

Village of Bloomingdale

Almanac

February 2015

Growth with Pride

3/50 Project *Support Our Local Independents*

Members

Angelo Caputo's
Fresh Markets
Bentley's Pancake House
and Restaurant
Chicago Pastry
Classic Travel and Tours
Elite Sports Memorabilia
Enopi
Great Wraps
Jack and Jill's Children's
Boutique Ltd
Kammes Auto and Truck
Repair Inc.
La Campana Mexican
Restaurant
Mandarin Bistro
Masterpiece Framing
Rooster's Restaurant
Sassy's Originals
Sportys Catering
Springsoft
Spring Wine & Spirits

Supporters

Bloomingdale Chamber of
Commerce
Burkhardt's Repairs R Us, Inc.
Village of Bloomingdale

Winter Tip to Know: Ice & Snow, Take it Slow

Acting Illinois Transportation Secretary Erica Borggren says "We take great pride in our snow-and-ice response and commitment to safety. While our top priority is to make sure our roadways are safe as possible, we do ask the motoring public to do its part as well. That means staying off your handheld devices, always wearing a seatbelt and allowing for extra time in all of your travels this winter."

"An alert and prepared driver is a safe driver," agrees Illinois State Police Director Hiram Grau. "Winter driving conditions can be hazardous and life threatening for motorists and first responders if the necessary road safety precautions are not taken."

The state's "Ice and Snow, Take it Slow" annual campaign urges all motorists to slow down, build extra time in



their schedules for travel during the winter months, increase the driving distance between vehicles and strongly consider refraining from travel during winter weather events. Other safety tips to remember:

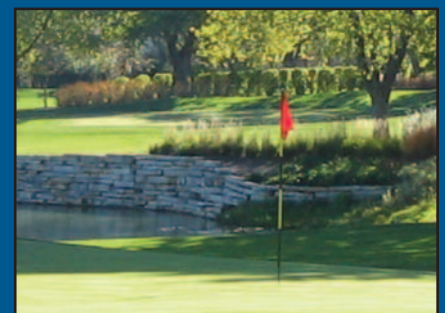
- Don't crowd the plow – a snow plow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not see you.
- Watch out for black ice on roads that appear clear but can be treacherous. Take it slow when approaching intersections, ramps, bridges and

shady areas - all are prone to icing which is often invisible.

- Do not travel during bad weather unless absolutely necessary - if you do have to make a trip, check the forecast and make sure someone is aware of your travel route.
- Carry an emergency car care kit that contains jumper cables, flares or reflectors, windshield washer fluid, a small ice scraper, traction material, blankets, non-perishable food and a first aid kit.

Looking Fore!-ward

Looking ahead to sunny skies and the 2015 season at our Bloomingdale Golf Club, we are excited about the addition of interactive GPS units to our golf cart fleet from a company called Digital Caddies. We believe this new feature will help our continuing effort to enhance our golfers experience here at Bloomingdale Golf Club. Anticipated installation is slated to be late April. In addition, don't forget to visit the golf course website www.bloomingdalegc.com for information on its community card program, adult golf clinics and junior golf schools. Registration will begin February 1st. – Mayor Franco



Bloomington Mourns Robert Reeves, First Village Administrator

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

3rd Monday of the months January-March, May thru November. 1st and 3rd Monday in April. First Monday in December. 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

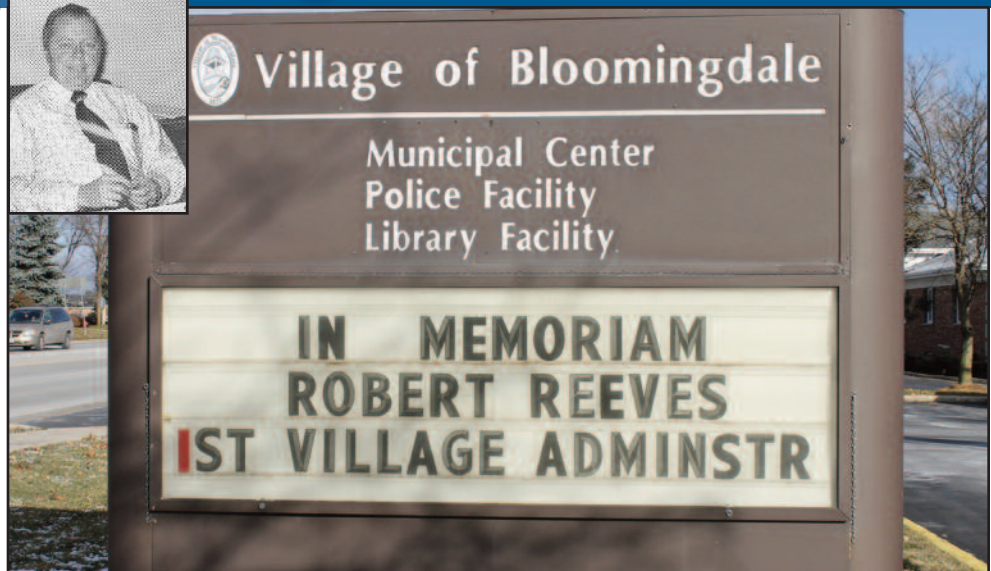
2nd Wednesday of every month 7:30 p.m. – Library

SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION

2nd Thursday of the month February through November 6:30 p.m. – Village Hall

BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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



Our deepest sympathy is extended to Arlene Reeves and her family on the passing of her husband, Robert F. Reeves. Bob was Bloomington's first village administrator from his hiring in June 1973 through his retirement in September 1989. He worked with four mayors and 45 trustees during his years of service to this town. Many of Bloomington's major milestones occurred during his tenure, including the advent of Stratford Square. He was dedicated to doing the best for Bloomington and it showed. Bob enjoyed retirement in Florida where he was able to golf to his heart's content. (Inset photo circa 1970)

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 last winter's polar vortex, the Village is able to get out critical information to all subscribers as it becomes available.



To sign up for the E-News, go to www.villageofbloomington.org and click on Village News on the right side of the homepage. Click on "Sign Up for Village E-News." It's easy and free!

Village of Bloomington Elected Officials

Franco A. Coladipietro
Village President

Jane E. Michelotti
Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

Judi Von Huben
Public Safety

Robert Czernek
Traffic and Streets

Bill Bolen
Finance and
Administration

Frank Bucaro
Facilities, Infrastructure

Michael D. Hovde
Planning, Zoning
& Environmental
Concerns

Jim King
Intergovernmental and
Community Relations

Thanks to David Von Huben for his photograph of a home near Meacham Grove Forest Preserve.

