

Village of Bloomingdale

Almanac

December 2015

Growth with Pride

Keep the Cheer Here

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
Sportys Catering
Springsoft
Spring Wine &
Spirits



Supporters

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

2016 Winter Salting Operation

Given the early winter blast of November, we're all thinking snow and ice. Here are some reminders about the salting procedures.

Main Village Roads . . .
(Brighton Drive, Butterfield Drive, Byron Avenue, Camden Drive, Cardinal Drive, N. Circle Avenue, Covington Drive, Edgewater Drive, Euclid Avenue, Fairfield Way, Fox Court, Glen Ellyn Road, Greenway Drive, Knollwood Drive, Madsen Drive, Schick Road, Scott Drive, Springfield Drive) will be treated using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride. Each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down.

Just for clarification – Lake Street is State owned, Bloomingdale Road, Army Trail, Medinah Road and Gary Avenue are DuPage County roads. Snow and ice control for these roadways are carried out by these respective agencies.



Intersections . . . will be treated 100 feet adjacent to each intersection using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride. Each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down.

Hills and Curves . . . will be treated 50 feet adjacent to hazardous areas using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride. Each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down.

All Other Village Streets and Cul-De-Sacs . . . will be either untreated or spot salted when conditions dictate using salt dosed with liquid calcium

chloride. Each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down.

It should be noted that the above policy will serve as a general guideline. The policy may require adjustments after establishing weather and pavement conditions, as well as other factors in the interest of motorist safety.

Please use extreme caution this winter, and always, while driving during inclement weather. Don't drive if you don't have to. If you must drive, give yourself additional time to get where you are going.

Festival of Lights – Old Town Park

Beginning at 6:30 pm on Nov. 27, the holiday magic returns for the third straight year in bigger and brighter fashion. In addition to a sparkling display of holiday lights and sights, expanded on-site entertainment & activities are sure to delight! See p. 7 for a calendar of events.



Scouts Visit Mayor and Board

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

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

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

BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

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

POLICE PENSION BOARD

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

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

3rd Thursday of the month 4:00 p.m. – Firehouse, 179 S. Bloomingdale Road

December Village Board Meetings
7 p.m Council Rm.
Mondays, Dec 7 & 14



Mayor Franco met with Cub Scout Pack 414 & Boy Scout Troop 457 on November 9. The Scouts stayed to attend the November 9 Village Board meeting, where Scout Jaden Gubbara led in the Pledge of Allegiance. The boys also took a photo with the Village Board.

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 pre-Thanksgiving record breaking snowfall, the Village is able to get out critical information to all subscribers as it becomes available.

Go to www.villageofbloomingdale.org and sign up for the E-news. It's easy and free!



Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

Franco A. Coladietro
Village President

William Belmonte
Traffic and Streets

Michael D. Hovde
Planning, Zoning
& Environmental
Concerns

Jane E. Michelotti
Village Clerk

Bill Bolen
Finance and
Administration

TRUSTEES

Judi Von Huben
Public Safety

Frank Bucaro
Facilities, Infrastructure

Vince Ackerman
Intergovernmental and
Community Relations

Gary Umlauf's pristine image of winter from Hilton Indian Lakes on the front page. We might be seeing a lot of that white stuff this season.

A Message from Mayor Franco

The end of the year is approaching. With Thanksgiving just behind us and the rest of the holiday season around the corner, I am pleased to report that we have continued to move ahead in our economic resurgence during 2015. Chick-fil-A and Mod Pizza, two great restaurant additions along Army Trail Road, are both open in Bloomingdale Court Shopping Center. Staff has been working with Mariano's who expects to begin build out of their new Bloomingdale location in early 2016.



The Memory Care Facility at the corner of Glen Ellyn Road and Lakeview Drive is underway. The two deteriorated vacant restaurants have been demolished and construction of new one-story facility is set to begin later this year. The Village is moving forward with the Old Town Project that will improve the streetscape and infrastructure of the area with the goal of attracting new businesses and making Old Town a popular community gathering space.

In addition to the recent retail developments, Bloomingdale will be home to LaVeZZi Precision Inc., a manufacturer of complex medical components nearing completion of its new 80,000 sq. ft. headquarters in Bloomingdale Corporate Center bringing 110 jobs to the area. Also, Houston Wire & Cable, one of the largest distributors of electrical wire and cable and related services in the U.S. industrial distribution market, is opening in the ProLogis Industrial Center, bringing 40 jobs to Bloomingdale.

Commercial growth aside, I would be remiss not to recognize how blessed our community is with the wonderful working relationship we have with the schools, library and park district, as well as the other governmental bodies. I also applaud the Lions Club, Historical Society, Garden Club, VFW, volunteers for youth sports and so many others who are dedicated to keeping Bloomingdale such a great place to live.

