

Village of Bloomingdale Almanac

December 2003



From the Desk of Mayor Bob Iden

Here we are once again in another holiday season. Bloomingdale is a giving community, and that is always most evident at this time of year. Before I mention some ways to share the spirit of the season, let me catch you up on a couple things.

You may have seen the new bridge crossing over Roselle Road, just north of Lake Street. This 10-foot wide bicycle-pedestrian bridge connects east and west Meacham Grove. The 150-foot truss bridge was funded by a \$200,000 contribution from DuPage County, a \$250,000 contribution from the DuPage Forest Preserve District and a \$500,000 Illinois First grant. You'll find more info on the progress of the recreational trails on page 3.

Also, excitement and enthusiasm is building for the "Everyday Heroes" statue, which will feature both a firefighter and police officer. Dedication of the original sculpture is planned for September 11, 2004, which is the date of Septemberfest 2004. On page 6 you will find information on a terrific community party slated for Saturday, January 24 to continue raising funds for the statue. Hope you can be there.

❖ This year's Bloomingdale Township Sharing Tree is again located at the Transportation Building on Rosedale Road. Names and wishes of local needy youngsters and residents of convalescent and nursing homes can be picked up here. Wrapped gifts need to be returned by Friday, December 12.

❖ Santa will have more help providing gifts for Marklund residents this year. Tags with the name of the child or adult, something about him/her, and some suggested gift ideas are available at three locations in town: Bloomingdale Park District, 172 S. Circle; Olive Garden Restaurant, 332 W. Army Trail Road; and Headlines, 156G E. Lake Street. Wrapped gifts, with the recipient's name attached, should be brought back to the location the tag came from or directly to Marklund Children's Home, 164 S. Prairie, by Friday, December 12.

❖ You can be an angel and join the employees of the Village Hall in support of the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Kids (ages 3 to 5) attending the Salvation Army's Emergency Lodge Headstart Childcare Program in Chicago. Angel tags identifying each child's gift needs and toy desires are available at the Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road. Gifts need to be returned to the Village Hall, unwrapped, by December 15. If you would like to be sent a tag, call Barb Weber at 671-5813.

Look around, there are many other opportunities to share the holiday spirit - food drives, Toys for Tots, and more - being sponsored in several area schools, churches and businesses.

Happy Holidays to all!



New bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Roselle Road.

VILLAGE BOARD, COMMISSION & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The public is encouraged to attend all Board and Commission meetings

REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE VILLAGE BOARD

2nd and 4th Monday of every month
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1st, 2nd 3rd & 4th Mondays of every month
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

PLAN COMMISSION

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

3rd Wednesday of every month
5:00 p.m. -- Village Hall

POLICE PENSION BOARD

Quarterly beginning in January
4th Monday
5:00 p.m. -- Village Hall

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2nd Wednesday of every month
7:30 p.m. -- Library

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Board of Directors Meeting
1st Thursday of every month
8:00 a.m. -- Indian Lakes

FAMILY FEST COMMISSION

3rd Wednesday of every month
9:30 a.m. -- Library

SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION

2nd Tuesday of the month
March-December
7:00 p.m. - Village Hall

BUSINESS PROMOTION & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1st Friday of the month
10:00 a.m. - Village Hall

BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2nd Tuesday of the month
7:30 p.m. - Firehouse,
179 S. Bloomingdale Road

The following committees meet on a less regular basis or as needed. Call the Village Hall at 671-5600 for the next scheduled meeting.

RECREATIONAL PATHWAY COMMITTEE

As needed

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Six times a year or as needed

VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Robert G. Iden

Village President

Susan L. Bartucci

Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

Bill Bolen

Legal & Intergovernmental

Robert Czernek

Finance & Personnel

John Dabrowski

Police

James M. Gebis

*Planning, Zoning
& Environmental Concerns*

Judi Von Huben

*Community Programs &
Special Events*

Gloria Reyes

Public Works & Services

We'd like to hear from you:
Please note our website
address --

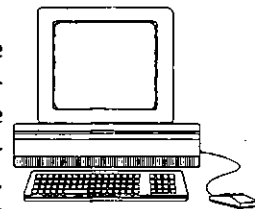
If you're "surfing the net" and have a question to ask or an issue to bring to our attention, just E-mail it to us.

If you wish to send us an electronic message, our address is:

VILLAGE.BLOOMINGDALE@world-net.att.net

Our website address is:

www.vil.bloomingtondale.il.us



The deadline for
the February issue
of the
Almanac is
JANUARY 10

Everything's Coming Up ... Tulips!!!



Members of Westfield Boy Scout Troop 194 planted pink tulips outside of the Westfield Middle School as part of Tim Wojcicki's Eagle Scout project. The Lake Park High School junior expanded on a Breast Cancer Awareness project that involved planting pink tulips in over 200 DuPage County locations. Wojcicki's project at Westfield involved working with a landscaper to lay out a flower bed in front of the school. He then organized fellow scouts to plant a tree, 500 pink tulip bulbs and other flowers, as well as build a retaining wall. The tulips should bloom for Mother's Day.

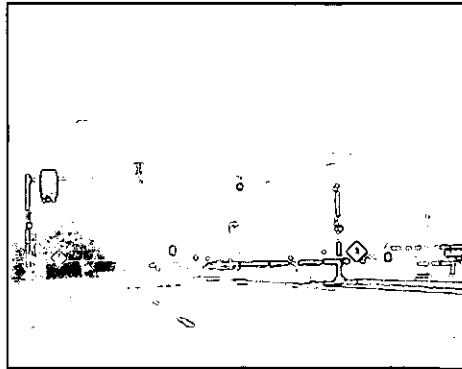
Bloomingtondale's Lawrence Avenue Recreation Trail Part of 18 Mile Regional Bikeway Connecting Busse Woods and Fox River

The Village is completing the Lawrence Avenue Recreational Trail Project. This project provides a 1-mile segment of Recreational Trail along the Lawrence Avenue right-of-way between Gary Avenue and Springfield Drive. This trail is part of the 18 mile, partially complete, North Central DuPage Regional Bikeway connecting Busse Woods and the Fox River.

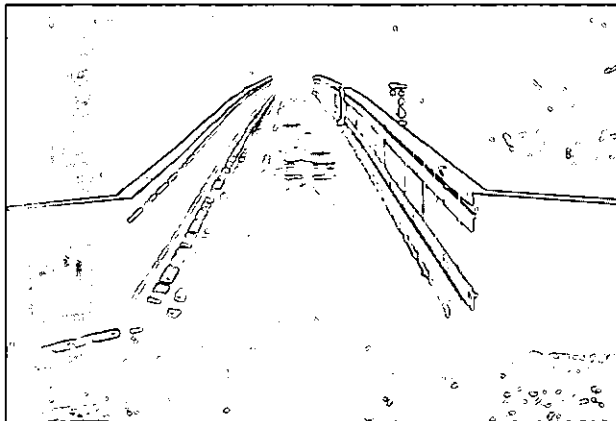
The Lawrence Avenue section begins on the east side of Gary Avenue at Lawrence Avenue. Trail users ride on the street pavement in this section. East of Wheaton Road, the trail continues on new asphalt trail approximately 1/4 of a mile to a wooden boardwalk structure built over the wetlands. An overlook has been placed on the north side of the boardwalk near the center of the boardwalk structure providing a panoramic view of the wetland.

Further east of the boardwalk, the trail continues onto the pavement of Lawrence Avenue to Springfield Drive. A new pedestrian signal has been added onto Springfield Drive for trail users to cross the street at a pedestrian activated signal. The signal will be normally green for Springfield Drive motorists.

When activated by a pedestrian, the traffic signal will change to red to permit pedestrians to cross to Springfield Park. At Springfield Park, the Lawrence Avenue trail ends. Trail users can continue west of Gary Avenue to Mallard Lakes Forest Preserve, and east of Springfield Park to the Lake Street Bridge near William Way and in the near future to the new bridge over Bloomingtondale/Roselle Road in Meacham Grove Forest Preserve.



New signal at Springfield Drive & Lawrence.



The boardwalk extends over the wetland area.

New Pedestrian Crossing at Lake & Glen Ellyn Road

The Village has recently put the finishing touches on the Lake Street and Glen Ellyn Road intersection pedestrian crossing project. This project permits trail users to safely cross Lake Street and Glen Ellyn Roads using the push button activated "WALK" and "DON'T WALK" signals. The project also included the 1800 feet of new trail along the Lake Street frontage of the Bloomingtondale Golf Club and ramping on the southwest and north sides of the intersection. Landscaping was added in October to the south west and south east corners of the intersection.

Interested in Becoming a Bloomingtondale Police Officer? Stop by for An Application Packet

Application packages for Police Officer are currently available at the Bloomingtondale Police Department, 201 S. Bloomingtondale Road (around the back of the Village Hall).

A \$15 non-refundable fee will be charged per application package. Completed applications must be returned by 4:30 p.m. on December 12, 2003.

Attendance at an orientation meeting on Saturday, January 3, 2004 is mandatory. For more information call Sue Osicek at (630) 671-5858.



Village Welcomes Bill Bolen as Newest Trustee

The Village of Bloomingdale welcomes new Trustee Bill Bolen, who was appointed to fill the vacancy of Patrick S. DeMoon on September 29, to fill the vacancy created when Patrick DeMoon resigned. . Bill and his wife, Marla, have lived in Bloomingdale with their children, Kelly and Ryan, since 1990. Bill works for the US Environmental Protection Agency as a manager in the emergency response division. Since September 11, 2001, he has experienced increased responsibilities in domestic preparedness and homeland security.

