

# Village of Bloomingdale Almanac



October 2011

Growth with Pride

## From the Mayor's Desk

I am very pleased to tell you that recently, the Village had two major retailers open along Army Trail Road. H.H. Gregg, an appliance and electronics retailer opened in Bloomingdale Court at 340 W. Army Trail Road and Binny's Beverage Depot, featuring a walk-in humidor and wine cellar, opened at 353 Army Trail Road. In addition, Ross Dress for Less, an off price apparel and home fashions retailer, will also open in Bloomingdale Court at 350 W. Army Trail in about a week. All three businesses are welcome additions to the community.

We also appointed a new Village Clerk during September. Susan Bartucci, our Village Clerk for 10 years, stepped down this summer due to increased responsibilities at her job. We are very fortunate that Irene Jones, Assistant to the Village Administrator and Deputy Village Clerk has agreed to take on the position of Village Clerk. Her knowledge and expertise in the field makes her the best person for the job, as well as makes the transition seamless. Congratulations, Irene. For more on both Irene and Susan, see p. 3.

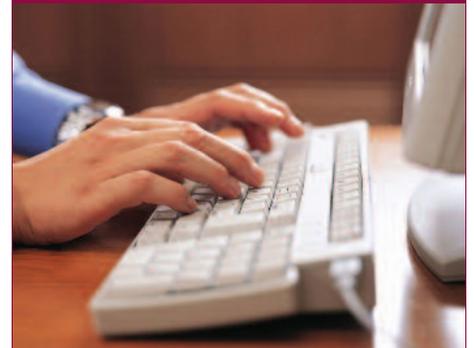
Congratulations are also in order for both the Bloomingdale Women's Club, which celebrated its 40th anniversary on September 8th and to the Bloomingdale Lions Club, which is holding a 50th anniversary celebration on October 14th at Bloomingdale Golf Club. All former Lions are invited to attend. For more information call 630-893-7596. Both of these organizations and their dedicated members have provided so much support in so many ways to this community. On behalf of the Village, I sincerely thank them.

And last, but not least, Septemberfest takes place on Saturday, October 8 in Old Town Park. Starting with the parade at 11 a.m. and ending with the New Invaders, playing from 6-9 p.m., the day is shaping up to make a great comeback. Hope to see you and your family there. And don't forget to stop by the Lions' Club and Women's Club booths to wish them a Happy Anniversary!

Mayor Bob Iden



*Appliances Sales Manager Adam Greenson (far left) triumphantly raises the scissors after he, (l to r) General Manager Steve Xander, Bloomingdale Village Trustees Judi Von Huben and Jim King, along with Electronics Sales Manager Brad Beck, cut the ceremonial ribbon for the grand opening of H.H. Gregg on September 15th.*



## 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.

## 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*

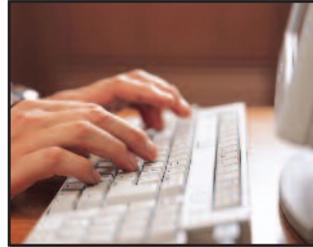
**Judi Von Huben**  
*Public Safety*

**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, pub-  
lished weekly  
and delivered to  
your email.  
Go to the Vil-  
lage website

[www.villageofbloomingdale.org](http://www.villageofbloomingdale.org) and click  
on E-News Sign Up on the right side of the  
homepage.

## ATTENTION!!!

The deadline  
for the  
December issue  
of the  
*Almanac* is  
**NOVEMBER 1**



## Come One, Come All!!!



The 38th Septemberfest, October 8. See details on page 15.



## Georgene Geils

Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of longtime resident and business woman Georgene Geils who passed away on July 30th. She and her husband Wally opened Economart in 1958, a forerunner of the bulk warehouse stores that exist today. When the store closed in 1999, it was the end of an era in Bloomingdale. Throughout her life in Bloomingdale, Georgene was also active in the community, the schools and St. Paul Evangelical United Church of Christ, serving as director of the children's choir.

Up until her passing, Georgene was active in Bloomingdale's Historical Society and the Village's Business Promotion & Cultural Development Committee. Three years ago the Bloomingdale Area Women in Business created a Business Woman of the Year Award and named it for Georgene because she made such a great impact on all facets of Bloomingdale - family, business, school, church, scouts, and politics. The award is presented annually.

Georgene enjoyed playing the piano, organ and singing for weddings, funerals, and at church. She loved elephants and was an avid collector of various elephant trinkets. As more than one friend recalled, "Georgene could inspire you to do more than you ever thought you could." Her laughter and enthusiasm were contagious. She was truly one of those people who left this world a better place.

## Susan L. Bartucci Resigns as Village Clerk

After 10 years of dedicated service, Susan L. Bartucci resigned her position as Village Clerk, effective July 31st.

Susan extended her sincere appreciation to the Village Board and staff for their support and public service. She noted that she enjoyed her time as Village Clerk, but that her full-time job as a senior project manager for U.S. Cellular in Bensenville is demanding much more of her time. Susan is pictured right receiving a commemorative gift from Trustee Jim Gebis.

Susan was appointed on January 8, 2001 to fill the vacant office, and was elected to the position in April 2001, 2005 and 2009. She has lived in Bloomingdale for over 30 years and has been involved in various community service activities. Susan's dedication and strong administrative background skills will be sorely missed, and the Village wishes her the best of luck in her future endeavors.



*Susan received a commemorative gift from Trustee Jim Gebis.*



*New Village Clerk Irene Jones with Mayor Bob Iden.*

## Irene Jones Appointed Village Clerk

Irene M. Jones was officially appointed Village Clerk at the September 12, 2011 Village Board meeting following Susan Bartucci's resignation this summer.