Looking ahead, there are plenty of family activities going on this month for the holidays. Check out the calendar on p. 7 for the Festival of Lights activities in Old Town Park. Subscribe to our E-news (see p. 2) to learn about other holiday-related events to enjoy.

Two more thoughts – Please remember to “Keep the Cheer Here” this holiday season by shopping Bloomingdale. Supporting our local businesses helps build a stronger local economy and keeps our community vibrant. The practice also has a positive impact on taxes in that the more revenue generated from sales tax, the less reliant the Village is on property taxes to provide services. Keep in mind, some retailers will match internet prices, so be sure to ask. Secondly, if you are looking for ways to “Spread the Cheer,” please see p. 8 to give to those less fortunate in small ways that mean a lot to the recipient.

From my family to yours – best wishes for a warm and wonderful Holiday Season. -- Mayor Franco



Special congratulations to our own Bloomingdale resident, Mr. Ted Cucci, for being named the FBI National Academy Associates Illinois Chapter “Citizen of the Year” at an event held November 3. Pictured are (l to r) Mayor Franco, son Anthony Cucci, Ted, son Nick Cucci and Police Chief Giammarese. Certainly well deserved, Ted!



Bloomingdale Walkers Take Strides Against Breast Cancer

In support of fellow coworkers, family and friends who are either battling or survivors of breast cancer, the **The Bloomingdale Walkers (a team of Village and Library employees)** participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, October 18 in Cantigny.



The team, pictured above, raised \$2,745 for breast cancer research.

Wishing You the Merriest of Holidays

The Bloomingdale Village Hall holiday closings:

Christmas:

Thursday and Friday,
December 24 & December 25

New Year's:

Thursday and Friday,
December 31 and January 1, 2016

Best Wishes to all for safe and Happy Holidays from the elected officials and staff at the Village of Bloomingdale.



Wintertime Words to the Wise

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 630-893-7000

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

VILLAGE ALMANAC

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Mary Ellen Johnson,
Editor

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Bloomington, IL 60108

630-671-5600

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Almanac must be submitted to
Mary Ellen Johnson by
January 5, 2016
email
JOHNSONM@
vil.bloomington.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 151 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 snow plowing 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 for the Friday garbage pickups during the weeks of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.

ComEd Warns of Scams



ComEd is urging its customers to be aware of scams amid an uptick in recent reports that scammers are targeting ComEd residential and small business customers.

The recent scams involve stories that billing cycles have changed and immediate payment is due, or that the customer's previous payments were not accepted or processed. Scammers are requesting funds between \$100 to \$300 from residential customers and \$1,000 to \$1,600 from small businesses.

Anyone who believes they have been a target of a scam is urged to notify the Illinois Attorney General's office at 800-386-5438 or on the Attorney General's website.

Customers can also reach ComEd at 1-800-EDISON1 for information regarding their account.

What if a Snowplow Damages My Mailbox?

The Village will replace and/or reimburse a resident up to \$50.00 for a mailbox and post which is damaged as a result of the Village snowplow operations, provided the homeowner notifies the Village of the damage, the Village performs an in-house investigation, and the mailbox is installed per Village setback requirements.

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.



Enjoy Your Live Christmas Tree . . . Then Dispose of It at the Curb

Republic Services, Inc. the Village refuse hauler, will pick up live Christmas trees, up to six-feet tall, at the curb on residents' first four scheduled pick up days in January. 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 22, 2016.

Yard waste stickers are not required for Christmas tree disposal.



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



Smart Thermostat Savings

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

The Village of Bloomingdale will again be offering Expanded Weekend Dial-A-Ride hours during the holiday season from Saturday, November 28 through Sunday, December 27.

Hours are Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. There is no Dial-A-Ride service on Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day.

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

Bloomingdale's Weekend Dial-A-Ride one-way rates are: \$3.00 for Adult Residents, \$1.50 for Village residents with a disability, Village senior citizens (age 65 & older) and for students. Children (under age 7) when accompanied by a fare-paying adult are free.

Reservations shall be accepted beginning Thursday of the preceding week service is desired, and with as little as one (1) day advance notice. Same day service requests are not guaranteed.

Weekend Dial-A-Ride Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-713-7445.

Thinking of getting a smart thermostat? ComEd & Nicor Gas announced a program designed to get 1 million "smart" thermostats into their service area homes by 2020.

The program offers rebates and discounts on smart thermostats. Whether you choose to have your smart thermostat installed by a professional or do it yourself, savings are available, see how.