Here at home, Bill has been very active in many community endeavors, especially in youth sports and other park district groups, including Parks Foundation and Friends of the Park. He has held offices in both the Youth Basketball Association and the Bloomingdale Baseball and Softball Association. As a member of St. Walter Church, Bill also serves as a lector, catechist teacher and coach, as well as serving as a volunteer for P.A.D.S. He has also been involved in youth activities at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Bill looks forward to this new avenue of involvement in the community and is already enjoying "learning the ropes." Welcome aboard Bill!



30-year Police Veteran Retires

We extend warm congratulations to Frank Cudio, 30-year veteran of our police department, who retired on October 24. Frank was sworn in on October 20, 1973, promoted to Sergeant on July 15, 1995 and to Watch Commander on July 29, 2000.

Frank brought a lot of firsts to the Village of Bloomingdale. He was the first police officer to take all the tests – written, polygraph, psychological and be hired by the Fire & Police Commission. Prior to Frank, it was a simple handshake with the Mayor.

Frank was our first evidence technician and, in fact, established our evidence storage room and procedures during his career here. He became interested in fingerprinting and forensics. This interest and eventual proficiency led Frank to be named to the Major Crime Task Force. He's part of their forensics team, but Frank's expertise is crime scene sketching. Although he makes light of his talent, he is quite well respected in DuPage County for his craft.

Now Frank has now created another first for the Village – he is the first police officer to retire with 30 years of service. We'll still see him around town, as he and his family will continue to live here. Between his woodworking, model car collecting and music – Frank's hobbies will keep him plenty busy. He said also needs to catch up on his sleep after the last seven years on midnights. We wish him all the best!

Upcoming Police Department Programs

Citizen Police Academy

Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 pm

1st section Jan 8 – Feb 5

2nd Section Feb 12 – March 11

Teens and Law Enforcement Communicating (TALK)

Thursdays 6-8 p.m.

Jan 8 – Feb 12

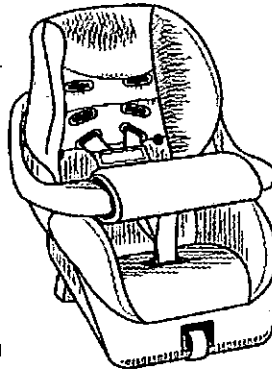
Call Detective Dawn Odoi at 529-9868 for more information.

Two New Laws You Need to Know About

Bloomington Police Department offers the following information about changes in the law. Both these laws are effective January 1, 2004.

SENATE BILL 52: Booster Seat Legislation

This new law amends the Child Passenger Protection Act to provide that when any child under 8 years of age is driven, the driver is responsible for properly securing the child in an appropriate child restraint system, such as a booster seat. The law used to be age 4. The new law also provides that the driver is also responsible for properly securing any child 8 years and older, up to and including 15 years old, in a seat belt.



SENATE BILL 58: Teen Passenger Restriction Legislation

This new law provides that a person under the age of 18, who receives a graduated driver's license, may not drive with more than one person in the vehicle who is under the age of 20 during the first six months of their license or until the person reaches the age of 18, whichever occurs sooner, unless an adult is present. Exceptions to this passenger restriction are provided for siblings, stepsiblings, children and stepchildren of the driver.

Currently, 20 other states and the District of Columbia have enacted passenger restrictions as part of their graduated drivers licensing systems.



Public Works Crews Working on Sanitary Sewer Maintenance in Coming Months

During the winter and spring months the Village Services – Utilities Division has several maintenance projects that occur throughout the system. Programs to be completed are as follows:

Sewer Televising Program

This program is performed by contractual assistance by a contractor. The program consists of the high pressure cleaning and closed circuit televising of approximately 40,000 feet of sewer main lines. The benefit of this program is that it provides us with the current condition of the sewer main. We use the information to establish maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation need of each individual sewer mainline.

Sanitary Mainline and Manhole Rehabilitation

This program provides for the rehabilitation of sanitary sewer mainlines and manholes. This year we will reline approximately 2,000 feet of sanitary sewer mainline and 100 sanitary sewer manholes. A contractor using trenchless technologies that require no excavation will perform the work. This not only saves money but limits inconvenience to the residents while restoring the condition of the infrastructure.

Welcome to the following new businesses that have opened up in town as of the beginning of November:

Stratford Stores

ITS Thomas & Friends
(Children's Toys
The Shoe Dept.
Gifts 'N Gift Bags
Time 'N Jewels
Dish Network
Hickory Farms

Stratford Kiosks

Remote Mania
Santa's Pen

OTHER NEW BUSINESSES

Ambica Foods
366-350 W. Army Trail Road
(Specialty Foods from India)

Excel Tan Inc.
146 E. Lake Street

Taj Mahal Restaurant
111-1 E. Lake Street

Bring Home More Than Dessert . . . Market Day and Sara Lee

Thanks to recent, new retail store partnership, a selection of Market Day products are now available at Sara Lee's Bloomington store, 358-190 West Army Road. Now a portion of your purchase of Market Day and Sara Lee Bakery items will go to your local participating school. The Sara Lee/Market Day store hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am – 8 pm, Saturday 9 am – 7 pm, and Sunday 10 am – 6 pm.



Viva Las Bloomingdale" Night

A Fun Evening Benefiting Bloomingdale's Everyday Heroes



To pay tribute to the brave men & women of our police & fire departments, the Village of Bloomingdale's Business Promotion & Cultural Development Committee is working together with Indian Lakes Resort, Bloomingdale Lions Club & Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce to offer this terrific community party.

WHERE: INDIAN LAKES GOLF RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER

250 W. Schick Road, Bloomingdale

WHEN: JANUARY 24, 2004, 7:00-11:00 PM

COST: CHOOSE ONE OF FOUR PLANS AVAILABLE !!!

***LEVEL A – \$12 per person - or Book of 10 for \$100**

Includes: Casino entry fee + is your raffle ticket to win a Vegas trip

***LEVEL B – \$35 per person includes:** Prime Rib Dinner Buffet from 5:30-7:00 PM in the Sedona Grill, Casino entry fee + one raffle ticket for a Vegas trip

*****LEVEL C – \$109 includes:** (for two) Overnight Stay at Indian Lakes, Casino entry fee + raffle tickets for a Vegas trip

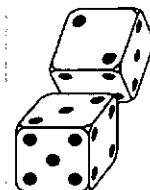
*****LEVEL D - \$199 includes:** (for two) Overnight Stay at Indian Lakes, Casino entry fee + raffle tickets for a Vegas trip, Prime Rib Dinner Buffet & Sunday Brunch



*Levels A & B – Tickets available at:

- ☐ Village of Bloomingdale, Contact: Mary Ellen at #630-671-5600
- ☐ Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, Contact: Richa or Andrea at #630-980-9082
- ☐ Bloomingdale Police Department, Contact: Tim Goergen at #630-529-9868
- ☐ Bloomingdale Fire Department, Contact: Tim Marrocco at #630-894-9080
- ☐ Bloomingdale Business Promotions Committee, Contact: Remo Turano at #630-529-6391

*****Levels C & D – Call Indian Lakes Resort Only, at #630-529-0200**



Activities

For Adults: Black Jack, Craps, Roulette, Split the Pot Raffle, Vegas Raffle & other activities of "LUCK"

For Children: Room for kids with pizza and games 5:30 – 11:30 pm Supervision courtesy of Lifetime Fitness Center. "Dive In Movie" also going on in pool area

For Everyone: "LIVE" entertainment – Rat Pack & other headline impersonators, old & new songs
ALSO: Silent Auction with sports memorabilia

Profits to go toward the "Everyday Heroes" Statue Tribute and to the Bloomingdale Lions Club charitable efforts.

Make all checks payable to the "Village of Bloomingdale"



A Pile of Snow Shoveling Tips

Be heart healthy and back friendly while shoveling this winter with these tips:



- ☐ If you are inactive and have a history of heart trouble, talk to your doctor before you take on the task of shoveling snow.
- ☐ Avoid caffeine or nicotine before beginning. These are stimulants, which may increase your heart rate and cause your blood vessels to constrict, which places extra stress on the heart.
- ☐ Drink plenty of water. Dehydration is just as big an issue in cold winter months as it is in the summer.
- ☐ Dress in several layers so you can remove a layer as needed.
- ☐ Warm up your muscles before shoveling, by walking for a few minutes or marching in place. Stretch the muscles in your arms and legs, because warm muscles will work more efficiently and be less likely to be injured.
- ☐ Pick the right shovel for you. A smaller blade will require you to lift less snow, putting less strain on your body. Newer shovels are manufactured from lightweight components that are ergonomically designed from high-impact molded polyethylene that won't rust, dent or bend, and are extraordinarily strong and durable. Aluminum tubing is also lighter and stronger than old-fashioned wooden handles.
- ☐ Begin shoveling slowly to avoid placing a sudden demand on your heart. Pace yourself and take breaks as needed.

