



Village of Bloomingdale Almanac

DECEMBER 2010

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Bloomingdale Welcomes New Administrator

In the October issue of the Almanac we featured the career of Dan Wennerholm, who retired on November 5th from the Village after 31 years of service to Bloomingdale, the last 21 as Village Administrator.

In this issue, I am very happy to announce that after interviewing several highly qualified candidates, we have hired a new Village Administrator. At the November 22nd Village Board meeting, the Board of Trustees concurred with my recommendation and appointed Martin J. Bourke as Village Administrator, effective November 29, 2010.

Marty has worked in the field of municipal public administration since 1981, starting his career as an intern with Carol Stream. From 1984-1986 he held the position of Assistant Village Administrator with the Village of Bloomingdale, moving on to become the Village Manager of Winfield. Since then, Marty has served as the Village Manager of Western Springs and spent nine years as the City Manager of Oakbrook Terrace. Most recently he has been the Interim Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Des Plaines.

We searched for a candidate who had a depth of knowledge and understanding of municipal government, particularly here in DuPage County. We found that person in Marty Bourke, who has built a solid reputation as a leader in the field of local government here in Northern Illinois. He has extensive experience in the field, is known as an intelligent and hard-working individual and has distinguished himself with his peers.

Marty was recently honored as the 2009-10 Outstanding Manager of the year by the members of the Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants (IAMMA). He was recognized for his work with intergovernmental groups such as chairing the Northern Illinois Municipal Natural Gas Franchise Consortium and serving on the Board of Directors of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference.

We consider the Village fortunate to have such a capable person fill this top administrative post and heartily welcome Marty back to the Village of Bloomingdale.

From my family to yours, a joyous holiday season to all.

Mayor Bob Iden



Thanks to Erickson Elementary for the kind invitation to the annual Thanksgiving Feast. I look forward to it every year. It's a great kick-off to the holidays and a delicious traditional turkey dinner. And where else can you dine with so many Pilgrims and Indians! See more pictures on p. 14.

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 and 3rd Mondays of every month
(Meetings held on the 3rd Monday
of the month only during June, July,
August and September)
7:00 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

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 Streets

Judi Von Huben
Public Safety

Bill Bolen
Finance and Administration

Jim King
*Intergovernmental and
Community Relations*

Jeff Dolce
Facilities Infrastructure



Village of Bloomingdale
Residential E-NEWSLETTER

Want to Keep Up With the News In Between Almanac Issues?

Sign up for the Bloomingdale E-News,
published weekly and delivered to your
email. Go to the Village website
www.villageofbloomingdale.org and click
on E-News Sign Up on the right side of the
homepage.

The deadline for
the February issue
of the
Almanac is
JANUARY 10

Making a Change for Charity



Westfield's first Annual 'Change for Change' Contest, run in conjunction with the Bloomingdale Character Counts Coalition's Caring Coins Collection, was very successful and a wonderful charitable opportunity for students and the community to be a part of. Westfield Middle School donated a total of \$877.42 worth of 'change' to make 'change' in a local charity. Here Emily Golab, Westfield 6th grade Student Council member helps count the coins donated.

Thanks, Platt Hill Nursery, for the Shrubs and Trees!

For the third consecutive year, we extend a sincere “Thank you!” to long-time Bloomingdale business, Platt Hill Nursery. This year Platt Hill graciously donated 144 shrubs and 47 trees, including horse chestnuts, Sergeant cherries, weeping mulberries and others to the Village of Bloomingdale.

Thanks to his generosity, the Village has been able to replace a number of the many parkway ash trees which fell victim to the Emerald Ash Borer this year. In addition, the shrubs will be very useful in other parkway plantings and beautification projects.

The history behind Platt Hill Nursery dates back to 1855 when Platt Hill’s great-grandfather, a Scottish immigrant founded a nursery in Dundee. In the early 20th century he was the largest evergreen grower in the world. Platt followed in his footsteps. Platt Hill Nursery has been serving the planting and landscaping needs of Bloomingdale residents since 1983.

This time of year Platt Hill Nursery carries a wide selection of fresh and artificial trees, wreaths and poinsettias, as well as handmade kissing balls, pots of seasonal greens and other holiday items. Visit the store at 222 W. Lake Street; phone number is 630-529-9394.



