking 46,000.00

The total amount for all projects would come to \$1,078,000.00. As these are projects which would benefit the community, they are outright grants and do not require any direct supplement by the Village.

E.D.C. CHANGES

Dr. Frank Szatkowski was appointed to the Economic Development Commission to fill the unexpired term of William Tolva who resigned. The new commissioner is a principal owner of Killshot, the new racquet club in the Village. His term will expire in February, 1980.

Mr. Bert Boje also announced that he would not be able to accept reappointment because of a change in job location. The board presented both retiring members with certificates of recognition for their service since the EDC was established in 1976.

Effective Feb. 1, 1978, the EDC elected Mr. Dan Mitchell as Chairman and Mr. Dominic Casalina as Vice-Chairman.

NEW DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

Revised editions of the Village Directory are available. Pick up your copy during normal business hours at the Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Rd. Each residence is entitled to one free copy. Additional copies are available for \$.50 per copy.

VILLAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the JAYCEES donated the illuminated sign board in front of the Village Hall, many organizations have asked how they can use the sign for special announcements. According to Village Clerk Carol Koehler official village business such as election announcements take first priority. Other announcements involving Village charities or civic events will be permitted if there is sufficient space. All requests should be submitted at least seven days prior to the date the announcement is to appear. For further information contact the Village Administrator.

NEW VILLAGE DROP BOX

The Village has recently installed a drop box located next to the front door of the Village Hall. The depository opening is large enough to accept water bill payments as well as any other correspondence addressed to the Village. For water bill payments made with cash, the Village will send a receipt. For check payments the cancelled check is the receipt.

Also installed above the drop box opening is a new all-weather glass-enclosed bulletin board which will be used for posting of public announcements.

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ingdale, IL 60108.

by Paul Greening



Blood Drive Chairman Diane Hartmann watches Chris Kolle, a recent recipient of 6 pints of blood from the Bloomingdale Blood Association, present Jim King with his gallon-donor pin.

According to Blood Drive Chairman Diane Hartmann, the last campaign for donors was a huge success. The drive took place on February 11 at the Winnebago School. Diane stated that the group obtained 186 pints which put the 1977-78 campaign well over the top for the year.

The committee wishes to thank all the workers who spent their time in recruiting volunteers and assuring that everything went smoothly on the date of the drive.

Looking ahead to next year, the group will need even more blood as the quota is based on the number of pints obtained to equal 4% of the total Village population. Only in this way can every citizen in the Village be assured of free blood when it is needed.

Anyone interested in working on next year's drive should contact Diane Hartmann at 898-4581 or Carol Kuznitzky at 893-3250. The next drive is slated for November, 1978.

NEW COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMISSION

At the regular meeting February 27, the Board of Trustees approved the recommendations of Mayor Morrisroe to staff the Capital Improvements Commission.

Appointed as chairman for a 3-year term was Mr. James H. Galligan of 196 Cardinal Drive. Mr. Galligan brings a wealth of experience to the Commission, having held increasingly responsible assignments in the financial operations of Standard Oil of Indiana for 43 years. At the time of his retirement in January of 1976, he was General Auditor for Standard Oil.

A native of Cairo, Illinois, Jim received his degree in Accounting from Loyola University of Chicago; he was also graduated from the Northwestern University Institute of Management. He holds memberships in Financial Executives Institute, the National Association of Accountants, and the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Also appointed to three-year terms were Harold Tompkins, 260 Ironwood; and William Robinson, 174 Circle Drive.

Appointed to two-year terms were David Fockler, 302 Bridgewater Lane; Lawrence Ladner, 267 Strathmore Lane; Victor Wortman, 182 Kingston Lane.

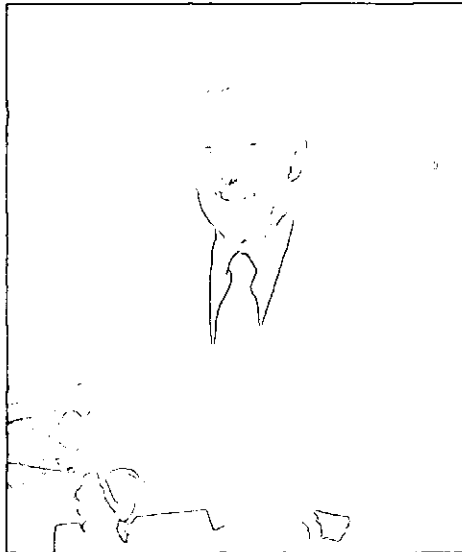
Appointed to one-year terms were Harry Lehr, 255 Langton Lane; James Schafer, 251 Millford Lane; and Leonard Ricco, 252 Bunting Lane.