Irene has been employed at the Village since September of 1983, starting as the secretary for the Engineering Department. In 1985 she was promoted to Executive Secretary for the Village Administrator, at which time she also became the Deputy Clerk. With so many years of experience assisting our Village Clerks, Irene has the knowledge and expertise to step into the role making the transition seamless. In addition to holding the position of Village Clerk, she will also continue to be the Executive Assistant to the Village Administrator.

Irene is an active member of the Friends of the Bloomingdale Library, Bloomingdale Loose Threads Quilting Club and the Bloomingdale Garden Club. The 33-year resident has three grown daughters and three (soon to be four) adorable grandchildren who help fill up her free time, not spent reading, quilting or gardening.

Our congratulations to Irene on her new position.



# Think Spring! 2012 Tree Planting Program

## Help Prevent Street Flooding

The fall season is upon us and with it often come heavy rains.

We are asking residents to check and clean their storm grates along the curbs by their homes if heavy rains are forecasted.

Keeping the drains open for stormwater will help avoid the flooding of streets and walkways.

Our crews do circulate during a rain event to check for standing water and clear the grates to remove the standing water, but your assistance could prevent potential flooding.

We do not encourage residents to clean structures which are already under water. For standing water, please call 630-671-5830 during regular hours and 630-529-9868 after hours and on weekends to get crews to the site.

## Street Sweeping/ Leaf Collection

The Village provides street sweeping services through a private contractor periodically throughout the year. Several sweeps are scheduled to take place in the fall. Street sweeping maintains the Village's attractive appearance, while reducing the potential for flooding during rain events caused by debris at curb lines and in front of storm water inlets.

Residents are encouraged to participate in Republic's yard waste/leaf collection program. Leaves and yard waste placed in yard waste bags or cans (with handles) will be picked up by Republic on regular trash days through November 30th.

## Application deadline is December 1

The Village Board has again allocated funds for this very successful program initiated in 1982. The program provides trees, including planting, at a 50/50 cost sharing with the Village. The trees will be planted next Spring 2012 and are available for residential, business or commercial properties visible from the street, and like locations of these private properties. Business and commercial properties wishing to participate should contact Jim Johnson, Urban Forester, at 630-671-5804 in advance of submitting a Program Request Form.

The following are the guidelines of the program:

- The program is offered on a first-come, first-served basis subject to available annual funding amounts. Participants must complete and submit the Program Request Form by December 1, 2011. No payment is required at this time. Bills will be sent to successful Program Requests about February 1, 2012.
- Trees will be 2 1/2 inch caliper, unless stated otherwise. Trees will be quality nursery stock but not specimen plants.
- The Village reserves the right to disapprove requests based on conflicts, safety, or proper spacing.
- Removal of dead trees, stumps and/or large roots is not included and must be performed by the applicant before March 15th.
- Each residential parcel will be limited to two trees per year. Each business or commercial property will be limited to four trees per year.
- Participants will be given the opportunity to mark the desired location for the tree; however, the Village Forester retains the right to change the location, if necessary.
- We anticipate the total cost of each 2 1/2" caliper tree planted will range between \$200 and \$300, with the Village paying half of this amount.
- Trees will be guaranteed for one year. Participants are responsible for all watering which will be described in instructions furnished by the Village.

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



*Cucumber Magnolia*



*Armstrong Maple*



*Norway Spruce*



## 2012 Tree Planting Request Form



### Thanks, Platt Hill!

We are very grateful for the generosity of one of our long-time businesses here in town. A big thank you goes out to Platt Hill of Platt Hill Nursery for his most generous donation of 54 trees and 340 shrubs to the Village. This is the fourth year he has given a variety of trees and shrubs to the Village. Over the years, Platt's generosity has helped us to expand on our plantings in the parkways, including replacing ash trees which had to be removed. These trees, along with the shrubs, will also aid in our continual efforts on streetscape and beautification projects throughout the Village. Pictured above is a Prairie Fire Crabapple placed in the parkway along Fairfield Way.

Platt Hill Nursery, 222 W. Lake Street, has been serving the planting and landscaping needs of Bloomingdale residents since 1986. The nursery also features many fall and holiday season offerings. It's always a pleasure to see what each season brings to Platt Hill Nursery.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLANTING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

INDICATE QUANTITY DESIRED. Limit of two trees per residential parcel per year)

#### \_\_\_\_\_ **Coralburst Crabapple (Malus Coralburst)**

A small crabapple tree with bushy and rounded growth. Leaves are dense, ovate, often lobed, dark green, up to 3 inches long. Coral pink buds develop into lovely, double rose pink flowers in spring. Produces red fruit approximately the size of a cherry. Grows 5 to 8 feet tall and 4 to 8 feet wide.

#### \_\_\_\_\_ **Accolade Elm (Ulmus x Accolade™)**

Accolade Elm is a cultivar derived from a hybrid planted at the Morton Arboretum in 1924, selected for graceful vase shape, arching limbs, vigorous growth, excellent disease resistance, drought tolerance and good strong golden yellow fall color. Mature height of 75 feet and mature spread of 45 feet.

#### \_\_\_\_\_ **Cucumber Magnolia (Magnolia acuminata)**

A large native tree with dark green leaves, Cucumber Magnolia will never rival a Saucer Magnolia or Star Magnolia for flower effect, but as an impressive shade tree with excellent form it deserves consideration. Distinctly pyramidal when young, it becomes round-headed with age. Yellow-green flowers appear after the leaves and are followed by small, irregular, cucumber-shaped fruit. Reaches a height of 50 to 80 ft. with a similar spread.

#### \_\_\_\_\_ **Armstrong Maple (Acer freemanii 'Armstrong')**

Armstrong Maple is a fast-growing, upright tree, reaching a height of 50 to 60 feet and a 15 to 25 foot spread, with very attractive silver-gray bark. Its leaves are 5-lobed and deeply cut, and appear star shaped. Red spring flowers give rise to samara seed pods in the fall. Its narrow spread makes it suitable for areas with limited horizontal space.

