



Village of Bloomingdale Almanac

DECEMBER 2008

New Snow
and Ice Policy
See page 4

New Water
Rates
See page 10

From the Desk of Mayor Bob Iden

The economy is on everyone's mind these days. Because of the situation nationwide, the Bloomingdale Village Board will be looking at our budget more proactively than we did even six months ago. The Board is in the process of getting our priorities in line and making a strategy plan. We won't say no to all future plans, but some things might have to wait a little longer.

I want to provide an update regarding Pet Rescue, the no-kill pet sanctuary within Bloomingdale's borders, which has been in the news quite a bit lately. We are cooperating fully with the Department of Agriculture and the State's Attorney's office. We are actively working with them to bring this to an expeditious conclusion. At the time of this printing, we are awaiting their decisions. While the procedures may take more time than anyone would like, we are committed to a fair, but effective process.

In other news, because of the damage to trees many residents experienced, the Village is extending the deadline for its 50/50 tree planting program to help accommodate people who sustained damage to their front yard and parkway trees. See p.8 regarding the details of how to get these trees replaced this spring.

And while I am on the subject of trees, I'd like to thank one of our very generous and community-minded business owners for his kind gesture following the tornado. Platt Hill Nursery on Lake Street donated 62 trees to the Village to help us replace the extraordinary amount of trees damaged throughout the Village during the tornado. Platt, thank you for your support and generosity!

One last "business" item - Before the winter begins in earnest, please take a look at p.4 to learn about some changes we are going to have to make in our salting procedures due to huge increases in the cost of salt.

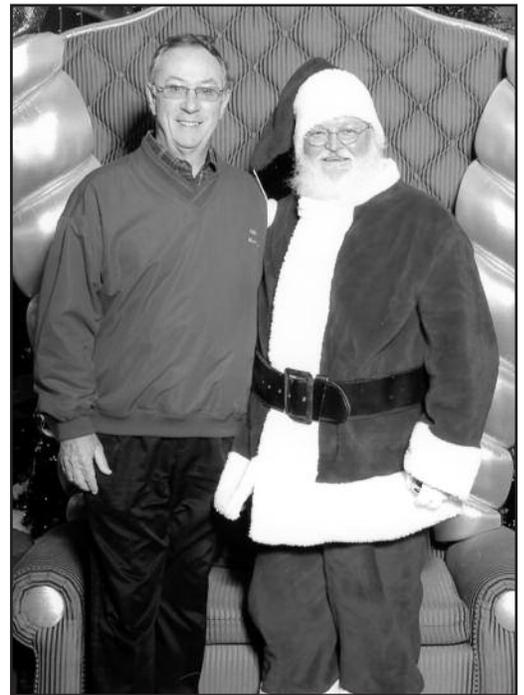
As we are in the midst of the holiday season, many of us are shopping for gifts for family and friends. Given the state of the country's economy, we will all be watching our pocketbooks a little more closely. The more dollars spent in our village, the better for both our tax base and the commercial stability. You can help by supporting our businesses. I encourage everyone to shop in Bloomingdale. Remember, when you buy in Bloomingdale, you keep your tax dollars working at home.

And speaking of Bloomingdale businesses, see p. 3 about the B-Card promotion taking place in February which offers special discounts to residents from participating Bloomingdale businesses. This is the second year our Business Promotion & Cultural Development Committee has sponsored this promotion. Last year's inaugural B-card was well received by residents and businesses alike.

During this holiday season, if you have the ability to help make someone else's holidays a little brighter, a list of charitable options appears on p.11. From Marklund Charities and the Salvation Army to local needy youngsters & seniors and our troops overseas, there are many opportunities for you to share the spirit. Please give as you are able.

From my family to yours, warm wishes for happy holidays.

Mayor Bob Iden



When Santa arrived at Stratford Square Mall, Mayor Iden was on hand to welcome him to Bloomingdale and remind him about all the good boys and girls who live here.

**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
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
1st, 2nd 3rd & 4th Mondays of every month
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

PLAN COMMISSION
1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
7:30 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

FAMILY FEST COMMISSION
3rd Wednesday of every month
9:30 a.m. -- Library

SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION
2nd & 4th Thursday of the month
March-December
7:00 p.m. - Village Hall

**BUSINESS PROMOTION &
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**
1st Friday of the month
10:00 a.m. - Village Hall

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
2nd Wednesday of every month
7:30 p.m. -- Library

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board of Directors Meeting
1st Thursday of every month
8:00 a.m. -- Indian Lakes

**BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
1st Thursday of the month
5:00 p.m. - Firehouse,
179 S. Bloomingdale Road

**VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE
ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Robert G. Iden
Village President

Susan L. Bartucci
Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

James M. Gebis
*Planning, Zoning
& Environmental Concerns*

Robert Czernek
Traffic and Street Infrastructure

John Dabrowski
Police and Community Relations

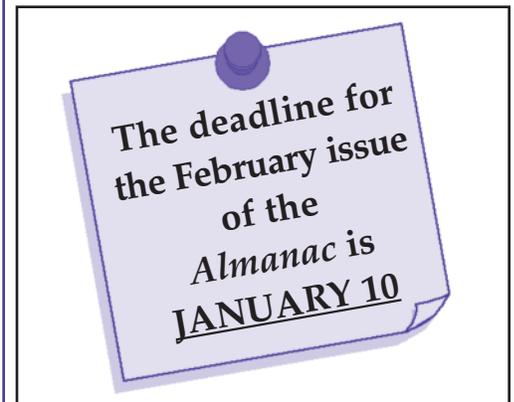
Judi Von Huben
*Intergovernmental Relations and
Emergency Planning*

Bill Bolen
*Finance, Personnel and
Administration*

Jim King
Facilities and Golf Course

**New and Improved Village
Website -- CHECK IT OUT!!!**

If you're "surfing the net" and have a question to ask or an issue to bring to our attention, just E-mail it to us. If you wish to send us an electronic message, our website address is: www.villageofbloomingdale.org

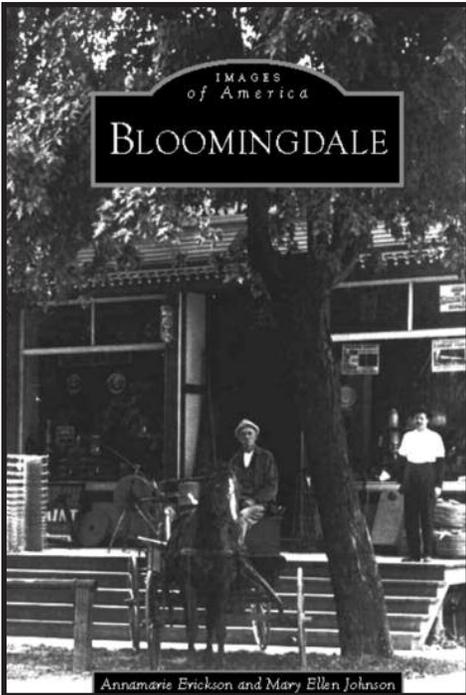


Roger Rossi Named Illinois Citizen Volunteer



Roger Rossi was recently honored with an Illinois Citizen Volunteer Award at the 2008 Illinois Triad Conference "Lighting the Way for Seniors." He was nominated for the award by Volunteer Coordinator Marv Roehlke for Roger's 4 1/2 years of exceptional volunteer assistance to the Police Department.