THREE WAYS TO GET YOUR SMART THERMOSTAT

Thinking of getting a smart thermostat? ComEd®, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas offer rebates and discounts on smart thermostats.*

Whether you choose to have your smart thermostat installed by a professional or you prefer to do it yourself, your gas and electric utilities offer savings for you and your family. Now that's pretty smart.

| | ComEd | Nicor Gas | Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas |
|--|--|---|--|
| Self-installed Purchase and install your qualifying smart thermostat and receive up to \$120 in rebates. | ecobee3, Nest Learning Thermostat \$100 rebate | Any smart or standard programmable thermostat \$20 rebate | Any smart or standard programmable thermostat installed on an existing furnace \$20 rebate |
| Contractor-installed Use a professional contractor to install your qualifying smart thermostat and receive up to \$145 in rebates. | ecobee3, Honeywell Lyric, Nest Learning Thermostat \$125 rebate | Any smart or standard programmable thermostat \$20 rebate | Any smart or standard programmable thermostat installed on an existing furnace \$20 rebate |
| Utility-installed Receive a smart thermostat at the discounted price of \$150, including free installation during the appointment. | <p>The ecobee3 is the only smart thermostat offered through: ComEd— Home Energy Assessment Nicor Gas— Home Assessment Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas— Home Energy Jumpstart</p> <p>\$150 discounted price, including installation during your appointment</p> <p>Contact your electric or gas utility to schedule your appointment.</p> | | |

For more information:

ComEd: ComEd.com/Rebates or ComEd.com/Assessment or call 855-433-2700

Nicor Gas: nicorgasrebates.com or call 877-886-4239

Peoples Gas: peoplesgasrebates.com or call 855-849-8928

North Shore Gas: northshoregasrebates.com or call 855-849-8928





December Calendar of Events



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| | November 30 Wreath Decorating 7-8:30PM | 1 Holiday Creations 6-6:45PM 7-7:45PM | 2 Santa 6-8PM | 3 Holiday Bingo 6:30-8:30PM | 4 Santa 6-8PM | 5 Carriage Rides 6:30-8PM Mrs. Claus Story-time 6:30-8PM |
| 6 Cookie Decorating 1-4PM Face Painting 1-4PM | 7 Holiday Cupstacking 4:30-5:30PM 5:30-6:30PM | 8 Holiday Canvas 3:30-5:30PM | 9 Craft Workshop 6-8:30PM | 10 Rockin Santa 6:30-7:30PM | 11 Santa 6-8PM Toasty Cheese Food Truck & Carriage Rides 6:30-8PM First Street Sound (Jazz Group) 6:30-8PM | 12 Chris Fascione - Juggler 6:30-7:30PM |
| 13 Rockin' Santa 2-3PM Holiday Centerpiece 3:30-5:30PM | 14 Scavenger Hunt 6-7:30PM | 15 Holiday Canvas 6-7:30PM | 16 Holiday Bingo 6:30-8:30PM Dale Obrochta - Holiday Balloon Show 7 -7:45PM | 17 Rockin Santa 6:30-7:30PM | 18 Carriage Rides 6:30-8PM Mrs. Claus Story-time 6:30-8PM | 19 Miss Jamie Farm Show 7-8PM |
| 20 Santa 1-3PM Holiday Bingo 1-3PM | 21 Holiday Art 1-2PM Holiday Crafting 6:30-8PM | 22 Fingerpainting 10-11:15AM | 23 Rockin' Santa 6:30-7:30PM | 24 | 25 | 26 Carriage Rides 6:30-8PM |
| 27 Craft Workshop 1-4PM | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

- Held at Old Town Park
- Festival of Lights featured programs require registration and a fee.

Museum Hours (Nov. 27-Dec. 27)

Monday-Tuesday: Closed
 Wednesday-Thursday: 6-8:30PM
 Friday-Saturday: 6-9PM
 Sunday: 1-4PM

Holiday Giving Opportunities

Tips from Morton Arboretum Garden Calendar

December

Begin light pruning on trees and shrubs by removing water sprouts and dead or crossing branches. Pruning trees and shrubs can be done more easily in winter without leaves on branches, but avoid pruning spring-flowering plants at this time.

Protect shallow-rooted perennials, such as mums, coral bells, shasta daisy, and crocus, from the freeze-thaw cycles of winter by covering plants with evergreen boughs from left-over holiday greens.

Apply winter mulch to base of roses once ground begins to freeze. Applying too early can prevent ground from freezing naturally.

Clean, sharpen, and repair all garden tools before storing.

Protect multi-stemmed evergreens, such as upright arbutus, junipers, and yews, from heavy snow or ice damage during a winter storm by tying trunks together with old nylons or cotton twine. Be sure to remove in the spring!

Avoid using heavy quantities of deicing material along sidewalks and parking areas near landscape plants.