Village employee Jim Horvath adds mulch to a newly planted tree on Winston Lane, one of those donated by Platt Hill.

2010-2011 Winter Salting Operations: Here’s What You Need to Know

As the winter season approaches, so also will the snow and ice. Here is some information on 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 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.

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 these procedures will serve as a general guideline. The procedures 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. Give yourself additional braking time in order to stop safely.

The Village of Bloomingdale continues to investigate 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.



When temperatures fall below zero:

- If you have pipes that are vulnerable to freezing, allow a small trickle of water to run overnight to keep pipes from freezing. The cost of the extra water is low compared to the cost to repair a broken pipe.
- Open cabinet doors to expose pipes to warmer room temperatures to help keep them from freezing.

If your pipes freeze:

- Shut off the water immediately. Don't attempt to thaw frozen pipes unless the water is shut off. Freezing can often cause unseen cracks in pipes or joints.
- Apply heat to the frozen pipe by warming the air around it, or by applying heat directly to a pipe. You can use a hair dryer, space heater, or hot water. Be sure not to leave space heaters unattended, and avoid the use of kerosene heaters or open flames.
- Once the pipes have thawed, turn the water back on slowly and check for cracks and leaks.



When you are away:

- Have a friend, relative or neighbor regularly check your property to insure the heat is working and the pipes have not frozen.
- Also, a freeze alarm can be purchased for less than \$100 and will call a user-selected phone number if the inside temperature drops below 45 degrees.

A Pile of Snow Shoveling Tips

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



- Individuals over the age of 40, or those who are relatively inactive, should be especially careful.
- If you have a history of heart trouble, do not shovel without a doctor's permission.
- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- Take it slow! Shoveling, like lifting weights, can raise your heart rate and blood pressure dramatically, so pace yourself. Be sure to stretch out and warm up before taking on the task.
- Shovel only fresh snow. Freshly fallen, powdery snow is easier to shovel than the wet, packed-down variety.
- Push the snow as you shovel. It's easier on your back than lifting the snow out of the way.
- Don't pick up too much at once. Use a small shovel, or fill only one-fourth or one-half of a large one.
- Lift with your legs bent, not your back. Keep your back straight. By bending and "sitting" into the movement, you'll keep your spine upright and less stressed. Your shoulders, torso and thighs can do the work for you.
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion. If you run out of breath, take a break. If you feel tightness in your chest, stop immediately.
- Dress warmly. Remember that extremities, such as the nose, ears, hands and feet, need extra attention during winter's cold. Wear a turtleneck sweater, cap, scarf, face protection, mittens, wool socks and waterproof boots.
- 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.

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

Republic Services, Inc., the Village's refuse hauler, will pick up Christmas trees on regularly scheduled refuse pick-up days, for four weeks following the Christmas holiday. 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 21, 2011.





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 2010-2011 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.

The Village of Bloomingdale Employees' Salvation Army Angel Tree Charity Drive benefits needy boys and girls who have met the Salvation Army's eligibility requirements. Each Angel Tree tag indicates the gender and age range of the receiving child. Upon receipt of the gifts, the Salvation Army will separate items into gender/age categories for parents to select the appropriate gift for their children. If you're interested in participating and would like a tag when they arrive, please call or e-mail Barb Weber [671-5613] or weberb@vil.bloomingtondale.il.us (indicating gender/age preference, if you have one), and a tag will be forwarded to you.

Bloomington Township Sharing Tree – Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomington Township helped make the season brighter for over 750 children in Bloomington Township. Names & wishes of local needy youngsters, as well as residents of convalescent and nursing homes will be on the Sharing Tree, located at the Township Transportation Building, 123 Rosedale Road now through Saturday, December 18. Wrapped gifts must be returned by December 18.

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 9 – 6, Saturday 10 – 5 and Sunday 11- 5 through December 18. For more information on the Sharing Tree Program, call Sue at (630) 529-9993.