Roger is pictured above with Illinois TRIAD Chairman, Illinois State Police Captain John Jesernik (l) and Bloomingdale Police Department Deputy Chief Frank Giammarese. Roger and his wife LaNora have lived in Bloomingdale for 11 years.

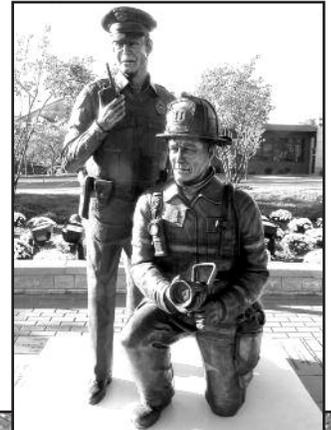


Books and Bricks for Christmas!

Consider giving the story of Bloomingdale with the book written earlier this year by the Bloomingdale Historical Society and published by Arcadia.

The history of Bloomingdale, as told entirely through photographs and captions, makes a unique and very affordable gift for anyone who has ever lived in Bloomingdale. Covering the period from 1833 through 1983, *Images of America - Bloomingdale*, depicts the amazing transformation of Bloomingdale over a mere 150 years. Historic views of current areas and structures are featured, as well as many pictures of friends & neighbors from the past.

The book is available at the Bloomingdale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way and the Bloomingdale Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road for \$19.99. You may have your gift autographed with a personal note by calling the library at 630-924-2765 or the Village Hall at 630-671-5600.



Or if you want to give a unique gift that will last a lifetime, you might purchase a brick at one of the three statues in town. Bricks are still available at the library near the *Once Upon a Time* statue, by the *Mayor's Bench* at the Bloomingdale Golf Club or at the *Everyday Heroes* statue located in Old Town Park. A 4 x8 brick will hold three lines, 13 spaces each. A card announcing your gift is available at no charge. The bricks will be installed in early summer 2009.

Proceeds from the book go toward the purchase of display cases for historic artifacts from Bloomingdale, as well as the preservation of oral histories of Bloomingdale residents. Proceeds from the brick sales go into the statue program.



The B-Card Discount Program Makes a Comeback

Mark your calendars to **SHOP BLOOMINGDALE** from February 6 through February 22, 2009. The Village's Business Promotion & Cultural Development Committee will repeat the B-Card promotion to encourage Bloomingdale businesses to provide Bloomingdale residents and workers with special discounts when they present the B-Card during the 17-day B-Card promotion.

Each participating business will determine its own discount. The B-Card will be distributed through the February issue of the Village Almanac which is direct-mailed to all Bloomingdale residents and businesses. All participating businesses will be listed in the February Almanac as well as on the Village website www.villageofbloomingdale.org. Ask your favorite restaurants and stores to be a participant in the B-Card promotion.



The fleet stands ready.

Winter Salting Operation Changes

You may have read or heard on the news that the cost of road salt has skyrocketed this year, more than doubling, even tripling across the state and throughout the mid-west. Due to these unprecedented increases in rock salt costs, as well as availability issues, the Village of Bloomingdale must make temporary policy changes for this winter's road salting operations.

In the past, during snow and ice events, residents have become accustomed to seeing Village snow vehicles complete snow plow and salt runs on every street in town. The Village will continue to complete plowing operations as in past years. But, due to the issues stated above, we must temporarily change salting operations as explained below. For this winter season, the customary "bare pavement" policy will only apply to main Village roads.

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 a sand/salt mixture dosed with liquid calcium chloride. Each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down.

Just for clarification – Lake Street is State of Illinois 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 – who have also altered their customary winter season policies.

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



Village streets and cul-de-sacs could look like this.

and roads may be more hazardous than usual. Don't drive if you don't have to. If you must drive, give yourself additional time to get where you are going. Give yourself additional braking time in order to stop safely.

If we are looking for a silver lining in this situation, it is that all towns will not only be using less salt, which is good for the environment, but they will be looking for new environmentally favorable materials and practices to deal with the snow and ice.

The Village also requests the cooperation of residents by not placing snow in the street at the end of driveways. If there are questions regarding the Village's Snow and Ice Procedures, please contact the Public Works Division at 630-671-5800.

Main Village Roads (Brighton Drive, Butterfield Drive, Byron Avenue,



Main streets, such as Edgewater Drive, should look like this after plowing and salting operations.

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

It should be noted that these policy changes 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. All the surrounding towns are in the same predicament



Another example of Village streets and cul-de-sacs

WINTER

A Pile of Snow Shoveling Tips

Be heart healthy and back friendly while shoveling this winter with these tips:

- If you are inactive and have a history of heart trouble, talk to your doctor before you take on the task of shoveling snow.
- Avoid caffeine or nicotine before beginning. These are stimulants, which may increase your heart rate and cause your blood vessels to constrict, which places extra stress on the heart.
- Drink plenty of water. Dehydration is just as big an issue in cold winter months as it is in the summer.
- Dress in several layers so you can remove a layer as needed.
- Warm up your muscles before shoveling, by walking for a few minutes or marching in place. Stretch the muscles in your arms and legs, because warm muscles will work more efficiently and be less likely to be injured.
- Pick the right shovel for you. A smaller blade will require you to lift less snow, putting less strain on your body. Newer shovels are manufactured from lightweight components that are ergonomically designed from high-impact molded polyethylene that won't rust, dent or bend, and are extraordinarily strong and durable. Aluminum tubing is also lighter and stronger than old-fashioned wooden handles.
- Begin shoveling slowly to avoid placing a sudden demand on your heart. Pace yourself and take breaks as needed.
- Protect your back from injury by lifting correctly.
- Stand with your feet about hip width for balance and keep the shovel close to your body. Bend from the knees (not the back) and tighten your stomach muscles as you lift the snow. Avoid twisting movements. If you need to move the snow to one side reposition your feet to face the direction the snow will be going.
- Listen to your body. Stop if you feel pain!



