

# Village of Bloomingdale Almanac



December 2011

Growth with Pride

## From the Mayor's Desk

The 2011 Septemberfest was a great success. I hope you were able to be there; the weather was better than we could have hoped for. From the first group to step off in the parade to the last song from the New Invaders, the day was filled with friends, families, food and fun.

Thank you to the members of the Septemberfest Commission for their dedication and perseverance. They are Chairman Bill Wolff, Vivi Frumkin, Mitch Frumkin, Kelly Gits, Susan Lancaster, Carole Lockhart and Dolores Orlik. They were aided by liaisons Vern Fasse, Mike Gicla, Stan Poplonski and Jo Witucki. This group put the fest together in less than three months and were conscientious about budget limitations. They are already looking forward to the next year. For a review of the day in pictures, take a look at the back page of this Almanac.

Regarding the recent news about the significant water rate increase to the DuPage Water Commission being instituted by the City of Chicago, there has been much speculation as to what impact this will have on the suburbs which currently purchase Lake Michigan water. While we do not know the exact amount of the increase to the DuPage Water Commission as of now, please be assured that the Village of Bloomingdale, along with the other members of the DuPage Water Commission, are following the developments and will keep residents/businesses informed.

Also, remember that when media articles mention certain percentage increases in water rates, these are the rates paid by the DuPage Water Commission itself, and do not reflect the changes that may or may not be made to your actual water and sewer bill paid to the Village.

In other local news, I am happy that we are continuing to enjoy commercial growth, especially along the Army Trail corridor. The October Almanac mentioned the grand openings of HH Gregg in Bloomingdale Court and Binney's Beverage Depot near the northeast corner of Army Trail Road and Springfield Drive. In addition, Ross Dress for Less, an off-price apparel and home fashions retailer also opened in Bloomingdale Court. All three of these businesses are enjoying brisk sales.

During October, I also had the pleasure of taking part in a Ceremonial Smash, Smashburger's version of a ribbon cutting. The fast-casual, made-to-order hamburger eatery is located at 148 S. Gary Avenue in Stratford Crossing. "Smash, Sizzle, Savor!"

Mayor Bob Iden



*Mayor Iden christened the grill at Smashburger by cooking the first Smashburger.*

*Happy  
Holidays!*

**Village Hall will be closed on  
Friday, December 23 and  
Monday, December 26 for the  
Christmas holiday  
and  
Friday, December 30 and  
Monday, January 2, 2012 for  
the New Year's holiday.**

**Garbage pickup will not be  
affected by the holidays  
this year.**

**The elected officials and staff  
of the Village of Bloomingdale  
wish you a happy holiday  
season and a joyous  
New Year**





### VILLAGE BOARD, COMMISSION & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The public is encouraged to attend all Board and Commission meetings

#### REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE VILLAGE BOARD

2nd and 4th Monday of every month  
7:00 p.m. – Village Hall

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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  
7:00 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. – Hilton 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*

**Irene M. Jones**  
*Village Clerk*

#### TRUSTEES

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

**Robert Czernek**  
*Traffic and Streets*

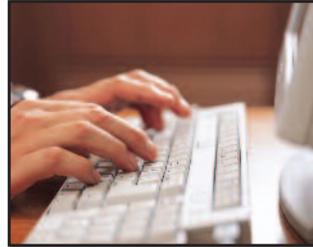
**Judi Von Huben**  
*Public Safety*

**Bill Bolen**  
*Finance and Administration*

**Jim King**  
*Intergovernmental and Community Relations*

**Michael D. Hovde**  
*Facilities Infrastructure*

### 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](http://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**



### Scouts Lend Many Helping Hands



Scoutmaster Ron Feldman (back, far right) with some of the Boy Scouts of Troop 194. The scouts provided complete coverage in three shifts for clean-up duties at the 2011 Septemberfest. They were amazing! Thanks, guys!



## Stay in Touch

Consider signing up for the Village's E-News, which would be delivered weekly to your email address.

This is a good way to keep up with timely information on news, services and events in and around town. And in the case of an unusual event, such as last year's blizzard, the Village is able to get out critical information to all subscribers as it becomes available.

It's easy and free. Go to [www.villageofbloomingdale.org](http://www.villageofbloomingdale.org) and sign up for the E-news on the homepage on the bottom half of the right hand side.