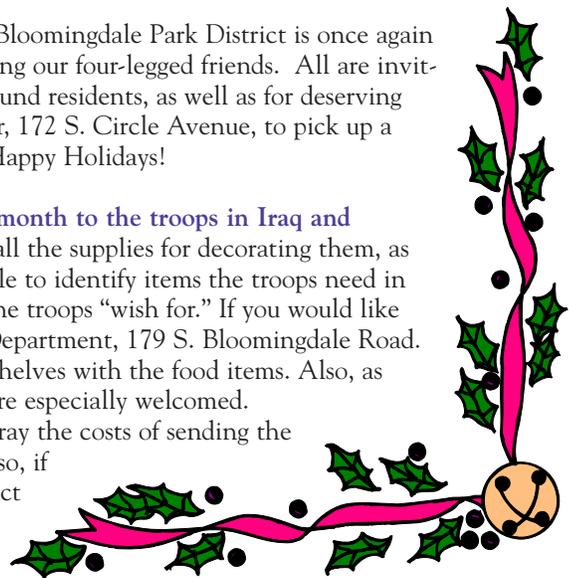
Names and suggested gift ideas for Marklund Home residents will be placed on trees at:

Bloomington 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

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 Bloomington 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!

Bloomington VFW Post 7539 continues to ship packages each 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. 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 Bloomington Fire Department, 179 S. Bloomington Road. Right now the Post is especially looking to re-stock some of their shelves with the food items. Also, as the weather is getting colder, dried soups, hot chocolate and teas are especially welcomed. White sox are also always welcomed. 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.





The How and Why of 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.

Wintertime Words To the Wise

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.



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 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 has 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 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.

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.





Wintertime Driving Tips

Safe driving habits and vehicle maintenance should be practiced throughout the year, particularly during the winter season. A safe driver must adapt to road conditions as well as weather conditions as they travel. The following are some driving tips to help overcome winter driving hazards.

- Keep your car's headlights on low beam. This provides better visibility particularly in fog or snow.
- Watch the car in front of you for signs of trouble. 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 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 any upcoming journey, follow these helpful hints to make sure you're well prepared:

- Keep your gas tank between half and three quarters full during the winter months.
- Be sure your car has a clean bill of health before your trip. A qualified technician should inspect all fluids, belts, wipers, tire pressure, and tire condition.
- Keep an emergency kit in the trunk, including jumper cables, tools, flares, warning triangles, first-aid kit and a flashlight with fresh batteries. You will also want to have an ice scraper, small shovel, blanket and perhaps a bottle of water...just in case.
- If an emergency occurs and you are not able to fix the problem, please attempt to pull over to the far right lane or shoulder and remain in the vehicle. Ask those offering their assistance to notify the state or local police department.
- Consider the purchase of a cell phone for emergency usage.

Any questions or comments regarding this information, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

What a Deal!

The Friends of the Bloomingdale Public Library are once again selling Entertainment Books providing coupons for the Chicago south and west areas. The coupons are for eating establishments, services, department stores, sporting events, etc. They feature of \$14,000 worth of savings in just one book. A great gift for \$25. Stop into the library's business office to purchase yours.



Winter Phone Numbers

Village of Bloomingdale Snow Phone (630) 671-5800
Call this number to report a problem. We regret that it is not possible to advise exactly when your particular street will be plowed.

Village of Bloomingdale Police Department - Non-Emergency (630) 529-9868
Call this number for non-emergency general information.

Bloomington Fire District - Emergency 911

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

Call the above number for information on State roads (i.e., Lake Street). The District One Communication Center is open 24/7. All hazardous conditions should be reported to them at 847-705-4612 for immediate action. The Illinois Department of Transportation offers weather/road condition information on their web site at www.dot.il.gov.

Information on DuPage County Roads
Division of Transportation
DuPage County 630-682-7321

Call this number for information on DuPage County Roads (i.e. Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale Road, Gary Avenue, Schmale Road)

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

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.

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend!

The 2011 Neighborhood Watch General Meetings, will take place at 7:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays in the Village Hall Council Room:

January 19
March 16
May 18
July 20
September 21
November 16

National Night Out Against Crime will be Tuesday, August 2, 2011, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

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671-5600

From the Police Department

Keep Your Holiday Season Happy And Safe

“Are you ready for the Holidays?” The Bloomingdale Police Department hopes everyone has a safe holiday season. The following safety tips will remind each one of us to take the proper precautions during this hectic time of the year.



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.