Gently shake or brush off heavy snow that accumulates on shrubs and small trees before it freezes. Do not attempt to remove ice.

Begin monitoring for animal damage when food sources become scarce, but don't forget to feed the birds.

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.

Please be An Angel by joining together with the Village of Bloomingdale Employees this upcoming holiday season in support of the Salvation Army's Angel Tree benefiting infants (newborn to 24 months) with teen Moms and pre-school age children (ages 2 to 5) attending Salvation Army's Red Shield Head Start program. Each Angel Tree tag indicates the gender, age and gift desired by each child.

If you're interested in participating and would like a tag, please e-mail Barb Weber at weberb@vil.bloomingtondale.il.us or call 630-671-5613, (indicating gender/age preference, if you have one), and a tag will gladly be sent to you. Unwrapped gifts should be returned no later than December 17.

Bloomingtondale Township Sharing Tree – Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomingtondale Township helped make the season brighter for more than 810 children in Bloomingtondale Township. Names & wishes of local needy youngsters, as well as residents of convalescent and nursing homes are on the Sharing Tree, located at the Township Transportation Building, 123 Rosedale Road, now through December 12. Wrapped gifts must be returned by December 12.

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 12. 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:

Olive Garden, 332 W. Army Trail Road

Marklund Children's Home, 164 S. Prairie Ave.

Pivot Point, 144 E. Lake St.

Bloomingtondale Park District, 172 S. Circle

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 Bloomingtondale 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' 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!

Bloomingtondale VFW Post 7539 – Bloomingtondale VFW Post 7539 will be gearing up soon to start putting together holiday packages for our troops who are still far from home. Check out the Village's homepage www.villageofbloomingtondale.org under "News Flash" Holiday Giving Opportunities in Bloomingtondale. Items can be delivered to the Bloomingtondale Fire Station at 179 S. Bloomingtondale Road seven days a week, between the hours of 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Please enter on the south side of the building and ring the doorbell.

If shopping isn't your thing, but you still want to help, the post can always use donations to help pay for shipping all the packages they send out. Please make checks payable to: VFW Post 7539. Send them to VFW Post 7539, c/o Bloomingtondale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way, Bloomingtondale, IL. 60108, and in the memo put "Support the Troops."

Police Department Volunteer Jim Headley Retires



Police Chief Frank Giammarese and Jim Headley

The Bloomingdale Police Department Senior Volunteer Program bids farewell to Volunteer Jim Headley, after 15 years of volunteer service. Jim started a year after the program began in 1999. The volunteers have been a great support system to the department, throughout the years.

Jim and his greatest supporter, wife Mary Grace, are officially "retiring," and while they aren't leaving Bloomingdale, Jim's smile and warmth will be missed around the office by all members of the Police Department. Good luck and best wishes to the Headleys!

News About Your Vehicle Registration

Due to the lack of a state budget, the Illinois Secretary of State's office is suspending the mailing of vehicle registration renewal reminder notices. By suspending this service, which will save approximately \$450,000.00 per month, the office will be able to prolong the ability to mail vehicle registration renewal stickers, titles and license plates to vehicle owners for a few months longer before the postage account is depleted.

Vehicle owners are encouraged to be mindful of their vehicle registration status. Motorists can sign up to receive reminder notices electronically by e-mail.

Go to www.cyberdriveillinois.com for further information.

Tip-a-Cop 2015 Raises \$1,322 for Special Olympics

Officer Jin Han, Police Chief Frank Giammarese, Officers Joe Cressman and Dominick Corsiglia, participated in the Tip-a-Cop event from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and 4 - 8 p.m. on October 24 at the Stratford Square Red Robin Restaurant. This year the event raised \$1,322.00 for Illinois Special Olympics, which is nearly double than last year's donation. A HUGE thanks to all those customers who donated so generously for this great cause.



Police Department Welcomes Officer Jonathon Chrabot

Jonathon Chrabot was sworn in as a Probationary Police Officer at the November 9, 2015 Village Board meeting by Mayor Franco.

Chrabot will graduate on December 18th from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy at the College of DuPage. He will then begin 12 weeks of field training with our officers. He is pictured here with Mayor Franco.



Neighborhood Watch Meeting Dates for 2016

January 13 – Open Forum - Speaking with Mayor, Village Administrator, Village Services Director, Police and Fire Chiefs

March 9

May 11

July 13

September 14

November 9

All meetings are on Wednesdays evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Room.

National Night Out Against Crime will be on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. held at Circle Park and the Bloomingdale Park District Oasis facility.



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



Words of Advice from the IRS



Police Chief is 'Mystery Guest'

Police Chief Giannarese was the mystery guest reader in Ms. Schultze's 1st grade class at Winnebago School on October 30. He read *Officer Buckle* and *Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann.