A Message from Mayor Franco

In the February 2014 Almanac, I discussed our intent to bring about a plan to re-establish Lake Street and Old Town as a center of commerce and community activity. As we begin the New Year, I thought it would be appropriate to give you an update of our efforts and progress. I'm proud to say that the preparations made during 2014 have put us on the brink of some exciting changes during 2015 which promise to keep us on the right track toward our economic/redevelopment vision.



The Public Hearing for the approval of a Redevelopment Plan for the East Lake Street Area was held on Monday, January 12, and we have received tremendous support from our community and governmental partners. The next step is for the Village Board to formally adopt an ordinance to implement the Tax Increment Financing (TIF). Once that is accomplished, we will begin to have conversations with developers regarding the various sites within the TIF and the potential uses for each. While the process of establishing a plan for the Lake Street corridor seems tedious at times, we have attempted to provide a blueprint to ensure that our Lake Street resurgence experiences sustained success.

Some commercial activity you will see sooner, rather than later, includes work on the Chick-Fil-A site at Springfield and Army Trail, as well as construction on the Stratford Ring Road as Texas Roadhouse begins building its new restaurant. And speaking of great restaurants, I do apologize for the misprint of Quick Fire Café's name in my December column. The restaurant, located in Stratford, has some exciting news. Please see p.9 in this issue.

In other good news, we recently started working on several potential streetscape designs for Third Street in Old Town. We have a vision to create a community center to attract new restaurants and provide an environment to add additional entertainment events. We also want to thank the Park District for their partnership with the Village in our efforts to revitalize and unlock the potential of this historic area.

Inside this issue, you will also find a "Thank You!" to all our commission and committee members who give freely of their time for the betterment of Bloomington, as well as a "Shout Out" of congratulations to the Village Employees who celebrated a milestone anniversary in 2014.

I wish all of you my very best in the New Year, as well as a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015. Stay warm!

Mayor Franco

Senator Michael Connelly (21st District) was kind enough to be my host at the Capital chambers for the Illinois Senate Swearing-in Ceremony last month in Springfield. He was my seatmate when we served in the Illinois House of Representatives. (l to r) Mayor Franco, the senator's son Matthew and Senator Michael Connelly.



Residents Urged to Reduce Use of Road Salt This Winter

DuPage County residents are encouraged to reduce the use of road salt this winter in an effort to decrease chloride concentrations in the County's waterways.

According to a 2012 report from the Illinois State Water Survey, chloride concentrations in Illinois waterways have been steadily increasing since the 1960s. Much of the increase can be attributed to road salts that are used in the winter to melt snow and ice from sidewalks, driveways and roads.

Road salts are carried into storm drains and streams via stormwater runoff. Once in waterways, chlorides never fully dissipate and can be harmful for aquatic life at high levels.



Residents can reduce the use of road salt by utilizing best management practices for snow and ice removal, including:

- Removing snow prior to applying a deicer;
- Applying just enough deicer to reduce hazard; and
- Sweeping up and properly storing product after a storm for reuse.

For more information, visit [www.dupageco.org/EDP/Stormwater Management/Water Quality/1193](http://www.dupageco.org/EDP/StormwaterManagement/WaterQuality/1193)

Residents Will Go to the Polls On April 7 To Elect Three Trustees

Important Village & Community Phone Numbers

Main Village Hall Number

630-893-7000

Village Departments

Administration 630-671-5610

Building & Zoning 630-671-5660

Engineering 630-671-5676

Finance 630-671-5630

Mayor's Office 630-671-5600

Police – non-emergency
630-529-9868

Public Works 630-671-5800

Water Billing 630-671-5650

Utilities 630-671-5830

Other Useful Numbers

Fire Department non emergency
630-894-9080

Bloomington Library
630-529-3120

Bloomington Park District
630-529-3650



On Tuesday, April 7, 2015, residents will have the opportunity to elect three Village Trustees.

On the page to the right is a brief overview of the candidates who are running. Below are important election-related dates.

March 10, 2015 - Last day for registration or transfer of registration at Village Hall or Public Library. You will need two forms of identification, one of which has your current address.

March 11, 2015 through April 4 - Grace period for registration and voting only at the DuPage Election Commission, 421 County Farm Road. During this time period, you must also vote at the Election Commission at the same time that you register.

March 23, 2015 – April 4 - Early voting at the DuPage Election Commission or at designated Early Voting Sites. Early voting sites can be found on the DuPage County Election website www.dupageelections.com.

Polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. on April 7, 2015.

Be Safe in Extreme Cold

Our first blast of extreme cold hit in the first full week of January when the temperatures plummeted to subzero with numbing wind chills. What else "old man winter" still has in store for us remains to be seen.

The most significant health related dangers related to extreme cold weather are frostbite and hypothermia.

Visit www.cdc.gov/features/workingincold to learn more about preventing and identifying frostbite and hypothermia. For cold weather safety tips while at home or on the road and information on local area warming centers, please visit www.dupageco.org/protectdupage.

When the snow flies, please check-in with your neighbors, especially seniors and/or residents with a disability who may require assistance with shoveling duties. Whenever shoveling, be careful not to over exert by taking frequent breaks.

The Bloomington Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way, is a designated warming center in Bloomington during regular business hours. If a warming shelter is required after library hours, the Police Department, 201 S. Bloomington Road is open and available 24-7.



Now **that's** cold!

VILLAGE ALMANAC

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the*

Village of Bloomington

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Editor**

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to:

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Bloomington, IL 60108

630-671-5600

JOHNSONM@vil.bloomington.il.us

Meet the Village of Bloomingdale Trustee Candidates

On Tuesday, April 7, residents will have the opportunity to elect three Village Trustees. Following is a brief overview of the candidates running.

William Belmonte, Four Year Term



As a lifelong resident of DuPage County, Bill and his wife, Adrian, have lived in Bloomingdale for 13 years. They chose Bloomingdale to raise their two children, Will

and Alexis, now freshmen at Lake Park High School. Bill is a graduate of Marquette University and DePaul University College of Law. A former Assistant State's Attorney with DuPage County, Bill has been a partner in the law firm of Marquardt & Belmonte P.C. in Wheaton since 1998.