## 2011/2012 Winter Salting Procedures

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

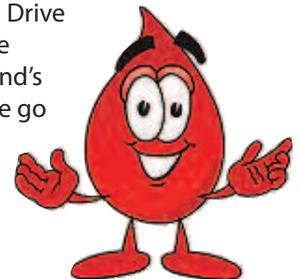
Please use extreme caution this winter, and always, while driving during inclement weather. Don't drive if you don't have to. If you must drive, give yourself additional time to get where you are going. Give yourself additional braking time in order to stop safely.

The Village of Bloomingdale continues to investigate new environmentally favorable materials and practices to deal with the snow and ice.

The Village also asks that residents do not place snow from their driveways into the street. If there are questions regarding the Village's Snow and Ice Procedures, please contact the Public Works Division at 630-671-5800.

## Give the Gift of Life at December 5 Blood Drive

The Village of Bloomingdale is sponsoring a Blood Drive from 3:30-7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 5 at the Bloomingdale Library, 101 Fairfield Way in Heartland's Mobile Coach. To schedule an appointment, please go to [www.heartlandbc.org](http://www.heartlandbc.org) and click on "Now Available" or call Janet at 630-723-2565. Winter is always a difficult time for the blood banks. If you're looking for a way to make a difference this holiday season, give the gift of life.





# Be Smart and Safe Holiday Shopping & Safety Tips

## Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend!

The 2012 Neighborhood Watch General Meetings, will take place at 7:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays in the Village Hall Council Room:

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

The topic for the January meeting is the "State of Bloomingdale" featuring the Mayor or a member of the Board of Trustees, the Police and Fire Chiefs, and our Director of Village Services.

The 28th National Night Out Against Crime will be Tuesday, August 7, 2012, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

## VILLAGE ALMANAC

*is published bi-monthly by the*

**Village of Bloomingdale**

**Mary Ellen Johnson,  
Editor**

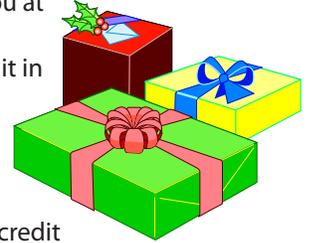
Address all correspondence to:  
Village of Bloomingdale  
201 S. Bloomingdale Road  
Bloomingdale, IL 60108

**671-5600**

"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.

## Bloomingdale is a CRIME WATCH community.

**We immediately report all suspicious  
activities to our Police Department.**

**Frank Giammarese, Chief of Police  
Dawn Odoi, Community Policing Officer**

**630-529-9868**





## Holiday Sand Art at Stratford Square

As part of the holiday decorations at Stratford Square Mall, there are three sand sculptures located at the Santa Set, lower level Macy's Court and lower level Carson Pirie Scott Court.

The sand art was created by two sand carvers from The Sand Sculpture Company, which is owned by Ted Seibert.

The first sand sculpture, Santa's Toyland, was constructed with 80-tons of sand by a two-man crew over eight days from 9 am – 6 pm. (Pictures of this sculpture shown.) The two additional pieces weigh 10 tons each and took four days to create.



## 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 2011-2012 Annual Giving Guide which features seasonal and ongoing volunteer opportunities at many area agencies. Family and youth-friendly activities are highlighted. The guide can be viewed or downloaded at [www.givingdupage.org](http://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.bloomingdale.il.us](mailto:weberb@vil.bloomingdale.il.us), (indicating gender/age preference, if you have one), and a tag will be forwarded to you.

**Bloomingdale Township Sharing Tree** – Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomingdale Township helped make the season brighter for over 750 children in Bloomingdale 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 from November 12 through December 17. Wrapped gifts must be returned by December 17.

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 17. 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:  
 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

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 packages each month to the troops overseas in a combat area. 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](http://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 a "package from home." 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 from the Bloomingdale Police Department

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.

### Veteran's Day, 11/11/11

Members of Bloomingdale's VFW Post 7539 gathered at the Veterans Memorial at the Gazebo on Bloomingdale Road for a Veteran's Day Observance.



## Winter Phone Numbers

### Village of Bloomingdale Snow Phone (630) 671-5800

Call this number to report a problem. We regret that it is not possible to advise exactly when your particular street will be plowed.

### Village of Bloomingdale Police Department - Non-Emergency (630) 529-9868

Call this number for non-emergency general information.