Bloomington is in the Spotlight!

If you haven't seen the "Spotlight on Bloomington" in the November/December issue of Western Suburban Living Magazine yet, go to the homepage of our website, www.villageofbloomington.org and click on the link under News Flash.

The article leads in with Bloomington is "a community that has retained its historic small town roots while growing to become a vibrant suburb." We couldn't agree more.



The IRS advises you to stay alert to protect yourself against new ways criminals pose as the IRS to trick you out of your money or personal information. Here are several tips from the IRS to help you avoid being a victim of these scams:

- **Scams use scare tactics.** Many phone scams use threats to try to intimidate, often threatening arrest or deportation, or revoking your license if you don't pay. They may also leave "urgent" callback requests, via phone or email. The emails will often contain a fake IRS document with a phone number or an email address for you to reply.
- **Scams use caller ID spoofing.** Scammers often alter caller ID to make it look like the IRS or another agency is calling. The callers use IRS titles and fake badge numbers to appear legit. They may use online resources to get your name, address and other details about your life to make the call sound official.
- **Scams use phishing email and regular mail.** Scammers copy official IRS letterhead to use in email or regular mail they send to victims to make the scheme look official. In another new variation, scammers provide an actual IRS address where they tell the victim to mail a receipt for the payment they make.
- **Scams cost victims over \$20 million.**

The real IRS will not:

- Call you if you owe taxes without first sending you a bill in the mail.
- Demand that you pay taxes and not allow you to question or appeal the amount that you owe.
- Require that you pay your taxes a certain way, such as through a prepaid credit card.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Threaten to bring in police or other agencies to arrest you for not paying.



If you don't owe taxes or have no reason to think that you do:

- Do not provide any information to the caller. Hang up immediately.
- Contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Use TIGTA's "IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting" web page to report the incident.
- You should also report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the "FTC Complaint Assistant" on FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

If you know you owe, or think you may owe taxes:

Call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you if you do owe taxes. Stay alert to scams that use the IRS as a lure. For more, visit "Tax Scams and Consumer Alerts" on IRS.gov.

Star Smiles and School District 93 Team Up for Troops

Star Smiles Orthodontics & Pediatric Dentistry, a leading pediatric dental and orthodontic practice, is located in the Springbrook Shopping Center in Bloomingdale. The dual specialty dental practice is in a unique position to serve the entire family's dental and orthodontic needs.



Drs. Andre and Raquel Jham are proud of the efforts of the students of District 93 to "treat" the troops.

Drs. Andre and Raquel Jham are here to help every step of the way. They are also proud to say they were able to raise 450 lb of candy for Operation Gratitude, with the help of District #93 schools! The kids within the community donated their candy and wrote letters to the U.S. troops. Star Smiles is excited to continue to work with this great community!

'Tent City' Sprouts Up at Chick-fil-A Grand Opening



The Grand Opening for Chick-fil-A, 351 W. Army Trail Rd. started at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 23. A "tent city" sprouted up as people started camping out in the Chick-fil-A parking lot up to 24 hours before the opening. The first 100 people through the doors Wednesday morning received free Chick-fil-A for a year! As part of the grand opening, attendees were asked to donate a children's book, all of which were presented to Winnebago Elementary School later in the week.

The restaurant features a fast drive-through, patio seating, a children's play area, and two handcrafted "community tables" for large parties to gather around. Chick-fil-A business hours are Monday-Saturday 6:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., closed on Sundays.



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.

**Remember -
BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE**

Welcome to These New Businesses

Go! Calendar
402 Stratford Square

Shear Salon
729 Stratford Square

We R Wireless (Kiosk)
158 S. Gary Avenue

Alro Plastics
279 Madsen Drive #102

A1-Eco Cleaning
129 Fairfield, Suite 303J

New Locations

Starbucks moved to
430 W. Army Trail Rd.
(from 148 Gary)

Verizon moved to
370 W. Army Trail Rd
(from 336 Army Trail)



Community Events



Small business is the lifeblood of the American economy, yet locally owned independent businesses are under more pressure than ever. Trying economic times, plus corporate buyouts of smaller businesses, have made it a treacherous business environment for the little guys.

In support of Bloomington's Small Independent Businesses, the Village of Bloomington is a member of the 3/50 Project, which is a national initiative created for the primary mission of saving the "Brick & Mortars Our Nation is Built On." There is a simple message, "Pick 3 local businesses; Spend \$50 collectively at them each month."