Bill has been a volunteer coach with the Bloomingdale Bears and the Bloomingdale Park District. He is also a board member of the Will B Foundation and the Eastgate Homeowner's Association. Bill's time with these organizations and his work as an Assistant State's Attorney have allowed him to appreciate a strong sense of community and service.

Bill has enjoyed raising his young family in Bloomingdale and will work with the Park District and community to offer world class programs to children and adults. His goal is to attract families who want to plant their roots in a safe and thriving community.

"I am committed to supporting safe neighborhoods, high performing schools, a thriving business community and affordable property taxes for all residents in the village. I am also a strong proponent of attracting new businesses and working with our community partners to help our existing businesses succeed."

Bill intends to work for all residents of Bloomingdale and will approach his duties with their best interests in mind.

Vincent Ackerman, Four Year Term



Bloomingdale residents since 2007, Vince and his wife, Suzanne, have two school-aged children, Alyssa and Zachary. Vince is a 1996 graduate of the University of Iowa and is employed by Deloitte as a Technical Delivery Manager.

Since 2011, Vince has been an elected board member for Community Consolidated School District 93, which services many families in the western areas of Bloomingdale, along with Carol Stream and portions of Hanover Park. As a School Board Member, he has worked hard to balance the needs of students with those of the taxpayers to ensure that programs, services and expenses are aligned.

Vince is active as a youth coach for softball, football, basketball, and baseball and has been a board member of the Bloomingdale Baseball and Softball Association for the last four years, supporting the growth of girls' softball in the area. His travel softball team (Bloomingdale Blast) has participated in a number of charitable activities from donating time at the Northern Illinois Food Bank conducting food drives to donating to children's cancer charities.

"As a current elected official, I understand that a board must consider all their stakeholders in their decision making process. I would like the opportunity to continue the progress of the current board in positioning Bloomingdale as a community where businesses thrive and residents are provided a high level of services. By continuing to build our sales tax base, we can continue to keep our tax rate as low as possible."

Michael Hovde, Four Year Term



Mike is a longtime Bloomingdale resident, first moving to Bloomingdale in 1971. He is married to Jackie and has three stepchildren Alexandra, Cassandra, and Jimmy, and two grandchildren. He has strong ties to the community, attending Bloomingdale District 13 and graduating from Lake Park in Roselle. Mike and his wife, Jackie are partners in Hovde and Tufo Law, in Bloomingdale's Old Town. He is admitted to practice by the Illinois Supreme Court, Federal District Court, and the United States Supreme Court, and is a Chair Qualified Arbitrator in DuPage County.

A longtime member of Bloomingdale's Chamber of Commerce, he has participated in 50 Men Who Cook, the Student to Business Partnership, and the Lake Park Career internship program.

Mike is the founding Chairman of the Bloomingdale School District 13 Education Foundation, a non-profit which provides special opportunities and experiences, serves as Board Member of the Bloomingdale Parks Foundation and Hank Gianvecchio Natural Habitat Foundation, and is President of Clare Oaks, a Bartlett Continuing Care Retirement Community. In addition to his charitable and community activities, Mike is a member of Mensa.

First elected as Village Trustee in 2011, Mike uses his experience as a small business owner, to help attract more businesses to Bloomingdale, to help expand our tax base, and to keep the tax burden on residents low. He is proud to have grown up in, work and live in Bloomingdale, and strives to improve the quality of life in the Village, while exercising prudent fiscal management.



Thanks, Block Captains Neighborhood Watch in Action

Neighborhood Watch Calendar of Upcoming Events



**NEXT TWO UPCOMING
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
GENERAL MEETING DATES
7:00 P.M.
VILLAGE HALL
COUNCIL ROOM**

**MARCH 11: Canine Officer Levi
McGhee & Police Dog Kane**

MAY13: Home Safety



Officer McGhee & Kane

WELCOME

Bloomingtondale is
a
CRIME
WATCH
community



We immediately
report all suspicious
activities to our
Police Department

OUR SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY THE SCOPE OF YOUR INVOLVEMENT

Sincerely,
Frank Giammarese,
Chief of Police

Dawn Odoi,
Community Policing
Officer
630-529-9868

The Bloomingdale Police Department wants to publicly recognize and express sincere gratitude to the residents listed below for volunteering their time as Neighborhood Watch Block Captains. These individuals promote the lines of communication between their neighborhoods and emergency agencies to enhance the safety and quality of life for our community. Their dedication has led to the success of the Neighborhood Watch Program and other village-wide community events. Thanks to all for their contributions throughout the year!

Mary Albert	Kathleen Heinz	Cynthia Rothamer
Richard Baggio	Jacquelyne Hill	Judi Rotondo
Bill Bahr	Francine Howard	Rhonda Schubert
Anna Marie Bergl	Dorothy Jaskey	John Schultz
Joyce Boryla	Gretchen Johnson	Robyn Scurek
Pam Brewer	George & Gloria Kas	Andrea Sherman
Gregg Burgess	Joy Klinowski	Kendra Siegle
Andre Burke	Gina Kubica	Nilofer Sohel
Brad Butler	Rita & Frank Letizia	Milan Stevanovich
Lee Clarbourn	Anthony &	Steve Vitez
Steve Clarke	Theresa Lobraco	Mary Theresa Wedel
Bart Cohen	Rozanne Malott	Bill Wirkus
Carol Cosentino	John Manos	Andrew Wolf
Patricia Cox	Judy Martin	Louise Zeitoun
Josephine Dabrowski	Patrick McNamara	
Sam D'Amico	Jane & Gil Michelotti	Management Offices of:
Janet Davitt	Sharyn Murphy	Camden Apartments
Roberta DiBasilio	Carol Neff	
Mary Ann Divenere	Carol Nies	One Bloomingdale Place
Monica Dolhun	Barb Nudo	
Donna Dwyer	Nancy O'Leary	Stratford Place Apartments
Mary Sue Fornari	Holly Paoletti	
Amy Frane	Dawn Percudani	Wilshire Tower Apartments
Mitch & Vivi Frumkin	Albert Presco	
Laura Geraci	Dorothy Prohaska	
Sally Gill	Jack & Loreta Pytka	
Patrick Griffin	Patrick Quigley	
Juanita Hathaway	Gail Rohlfing	