Enjoy Your Christmas Tree . . . Then Recycle It at the Curb



Browning Ferris Inc., the Village's refuse hauler, will pick up Christmas trees on your regularly scheduled refuse pick-up day, December 26th through January 23rd. Place your Christmas tree in the parkway and follow these simple guidelines:

- ☐ Do not put trees in plastic bags -- they will not be recycled.
- ☐ Remove all decorations including lights, garland, tinsel, and metal (such as nails). Be sure to remove the stand.
- ☐ Dispose of artificial or natural wreaths in the regular household garbage.
- ☐ Position the Christmas tree with the cut end toward the curb for easy loading.
- ☐ Do not place artificial trees at the curb for recycling.

Village's Snow & Ice Teams Keep Streets Safe When Snow Adds Sparkle Around Town

Going into winter, we are sure of only two things: It's going to be cold and it's going to snow. The Public Works Snow and Ice Control Team is ready to go at a moment's notice. The Team stands ready to implement the Village's "bare pavement" policy of clearing every street of snow and ice from curb to curb when the snow flies.

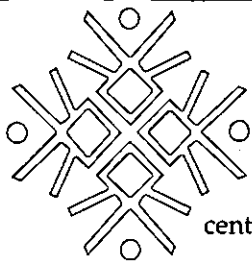
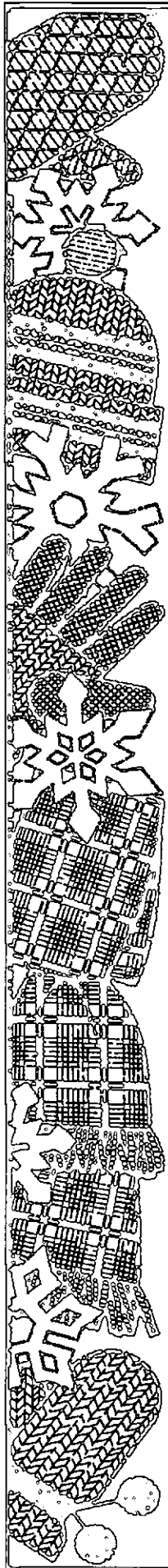
The Team is gearing up for its annual winter battle against the elements. Equipment preparations, salt purchases and plow driver training begin in early October. The purpose is to provide the residents, visitors and consumers with the area's safest streets when Old Man Winter casts his fury on Bloomingdale.

A rigorous preventative maintenance program for all snow fighting vehicles and equipment helps ensure the equipment will perform in the event of winter storms. Public Works begins purchasing its salt supply in November, having nearly 1,500 tons of salt on hand to deal with the winter storms.

Wonder why fully-outfitted snow plows are rolling down the street on sunny days in November? Plow drivers and secondary crews train to get familiar with their assigned routes. The drivers get out onto the streets so they can reacquire themselves with their routes, and take note of any hazards that may damage the equipment.

The Snow and Ice Control Team takes great pride in their efforts to keep the residents of the Village of Bloomingdale safe during the snow and ice season.





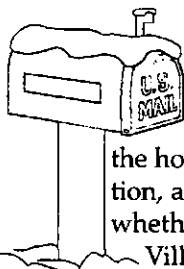
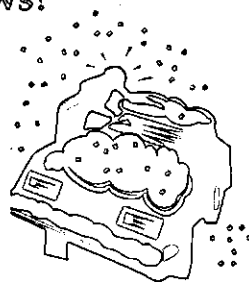
'Sno Fooling -- Winter's

With the seasonal snowfall just around the corner, the Village Services Department, Public Works Division is ready to combat snow and ice on the 121 center lane miles of Village streets, making them safer for motorists.

When a storm begins, day or night, Village crews are promptly mobilized and begin spreading salt. The Village initially salts all Village streets approximately 100 feet before and after each intersection. The initial salt application mitigates icing conditions contributing to more effective snow removal operations. After a 1-inch to 2-inch accumulation of snow, crews begin the snowplow operations according to predetermined snow routes. The routes consist of 4 routes with 8 vehicles (2 separate vehicles handle cul-de-sacs and dead ends) and have been carefully designed to allow for the optimum use of the available snowplowing equipment and personnel. All Village-owned streets will eventually be plowed, but main streets are cleared before side streets, which are cleared before cul-de-sacs and dead ends. The rate at which the streets are cleared depends on many factors including total accumulation, type of snow (wet or powder-like), temperature and volume of traffic on streets during plow operations.

What Are the Village's Parking Regulations When It Snows?

The Village's winter parking ban takes effect after snowfalls of 2 inches or more. The ban applies to all vehicles on any Village-owned street and is in effect for a period of 24 hours or until the streets have been cleared of snow. Residents can assist Village crews in the snow removal efforts by parking vehicles in driveways or other off-street parking areas.

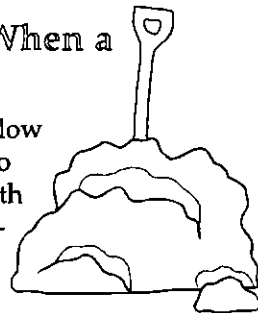


What If a Snowplow Damages My Mailbox?

The Village will replace and/or reimburse a resident up to \$50.00 for a mailbox and post which is damaged as a result of the Village snowplow operations, provided the homeowner notifies the Village of the damage, the Village performs an in-house investigation, and the mailbox is installed per Village setback requirements. If you have questions as to whether or not your mailbox is in compliance with Village requirements, you may contact the Village Services Department -- Street Maintenance Division at 671-5800.

Why Does My Driveway Sometimes Get "Plowed In" When a Snowplow Truck Passes?

The Village snowplows are designed to direct the snow to the curb side of the plow blade. "Side delivery plows" are the fastest and most efficient means available to remove snowfall from the streets. As a result, snow is discharged along the length of the curb, the parkways, and the private driveway areas. The Village has thousands of private driveways abutting Village streets, the cleaning of which is the responsibility of the property owner.



Manpower and equipment limitations prohibit the Village from responding to routine requests to remove snow from private driveways. Therefore, we strongly recommend you delay your schedule for clearing the driveway until the snowplows have cleaned the majority of your street. **THE VILLAGE ORDINANCES PROHIBIT THE DISCHARGE OF SNOW ONTO THE VILLAGE STREETS.** This illegally placed snow may freeze or become compacted, creating a safety hazard for all motorists.

Who Do I Call With Questions About Snow Removal Operations?

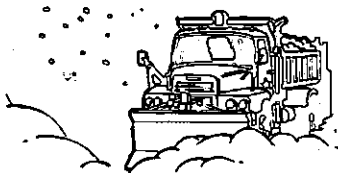
Any questions regarding snow removal should be directed to the Village Services Department - Public Works Maintenance Division Superintendent at 671-5800.

Coming and We're Ready for It!

Wintertime Words to the Wise . . .

Use extra caution when driving through intersections following a heavy snowfall.

Snow is piled on cross streets when intersections are plowed. Until crews have had their final pass to completely clear the intersection, the snow piles along the curb lane may hinder visibility.



Please do not attempt to stop the snow plow operators to discuss questions or problems.

Such interruptions slow crews and reduce the speed of the truck and the efficiency of the snow removal operations. Drivers are instructed not to stop to talk to residents.

If it is still snowing, or if snow is anticipated on the evening before garbage pick-up day, we ask that you delay putting out your garbage for as long as possible.

This will eliminate the problem of garbage containers being covered by snow that is pushed against the curb by the plows. Place garbage containers on the driveway or as close to the driveway as possible to give refuse collectors room to pick them up

Additional Snow Removal Information

Ornamental rocks along the curb or next to the pavement on non-curb streets present a serious safety hazard to the snow removal equipment. **If residents use rocks or planters for landscape beautification, they need to insure that they are a minimum of three feet in back of the curb or pavement on non-curb streets.** If these obstacles are not removed by the residents, the Village will remove them, if deemed necessary for safe snow removal operations.

Fire Hydrants

For the convenience of firefighters - if an emergency should occur (maybe at your address), dig a path to the fire hydrant in front of your house **from the street**. Dig out around the fire hydrant too. If firefighters can see a hydrant, they can get to it more quickly. Better yet, adopt a hydrant near your home and see that it is accessible.

Motorists - Stay Back Three Car Lengths

Do not follow snow plows too closely. Sometimes they stop and then back up. If you're right behind one when that happens, well . . . Give snow plows plenty of space. Also, remember driving on slick wintertime pavements is dangerous, even if they've been plowed. Take more time to get where you're going, begin slowing for stops sooner and, for heaven's sake, don't drink and then try to drive.

Winter Phone Numbers

Village of Bloomingdale

Snow Phone (630) 671-5800

Call this number to report a problem. We regret that it is not possible to advise exactly when your particular street will be plowed.

Village of Bloomingdale

Police Department -

Non-Emergency (630) 529-9868

Call this number for non-emergency general information.

Bloomington Fire District -

Emergency 911

Illinois Department of Transportation

Information Line . . . 312-DOT-INFO

(312-368-4636)

Call this number for information on State roads (i.e., Lake Street)

The Illinois Department of

Transportation also offers weather/road condition information on their web site:

<http://www.dot.state.il.us/tpublic.html>

Division of Transportation - DuPage

County . . . 630-682-7321

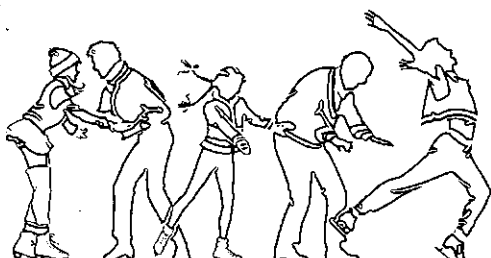
Call this number for information on DuPage County Roads (i.e., Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale Road, Gary Avenue, Schmale Road)

Illinois Tollway Roadway

Information Line . . . 800-865-5394

Call this number for tollway information including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans. The information is updated every four hours, or more often if weather conditions warrant.