The Capital Improvements Commission was established to study and develop plans for the capital improvements necessary to provide municipal services to the citizens of Bloomingdale. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23 at the Village Hall.

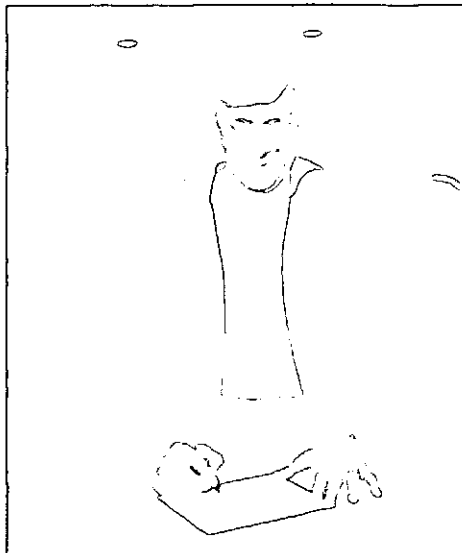
Gratifying Response

The response for help on the various commissions requested in the last issue of the ALMANAC was most gratifying. As of this date 24 interested citizens submitted their names and other information requested on the Personal Data forms.

Unfortunately in some cases the commissions requested were already filled. In these instances the applications will be kept on file. By this time everyone who submitted an application should have received a personal reply. In the event that you applied and did not receive a response, we ask you to contact the Village Hall.



*James H. Galligan
Capital Improvements
Chairman*



*Ross Montalbano
Old Town Commission
Temporary Chairman*

OLD TOWN COMMISSION

For Mr. Ross Montalbano of 126 W. Lake Street, being appointed to a three-year term on the Old Town Commission was something he had sought since last year. At that time Ross wrote to Mayor Homola and expressed an interest in serving on such a committee when it was established.

Formerly manager of a large chain food store, Mr. Montalbano has since opened his own furniture repair business which he operates out of his home on Lake Street in the heart of Old Town.

Under the provisions of the Old Town Commission Ordinance, the 9 members must elect their chairperson; however, Mr. Montalbano was appointed temporary chairman because of his interest in and commitment to the development of Old Town.

Also appointed to three year terms were Dale Armon of 151 North Bloomingdale Road and Donna Tenuto of 262 Strathmore Lane.

Appointed to two-year terms were Robert Iden, 114 North Maple; Patricia Tompkins, 260 Ironwood; and Marilyn Homola, 358 Cardinal Drive.

Serving one-year terms are Patricia Johnson, 230 Harvard Lane; Charles Dietrich, 221 Tamarack Drive; and Susan Hornat, 131 North Circle Avenue.

The Old Town Commission has as its purpose "To create a unique core of commercial uses by development of the Old Town area and to preserve many older structures of historical significance or other unique qualities . . ."

The nine-member commission must be willing to promote an environment conducive to economic growth and coordinate its activities with the Economic Development Commission, the Historical Society and other civic groups having an interest in the development of this historical area.

The first meeting of the Commission will be held on March 15th at 8:00 P.M. at the Village Hall.

CENSUS COMPLETED

The special Village Census was completed on March 8. Federal Census Supervisor John Koestes wished to thank all the workers as well as the citizens for their cooperation.

While no official figures can be released until the census is verified, it is safe to say that the count exceeds 11,000.

Village Notes

REFERENDUM DEFEATED

by Judy Kuhel

The voters of Bloomingdale have rejected a proposal that a new and larger library with expanded services be built in the Village. In a referendum held on Feb. 28, the suggested new structure was defeated by 115 votes.

Sharon Chalmers, Library Board President, is extremely grateful to all those people who gave so willingly of their time in the effort to reach all the voters with information regarding the need for a new facility.

