December 2012 Growth with Pride

Annual "Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops" at Meijer's



Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops is organized by the Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #175. Each holiday season, the officers of the department seek to share and spread joy to community children in need. The children identified are accompanied by a police officer as they shop for gifts for themselves, as well as gifts for the child to give to others. The event also provides a great opportunity for the voungsters to meet local (continued on page 11)

The 3/50 Project

Which three local businesses would you miss if they closed their doors? Maybe it's the pizza joint where you regularly grab the best tasty slice in town. Perhaps it's the local drug store where the pharmacist knows both you and your family members by name. What would you do without the local florist who knows exactly what your wife will love for your anniversary?

Small business (defined as having 500 or fewer employees) is the lifeblood of the American economy. accounting for an astounding 99.7 percent of all employer firms, (according to a 2007 study by the U.S. Department of Commerce). Yet locally owned independent businesses are under far more pressure than ever. Trving economic times have consumers searching for perceived bargains at large chain stores. This coupled with corporate buyouts of the smaller businesses resulting in large chain stores that are "too big to fail" has made it a treacherous business environment for the little guys.

In support of Bloomingdale's Small Businesses, the Village has joined the 3/50 Project, which is a national initiative created by Cinda Baxter, a Minneapolis-based retail consultant in 2009. The primary mission of the 3/50 Project is "Saving the Brick & Mortars Our Nation is Built On," and is based on a simple message: Pick 3 local businesses; Spend \$50



each month at them collectively. For every \$100 spent in locally owned stores, \$68 remains in the local economy. In contrast, only \$43 of every \$100 remains local when spent in national chains, and \$0 comes back when purchases are made online.

The Bloomingdale Business Promotion Committee and the

(continued on page 3)

Candidate Petitions Accepted in December for Village & Library Seats

The Office of the Bloomingdale Village Clerk Irene M. Jones, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road, will be open from Monday, December 17 through Friday, December 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and also on Monday, December 24 from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in order to accept candidate petitions and certificates of nomination for the Consolidated Election to be held on April 9, 2013.

The following positions will be up for election.

Village President – Four-Year Term

Village Clerk – Four-Year Term

Three Village Trustees – Four-Year Terms

Four Library Trustees – Four-Year Terms

The Village Hall will ONLY be open for the acceptance of petitions on December 24, Christmas Eve. No other business will be conducted.

Scouts Observe Government in Action

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 7:00 p.m. – Village Hall

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1st and 3rd Mondays of every month (Meetings are not held on the 1st Monday of the month during June, July, August and September)

7:00 p.m. – Village Hall

PLAN COMMISSION

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. – Village Hall

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Six times a year or as needed

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

BUSINESS PROMOTION COMMITTEE

1st Friday of the month 9:00 a.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. – Hilton Indian Lakes

BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1st Thursday of the month 5:00 p.m. – Firehouse, 179 S. Bloomingdale Road



Cub Scout Pack 414 from Winnebago School recently visited with Mayor Iden prior to a Village Board meeting to learn more about village government, as part of the process of working toward their Wolf badge. A few members of DuJardin Boy Scout Troop 457 also stayed with them for the whole Village Board meeting. Drew Lindhorn, the first young man in the front row with his hands at his sides led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance at the opening of the meeting.

Congratulations to Mayor Bob Iden who reached his 20th anniversary as Mayor of Bloomingdale on November 23, 2012. The occasion was recognized at the November 26th Village Board Meeting with the presentation of a plaque thanking him for his years of commitment to Bloomingdale.

Stay in Touch

Consider signing up for the Village's E-News, which would be delivered weekly to your email address.

This is a good way to keep up with timely information on news, services and events in and around town. And in the case of an unusual event, such as the 2011 blizzard, the Village is able to get out critical information to all subscribers as it becomes available.

Go to <u>www.villageofbloomingdale.org</u> and sign up for the E-news on the

homepage on the bottom half of the right hand side. It's easy and free!



Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

Robert G. Iden Village President

Irene M. Jones Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

Judi Von Huben Public Safety Robert Czernek
Traffic and Streets

Bill BolenFinance and
Administration

Michael D. Hovde Facilities Infrastructure James M. Gebis Planning, Zoning & Environmental Concerns

Jim King Intergovernmental and Community Relations

Gary Umlauf's photograph of Hilton's golf course graces the front page of this issue. Whether or not we have a white Christmas, the image of the frosty silence and untouched snow evokes the memory.

From the Mayor's Desk

Each November I receive an invitation to a very special program at Erickson School, reminding me the holidays are on the way. On November 12th, I attended the 17th annual Thanksgiving Feast sponsored by the school's parent-teacher organization. Students from all grades help out in some way for this delightful school community event. The group below provided musical entertainment. I thank the Erickson PTO and student body for the kind invitation and wonderful lunch.





As the holidays are fast approaching, the December Almanac always features local opportunities to give to others. In this issue you will find a number of them on page seven, as well as information on page one regarding an annual program for area needy children sponsored by the

Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 175.

DuPage County has a website <u>www.givingdupage.org</u> which also features an interactive volunteer match where one can search for opportunities throughout the year by zip code, area of interest and type of volunteer opportunity.

This Almanac also contains information on help many residents can use. Page six features rebates for home energy upgrades through Energy Impact Illinois. This group is an alliance of local organizations, utility companies and non-profit groups which recently introduced a special limited time rebate of up to \$1,750 for homeowners to make energy efficiency improvements to their homes. The rebates are only available through Spring 2013.