So this holiday season, as you make your gift purchases- "Keep the Cheer Here." Your loyalty keeps local businesses around. Remember, every dollar spent in Bloomington returns money to our economy. When you spend it on-line, nothing comes home! If your favorite independent business is not a 3/50 member, encourage them to join the 3/50 Project movement online at www.the350project.net for free publicity.

Park District Historical Museum Holiday Show: 'Paws & Claus' & More!

The Park District Historic Museum sparkles with lights, seasonal decorations and attractions appealing to the entire family at the annual Holiday Show from November 27-December 27. See details about events on p. 7.

Special hours during this time are Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6-8:30PM; Fridays and Saturdays, 6-9PM; and Sundays, 1-4PM.



In Gallery I, the popular Lego Train City exhibit returns. The surrounding walls feature drawings, paintings and sculptures of Santa Claus and adorable dogs by artists Charlotte Burgess, Sherylee Dodge, Carol Foster, Fredericka Howard and Cheryl Rausch.

In Gallery II, Snoopy and friends are featured. Posters, stuffed animals and other related items come from the collection of Charise McCarthy. A free reception will be held from 1-3 p.m. on December 5.

A Ceramic Pet Workshop is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., December 5 at the Museum. The workshop provides an opportunity to make an original clay animal that could be used as a gift, keepsake or decorative ornament. The workshop is open to all ages and is instructed by Charlotte Burgess, a well-known sculptor whose unique figurines can be found in collections throughout the United States. Call the Museum at (630) 339-3570 to register.

Bloomington Garden Club - Upcoming Meetings

2016 begins with an Annual Business Meeting on January 16. The club's exciting programs/speakers for 2016, plans for the very popular annual flower sale in May, and charitable endeavors are on the agenda.

Spring Wildflowers - On February 19, Mel Zaloudek presents a full color portrait of the beautiful woodland flora native to Illinois. A complete identification of species, in flowering sequence, provides the visual equivalent of an extended walk through the wilds from late April to early May. Gardening recommendations, past folklore and future conservation will all be presented.

Visitors are invited to drop in and meet the members of the Bloomington Garden Club who welcome gardeners of all ages and experience. Meetings are held from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Bloomington Police Dept, lower level, 201 S. Bloomington Road. Visit www.bloomingtongardenclub.org or contact bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com for more information.

CHARACTER COUNTS! 2015

The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition's annual Celebration Night was held on Tuesday, October 13 in Old Town Park. This year's theme was the Pillar of Responsibility. The event kicked-off with the Presentation of Colors conducted by the Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 and Bloomingdale Boy Scouts, followed by the Westfield Middle School Chorus and Band's performance of America the Beautiful. Village Trustee Michael Hovde Jr. read the Joint Proclamation proclaiming CHARACTER COUNTS! Day in the Village of Bloomingdale.



The evening included the presentation of the 2015 **American Youth Character Awards**. Award recipients are pictured above in the front row (l to r) Sam Galante (Bloomingdale Barracudas), Maritza Vasquez (Winnebago), Jordyn Miles (Erickson), Isaiah Romanski (DuJardin), Olivia Turman (Westfield), and Madison Gordon (St. Isidore). Entertainment was provided by the various schools and the Bloomingdale Park District Beavers and the evening concluded with the CHARACTER COUNTS! Shuffle, led by DuJardin Elementary Principal Mark Dwyer.

Bloomingdale Artists Association Upcoming Meetings

January 13 - Mixed Media Workshop

BAA member and award-winning artist Annette Perone Leiber will give an acrylic mixed media demonstration, followed by a "hands-on" experience. Annette will demonstrate the steps required to combine different materials to achieve a finished work of art.

February 10 - Helen Price & Bev Petrosius- Garden Art

BAA members Bev Petrosius and Helen Price will help participants create decorative garden art, one to keep and one to be donated to the spring silent auction to benefit the BAA scholarship fund.

Programs are held at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road, 630-339-3570. There is a \$5 drop-in fee for guests; an additional materials fee may apply. Guests must register by contacting Bev Petrosius at 630-624-9545 or bpetrosius@gmail.com



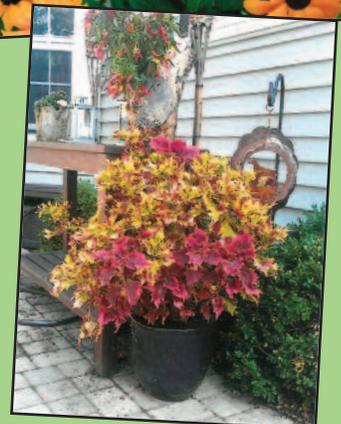
Thanks, Vets

Mayor Franco chatted with the Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 veterans following their flag raising ceremony at the gazebo at 11 a.m. on Veteran's Day, November 11.