Traffic Stops and Law Enforcement Officers

It can be a little unnerving to be pulled over by a law enforcement officer for a traffic stop. The appearance of emergency lights flashing in your rear view mirror as you are driving down the road, can give many a motorist a sudden feeling of apprehension. At the same time, from the perspective of the officer, the traffic stop is anything but routine for a police officer who is carrying out a risky function of his/her duties to enforce the driving laws. Here are some good steps to help the situation be a safe one for both the citizen and the police officer:

- Slow down and pull over safely as soon as possible – generally to the right side of the road or the nearest side street. If the police vehicle is unmarked and you cannot identify the driver as a police officer, drive slowly and carefully below the speed limit to a well-lighted, populated spot and pull over, or go to the nearest police station, attempt to attract the attention of a uniformed officer, or call 9-1-1 to verify.
- Stay in the driver's seat with both hands clearly in sight on the steering wheel until the officer instructs you otherwise or the traffic stop is complete. Do not exit your vehicle unless asked to do so. Getting out of your vehicle can be perceived as aggressive behavior and a threat to the officer's safety. Turn on your interior light if stopped at night.
- Comply with the officer's request to see your driver's license and proof of insurance. If these items are in the glove box or under the seat, inform the officer of that fact and then follow his/her directions before retrieving them.
- If you are issued a ticket requiring a signature, sign it. Signing a ticket is not an admission of guilt — only an acknowledgment of receiving the ticket.
- If you are suspected of drunk driving, cooperate with the officer(s) on the scene. If you refuse to submit to breath, blood or performance tests, your refusal could result in loss of driving privileges.
- Be aware that you may have committed some minor traffic violation without realizing it, there may be some problem with your vehicle of which you are unaware, or you might be driving a vehicle that is similar to one used in a serious crime. Many officers will not provide specific reasons for the stop until they have your license and insurance card in hand. Therefore, they will avoid having to debate the reason for the stop before they receive these items from you.
- If you wish to offer an explanation of your circumstances when stopped, do so before the officer returns to his vehicle. The officer cannot void the ticket once it has been written. Cooperate during the incident even if you believe you have not committed an offense. If you believe you have been treated unfairly, present your case in traffic court and not to the officer along the roadway.
- You are to be treated with dignity and respect by the officer. If you believe that an officer has acted inappropriately during a traffic stop or other encounter, you should report that conduct as soon as possible to the officer's superiors.
- Officers are required to provide their names and badge numbers upon request.

If you have any questions or concerns about this information or any other crime prevention material, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi at (630) 529-9868.



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

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 DuPage County Roads (i.e. Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale Road, Gary Avenue, Schmale Road)

Information Tollway Roadway Information Line 800-865-5394 or 800-TOLLYI

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.



Thank You, Village of Bloomingdale Committee & Commission Volunteers!

Congratulations to These Employees

The Village of Bloomingdale celebrated 470 years of service when it recognized the 2014 milestone anniversaries of the employees named below.



Mayor Franco with Shirley Burger, our longest serving employee with 35 years on the job.

35 Years
Shirley Burger

30 Years
Gary Fuchs
Ed Lewen

25 Years
Tom Anzelmo
Vince Bruett
Pat Maranto
Joe Chambers
Lynn Heitz
Denise Doherty
Duane Kroll
Mary Ellen Johnson
Bob Prohaska

20 Years
Tim Roberts
Calvin Boyd
Helen Price

15 Years
Tony Pagan
Matt Wolenberg
Wendy Reiter
Mike Young

10 Years
Andy DiBasilio
Chris Mitchell

5 Years
Levi McGhee
Tony Mannerino

The Village of Bloomingdale depends on the efforts of certain commissions and committees during the year. Each serves a specific purpose and is made up of volunteers, who contribute a great deal of time to carry out the work of the commission. We extend thanks to the following individuals who have given their time so generously during 2014.

Bloomingdale Mayor's Advisory Committee

Vince Ackerman
Judith Alber
Lucien R. Battiato
Robert P. Bucaro
Andre Burke
Ross Caputo
Frank DeCarlo
Lynne Wallis Denemark
Cindy Franceschini
Russel Franceschina
Kelly Gits
Diana Hoke
Ben Hoyle
Julie Jaster
Bo Moon Johnson
Bill Kimball
Joy Klinowski
Terrence Linderman
Sam M. Menton
Lucy Michalec
John B. Mori
Deborah Peterson
Andrea Pindak
Branka Poplonski
Thomas Reboletti
Tammy Saia
Lora Troesken
Michael Vozar
Linda Wojcicki
Barb Wykle

Septemberfest Commission

Bill Wolff
Mitch Frumkin
Vivi Frumkin
Carole Lockhart
Susan Lancaster
Pam Hager
Debbie Pasiewicz
Jeremy Heitkam
Jean Sloboda

Business Promotion Committee

John Vertnik
Branka Poplonski
Dana Carr
Stacy Kallas

Board of Fire & Police Commissioners

Warren Gnau
Louis Pavone
Frank Letizia

Police Pension Board

Jeff Fritz
Steve Apostolopoulos
Alan Birkley
Mark Kreciak
Jackie Slater

Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals

Ron Fangusaro
Guy Sanalidro
J. Thomas Brice
Len Jaster
Terry Linderman
David Smith
Patrick Shannon

Indian Lakes Ad Hoc Committee

Karen Blake
Susan Culhane
Ed Hagedorn
Michael Hovde
Ben Hoyle
Andrea Hoyt
Len Jaster
Kathy Maycut
Fred Nazar P.E.
Buzz Puccio
S. Joseph Raso
Janice Roehll
Rich Troesken
Judi Von Huben

Thanks!

Business *News*

DeLuxe Bath Ribbon Cutting



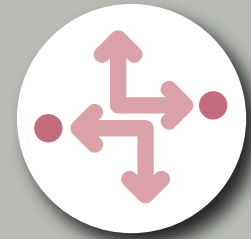
On December 4, 2014 Village officials, Chamber of Commerce members, friends and family joined DeLuxe Bath owner Marcin Kawula, as he and Mayor Franco cut the ribbon to his new bathroom remodeling showroom, located at 185 E. Lake Street, Unit L. in Circle Center.