Page eight contains information about the availability of ComEd Assistance programs for customers struggling to pay their monthly electric bills. One of the programs is specifically targeted for active military personnel and disabled veterans.

From my family to yours –warmest wishes for Happy Holidays and a Very Happy New Year.

Mayor Bob Iden

The 3/50 Project (continued from page 1)

Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce have sent free enrollment information to all Bloomingdale's Small Independent Businesses suggesting that they join the 3/50 Project. Once they are members, the businesses can request the free promotional material to encourage public support of their locally owned, independent small business.

In support of Bloomingdale's Small Businesses, we encourage all Bloomingdale residents to **Pick 3** Bloomingdale small businesses, to stop in to say hello, and to please try to **Spend \$50** at those businesses each month.

Recycle Old and Broken Holiday Lights

Elgin Recycling, in partnership with the Village of Carol Stream, its Park District and Public Library, is sponsoring a holiday light recycling program through February 4th. The copper wire within holiday light strands and extension cords has considerable value on the reclaimed metals market, but poses a contamination risk if disposed of in the general waste stream, leaching metal over time into a landfill.

As residents and businesses inventory their holiday lights at the beginning and end of this holiday season, strands that end up in the broken pile can be deposited in the recycling collection barrels located in the lobbies of any one of the following three drop off locations:

Carol Stream Municipal Center - 500 N. Gary Avenue

Simkus Recreation Center - 849 W. Lies Road

Carol Stream Public Library - 616 Hiawatha Drive

Holiday lights acceptable for recycling include traditional bulb lights, mini-Italian lights, rope lights, LED lights, as well as frayed and non-working extension cords and can currently be recycled through February 4th. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the reclaimed copper will be donated to the Carol Stream Police Department's Christmas Sharing program that provides food, clothing and toys to struggling families during the holiday.



Be Snow Safe Wintertime Words to the Wise

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 inhouse investigation, and the mailbox is installed per Village setback requirements. Residents are requested to inspect mailboxes and posts to ensure sturdiness and compliance with the postal service installation requirements, and correct any problem identified. 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 630-671-5800.

VILLAGE ALMANAC

is published bi-monthly by the Village of Bloomingdale

Mary Ellen Johnson, Editor

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

671-5600

Articles and information for the FEBRUARY issue of the Almanac must be submitted to Mary Ellen Johnson by JANUARY 10; email JOHNSONM@ vil.bloomingdale.il.us

With the seasonal snowfall just around the corner, the Village Services Department, Public Works Division is ready to combat snow and ice on the 153 center lane miles of Village streets, making them safer for motorists. Village crews are promptly mobilized when a storm begins, day or night.



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 Parkway?

The Public Works Division understands that there could be some damage to parkways due to snowplowing operations. It is Village policy to repair parkways in April, May, and early June, weather permitting, as this is the best time for the germination of grass seed. Please call the Public Works Division at 630-671-5800 to inform us about damage to your parkway so we can put your location on the list.

Why Does My Driveway Get Plowed In?

The 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 residents delay clearing the driveway until the snowplows have cleaned the majority of your street. Village ordinance PROHIBITS 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 About Snow Removal Operations?

Questions regarding snow removal should be directed to the Village Services Street Division at 630-671-5800.

Garbage Pickup Holidays

The schedule for Republic's Garbage and Recycling Pick-up Services will be delayed by one day during the weeks of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.

Wintertime Driving Tips

from the Bloomingdale Police Department



Safe driving habits and vehicle maintenance should be practiced throughout the year, particularly during the winter season. A safe driver must adapt to road conditions as well as weather conditions as they travel. The following are some driving tips to help overcome winter driving hazards.

- Keep your car's headlights on low beam. This provides better visibility particularly in fog or snow.
- Watch the car in front of you for signs of trouble. Anticipate and prepare for slippery roads or other dangers.
- If you travel below the posted speed limit, please stay in the far right lane to avoid any speeding vehicles.
- If you need to slow down or stop on a slick road, apply the brakes firmly and steadily, but not so firmly that they lock up. As you begin to slow, gently ease up on the brakes. Do not pump the brakes.
- If you skid, don't panic. Take your foot off the brake and then steer in the direction of the skid. Once the car regains traction, you can straighten the wheel.

For any upcoming journey, follow these helpful hints to make sure you're well prepared:

- Keep your gas tank between half and three quarters full during the winter months.
- Be sure your car has a clean bill of health before your trip. A qualified technician should inspect all fluids, belts, wipers, tire pressure, and tire condition.
- Keep an emergency kit in the trunk, including jumper cables, tools, flares, warning triangles, first-aid kit and a flashlight with fresh batteries. You will also want to have an ice scraper, small shovel, blanket and perhaps a bottle of water...just in case.
- If an emergency occurs and you are not able to fix the problem, please attempt to pull over to the far right lane or shoulder and remain in the vehicle. Ask those offering their assistance to notify the state or local police department.
- Consider the purchase of a cell phone for emergency usage.

Any questions or comments regarding this information, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.



Bloomingdale is a CRIME WATCH community.

We immediately report all suspicious activities to our Police Department.

Frank Giammarese, Chief of Police

Dawn Odoi, Community Policing Officer

630-529-9868





The How and Why Of Snowplowing Operations

After a 1-inch to 2-inch accumulation of snow, crews begin the snowplow operations according to pre-determined snow routes. There are four (4) routes with eight (8) vehicles.

There are also two (2) smaller vehicles which handle cul-de-sacs and dead ends. These routes 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.