### Bloomingdale Fire District - Emergency 911

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

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



## 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.

## Protect your back and your heart 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.



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

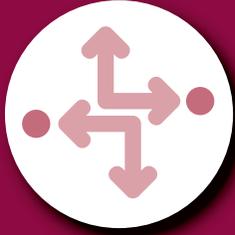
Republic Services, Inc., the Village's refuse hauler, will pick up live Christmas trees on regularly scheduled refuse

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 20, 2012.





## 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**



## BUSINESS NEWS

### LIFE YOGA HEALTH CENTER OPENS IN BLOOMINGDALE

Life Yoga Health Center is proud to be the first meditation and holistic yoga center in Bloomingdale. It is located at 369 W. Army Trail Road in the Courtyard at Stratford Mall. Owner and certified instructor, Carole Liss, has been teaching for over seven years. Her motivation comes from watching the growth and positive life changes her members obtain from attending her classes and workshops.



*Carole Liss invites you to choose Life Yoga Health Center to bring health, happiness, and peace to your life.*

Life Yoga Health Center offers holistic yoga, which focuses on deep stretching, relaxation, breathing techniques, and meditation. One aspect that sets holistic life yoga apart from other types is the focus on the brain; this is done through Brain Wave Vibration, a training that helps you reawaken your natural healing abilities by stimulating your brain stem. Life yoga helps you learn about the brain, along with the physical exercise to tap into your body and mind's full potential.

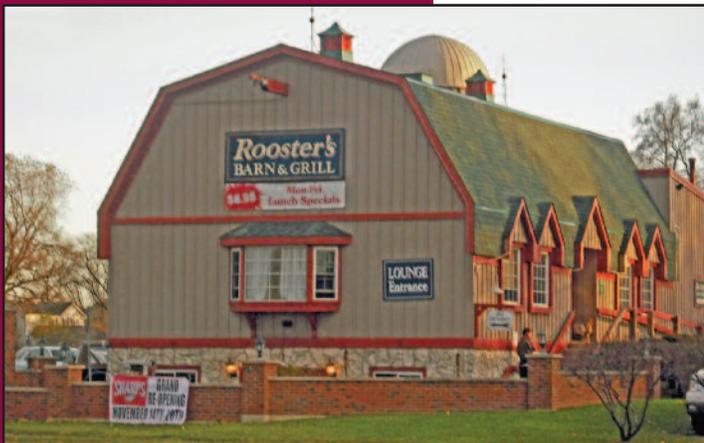
Liss explains among the benefits experienced through holistic yoga are stress management, deep relaxation, improved concentration, more vitality, better sleep, and weight control.

The center's hours are Monday through Friday, 9-9; Saturday, 9-3. Call 630-529-1633 or visit [www.TheLifeYoga.com](http://www.TheLifeYoga.com) for more information.

### CALLING ALL BUSINESSES TO HELP GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

Heartland Blood Centers needs your help. Specifically, they need sites that are willing to host a blood drive this winter. Hosting a drive is easy. Heartland just needs a space inside or outside (for a mobile coach in your parking lot). Contact Janet Maher at [jmaher@heartlandbc.org](mailto:jmaher@heartlandbc.org) for more information. Ask Janet about donor thank-you gifts or incentives. If you are unable to sponsor a company donation, but still want to help, you can always donate at the Bloomingdale Heartland Blood Center at 204 S. Gary. You can make a difference -- one donation saves 3 lives!

### NEW DÉCOR, NEW MENU AT ROOSTER'S



Rooster's Bar and Grill was established 19 years ago at 122 W. Lake Street in Old Town. As part of their continuing effort to provide the best dining experience around, the family-owned restaurant has been given a new look. Owner Dana Carr would like to invite you to come in to check out both the new décor and new menu. Rooster's menu is full of fantastic new items, as well as old favorites, including their famous Fish Fry, as well as the Best Fried Chicken (as discussed on the WGN Morning Show). There is also a newly featured breakfast menu which is served Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

As always, Rooster's is open seven days a week to serve you. Check out the new website [www.roostersbarnandgrill.com](http://www.roostersbarnandgrill.com) where you can find coupons, daily specials and upcoming events. Also, look for Rooster's Barn and Grill on Facebook and check out the daily specials. Like it and receive a coupon for \$10 off. Dana and her staff look forward to seeing you on your next visit.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Upcoming Bloomingdale Garden Club Programs

**Tuesday, December 6, 6:30pm**

**Holiday Workshop**, Bloomingdale Fire Station, 179 S. Bloomingdale Rd – Club members will create holiday wreaths and/or tabletop arrangements with fresh holiday greens. Contact Roberta Pulido at 630-295-8315 for more information.