Weather Information . . . 630-976-1212



Winter Water Tips

With winter right around the corner we thought a few tips about your water might be helpful.



- ☐ Our water comes from Lake Michigan, so seasonal variations in water temperature exist. As the water gets colder, you may consider turning up your hot water heater setting. However, be certain to let everyone in your house know you have done so. This will prevent anyone from accidentally jumping into a scalding hot shower. We all know where we like to turn the faucet controls to get the proper temperature setting for bathing or showering.
- ☐ Turn off any outside hose bibs. Most recently constructed homes have frost-free hose bibs so there is no need to worry about this. If your home has older plumbing, you may need to shut off the hose bib. Typically there is a valve located inside the house near the hose bib location, which isolates the hose bib. Remember to disconnect all hoses from all hose bibs to prevent freezing.
- ☐ Underground lawn sprinkler systems need to be disconnected and properly drained. There are many different types of systems, we suggest you contact the company that installed your system or the manual provided with the system for the proper method of winterizing your system.
- ☐ Extreme cold weather can cause pipes to freeze. The Villages water lines are generally at least 5 feet below ground to prevent freezing. Take some time before the cold weather to get to know the location of your water pipes. For example, if you have water pipes in an outside wall, these are more susceptible to freezing than pipes located in interior walls. During the extreme cold weather, letting a faucet drip or run very slowly, will help prevent freezing. A properly heated home should help prevent freezing problems.
- ☐ Know where your shut off valve is and how it works. The master valve is located by the inside water meter. Typically there are two valves, one on each side of the water meter, either of which will shut off the water to your home. To shut off the water, turn the valve slowly to the right until it stops. Do not force the valve past that point. The Village has a shut off valve commonly called a b-box located outside your home. If you are unable to shut off your water from your master valve, call the Village Services – Utilities Division Monday through Friday 7:30 am till 4:00 pm at 630-671-5830. After hours, our on-call person can be reached by calling the Police Department non-emergency number at 630-529-9868.

Water Meter Replacement Program Nearing Completion

On behalf of the Village of Bloomingdale and the Village Services Department - Utilities Division, we would like to extend our thanks to all of our residential, commercial, and business customers for your outstanding cooperation during our recent Water Meter Replacement Program. Through your cooperation, we are nearing the end of a successful conversion to the radio frequency meter reading system. More than 99% of the meters in the Village have been changed out since January 2003, and the success of this program would not have been possible without your help. Only 69 meters, out of a total 7,049 meters, remain to be replaced.

For those few remaining customers who still require a meter change-out, you are strongly encouraged to make an appointment as soon as possible, to avoid further actions by the Village of Bloomingdale to insure installation. In the upcoming weeks, a Village Services Department – Utilities Department representative will be contacting those remaining customers to schedule appointments.

Be assured that we will continue to work to provide the best service possible. If you have any concerns, or would like to schedule an appointment, please do not hesitate to contact Village Services Utilities Division at 630-671-5830. Again we extend our thanks and appreciation.

Notice a Ground Swell or a Constant Flow Of Water? It Could be a Water Main Break

Winter is typically a busy time of year for Public Works crews. Water main breaks occur year round but are more frequent in the winter months. "Water main break" is a term frequently used to describe a variety of underground pipeline failures. The Village water distribution infrastructure consists of approximately 122 miles of water mains, 1750 fire hydrants, 6,000 b-boxes, and 1500 valves to maintain and repair. These are generally located in the parkway in front of your home or in rear yard easements. Most water main breaks are easy to detect as the ground above the leak will swell and a constant flow of water will run out. Repairs are typically scheduled by the severity of the leak with priority given to the safety of the water supply, potential for damage, and inconvenience to the affected customers. Repairs vary in time due to conditions such as weather and conflicts with other utilities. To make a repair the Crew has to shut off the water main. Water is generally off 4 to 6 hours for the average repair. The crews typically knock on the doors of the homes affected by the shutdown unless it's late at night. When the water is turned back on, it may be discolored. This discoloration is generally due to mineral sediments in the watermain that are disturbed from the repairs. This will settle in a short period time. Unless you are specifically notified, the water remains safe to drink or what is commonly called "potable."

To report a watermain break please call the Village Services – Utilities Division at 630-671-5830 during normal business hours Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. After hours the on-call person can be reached by calling the Police Department non-emergency number at 630-529-9868.

Be a Safe Holiday Season Shopper

Are you ready for the Holidays? Thanksgiving Day dinner is quickly enjoyed, followed by the Christmas shopping workout. Safety should be carefully considered at all times, but particularly now when so many will be shopping for those large purchases or for those few last minute items. During this hectic time of the year, the following safety measures can help to ensure the protection of your belongings and your personal well being.

While Shopping:

- Keep your purse/wallet and packages with you at all time.
- Hold your purse close to your body and keep it in front of you.
- Place your wallet, money, etc. in your front pants pocket.
- Don't display large amounts of cash to others.
- Take only the appropriate amount of money, credit cards, or checkbook for the shopping you are conducting.
- Do not leave items unattended in a shopping cart, on a counter, or floor.
- Teach children to go to a cashier if they are lost.
- Be alert and walk confidently. Pay attention to those around you.
- Be careful when giving out your credit card or when using an ATM facility.
- Place all valuables in your trunk. Anything in plain view may be taken.
- Park in well-lighted, busy areas. Consider the time of day or evening that you will be doing your shopping.
- Look around and inside your vehicle before opening your vehicle.
- Any problems, notify the security department or the police department.

At Home:

- Secure doors and windows at all times. Use timers on lights, radio, and T.V. to make your home appear to be occupied.
- Do not advertise vacation plans with strangers or casually with businesses you may frequent.
- Ask a friend or relative to check on things while you are away.
- Notify the police department of the dates you will be away.

Any questions or concerns about this information or any other crime prevention information please contact Detective Dawn Odoi at the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

WELCOME
Bloomingdale is a
CRIME WATCH
COMMUNITY



We immediately report
all suspicious activities
to our police department

Village of Bloomingdale Expanded Holiday Weekend Hours for Dial-A-Ride Transportation

The Village of Bloomingdale will again be offering Expanded Weekend Dial-A-Ride hours during the holiday season from Saturday, November 29th through Sunday, January 4th. The Holiday Weekend Service will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Bloomingdale residents may ride anywhere within the Bloomingdale Township Boundaries, and also to Central Dupage, Alexian Brothers and Glen Oaks Hospitals; DuPage Oncology Clinic, Monakea Medical Complex, Wheaton Medical Clinic, and Wheaton Eye Clinic.

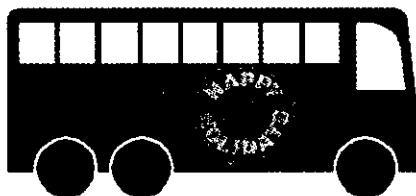
Bloomingdale's Weekend Dial-A-Ride one-way rates are:

\$1.30 For Adult Residents (age 14 and older)

\$.75 For Village Residents with a Disability, Village Seniors (age 65 and older) and for students (age 7 to 13).

Free for children (under age 7) when accompanied by a fare-paying adult

Reservations shall be accepted up to one week in advance on a first serve basis.



Same day service requests are accepted, however, transportation cannot be guaranteed.

**Weekend Dial-A-Ride Reservations
may be made by calling:
1-888-405-2060**

Marquardt Middle School Sixth Grader Students Tour the Robert F. Reeves Water Reclamation Facility

Approximately 90 sixth-grade students toured the Water Reclamation Facility on Wednesday November 5, 2003. For several days prior to the tour, Ms. Meagan Jensen, sixth grade science teacher at Marquardt School, discussed with her students what equipment units were at the facility. They discussed how the biological processes break down the wastewater and how each of these treatment units react with each other to treat the water that is discharged into the East Branch of the Dupage River.

The students arrived at the facility and were given a tour, front to back. Many of the students were amazed at how much of the facility is actually underground and how large the equipment and tanks are at the facility. The six-graders were well versed on the subject and questioned Shirley Burger, Chemist at the facility, on how the water arrives at the plant and how the various processes remove the waste products that discharge into the creek.

Their reactions were unique, stated Ms. Burger "Most students don't get a chance to see how a treatment facility operates. I'm glad that they had this opportunity to see that we actually change dirty water to clean water for everyone to enjoy."

Bloomingdale Park District Named National Gold Medal Award Finalist for Second Year in a Row!

The Bloomingdale Park District was selected as one of four finalists for the 2003 National Sporting Goods Association's (NSGA) Gold Medal Award in the fewer than 25,000 population class for the second year in a row.

NSGA's Sports Foundation is a non-profit membership organization founded to stimulate interest in the development of new recreational activities and facilities and to encourage participation in sports. It established the National Gold Medal Awards Program for park and recreation management in 1965.

The purpose of the National Gold Medal Awards is to select and honor the nation's outstanding park and recreation agencies for excellence in the field of recreation management.