New, Limited Time Rebate Available For Home Energy Upgrades

When Temperatures Fall Below Zero

- If you have pipes that are vulnerable to freezing, allow a small trickle of water to run overnight to keep pipes from freezing. The cost of the extra water is low compared to the cost to repair a broken pipe.
- Open cabinet doors to expose pipes to warmer room temperatures to help keep them from freezing.

If your pipes freeze:

- Shut off the water immediately. Don't attempt to thaw frozen pipes unless the water is shut off. Freezing can often cause unseen cracks in pipes joints.
- Apply heat to the frozen pipe by warming the air around it, or by applying heat directly to a pipe. You can use a hair dryer, space heater, or hot water. Be sure not to leave space heaters unattended and avoid the use of kerosene heaters or open flames.
- Once the pipes have thawed, turn the water back on slowly and check for cracks and leaks.

When you are away:

- Have a friend, relative or neighbor regularly check your property to insure the heat is working and the pipes have not frozen.
- Also, a freeze alarm can be purchased for less than \$100 and will call a user-selected phone number if the inside temperature drops below 45 degrees.

An alliance of local organizations, utility companies and non-profit groups is helping Bloomingdale homeowners increase the comfort of their homes this fall. The alliance, Energy Impact Illinois, recently introduced a special limited-time rebate of up to \$1,750 for homeowners to make energy efficiency improvements to their homes before winter hits.

It may be hard to remember back to last winter when you noticed an especially drafty room or the window bay in your breakfast nook that just always seemed a bit colder. For sure, you know if rooms in your house were hotter than normal this summer. These issues, and more, can be solved by making energy efficiency improvements like sealing up air leaks and installing proper insulation, which the rebate is designed for.

Bloomingdale homeowners are now eligible for the up to \$1,750 rebate to take energy efficiency steps in their own homes. To receive the rebate, call Energy Impact Illinois at 855-9-IMPACT. Energy Impact Illinois will help you determine eligible rebates and connect you to certified contractors who can assess and estimate the right mix of air sealing and insulation projects that will achieve savings. (There is a customer co-pay of approximately \$99 for this assessment.)

The rebate can help homeowners save, on average, 70 percent on the typical cost of the actual work. Energy Impact Illinois will also link you to attractive loan options with zero percent interest for the first year to make up any difference.

More than half of total energy costs come from heating and cooling a home and almost all homes let too much air escape or penetrate. Most homes also have incorrectly installed or insufficient amounts of attic insulation. Air sealing and insulating a home are some easy, right-now steps homeowners can take to reduce energy bills and create a more comfortable home for winter.

For more information, call 855-9-IMPACT or visit <u>TheEnergyBills.org</u> for tools and links to contractor resources to help take the first steps to lowering energy bills and increasing comfort of your home. This program is available through Spring 2013.

Be on the Lookout for Emerald Ash Borer (even in winter)

It is important for residents to become educated, aware, and vigilant, inspecting their ash trees for signs of infestation. Although most signs of infestation become apparent in the spring growing season, winter is a good time to check ash trees for woodpecker activity and damage. Woodpeckers feed on EAB larvae located under the bark, and may leave jagged holes in the bark.

If you suspect you have an EAB-infested ash tree, please contact the Village Forestry Division at 630-671-5800.

More information regarding EAB in Illinois can be found at these web sites: www.emeraldashborer.info/

www.illinoiseab.com/

www.mortonarb.org

www.villageofbloomingdale.org/living-here/public-works-utilities/forestry-programs-tree-care/emerald-ash-borer-eab

Share the Spirit of the Holidays

With the holiday season upon us, many residents look for opportunities to help others less fortunate. Here are some of the local opportunities to share the spirit of the season.

The Village of Bloomingdale Employees' Salvation Army Angel Tree Charity Drive benefits needy boys and girls (infant through pre-school) who attend the Salvation Army's Red Shield Head Start Childcare Program in Chicago. Each Angel Tree tag identifies the clothing needs and toy desires of each child. If you are interested in participating and would like a tag, please call or e-mail Barb Weber [671-5613] or weberb@vil.bloomingdale.il.us (indicating gender/age preference, if you have one), and a tag will be forwarded to you.

Bloomingdale Township Sharing Tree – Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomingdale Township helped make the season brighter for over 800 children in Bloomingdale Township. Names & wishes of local needy youngsters, as well as residents of convalescent and nursing homes will be on the Sharing Tree, located at the Township Transportation Building, 123 Rosedale Road now through December 14. Wrapped gifts must be returned by December 14.

The Council also notes so many of the "older children," aged 14-18, are forgotten each year because they are hard to buy for. Gift cards are a perfect choice for the older kids. The Transportation Building will be open weekdays 10-6, Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 11-5 through December 14. For more information on the Sharing Tree Program, call Sue at (630) 529-9993.

Names and suggested gift ideas for Marklund Home residents will be placed on trees at:

Bloomingdale Park District, 172 S. Circle Olive Garden, 332 W. Army Trail Road

Pivot Point, 144 E. Lake Street (Springbrook Shopping Center)

Marklund Children's Home, 164 S. Prairie

Wrapped gifts, with names attached should be returned to the site where the tag was picked up.

Presents for Pets and People: In the spirit of holiday giving, the Bloomingdale Park District is once again participating in the annual Giving Tree program, as well as including our four-legged friends. All are invited to open up their hearts to light up this holiday season for Marklund residents, as well as for deserving pets.