**Tuesday, January 17, 6:30pm**

The new year begins with our **Annual Business Meeting**. Included in our discussion will be the Club's programs, flower sale and charitable efforts for 2012. Visitors are invited to drop in, meet our members, and pick up a membership application. The Bloomingdale Garden Club looks forward to celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2013!

**Gift Certificates**, redeemable at our May 2012 Flower Sale are available now and make perfect Christmas stocking stuffers for your favorite gardener. Contact Henrietta Sullivan at 847-985-8408.



**Tuesday, February 21, 6:30pm**

Talented artists from **Flowers by Christine** will demonstrate the creation of beautiful floral arrangements, and share their floral design experience and tips with the Club. The unique centerpieces will then be raffled off to a few lucky winners. Contact Roberta Pulido at 630-295-8315 for more information.

## Friends of Bloomingdale Library Hosting Fundraiser on December 1 at Chipotle

The Friends of the Bloomingdale Public Library invite you to make dinner a selfless act by joining them in a fundraiser at the Bloomingdale Chipotle, 396 W. Army Trail Road, from 3-8 p.m. on Thursday, December 1st. Just bring in the Friends' flyer (available at the Village Hall or Bloomingdale Public Library or at [www.mybpl.org](http://www.mybpl.org) and 50% of the cost of your meal will be donated to the Friends of the Bloomingdale Public Library.



## 'Stepping Out' at Medinah Country Club to Raise Funds for Victims of Domestic Violence

On Friday, January 27, 2012 at 6:30 p.m., Stepping Stones for Women of Domestic Violence will be holding a dinner auction, "Stepping Out at Medinah Country Club." Proceeds from this event will be used to provide temporary housing, furniture, daily necessities and counseling for those affected by domestic violence.

The evening includes dinner, music, a raffle drawing, a silent and a live auction. Tickets are \$100.00 each or \$950.00 for a table of 10. Please purchase before Monday, January 9, 2012. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Beverly Petrosius at 630-624-9545 or email at [bpetrosius@gmail.com](mailto:bpetrosius@gmail.com)

Stepping Stones helps domestic violence victims and their families develop financial and emotional independence by providing them with a safe, nurturing environment.

## 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 26th through Saturday, December 24th. There is no service on Sunday, 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



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Playground Fun for Everyone

Oberweis Dairy, 338 W. Army Trail Road, is hosting a fundraiser for the DuJardin Elementary School project "Playground Fun for Everyone." The playground will be accessible to DuJardin students and Marklund Children's Home, as well as to the 4,000 homes in the vicinity. This all-inclusive playground will offer a unique play experience for ALL the children, whether or not they have special needs.

To take part in the fundraiser, go to Oberweis Dairy in Bloomingdale from 3-6 p.m. on Saturday, December 3 and from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, December 4 with the special fundraiser coupon. Presenting the coupon will give DuJardin 30 % of whatever purchase you make at the store. Coupons can be found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/DuJardin-Playground-Fun-For-Everyone/289430391081177#1>

You need to present the coupon in order for DuJardin to get the credit. For more information contact Leigh Cofrin at 630-893-8001.

## CHARACTER COUNTS! Presents 2011 Pillar Awards

The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition organizes an annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration Night activity in Old Town Park in mid-October every year. The 2011 Celebration was held on Tuesday, October 18 in Old Town Park. This year's theme was the Pillar of Fairness and the charitable collection effort was "Change for Change." Jumbo jars were placed at the Bloomingdale's Village Hall, Police Department, Fire Department, Public Library, Park District and Township offices, as well as at Erickson, DuJardin, Westfield Middle, Winnebago, and St. Isidore schools to collect change for the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA). This year's charitable collection efforts raised \$1,000 for WDSRA!

The 2011 American Youth Character Award Winners; pictured above with Mayor Iden and their nominating school officials are as follows, from left to right: Leah Hanke (Erickson), Michele Vavalle (Bloomingdale Athletic Club), Olivia Miceli (DuJardin), Ava Buttacavoli (Winnebago), Sarah Battersby (St. Isidore), and Josh Solarz (Westfield).