VILLAGE ALMANAC

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Village of Bloomingdale

**Mary Ellen Johnson,
Editor**

Address all correspondence to:
Village of Bloomingdale
201 S. Bloomingdale Road
Bloomingdale, IL 60108

671-5600

Bloomington Park Foundation Honors Community Volunteers

At its 8th annual Recognition Dinner, the Bloomington Parks Foundation honored a number of people for their contributions to the community. The honorees were nominated by community members and organizations.

Frank Cook, owner of Rooster's Restaurant, was recognized for his continual support of local youth sports, as well as fundraising activities of local organizations. **Don Helmig**, general manager of Bloomington Golf Club, was also honored for his civic-minded support of many community groups in town, including the schools, scouts and the Park Foundation activities. Lake Park High School senior **Katherine O'Rourke** was also singled out for recognition. Thanks to her, both Lake Park campuses purchased additional automatic electronic defibrillators, and she is currently in charge of training school staff on their proper use and continues to work with teachers, coaches and school staff on their importance.

Dan O'Leary was nominated by the Bloomington Soccer Association for his consistent support and involvement with the program, but especially for his creation and implementation of a new process for certifying referees. The Bloomington Soccer Association also nominated **Val Ewing** for her work as Coach Coordinator, and for her pursuit of a cooperative relationship with the Chicago Fire Soccer professional soccer organization, which has been very beneficial to the BSO. **Lisa Tabor** was the nominee from the Bloomington Baseball & Softball Association. She spent the past two years as president of the organization, invigorating Bloomington Baseball and Softball, and making the experience fun, safe and enjoyable for all the players.

The Bloomington Athletic Club (Youth Football and Cheerleading) honored **Dave Tresch** for more than eight years of volunteering in innumerable positions. Dave created and maintains the BAC's website, as well the BAC database. **Tracey & Michael Miller** were recognized for outstanding assistance in every aspect of running meets for Bloomington Park District Gymnastics, as well as Tracey's contribution of embroidering talent. Bloomington Youth Basketball Association presented **John Zanghi** with their Volunteer of the Year Award for his past eight years of coaching through which he has helped the basketball program grow into a most positive and enjoyable experience for so many people. **Dave Lorenz** was nominated by the Bloomington Barracudas Swim Team for his eight years of volunteering in all aspects of the swim team, from set-up to judge to head scorer, and everything in-between.

These Kids are Winners!!!!

The 2003 Youth CHARACTER COUNTS! Award winners pose with Mayor Bob Iden. (l to r) Mario Verzillo, 5th grade Winnebago; Dave Brambert, 5th grade DuJardin; Lauren Szramiak, 8th grade Westfield; Salvatore Cali, 5th grade Erickson; Vicky Schreiber, 8th grade St. Isidore.



Chiefs Honored by Bloomington Township

Bloomington Fire Chief Tim Marrocco and Bloomington Police Chief Gary Schira were among the representatives of agencies honored by Bloomington Township at its "Salute to Everyday Heroes" on September 11, 2003.

Community Events Community Events

Donate Your Old Cellular Phone for Use By the Homeless & Abused

Through the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Motorola has given permission to have old cellular phones reprogrammed for emergency 911 calls. The phones will be distributed to shelters for use by the homeless and abused. Donations will be accepted at the Bloomingdale Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road through December 2004.

'Sing the Messiah' December 13 at Medinah Baptist Church

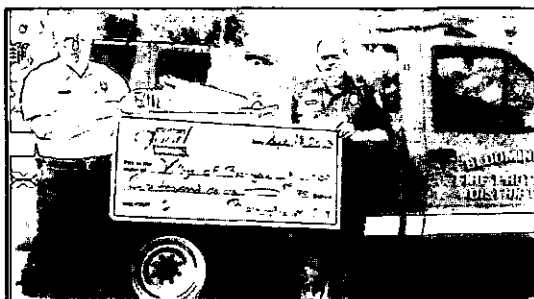
The 3rd annual "Sing the Messiah" will be held on December 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Medinah Baptist Church, 900 Foster in Medinah. The event, which offers community members a chance to join voices in song, is sponsored by the Five Star Performing Arts Community. A 17-piece orchestra will accompany the signers and solist Anne Smith, pictured to the right.



The music can be purchased for \$8 at the Roselle and Itasca libraries.

Bloomingdale Women's Club Grab Bag Exchange December 11

Bloomingdale Women's Club hosts a \$10 holiday grab bag exchange at 7:30 p.m. on December 11 at the Bloomingdale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way. The BWC invites all women, married and single, to meet new people, enjoy community service and social activities. For more information, call Violet at 894-6783.



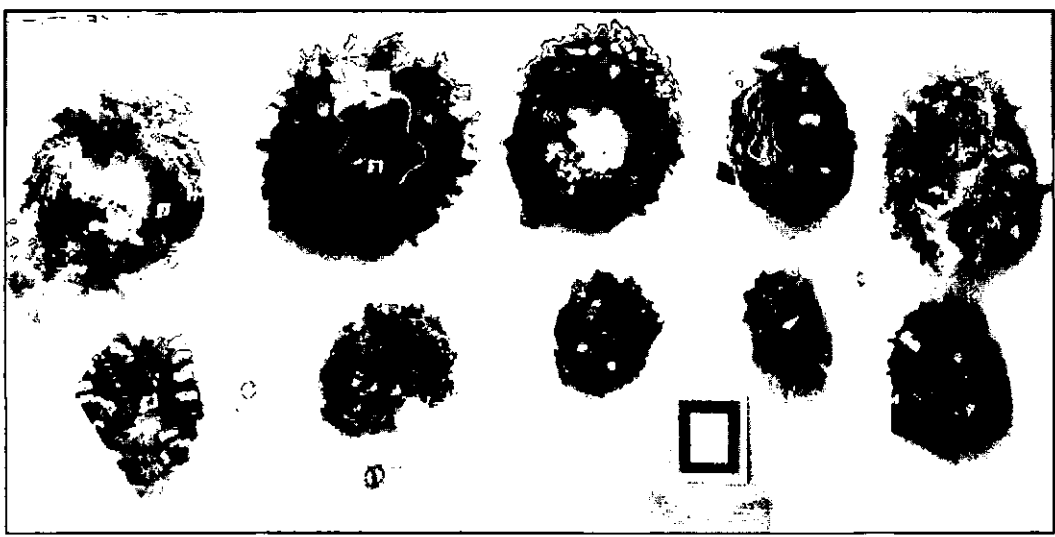
Bloomingdale Wal-Mart Makes \$1,000 Donation to 'Everyday Heroes'

Our Bloomingdale Wal-Mart generously donated \$1,000 to the "Everyday Heroes" statue fund. Bloomingdale Fire Chief Tim Marrocco and Firefighter Tom Zarth, president of the Bloomingdale Professional Firefighters Union #3272, gratefully accepted a copy of the check.

Bidding Underway for Chamber's Wreath Silent Auction

Bidding for the Chamber of Commerce's 4th annual Wreath Silent Auction is on now through 5 p.m. Thursday, December 4. Over 50 wreaths have been donated by local businesses and groups.

All proceeds benefit the chamber's local scholarship program.





Bloomington Fire Protection District #1



Administrative Offices
179 S. Bloomington Road
Bloomington, IL 60108
(630) 894-9080
FAX (630) 894-8720

Chief Tim Marrocco District Trustees

President, Marshall L. Gray, Jr.
Ralph Scalise, Secretary
Lydia DiBuono, Treasurer

Michael McKeon
Commissioners Jac L. Williamson
Franco Coladipietro

According to the United States Fire Administration (USFA), heating fires account for 36% of residential home fires in rural areas every year. Often these fires are due to a build-up of creosote in chimneys and stovepipes. All home heating systems need to be maintained on a regular basis in order to function safely and efficiently.

KEEP FIREPLACES AND WOOD STOVES CLEAN

- * Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- * Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations, and flammable materials.
- * Always use a mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while burning a fire.
- * Keep air inlets on wood stoves open and never restrict the air supply to fireplaces. Otherwise, you may create creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.
- * Use fire-resistive materials on walls around wood stoves.

SAFELY BURN FUELS

- * Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.
- * Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup.
- * Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- * Never burn cardboard boxes, trash, or debris in your fireplace or wood stove.
- * When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on a adequate supporting grate.
- * Never leave a fire unattended. Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.

For more information visit the USFA website @ www.usfa.fema.gov or the Bloomington Fire Protection District #1 website @ www.bloomingtonfire.com

What is carbon monoxide (CO)? CO is an invisible, odorless gas. It is commonly a by-product of incomplete combustion, produced when fossil fuels (like coal, oil, or gas) burn. Because you can't see, taste, or smell CO, it can kill you before you know it's there. It is the concentration of CO over time that poses a threat.

How does a CO detector work? A carbon monoxide alarm triggers an alarm based on exposure to CO over time. It is designed to sound an alarm before an average, healthy adult would experience symptoms. Remember, with carbon monoxide, it is the concentration of CO over time that poses the threat. Since carbon monoxide displace oxygen in your blood, it can harm you if you are exposed to high levels of CO in a short period of time, or to lower concentrations of CO over a long period of time.

Why is CO so dangerous? Carbon monoxide robs you of oxygen, which is carried to your cells and tissues by the hemoglobin in your blood. If you inhale even a small amount of CO, it quickly bonds to the hemoglobin and displaces the oxygen. This toxic compound in your blood is called carboxyhemoglobin (COHb). Carboxyhemoglobin produces flu-like symptoms, such as headache, fatigue, nausea, dizzy spells, confusion, and irritability. As levels of COHb rise, victims suffer vomiting, loss of consciousness, and eventually brain damage or death.