Quick Fire Italian Restaurant Hosting Grand Re-Opening on February

Quick Fire Café, located in Stratford Square Mall, is now expanding the menu, changing the name and hosting a re-grand opening in February. The popularity of the restaurant has grown, so Nunzio Laudando, Boss of the Sauce and owner, is taking the restaurant to the next level by including an expanded menu and build your own options. Quick Fire is dropping "Café" and will be called Quick Fire Italian Restaurant. The grand re-opening party is scheduled for February 6th, featuring live entertainment.

Ribbon Cutting at Giordano's Pizza

Giordano's Pizza hosted a ribbon cutting in early December. Village officials, Chamber members and Giordano's representatives watch Trustee Michael Hovde, Jr. and Giordano's President & CEO Yorgo Koutsogiorgas cut the ribbon. The restaurant, 158 S. Gary, is a delivery & carry out location. Call 630-994-5350 or order online at www.giordanos.com



The Bloomingdale Business Beat

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. Retail businesses provide a significant part of the village's tax base. Supporting them helps keep the Village portion of your property tax bill low.

**Remember -
BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE**

Welcome to These New Businesses

Leviton Manufacturing
471 Fox Court

Sleepy's
383 Army Trail Road

Mattress Firm
290 Madsen Drive

Good Will
420 W. Army Trail Road

Giordano's
158 Gary Avenue

Envy Us Salon
278 Glen Ellyn Road



Willowbrook Nature Center Offers Tips on Living with Coyotes

Tips on Freezing Pipes

We've already experienced extreme cold this winter. Here are some tips regarding frozen pipes:

- 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.

In response to calls we have received during the past year in regard to sightings of coyotes in village neighborhoods, we are disseminating the following information. Since 1980, 75% of DuPage County's farmland has vanished. At the same time, the human population has risen from around 660,000 to more than 870,000. While this transformation of the landscape has had an impact on many wild species, red foxes and coyotes not only have survived; they have made some startling adjustments. Most people calling Willowbrook are concerned that a coyote or fox represents a threat to their children or pets. The Illinois Department of Resources (IDNR) records indicate only 16 coyote attacks on humans in the past 30 years. The majority of these cases occurred when people tried to hand-feed the animal.



A coyote reminds one of a small German shepherd dog, weighing between 20 and 45 pounds. Ninety percent of a coyote's diet is small mammals, but they will also eat birds, snakes, insects, fish, fruit and vegetables. Coyotes are opportunistic hunters, feeding primarily on what is most available: squirrels, voles, mice, rabbits, injured or sick deer. They rarely kill prey larger than themselves, but will scavenge on a fresh carcass. Coyotes are capable of taking a small dog (less than 15 pounds) or a cat, but they rarely take supervised pets.

Coyotes live in prairies, brushy areas, and wooded edges; however, not in heavily wooded areas. They prefer suburban areas with broken forests. They are mostly active at night, but may be seen during the day, especially in the summer when young are more active.

Preventing Problems With Coyotes

- Keep cats indoors.
- Keep small dogs and cats on leashes and stay with your pets while outside, especially during the evening and early morning. (We can't stress this enough – it is a heartbreaking experience to see your small pet be snatched up by a coyote, as you watch from your patio door.)

Do not encourage coyotes by feeding them!

- Keep pet food and watering dishes inside, especially at night.
- Do not allow spillage to accumulate outside bird feeders.
- Keep grills and barbecues clean. Even the smallest food scraps may attract coyotes or foxes.
- Do not keep garbage cans outside if possible.
- Use welded wire to exclude animals from underneath decks.
- Coyotes are creatures of habit. If you encounter a coyote the same place and same time while walking your pet, you may want to change your path or time of your walk.

For more information on deterring coyotes, visit the Willowbrook Wildlife Center website at <http://willowbrookwildlife.org/~willow34/coyotes-foxes/>

– Source: Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Variety of Scholarships Opportunities Available This Spring

The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce will be offering scholarships to graduating seniors and post-secondary students.

Candidates must be either a resident of Bloomingdale or an employee or child of an employee of a Bloomingdale Chamber member. Applications will be available after February 2 at the Chamber Office, 108 W. Lake Street, or on the web site at: www.bloomingdalechamber.com. The deadline for submission is 5:00 PM on Friday, April 10, 2015. For more information call the Chamber office at 630-980-9082.



Bloomingdale Area Women in Business offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a woman who is looking to improve her professional standing through continuing education or professional development. Women who are at least 21 years old and who either work or live in the Bloomingdale area are eligible to apply. Applications will be available February 14 at the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, Bloomingdale Public Library, the Bloomingdale Park District, and Bloomingdale Bank & Trust, as well as at www.bloomingdalechamber.com. Completed applications are due by 5:00 PM April 17, 2015. For more information call the Chamber office 630-980-9082.

College-bound high school seniors who have attended District 13 schools are invited to apply for scholarships available through the district. **The Parent-Teacher Organizations from Bloomingdale District 13 Schools Erickson and DuJardin Elementary schools and Westfield Middle School** will be offering scholarships again this year. Past students of Erickson and DuJardin schools may apply only to the school most recently attended. Students who attended one elementary school and Westfield Middle School may apply to the elementary school, as well as to Westfield. DuJardin will be offering a \$750 scholarship this year. Information about the scholarships from Erickson and Westfield and other details were not available at press time. For more information, you may call the individual school office, or check the district's web page www.sd13.org. Applications will be available from Lake Park High School counselors' offices, the individual District 13 school offices and on the district website in the near future.

In memory of former member Jackye Revely, the **Bloomingdale Artists Association (BAA)** is pleased to offer one \$500.00 scholarship to a qualified applicant pursuing a Visual Fine Arts Degree. The award will be applied to 2015 college/art school tuition. Residents of DuPage County and the surrounding area are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old by the application deadline date of April 1, 2015. Selected work(s) of the award recipient will be included in the 2015 BAA Member Exhibit, running from May 9 through June 6. For more information on requirements or to access an application, contact Toni Fogarty, 630-220-4990, toeknee3@yahoo.com or Bev Petrosius, 630-624-9545, bpetrosius@gmail.com. The \$500 scholarship is a one-time award; funds will be mailed directly to the school.

See the April 2015 issue of the Almanac for information on applications for the **Joe Draghi Septemberfest Scholarship**.



Get Smart and Save on Your Energy Costs

With the average Illinois household spending over \$2000 annually on natural gas and electricity, there are many opportunities to save. To uncover these savings, a local 501(c)(3) non-profit, Elevate Energy, is helping homeowners in the Bloomingdale area make smarter choices about energy.