Stop by the 'Giving Tree Wreath' at the Johnston Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle Avenue, to pick up a wish list and cheer up the lives of children, canines and kittens! Happy Holidays!

Catholic Charities Coordinates Christmas Program: Last year approximately 1,000 low income and homeless parents and children received gifts and food certificates through Catholic Charities. The charity expects this year the needs of the low income or unemployed will only increase. Anyone interested in donating new, unwrapped winter clothing, outerwear or toys, may drop them off at the Lombard Catholic Charities office (address below), Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – Noon and 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Those who prefer to make monetary donations for food and gift certificates may mail their contribution to:

Catholic Charities Christmas Program

26 W. St. Charles Road Lombard, IL 60148.



Help Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 Fill Boxes for Our Troops



Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 continues to ship packages each month to the troops overseas. This year they are also providing Christmas gifts to Hines VA Hospital patients. To make a donation to help our VFW in their endeavors to support our troops, please send a check or money order to VFW Post 7539, 101 Fairfield Way, Bloomingdale, IL, 60108-1537.

Also, if you have a family member or friend serving overseas, contact the VFW to see if they can provide them with a "package from home." Your support of the VFW will help support our troops.

"As members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, we know all too well what it's like being away from home, families and loved ones during the holiday season. With your help, we are able to fill a void with hope, love, and an understanding that someone, some place back in the United States cares enough to bring some holiday joy into their lives."

- Members of the Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539

Com Ed Offers Assistance Programs

Includes Disabled Veterans & Active Military Personnel



BHS Offers New Commemorative

Show your pride for Bloomingdale by purchasing a commemorative ornament offered by the Bloomingdale Historical Society. The limited edition ornament features four of Bloomingdale's landmarks: the Old Schoolhouse on Lake Street, the Park District Pavilion in Old Town Park, the "Everyday Heroes" statue in Old Town Park and the Water Tower on Winston, Ornaments are \$12.00 each and are available at the Village Hall, Bloomingdale Public Library, Park District Museum and the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce in the Old Schoolhouse.

Navy blue T-shirts sporting "It's a Bloomingdale Thing" or "60108" are also still available for \$12 each at the Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road in large, extra large and Double X. Cash or check accepted. Checks should be made out to the "Bloomingdale Historical Society."

The Bloomingdale Historical Society invites residents to attend a 45-minute Power Point presentation on the history of Bloomingdale to be shown at their February 4, 2013 meeting on the lower level of the Bloomingdale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way. There will be time for questions and discussion after the presentation. Refreshments will be provided.

ComEd is urging its customers, including disabled veterans and deployed active military personnel, to apply for \$4 million in assistance funds still available during 2012. The money is part of a five-year, \$50 million commitment to help ComEd customers struggling to pay their monthly electric bills, a direct result of the Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act enacted last fall by Illinois lawmakers. ComEd dedicated \$10 million in financial assistance for 2012, and nearly half remains available.

"We understand that some customers are going through difficult financial times and may need help to pay their electric bills," said Val Jensen, senior vice president of Customer Operations, ComEd. "We are reaching out to our community partners and social service agencies to ensure that they are informing customers about the funds that are available."

Under its CARE program, ComEd offers a package of customer assistance programs, including:

CHAMP (ComEd Helps Active Military Personnel) – This program provides bill-payment assistance to deployed members of the military and disabled veterans who have fallen behind on their bill and who reside within ComEd's Northern Illinois service territory. CHAMP offers a package of benefits, including bill payment assistance of up to \$1,000 while funds are available, a deferred payment plan, extended payment due dates, exemption from late charges, deposit reduction and budget payment plans.

Residential Special Hardship program – This initiative is intended to supplement established state-sponsored programs such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Eligible ComEd residential customers that are experiencing a hardship and who are not Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) participants can receive a grant of up to \$1,500 toward their electricity bill. Grant amounts may vary while funds are available.

Non-Profit Assistance Programs – ComEd recently extended this program to include all non-profit organizations, including churches. This program provides a one-time variable grant of up to \$2,000 for 501 (c)(3) non-profit organizations that are suffering a hardship.

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

Republic Services, Inc., the Village's refuse hauler, will pick up live Christmas

trees on regularly scheduled refuse pick-up days, for four weeks following the Christmas holiday. Place your Christmas tree at the parkway and follow these simple guidelines:

- Please do not put trees in plastic bags
- Be sure all decorations (and the stand) are removed
- Dispose of natural wreaths with the regular household trash
- Position Christmas trees with the cut end toward the curb for easy loading
 Christmas tree pick-up ends on Friday, January 25, 2013.



Business

Bloomingdale Chiropractic Moves to One Tiffany Pointe

Dr. Vito DePinto recently moved Bloomingdale Chiropractic Clinic to One Tiffany Point, Suite G-2. Dr. DePinto, who has been in practice for over 31 years himself, took over the practice of Dr. James Dean in summer of July 2011.

Dr. DePinto notes that he has the ability to find troublesome "trigger-points" in the muscles of the neck and back. These are knots in the muscles that can cause headaches, neck and back pain. He offers a number of different therapies at his office which are used to reduce these spastic points to decrease pain and increase circulation to the cramped muscles.

For more information on how Dr. DePinto can help you, or to make an appointment, call 630-980-5460.