Garden Club Photo Contest Winners

The Bloomingdale Garden Club received 30 high quality submissions in its second photo contest seeking pictures of flowers/plants purchased at the 2015 plant sale. Earning first place this year is Carole Lockerbie with her planters overflowing with assorted annuals. Second place went to Helen Price for her striking close-up of golden yellow annual rudbeckia. Third place was received by Roger Turek for his stunning combo of variegated coleus. Photos were judged on composition/color/variety; winning photos will be displayed at the 2016 plant sale, to be held May 13-14, 2016.



Around and About Town

Winemaker in Residence



Resident Ben Hoyle made his first batch of wine in 2000 from a kit. Since then he's made dozens of batches from kits, using grapes he has grown, as well as grapes, peaches, strawberries, blueberries, honey, etc. he has purchased. He has six varieties of grapes growing in his backyard and more growing at his dad's home west of Rockford.

A pricing analyst for RR Donnelley by day, this weekend winemaker won two bronze medals in the Illinois Amateur Winemaker Competition, in 2009 for his *Peach Wine* and in 2011 for his *Honey Wine*.

This summer he won three awards at the 2015 Illinois State Fair Wine Amateur Competition: Gold for his *Homeplace Concord*, Silver for his *Black Locust Flower Honey Wine* & Bronze for his *Backyard Blush*. His wines are entered under the name Lonberi Vineyards.

Ben also makes beer, but he has only entered one competition, which did not garner any awards – yet. He notes he might open a winery some day, but right now he is just making small batches to learn about the different varieties of grapes and the wine they can produce. Ben currently has six new batches of wine he will be bottling soon for this summer's competition. Lonberi Vineyards – you might want to remember that name.

Congratulations to Our Citizens Police Academy Grads

The 20th Graduating Class of the Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is the second return of an updated seven week version of the original CPA program, which ran from the mid-1990s through 2008. The police department plans to hold one CPA annually, depending on resident interest. The class, which graduated on November 11, was very enthusiastic about the program's revival.



Garden Club Harvest



The Bloomington Garden Club's last harvest from the Plot to Plate Garden was picked in October at Springfield Park. The Bloomington Park District anticipates having a number of garden plots available for rent in 2016. A big thanks to Boy Scout Alex Solomon, Bloomington resident and Lake



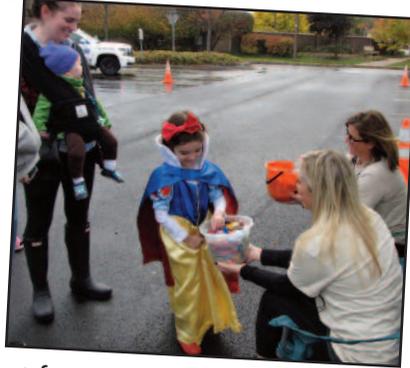
Park High School student, who designed and built the Community Garden food donation station for his Eagle Scout project in anticipation of next year's bounty.



Bloomington Lions were dressed in various shades of blue in recognition of November as Diabetes Awareness month. Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness which the Lions of the World continue to fight. The photo was taken at the Lions November 5 meeting at Bloomington Golf Club.

A Most Happy Halloween!

The 2015 Community Halloween party was another great success; the weather was perfect for the outdoor event. The Library staff reported over 1200 people walked through their tent enjoying Halloween games, a photo booth, face painting and more. The hay maze and haunted moonwalk bounce were also favorites. The Park District featured crafts, a tumbling play station and a family pumpkin decorating contest. Police, Public Works & Fire departments had more activities, treats and Halloween fun for the youngsters. In addition, this year also featured "Trick or Trunk" vehicles. Thanks go to the staff of the library, the Friends of the Bloomingdale Library, and the Village of Bloomingdale for co-sponsoring this fun event. The police department also thanks all its volunteers, as well as Mori Milk and the DuPage County Sheriff's Department for their contributions to the event.



Celebrating an Addition to Marklund's Life Skills Academy

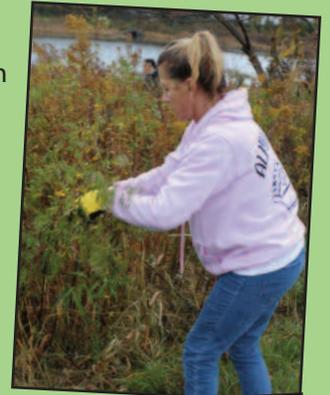
Mayor Coladipietro and Trustee Frank Bucaro joined Marklund Board Chair Jeff Blanchette and President/CEO Gil Fonger on November 12 at the Grand Opening of the Ann Haskins Center at Marklund Day School. The new center will create more space for Marklund's Life Skills Academy, which provides specialized support to students diagnosed on the autism spectrum. (l to r Blanchette, Bucaro, Coladipietro, Fonger)



Make a Difference Day

Wolff Construction, located in Roselle, joined the Bloomingdale Park District, along with volunteers from across the community, to participate in Make A Difference Day on Saturday, October 24, 2015. This year's project was to clean up and maintain Springfield Park.