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

WELCOME
Bloomingdale is a
CRIME WATCH
community



We immediately report
all suspicious activities
to our Police Department

**OUR SUCCESS IS
MEASURED BY THE SCOPE OF
YOUR INVOLVEMENT**

Sincerely,

Frank Giammarese,
Chief of Police

Dawn Odoi,
Community Policing Officer

630-529-9868



THE BLOOMINGDALE BUSINESS BEAT

The Business Beat features news about businesses - newly opened ones, those under construction and those who have something special to tell the residents about - awards won, charitable fundraisers hosted, recent major remodels, etc. Retail businesses provide a significant part of the village's tax base. Supporting them helps keep the Village portion of your property tax bill low.

Remember - BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE.



WELCOME, MULTI-LINE INSURANCE

Multi-Lines Insurance and Investment Services hosted a ribbon cutting on Thursday, September 16 at their new offices at 185 E. Lake St. in Bloomingdale. Multi-Line owners Greg Costalis and Don Giorgi hold the ribbon for Mayor Iden. Multi-Lines is a full service company that offers health/life/property and casualty for individuals and small to midsize businesses. For more information, go to www.multilines.com

GMC REALTY CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING

Resident Gloria Tomaras is a broker with GMC REALTY, which recently had its grand opening in October. Located at 125 Fairfield Way, GMC services Bloomingdale and the surrounding areas. Its roster of professionals has been practicing Real Estate in our local markets for over 50 years collectively. GMC is a full service agency specializing in distressed homes such as short sales (pre-foreclosed properties) as well as representing buyers and traditional sellers.

GMC Realty is a proud sponsor of the Mr. Charity Foundation ~ "Providing A Brighter Future For The Children Of Tomorrow." Visitors and potential clients are encouraged to browse the website for more information about the realtors and the services they provide. If you are thinking of selling, you may try their free home evaluation online by filling out a quick questionnaire and one of their professionals will e-mail you a full CMA (Comparative Market Analysis). They can also answer any questions you may have interactively through the site at www.gmcreealtyhomes.com or you can feel free to contact the team via phone at 630-994-3200.

BLOOMINGDALE HEARTLAND BLOOD CENTER HOSTS GRAND OPENING

Heartland Blood Centers introduced itself to the Bloomingdale community earlier this year by opening the doors to its newest donor center. On September 23rd Heartland and members of the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce hosted a grand opening ceremony to commemorate the event. Robert Iden, Bloomingdale Mayor and Dennis Mestrich, Heartland CEO were present to cut the ribbon.

The new Bloomingdale center has six donor beds and can accommodate whole blood and platelet donations. The center is located at 204 Gary Avenue and is open from 11:30 am to 7:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 7:00 am to 2:30 pm on Friday and Saturday. Schedule an appointment online at www.heartlandbc.org or call (630) 295-5814 (walk-ins welcome).

"Heartland Blood Center thanks Bloomingdale residents for welcoming our newest donor center and we look forward to serving your community for years to come." See pg.14 for information about an upcoming blood drive.



Pictured center is Dennis Mestrich, Heartland Blood Center's CEO and President, and Bloomingdale's Mayor Robert Iden.

New Stores in the Mall

Toys 'R Us (seasonal) • Playtime USA • Divine Charisma Spa • As Seen on TV & More • Discover Books • Calendar Club

New Kiosks in Mall

Xtreme Recreation • Chiro One Wellness Centers • Huggable Pets • LA Body Jewelry • Cashmere Scarves • Sunny Jewelers • Tupperware

Other New Business

Subway – 369 W. Army Trail Road



THE BLOOMINGDALE

BUSINESS BEAT

NEW LOCATION FOR GREEN VALLEY MORTGAGE

When Green Valley Mortgage, Inc. opened in 2000 in Bloomingdale, the owner Jodi York-Caraballo was determined to make a difference in the residential mortgage industry. Jodi is an Officer of the Up Front Mortgage Broker Association, "...where we believe in guiding a client through the mortgage process and showing them all the costs upfront. We treat every client with loyalty and integrity."



As a mortgage broker Jodi has many lenders to choose from and she does the mortgage interest rate shopping for you. Green Valley recently moved its office from Bloomingdale Road to 129 Fairfield Way, Suite 304. Jodi notes it was important to stay in Bloomingdale to serve the community for another 10 years or more! Jodi can be reached at 630-539-1240; the web site is www.greenvalleymtg.com.