JC Licht Celebrates One-year Anniversary

J.C.Licht/EPCO Paint Store moved its long-standing business from Army Trail Road in Glendale Heights to Bloomingdale a year ago. In honor of the store's one year anniversary at the 158 S. Gary Avenue location, manager Tim Tumminaro and staff hosted a ribbon cutting on October 6th. You may remember Tim from the previous location. He stresses that customers will still find the same outstanding products and personal service they came to appreciate for so many years. Stop by the Bloomingdale store to see what Tim and his resident experts have to offer for all your paint, wall paper and window fashion needs.

Small Business Mentoring Your Money Can't Buy!

SCORE is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping small businesses get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals through education and mentoring. For the past 50 years, SCORE has been assisting business owners through their network of volunteer mentors, free business tools and templates, workshops and business counseling. SCORE mentors will be available for one-on-one business counseling in the Village's Old Schoolhouse, 108 W. Lake Street, where the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce office is located. For more information on how SCORE can help your small business or to make an appointment, go to www.ScoreFoxValley.org.

At Stratford Square

Holiday Gift Wrapping by the Bloomingdale Parks Foundation December 19-24

Pet Night with Santa

Sunday, December 9th from 6pm to 8pm Sunday, December 16th from 6pm to 8pm







The Business Beat features news about businesses - newly opened ones, those under construction and those who have something special to tell the residents about - awards won, charitable fundraisers hosted, recent major remodels, etc.

Remember - BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE

Welcome to These New Businesses

Honey Baked Ham 158 Gary Avenue

New Stores in Stratford Square Mall

Hi Girl 222 Stratford Square

Berrymoon Yogurt 617 Stratford Square

Incas Andes 114 Stratford Square

Hickory Farms 609 Stratford Square

Mr. Krabs (kiosk)

Tupperware (kiosk)



Ice skating, snowmobiling, and hockey can be . . . Dangerous Ground – Winter Ice Safety

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.

Bloomingdale Fire District - Emergency 911

Information on State Roads
Illinois Department of
Transportation Information Line
312-DOT-INFO

(312-368-4636)

Call the above number for information on State roads (i.e., Lake Street). The District One Communication Center is open 24/7. All hazardous conditions should be reported to them at 847-705-4612 for immediate action. The Illinois Department of Transportation offers weather/road condition information on their web site at www.dot.il.gov.

Information on DuPage County Roads

Division of Transportation DuPage County 630-682-7321
Call this number for information on

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

Information Tollway Roadway
Information Line

800-865-5394 or 800-TOLLFYI

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. The winter season brings snow, cold weather and outdoor activities, which might include ice-skating, snowmobiling and hockey.

If the water has turned to ice and it has been cold for a few days, the ice must be safe to use, right? <u>Wrong!</u> Unfortunately, people find this out the hard way year after year. Just because the water freezes over **does not** make it safe to walk or skate on. The International Association of Dive Rescue Specialists' manual on ice rescue states that there are seven different types of ice. Clear ice is generally the strongest – it is new ice, formed by a long hard freeze, and new ice is stronger than old ice, which can be blue, black or green due to the color of the water seen through the ice.

The strength of ice, however, cannot be judged by appearance alone; a hole should be drilled in the ice to check its thickness. Ice does not necessarily have the same thickness in all locations either, due to the fact that the water seldom freezes at the same rate in a body of water. Daily temperatures, sun, water on the ice and even waterfowl or fish can prevent ice formation or cause thinner formations of ice.

General guidelines say that clear ice can support the following:

2" – Walking

4" - Fishing

5" - Snowmobiles

Children should stay off the ice until an adult checks it, but the only absolute in

ice safety is to stay off it. If the ice has been determined to be safe, there are a few safety precautions still to consider. They are the same as those used for swimming:

Never skate alone

Have life rings or hooks on shore for emergency use If the water is used for boating, keep a rowboat near the shore for quick emergency use

Have a cellular phone available for emergencies

If someone is on or around ice, they should <u>always watch for signs of weak ice</u>.

Some of those signs include:

Ice that is of a different color, such as gray

Ice that is near obstructions

Slush or snow on the ice

Bubbles or water on the ice surface

A porous look to the ice

Cracks in the ice

Water running underneath the ice

Pressure cracked shore ice

Open water in the middle of a deep lake

Water near a dam or spillway that will be weaker than the rest of the ice

The Bloomingdale Police Department and Bloomingdale Fire Protection District want everyone to enjoy the winter season. Observing some simple safety rules will help make it a safe season as well. For further information, please call the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868 or the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District at (630) 894-9080.

Neighborhood Watch Keep Your Holiday Season Safe and Happy

"Are you ready for the Holidays?"

Thanksgiving dinner is quickly enjoyed, followed by the Christmas shopping workout. The Bloomingdale Police Department hopes everyone has a safe holiday season. Safety should be carefully considered at all times, but particularly now. Whether you are shopping for those large purchases, picking up those last minute items or planning a trip, please take the time and effort to help ensure the protection of your home, your belongings and most importantly, your personal safety. The following safety tips will help you take the proper precautions during this hectic time of the year.



While shopping . . .

- ✔ Be alert and walk confidently. Pay attention to those around you.
- ✓ Keep your purse/wallet and packages with you at all times.
- ✓ 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, counter, or floor.
- ✓ Teach children to go to a cashier if they are lost.
- 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.
- ✓ Make your home appear to be occupied; use timers on lights, radio, and T.V.
- ✓ 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.

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

Annual "Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops" at Meijer's



(continued from page 1)

police officers in a very positive setting.