At the next Board Meeting on March 8, Library business was continued as before. See the May issue of the Almanac for a progress report.

District 13 Examines Budget

by Renee Spencer

A second try for Bloomingdale School District 13's referendum for \$800,000 worth of classroom additions was once again narrowly defeated at the Feb. 11 election.

According to polling figures, the final tally of the two precincts ended with 415 votes for and 559 against.

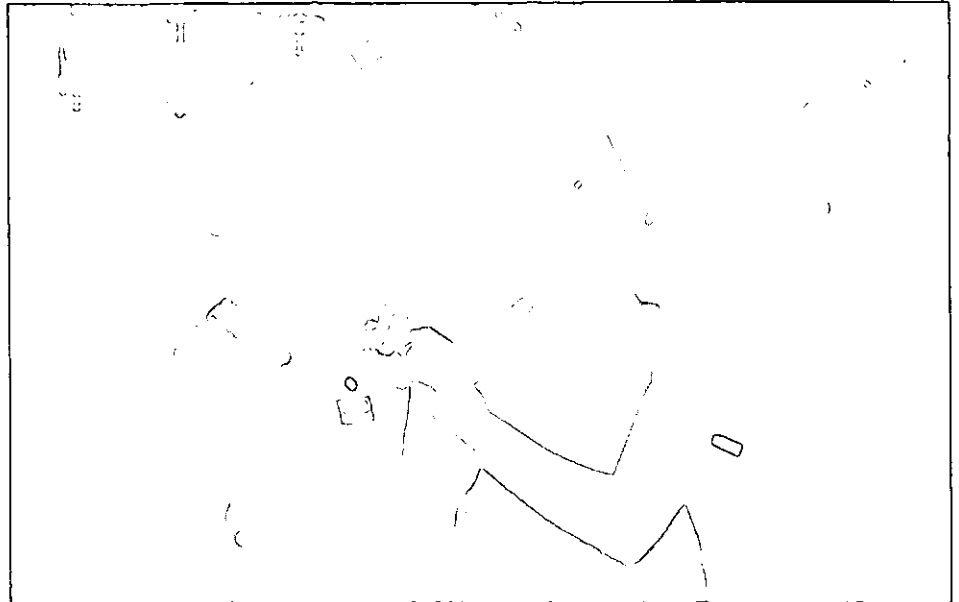
This was another attempt to pass the referendum which had its wording changed from two separate questions concerning an \$800,000 referendum to construct classrooms and increased educational funding on the first ballot to only the classroom construction issue for the Feb. 11 vote.

At the school board meeting following the Feb. 11 defeat Superintendent Harold Tompkins said, "The board decided they would not come back right now with another referendum."

He added, "We are still planning the budget and looking over everything once again."

BWC Fashion Show

by Pat Sodomka



Threatening to steal the BWC Fashion Show are Cameron Denmark and Jennifer Smith.

While the Internal Revenue Service will await our tax forms, the Bloomingdale Women's Club members and their many guests will enjoy the latest fashion returns at their 4th annual charity luncheon and fashion show, entitled the "Irresistible Revue of Styles."

Pacesetter and Annabelle's Inc., both of Glen Ellyn, will present the latest fashion forecast of ladies' and children's apparel for spring and summer on April 15, 1978 at Indian Lakes Country Club.

Beginning at 11:00 A.M. with cocktails, and a luncheon at noon, the show will be emceed by Clark Weber of WIND radio.

For the 3rd consecutive year the Bloomingdale Women's Club wants proceeds to go to Lamb's Farm, a home for young retarded adults in Libertyville, Illinois. Judy Anderson, Chairman of the event, said monies will provide more jobs, residential facilities and social services for the home.

The first prize winners of the raffle will take a trip for two to Las Vegas. Other prizes include a Tappan Microwave Oven, diamond and garnet cocktail ring and fur jacket.

Tickets for the luncheon fashion show are \$10.00 and may be obtained by calling Kathy Wittersheim at 894-0341.



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CHIEF'S CORNER

by Police Chief Patrick J. McMahon

In recent conversations, I was surprised to discover how little our citizens know about their Police Department. So in this issue let me provide you with these lines to inform some interesting items regarding the law enforcement activity in Bloomingdale.