KEVIN JORDAN RECOGNIZED BY EDWARD JONES

Kevin Jordan received an award for Client Service Excellence. His branch was one of the Top 10 Branches in the region to receive this award for Client Service .

"I am honored to receive this award," Jordan said. "I enjoy my work helping the people of Bloomingdale plan for their financial futures, but it gives me an extra boost to receive special recognition for my work."

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors. The firm embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today. Kevin Jordan can be reached at 630-893-1996. His office is located at 290 Springfield Drive, Suite 70.

CHECK IT OUT! MASTERPIECE FRAMING HAS AN AWARD-WINNING ONLINE GALLERY

Matt Puchalski, owner of Bloomingdale's Masterpiece Framing Store, 156 E. Lake Street, officially has an award-winning website.



"I'm super excited about the award," said Puchalski. "It was a nationwide contest sponsored by DÉCOR, (The Art and Framing Business Resource) magazine and (frame manufacturer) Larson-Juhl. The competition was open to frame shops and art galleries. My shop will be featured in an upcoming issue of the magazine."

Like Puchalski's shop, his Web site is both effective and attractive. It showcases the variety of services he provides from framing a college diploma to restoring beloved, yet yellowed-with-age family photographs to transforming a child's refrigerator art into a custom framed work of art. In other words, he'll transform your memories into a Masterpiece!

Masterpiece Framing – both onsite and online – features Puchalski's gallery of original art. His talent – fine tuned at Chicago's American Academy of Art – includes vibrant giclee drawings that highlight Chicago landmarks.

The onsite gallery of artwork is open for viewing from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. weekdays; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The award-winning online gallery is open 24/7.

B-Card Promotion Begins April 2, 2011

The Bloomingdale B-Card promotion will kick off on April 2nd with a Motorcycle Run to benefit the Bloomingdale Township Food Pantry. The nine-day event marks the fourth year that Bloomingdale businesses will offer special deals for customers carrying the B-card. Remember, Bloomingdale residents can use their Bloomingdale Public Library card as a B-card. The B-card promotion will kick off with a motorcycle run for the Bloomingdale Township Food Pantry ending at Stratford Square. A special concert at Ballydoyle Restaurant in Bloomingdale is planned to wrap up the first day. More information will be forthcoming in the February issue of the Almanac. Anyone interested in participating in the motorcycle run can call Barb Weber at 630-671-5613.



450 Guests Were Ingredients For Success in Bloomingdale Chamber's 50 Men Who Cook Fundraiser

Bloomingdale Chamber's second annual 50 Men Who Cook community fundraising event was a huge success! Some 450 diners were served samples of local chefs' great dishes, including crab cakes, rotisserie turkey, marinated beef tenderloin and flourless chocolate cake. Guests enjoyed live music provided by local musicians. The evening ended with the diners voting for their favorite dishes in the appetizer, entrée, side dish and dessert categories.

Congratulations to winning chefs Robert Mirabile for Seared Scallops with Pumpkin Broth, Mark Dwyer for Bourbon Brined Pork Chops with Volcanic Applesauce, Dr. John Butts for Buffalo Shrimp with Bleu Cheese Dip, Dave McGowan with a Mashed Potato Bar and Stan Poplonski with Cake Balls. Mark Dwyer also won the prize for best table decoration. The chamber also thanks the presenting sponsor, Adventist Glen Oaks Hospital.



Emcee and School District 13 Superintendent Kim Perkins, Chamber Executive Director Jane Hove and Chef Stan Poplonski, whose Cake Ball dessert took first place.



The 2010 American Youth Character Awards Winners pictured above with Mayor Iden and their nominating school officials are (from l to r) Hannah Solarz (Erickson), Rosemary Florido (St. Isidore), Emmanuel Carrerra (DuJardin) and Nelly Hernandez (Westfield Middle School). Also winning, but not pictured is Nicholas Alejandro (Winnebago).

Congratulations to the 2010 CHARACTER COUNTS! Winners

As a result of the community coin collections for the annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration in October, \$1200 was raised for a local charity. The youngsters present at the celebration voted among three charities and Marklund Children's Home was chosen as the recipient. In early November, a check was presented to representatives from Marklund by Westfield Student Council members. The donation will provide adaptive devices for the Marklund residents.