#### \_\_\_\_\_ **Red Oak (Quercus rubra)**

Fast growing, its new leaves reddish in spring, Red Oak exhibits fall color in hues of yellow-brown to russet-red. Grows to 60 to 75 feet high, with a spread of 45 feet. Its medium brown acorns are among the first of the landscape oaks to ripen.

#### \_\_\_\_\_ **Norway Spruce (Picea abies)**

Pyramidal in shape, with a medium to fast growth rate, Norway Spruce develops strong graceful branches that are covered with dark green needles. Very adaptable, it grows 40 to 60 ft. high and 25 to 30 ft. wide. The 4 to 6 in. cones are purple-violet to greenish purple in youth, maturing to light brown.

SUBMIT TO:

VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE FORESTRY DIVISION

VILLAGE HALL, 201 S. BLOOMINGDALE ROAD, BLOOMINGDALE, IL 60108

BY DEADLINE DATE OF DECEMBER 1, 2011



## Village Repairs Underground Storm Sewers

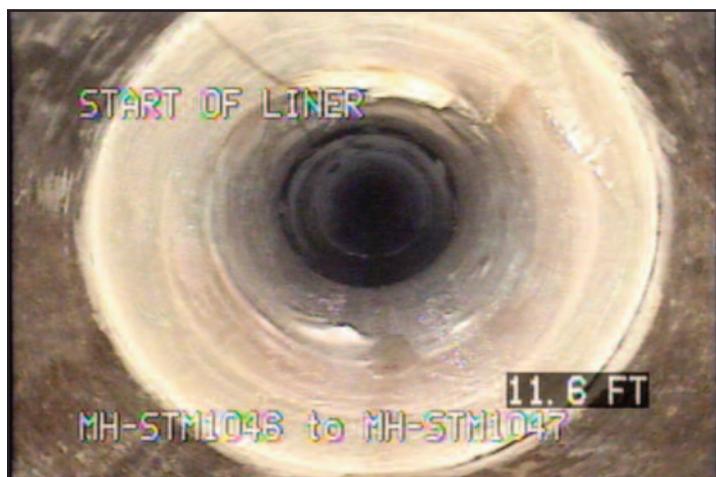
On Monday July 25th, the Village repaired two sections of underground storm sewer on Schick Road near Larchmont Drive. The Village hired Chicagoland Trenchless Rehabilitation Systems, Inc to perform two segmental pipe linings. The pipe wall at the top of the pipes had deteriorated creating the potential of further storm sewer failure, settlement of the pavement or sink holes under the pavement.

In order to minimize traffic disruption and pavement restoration on Schick Road, a trenchless repair method was selected. In this technique, the contractor first cleans the pipe and removes debris from the area of the pipe to be lined. The pipe is checked using a closed circuit camera which is inserted into the existing pipe up to the pipe segment to be lined. A prefabricated pipe liner is then inserted into the existing pipe and moved into place. This activity is monitored using the closed circuit camera. A bladder on the inner side of the liner is then filled with heated water causing the resin in the liner to harden. After the liner has cured, the bladder is removed. The liner is then final-checked using the camera.

This successful operation was completed in less than two days. The Public Works Division provided traffic control during the operation by the contractor. Bloomingdale's Village Services Department has used this method for a number of years, whenever possible, to repair segments of storm and sanitary sewers.



*Before*



*After*



## Village Snow Response and Salting Procedures

**In the interest of the environment, as well as the budget, the Village will once again use its salt supply conservatively this winter in order to ensure we will have enough to last the snow and ice season.**

**Our response plan to snow and ice occurrences remains the same as the past winter season.**

**More winter information will appear in the December issue of the Almanac.**



## Con and Scam Alert from the Bloomingdale Police Department

By reading the daily newspaper or watching the evening news, you can see/hear the stories about con artists working different scams. Usually, the stories that raise our awareness come from someone else's misfortune.

One typical scam is to use a ruse through which suspects gain entrance to residences by claiming to be working with the village regarding water repair work, or that they want to help the resident with roofing or driveway repair services. Recently, scam artists have used a "home for sale" approach, leading the victim to believe that the home next door is being purchased by these individuals (scam/con artists). During the incidents, one individual keeps the victim preoccupied in conversation inside the home or lures the victim outside, while other individuals would enter the residence and look for valuables. In the "home for sale" or "real estate scam", the individual may state that they want your opinion on changes to the property next door to your home and they need to see the view from your backyard.

The Bloomingdale Police Department wants all citizens to be aware of such scams, such as, home repair fraud, home for sale, phone/mail scams, and to practice the following safety tips.

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times.
- Never open the doors to strangers. Ask service people for identification and call the company for further verification.
- If you see ANY suspicious people or activity – contact the police department immediately at 630-529-9868.
- Check with family, friends, the Village Building Department / Police Department for validity of a business.
- Don't give personal or financial information over the phone.
- Hang up on nuisance callers and report them.
- Consult with trusted individuals regarding any business / financial affairs.

ANYONE can be targeted. Please be alert and aware of your surroundings, utilize good safety practices, and keep in contact with your neighbors and your local police department. Being "the eyes and ears of the community" will help reduce victimization for you and others.

If you have any questions, concerns, or are looking for more information about crime prevention material, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at 630-529-9868.

## Stranger Danger Applies to Everyone

"Stranger Danger" talks apply to everyone, no matter the age or physical size of a person. The Bloomingdale Police Department also encourages that if an encounter with a suspicious person and/or vehicle occurs, notify our agency as soon as possible once safety has been established. For any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi at (630) 529-9868.

Be safe and have a wonderful Fall season!