If interested in making a donation or for additional information, please contact Officer Dave Spradling at (630) 529-9868.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting Dates for 2013

January 16

March 20

May 15

July 17

September 18

November 20

All meetings are on Wednesdays evenings at 7:30 p.m. and located in the Village Hall Council Room.

National Night Out Against Crime will be on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Holiday Hours

The Bloomingdale Village Hall will be closed Monday & Tuesday, December 24 & December 25, as well as Monday & Tuesday, December 31 and January 1, 2013 in observance of the holidays.

Best Wishes to all for safe and Happy Holidays.

Community Events

Bloomingdale Artists Association

BAA members recently visited the Paper Crown Gallery in Arlington Heights where artists and co-owners Jay Turner and Dennis Ouiiano feature affordable artwork, as well as a variety of services including private events/parties, art shows, art classes, photography, commissioned artwork, movie premieres, and a workshop area. Following a tour of the gallery, members had the opportunity to try spray paint art. Unlike graffiti art, spray paint art is created on traditional art surfaces.



Pictured I to r - BAA members Eileen Platt and Patty Eagleton give spray paint art a try while coowner Dennis Quijano looks on.

The BAA January 9, 2013 meeting is a Networking Program to give members time to talk and exchange ideas on projects on which they are working and anything else about which they are curious. The program is held at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road from 6:30 – 8:30pm Drop-in fee for visitors is \$5. For more information contact Nicole Javvaji, nicolejavvaji@yahoo.com, 847-845-4471.

The February 13, 2013 program is about the Botanical Mosaic Collage presented by Susan Bartlett. More information will appear in the February Almanac.

Winter Carnival

Experience a winter wonderland featuring holiday games and activities for all ages at the Bloomingdale Park District's annual Winter Carnival from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Dec. 7 at the Johnston Recreation Center.

The evening offers inflatable amusements, mini train ride, live reindeer, horse-drawn sleigh rides through Circle Park, cookie decorating, Little Elf's Room, performances and entertainers and, of course, Santa Claus!

Wristbands must be purchased in person at the Johnston Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle Ave. Wristbands purchased before December

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7 are \$7 for each child ages 2-17. Wristbands purchased the night of the event are \$10 for each child ages 2-17. All children 2 years and older must have a wristband. Adults are admitted free.

The event is sponsored by Bloomingdale Bank & Trust, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital and Associated Dental Care.

Holiday Art Show at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum

The Bloomingdale Park District Museum is holding its annual holiday art show running through December 20.

The exhibits include the Chicago Society of Artists presenting "Holiday Artistic Fete" in Gallery I; and Albers, Bacon, Steinhaus, Tumino: "Color and Light" in Gallery II.



Artwork, starting clockwise from View Windy City by Catherine Cajandig, Looking for Lunch by Maria McKoveck and Waldo by Frank Tumino.

Drop-in ornament class

Children are invited to drop in and create a free ornament on Wednesday, December 5 or 19, between the hours of 4-8 p.m.

Garden Club Celebrates 50th Anniversary in 2013

The Bloomingdale Garden Club was started in April of 1963 by seven ardent gardeners and neighbors. The Club has grown considerably throughout its history, and today's membership enjoys wonderful programs, speakers, workshops and field trips. The very popular annual plant sale provides funding for the Club's programs,



Former Garden Club member Sharon Siciak on the Garden Club float in the Septemberfest parade in 1998.

events and philanthropic pursuits.

The anniversary celebration committee promises a gala celebration on October 19, 2013 at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. For more information, please contact Club President Joyce Basel, 630-529-9833, joyceb@inbox.com.

January Program - Tuesday, January 15 is the club's annual Business Meeting. Discussion will include the club's exciting programs for 2013, plans for the very popular annual plant sale, philanthropic pursuits and the 50th anniversary celebration. Visitors are welcome to stop by and meet the members.

The February 19 meeting features Back Yard Composting with Speaker Don Nekrosius. See the February Almanac for more information.

Meetings are held 6:30-8:30 pm at the Bloomingdale Police Department, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road. Contact Roberta Pulido at 630-295-8315 for more information.



Members of the Bloomingdale Police Department recently visited Adventist GlenOaks Hospital where they learned about both recent and upcoming changes the hospital is making to better serve the community.

A Night of Fine Dining and Theatre

Join the Educational Foundation (LPEF) for "A Night of Fine Dining and Theatre" on Friday, February 15, 2013 at Lake Park East Campus. The evening will begin with an innovative and delectable fourcourse French dining experience prepared and served by Lake Park culinary students. Guests will also have the opportunity to bid on a variety of unique silent auction items while listening to the sounds of the Lake Park Strings.

After dinner, guests will have reserved seating for the Lake Park winter musical, "Beauty and the Beast." Tickets, priced at \$35 per person or \$250 for a table of 8 are available by registering online at https://lplunch.lphs.org/foundation/ or calling 630.295.5411. All proceeds will benefit the Lake Park High School Educational Foundation.

The Lake Park Educational Foundation strives for excellence by providing valuable programs to Lake Park High School through its Funds For Excellence Grant Program, Lake Park Spirit of Excellence Awards, scholarships, and the Lake Park Emergency Support Fund to assist students whose families have a financial need.

Please contact LPEF Executive Director Jennifer Jungel at 630.295.5401 or jjungel@lphs.org for more information.



Around and About Town

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 Awards 'Voice of Democracy Winner for 2012



VFW Post 7539 Voice of Democracy Contest winner Chris Necka is flanked by VFW members Bill Bahr (I) and Cliff Hall (r).