Village's Snow & Ice Teams Are on Duty 24/7 to Keep Streets Safe When Winter's Worst Arrives in Town

Going into winter, we are sure of only two things: It's going to be cold and it's going to snow. The Public Works Snow and Ice Control Team is ready to go at a moment's notice.

The Team is gearing up for its annual winter battle against the elements. Equipment preparations, salt purchases and plow driver training began in early October. The purpose is to provide the residents, visitors and consumers with the area's safest streets when Old Man Winter casts his fury on Bloomingdale.

A rigorous preventative maintenance program for all snow fighting vehicles and equipment helps ensure the equipment will perform in the event of winter storms.

Wonder why fully-outfitted snow plows are rolling down the street on sunny days in November? Plow drivers and secondary crews train to get familiar with their assigned routes. The drivers get out onto the streets so they can reacquaint themselves with their routes, and take note of any hazards that may damage the equipment.

The Snow and Ice Control Team takes great pride in their efforts to keep the residents of the Village of Bloomingdale safe during the snow and ice season.

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

Allied Waste System, the Village's refuse hauler, will pick up Christmas trees on your regularly scheduled refuse pick-up day, December 26th through January 23rd. Place your Christmas tree in the parkway and follow these simple guidelines:

- Do not put trees in plastic bags -- they will not be recycled.
- Remove all decorations including lights, garland, tinsel, and metal (such as nails). Be sure to remove the stand.
- Dispose of artificial or natural wreaths in the regular household garbage.
- Position the Christmas tree with the cut end toward the curb for easy loading.
- Do not place artificial trees at the curb for recycling.





‘Sno Fooling -- Winter’s on Its Way!

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

Salting Operations

Due to unforeseen availability issues and the unprecedented increase in costs for rock salt, the Village of Bloomingdale has had to make temporary policy changes for this winter’s road salting operations. The Village will continue to complete plowing operations as in past years, but we must temporarily change salting operations. For more information on these changes see page 4.

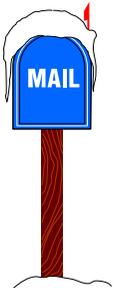
Snowplow Operations

After a 1-inch to 2-inch accumulation of snow, crews begin the snowplow operations according to pre-determined snow routes. There are four (4) routes with eight (8) vehicles. There are also two (2) smaller vehicles which handle cul-de-sacs and dead ends. These routes have been carefully designed to allow for the optimum use of the available snowplowing equipment and personnel. All Village-owned streets will eventually be plowed, but main streets are cleared before side streets, which are cleared before cul-de-sacs and dead ends. The rate at which the streets are cleared depends on many factors including total accumulation, type of snow (wet or powder-like), temperature and volume of traffic on streets during plow operations.



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 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. (Refer to installation guidelines). 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.

What If a Snowplow Damages My Parkway?

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

Why Does My Driveway Get “Plowed In”?

The snowplows are designed to direct the snow to the curb side of the plow blade. “Side delivery plows” are the fastest and most efficient means available to remove snowfall from the streets. As a result, snow is discharged along the length of the curb, the parkways and the private driveway areas. The Village had thousands of private driveways abutting Village streets, the cleaning of which are 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 PROHIBIT 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 With Questions About Snow Removal Operations?

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



Wintertime Words to the Wise

Use extra caution when driving through intersections following a heavy snowfall.

Snow is piled on cross streets when intersections are plowed. Until crews have had their final pass to completely clear the intersection, the snow piles along the curb lane may hinder visibility.

Please do not attempt to stop the snow plow operators to discuss questions or problems.

Such interruptions slow crews and reduce the speed of the truck and the efficiency of the snow removal operations. Drivers are instructed not to stop to talk to residents.

If it is still snowing, or if snow is anticipated on the evening before garbage pick-up day, we ask that you delay putting out your garbage for as long as possible.

This will eliminate the problem of garbage containers being covered by snow that is pushed against the curb by the plows. Place garbage containers on the driveway or as close to the driveway as possible to give refuse collectors room to pick them up.

Additional Snow Removal Information

Ornamental rocks along the curb or next to the pavement on non-curb streets present a serious safety hazard to snow removal equipment. **If residents use rocks or planters for landscape beautification, they need to insure that they are a minimum of three feet in back of the curb or pavement on non-curb streets.** If these obstacles are not removed by the residents, the Village will remove them, if deemed necessary for safe snow removal operations.

Fire Hydrants

For the convenience of firefighters - if an emergency should occur (maybe at your address), dig a path to the fire hydrant in front of your house from the street. Dig out around the fire hydrant too. If firefighters can see a hydrant, they can get to it more quickly. Better yet, adopt a hydrant near your home and see that it is accessible.

Motorists - Stay Back Three Car Lengths

Do not follow snowplows too closely. Sometimes they stop and then back up. You don't want to be right behind one when that happens. Give snowplows plenty of space. Also, remember driving on slick wintertime pavements is dangerous, even if they've been plowed. Take more time to get where you're going, begin slowing for stops sooner. Lastly, do not drink and then try to drive.

Winter Phone Numbers



Illinois Tollway Roadway Information Line
..... 800-865-5394

Call this number 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.

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

Illinois Department of Transportation
Information Line 312-DOT-INFO
(312-368-4636)

Call this number for information on State roads (i.e., Lake Street)

Illinois Dept of Transportation also offers weather/road condition information on their website: www.gettingaroundillinois.com/wrc.htm

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)

Illinois 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.





Autumn Blaze Maple

More Funding Available For Tree Replacement

Many residents, as well as businesses, have experienced loss or damage to their trees in light of this past 'severe wind summer 2008'. In response the Village Board has added additional dollars to the Village 50/50 Tree Planting Program originally advertised in the October issue of the Almanac. New and replacement trees can be planted in front yards, corner side yards, and accessible rear yards visible from the street as determined by the Village

Forester. It should be noted that if you have lost a parkway tree to the wind damage or if you have an open space in your parkway and would like a tree planted, the Village will pay 100 percent for that tree, as long as the requirements below are met. **The application deadline for this year's program has been extended to January 9, 2009.** Residents, businesses and homeowners associations are invited to take advantage of this program.