**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



## Police Department Brings Safety Presentations to Schools

The Bloomingdale Police Department strives to build on the working relationship between the police and the schools, by providing safety information for students and staff members. During the Fall and Spring months, Officer Dawn Odoi is assigned to Crime Prevention duties and safety presentations for our local schools. The school presentations are designed for each grade level, from Kindergarten through 8th grade, and are presented in large groups. The topics may include the following: Introduction to 9-1-1 and Police Officers, Personal Safety, Internet Safety, Bullying Awareness & Prevention, and Halloween Safety. Safety brochures and information are available through the Bloomingdale Police Department. We all look forward to a safe and successful school year!



## Before Winter Arrives . . .

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.

Also, if ornamental rocks or planters are used for landscape beautification, residents need to ensure that they are a minimum of three feet in back of the curb or pavement on non-curb streets. If deemed necessary for safe snow removal operations, these obstacles will be removed by the Village.

## Begins October 17 2011 Branch Collection Program

Kramer Tree Specialists, Inc. will once again perform branch collection under the direction of the Village Forestry Division. Branch collection will begin on Monday, October 17. The program is only available to single family detached residences. Townhome residents should contact their association regarding branch collection.

### Branch Collection Guidelines:

- Branches must be out by 7:00 a.m. on Monday, October 17.
- **Branches should not be placed at the curb/pavement edge any earlier than one week prior to the scheduled collection date.**
- Woody branches ½ inch to 6 inches in diameter are the only items that will be picked up. (Note: any spikes, hooks or other metal objects must be removed).
- Long lengths are favored provided branches do not block sidewalks and pedestrian access.
- All branches should be placed at the curb or pavement edge and stacked in an orderly fashion with the cut or larger end towards the pavement.
- Thorny tree branches should not be concealed inside piles. These require special care as to not cause injuries to the workers.

### The following items are unacceptable:

- Branches left out in a tangled mess.
- Woody branches under ½ inch in diameter.
- Leaves, vines, small (under ½ inch in diameter) flexible willow stems, herbaceous plants and weeds.
- Large stumps, roots and root balls.\*
- Wooden fencing and construction lumber.\*

The above items are considered yard waste and may be placed in bags or cans with tags for Republic Services (our refuse hauler) pick-up. Yard waste pick-ups commence April 1st and continue through November 30th. Questions concerning yard waste pick-ups should be directed to 847-981-0091.

\*Large stumps, roots and root balls are considered trash and do not require a yard waste tag, provided each item is of manageable size and under 50 pounds. Wooden fencing and construction lumber are also considered trash, but require a special pick-up. Contact Republic Services for more information.

In the event of severe storms, the Village will provide storm damage collection of woody branches ½ inch to 6 inches in diameter. Please contact the Forestry Division at 630-671-5800 within 72 hours of storm for branch collection.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will ensure a successful program.





# 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.**

## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

**In the Mall -**

The GNC at Stratford Square is under new management. Their knowledgeable staff is happy to help you with your needs.

The store is located in the upstairs corridor leading to Carson's.

In honor of grand re-opening, patrons will receive 30 percent off regular priced merchandise with mention of this article.

For more information, call the Stratford GNC at 630-307-9156.



## BUSINESS NEWS

### ALLSTATE INSURANCE OPENS NEW OFFICE

Allstate Insurance proudly announces the opening of its new office, located at 142 S. Gary Ave in Stratford Crossing a few doors north of Dominick's. The office is owned and operated by Agent Nuha Abbadi, an exclusive agent; her multi-lingual staff speaks English, Spanish, Polish and Arabic.

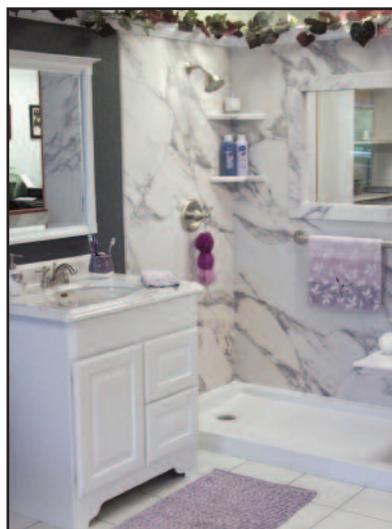
The agency offers the standard insurance policies for Home, Auto, Motorcycle and Life, as well as protection for Boats, Motor Homes, Recreational Vehicles, and Businesses Commercial policies. Allstate also provides comprehensive financial services.

"My staff and I are excited to service Bloomingdale with the opening of our new office and we are committed to helping Bloomingdale residents protect the things that are important to them, whether it's their car or home, or investment planning for the future," said Abbadi.

The office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9-5; Tuesday, 9-7; Fridays and Saturdays, 11-3. The office number is 630-283-0121.



*Left to right: Eve Agosto, Devona Murrell, Jackie Denic, Princy Jacob stand ready to help customers choose the insurance coverage that best meets their needs.*



*Display of a tub to shower conversion*

### BATH MAX OPENS IN BLOOMINGDALE'S CIRCLE CENTER

Bath Max (Bathroom Remodeling Services) is making its entry into the Chicagoland market and Bloomingdale's Circle Center is home to one of the first store locations, 185 E. Lake Street. Owner Mark Smith has been in this industry nearly 30 years and helped develop many of the products in the store. He actually has the patent on how the bathtub liner is manufactured.

Bath Max provides expert bath remodeling services to help create the bathroom of your dreams. Their design consultants will show you the possibilities for updating your bath and help you design your new bathroom to meet your personal style and needs.

