

Village of Bloomingdale

Almanac

December 2013

Growth with Pride

Keep the Cheer Here

3/50 Project Support Our Local Independents

Members

Angelo Caputo's
Fresh Markets
Bentley's Pancake
House and Restaurant
Chicago Pastry
Classic Travel and Tours
Elite Sports Memorabilia
Enopi
Great Wraps
Jack and Jill's Children's
Boutique Ltd
Kammes Auto and Truck
Repair Inc.
La Campana Mexican
Restaurant
Mandarin Bistro
Masterpiece Framing
Rooster's Restaurant
Sassy's Originals
Sportys Catering
Springsoft
Spring Wine & Spirits



Supporters

Bloomingdale Chamber of
Commerce
Burkhardt's Repairs R Us, Inc.
Village of Bloomingdale

Online Residential Survey Results

The Village's online Residential Survey was opened on September 25 and closed on November 1. The purpose of the survey was to collect input from residents regarding the views and values they place on various services/events provided by the Village.

Of the 504 residents completed who com- pleted the survey:

- 94% are somewhat to very satisfied with the services provided by the Village.
 - 99% feel safe in their home; (92% very often to always).
 - The majority receive news & information about the Village through the Village Almanac (89%), E-News (70%), Website (62%) and Front Sign (54%).
 - The majority (78%) would like the Village to continue producing
- the Village Almanac, of which 59% would like it to be distributed electronically.
- The majority use Social Media (55%), but are not interested in receiving Village information through it.
- 10% or more of the Survey Respondents identified the following items as the **Top Concerns Facing the Village:**
1. Fiscal Sustainability (Budget) - 59%
 2. Attracting New Business with Economic Incentives and Flexible Design Standards - 56%
 3. Promoting & Retaining Current Businesses - 41%
 4. Public Safety/Crime Prevention - 35%
 5. Public Infrastructure (Streets, Sidewalks, Sewers, etc.) - 25%
 6. Condition of Housing/Neighborhoods - 18%

The most frequent response was for no changes to be made to resources devoted to services provided or community events hosted by the Village, except that **more resources should be devoted to:**

- Attracting New Business (74%)
- Promoting & Retaining Existing Business (64%)
- Neighborhood Patrol (47%)
- The return of a "scaled-back" Family Fest with a local focus and a fireworks display (47%)

Detailed survey responses can be found on the Village Website at www.villageofbloomingdale.org. Survey responses will serve as a tool for the Village's upcoming planning and budgeting purposes.

Festival of Lights Coming to Old Town Bloomingdale

Beginning Nov. 29, 2013 through New Year's Eve, the Festival of Lights will adorn Old Town Bloomingdale.

Pedestrians and motorists

alike will be treated to a sparkling display of holiday lights and sights.

In addition to visually stunning displays, the on-site programming and entertainment activities are sure to delight everyone.

See the Schedule of Events on p. 7.



Lake Park Soccer Team Takes 4th in State

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 COMMITTEE

1st Friday of the month 9:00 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. – Chamber office Old Schoolhouse, 108 W. Lake Street

BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1st Thursday of the month 5:00 p.m. – Firehouse, 179 S. Bloomingdale Road



It was history in the making - for the first time ever, the Lake Park High School boys soccer team completed an undefeated, untied run through the DuPage Valley Conference. The team captured the first-ever DVC championship in any sport for Lake Park High School. The Lancers went on to win the regional championship at Conant High School, sending the team to the state semi-finals on Friday, November 8. They ended their record-breaking year taking 4th Place in State. Congratulations to the Lake Park Boys Soccer team on their amazing season of unprecedented success.

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 the 2013 spring flooding, the Village is able to get out critical information to all subscribers as it becomes available.



Go to www.villageofbloomingdale.org and sign up for the E-news on the homepage on the bottom half of the right hand side. It's easy and free!

Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

Franco A. Coladipietro
Village President

Robert Czernek
Traffic and Streets

Michael D. Hovde
Planning, Zoning
& Environmental
Concerns

Jane E. Michelotti
Village Clerk

Bill Bolen
Finance and
Administration

Jim King
Intergovernmental and
Community Relations

TRUSTEES

Judi Von Huben
Public Safety

Frank Bucaro
Facilities, Infrastructure

From the Desk of Mayor Franco

In the last Almanac issue we announced a meeting requesting feedback on some concept plans for the Village's 35-acre Open Space area, formerly the southernmost portion of the Indian Lakes Golf Course. I am happy to say we had roughly 50 people in attendance from various areas in town. The response was very favorable and we have received several volunteers interested in serving on the Indian Lakes Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. We are planning to schedule a meeting for this committee early in 2014 to begin evaluating several concept plans for this high quality open space which has already become a popular walking and biking destination.

It doesn't seem possible that the end of 2013 is approaching already. But first – there are the holidays! This holiday season is full of wonderful, festive family activities in Bloomingdale. The Festival of Lights, a month-long flurry of activities will take place in Old Town Bloomingdale beginning with an official lighting ceremony at 6:30 on Friday, November 29. I am pleased that the Village has been able to partner with the Bloomingdale Park District on this exciting first-time event.