The following are the Program Guidelines:

- ❑ Program applications are fulfilled on a **first-come, first-served** basis as fiscal year budget allocations permit. Requests should be submitted by January 9, 2009. No payment is required at this time. Bills will be sent sometime in February 2009.
- ❑ Trees will be 2½" caliper, unless stated otherwise. Trees will be quality nursery stock but not specimen plants.
- ❑ The Village reserves the right to disapprove requests based on conflicts, safety, proper spacing or inaccessible location.
- ❑ Removal of dead trees, stumps and/or large roots is not included and must be performed by participants before March 15th
- ❑ Each residential parcel will be limited to two trees per year. Each business/commercial property will be limited to four trees per year.
- ❑ Participants will be given the opportunity to mark the desired location for the tree; however, the Village retains the right to change the location, if necessary.



Greenspire Linden



Autumn Flowering Cherry

- ❑ The estimated cost of a 2½" caliper tree is between \$250 and \$350 each, with the Village paying half of the amount.
- ❑ Trees will be guaranteed for one year. Participants are responsible for all watering which will be described in instructions furnished by the Village.
- ❑ For trees planted in the public parkway, this application will serve as the permit requirements of the ordinance regulating trees on public areas.

If further information is desired, contact Jim Johnson, Urban Forester, at 630-671-5804.

VILLAGE ALMANAC

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Village of Bloomingdale

Mary Ellen Johnson, Editor

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

671-5600

2009 Tree Planting Program — Residential Request Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

PLANTING ADDRESS: _____

Indicate the number of each type desired:
(limit of two trees per residential parcel per year)

PARKWAY

_____ Autumn Flowering Cherry (*Prunus subhirtella autumnalis*)
This ornamental cherry tree bursts into bloom in the springtime with light pink flowers, but what makes this tree unique is that it may surprise you with a repeat bloom in the fall. It thrives in full/partial sun, and has good drought tolerance. Matures to a height of 20' to 40', and a width of 15' to 25'.

_____ Autumn Blaze Maple (*Acer x freemanii* 'Autumn Blaze')
A tree that lives up to its name, it exhibits brilliant and long lasting orange-red fall color. It combines the best characteristics of the Red and Silver Maples. Grows moderately to fast with a mature height of 40 to 50 feet.

_____ Chinkapin Oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)
A medium to large size oak with 4" to 6½" glistening dark leaves in summer turning yellow-orange/brown in fall. It produces 1" acorns. As this species matures, it becomes a magnificent specimen. Grows 40' to 50' high with a similar spread. Adapts to different soil types..

_____ Greenspire™ Linden (*Tilia cordata* 'Greenspire')
This littleleaf Linden is distinctly pyramidal in youth, becoming pyramidal-rounded with age. Creamy yellow fragrant flowers in June; dark green leaves turn golden-yellow in the fall. At maturity it can reach 50' in height.



Chinkapin Oak

FRONT YARD

_____ Autumn Flowering Cherry

_____ Autumn Blaze Maple

_____ Chinkapin Oak

_____ Greenspire™ Linden

_____ Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)
A great tree for the northern states, it is tall, airy, spirelike and soft-textured. Douglas Fir grows 40'-80' tall and 12'-20' wide in maturity.

_____ Prairifire Crabapple (*Malus* 'Prairifire')
This appealing tree is red-budded, with dark pinkish-red blooms in the spring, and colorful foliage in the fall. Birds devour its small, glossy dark red fruit. It is highly resistant to disease. It matures to a height of 20' and a width of 20', with a rounded growth habit.



Douglas Fir



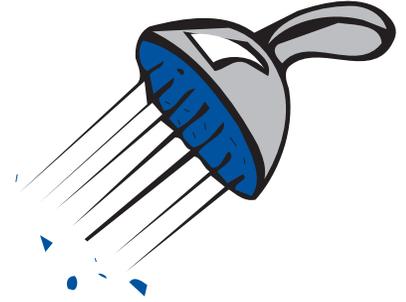
Prairifire Crabapple

**DELIVER OR SEND TO:
DEPARTMENT OF VILLAGE SERVICES, BLOOMINGDALE VILLAGE HALL
201 S. BLOOMINGDALE ROAD, BLOOMINGDALE, IL 60108**

Deadline is January 9, 2009

Village Increases Water Rates

The Village of Bloomingdale has had to increase the water rates for the first time since 2003, as well as gradually increase sewer rates. The increase will be phased in over the next three years; the first installment became effective as of November 1st. We realize the timing for this increase is unfortunate, but three factors influenced the pressing need for the rate increase.



- The DuPage Water Commission (DWC) has scheduled water rate increases effective October 1, 2008, May 1, 2009 and May 1, 2010 because the City of Chicago is increasing its water rates to the DWC. Therefore, the DWC is passing these increases directly through to its members.
- The cost to cover the current operating needs of the Village's sanitary sewer system has increased, due to mandated requirements, a growth in population, and construction of Phase I of the Water Reclamation Facility improvement which is near completion.
- The Water Reclamation Facility's Phase II construction plan is the third factor causing the water rate increases. In order to be able to meet the mandated standards of operation and to plan for our future growth, these improvements are also being phased in. Substantial completion is expected to be April 2011.

The Village of Bloomingdale budgets the water and sewer operations at a break even level. Again, the increases are necessary to absorb the direct increase in water costs and to phase in the costs of the necessary capital improvements to the WRF.

We are pleased to be able to tell you that even with the November 1st increase, the residential water rates for Bloomingdale still rank favorably (23rd out of 30) compared to our neighboring communities, according to a DuPage County Municipal Revenue and Fee Survey, conducted in August/September 2008 by the Village of Addison.

Here are a few things you can do to keep your costs down:

- Fix all leaking faucets and toilets. Even small leaks can add thousands of gallons of water use to your bill.
- Install water efficient showerheads and toilets that use 30% to 70% less water.
- Carefully place irrigation heads on sprinkler systems to water only where needed.

Village of Bloomingdale 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 29th through Sunday, December 28th. The Holiday Weekend Service will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays.

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

Free for children (under age 7) when accompanied by a fare-paying adult

Reservations shall be accepted up to one week in advance on a first come, first served basis. Same day service requests are accepted, however transportation cannot be guaranteed.