Advances in bath engineering and material have made safety products the highest growing market in bath remodeling. Focusing on accessibility and comfort, Bath Max customers have a choice of safety products, including American Standard Walk-In Tubs, Walk-through Bathtubs, Tubs to Shower Conversions, Barrier Free Showers, as well as safety grab bars and anti-scald, temperature control valves. Call 630-283-0499 for more information or stop in the store to check out the many floor displays.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## Lion's Club Spaghetti Dinner on November 4

The Bloomingdale Lions Club hosts its fall Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, November 4 from 5-8 p.m. at Bloomingdale Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Road. The cost is \$10 per person; children eight and under eat FREE. There will also be raffles galore! As always, proceeds from the dinner will benefit visual and hearing impaired persons in the community, as well as other local needs. For information, contact [larry@epiceq.com](mailto:larry@epiceq.com)

## Upcoming Bloomingdale Garden Club Programs

### October 18

**Art in the Garden** - presented by Mary Saba, Landscape Department Manager of The Growing Place in Naperville. Mary spent 18 years as an interior designer out east prior to making a change to landscape design. In her free time she's turning her acre and a half from buckthorn into a multi-roomed garden. Discover how to add personality to your garden, set up focal points and accents, enhance views, and create pleasing vignettes.

### November 15: Craft Workshop -

Our annual event to benefit the residents of the West Suburban Care Center in Bloomingdale. Crafters are invited to lend a hand with our holiday creations, have some fun and meet our members.



Programs meet at 6:30 pm at Bloomingdale Fire Station #1, 179 S. Bloomingdale Road. For more information, contact: Roberta Pulido, 630-295-8315, [fortpulido@comcast.net](mailto:fortpulido@comcast.net) or Maureen Gibson, 630-539-1674, [mgibson@drqconsulting.com](mailto:mgibson@drqconsulting.com)

## Illinois Watercolor Society Art Now on Display at Museum

Enjoy fresh, spontaneous works presented by the Illinois Watercolor Society at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum now through October 22. The show occupies both galleries of the historic building, located at 108 S. Bloomingdale Road. The show runs through October 22. 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. Phone: (630) 539-3096.

## CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration Night on October 18

The annual Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Celebration Night will be held on Tuesday, October 18 at 7 p.m. at Old Town Park, 111 S. Third Street. Students from Erickson, DuJardin, Westfield Middle, Winnebago and St. Isidore schools will take part. Bloomingdale Police Department Deputy Chief Randy Sater will emcee the evening's event, and along with Mayor Iden, will present the 2011 American Youth Character Awards.

This year's theme is the Pillar of Fairness. Jumbo jars are placed at the Village Hall, Police and Fire Departments. Public Library, Park District and Township offices, as well as at the five participating schools, in order to collect coins for this year's charity - Special Olympics.



In addition to the awarding of the Youth Character Awards, there will be student entertainment and movie clips illustrating the Pillar of Fairness. The community is invited.



## Just for Seniors

### Secretary of State Super Senior Program November 9

The Illinois Secretary of State Super Senior Mobile Unit Driving Program is scheduled for Wednesday, November 9, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Bloomingdale Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Road. This is a one day event which includes "Rules of the Road" information, vision screening testing, the opportunity to renew your Illinois Drivers License (for those individuals under 75), and to obtain a photo identification card. There is no registration or fee for the event and everyone is welcome to attend. Questions may be directed to Bloomingdale Police Officer Dawn Odoi at 630-529-9868.

### Free Eye Exams for Seniors

Seniors citizens are at greater risk for eye diseases. By age 65, one in three Americans has some form of vision-impairing eye disease. Most do not know it because there are often no warning symptoms or they assume that poor sight is a natural part of growing older.

Healthy eating and regular eye exams can reduce the risks of eye diseases. Lions Clubs International has joined with EyeCare America and Prevent Blindness America to promote the importance of eye exams for seniors.

Many seniors may qualify for a free eye exam. For more information, visit the EyeCare America web site or call 1-866-324-3937 (EYES).

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## Gibson Girls to Flappers

In conjunction with the Bloomingdale Public Library's ongoing Great Gatsby programs during October, the Bloomingdale Library and the Bloomingdale Historical Society are co-sponsoring "Gibson Girls to Flappers: Fashion Showcase and Afternoon Tea" from 2-3 p.m. on Sunday, October 9th. The 1920's fashions will be modeled by Ruth Thomas and Chloe Berg, historical dress enthusiasts. Register in person, by phone at 630-924-2730 or online at [www.mybpl.org](http://www.mybpl.org)



## St. Isidore Elves Preparing for Holiday Craft Show

The St. Isidore Council of Catholic Women are as busy as Santa's elves making preparations for their 23rd Annual CCW Holiday Craft Show to be held Saturday, November 12th from 9 am to 3 pm in the St. Isidore Ministry Center. Exhibitors from throughout the Chicago area will feature handcrafted items such as quilts, ornaments, jewelry, table runners, candles, wreaths and many other handmade items. An outstanding bake sale and raffle will also be held that day.

The Ministry Center is located at the northeast corner of Army Trail Road and Gary Avenue. Admission to the show is \$2.00; parking is free. Strollers are welcome and all entrances are handicapped accessible. The first 100 shoppers to the show will receive a free gift. Mark your calendars for one of the longest running and best craft shows in the area.

A few booths are still available for interested exhibitors. All items for sale at the show must be handcrafted by the exhibitor; manufacturing reps are not allowed. Applications and additional show details are available on the parish website [www.stisidoreparish.org](http://www.stisidoreparish.org) or at the parish office 630-529-3045.

## 'Laughter' and 'Finance' At the Bloomingdale Women's Club Upcoming Meetings

The October 13 BWC program will be an amusing and insightful presentation called 'Let's Laugh'. Dr. Om Johari will cover the simplicity of laughter and its many benefits including physical, psychological and spiritual.