## Midwest Collage Society Presents 'Peace Works'

Enjoy works presented by the Midwest Collage Society at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum now through December 16 in both galleries of the historic building, located at 108 S. Bloomingdale Road.

This wonderful holiday show presents the work of local artists working with the collage medium. Most works are available for purchase. The Museum will be decorated for the season and have ornaments, jewelry and greeting cards for sale.

Admission is \$1 for residents; \$2 for non-residents and \$.50 for seniors 62+. The Museum is open only during exhibits. Hours for exhibits are Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m. Call (630) 539-3096 for more information.

## 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 \$22,000 worth of savings in just one book. A great gift for \$25.

Stop in the library's business office to purchase yours though December 15th. Cash or checks made out to the Friends of the Bloomingdale Library accepted.



# Around & About Town

## Nielsen Takes Aim at Team USA

Bloomington resident Michael Nielsen recently received an invitation to represent the Great Lakes Regional NTIS 13U Team in the 2011 USA Baseball National Team Identification Series (NTIS). After participating in a two-day workout this summer, Michael was notified that he was one of only 18 thirteen-year olds selected to go to Cary, North Carolina. The Great Lakes Regional Team represented five states. Michael was selected to the team as a catcher. "When I found out I had made the team, I was honored to represent the region," the Westfield eighth grader said.



The Identification Series in Cary showcased 14 teams representing the different regions of the country. The Great Lakes Team played in 4 games, showcasing their talents and participating in an evaluation workout. There were over two hundred 13-year olds competing for 16 spots. While no one from the Great Lakes team was selected for the National Trials next summer, Nielsen noted that "this was the most amazing baseball experience." The four-day event introduced the kids to a number of college recruiters, former baseball players and various coaches from around the country.

Michael has been playing baseball in Bloomingdale since he was seven-years old. He recently finished the 2011 baseball season as a Bulldog on the 14U team coached by Jeff Lamz.

## Sgt. Ryan Krochmolny Awarded Bronze Star



*Ryan Krochmolny received his Bronze Star Award/V in an official ceremony in Camp Pendleton, CA in November.*

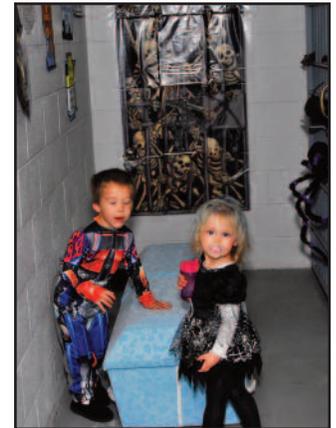
Former resident Sgt. Ryan M. Krochmolny, machine gun section leader, Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat 'V' September 1, 2011, for heroic actions while deployed to Sangin, Afghanistan.

In one instance, he carried a wounded Marine for more than 500 yards through enemy machine-gun fire to get him to safety. When the combat became too heavy to move, he put the Marine down and laid his body over him to protect him while he fought back against the insurgents. On two additional occasions, he led his squad into heavy fighting to recover Marines who were pinned down by machine-gun fire.

The 27-year old attended Winnebago Elementary and St. John's Northwestern Military Academy. He and his family have been part of the Church of the Incarnation family for 15 years. Ryan has been in the Marine Corps for six years and been on five tours of duty. His parents flew to California for the official ceremony.

## Police Department Halloween Open House

Another successful Open House event took place on Saturday, October 29, 2011, at the Bloomingdale Police Department. The Police Department would like to "Thank" those who donated their time from the Volunteer Program, Senior Citizen Advisory Council, the Neighborhood Watch Program, the Youth Peer Jury Program and Bloomingdale Park District personnel. Generous donations were provided by Meijer (130 S. Gary) and Dunkin Donuts (169 E. Lake Street). The department truly appreciates the Illinois State Police Department, the Burr Ridge Police Department and the DuPage County Sheriff's Department Volunteer Program who also participated in the event.





# Around & About Town

## Bloomington Women's Club

Looking to make a difference? Looking for friendship? Looking for fellowship?

Bloomington Women's Club NEEDS you!

Women from Bloomington and the surrounding area are invited to the BWC Holiday Dinner, Thursday, December 8th, at 6:30PM at the Bloomington Museum, 108 N. Bloomington Road. Prospective members are welcome to join them for dinner for just \$12.50. For more information, contact Rose at 630-291-3667

The January 12, 2012 meeting features Feng shui, (pronounced Fung shway), an ancient Chinese art form used to improve the quality of life by bringing favorable energy into your everyday environment. Learn the tools that help unblock the positive energy that is all around us.