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



Share the Spirit of the Holidays

With the holiday season upon us, many residents look for opportunities to help others less fortunate. DuPage County has compiled the 2008-2009 Annual Giving Guide features seasonal and ongoing volunteer opportunities at 87 area agencies. Family and youth-friendly activities are highlighted. The guide can be viewed or downloaded at www.givingdupage.org. The website also features an interactive volunteer match where one can search for opportunities throughout the year by zip code, area of interest and type of volunteer opportunity. "Giving DuPage" hopes that the holiday season brings peace and happiness to our residents and hopes that the spirit of generosity is alive and well in our community year-round.

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 holiday season in support of the **Salvation Army's Angel Tree Kids**, (ages 10 months through 5 years) attending the Salvation Army's Childcare Program in Chicago. Angel Tree tags identifying each child's gift needs and toy desires are available at the Village Hall. All gifts need to be purchased and returned un-wrapped to the Village Hall by Thursday, December 11th. The little angels will receive their gifts before they break for the holidays. If you are interested in participating and would like to be sent a tag, please call Barb Weber at the Village Hall 630-671-5613.



Bloomingdale Township Sharing Tree - Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomingdale Township helped make the season brighter for over 750 children in Bloomingdale Township. The Council is asking for help again this holiday season.



Names & wishes of local needy youngsters and residents of convalescent and nursing homes will be on the Sharing Tree, located at the Township Transportation Building, 123 Rosedale Road. 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.

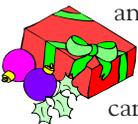
Ages, names and suggested gift ideas for **Marklund Home** residents will be placed on trees at:



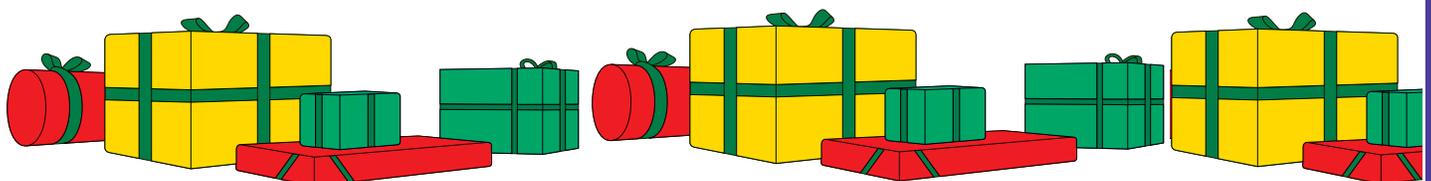
Bloomingdale Park District, 172 S. Circle
Olive Garden, 332 W. Army Trail Road
Pivot Point, 144 E. Lake Street (Springbrook Shopping Center)
Marklund Children's Home, 164 S. Prairie
Headlines, 156 East Lake St. Suite G

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

Presents for Pets and People: In the spirit of holiday giving, the Bloomingdale Park District is once again participating in the annual Giving Tree program, as well as including our four-legged friends. All are invited to open up their hearts to light up this holiday season for Marklund residents, as well as for deserving pets. Stop by the 'Giving Tree Wreath' at the Johnston Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle Avenue to pick up a wish list and cheer up the lives of children, canines and kittens! Happy Holidays!



Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 continues to ship 35-50 packages per month to the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. This month these will include Christmas trees with all the supplies for decorating them, as well as Christmas cards. The Post has also been active in supporting the families of our troops overseas. Through the years, our VFW has been able to identify items the troops need in their packages. Visit www.vfw7539.org to see some of the items the troops "wish for." If you would like to donate any of these, just bring them to the Bloomingdale Fire Department, 179 S. Bloomingdale Road. If you would like to help defray the costs of sending the packages, click on the "donate" button to make a contribution. Also, if you have a member of your family or friend serving overseas, contact the VFW to see if they can provide them with some assistance. Your support of the VFW will help support our troops.



Will Your TV Continue to Work After The Changeover To Digital in February?

We have received questions about what will happen on February 17, 2009 when television programming will be broadcast all “digital” and not “analog.”

Basically, here is what you should know:

- ❑ If you are getting television programming via Comcast, AT&T or Satellite, you will see no difference. You do not need a converter, nor a new television. Their system takes care of any conversion and your TV will still work.
- ❑ If you are watching television off a regular antenna, you WILL be affected. In that case, either your television must be “digital”, or you will need a converter box.
- ❑ Sometimes people erroneously refer to “digital” as “HDTV”. This conversion next February has nothing to do with HDTV. HD stands for High Definition. You do not need an HDTV to be able to watch television after next February.
- ❑ Much information is available at www.dtv.gov, which is the official Federal Communication Commission (FCC) site. That site also has information about coupons that are available for purchase of converter boxes.



Keep Your Holiday Season Happy and Safe

“Are you ready for the Holidays?” Thanksgiving dinner was quickly enjoyed, followed by the Christmas shopping workout. The Bloomingdale Police Department wishes everyone a safe holiday season and offers the following safety tips. Whether you are shopping for those large purchases, picking up last minute items or planning a trip, please take the time and effort to help ensure the protection of your home, your belongings and most importantly, your personal safety.

While Shopping . . .

- ✓ Be alert and walk confidently. Pay attention to those around you.
- ✓ Keep your purse/wallet and packages with you at all times.
- ✓ Hold your purse close to your body and keep it in front of you.
- ✓ Place your wallet, money, etc. in your front pants pocket.
- ✓ Don't display large amounts of cash to others.
- ✓ Take only the appropriate amount of money, credit cards, or checkbook for the shopping you are conducting.
- ✓ Do not leave items unattended in a shopping cart, on a counter, or floor.
- ✓ Teach children to go to a cashier if they are lost.
- ✓ Be careful when giving out your credit card or when using an ATM facility.
- ✓ Place all valuables in your trunk. Anything in plain view may be taken.
- ✓ Park in well-lighted, busy areas. Consider the time of day or evening that you will be doing your shopping.
- ✓ Look around and inside your vehicle before opening your vehicle.
- ✓ Any problems, notify the security department or the police department.

At home . . .

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



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



Vision * Loyalty * Integrity * Teamwork

Neighborhood Watch: Protecting Our Community

Upcoming meetings & events

All residents are encouraged to attend the Neighborhood Watch General meetings. There is no pressure to become a member and everyone can benefit from the useful information regarding community activities and safety material. Meetings are held every other month, beginning in January, in the Village Hall – Council Room, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road. Each meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and the following are the dates for 2009

Wednesday, January 21, 2009 – Open Forum with Bloomingdale Village Officials from the Mayor’s Office, Police Department, Fire Department and Village Services. Individuals will present an update on their departments and address the public on any questions or concerns within the Village. Please consider joining us for this unique opportunity to meet with your Village Officials.