The November 10 program will feature Bloomingdale CPA Tina Davies, who will share the latest strategies of tax planning allowing you to keep more of your hard earned savings. She'll also highlight types of retirement plans and investments to make more tax free funds available for your heirs.

The BWC is a dedicated collection of women from all walks of life, ages of life and in various stages of life, with a common desire to contribute to our community through philanthropic and civic work, while also enjoying wonderful social events.

Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month from September through April at the Bloomingdale Fire Station, 179 South Bloomingdale Road. Social time begins at 7PM, followed by the meeting and a program. Refreshments are served.

For more information on the Bloomingdale Women's Club and our activities contact Maureen Gibson at 630-539-1674.



*BWC members came together to celebrate 40 years of friendship and community service.*

# Around & About Town



## DuPage Track Club: Three Years Running, Three Years Winning



(l to r) Mayor Bob Iden, Shauna Porteus, Library Director Tim Jarzemsky, Library's Representative to the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition Kandy Jones

### Bloomingdale Library's Shauna Porteus Honored with CHARACTER COUNTS! Pillar Award

Shauna Porteus, head of the Bloomingdale Library business office, is the most recent recipient of a Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Pillar award. On Sunday, August 14th, a day the National Weather Service issued a Rip-Tide warning for Lake Michigan, Shauna was walking her dog along Lake Michigan. She saw three youngsters in the water struggling against large waves. They were not supervised by adults and as the situation worsened, Shauna jumped into the water to help the youngsters. The water was very rough, but she kept going out until all three children were returned safely to the beach. On shore the Chicago Police and Fire personnel were there to help once the kids were rescued. Shauna herself was bruised and scraped from being bashed against the rocks.

Shauna was nominated for the honor by Library Director Tim Jarzemsky, who said "...Shauna's heroic actions out on Lake Michigan seem to me to be an extreme example of caring. Not once, but three times she put herself at risk to help save strangers..."

### Carson's Community Days Event November 11-12

Carson's at Stratford Square will be hosting a 2-day Community Day event this year on Friday, November 11th from 9 am to 10 pm and on Saturday, November 12th from 6 am to 10 pm. Our Friday event will honor our Veterans and military families since it is "Veterans Day." Both days will feature doorbusters and special savings throughout the store. All non-profit organizations are invited to participate. Any interested group can contact the store at 630-351-8980 or go to our website at [www.community-dayevent.com](http://www.community-dayevent.com) for information and to register.



(l to r) Shawn Koch, Medinah; Coach Robert Nihells; Kevin Speicher, Bloomingdale; Zach Ziemek, Itasca; Scott Filip, Bloomingdale; Danny Speicher, Bloomingdale; Coach Tom Kaberna; Mike Amerlan, Medinah.

The heat was on in Wichita, KS during the 2011 USATF Junior Olympic Championships. With weather above 100 degrees every day, the athletes from three-year old DuPage Track Club did their best to stay cool while competing against the best the nation has to offer in track and field. For the third year in a row, the club's athletes churned out the most All-Americans from any Illinois club and Bloomingdale was well represented in this feat.

Competing from Bloomingdale was Westfield sixth-grader Daniel Speicher, competing in the Pentathlon, High Jump and Long Jump. His brother Lake Park Senior Kevin, competed in the High Jump, just missing out on a national championship, finishing in 2nd place. The other Bloomingdale resident competing in the Junior Olympics was Lake Park Junior Scott Filip who competed in the 110 hurdles and was an All-American finishing 2nd in the Decathlon, 5th in the long jump and 7th in the triple jump. These athletes also compete for the Lake Park team which can hopefully bring back a State Championship once again for the Lancers.

### Refuse Collection – Seasonal Reminder

Residential curbside refuse, yard waste and recyclable collection services will be delayed by one day due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Yard Waste Pick-up for 2011 ends November 30th.

# Around & About Town

## Promotions, Retirements



On August 18, 2011, The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District bid farewell to **Firefighter/EMT Don Kownacki**. Don served the District for over 30 years. During his time in Bloomingdale he became a prominent figure in fire investigation and became one of the leading authorities in the county, spending several years on the DuPage County Task Force. Don will be spending his retirement surrounded by the people and things he loves: his wife Donna, motorcycles and camping.

October 6 marks the retirement of **Battalion Chief Keith Boehne**. Having served over 35 years with the District, Battalion Chief Boehne progressed through the ranks from Firefighter/ Paramedic, to Lieutenant, and finally the Battalion Chief. His passion for fire apparatus led him to serve as an integral part of the Fleet Maintenance division where he was invaluable in helping to plan the apparatus we currently use. Battalion Chief Boehne will retire with his wife, Sue and sons, Chris and Steve.



With those retirements, the following promotions were announced:

**Lieutenant Richard Kurka** (left) will be promoted to Battalion Chief and **Firefighter/Paramedic Lou Lettenmair** (right) will be promoted to Lieutenant. Both promotions are effective October 7, 2011 with the official swearing-in ceremony to be held at the Board of Trustees meeting, Thursday, November 3 at 5:00 pm.



## A message from Township Assessor John Dabrowski

*This message is intended to help explain the property assessment process and how it relates to current housing market conditions.*

*By the time this Almanac reaches your home or business, you should have already received a 2011 Assessment Notice on your property sent out from John T. Dabrowski, Bloomingdale Township Assessor. Assessor Dabrowski recently shared the following information in regard to assessments, the real estate market and property taxes. The Village of Bloomingdale is passing this information on to our residents and business owners. -- ED*

Due to the present downturn in the real estate market and the ongoing media coverage of it, property owners believe there has been a severe loss of market value in property values in our township. Despite the reports of housing values plunging downward, foreclosures at an all-time high, and homes simply not selling at seemingly any price, property taxes continue to rise.