Currently, the Bloomingdale Police Department is staffed by 18 sworn members who have taken an oath to enforce the law and to have the power of arrest. In addition to the sworn members of the Department, there are seven civilians working for us. These civilians include a Department Secretary, a General Records Clerk, a Records Clerk who deals primarily with a Traffic Grant Program and four Dispatchers.

When you "call the Police", the first person you hear will be the Dispatcher. Dispatchers are on duty at all times in Bloomingdale and available to answer any calls for service. In addition to receiving calls for the Bloomingdale Police Department, our dispatchers also receive Fire Department calls and directly dispatch the fire units from our Village headquarters.

The sworn members of the Department include the Chief of Police, one Captain, three Sergeants and 13 officers. At the present time, three of these officers are attending basic training in Police Science prior to their duty assignment to street coverage. We anticipate that these officers will be available for service in early April.

The Bloomingdale Police Department organizationally, consists of four divisions: the Service Division, the Criminal Investigation Division, the Operational Division and the Traffic Division. The Service Division is composed of a Records Division, and a Communication Section. The Criminal Investigation Division consists of the detective and youth services. The Operational Division is made up of the general patrol sections of our Department which are broken into three watches. The Traffic Division includes officers whose salary and equipment are partially funded through an Illinois Department of Transportation Grant which was received during the past year. The intent of this division is to reduce the numbers of accidents in the Village of Bloomingdale through selective traffic enforcement in high accident traffic areas.

The officers of the Bloomingdale Police Department are rather a young group, averaging slightly over 28 years of age. Eighty percent of them have attended college level courses. The average number of years of attendance in college is 2.7. Fields of study include physiology, police science, and sociology, the diverse studies of biology and chemistry. Four officers presently are enrolled in graduate level study. The average length of time in service with the Bloomingdale Police Department is 3½ years per Department member.

I am proud of our personnel who are doing their best to live up to our motto, "Serve and Protect".

PARK DISTRICT SPRING SCHEDULE

For 1978 the Bloomingdale Park District offers an even bigger Spring schedule. Registration for all programs listed below will be held on April 8 at the Park District Office. Listed below are some of the programs being offered. Unless otherwise stated the programs will be six weeks long and will be held at the new Recreation Building. For more information residents can contact the Park District Office at 529-3650 between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Baton—Children 5 & up. Thurs. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Continuing 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$7. Min. 6

Ballet—Thurs. Age 5-7, 6:30-7:15 p.m., age 8 & up, 7:15-8:15 p.m. Age 3 & 4, Sat. 10-10:45 a.m. Min. 6. Max 10. \$7.

Soccer—Instructional program for Spring. Age 7-12. Circle Park. 8 week program - \$3. Age 10-12. Mon. & Wed. 4-5:30 p.m. Age 7-9 Fri. 4-5:30 p.m.

Cheerleading and Pom Pom—Girls 7-12. Sat. 9:30-11:00 a.m. \$2.

Cooking for Youth—Grades 2-5. Sat. 11-12:30 p.m., Westfield Jr. High Kitchen. \$10.

Gymnastics—Age 6-8. Mon. 4-5 p.m. or Wed. 5-6 p.m. Age 9-14 Wed. 4-5 p.m. Intermediates Mon. 5-6 p.m. Black Hawk School. \$6.

Tumbling—Age 6-12, Mon. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Rec. Bldg. \$6.

Tumbling for Tots—Age 4-5. Tues. or Thurs. 3:45-4:30 p.m. Rec. Bldg. \$3.

Youth Crafts—Wed. 3:45-5 p.m. Age 7-12. \$5.

Scrap Crafts—Age 6-10. Tues. 4-5 p.m. \$1.

Drawing—Children 9 and up, Wed. 3:45-5:30 p.m. \$11.

Ladies Gymnastics—Wed. 7-8:30 p.m. Black Hawk School. \$4.

Silmmnastics—Older teens, adult women. Mon. & Wed. 9:30-10:30 a.m. \$13. Tues. 7-8 p.m. \$7.

Adult Ballet—Thurs. 8:30-9:30 p.m. \$10.

Disco Dance—Age 16 & up. Wed. 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$11.

Ladies Softball—Tues. 9:30-11:00 a.m. Circle Park. Free.