Wednesday, March 18

Wednesday, May 20

Wednesday, July 15

Tuesday, August 4 – National Night Out Against Crime

Wednesday, September 16

Wednesday, November 18

WELCOME
Bloomington is a
CRIME WATCH
COMMUNITY



We immediately report all suspicious activities to our police department

When the Weather Outside Is Frightful . . . Keep Yourself And Your Water Pipes Warm

When it’s bitter cold:

- Let hot and cold water trickle from faucets located adjacent to an outer wall.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heat to warm uninsulated pipes under a sink or an appliance near an outer wall.
- Make sure the furnace thermostat is left on and never set below 55 degrees.
- If you plan to be away, ask someone to check your home daily to make sure the furnace is sufficiently warming the house.

If pipes freeze:

- Make sure you and your family members know how to shut off your home’s water service.
- Call a plumber and an insurance agent to inspect whatever damage has occurred.
- Never try to thaw a pipe with an open flame or torch.
- Always be careful of the potential for electric shock when working in or around standing water.



“T.A.L.K.” Program -- Teens Wanted!

Young adults have an academy of their own, the 2009 “Teen And Law Enforcement “K”ommunicating (T.A.L.K.) Program. This program promotes positive police contact and gives the participants an open forum to ask pertinent questions and to clarify misinformation passed on to them by their peers. Participants are to be 12- 15 years of age. Classes are held on consecutive Thursdays from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Dates are topics are as follows:

January 15	Illinois Vehicle Code, DUI/Zero Tolerance Laws
January 22	Team Building
January 29	Juvenile Law, Retail Theft
February 5	Gangs, Drugs, Searches
February 12	Crime Scene Processing
February 19	Tour of the DuPage County Jail
February 26	Internet Safety, Personal Safety, Graduation

For additional information or to register for any of these programs, please call Officer Dawn Odoi at (630) 529-9868.



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 your Village portion of your property tax bill low.

Remember - BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE.

BUSINESS NEWS

CHICAGO PASTRY SATISFIES THAT SWEET TOOTH



If you are craving a sweet taste from Old Italy, then **Chicago Pastry** (formerly Turano Pastry), located 142 N. Bloomingdale Road, can satisfy that desire. Along with the bakery's new name, the interior has also taken on a new look – that of an old Italian countryside. Owners Remo and Egidio Turano assure

patrons the bakery is still “family owned with Old World pride.” The brothers’ new brand name reads “Casa dei Dolci” which means “House of Sweets.”

So whether it's your own sweet tooth you want to satisfy or you need a “sweet” gift for someone else, stop in Chicago Pastry to relax and have a cappuccino before you stroll by the pastries and specialty items. You'll find the recipes, the quality, the service and the traditions remain exactly the same as you've come to expect from the Turano family. Chicago Pastry is open 7 days; stop by or call to place an order, 630-529-6161.

DANCE XPLOSION:

Dance Xplosion is among the newest of businesses in Bloomingdale to open its doors with a refreshing new approach to both recreational and competitive dance. Talia Pascente, director and founder opened her dance studio with the goal of being more than just another dance studio. Dance Xplosion's motto is “Where friends become family, dreams become reality and exceptional dancers are created.”

Dance Xplosion has been seen around town performing at our community events, including Septemberfest, as well as at numerous venues and dance competitions in the Chicagoland area. The dancers have earned choreography, entertainment and top technique awards, along with three national championship wins at the Hall of Fame Dance Challenge Nationals.

If you would like to attend dance instruction classes or are interested in having the Dance Xplosion Dance Troupes perform at your event, please contact Talia at 630-295-8970. Become part of the Dance Xplosion family! The studio is located in Bloomingdale at 223 East Army Trail Road in the Cloverleaf Terrace Plaza.

ALDEN GARDENS COMING TO BLOOMINGDALE:

Bloomingdale Mayor Robert Iden, left, “breaks ground” at a ceremony to celebrate the beginning of the **Alden Gardens of Bloomingdale Supportive Living Facility** construction project at 285 E. Army Trail Road in Bloomingdale. The Mayor is joined by Father Bohdan



Kalynyuk, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church; Beth Demes, The Alden Foundation; Robert Molitor, Alden Management Services; David Wennerholm, Village of Bloomingdale; Louis Lang, Illinois State Representative, 16th District; Matt Graham, Alden Foundation; Carole Pankau, Illinois State Senator, 23rd District; Janice Herson, Village of Bloomingdale; Robert Prohaska, Village of Bloomingdale.

Bloomington Author Winner in State Writing Competition

Bloomington writer John J. Flaherty's short story, BUMS, has been chosen as the third place winner of the James Jones Short Story Award in the Third Annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition, sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and the Illinois State Library.

Flaherty read his story during a formal awards ceremony at Bradley University in Peoria where he also received a cash prize and a plaque signed by Jesse White, Secretary of State/State Librarian, and Karen Danczak Lyons, President of the Illinois Center for the Book. BUMS will be submitted for possible publication to Ninth Letter Magazine and Another Chicago Magazine, two Illinois literary magazines..



Flaherty, a retired electrical engineer, developed numerous pioneering medical ultrasonic instruments and garnered over 30 U.S. and foreign patents during his career. He and his wife Rosemarie Clausen, who also is a writer, have lived in Bloomington for six years. Both are members of The Writer's Workshop of Bloomington, an informal group of writers that meets twice a month at the Bloomington Public Library.

Fr. Jerry Simonelli Appointed Pastor at St. Isidore Catholic Church In Bloomington

Reverend Gerald J. Simonelli has been appointed pastor of Bloomington's St. Isidore Catholic Church, one of the largest parishes in the diocese with over 20,000 people. He was installed on October 5, by one of the Joliet Diocesan Deans, Rev. Gerald Riva, at a 1 p.m. Mass. Simonelli replaces Father Anthony Taschetta who served St. Isidore for six years before being named pastor of Mary Queen of Heaven parish in Elmhurst. Prior to this appointment, Father Simonelli was pastor at St. Joseph Church in Addison and before that he was pastor at St. Andrew the Apostle parish in Romeoville.

St. Isidore's new spiritual leader was born on July 1, 1964 and grew up in nearby Bensenville. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Joliet in June 1990 after graduating with a Masters of Divinity degree from the University of St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. His first assignment was as the Parochial Vicar at St. Mary parish in West Chicago.