Though the 2010 assessments are 6.87% lower than last year, many homeowners still might feel that our office is not properly reacting to market conditions. The Assessor is responsible for assessing property at one-third of the fair market value. Properties are valued as of January 1st of each year. The formulas that are used to measure our accuracy and equity always include consideration of actual sales over a three-year period as required by law. Therefore, when the Assessor's office valued properties for January 1st, 2010, we were obligated by law to look back at the sales that took place during 2007, 2008, and 2009.

This year we are working on our 2011 General Reassessment Year. By statute, every four years is a General Reassessment Year, during which we must review and reassess all properties in our jurisdiction. For 2011, we will be obligated to look at sales from the years 2008, 2009, and 2010. If the current market trend continues, we can anticipate that most properties will be reassessed to a lower value in 2011.

Most importantly, everyone should understand that regardless of what happens in the marketplace, even if assessments are reduced, this would not necessarily mean that property taxes would go down. Please remember that property taxes pay for local services, such as schools, parks, police, and fire protection. If these local taxing units continue to provide services, then the property taxes collected will continue to increase as there are fewer homes (due to foreclosures) to divide that total cost between.



# Halloween Happenings



## Fire Prevention Week Open House on October 29

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District will be hosting its annual Open House on Saturday, October 29 from 10 am to 2 pm to recognize Fire Prevention Week and to promote "It's Fire Prevention Week. Protect your Family from Fire!"

For more information about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Bloomingdale, please contact the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District at 630-894-9080. To learn more about "It's Fire Prevention Week. Protect your Family from Fire!" visit NFPA's website at [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).



Fire Chief Christensen salutes Don Kownacki at his final walk-through the morning of his last day.

**Halloween Happening is one of the Park District's largest events of the year** and will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Friday, October 28 the Johnston Recreation Center.

The night of spooktacular activities includes an inflatable house, moonwalk, hayrides through Circle Park, games and prizes, Magic by Mike, palm readings, a trick-or-treat scavenger hunt, Professor Snape's potions class, fireside storyteller at Circle Park, a family pumpkin decorating contest, crafts, Pumpkin Walk and Creepy Crawlers Room.

Wristbands for Halloween Happening are \$5 if purchased before October 27. Day-of wristbands cost \$7. Wristbands go on sale October 3. Parents are free. Halloween Happening is sponsored by Bloomingdale Bank & Trust.



**The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District will be hosting its annual Open House,** 179 S. Bloomingdale Road on Saturday, October 29 from 10 am to 2 pm. Events will include a Children's Firefighter Challenge, a fire pole, and an emergency helicopter. There will be a Balloon Launch to honor fallen firefighters at noon. A "rookie lunch" will be served with hot dogs and baked beans and the Glendale Heights Home Depot will present a craft workshop. The event is free and all district residents are invited to attend. For more information, contact the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District at 630-894-9080.

**In conjunction with the Fire Department, the Bloomingdale Police Department will also be hosting its Open House on October 29** from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tours with a Halloween theme will be conducted; activities and games will be provided by police personnel. Children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes for trick or treating. (Children under 10 years of age need to be accompanied by an adult.) Refreshments will be served.

**Everyone is invited to attend the 22nd Annual Halloween Party at the Bloomingdale Public Library Saturday,** October 29, 2011 from Noon-3:00 p.m. This event is sponsored by: The Bloomingdale Public Library, the Friends of the Library, and the Village of Bloomingdale. The Halloween Party will be held outside under a tent, rain or shine! Children are encouraged to wear costumes. This event will feature free games, free refreshments, balloon artists and much more! Please call the Youth Services Reference Desk at (630) 924-2740 for more information!

**This is no trick – treat the troops!** Bloomingdale dentists Doctors Dominic Colletti and Joseph Matustik are joining forces with Operation Gratitude and Soldiers' Angels to help reduce the amount of candy that kids consume this Halloween while also providing a special treat package for our Troops overseas.

On Saturday, November 5, 2011 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 2 p.m bring your children to the dental office at 176 N. Bloomingdale Road to cash in their unopened candy. They will receive \$1 per pound, up to \$5 per child. The first 100 hundred children will also receive a commemorative t-shirt. The dentists' goal is to collect 100 pounds of candy to send to the Troops. Call 630-893-6200 or visit [www.176dental.com](http://www.176dental.com) for further information.



**Trick or Treat Hours in Bloomingdale are from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 31, 2011.**

**Parents: Please see page 17 for important Halloween safety tips**



## It's Back: Septemberfest 2011!!



Bloomingdale will celebrate the 38th annual Septemberfest on Saturday, October 8, 2011, in Old Town Park, located between Lake Street & Schick Road – and – Third Street & Bloomingdale Road. A day of fun, food and entertainment has been planned for you, your family and friends.

The Septemberfest parade steps off at 11 a.m. from DuJardin School on Euclid Ave. From there the parade will head north on Euclid, then west on Schick Road into Old Town.



The parade concludes in Old Town, where you can join the fun activities and entertainment in and around Old Town Park. Opening Ceremonies begin at 12:00 PM. DJ Dave will emcee the afternoon's lineup beginning with the Bloomingdale Park District at 12:15. Following at 12:40 p.m. will be the St. Andrew Ukrainian Dancer Ensemble. At 1 p.m. Dance Explosion takes to the stage, followed by the Mohler Dance Academy at 1:45.

Center Stage Studio struts its stuff at 2:30. And, at 3:15 the JKA WF Chicago Karate Institute puts on a demonstration, immediately followed at 4 p.m. by Bloomingdale School of Music. Capping the local talent at 4:45 will be the winners of the Bloomingdale Park District's summer competition, "Bloomingdale's Got Talent."

Following at 5 p.m. The New Invaders will begin setting up for their 6-9 p.m. concert. This group is dedicated to bringing fans the "Ultimate" in recreating the music of the 60s. They take you though this historic decade beginning with the British Invasion and ending with Woodstock and beyond, with everything in between.