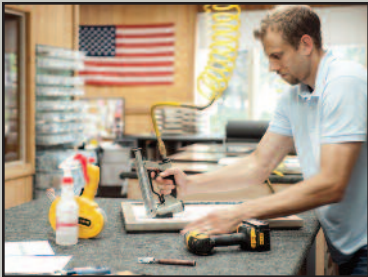
You may have noticed ComEd is installing new Smart Meters in the area. This new technology is creating more options for electricity rates for local residents. One option is ComEd's Residential Real Time Pricing program, which takes advantage of smart meters to provide hourly pricing. It has saved its customers an average of over \$100 each year since 2008, and signing up takes just a few minutes. Local Elevate Energy advisors have more information on the different options.

Most houses waste too much energy, resulting in discomfort and high bills. Schedule a \$99 energy assessment to learn how to fix it, or host an energy house party and get your assessment for free. The \$99 (discounted fee) is paid to a contractor for the assessment service. Elevate Energy's service of helping homeowners navigate the various efficiency options that are available to them is a free service.

Elevate Energy's qualified contractors will find the most cost-effective approaches, and Elevate Energy will ensure the work gets done right. Join the 4000+ homeowners who have made improvements and are reducing their energy bills by 15% or more. For more information on these and other opportunities, contact local Elevate Energy advocate Megan Visk, at (708) 408-7155 or megan.visk@elevateenergy.org.

Community Events

Bloomingtondale Artists Association Programs



February 11 - A Visit to Masterpiece Framing at 109 S. Bloomingtondale Rd. Matt Puchalski, artist and owner of the shop, will share the start to finish framing process with participants. See his website at www.mframing.com Tour begins promptly at 7 p.m.

March 11 - "Oil Painting Demo by Eric Nils Forsberg" 7-9 p.m. at Bloomingtondale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingtondale Road. Forsberg is a classic marine artist, an oil painter in the spirit of some of the great maritime artists of the 20th century. Eric went to sea to work on fishing trawlers, lobster boats and tall ships; this experience has given Eric insight into the way that man and water interplay.



Midnight Lights

Both programs require a \$5 drop-in fee. To register for either night, contact nicolejavvaji@yahoo.com.

Buon Appetito

The Bloomingtondale Lions Club sponsors its annual spring Spaghetti Dinner on February 13 from 5-8 p.m. at the Bloomingtondale Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Road. Cost is \$10 per person; children eight and under eat FREE. Proceeds from raffles and dinner will benefit visual and hearing impaired persons in the community. For more info or tickets, contact Karen Vitale at kvitale6174@sbcglobal.net



Garden Club Programs

February 17 - Karen Thomson of Thomson Topiaries in Barrington will demonstrate the art of creating topiaries with wire forms, sphagnum moss and plants. Part sculptures and part plants, topiaries make attractive additions to any yard, garden, or home.

March 17 - "Reducing Maintenance through Good Garden Design" by Joel Barczak of Blumen Gardens. Horticulturists Joel and Joan Barczak met while taking classes and working with various garden centers and landscape companies in Illinois' Fox Valley region. Joel went on to work and study in Germany. His program emphasizes the importance of good design - one of Joel's favorite garden tools is the tape measure!

Both programs take place 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Bloomingtondale Police Dept, 201 S. Bloomingtondale Road.

Visit www.bloomingtondalegardenclub.org or contact bloomingtondalegardenclub@gmail.com for more information. Visitors are welcome.



Think Spring

It might be too early to plant, but it's not too early to think Spring! Mark your calendars! The Garden Club's 2015 Plant Sale will be held on Friday, May 1, Noon to 6pm and Saturday, May 2, 9 am to 3 pm at the Bloomingtondale Park District Maintenance Building, 259 Springfield Drive, at the north end of Springfield Park. The sale will feature old favorites and new surprises! Pre-order forms will be available on www.bloomingtondalegardenclub.org soon.

Gift certificates are available in any denomination and make great Easter and Mother's Day gifts. Please make check payable to the Bloomingtondale Garden Club and send to Henrietta Sullivan, 1015 Tiverton Court, Schaumburg, IL 60193-3642, by April 20, 2015.



Bloomington Chamber Hosts 3rd Annual Art Exhibit

The 3rd Annual Art Exhibit presented by the talented artists of the Bloomington Artists Association, will be featured from February 16 through May 29 in the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce office located in the Old Schoolhouse, 108 W. Lake Street. Selected pieces will be offered for sale; negotiations and delivery details will be handled by the artist. Exhibit hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Questions may be directed to Bev Petrosius at 630-624-9545 or bpetrosius@gmail.com. An artists' reception, open to the public, will be held on Thursday, March 12 between the hours of 6 and 8pm.



Winter White by
Anne Reay

Bloomington's 1894 Old Schoolhouse is on the National Register of Historic Buildings. In its lifetime, this turn of the century structure has housed a school, village hall, fire station, jail, retail store, chamber of commerce office, and currently its third annual art exhibit.

Friends of the Bloomington Library Host March Book Sale

The Friends of the Bloomington Public Library host the March Book Sale in the library's lower level Meeting Room A/B, 101 Fairfield Way.

Gently-used Books for Adults & Children, Videos, DVDs, CDs & more

Saturday, March 14 • 9:00-4:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 15 • 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Starting Saturday, March 8th, you can donate hardbacks, paperbacks, best sellers and classics, DVDs and CDs to the Library for the Sale. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library for children's reading programs. Ask for details at the main desk or call 630-529-3120.



Georgene Geils Business Woman of the Year Award

The annual Georgene Geils Business Woman of the Year Award will be presented by the Bloomington Area Women in Business on February 24 at Jameson's Charhouse. The annual recognition dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jane Hove at 630-980-9082.

April Fool's 5K Run

The 2015 April Fool's 5K Run is Saturday, April 4 beginning at 9 a.m. This year's course runs around the naturally beautiful waterfront in Mallard Lake Forest Preserve. The course is a mix of paved asphalt and crushed limestone. Proceeds from the race go to support Stepping Stones for Women of Domestic Violence. The Early Bird rate of \$30 ends on February 28, 2015.

To learn more details about the 5K and the 400 meter Kids Dash or to register for the event, go to www.aprilfools5k.com.



Are You a Woman Who Cares About Her Community?