Interior Design—Mon. 7:30-8:30 a.m. or Fri. 9:30-10:30 a.m. \$9.

Ceramics—Six weeks. Thurs. 7-9 p.m. \$8.

Oil Painting—Adult-Wed. 1-3 p.m. or 7-9 p.m. \$16. Youth-Sat. 9:30-11:30 a.m. \$11, age 9 and up.

Macrame for Adults—Tues. 7-9 p.m., \$10.

Volleyball—Adults, Mon. and Thurs. 7-9 p.m. DuJardin School. Free. Youth-Grades 3-6. Fri. 3:45-5 p.m., Central and Winnebago Schools. Free.

Dog Obedience—Dogs 6 mo. or older. Owner 12 yrs. or older. \$13. 8-week session. Sat. 10-11:30 a.m.

Tennis Lessons—Circle Park. Adults \$7. Mon. or Tues. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Beg. Mon. 6-7 p.m. Beg., Wed. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Adv. Beginner, Youth-\$7, Sat. 9-10:30 a.m. 9-12 yrs., Sat. 10:30-noon 12-16 yrs.

Tot Drama—3-5 yr. olds. \$2. Mon. 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Youth Drama—Children 7-12. Wed. 3:45-5:30 p.m. \$5.

C.P.R.—Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation to be held week of April 24.

Tiny Tot Pre-School—Ages 3-5. 1½ hr. sessions. Mon./Wed./Fri. 9-10:30 a.m. or 11-12:30 p.m. \$12.50. Tues./Thurs. 9-10:30 a.m. or 11-12:30 p.m. \$10.

Pre-Kindergarten—For children entering kindergarten in fall. 2 hr. sessions. Mon./Wed./Fri. or Tues./Thurs. from 1-3 p.m. \$17.

Golf—Indian Lakes Country Club. Youth \$14. Adult \$17. Ladies Beg. Tues. 9-9:45 a.m., Mixed Beg. Tues. 6:30-7:15 p.m. Adv. Mixed Beg. Thurs. 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Teen Program—Teen Nights - Monday & Wed. 6:30-10 p.m. Fri. 6:30-10 p.m. Westfield.

Special Events—**Gymnastics Meet**—Sat. May 20. Students in gym program will participate. **Youth Art Contest**—Sun. May 21. Youth ages 9 & up, drawing and painting. **Big Wheel Racer**—Sat. May 27. 3-8 yr. olds in contest.

Swimming Pool—Pool registration will begin May 1 at the Bloomingdale Park District Office. Individuals must accompany the application for the purpose of taking identification photo. Office hours are as follows:

Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday (May 6 thru June 3) 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Swim Team—This is a competitive swimming program for boys and girls 6-17. Meeting for all interested swimmers and their parents May 2 at 7 p.m.

"WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

Opinion Responses

by Judy Kuhel

The responses to our new "What do you Think?" feature have been very gratifying thus far. We would like to remind you, however, that we are only able to print signed letters, and those of a constructive nature. Our purpose in "What do you Think?" is to give Bloomingdale citizens a chance to express their ideas as to how our community may be improved.

All participants in "What do you Think?" should receive replies within 14 days from the appropriate department head(s). However, because of space limitations, we are only able to print a representative sample.

SIDEWALKS & PARKWAYS

As a resident of Bloomingdale for the last five years, I'm totally disappointed in the appearance of the parkways on Edgewater Drive. They are full of weeds, and in some places there is no grass at all. Also, along Edgewater down to Glen Ellyn Road you can't walk on the sidewalk because of all the dog "business." This is very inconsiderate. Those people wouldn't let their dogs go on their own sidewalks, but they'll let them use someone else's.

Name Withheld Upon Request

Can anything be done to compel people to clear the snow from their sidewalks? A case in point is Greenway Dr., from Winnebago School to Bloomingdale Rd. The only sections exposed are those parts which the driveways cross. These conditions make walking hazardous. It seems incongruous that the care given to lawns in the mild season can turn to total disregard during the snow season.

Wm. T. Brannan
217 Oakwood Ln.