Some of the old favorite food vendors will return, along with a good variety of new ones, offering plenty to choose from when that hunger hits. There will also be plenty of refreshing drinks available, including ever popular beverage booth staffed by the Bloomingdale Lions Club.

Stroll among the booths featuring creative arts and hand-made crafts including jewelry, handbags, jams, butters, concrete statues, hand-sewn items and sand art, to name but a few. Radio Station 104.3 K/Hits will also be there.

The committee has been working hard to bring all of the elements together. Circle the date, October 8, and come on out to enjoy the return of Bloomingdale's traditional end of the summer fest. It promises to be a most enjoyable time for family and friends.





## Bloomington Lions 50 Years of Making a Difference to the Community

The Bloomington Lions Club has spent the last 50 years raising funds through a variety of events in order to support the needs of the vision and hearing impaired, as well as supporting our community in countless ways. And they have been very successful at it.

The club was chartered in Bloomington in 1961 with 35 members. The fledgling organization wasted no time getting involved. From pancakes breakfasts to donkey baseball to selling sand, the Bloomington Lions combined having fun and raising funds. The Lions have been a fixture at Septemberfest from the first event. They also held wildly successful casino nights before the gambling boats began. For years the Lions have been hosting spaghetti dinners and golf outings. More recently they have also added Vidalia Onion Sales and the Walk-a-Dog-a-thon to their annual events.

The Bloomington Lions consistently donate to the Lions of Illinois Foundation, the K-9 Companions for Independence, Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind, Hadley School for the Blind and more. The group has also helped the schools, library, park district, village hall, fire and police departments, scouts, sports teams and the Septemberfest Joe Draghi Scholarship fund. We would be hard pressed to find an organization in town that has not benefitted, at some time, from the Lions Club.

They have sponsored a community Easter Egg hunt since the 70s; they provide holiday food baskets to needy families, and support the DuPage Shelter for Women. The club's ongoing sight and hearing program in the community not only recycles eyeglasses, but also arranges for eye and hearing exams, glasses and hearing aids for both children and adults unable to pay for these services and products themselves.

Six years ago the Lions sponsored a Leo Club. This group of middle-schoolers hit the ground running with several service projects and charitable endeavors back then and haven't stopped since (They have great role models.) Earlier this year the Bloomington Westfield Leo Club was named Leo Club of the Year for Lions District I-J for the second consecutive year. Not only do these young people possess boundless energy, but they have a real sense of service to their community – just like their sponsoring organization.

Lions Clubs International says "Whenever a Lions Club gets together, problems get smaller. And communities get better. That's because we help where help is needed – in our own communities and around the world – with unmatched integrity and energy."

We could fill pages listing the ways the Bloomington Lions Club has impacted this community. It is the longest standing civic organization in town. The Lions have dedicated themselves, not only to the well known causes, but also to the smaller needs of this community. We thank them and congratulate them on 50 years of making a difference in so many ways to people who live here.





# 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

## Halloween Health and Safety Tips

**For many people, autumn events like Halloween and Harvest Day are fun times to dress up in costumes, go trick-or-treating, attend parties, and eat yummy treats. These events are also opportunities to provide nutritious snacks, get physical activity, and focus on safety. The Bloomington Fire Protection District and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) offer these tips to help make the festivities fun and safe for trick-or-treaters and party guests.**

**S**words, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft and flexible.

**A**void trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

**F**asten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.

**E**xamine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.

**H**old a Flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you.

**A**lways test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent skin and eye irritation.

**L**ook both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks whenever possible.

**L**ower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.

**O**nly walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.

**W**ear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips and falls.

**E**at only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats unless you know the cook well.

**E**nter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Otherwise, stay outside.

**N**ever walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.



## Expecting Trick-or-Treaters or Party Guests?

- Provide healthier treats for trick-or-treaters, such as individual packs of raisins, trail mix, or pretzels. For party guests, offer a variety of fruits, vegetables and cheeses.
- Use party games and trick-or-treat time as an opportunity for kids to get their daily dose of 60 minutes of physical activity.
- Be sure walking areas and stairs are well lit and free from obstacles that could result in falls.
- Keep candle-lit jack-o'-lanterns and luminaries away from doorsteps, walkways, landings and curtains. Place them on sturdy tables, keep them out of the reach of pets and small children, and never leave them unattended.
- Remind drivers to watch out for trick-or-treaters and to drive safely.

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

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
**PAID**  
Bloomingdale, IL  
60108  
Permit No.# 16

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL  
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108



## Gatsby Quilted

Quilts created by members of the Bloomingdale Loose Threads Quilt Club, featuring symbols of the Gatsby era, will be on display throughout the library during the month of October.



## Reflections on 9-11

Bloomingdale Church on Glen Ellyn Road annually hosts a remembrance on the anniversary of 9-11, during which they also express their appreciation to our own fire and police personnel. This year some 300 citizens came out to meet the procession of fire trucks and police cars at the church's front door. Pictured below are Bagley and Grant Paisley displaying thank you banners to Fire and Police Departments on behalf of the children.

The Bloomingdale Historical Society worked with our Police and Fire departments, as well as the VFW to make a presentation on 9-11 to the sixth, seventh and eighth graders of Westfield Middle School. These students were toddlers when the terrorist attacks took place. Students saw a slide presentation of some images of that day, then heard accounts from two firemen and two policemen, sharing their feelings and experiences that day and the days that followed. Young Sgt. Joshua Muething of the Bloomingdale VFW 7539 also shared his story of enlisting immediately after 9-11 and his experiences during his tours in Iraq. Discussion continued among the students as this "live" history lesson was carried to their social studies classes.