VFW Announces Voice of Democracy Winners

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 is pleased to announce the winners of the 2010-2011 Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest, "Does My Generation Have a Role in America's Future?" The three awards went to the following Lake Park High School students:

- 1st Prize of \$300 went to senior Brian McKeown (Bloomingdale)
- 2nd Prize of \$150 went to senior Sarah Reece (Bloomingdale)
- 3rd Prize of \$50 went to (tie): senior Mollie Hammerschmidt (Roselle), and junior Diana Schultz (Roselle)

Brian's recording has been sent for further judging at the VFW district level for possible advancement to the state level. The state winner will receive a \$3,000 cash award, a four day trip to Washington DC and a chance to win a scholarship as high as \$30,000.

Bill Bahr, the post VOD Chair, commented "The judges were impressed with the enthusiasm and sincerity that all the students exhibited in their essays. We congratulate Brian McKeown on taking first place in our post competition and are excited to sponsor him at the district level."

Illinois Fire Protection Association Honors Fire Prevention Director Gary Kostal

The 2010 Illinois Fire Inspectors Association Achievement Award was presented to Bloomingdale Fire Prevention Director Gary Kostal (left) by IFIA President Jim French from Lisle-Woodridge Fire Protection District and Mary Ludemann from Plainfield Fire Protection District at the IFIA Awards Luncheon on October 22, 2010. This award is presented to an individual or organization that has made substantial contributions to their department in the areas of public education and prevention, has gone far beyond their normal assignments, and whose long term dedication has brought credit to their department. Fire Prevention Director Gary Kostal was recognized for his dedication and commitment to Fire Prevention.



Director Kostal leads the three-man Fire Prevention Bureau conducting fire inspections, witnessing tests for new and existing alarms and fire protection systems, as well as conducting prevention and education activities for the Fire Protection District. Gary has served as Director of the Fire Prevention Bureau in Bloomingdale since 2004 and previously served the Carol Stream Fire District as a Battalion Chief.

Donovan Maloney Awarded CCW Scholarship

The Council of Catholic Women (CCW) serves the St. Isidore parish community, local community, and community worldwide through service projects and fundraising events. This year's CCW scholarship was awarded to Donovan Maloney, 6th grader at St. Isidore School. His essay was reviewed and chosen by the board of the St. Isidore Council of Catholic Women.

The scholarship is awarded towards his current education at St. Isidore. Incoming 6th, 7th and 8th graders were eligible to submit their essay for the 2010-2011 school year. Donovan's winning essay was about how he demonstrates leadership and provides service to others. Congratulations on a job well done and for representing outstanding leadership.



Troy and Brian display the championship plaque.

Bloomingdale Teens on IHS A Regional Golf Championship Team

Junior Troy Butler and Senior Captain and Team MVP Brian McKeown, both of Bloomingdale, helped the Lake Park Golf Team achieve its 2nd IHS A Regional Championship in 3 years. Both golfers were also members of Coach Dan Batka's 2008 Championship team and were selected to the UpState Eight All-Conference team. Brian also achieved UpState Eight Academic All-Conference status.

Brian is the son of Terry and Marianne McKeown and Troy is the son of Brian and Katie Butler.



Pictured from left to right parents Colin and Janine Maloney, scholarship recipient Donovan Maloney and Marisol Glaser VP Council for Catholic Women

Community Events

BLOOMINGDALE GARDEN CLUB

The year 2011 begins with a Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 18. Visitors are invited to drop in, meet our members, hear about the Club's programs and plans for 2011, and pick up a membership application.

The Bloomingdale Garden Club, begun by seven ardent gardeners and neighbors, had its first meeting in April of 1963, and officially joined the Garden Clubs of Illinois in October of the same year. Today the Club remains active in the community with monthly programs and meetings, in pursuit of its goals: to foster a love of gardening within the club and community, to encourage the protection of native trees and flowers, and to provide backyard habitat for birds and butterflies.

Our program committee is busily coordinating speakers, workshops and field trips for 2011. This year's programs, speakers and activities reflected the diversity of our club, and featured ornamental grasses, wild bird feeding, underused perennials, growing bulbs indoors, fall garden care, holiday evergreen arrangements and more.

Our members actively participate in our charitable endeavors, including our annual holiday workshop to benefit the residents of the West Suburban Care Center in Bloomingdale, and a monthly delivery of cookies and treats.

