



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



FRANK GIAMMARESE
CHIEF OF POLICE

BLOOMINGDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
201 SOUTH BLOOMINGDALE ROAD
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108-1499

IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL

(630) 529-9868

www.villageofbloomingtondale.org

MAY / JUNE 2012

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

Next meeting will feature the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District, on Wednesday, July 18th, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., in the Village Hall Council Room.

A representative from the Bloomingtondale Fire Department will provide information on addressing extreme weather temperatures that we have experienced the past few years (the recent "heat week" and the "Blizzard of 2011") as well as discuss the paramedic procedures and the future of the agency. The public is encouraged to attend and bring any questions or concerns to this insightful evening. Refreshments for the meeting will be provided. Hope to see you there!



Mark your calendars! The following dates are scheduled:
2012 Neighborhood Watch General Meetings:

August 7nd (National Night Out Against Crime)
September 19th
November 14th

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

The last Neighborhood Watch General Meeting occurred on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, in which Detective Tom Burns provided an excellent insight into the Juvenile Justice System and its applications for the Bloomingtondale Police Department. To begin the presentation, Detective Burns utilized the audience's awareness to incidents involving juveniles that they may have seen in the media, such as fights posted on U-Tube and bullying issues in schools and communities. Detective Burns is a 26 year veteran of the police department and a trained Evidence Technician. Detective Burns' current assignment as a Detective and Juvenile Officer was given to him 7 years ago. Detective Burns advised the audience that a Juvenile is defined as an individual under the age of 18 years. Juveniles that can be charged for a criminal offense are from 10-18 years old and they are handled differently than adults. First of all, juveniles adhere to Status Offenses, as well as, Criminal Offenses. Status Offenses are due to an age restriction, such as incidents involving curfew, truancy, tobacco and alcohol.



Similar to adults, criminal offenses have been divided into two types, Misdemeanor charges and Felony charges, due to the degree of the crime. When crimes are committed by adults, the individuals proceed to criminal court, in which their sentencing may involve a fine (payment), probation, or incarceration (jail time), as well as a conviction on their permanent record. For juveniles, they have alternative methods (a Step System) for the disposition of a case, in which there is a progression in the consequences to their actions. The "Step System" incorporates the learning / growing / maturing process for young adults (Juvenile record is temporary), with the understanding that they don't have as much knowledge and/or experience in certain things. The system allows learning from mistakes, in which they do not have to be 'labeled' for a bad decision but should gain knowledge from it for the future. Also, the "Step System" helps the overcrowding of the Juvenile Court System and the Juvenile Detention facilities. The first step has been defined as the Station Adjustment, in which there is no court appearance and the matter is handled locally (within community). The Station Adjustments may be formal or informal; they may involve fines or the Peer Jury Program. The Peer Jury Program utilizes young adults as volunteer jurors who then question (with adult supervision) the juvenile offender and determine their consequences for the incident. There is a greater effectiveness when explaining your actions to your peers. Confidentiality is utilized and emphasized throughout this process though. The juvenile offender has one month to complete the assignments given by the Peer Jurors and the juvenile must then re-appear before Peer Jury. If the assignments are not completed or the juvenile has another police contact (during the interim), then the juvenile may be petitioned to the next step that involves the DuPage County Probation Department, which is a Preliminary Conference. The second step – Preliminary Conference does not involve a court appearance but does involve a meeting with a probationary officer who interviews the juvenile and their parent(s) about the criminal charge. Other information discussed during the meeting: juvenile's behavior at home, school grades, juvenile's activities, anything else relevant to the juvenile. At the conclusion of the meeting, the juvenile may be placed on Informal Supervision, in which the

juvenile has agreed to a contract format agreement regarding the consequences given for the criminal offense. The juvenile may be given 3 months up to 1 year to complete the consequences listed on the contract. If the contract is completed, then the case is closed. If the juvenile does not complete the contract or commits another offense, then the case goes to the highest step, Juvenile Court. The juvenile will need representation from not only a parent / legal guardian, but from an attorney (well-versed in Juvenile Law). As in adult court, a judge presides over the courtroom and a guilty decision may result in fines, supervision, probation or jail time. It was also noted that juveniles proceed up the "step system", but do not de-escalate down the steps, that are provided as a learning tool.