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

## Voice of Democracy Winner



Danielle M. Brewer, a senior at Lake Park High School, has won the 2011-2012 Bloomington VFW Post 7539 Voice of Democracy Contest. This year's theme for the annual three-five minute audio essay contest was "Is There Pride in Serving in Our Military?" Danielle won a \$300 check and the chance to win the district level contest to be held in January. In addition, Danielle's name is being engraved on the post's plaque displayed near the Career Center in the Pupil Personnel Services Office of Lake Park High School.

She will also be receiving a certificate at the LPHS Senior Awards Night in May. The post appreciates her great effort to help honor our veterans!

## Family Member Overseas?

VFW Post 7539 asks residents to please provide an update of the addresses of their loved ones overseas. The Post has been getting some packages back which have been addressed to specific members of the military. You can call Bill Wolff at 630-894-5692 with the changes.

## 50 Men Who Cook

The third annual 50 Men Can Cook event was hosted by the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce on September 24. Over 300 people participated in the event which raises funds toward wellness activities in the local schools, as well as for the Chamber's community events.



The Chamber extends its thanks to the Presenting Sponsor – Adventist GlenOaks Hospital and to the Major Sponsors – Bloomington Bank & Trust, Caputo's Fresh Markets, and HH Gregg Appliances & Electronics, as well as to all who took part in the event.

The winning chefs from this year's event are:

**Appetizer** – Dr. John Butts with Touchdown Tenderloin

**Entrée** – John Vogel with Short Ribs

**Side Dish** – Andre Burke with Monsters of the Midway Mushrooms

**Dessert** – Stan Poplonski with Cake Balls

**Professional Category** – Indulge Cheesecakes

**Table Décor** – Chris Laporta with Spicy Chorizo Taco Bites



## Thanks to Our 2011 Septemberfest Sponsors



BLOOMINGDALE  
LIONS CLUB



Boy Scout Troop 194  
Three Fires Council



Branka Poplonski



## A Letter from the Chairman Thanks for a Great Septemberfest!

First I would like to start off by saying that we were blessed with a beautiful day for the 38th almost annual Bloomington Septemberfest.

Susan Lancaster started the day's festivities with our annual parade. Susan responded under pressure with a shortened period of time to organize and deliver a parade that was worthy of the Septemberfest name. Bloomington VFW Post 7539 led the parade and was followed by Floats, Marching Units, Police Cars, Fire Engines, Shriners, Walkers and even a few political representatives who participated in this year's parade.

Opening Ceremony was performed with the Bloomington VFW and Boy Scout Troop 194 presenting the colors. The National Anthem was sung by Sonny DeGuzman and he did a fabulous job (coming from someone who couldn't carry a note with a wheel barrow). Mayor Iden was introduced along with all attending board members. The mayor gave a special thanks to all in attendance for their continued support to this, the longest running fest within the Village of Bloomington.

Due to the current financial situation and budget constraints, a number of items had to be cut from this year's Septemberfest, including the car show, motorcycle show, DJ services and sound systems and some of the entertainment. The Village of Bloomington Village Services Department and Police Department made substantial cuts so that this Septemberfest could proceed. And for that, we are greatly appreciative. With all of the cuts that took place everyone had one common goal, to keep Septemberfest as safe as humanly possible. And collectively, we feel that we did accomplish that goal.

Other cuts that took place included cleanup crews. This year the cleanup was performed with volunteers from moving all the tables and chairs back to a staging area, picking up all the trash and receptacles and basically putting the Old Town area back in clean condition. To all of my volunteer and helpers, a great big THANK YOU. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Septemberfest Committee which consisted of, Carole Lockhart, Susan Lancaster, Mitch Frumkin, Kelly Gits, Dolores Orlik, ViVi Frumkin, Stan Poplonski, Jim King, Frank Giammarese, Jo Witucki and Vern Fasse. These eleven individuals worked the impossible, taking a dream and putting it into reality in just three months. Setting up entertainment, which was a total success, acquiring food and craft vendors which totaled over 80, publishing the event so that everyone was aware that Septemberfest was back. To these individuals a stand up round of applause. Thank you, Thank you, and Thank you, for a job well done.