Field trips included visits to Hausermann's Orchids, Ball Gardens, Garfield Park Conservatory, and the Morton Arboretum for Amy Stewart's presentation on her New York Times bestseller *Wicked Plants: the Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities*. Drawing on history, medicine, science, and legend, and with her own wicked sense of humor, Stewart presented tales of bloodcurdling botany that entertained, alarmed, and enlightened us.



For more information, contact Joyce Basel at 630.327.3871 or joyceb@inbox.com. Or learn more about the Garden Club at www.bloomingdalegardenclub.org

LOOKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE? FRIENDSHIP? FELLOWSHIP? THEN THE BWC NEEDS YOU!

On December 9th, Bloomingdale Women's Club will host their Holiday Dinner at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road. Prospective members are welcome to join them for dinner for just \$12.50. For more information regarding the dinner contact Rose at 630-291-3667.

The Woman's Club will also be hosting its 35th annual "Charity" Fashion Show on April 3rd. More details on this event will appear in the February Almanac. Proceeds from this event help to provide a \$1000.00 annual Scholarship from the BWC for local high school seniors.

Bloomingdale Women's Club monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of the month from September through April at the Bloomingdale Fire Station, 179 South Bloomingdale Road. Social time starts at 7, followed by the meeting and a program. Refreshments are served. For more information on the organization contact Maureen Gibson at 630-539-1674.

BLOOMINGDALE PARK DISTRICT MUSEUM HOLIDAY SHOW



Visit the festively-decorated Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road, to view two exciting holiday-themed shows that run through Dec. 18.

Gallery I – The nation's oldest continually programming art society, the Chicago Society of Artists, presents, "Tis the Season for Art," an exhibition celebrating the holidays and the season. Fifty-two pieces of artwork are on display, including several three-dimensional pieces of bronze, alabaster and ceramic.

Gallery II – "The Holiday Feeling: Dealing With Yours, Mine and Theirs," features work by the American Jewish Artists Club. This professional group has been active on the Chicago art scene for over 80 years. Their new work comments on American holiday traditions.

Among holiday gift items for sale at the museum are jewelry, greeting cards, ornaments and more.

Admission is \$1 for residents; \$2 for non-residents and \$.50 for seniors 62+. Museum hours during exhibits are 4 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays; and noon to 4 p.m., Saturdays.

Contact the Museum at (630) 539-3096 or www.bloomingdaleparks.org for more information.

Community Events

VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE BLOOD DRIVE

The Village of Bloomingdale, in cooperation with the Bloomingdale Public Library, will be hosting a blood drive from 3:30 – 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 7th in the Community Room, lower level of the Library, 101 Fairfield Way. To schedule your appointment, go to www.heartlandbc.org and click in the box “Now Available” or call Janet at 630-723-2565. Photo ID required. If you donate blood at this drive, you will not only get a warm feeling from helping to save lives, you will also receive a Heartland Blood Centers Travel Blanket to keep you warm later!

CRISIS HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The YWCA needs volunteers for the west suburban rape crisis hotline, in-person intervention, and to present prevention programs in DuPage County schools. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. Training begins January 22, 2011. To apply, contact Bianca at 630-790-6600, ext. 2485 or Bianca.michuda@ywcachicago.org. You may also visit them online at www.ywcachicago.org.

BE ‘GREEN’: RECYCLE BOOKS AT LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Mark your calendars for the Bloomingdale Friends of the Library Book Sale on Friday and Saturday, March 12 & 13, 2011 on the lower level of the library, 101 Fairfield Way. If you are looking to recycle any of your own books, the library will be accepting donations after the 1st of the year.

LIFE LINE SCREENINGS COMING TO BLOOMINGDALE IN JANUARY

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District #1 is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive, painless health screenings on Wednesday, January 5, 2011. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries, which is the leading cause of stroke; hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heartbeat, which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for the Stroke, Vascular Disease and Heart Rhythm Package for \$139. All four ultrasound screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Your Health is in Your Hands, so call 1-888-653-6441 for more information or to pre-register.



BE THANKFUL

The 14th Annual Thanksgiving Feast at Erickson where the tradition is great entertainment and delicious food shared by Pilgrims, Indians and hundreds of friends (about 600 this year!).