Detective Burns answered some questions posed by the audience who were curious about our police department's contact with juveniles. Detective Burns was able to obtain the 2011 statistics which showed that the department had 230 juvenile arrests and that 161 incidents involved Theft charges. Detective Burns advised that a majority of these cases were handled by the Station Adjustment and Peer Jury Program, in which 10% may have been forwarded to the probation department and/or courthouse. The age and residency of the juvenile offenders varied and it was noted that many are drawn to Bloomingdale's shopping areas. An audience member inquired about the male to female ratio regarding juvenile offenders and Detective Burns was able to obtain that information for 2011, which is 57% males & 43% females. Also, it was discovered that the average age of the juvenile offenders was 16 years old (2011).

The audience appreciated the pertinent information provided by Detective Burns regarding the Juvenile Justice System and the significance for our community's awareness of it. Detective Burns encouraged any young adult of Bloomingdale (resident or school student; between 13-18 years) interested in volunteering for the Peer Jury Program to contact him at the Bloomingdale Police Department.

BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS:

At this time of the year, many are taking advantage of the longer daylight days and taking their bicycles around town or on bike trails. Be smart and practice good bicycle safety for everyone in your family.



- Always wear a bicycle helmet (fit snug & secure).
- Conduct a bicycle safety checklist.
- Wear appropriate clothing (bright / reflective-especially at night & proper shoes).
- Obey all traffic signals and signs.
- Be observant.
- Prevent bicycle theft (place in a safe place & secure it – utilize a lock in public places).

DRIVING SAFETY TIPS:

These helpful reminders are needed anytime of the year to maintain the safety of our streets and communities.

- Wear seat belts at all times.
- Use turn signals all the time—changing lanes & turning.
- Be observant of speed limit signs & your speed.
- If you miss an exit or street, go to the next exit / street. Do not cause an accident in a last minute maneuver. Drivers behind can only do so much.
- For emergency vehicles, please slow down and move to the right lanes, if possible. Make sure that all emergency vehicles have passed before resuming driving.
- If you have an accident, stay in your vehicle and always contact the police.

PLEASE NOTE: DISTRACTED DRIVING

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. All distractions endanger driver, passenger and bystander safety. Types of distractions include: Texting; Using a cell phone or Smartphone; Eating & Drinking; Talking to passengers; Grooming; Reading-including maps; Using a navigation system; Watching a video; Adjusting a radio, CD player or MP3 player.

Text messaging has received the most attention because it requires visual, manual and cognitive attention from the driver, which is by far the most alarming distraction.

Please remember that we share the roadways, so...

Drive Now. Text Later. You can't do both.
It's not worth it!

CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED...

Theft Bloomingdale Park District-172 S. Circle Ave.

On Wednesday, June 18, 2012, between 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., unknown person(s) removed a boy's bicycle from the bike rack near the swimming pool. Approximate cost: \$88.00.



On Thursday, June 19, 2012, between 3:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. unknown person(s) removed a boy's bicycle from the bike rack near the swimming pool. Approximate cost: \$200.00. No further information is available at this time for both cases..

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

Lifetime Fitness

A Glendale Heights woman reported that sometime between 10:40 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2012, person(s) unknown entered her unlocked 2012 Mercedes and removed a purse from the front seat. Approximate value of the loss: \$2,700.00. No suspect information at this time.

Theft

100 Block of Raven

A Bloomingdale woman reported that sometime between 9:00 p.m. on Monday, June 25 and 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, person(s) unknown removed her solar lights from the front yard. Approximate value: \$100.00. No further information at this time.