The Bloomingdale VFW Voice of Democracy Contest is a National Audio Essay Competition that is conducted annually during the fall school term. This competition was designed to foster patriotism and to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinion and address their responsibility to our country.

The topic of the 2012-2013 audio essay was "Is Our Constitution Still Relevant?" Chris Necka, a senior at Lake Park High School, is the winner of the Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 2012-2013 Voice of Democracy Contest. He was awarded a check for \$300 on November 15 at the VFW meeting.

St. Isidore CCW Awards Annual Scholarship

The Council of Catholic Women (CCW) serves the St. Isidore parish community, local community, and community worldwide through service projects and fundraising events. This year's CCW scholarship was awarded to Bloomingdale resident, Donovan Maloney. His essay was reviewed and chosen by the board of the St. Isidore CCW. The St. Isidore School 8th grader is a two-time recipient of the Council of Catholic Women Scholarship.



CCW member Joanne Plunkett with 2012 scholarship recipient Donovan Maloney.

CHARACTER COUNTS!

The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition organizes an annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration Night activity in Old Town Park in mid-October every year. The 2012 Celebration was held on Tuesday, October 16 in Old Town Park. This year's theme was the Pillar of Responsibility. In addition to the presentation of the Youth Character Awards, the evening included various performances by students from Erickson, DuJardin, Westfield Middle, Winnebago, and St. Isidore schools, as well as by the Bloomingdale Beamers. The evening concluded with all students participating in the CHARACTER COUNTS! Shuffle, led by Mark Dwyer, the principal at DuJardin Elementary School. This year's charitable collection efforts raised over \$900 for the Volunteer Council of Bloomingdale Township Food Pantry, in addition to non-perishable items collected the evening of the event!



Pictured above with Mayor Iden and their nominating school officials, from left to right: Luis Arias (Winnebago), Olivia Turman (Erickson), Robert Metaxatos (Westfield), Isabella Sansone (St. Isidore), Madeleine Fasana (Park District Bloomingdale Soccer), and Ryan Donnelly (DuJardin).

COD Courses for Students with Developmental Disabilities

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) notes the College of DuPage is offering classes this spring in Vocational Development through the Vocational Skills program; Independent Living Workshops (living, communications, time management, and self-advocacy skills) through the Center for Continuing Education. There is also a section of Education 1110, Interpersonal Skills for Life and Work, just for students with Autism and Asperger's Syndrome. This is in addition to their ongoing Autismerica social support & parent/student club which meets the second Thursday of each month. For more information or registration, contact Michael Duggan, Ed.D, LCPC, CRC, COD Counselor/Professor at 630-942-2845. Bloomingdale Park District is a member of WDSRA.

Eagle Scout Creates "Peaceful Playground" For Elementary Students

Kevin Siciak, member of Boy Scout Troop 408, earned his Eagle Scout Award in October. His Eagle project was the creation of a "Peaceful Playground" painted on the blacktop at **Dujardin Elementary** School. He worked with Principal Mark Dwyer in designing, planning and executing the project. By painting configurations on the blacktop, Kevin created places for



Kevin Siciak stands within the "Peaceful Playground" that he created for his Eagle Scout Project.

children to play a variety of games. The physical education program incorporated the games into their curriculum so students would understand the rules and learn strategies to resolve conflicts. Research has shown that the structured games in the Peaceful Playgrounds program reduce violence and bullying during recess. The project was completed over one weekend with the help from scouts, their family members and members of Lake Park's National Honor Society.

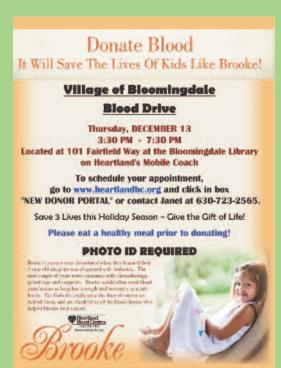
Playground Fun For Everyone

DuJardin Elementary School is working to raise \$250,000 to rebuild a section of their playground to be all inclusive with wheelchair accessibility and many components to provide a unique play experience for all our children. DuJardin Principal Mark Dwyer stated, "The playground will provide recreational opportunities to individuals with disabilities and "at risk" early childhood students who require special assistance in order to participate in play. For information on the project please visit the website at http://www.sd13.org/dj/playground/PFFEwebsite.html or call Dwyer at 630-894-9200.



Westfield Leos Three Time Winners

The Westfield Leo Club recently received the District 1-J Leo Club of the Year award. There are currently 14 Leo Clubs and this is the third time in the last four years that this Leo Club (organized through Bloomingdale's Westfield Middle School) has been so recognized. Pictured (from I to r) are Past District Governor and last year's Leo Club Advisor Lion Ron Fangusaro, current Leo President Kianna Lopez, holding the Leo Club of the Year patch, Immediate Past President Lizzie Fuchs and Assistant Leo Club Advisor Sandy Kozlowski.



Bloomingdale Fire Protection District

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

> Chief Michael McNamara

District Trustees
Tim Deutschle
Lydia DiBuono
Bill Wolff

Commissioners Michael McKeon Jac L. Williamson Fran Scalafini

Smile!



Sparky the Fire Dog was on hand to greet youngsters at the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District's Halloween Open House.

See more pictures on the back page.

Gathering in the Kitchen: A great family time, but it can be dangerous, too

Many families gather in the kitchen to spend time together, but it can be one of the most hazardous rooms in the home if you don't practice safe cooking behaviors. Cooking equipment, most often a range or stovetop, is the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Cooking equipment is also the leading cause of unreported fires and associated injuries.