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 27th through Sunday, December 26th. The Holiday Weekend Service will run from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. There is no service on Saturday, 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

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



Police Department Halloween Open House, October 30, 2010

Best Wishes, Ellie!



Ellie with her party planners Telecommunications Supervisor Karen Maranto (l) and Records Supervisor Lynn Heitz (r).

Congratulations and best wishes to Ellie Alumbaugh, longtime resident and 41-year employee who just retired for good (she kept working part-time to help out). Her fellow employees in the Police Department Record Division hosted a luncheon for her. She promises to bring in baked goodies (when she's in town!), so we don't forget her. As if we ever would!

Condolences



Laura blows out her candles at her 106th birthday earlier this year.

On November 4, 2010, Bloomingdale lost a lifetime resident.

Laura (Zarndt) Coppock was born March 21, 1904. Her family farm, where she grew up, was on the south side of Army Trail. According to her granddaughter, today you will find a Starbucks on the land with the radio tower just east of where the farm was located.

Laura met John Coppock when he was working on paving Lake Street in 1924; they married on May 22, 1926. The couple had two children, Lloyd and Mary Ann.

When John died in 1955, Laura went to work. She became our first postmistress from 1955 to 1970 when she retired.

Over the years she lived in Bloomingdale and the Cloverdale area; her final residence was at Sunrise Assisted Living on Lake Street where she passed away at 106 years of age. Laura was laid to rest in Lakewood Memorial Park in Elgin.

She was a remarkable lady. We extend our sincere sympathies to her family and friends.



Change for a Change

As a result of the community coin collections for the annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration in October, \$1200 was raised for a local charity. The youngsters present at the celebration voted among three charities and Marklund Children's Home was chosen as the recipient. In early November, a check was presented to representatives from Marklund by Westfield Student Council members. The donation will provide adaptive devices for the Marklund residents. On hand for the presentation were (Back row l to r) Westfield teachers Deyana Matt, Kelly Gabriel, Student Council President Gina Vitulli, Vice President Brittany Walker, teacher Justin Kastory. (Front row l to r) Marklund Recreational Therapist Samantha Brooks holding Bella, Mikey and Joey.



Winter Maintenance Tips for Your Home

From the Bloomingdale Building and Zoning Division

Protect your home and family from fire and other hazards. These simple and easy tasks will help provide for a safe home environment during the cold winter months:

- 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.
- Clean the kitchen exhaust hood and air filter. Keeping hood and filters clean of cooking grease will help keep a stovetop fire from spreading.
- Disconnect all garden hoses from exterior hose bibs to prevent water line freeze-up into the house.
- Make sure all electrical holiday decorations have tight connections. If possible use 3-prong plugs and cord sets. If possible 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 exterior electrical fixtures for bird nests. Failure to remove nests from electrical fixtures may cause fire.
- All chimneys and flues (i.e. fireplace, water heater, furnace) need to be checked 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 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.
- 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.

Happy Holidays!

Village Hall will be closed Thursday, December 23 and
Friday, December 24;
Thursday, December 30 and
Friday, December 31



Garbage pickup will not be affected by the holidays as garbage will be picked up both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.



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 Deuschle
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 to provide you with some information to ensure your family enjoys a safe holiday season.

Facts & Figures

- During 2003-2007, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 250 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year. These fires caused an average of 14 deaths, 26 injuries, and \$13.8 million in direct property damage annually.
- During 2003-2006, an estimated 14,800 home structure fires started by candles were reported to local fire departments. These fires resulted in an estimated 160 civilian deaths, 1,340 civilian injuries and an estimated direct property loss of \$471 million.
- Four in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen -- more than any other place in the home.
- Half of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February in 2003-2006.

Safety Tips

Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.



- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

Holiday entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



By following these simple suggestions, we can all look forward to a safe new year. For more information on winter safety or other safety tips, please contact Lieutenant Richard Kurka at 630-894-9080.

Fire Department Halloween Open House, October 30, 2010



Village of Bloomingdale
201 S. Bloomingdale Road
Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108

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BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108**



Activities in Honor of Veterans Day 2010

Bloomingdale Post 7539's traditional 11 a.m. ceremony at the gazebo memorial.

DuJardin and Erickson elementary schools hosted many veterans. The vets were fed, entertained and honored by the students, who got a first-hand look at what Veterans Day really means.