St. Isidore is located at the corners of Army Trail Rd. and Gary Ave. in Bloomington. For more information go to: www.stisidoreparish.org or call 630-529-3045.

Friends of the Library Selling Entertainment Books

The Friends of the Bloomington Public Library are selling Entertainment Books containing discounts from local and national restaurants, hotels, entertainment venues, local retailers and more. The books are \$20 and are available at the Bloomington Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way through the end of December. A portion of each sale goes to the Friends to help raise funds for activities such as the annual reading program, Ice Cream Social, Snowman Crossing and other activities.

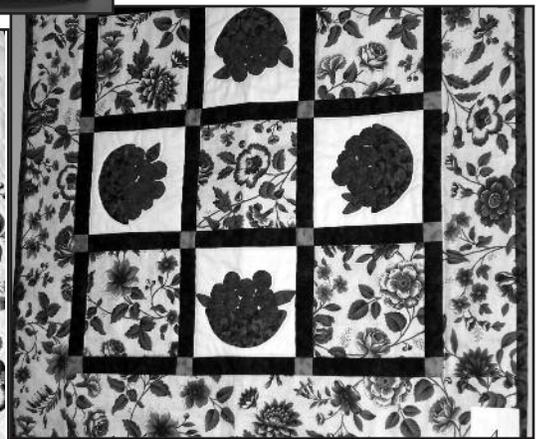
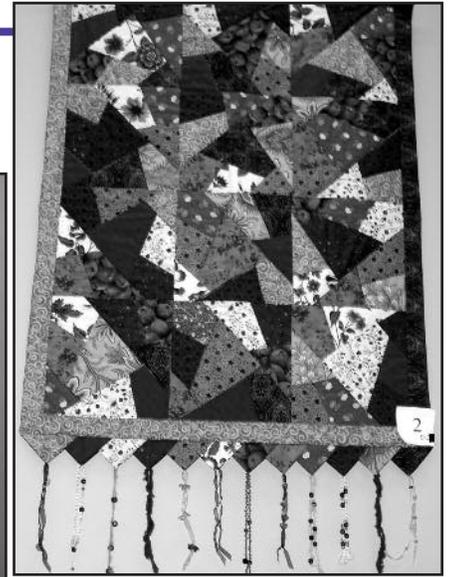
Bloomington Church Completing Construction of Phase Four Building Project

The Bloomington Church, 264 Glen Ellyn Road, is currently wrapping up the construction of its Phase Four building project that connects to their main church facility. The multiple level brick addition (9600 square foot) is comprised of classrooms for the church's programs, as well as a spacious new kitchen area, elevator, a small library and more parking on the site. This latest addition is the fourth building addition to the church's main building. The original sanctuary was constructed in 1985, the gymnasium in 1990, and a sanctuary enlargement and classrooms in 1995. The new fourth addition cost is \$1,820,000 and is intended for occupancy in early December 2008. Starting December 6th the congregation is also adding a new Saturday night worship at 5:30 PM in their main sanctuary for new attendees and to increase the efficient and multiple use of the facilities.



Sew Pretty -- Quilts on Display

The Loose Threads Quilt Club held a "Quilt Challenge" for its members recently. Each person was given a certain amount of the same fabric and rules that needed to be followed to produce the finished project. The challenge was to find a way to incorporate the fabric into a project where the final outcome was pleasing to the individual quilter. The result is 18 unique quilt projects, each as different as the quilters themselves. The Bloomingdale Public Library is currently showing all 18 quilts. The Loose Threads invite library visitors to enjoy all 18 quilts and vote for their favorite. You don't have to know anything about quilting to know what you like. The winner will receive the club's first annual People's Choice award. The quilts will be on display until December 15.



CHARACTER COUNTS! Award Winners

The 2008 American Youth Character Award winners from the CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration in October. From left to right: Bloomingdale Police Watch Commander Sergeant Randy Sater, Troy Lewis, DuJardin Elementary; Alyssa Jones, St. Isidore School; Edyta Fedurek, Westfield Middle; Aime Lune, Winnebago Elementary; Mayor Bob Iden. Not pictured: Alyx Huff, Erickson Elementary.



The theme for the evening was the pillar "Citizenship" and an election was held for student participation.



EVENTS

Villagers Hosting Annual Christmas Party on December 4; Luncheon on January 21

The Villagers Club of Bloomingdale invites all women of the area to attend its annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 4 at 6:30 pm. Entertainment will be provided by Bloomingdale's "Center Stage Dance Studio." There will also be a \$5 Grab Bag exchange (if you wish to participate) and a Cookie Exchange. Call Audrey at 847-550-9091 for more details on cookie exchange. The fun takes place on the lower level of the Bloomingdale Library, 101 Fairfield Way. Admission is free.



The Villagers also invite all ladies of the area to come out after the Christmas Holiday, for a salad luncheon at the award-winning Mandarin Bistro, 156N East Lake Street, Springbrook Shopping Center. Appetizer, wine, lunch entrée or soup & salad – the choice is yours. Separate checks for each attendee. Save the date: Wednesday January 21st, at 12:30 p.m. For reservations, please call Bette at 630-924-6861.

Bloomingdale VFW Dedicates Bench



Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 held their annual Veteran's Day ceremony in St. Paul's cemetery where veterans from all wars from the War of 1812 through the Vietnam War are buried. Following the ceremony they dedicated the bench they had donated to St. Paul's Church.

Friends Across the Ocean

Resident Carole Lockhart brought two of her former schoolmates at Alvernia High School in Chicago to meet Mayor Iden. Lockhart and her childhood friend, Mary Ann Bertini, had been separated for over 50 years and were recently reacquainted. She has lived in Italy for many years and actually found another classmate, Clara Masara, who also lives in Italy. The Italian visitors were very excited to meet a mayor. The folks in the picture are Enrico Nottoli, a former general in the Italian army, Lockhart, Masara, Mayor Iden and Bertini-Nottoli.



Villagers, Bloomingdale-Roselle Rotary Recent Donors to Humanitarian Service Project

Two of Bloomingdale's organizations recently made donations to the Humanitarian Service Project (HSP), headquartered in Carol Stream. The Bloomingdale Villagers Club has recently donated \$600 to HSP's Feed the Kids program, which provides much needed food during the summer to youngsters who receive free or subsidized meals during the school year.

The Villagers have been supporting HSP as one of their charities since 1993.