What do I do if my carbon monoxide detector goes off? Never ignore an alarm. It is possible that you won't be experiencing any symptoms of CO poisoning. The detector is supposed to go off before you feel sick, so you have time to react and take action. Call 911. Immediately move everyone to a source of fresh air. Leave the CO detector where it is. Do not air out the house. Do not reenter the house until the fire department or gas company representative tell you that it is all right to go back in. Have the problem corrected as soon as possible.

How can I protect against carbon monoxide poisoning? The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends that every house have at least one CO detector with an audible warning signal installed near the sleeping area. Choose a CO detector that is Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) listed. Look for the UL logo on the package. The International Association of Fire Chiefs recommends UL Listed CO detectors be installed on every level of the home for additional protection. Have a qualified appliance technician check all fuel burning appliances, furnaces, venting and chimney systems at least once a year, or as recommended by the manufacturer.

Who's at risk from CO poisoning? Everyone, because we all need oxygen to live. Medical experts believe some people are more vulnerable to poisoning, like unborn babies, infants, children, seniors and people with heart and lung problems.

Where does CO come from? CO can be produced by gas or oil appliances like a furnace, clothes dryer, stove, oven, water heater, or space heater. Problems are caused when something goes wrong. An appliance can malfunction, a furnace heat exchanger can crack; vents can clog, or debris like a bird's nest, can block a chimney or flue. Fireplaces, wood burning stoves, charcoal grills, or gas logs can produce unsafe levels of CO if they are unvented or not properly vented. Exhaust can seep into a home from vehicles left running in an attached garage.

Other recommendations: Do not install a CO detector right next to a combustion appliance, like a gas or oil furnace, oven, water heater, etc. Install the detector at least 15-20 feet away from these appliances whenever possible. Do not install a CO detector where it will be exposed to strong chemical; solvents or cleaners, or in areas of high humidity. CO detectors work best when clean and dry.

Source: "What You Need to Know About Carbon Monoxide" by First Alert

Off the Shelf

BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

101 Fairfield Way, Bloomington, IL 60108
Home page: www.bloomington.lib.il.us

Phone: 630-529-3120
E-mail: bdref@linc.lib.il.us



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Melissa Willer	Circ./Tech. Department Head



NEW LIBRARY DIRECTOR APPOINTED

The Bloomington Public Library is pleased to announce the selection of our new director, Timothy Jarzemsky, who will begin his new position on December 1. Tim has worked at the Schaumburg Township District Library for the past ten years and most recently served as the Head of Technology Services. He replaces former director Mary Rodne who left in March to establish a new library in Colleyville, Texas.

LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

1	Bloomington Historical Society	7:30-9:00 p.m.
2	Holiday Open House	6:30-9:00 p.m.
*7	Polar Express	1:00 p.m.
*9	Historical Book Discussion Group	10:00-11:30 a.m.
*10	YA Program - Gingerbread Houses	6:30-8:00 p.m.
10	Library Board Meeting	7:30 p.m.
11	Writer's Workshop	7:00-9:00 p.m.
*11	Science Fiction Book Discussion Group	7:30-9:00 p.m.
13	Writer's Workshop	9:00-12:00 Noon
*13	Breakfast/Brunch with Santa	9:00a.m./11:30 a.m.
*14	Adult Program - Music from the Movies	2:00-3:00 p.m.
*16	Adult Program - Holiday Centerpieces	10:00-12:00 Noon
16	YS Program - Holiday Movie Classics	7:30-8:30 p.m.
*18	YS Program - American Girl Holiday Stories (Gr. 2 and up)	6:30-8:00 p.m.
23	LIBRARY CLOSURES AT 5:00 P.M.	
24	Christmas Eve	LIBRARY CLOSED
25	Christmas Day	LIBRARY CLOSED
30	LIBRARY CLOSURES AT 5:00 P.M.	
31	New Year's Eve	LIBRARY CLOSED

JANUARY

1	New Year's Day	LIBRARY CLOSED
5	Registration begins for Youth Services Winter Storytime Programs	
5	Bloomington Historical Society	7:30-9:00 p.m.
*6	Historical Book Discussion Group	10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
*7	Adult Program - Community Issues	7:00-8:00 p.m.
10	Writer's Workshop	9:00-12:00 Noon
*12	Science Fiction Book Discussion Group	7:30-9:00 p.m.
12	Youth Services Winter Storytime Programs Begin	
13	Bloomington Seniors	11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
14	Culture Club	7:00-9:00 p.m.
*14	Adult Book Discussion	10:00-11:30 a.m.
14	Library Board Meeting	7:30 p.m.
*15	Adult Book Discussion	7:30-9:00 p.m.
*19	YS Program - Holes (Grades 4 and up)	1:00-3:00 p.m.
*19	Adult Program - Interviews	7:00-8:00 p.m.
*20	Mother/Daughter Book Club Informational Meeting	7:00-8:00 p.m.
21	Bloomington Quilt Group	7:00-9:00 p.m.
21	Garden Club	7:00-9:30 p.m.
*22	YA Program - Whose Line is it Anyway?	7:00-8:00 p.m.
28	Writer's Workshop	7:00-9:00 p.m.

*REGISTRATION REQUIRED (630) 529-3120



HOLIDAY HOURS



December 23	Library closes at 5:00 p.m.
December 24	LIBRARY CLOSED
December 25	LIBRARY CLOSED
December 26	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
December 27	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
December 28	1:00 p.m. - 5:00
December 30	Library closes at 5:00 p.m.
December 31	LIBRARY CLOSED
January 1	LIBRARY CLOSED

Youth Services Department WINTER YOUTH PROGRAMS

SCHOOL AGE SPECIALS



**Drop-In Holiday Storytime
for Elementary Age Students**
Wednesday, December 17
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

This hour will be filled with favorite holiday stories for students in elementary school. There will be book talks, read alouds, and a time for reading books of their choice silently during this special reading hour for them.

Drop-In Craft
(Grades 3 and Up)
Monday, December 22
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Design your own ornament or magnet using beads. Patterns will be available or create your own unique design. The librarian will iron your beads together when you are finished. Make one for yourself and one for a gift.



American Girl Holiday Stories
(Grades 2 and Up)
Thursday, December 18
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of American Girl Holiday stories. We'll be using the Surprise Stories about Felicity, Kirsten, Addy, Samantha, Molly, Josefina, and Kit. What better time to research how each of the American Girls celebrated the holidays based on their heritage and time in American History. Compare how you and your family celebrate the holidays with your favorite American Girls. We'll share what we learn as we enjoy holiday refreshments. Feel free to bring your American Girl Doll with you. Stop by or call the Youth Services Desk to register (630)-529-3120 ext.332. This program is limited to Bloomingdale Public Library Cardholders only.

Afternoon at the Movies: Holes
(Grades 4 and Up)
Monday, January 19
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join us on your day off of school to watch *Holes*, based on the story by Louis Sachar. We will provide theme related refreshments and a special *Holes* giveaway. Registration is limited so please stop by or call the Youth Services Desk (630) 529-3120 ext. 332.



Holiday Movie Classics

All Ages
Tuesday, December 16
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join us immediately after Holiday Bedtime Stories for Holiday Movie Classics on the 16mm. Projector. We will be watching *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, and other holiday classics. Holiday refreshments will be served, and please feel free to come in your pajamas.

HOLIDAY STORYTIMES

The Youth Services Department invites you to stop into the library for our Holiday Storytimes. We will be featuring holiday stories, songs, and flannel board stories to celebrate the holiday season.

Monday, December 15

Preschool Storytime	10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Family Storytime	1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 16

Bedtime Stories	7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Holiday Movies Classics	7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 17

Time for Two's	10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Just Three's	11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 18

Preschool Storytime	1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
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WINTER READING PROGRAMS

Winter Reading Programs start on the day you register and end on Saturday, February 21.

Registration begins on Monday, January 5.
PLEASE REGISTER IN PERSON
TO GET YOUR MATERIALS.

"BOOKS ARE COOL!"

(Family Reading Program for Parents and/or Caregivers and their Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Kindergartners.)

Families keep track of the reading and listening time on the log provided at registration, beginning January 5. **Turn in completed reading log to the Youth Services Reference Desk between January 19 and February 21 to enter the PRIZE DRAWING.** Sign up in person during regular program registration.

"READ TO SUCCEED"

Sponsored by the Chicago Wolves Hockey Team
(1st - 8th graders)

Participants in this reading program have the chance to win exciting prizes, such as Chicago Wolves merchandise! Register in person beginning January 5. **Turn in completed reading log to the Youth Services Reference Desk between January 19 and February 21 to enter the PRIZE DRAWING.**

Youth Services Department

WINTER YOUTH PROGRAMS

REGISTRATION INFORMATION/REQUIREMENTS FOR WINTER STORYTIME PROGRAMS

In-person registration begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 5. Phone-in registration will be accepted after 10:00 a.m. that same day at (630) 529-3120 ext. 332. Please have your library card when you register.

Please note that selected programs are open to Bloomingdale Public Library cardholders only. We regret that we cannot accommodate non-resident attendance at all programs. Please refer to the registration information provided for each program.

All programs, except Bedtime Stories and Family StoryTime, require registration and no siblings are allowed at registered programs.

The following age appropriate programs are intended for the registered child. Please make alternative arrangements for siblings.