To all of our supporters, friends and colleagues, thank you. None of this would have been possible without your support and confidence that you gave to each of us. Until next year, keep telling all the board members what a wonderful fest we have in Bloomington so that we can get the support necessary to bring it back next year. Have a safe year.

*Bill Wolff, Septemberfest Chairman*





# The Holidays are Here! Erickson School Community Celebrates

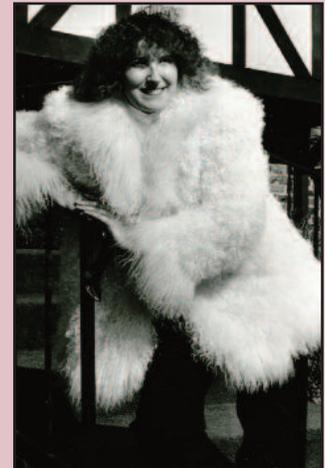
November 14th marked Erickson Elementary School's 16th annual Thanksgiving Feast. Students, teachers and staff, as well as invited guests shared a turkey dinner, with all the fixings prepared and served by parent volunteers. Decorations and entertainment are provided by students. Mayor Iden always attends this traditional pre-Thanksgiving celebration.



## Historically Speaking

Winter will soon be here. After the holidays, when the cold winds blow, here's a fun project to undertake in your toasty home.

Want to help preserve Bloomingdale's history? Here are a couple of ways you can do this and involve the whole family! First go through all your photos taken in town; these could be in your home, yard, park, school, church, etc. Pick current as well as old ones - remember what happens today is history tomorrow! Write a sentence or two about the photo, where and when it was taken, who or what is in it.



*Kitty Cooney  
BWC Fashion Show 1987.*

Second, share some of your memories, which could be triggered by the photos! If you want some ideas of what to talk about, "Share Your Memories" questionnaires are available in the Local History Room at the library.

You can bring your photos and/or memories to the Library's Local History Room. The Historical Society is working with the library staff to scan photos into the database with as much information as possible. Your original pictures will be returned. Your shared memories will be placed in our "People File," in a folder with your family name on it! Who knows? When the next history book is published, you just might find one of your photos or memories included! We especially are looking for photos and memories from the 1960s through 2011!



*St. Isidore Scout Pack 401 visited with Mayor Iden in the Council Room in 2008 as part of their preparation for the Citizenship Badge.*



## Now's the time! 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.

## Winter Holiday Safety Tips

- 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.



# 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

## Carbon Monoxide: One of Winter's Greatest Dangers

Although the popularity of carbon monoxide (CO) alarms has been growing in recent years, it cannot be assumed that everyone is familiar with the hazards of carbon monoxide poisoning in the home.

Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide. Vehicles or generators running in an attached garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

### Facts & figures

- The dangers of CO exposure depend on a number of variables, including the victim's health and activity level. Infants, pregnant women, and people with physical conditions that limit their body's ability to use oxygen (i.e. emphysema, asthma, heart disease) can be more severely affected by lower concentrations of CO than healthy adults would be.

- A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- U.S. fire departments respond to an estimated 61,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of seven such calls per hour. This number is most likely due to the increased use of CO detectors, which alert people to the presence of CO.
- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.

### Safety Tips

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.

## Fire Department Halloween Open House

The annual Bloomington Fire Protection District #1 Halloween Open House was a great success. Some 1000 youngsters came through both the Fire and Police departments, as well as the Bloomington Public Library for the Halloween activities. Bloomington Fire Protection District 1 wishes to thank all those who helped with the October 29 Open House, especially:

- Bensenville Police Department for Zoe, their accelerant dog for arson investigation
- Home Depot
- Superior Air-Med for the helicopter
- New York Fire Department for the 911 Remembrance Rescue 4



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

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[www.villageofbloomingdale.org](http://www.villageofbloomingdale.org)



## Septemberfest 2011

### Septemberfest Scholarship

The Septemberfest Commission is planning to re-instate the Joe Draghi Scholarship Program. They have begun to re-build the fund for the 2012 Septemberfest.

A big thanks to the following businesses who have already donated to the 2012 Septemberfest Scholarship Fund:

- Jasper Meats
- Bloomingdale Pharmacy
- Dino's Cafe

More information about making a donation to the Scholarship Fund will appear in the February 2012 issue of the Almanac.



Photos by Mitch Frumkin