(I totally agree with you about the lack of interest people have regarding parkways and sidewalks. However, the Village has no jurisdiction over homeowner's property. We can force them to cut weeds once they reach a certain height, but beyond that we have no power. Thank you for caring, and if you have any questions, please call me at the Village Hall. Bob Mundo, Director PWD)

Indian Lakes is going to the dogs! I am tired of calling and asking irresponsible pet owners to please keep their animals on their own property, all to no avail. In my opinion, we need a new leash law with strict enforcement.

Name Withheld Upon Request

(The current leash law is workable if each citizen is willing to inform the police of violations while they are occurring or be willing to testify to other violations witnessed in the absence of our police officers. Patrick J. McMahon, Chief of Police)

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BRING BUSINESS TO BLOOMINGDALE

We need decent businesses in Bloomingdale to offset the ever-escalating taxes with which we are confronted. We have need for additions to our schools. Every time we turn around we need something because of the population explosion. I would like to see some really good business attracted to Bloomingdale to lessen the load on the residents. We must drive to neighboring towns to market, to hardware, to do almost anything that really costs money. Is the Village going to stay "exclusive," or is it going to face reality?

Mrs. A. Sullivan
335 Colony Green Drive

(The Bloomingdale Economic Development Commission is hard at work attempting to attract business to our village. For details, contact Commission Chairman, Dan Mitchell through the Village Hall. ed.)

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RECYCLING CENTER

I would like to suggest that the Village establish a recycling center for old newspapers, aluminum cans, and clear green and brown glass, all of which are now just garbage. Profits from the sale of these items as salvage could be distributed to community organizations. The center could be staffed by members of the organizations receiving the funds.

Barbara Bolinger
183 Acorn

(Good idea, Barb! When do you begin? ed.)

NO PARKING (?)

Why are people still allowed to park on the south side of the road that runs east and west south of the post office? The No Parking signs are ignored. On Saturday mornings, it creates a terrible traffic jam. I feel that an entrance to the parking lot adjacent to the church on Bloomingdale Road would help.

Name Withheld Upon Request

(I have contacted the postmaster and have inquired as to the possibility of the parking facilities being expanded there. However, no property is available for additional parking at this time. People are not "allowed" to park in violation of the signs. Most violations are of a very short term (two minutes or less) and are therefore difficult to cite. Our patrol officers have been instructed to pay particular attention to the Franklin St. parking near the post office on Saturday mornings. Patrick J. McMahon, Chief of Police)

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SNOW BUSINESS

I think that our snow removal system should be improved. Our crews should be out sooner, and they should do a more thorough job. I've heard many comments that the streets and roads were good 'til they hit Bloomingdale.

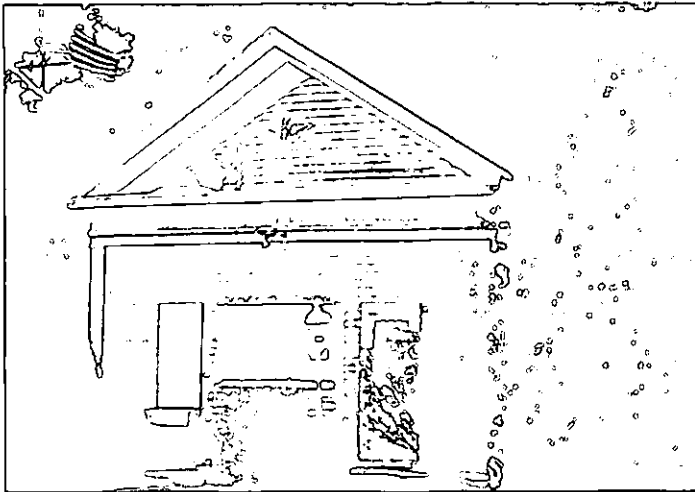
Also, I'm not sure if we have an ordinance that holds a juvenile's parents responsible for vandalism. If we don't, our board should consider it. It would be one way to curb some of our problems.

Jim Sargis
249 Sterling Dr.

(See related article on snow removal on pg. 1. Yes, there is parental-responsibility ordinance. Check with the Police Dept. for details. ed.)

FOUNDERS DAY RECALLS THE PAST

by Steve Novy



On March 11, 1833 the Meacham Brothers crossed the newly blazed Army Trail Road to settle what became known as Meacham's Grove. This settlement comprised the area now known as Bloomingdale, Roselle and Medinah.