Winter Programming begins the week of January 12

Winter Programming ends the week of February 16

STORYTIMES

Programs for Newborns through Kindergarteners. Registered storytimes are limited to Bloomingdale Public Library cardholders only.

ROMPER RHYMES (Birth - 15 months)

Tuesdays, January 13 - February 17

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

The best way to start "reading" to infants is not really reading at all! Romper Rhymes is a language-enrichment program in which nursery rhymes, songs, and fingerplays are shared with babies and their caregivers. The program is designed to engage parents/caregivers and children in a bonding experience while allowing participants to meet other caregivers and share information. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

BUDDING READERS (16 months - 23 months)

Tuesdays, January 13 - February 17

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Budding Readers is a transition class designed to prepare toddlers for our two year old storytime. Children and their parents/caregivers will enjoy nursery rhymes, songs, and fingerplays in addition to stories and flannel boards. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

TIME FOR TWOS (24 months - 30 months)

Wednesdays, January 14 - February 18

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Time for 2's is a 30 minute program of stories, tunes and interactive flannel board activities for children two years old accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Please make other arrangements for the care of siblings, so that the parent/caregiver may be able to share this special time with his/her child.

JUST THREES (31 months and older)

Wednesdays, January 14 - February 18

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Just 3's is a 30 minute storytime for children almost 3 and newly turned 3 who are not ready to be alone in preschool storytime. This story program is designed to help children develop listening skills and features stories, songs and musical activities. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings so parents/caregivers can participate with their child.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME (ages 3 - 5)

Mondays, January 12 - February 16

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Thursdays, January 15 - February 19

1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Preschool Storytime includes a variety of book sharing, flannelboard stories, videos, filmstrips, and musical activities. In order to foster the child's independence, parents/caregivers and siblings are asked to remain outside the program area during the storytime. This program is limited to preschool age children. For those children going into Kindergarten, please see Primary Connections program information.

PRIMARY CONNECTIONS (K- 1st)

Mondays, January 12 - February 16

4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Primary Connections is a six week program for the child who has outgrown preschool storytime, but not outgrown the library. The children will enjoy a fun-filled session of stories, crafts, and musical fun selected for their newly developing skills. In order to foster the child's independence, parents/caregivers and siblings are asked to remain outside the program area during the storytime.

DROP-IN STORYTIMES

The following two Storytimes do not require registration.

FAMILY STORYTIME (All ages)

Mondays, January 12 - February 16

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Family Storytime is designed to serve families with babies, toddlers and preschoolers who want to attend afternoon storytime together. Children will enjoy a variety of book sharing, flannel stories, musical activities and/or puppets during these sessions.

BEDTIME STORIES (All ages)

Tuesdays, January 13 - February 17

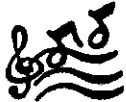
7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Bedtime Stories is designed to serve families with babies, toddlers and preschoolers who are unable to attend daytime sessions.
FEEL FREE TO COME IN YOUR PAJAMAS!

Adult Services Department

WINTER ADULT PROGRAMS

All programs are free of charge but require registration, which should be made by calling the Reference Desk at (630) 529-3120, ext. 324



MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES

Sunday, December 14
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Take a break from the hectic pace of the holiday season and enjoy a selection of movie favorites performed by accomplished pianist Eugene Kwok. Music selections include songs from "Gone with the Wind", "Romeo and Juliet" etc. Light refreshments will be served.



HOLIDAY CENTERPIECES

Tuesday, December 16
10:00 a.m. - Noon

Peggy Garvin, of Garvin Gardens, will show participants how to create their very own centerpieces with various greens, pine cones, ribbons, and candles. Materials will be provided for all participants. This class proved to be VERY popular last year-register early to guarantee a spot! **Bloomington residents will get priority at registration. There is a \$12.50 deposit for this class which will be refunded upon attendance; please register in the Business Office.**



ISSUES FACING THE COMMUNITY

Wednesday, January 7
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Illinois State Representative Carole Pankau will discuss state level issues facing you and your community. Get an update on current topics in Springfield including education funding, O'Hare expansion, gaming, and programs for seniors. Representative Pankau will then address specific questions or concerns you may have. Join her for an information packed evening and have your voice heard.



FACING BEHAVIORAL INTERVIEWS

Monday, January 19
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Learn how to interview successfully so you can get that new job! With the behavioral interview, recruiters are interested in specific examples of what you have done in the past rather than theories or hypothetical situations. Greg Norton, employment expert, will provide information on how to prepare for a behavioral interview and also review basics.

ADOPT-A-MAGAZINE

The Bloomington Public Library is conducting its annual Adopt-A-Magazine drive to help maintain and expand the periodicals collection. If you would be interested in making a financial donation for the collection, please contact Peggy Carlson at 529-3120 ext. 328 for more information and a list of suggested magazine titles.



HEALTHY STRATEGIES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Monday, February 2
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

It's the New Year-that's right-time to set new goals! Do your resolutions or goals fall to the wayside once the year gets into full swing? Let 2004 be the year to change all that! This class focuses on realistic goal setting strategies that may help you work smarter and not harder. Learn strategies to help coach yourself through making healthy changes this New Year.



GERSHWINS TO NOW!

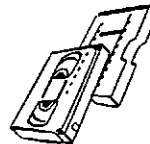
Sunday, February 15
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join us as singer and guitarist Cat Catalani takes the audience on a tour of the Great Age of American Song. The audience can expect hits from the 1930s and '40s by the Gershwins, Duke Ellington and others, such as: *Side by Side*, *Don't Get Around Much Anymore*, and *Let's Call the Whole Thing Off*. Cat will also play a variety of tunes from the latter half of the 20th century and a sampling of her own original songs.

HOME BUYING PROCESS

Wednesday, February 18
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

If you are considering buying a home and are uncertain of what the process entails, then you won't want to miss this seminar. On hand will be a mortgage lender representative, a realtor, an attorney, and an insurance agent speaking about each aspect of buying a house. Ample time will be provided for questions. Don't miss this opportunity for free professional advice!



HOLIDAY VIDEO AND DVD SPECIAL

To wish you a happy holiday there will be a special from December 22, 2003 through January 4, 2004. Three videos and three DVDs per card may be checked out free during this period with a limit of one checkout per day.

Adult Services Department

WINTER ADULT PROGRAMS

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Adult Group

The Adult Book Discussion Group continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Beginning in January, a daytime group will meet on the third Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. Our selections for January and February are as follows:

Wednesday, January 14 (10:00 a.m.) and Thursday, January 15 (7:30 p.m.)
Larry's Party by Carol Shields

Wednesday, February 18 (10:00 a.m.) and Thursday February 19 (7:30 p.m.)
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadiman

Historical Group

The Historical Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Our selections for January and February are as follows:

January 6 - *Blood on the Moon* by Edward Steers, Jr.
February 3 - *Refinements of Love* by Sarah Booth Conroy

Science Fiction and Fantasy Group

This group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30. Contact Melissa Willer at 529-3120 ext. 315 for book selections for the January 8th or February 12th meeting dates.

YOUNG ADULTS

Looking for that YA book? To better accommodate you, both fiction and non-fiction Young Adult books have relocated to the main floor of the Library. We look forward to assisting you with school assignments or any other questions you may have.

GINGERBREAD HOUSES (6th- 12th grades)

Wednesday, December 10

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

Registration begins November 24

Run, run as fast as you can to the library and decorate your very own gingerbread house. We'll provide the supplies for the framework and the decorations. All you need to provide is the decorative genius! Registration is limited to 10 participants. To register, please call 529-3120 ext. 324 or stop by the Reference Desk.

WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAYS? (6th - 12th grades)

Thursday, January 22

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Have you ever watched *Whose Line is it Anyways*, and thought to yourself: I can do that? Well now is your chance. Join us as we host our very own *Whose Line is it Anyways* show in a coffeehouse atmosphere (meaning fun will be had and food will be served!) Registration is now open!



VolunTEENS

Students in grades 7-12 that are interested in volunteering to work with the Youth Services Staff during the school year should register at the Youth Services Desk beginning January 5. There are only ten positions available for this session which will be from January until April. Sign up is on a first come first serve basis. To register, stop by the Reference Desk or call 529-3120 ext. 324. Look for our next session of VolunTEENS in the April Almanac.

Computer Lab

WINTER PROGRAMS

The following computer classes are recommended for ages 13 and older. There is a \$10.00 refundable deposit for each class, due at the time of registration. Classes are limited to twelve participants. Residents of Bloomington will be placed in the class (if space is available). Non-Residents will be placed on a waiting list and will be contacted if space becomes available. Residents on the waiting list will be given priority over non-residents on the waiting list. Please register in the Business Office of the Library beginning December 1, 2003. Deposits will not be refunded unless cancellation is made at least 24 hours in advance of the class start time.

Adult Computer Course

Please note: A \$60.00 deposit is required for this course

Monday	January 5	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	January 6	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday	January 12	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	January 13	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday	January 19	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	January 20	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This six-session course will cover a wide range of computer topics. It is intended to give students a strong foundation in computing, teaching general computer/Windows principles, using the Internet, and familiarity with Microsoft Office products. The skills learned here will help to prepare the student for whatever computing task interests them. Please see the following Course Outline for more information.

Adult Computer Course Outline

Sessions 1 and 2:

Very basic introduction to computers and how we use them. Topics such as learning how to use disks and CD-ROMs, becoming comfortable with the mouse, using windows, and running programs.