It's a recipe for serious injury or even death to wear loose clothing (especially hanging sleeves), walk away from a cooking pot on the stove, or leave items that can catch fire, such as potholders or paper towels, around the stove. Whether you are cooking the family holiday dinner or a snack for the children, practicing safe cooking behaviors will help keep you and your family safe.

Watch What You Heat!

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels, or curtains away from your stovetop.
- Keep the stovetop, burners, and oven clean.
- Keep pets off cooking surfaces and nearby countertops to prevent them from knocking things onto the burner.
- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire if it comes into contact with a gas flame or electric burner.

Prevent Scalds and Burns

- To prevent spills due to the overturn of appliances containing hot food or liquids, use the back burner when possible and/or turn pot handles away from the stove's edge. All appliance cords need to be kept coiled and away from counter edges.
- Use oven mitts or potholders when moving hot food from ovens, microwave ovens, or stovetops. Never use wet oven mitts or potholders as they can cause scald burns.
- Replace old or worn oven mitts.
- Treat a burn right away, putting it in cool water. Cool the burn for 3 to 5
 minutes. If the burn is bigger than your fist or if you have any questions
 about how to treat it, seek medical attention right away.

For more information about cooking safety or other safety tips, contact Battalion Chief Richard Kurka at the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District, 630-894-9080.



Now's the time! Winter Maintenance Tips for Your Home





Help to protect your home and family during the upcoming cold winter months by performing these simple home maintenance tasks

- Clean out gutters and downspouts. Failure to maintain gutters and downspouts from leaves and debris can lead to ice dams forming at the roof edge.
- If you have a lawn irrigation system, be sure to isolate and winterize the system as cold weather approaches. This will avoid accidental damage and high water usage during the winter months.
- Disconnect all garden hoses from exterior hose bibs to prevent water line freeze-up into the house.
- Check all exterior electrical fixtures for bird nests. Failure to remove nests from electrical fixtures may cause a fire.
- Run all gas-powered lawn equipment until the fuel tank is empty, or remove fuel from tank. By doing this you are removing flammable liquid storage from your garage. Also make sure you are not storing dirty, oily rags in a pile - they can ignite spontaneously.
- Check all chimneys and flues (i.e. fireplace, water heater, and furnace) to insure that gases are properly vented. As part of a minimum annual fireplace cleaning, or annual furnace and water heater service cleaning/inspection, have the qualified technician check the flue piping to insure there are no blockages (bird or insect nests) and that the flue pipe or chimney is clean of any creosote build-up. Any filters should be replaced to insure proper appliance operation..
- Check electrical holiday decorations for tight connections. If possible use 3-prong plugs and cord sets, and unplug decorations when not in use. To reduce the chances of overheating and fire, electric cords and



- extension cords should never be bundled together or placed under rugs or carpet. Broken light bulbs need to be replaced.
- Check all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors for proper operation. Utilize the test buttons on the detectors to check that they operate. Replace batteries annually and clean dust from detectors. Detectors are to be installed per manufacturer's specifications and Village Code.



While shoveling snow can be good exercise, it can also be dangerous for optimistic shovelers who take on more than they can handle. The National Safety Council offers the following tips to help you get a handle on safe shoveling:

- Individuals over the age of 40, or those who are relatively inactive, should be especially careful.
- If you have a history of heart trouble, do not shovel without a doctor's permission.
- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- Take it slow! Shoveling (like lifting weights) can raise your
 heart rate and blood pressure
 dramatically; so pace yourself.
 Be sure to stretch out and warm
 up before taking on the task.
- Shovel only fresh snow. Freshly fallen, powdery snow is easier to shovel than the wet, packeddown variety.
- Push the snow as you shovel.
 It's easier on your back than lifting the snow out of the way.
- Don't pick up too much at once. Use a small shovel, or fill only one-fourth or one-half of a large one.
- Lift with your legs bent, not your back. Keep your back straight. By bending and "sitting" into the movement, you'll keep your spine upright and less stressed. Your shoulders, torso and thighs can do the work for you.
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion. If you run out of breath, take a break. If you feel tightness in your chest, stop immediately.
- Dress warmly. Remember that extremities, such as the nose, ears, hands and feet, need extra attention during winter's cold. Wear a turtleneck sweater, cap, scarf, face protection, mittens, wool socks and waterproof boots.





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

Bloomingdale Police and Fire Departments Annual "Open House"

The annual Open House events for the Bloomingdale Police Department and Bloomingdale Fire Protection District 1 occurred on Saturday, October 27, with over 700 children and their parents attending. The Open House events kicked off the Halloween weekend while giving the community a great opportunity to see the inner workings of both departments.

At the Police Department visitors toured the facility (with its Halloween decorated jail cells), checked out the police vehicles, and enjoyed sweet treats along the way. The Police Department thanks the following individuals who gave their time and volunteered to make the event successful: Joyce Boryla, Carol Cosentino, Roberta DiBasilio, Laura Geraci, Ed Maag, Carol Nies, Marv Roehlke, Lavonne Zisk, and Ray Zisk.

At the Fire Department visitors participated in events such as Side by Side Live Fire Burn and the Interactive Fire Safety Game. The Department also paid tribute to this year's fallen firefighters by having the public place a rose with a firefighter's name into a pair of fire boots, while the Honor Guard played Amazing Grace on the bag pipes and stood at attention. It was truly a memorable event. Thank you to all who attended.