On Saturday, March 11th, residents gathered to examine relics of the past and to reflect on Bloomingdale's 145-year transition from Indian settlement to thriving Chicago suburb. This year's celebration was held for the first time in the "new" Park District Museum. This Park District building (located on the northwest corner of Bloomingdale Road and Franklin Street) was originally built as a Baptist church in 1849 and has at various times been used as a school, Town Hall, Bloomingdale Township Hall, jail and Assessor's office.

The Park District officially granted permission to the Historical Society to use the

facility as a museum in February. The acquisition of this building is a major step in the Historical Society's effort to preserve historical landmarks, property and memorabilia. The official opening of the Park District Museum will take place at a date yet to be announced.

The Historical Society is dedicated to promoting "an awareness within the community of the importance of preserving our heritage, and to attract and encourage commerce to architecturally conform to the historic character of the Village."

Residents who share these goals and who wish to become Village historians should call Historical Society President Sue Hornat at 529-1703. New memberships will be free of charge for a limited period of time.

Friday Night is Las Vegas Night!

by Steve Novy

"Winning the Green" is this year's theme for the Bloomingdale Lions Club's "Las Vegas Night". The St. Patrick's Day festivities will be held at the Indian Lakes Country Club on Friday, March 17th from 8:30 to 11:30 PM.

Guests will be able to participate in games of poker, black-jack, craps and roulette. Prizes will be awarded. Grand prize is a weekend for two in Las Vegas. One gallon of Irish Whiskey is the appropriate 2nd prize. Other cash prizes will be offered.

Ticket prices of \$4.00 per person include snacks and a subsidized cash bar. Proceeds from Lions Club events are used to benefit local children. Proceeds from last year's "earnings" were donated to School Districts 13 and 15 for the purchase of closed circuit television systems. Tickets are available at the door.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Please tell us if you have any suggestions or questions for your Village. What you think is important to us. Write your thoughts below, then detach and mail to "What Do You Think," Village of Bloomingdale, 201 S. Bloomingdale Rd., Bloomingdale, IL 60108.

My thoughts are as follows: _____

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Special Education: WHAT IS IT?

by Renee Spencer

Over the past several years the term *Special Education* has become more popular with the public. However, many individuals are still confused about its purpose.

Martin Bezek, coordinator for special education in Bloomingdale District 13, explained that the term can refer to a number of areas, and he further explained how the program is run in his district.

"Because a person is placed in a special education class certainly does not mean that he is dumb," said Bezek.

Over the past eight years there have been different categories specified for various learning disabilities and behavioral problems for which a child can be termed to need "special" education. A learning disability may mean a student is not able to understand math problems as quickly as other students his age, *not* because he or she is "dumb", but because there is a perceptual problem that needs to be remedied. Special Education may also refer to those children needing more clearly defined help because they are either emotionally or physically handicapped in some way.

In District 13, learning disability classes and speech therapy are provided for all students who need help in those areas.

"And if we don't have the service a particular child needs," Bezek added, "we'll go to private placement."

According to the law every "handicapped" child ages 3 to 21 is entitled to free public education and therefore is dealt with accordingly.

This year alone there are 134 students in the district taking speech classes for articulation or language problems, and 45 taking learning disability classes. Out of district, or in special programs, 37 students are receiving help.

Not only has the terminology of Special Education changed greatly, but the cost has also become phenomenal. Because of the nature of Special Ed, students are taught on a one-to-one basis and therefore more teachers are needed. Transportation costs, (if a student is sent out of district), are also high. The last three bills have been \$35,000 to \$36,000 a month for transportation, and that involves only 37 students. Eighty percent is supposed to come from state funding, but a smaller amount is actually received.

All of the Special Ed. teachers are constantly having in-service awareness programs to let parents and concerned citizens

realize more fully what Special Education covers.

How can a parent tell if his or her child might need special education classes? It is not always easy to determine, but usually the child will show a definite pattern in his behavior or his work which will indicate that there may be need for special help.

If a child is scheduled for Special Ed classes, the length of time he or she will have to be involved with them depends on the individual case.

JAYCEES...

**BUILDING
TOMORROW
TODAY**

For Further Information Contact:
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