Discussion will continue over first two classes with recommended practice exercises given after both session 1 and 2.

Sessions 3 and 4:

These two classes will introduce participants to using the Internet. Basic understanding of connecting and using the World Wide Web will be covered as well as more detailed E-Mail questions and introducing more complicated Internet topics such as downloading, searching, and using multimedia products online (music, movies, games, etc.).

The third class will cover most of the topics covered in "Introduction to the Internet and E-Mail" with a few changes to better suit the class. In the fourth session we will fill in E-Mail and Browser details missing from the third session and begin with the complicated topics discussed above.

Sessions 5 and 6

The final two sessions of this course will introduce the Microsoft Office Suite, paying particular attention to MS Word but also introducing products such as Excel, Power Point, and Publisher, while discussing the Office environment. These classes should provide enough comfort to get started in any MS Office program.

HOW TO BUY A COMPUTER

Saturday December 13, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class describes the different places to shop for computers, while examining their respective advantages. Also discussed will be information regarding the individual parts of a computer, what their ratings mean, and how to find the right computer for every budget and taste.

INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL

Monday December 15, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class will cover the basic concepts creating and using spreadsheets. (Having taken "Introduction to using Microsoft Word" or equivalent experience is recommended.)

USING THE INTERNET

Tuesday December 16, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This course will cover topics from the most basic Internet questions to more intermediate material such as search engines and downloading. This class is intended for those with little or no computer experience.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR COMPUTER 2

Wednesday December 17, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

Class will cover more advanced Windows topics such as changing settings, manipulating/customizing toolbars, properties screens and startup/recovery disks. (Having taken "Understanding Your Computer 1" or equivalent experience is strongly recommended.)

Computer Lab

WINTER PROGRAMS

INTERMEDIATE EXCEL

Wednesday January 7, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class covers more advanced topics in Excel such as formulas, graphs and linking between multiple worksheets. (Having taken "Introduction to Microsoft Excel" or equivalent experience is recommended.)

ADVANCED EXCEL

Wednesday January 14, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class will provide a more advanced investigation of Excel topics introduced in the Intermediate Excel course, as well as examining other functions provided by Excel. (Having taken "Intermediate Excel" is recommended.)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR COMPUTER 3

Wednesday January 21, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

The final session of Understanding Your Computer will cover more advanced hardware topics. Learning to install, remove, and update components of the computer will be covered as well as understanding the basics of how they work. Understanding device drivers and why they're important will be covered. (Having taken "Understanding Your Computer 1 & 2" is strongly recommended.)

USING DIGITAL CAMERAS/SCANNERS

Wednesday January 28, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class will teach the basic skills required to use the Bloomingdale Library's scanner and two sample digital cameras. Techniques taught will include taking pictures, viewing them on the camera, transferring them to a computer, and acquiring text and/or images from the scanner. While all digital cameras are different, the same basic principles will apply to the students' cameras as those used in class. It is recommended that students have basic experience using Windows so that you are comfortable pointing and clicking and following instructions.



BOOK GROUP KITS

Do you participate in a book discussion group? Bloomingdale Public Library offers book group kits that are available for check out. Kits contain multiple copies of book discussion titles previously used in our Adult Book Discussion Group, questions for discussion and author information. The kits circulate for six weeks. The individual who checks out the kit is responsible for all the books contained in the kit. Book discussion kits can be reserved up to two months in advance by calling the Reference Desk at (630) 529-3120 x324. There are twenty one titles currently available.



Mother Daughter Book Club Grades 5-8

Come and meet other moms and daughters who also enjoy reading for fun. We will meet this session for three Sunday afternoons to share satisfying conversations about literature and life. A different book each month will be discussed. Register now at the Youth Services Reference Desk in-person or by phone at (630) 529-3120 ext. 331 or 332. If you are unable to attend the informational meeting, please let us know and our program instructor will contact you with details. This program is limited to Bloomingdale Public Library cardholders only.

Informational Meeting

Tuesday, January 20 - 7:00 p.m.

First Discussion

Sunday, February 15 - 2:00 p.m.

Second Discussion

Sunday, March 21 - 2:00 p.m.

Third Discussion

Sunday, April 18 - 2:00 p.m.



**Don't Miss Out On These
Great Winter Happenings...**

Bloomington Park District

We're right around the corner!

Register Early for

February Daddy Daughter Dance

This year's Daddy Daughter Dance promises to provide a perfect evening for dad and daughter to spend together dancing the night away to popular music provided by a DJ. The couples will also enjoy refreshments and have a photo taken to capture this moment in time. Come dressed in your best for the night of your life! Daddy Daughter Dance takes place February 21 from 7:00-9:00pm at the Johnston Recreation Center. Register early to reserve your couple's spot. Call the Park District at 529-3650 or register online at www.bloomingtonparks.org.



Dance Registration Begins

Registration begins December 9 for Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Funk, Lyrical, and more. Call 529-3650 for more information.

Dance Shoes Now On Sale

at the Park District

The Park District sells quality ballet, tap, and jazz shoes at reasonable prices. See the front office to order.

Email Santa!

Santa is waiting to hear from children ages 3-8 this Christmas! The Bloomington Park District is helping Santa by giving him his own email address that he can use from the North Pole. Just write your name, age and email address and then send Santa a nice letter telling him all about yourself, your family, your pets and school! Don't forget to let him know what you want for Christmas and what your special Christmas wishes are. Children are invited to email Santa by going to the Bloomington Park District website at www.bloomingtonparks.org and clicking on "Send Email to Santa" on the home page. Hurry and email your letters because Santa will only take emails until December 13, so he can get ready for Christmas! For more information call the Park District at 529-3650.



Get in Shape for the Holidays

**With Adult Fitness & Athletic Opportunities
at the Park District**

Open Gym: Available for ages 6-adult, call for schedules. Cost for adult open gym is \$4 per visit for residents, youth cost is \$2.

Rec Basketball: Sundays 10:00-noon

Co-Rec Volleyball: Thursdays 8:00-10:00pm

Walking Track at Westfield: 7 days a week, call for times.



Check Out These Winter Break Camps:

December 22 - January 2

Drama Camp: Ages 8-12, 8:30-3:30pm, Meacham Room
R/NR Fee: \$120/125

Winter Break Days Off: Grades K-6, 8:30-3:30pm, JRC
R/NR Fee: varies

December 29 - January 2 (No class January 1)

Basketball Camp: Ages 7-14, 12:30-3:30pm at Westfield Gym
R/NR Fee: \$65/75

Volleyball Camp: Ages 8-14, 9:00-11:30am at Westfield Gym
R/NR Fee: \$60/70

Soccer Camp: 12:30-3:30pm, at JRC Gym, R/NR Fee: \$76/86

Art Excellence Camp: Ages 7-13, 4:00-6:00pm, Museum
R/NR Fee: \$80/85

December 29 - December 31

Reindeer Camp: Ages 2-1/2-5, 9:00-1:00pm, R/NR Fee: \$45/50

Register for the above classes today!

Intro to Guitar

Saturdays, January 17 - February 21, 12:15-1:15pm

Learn to play the guitar or brush up on basic chords, finger styles, tablature and notation. No experience is necessary. Students must provide their own guitar. Electric guitars are welcome.
R/NR Fee: \$80/85

Register at the Park District today, or online at www.bloomingtonparks.org



At the Museum...

Now-December 27

The Spirit of Christmas Past

This show features antique toys and Christmas ornaments, Mica Albanese's antique doll collection, quilts, and other historic memorabilia will be displayed in Galleries I and II.



Photo 2004

January 24-February 28, 2004

Our very popular annual juried exhibition of photography will include work in black and white, color, and digital. Cash awards and ribbons will be presented.

Opening Reception: Sunday, February 1, 2:00-4:00pm

Entry forms are available at the Museum and the Park District Office.

Drop-off Dates at the Museum:

Thursday, Jan. 8 - 10:00am-2:00pm & Saturday, Jan. 10 - 10:00am-2:00pm

Bloomington Park District Museum

108 South Bloomington Rd. • Ph. & Fax: 630-539-3096

Bloomington Park District

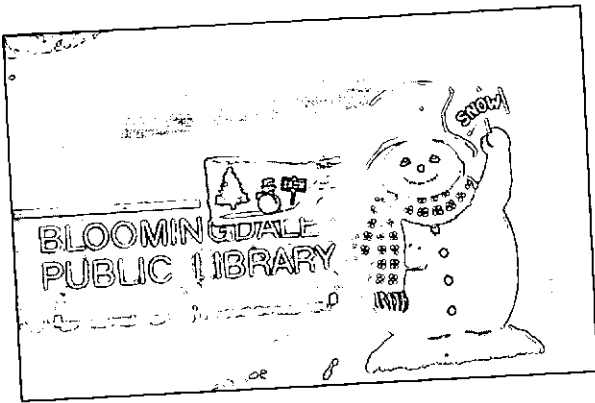
A Recipient of the Illinois Distinguished Agency Award

172 South Circle Avenue • Phone 630-529-3650

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 8:00 pm; Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Parks and Recreation... The benefits are endless!

visit us on the web at www.bloomingtonparks.org



Village of Bloomingdale
201 S. Bloomingdale Road
Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108

PRESORTED
STANDARD
PAID
Bloomingdale, IL
60108
Permit No. # 16

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108

'Tis the
the Season

