



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



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CHIEF OF POLICE

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IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL

(630) 529-9868
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NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2012

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

Next meeting is the Open Forum with Village Officials, on Wednesday, January 16th, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., in the Village Hall Council Room.

If you have missed it in the past, then make the annual "Open Forum" meeting part of your New Year's resolution. The meeting features representatives from the Mayor's Office, the Police Department, the Fire Department and the Village Services Department. The speakers will each present a "State of Bloomingtondale" address as they summarize the current status and future developments for each agency. The public is encouraged to attend and bring any questions or concerns to this unique and insightful evening. Refreshments for the meeting will be provided. Hope to see you there!



2013 Neighborhood Watch Meetings:
January 16th, 2013--July 17th, 2013
March 20th, 2013- -September 18th, 2013
May 15th, 2013 --November 20th, 2013

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

The second half of 2012 seems to have flown by, in which I would like to summarize the last two Neighborhood Watch General meetings to close out the year.

On September 19 2012, representatives from Stratford Square Mall joined our meeting to provide the latest developments for the shopping facility. Stratford Square Mall General Manager Douglas Kiehn, Marketing Manager Nicole Kneeland-Woods, and Security Manager Nick Pecho met with the audience regarding their roles for the mall. Nicole Kneeland-Woods advised that the mall was purchased by Urban Retail Properties, LLC, and that she heads up the advertisement, media interactions, public relations and community relations development. Nicole advised that the mall has built relationships with Bloomingtondale's police and fire departments, the public library and the park district, as well as, the Bloomingtondale Chamber of Commerce and the Bloomingtondale / Roselle Rotary Club. These partnerships have been seen in the mall events, such as the Business Expo, Family Circus event, Back to School event, Safety Day event, and Bloomingtondale Parks Day.

The Circus event was a successful fundraiser for the Rotary Club, in which both shows (in one day) sold out (1100 in attendance for each show). Other events have included the "Sounds of Style" featuring fashion, music and dance for teens, and a Health & Wellness Expo for Women which focused on Cancer awareness with Julianna Rancic. The mall has special events regarding the calendar holidays: Easter / Spring days, Halloween, and Christmas holidays. Residents and visitors are encouraged to visit, eat, and shop at the mall to show support throughout the year.

General Manager Douglas Kiehn advised that the mall does pay attention to the consumers and their input regarding stores that would interest them. Douglas further advised that there has been an active pursuit of Chico's and Coldwater Creek, but that nothing has been further discussed with those retailers. In the next year, there will be a yogurt store in place and other deals for further store development may be in the works. Mr. Kiehn stated that there will be a focus on the maintenance / upkeep of the anchor stores, examples Macy, Sears, Carson Pirie Scott, in which the mall management will review the plans for the anchor stores' future changes. The mall also will be developing stronger criteria for kiosks seen throughout the mall corridors.

The Cinemark Theaters continue to do well, especially with movie premiers that occur (example: Twilight series), which also brings safety concerns. Nick Pecho, Stratford Security Manager, stated that the security department has been very active the past year with revision of their Code of Conduct, training (including with the DuPage State Attorney's Office ref: gangs and active shooters), drill practice, uniform and vehicle changes and the addition of a Segway unit. With all these different aspects to Stratford Square Mall, it can be seen that the managers are striving for a stronger, positive presence in our community.

For the November meeting, Officer Odoi reviewed current criminal cases and answered the audience's questions about the activities in the community. Also Officer Odoi reminded the audience about organizing and/or updating a **Disaster Supply Kit**.

Generally, many people do not consider the preparation for an emergency until it happens. So,....the following has been recommended, (in case of an emergency when help may be delayed to you and your family), which would sustain you for a 3-7 day period: water – 1 gallon/person per day minimum; food – canned, dehydrated, powered; a manual can opener; high-energy food bars; change of clothes; flashlights w/extra batteries; waterproof matches; sturdy walking shoes or boots; work gloves; blankets / sleeping bags; toilet paper / paper towels; plastic trash bags; hand sanitizer; First-Aid Kit w/manual; portable battery-operated radio set to 90.9 FM; fire extinguisher; medications (include pet meds); whistle; extra eyeglasses; fuel for generator or vehicle. Recommended tools: pipe wrench, vice grips, screwdriver, crowbar, duct tape / plastic sheeting, rope, knife, road maps, cash (\$10.00 & \$20.00 bills), important documents (copies of insurance, birth certificates, etc.), pictures of family members, telephone numbers. Also, consider special supplies for children, elderly, physically challenged and pets. Store these items in back packs, trash bins, plastic bins, etc., near an exit and keep away from water, a water heater, a gas meter, dryer, etc.

Keep your vehicle well maintained and keep the gas tank at least ½ full. Recommended items in vehicles include: spare tires, jumper cables, fuel siphon, First Aid Kit, Car “Go Bag”, fire extinguisher, flashlight and water.

Personal work kit: water, snacks, medications, sturdy walking shoes / boots, flashlight.

Reminders on your calendar: replace stored water and food in kits every six (6) months; test fire detectors and recharge fire extinguisher; re-think your needs every year and update your kit as your family needs change.

SAFETY REMINDERS:

AT HOME:

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

WINTER DRIVING TIPS:



- Plan ahead – route, time of day, traffic, weather forecasts. Allow extra time for travel.
- Wear seat belts at all times.
- Clean windshield, windows, rear windows, headlights, brake lights, and license plate area, especially if snow is on the vehicle.
- Keep your car’s headlights on low beam. This provides better visibility particularly in fog or snow.
- Use turn signals.
- Watch the car in front of you for signs of trouble. Keep extra space between cars. Anticipate and prepare for slippery roads or other dangers.
- If you travel below the posted speed limit, please stay in the far right lane to avoid any speeding vehicles.

- If you 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 to avoid you.
- If you need to slow down or stop on a slick road, apply the brakes firmly and steadily, but not so firmly that they lock up. As you begin to slow, gently ease up on the brakes. Do not pump the brakes.
- If you skid, don’t panic. Take your foot off the brake and then steer in the direction of the skid. Once the car regains traction, you can straighten the wheel.
- For 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.

As many are recovering from the holiday shopping spree, please keep safety in mind as you review the purchases made during the past few weeks. **Identity theft** continues in our communities, so as a precaution please remember to contact the fraud department of each of the three major credit bureaus periodically throughout the year.

Equifax:To report fraud: 1-800-525-6285

To order your credit report: 1-800-685-1111

Experian:To report fraud: 1-888-EXPERIAN

To order your credit report: 1-888-EXPERIAN

Trans Union:To report fraud: 1-800-680-7289

To order your credit report: 1-800-916-8800

To see if you qualify for a free credit report from all three credit bureaus, contact 1-877-FACT ACT.



CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED...

Theft

Panera Bread

370 W. Army Trail Road

A Sleepy Hollow woman reported that sometime between 5:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, person(s) unknown removed her wallet from her purse while she was dining at the establishment. No suspect information at this time.



Burglary to Motor Vehicle

Chili’s

310 W. Army Trail Road

A Streamwood man reported that sometime between 6:45 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 15, 2012, person(s) unknown shattered the front passenger window of her 2000 Toyota. Once entry was gained, the offender(s) removed several personal articles. The vehicle was parked, secured and unattended when the incident occurred.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

Lifetime Fitness

A Carol Stream man reported that sometime around 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 15, 2012, unknown person(s) entered his 2000 Chevy and removed his leather wallet as the vehicle was parked, secured and unattended in the parking lot. Unknown approximate value. No further information is available at this time.