Among the volunteers were members of the Lancers from Lake Park High School, Bloomingdale Garden Club members, and employees of Wolff Construction who re-fur-bished one of the bridges.



Administrative Offices
179 S. Bloomingtondale Road
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(630) 894-9080
FAX (630) 894-8720

Chief
Jeffrey Janus

District Trustees
Tim Deuschle
Lydia DiBuono
Bill Wolff

Commissioners
Marshall Gray, Jr.
Shawn Flood
Fran Scalafini



Shawn Flood Appointed New Fire Commissioner

Bloomingtondale resident Shawn Flood was sworn in as the new Fire Commissioner by Fire District Trustee Lydia DiBuono on Wednesday, October 21, 2015.

He is taking the place of retiring Jac Williamson who served over 30 years as a commissioner for the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District 1.

Winter Safety Tips: Winter is peak season for CO poisoning

The Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District and the National Fire Protection Association remind you that it's not too early to begin preparing for the heating season. Check these tips off your list and get ahead of the winter freeze.

- The furnace has been inspected and serviced by a qualified professional during the last 12 months. (A furnace should be serviced at least once a year.)
- The chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional. (Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires from built up creosote. This service needs to be done at least once a year.)
- The fireplace screen is metal or heat-tempered glass, in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- A covered metal container is ready to use to dispose of cooled ashes. (The ash container should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and any nearby buildings.)
- Any portable space heaters have an automatic shut-off.
- Any portable space heaters will be plugged directly into an outlet (not an extension cord) and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn; like bedding, paper, walls, and even people.
- We have tested our smoke alarms and made sure they are working. (You need smoke alarms on every level of the home, inside each sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. For the best protection, the smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.)
- We have tested our carbon monoxide alarms and made sure they are working. (Carbon monoxide alarms should be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.)



For more information about winter fire safety or other safety information contact Battalion Chief Richard Kurka at the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District at 630-894-9080.

Honoring A Ritual from the 1880s

Repeating a firefighter ritual that dates back to the 1800s, Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1 wet down their newly acquired tower ladder truck and pushed it into the station in early November. This is tradition that dates back to the horse and fire wagon days, when the firemen unhitched the horses and wet the wheels down before they pushed the wagon back in. This helped to maintain the wooden spokes so they wouldn't break down into disrepair. Current and former members of the Bloomingtondale Fire Department were on hand for the ceremony. The new vehicle is located at Station # 23 on Gary Avenue.



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.
- **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.
- **Safety tip:** Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe on your clothes dryer is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.



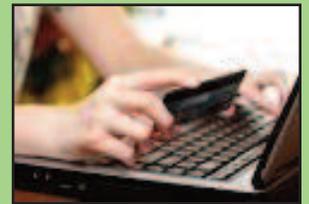
FACT: The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them.



Shop Online Securely This Holiday Season

As more people shop via the internet for gifts, more vigilance is needed to protect your private information. The following recommendations will be helpful.

Shop securely. Use a secure virtual private network, known as a VPN, so cybercriminals cannot track your activity from your mobile device, desktop or laptop. Be wary of free Wi-Fi, because it may reveal your private information. Also, use a so-called disposable e-mail when visiting sites that require e-mail addresses and you don't want to provide your own. Visit www.privacymart.com to create your own disposable e-mails.



Watch your transactions: When paying online, make sure the connection is secure by the padlock emblem or the URL with the "https" at the top.

Stop before you share. Find out who is asking you for your information and be careful of any links they provide and ask you to click.

Watch your monthly credit card statements. If there are any unauthorized charges, report it. Also, check your annual credit report to make sure no one has opened new accounts in your name.

Beware of e-mail scams. Whenever a major retailer reports a major hack, scammers come out of the woodwork, sending bogus emails to victims seeking more personal information.

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

*Courtesy of Anna Marie Kucec,
Daily Herald*



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**

Veterans Day: VFW Post 7539 Remembers

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 was honored at District 13's three schools -- DuJardin, Erickson & Westfield Middle School. They also stopped to conduct a Veterans Day service of their own at the gazebo by the library.

Their Message: "As members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we know all too well what it's like to be away from home during the holiday season. Post 7539 has not missed a month for forwarding packages since the Iraqi War began. Many people think that almost all of the troops are home, but we still have troops in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Anything we can do to make their day better and to let them know that the folks at home are warmly thinking of them, is always greatly appreciated."