The Bloomingdale-Roselle Rotary has donated \$800 to fully sponsor a needy senior in HSP's Senior Citizen Project. This donation will provide one needy senior with 90 pounds of groceries a month for a year. This is the ninth consecutive year that the Bloomingdale Roselle Rotary Club has sponsored a senior.

For more information on these HSP programs, the Children's Birthday Project or the Christmas Offering, visit the website www.humanitarianservice.org or call 630-221-8340.

EVENTS

CLICK! - Museum Seeks Photographers

The Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road, is inviting photographers to enter its annual juried photography show for 2009, entitled CLICK! Interested artists may drop off their pieces at the museum from 4-8 pm on Tuesday, January, 6 and from 10-2 pm on Wednesday, January 7.

Current work, not previously on display at the museum, must be properly framed and wired (no saw-tooth hangers). Entry fees include \$10 for each piece or \$25 for a maximum of three pieces. The show opens Saturday, January 17 noon - 4 pm and closes on Saturday,



February 21. Prize money for color and black & white.

A complimentary reception will be held from 6 to 8 pm Friday, January 23. Call the curators at the Museum at 630-539-3096 for further information or to receive a prospectus for this exhibit.

Currently running through December 18 in Gallery I is "Baby, Baby," sixty paintings by College

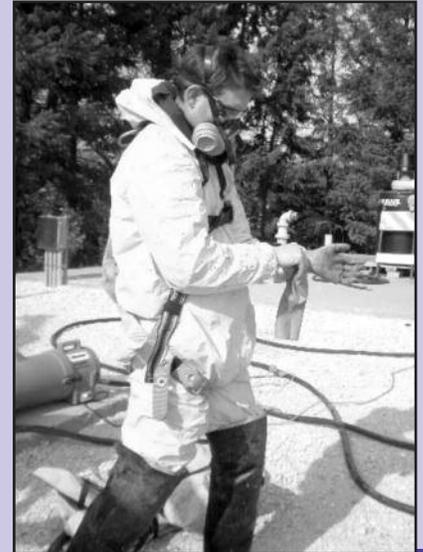


of DuPage art students. These oil and acrylic works of art were originally made for a display to celebrate the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago. In Gallery II, Sue MacFarlan exhibits "Side by Side," a dazzling interpretation of similar subjects in both watercolor and collage. Call the museum at 630-539-3096 for more information.



Dirty Jobs

"Mike Rowe and his Discovery Channel series, 'Dirty Jobs' have nothing on our guys," says Shirley Burger, Water Reclamation Facility Supervisor. "I figure Bloomingdale Wastewater employees have as much bragging rights to the dirtiest job as anyone might have." Pictured are Mike Young and Anthony Coronato retrieving a broken influent pump at the treatment plant. (Needless to say what is at the bottom of the pit.)



Mike Young "suits up" to go into the pit.



Bloomington Fire Protection District #1



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

Chief
David Christensen District Trustees

Tim Deutschle
Lydia DiBuono
Bill Wolff

Commissioners

Michael McKeon
Jac L. Williamson
Fran Scalafini

Have a Fire-Safe Holiday Season!

The winter holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment. The Bloomington Fire Protection District and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) would like you and your family to enjoy the holiday season safely. According to NFPA:



- In 2005, there were 210 Christmas tree fires in U.S. homes, resulting in 42 injuries and \$12.1 million in direct property damage. No deaths were reported.
- During 2002-2005, an average 210 home fires started when Christmas trees ignited. These fires caused an estimated annual average of 24 civilian deaths, 27 civilian injuries and \$13.3 million in direct property damage.
- During 2005, an estimated 15,600 home structure fires started by candles were reported to local fire departments. These fires resulted in an estimated 150 civilian deaths, 1,270 civilian injuries and an estimated direct property loss of \$539 million. Homes include dwellings, duplexes, manufactured housing and apartments.
- December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. In December, 13% of home candle fires began with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.
- Three in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen -- more than any other place in the home.
- Nearly half (44%) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February in 2002-2005.

The Bloomington Fire Protection District offers the following holiday safety tips:

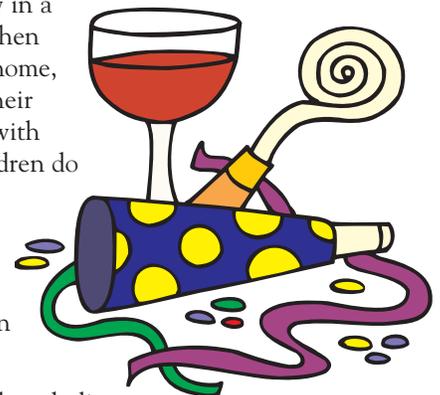
Holiday Decorating

- Use caution with holiday decorations and whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.
- Keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials, and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees.
- Purchase only lights and electrical decorations bearing the name of an independent testing lab, and follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and maintenance.

- Carefully inspect new and previously used light strings and replace damaged items before plugging lights in. Do not overload extension cords.
- Check your strands of lights to determine the number of strands that may be connected. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Always unplug lights before replacing light bulbs or fuses.
- Don't mount lights in any way that can damage the cord's wire insulation (i.e., using clips, not nails).
- Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

Holiday Entertaining

- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the U.S. When cooking for holiday visitors, remember to keep an eye on the range.
- If you smoke, smoke outside.
- Wherever you smoke, provide plenty of large, deep sturdy ashtrays and check them frequently. Cigarette butts can smolder in the trash and cause a fire, so completely douse cigarette butts with water before discarding.
- After a party, always check on, between and under upholstery and cushions and inside trash cans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, out of sight and reach of children (preferably in a locked cabinet). When smokers visit your home, ask them to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Test your smoke alarms, and let guests know what your fire escape plan is.



For more information about holiday safety or other safety questions, please contact Lieutenant Richard Kurka at 630-894-9080.



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

Getting Ready for the Holidays



Talkin' Turkey

One of the delightful surprises about living in Bloomingdale is the wildlife we occasionally glimpse. From hawks and herons to raccoons, possums and deer, we co-exist although usually they stay clear of us. So this group of wild turkeys were a surprise this past summer to those walking along the Meacham Grove east path off north Circle. As you can see they are not shy. What was even more surprising is that they wandered off the path and entered the neighborhood to the east of the path. The turkeys seemed to have taken a special liking to one family in the area and came to the door a number of times this fall. Luckily, none of them became dinner for Thanksgiving. If you should see them, enjoy. And remember, Thanksgiving is over and the tradition is "Christmas goose," not turkey.