A group of local women have formed a chapter of 100+ Women Who Care. They are interested in supporting our local community by contributing to local charities/non-profits/worthy causes together as a unit to increase the impact of their donation.

The women come from all walks of life and different financial backgrounds. As an individual it is difficult to have a large impact but as a group they have the ability to contribute in a powerful way.



Each member must commit to donating \$100 four times a year. Three local charities/not profits/worthy causes are presented each meeting by members, not by the charities themselves. The group votes by ballot and the majority rules.

In 2014 the group gave \$22,500 to local charities! You are invited you to join them! The 2015 meeting dates are: Tuesdays: January 13, April 14, July 14 and October 13. The meetings are 7 p.m. at Bloomington Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Road.

Consider becoming a part of this powerful group and to have a positive impact on those in need in our area. If you are interested or want further information, please contact Jane Hove, jane@bloomingtonchamber.com or 630-204-0304.

Around & About Town

Chamber Honors Four Members



Founding Chamber member Ed Levato is honored with Lifetime Chamber membership.

The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce honored four of its members at its Holiday Luncheon in December.

NOW Foods was named Business of the Year, which was accepted by **NOW President Jim Emme**.

Hank Steermann of Just Picture This...! was recognized as Ambassador of the Year and **John Rossini of Edward Jones Investments** was presented with the Leadership Award.

In addition **Ed Levato of Levato and Kotche**, a founding member and past president, was named a "Lifetime" member of the chamber.



Hank Steermann receives his Ambassador Award from Dr. Aimee Harris-Newton, last year's ambassador.

CHARACTER COUNTS! Nominations Due March 2, 2015

Every Spring the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition sponsors a breakfast to recognize members of the community



2014 recipients

who live, work or attend school in Bloomingdale who exhibit outstanding character. Honorees are nominated with a description of the pillar of character that they exemplify. The 14th Annual Recognition Program will be held at 9:00 am on May 2, 2015 at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. Nominations for this year's program are due no later than March 2, 2015. Forms are available at www.villageofbloomingdale.org on the homepage, www.character60108.org and on www.bloomingdaleparks.org

Completed forms are to be sent by U.S. mail, fax or email to: Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition
201 S. Bloomingdale Road, Bloomingdale, IL 60108
FAX: 630-893-5136 or Email: info@character60108.org

For more information, call Sandy at 630-529-3650 or sandy@bloomingdaleparks.org

Stepping Stones to Host Spring Tea on April 19

"Stepping Stones for Women of Domestic Violence" hosts a Spring Tea and Fashion Show on April 19, 2015 at Belvedere Banquets, Elk Grove Village. The afternoon will also include lunch, shopping with local vendors and raffle drawings. Proceeds are used for housing, furniture, daily necessities and counseling for victims of domestic violence. For more information contact Debbie Baumgart at 630-272-1414 or maymot@comcast.net



Seniors: Mark Your Calendars For Friday, April 24!

The annual Senior Day Fair will take place from 9 a.m. to noon at the Medinah Shriners Banquet Facility. The free event is sponsored by the Bloomingdale Police Department and Bloomingdale Senior Citizen Advisory Council.



Bloomington Park District Museum

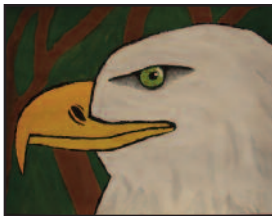
The current exhibit at Bloomington Park District Museum, "Let There Be Light," runs through February 14, 2015. Light is the essential element of photography, and by controlling light, the photographer creates the mood or atmosphere for his/her selected subject. The works in this exhibition demonstrate the creative uses of light. Pictured is *Winter's Fury*, by Steve Zasadny.



Winter's Fury by Steve Zasadny

The 32nd Annual Student Art Show takes place at the Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomington Road, from March 7 to April 11, 2015. This is the museum's most popular show.

Artwork from more than 10 area schools is featured. A special



Eagle by Abbey Mark, tempera paint



Girl by Emily Walker, cutpaper.



My Books weigh a Ton by Katie Steiner, plaster

A special reception will take place from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2015. Above are three of last year's pieces.

Student Summer Activities Fair March 18th

Stratford Middle School PTA will be hosting its 1st Annual Student Summer Activities Fair on Wednesday, March 18 from 6-8 p.m. at Stratford Middle School, 251 Butterfield, Bloomington. The purpose is to highlight great programs throughout our community that offer children and teens enriching summer activities. The fair will display summer camps, programs and services available to students of all ages and is free to the public. For more information, please contact Diane at stpta@ccsd93.com.



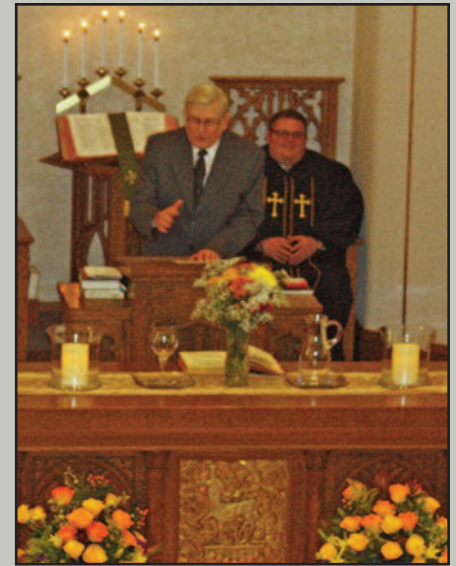
470 Years and Counting



Village Board members salute employees celebrating milestone anniversaries.



St. Paul Celebrates 100 Year Old Sanctuary



Pastor Emeritis Beecken was warmly welcomed back to the pulpit. Current Interim Pastor Jeremy Heitkam enjoys one of many stories the former pastor shared.

On November 16, 2014, current and former members of St. Paul Evangelical Church, along with friends and community members, came together to celebrate a century's worth of memories.

On November 29, 1914 the St. Paul congregation held its first worship in the newly constructed sanctuary. One hundred years later, it is still a beautiful place which serves the church family well. Pastor Emeritis James Beecken returned to deliver a sermon full of memories, anecdotes and stories, both inspiring and entertaining.



The multi-talented St. Paul choir sang a variety of hymns throughout the service.

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

Chief
Jeffrey Janus

District Trustees
Tim Deutschle
Lydia DiBuono
Bill Wolff

Commissioners
Marshall Gray, Jr.
Jac L. Williamson
Fran Scalafini

Fire Lt. Randy Gieseke Retires

Lieutenant Randy Gieseke retired January 21, 2015 after 30 years of dedicated service.

Lt. Gieseke was hired January 1, 1985 as a firefighter, was promoted to Lieutenant in June, 2004 and spent his final year as Acting Battalion Chief. In addition to his role as a company officer, Randy served the District as a Hazardous Materials Technician and spent 20 years as the Treasurer for the Bloomington Professional Firefighters Union Local 3272.

Randy plans to spend more time with his wife, Kay, and daughters Clarissa and Chelsea.

Firefighter/EMT Tom Zarth, former Union President, publicly thanks Lt. Randy Gieseke (far right) as Deputy Chief Scott Koehn looks on.



Fire Hydrant Near Your Home? Please Shovel Snow Away to Keep it Visible and Accessible

The Bloomington Fire Protection District would like to remind you that you can help Fire Fighters help you. Snow accumulation or the results of plowing and snow clearing can completely cover or restrict access to fire hydrants. Blocked hydrants mean slower response to extinguishing fires which can result in catastrophic consequences if firefighters have to spend time locating a buried hydrant and/or clear snow away from it, especially if the snow is heavily compacted from snow plowing.

Keep an eye on fire hydrants on or adjacent to your home or business and keep the snow cleared away from your fire hydrant. Clear a path to fire hydrants from the road and remove snow from all sides so it is visible from the road and easily accessible to connect a fire hose to it.

"Adopt" a hydrant and make it part of your shoveling and snow clearing routine. It will only take a few extra minutes and is a quick and easy way to help us to help you and your neighbors.

For more information about winter safety and other related information contact Battalion Chief Richard Kurka at the Bloomington Fire Protection District, 630-894-9080.



Early Childhood Center Earns Rare Distinction

Community Consolidated School District 93's Early Childhood Center (ECC) in Bloomingdale was recently named one of just two schools in Illinois to be awarded the Illinois Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (Illinois ASCD) Whole Child Award for its efforts in educating all aspects of student development. The ECC was recently recognized for winning this award as part of the Conference on Learning in Lincolnshire, Illinois.



Preschoolers are actively engaged in learning at Early Childhood Center

ASCD's Whole Child Initiative is an effort to change the conversation about education from a focus on narrowly defined academic achievement to one that promotes the long term development and success of children. Illinois ASCD has chosen to recognize the ECC as a school which models Whole Child concepts.

"CCSD93's preschool staff has focused on the whole child and whole family for a long time," said ECC Principal Kim Hefner. "The new Early Childhood Center has enabled us to collaborate better and ramp up what we do. Being recognized by Illinois ASCD for Whole Child excellence is validation that our time, energy, and passion are properly directed. It's nice to be recognized, but even nicer because the real beneficiaries of our work are the children."

The application process included input from all ECC staff, and evaluated how the school teaches students to practice a healthy lifestyle, provides an intellectually challenging and physically and emotionally safe environment, actively engages students in learning and connects them to the school and broader community, provides access to personalized learning by qualified and caring adults, and challenges students academically for success in college or further study and employment in a global environment.

If you'd like to register your child for preschool at CCSD93's award-winning Early Childhood Center, please call 630-307-3750. You do not have to be a School District 93 resident to do so.

Looking for a Summer Job?

The Village of Bloomingdale is accepting applications for seasonal employment only in the Public Works Maintenance and Utilities Divisions.

The type of work involves physical labor. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and must have a valid Illinois driver's license. Starting hourly rates are \$9.00.

Find applications online at www.villageofbloomingdale.org and at the Bloomingdale Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road, from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Completed applications can be submitted online, mailed to or dropped off at the Village Hall.

The Village of Bloomingdale is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Kindergarten Registration for School Districts 13, 15 and 93

Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2015, are eligible for kindergarten during the 2015-2016 school year.

Parents wishing to register their child for Kindergarten in District 13 schools should contact the elementary school they plan to attend. Packets may be picked up at either school beginning the week of February 3rd or on-line at www.sd13.org. Completed packets must be brought to the appropriate school during the week of February 16. For more information about what documents you must bring with you, call DuJardin School at 630-894-9200 or Erickson Elementary at 630-529-2223.

Kindergarten registration for students attending District 93 schools takes place at the individual school at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24. District 93 students living in Bloomingdale attend Cloverdale School at 1182 Merbach Drive. Phone number 630-588-5300. If you have questions, call the school or check the website at www.ccsd93.com to learn what documents you must bring with you.

District 15 Kindergarten Registration is Monday, March 16, 2015 from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Marquardt Middle School, 1912 Glen Ellyn Road, Glendale Heights. Residency requirements are available on the website, www.d15.us on the Parent tab/Registration Information. It is strongly recommended that parents print out or pick up and complete the residency requirements before March 16. To see other requirements, check the website or call the district office at 630-469-7615.



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

Thanks, Lions!



Thanks to a generous donation from the Bloomingdale Lions Club, the Park District recently unveiled a new informational sign, located just outside of the Bloomingdale Park District Museum. (Pictured, from left) Vice President of the Bloomingdale Lions Club, Stan Poplonski and Bloomingdale Park Board President Buzz Puccio cut the ribbon on the new sign November 28, 2014, as Lion President Mark Bousquet looks on.

Local donations such as these are made possible through fundraisers, such as the Spaghetti Dinners held by the Lions Club. (See p. 12 for upcoming dinner.)

The Bloomingdale Lions 2014 Christmas baskets project was a great success with a large member and family turnout at Meijer. The Lions shopped for and delivered Christmas dinner supplies (and some gift cards) for eight families.

Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops

Seventeen youngsters from area needy and military families had a better Christmas thanks to the generous donations of several local individuals, businesses and organizations. On December 13, thirteen patrol officers, along with command staff, took the youngsters Christmas shopping at Meijer for themselves, as well as for family members.

Donors to the Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops program include Meijer, Chicagoland Italian American Charitable Organization (CIACO), Old Country Buffet, Bloomingdale Township Republicans, John Dabrowski and resident Lee Clabour. In addition, Joe Salerno and Salerno Rosedale Chapels donated a hat, coat and gloves to each child, which the child was allowed to choose. A donation was also made to the Bloomingdale Township General Assistance Program.