The Bloomingdale Public Library hosts its Holiday Open House on Tuesday, December 3 starting at 6:45 p.m. with the tree lighting and Santa's arrival - followed by plenty of holiday fun and entertainment. The Park District's Winter Carnival is December 13 – details can be found on the pages toward the end of this issue. Subscribe to our E-news for more holiday happenings as we learn about them.

The Village is also currently encouraging participation in our 3/50 Project Holiday Promotion – "Keep the Cheer Here." The 3/50 program (see p. 10) refers to our small, independently owned businesses. It encourages buyers to support these small businesses by picking your favorite three and spending a total of \$50 each month between the three in order to keep our local economy strong. I am suggesting that "keeping the cheer here" can also mean simply "Buy in Bloomingdale" this holiday season. Buying in Bloomingdale supports our economy and keeps your Village taxes lower through the revenue brought in by sales taxes.

One last thought – if you are looking for ways to "Spread the Cheer," take a look at p. 5. We have listed several ways to give to those less fortunate in small ways that mean a lot to the recipient.

From my family to yours – best wishes for a warm and wonderful holiday season.

Mayor Franco

Cub Scouts from Pack 414 visited Mayor Coladipietro and the Village Board at the November 11th Village Board meeting. Back row: (l to r) Wolf Den Leader Marco DiGiorgio, Trustee Michael Hovde, Jr., Trustee Judi Von Huben, Mayor Franco



Coladipietro, Cub Master Sean Kelly, Trustee Jim King and Trustee Frank Bucaro. Front row (l to r) Cub Scouts: Aariv Patel, Nolan Moorman, Dan Nueman, Austin Hansen, Ryan Waterloo, Payton Kelly, Jimmy Buttacavoli, Jakub Wandycz, and Boy Scout Nick Kolesar.



Wishing You the Merriest of Holidays

The Bloomingdale Village Hall holiday closings:

Christmas:

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 & December 25,

New Year's:

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 31 and January 1, 2014

Best Wishes to all for safe and Happy Holidays from the elected officials and staff at the Village of Bloomingdale.



VILLAGE ALMANAC

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Editor**

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671-5600

Articles and information for the FEBRUARY issue of the Almanac must be submitted to Mary Ellen Johnson by JANUARY 10; email JOHNSONM@vil.bloomingtondale.il.us

Be Snow Safe 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 151 miles of Village streets, making them safer for motorists. Village crews are promptly mobilized when a storm begins, day or night.



The How and Why Of Snowplowing Operations

After a 1-inch to 2-inch accumulation of snow, crews begin the snowplow operations according to pre-determined snow routes. There are four (4) routes with eight (8) vehicles.

There are also two (2) smaller vehicles which handle cul-de-sacs and dead ends. These routes have been carefully designed to allow for the optimum use of the available snowplowing equipment and personnel.

All Village-owned streets will eventually be plowed, but main streets are cleared before side streets, which are cleared before cul-de-sacs and dead ends.

The rate at which the streets are cleared depends on many factors including total accumulation, type of snow (wet or powder-like), temperature and volume of traffic on streets during plow operations.

What Are the Village's Parking Regulations When It Snows?

The Village's winter parking ban takes effect after snowfalls of 2 inches or more. The ban applies to all vehicles on any Village-owned street and is in effect for a period of 24 hours or until the streets have been cleared of snow. Residents can assist Village crews in the snow removal efforts by parking vehicles in driveways or other off-street parking areas.

What if a Snowplow Damages My Parkway?

The Public Works Division understands that there could be some damage to parkways due to snow plowing 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 is 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.

Garbage Pickup Holidays

The schedule for Republic's Garbage and Recycling Pick-up Services will be delayed by one day during the weeks of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.

ComEd Offers Financial Assistance

ComEd wants to remind customers that there is bill payment help for veterans and deployed active military personnel who are having difficulty paying their electric bills. ComEd's CHAMP (ComEd Helps Activated/Veteran Military Personnel) program provides bill-payment assistance to deployed members of the military and veterans who reside within ComEd's northern Illinois service territory and demonstrate a need. Additionally, ComEd announced it is expanding CHAMP eligibility requirements to include all veterans.

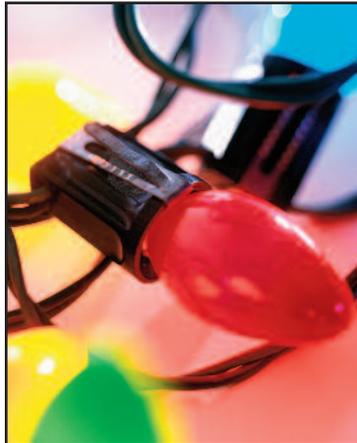
CHAMP offers a package of benefits, including bill payment assistance of up to \$1,000 while funds are available, deferred payment plans, extended payment due dates, cancellation of late charges, deposit reduction/or refund and budget payment plans.

According to ComEd the utility is providing \$50 million in financial assistance over a five-year period, starting in 2012, to assist eligible low-income residents including seniors, veterans, and activated members of the armed services who are ComEd customers.

To enroll in CHAMP, customers should call 1-888-806-CARE (2273), or download an application at www.ComEd.com/CARE. Documentation required to qualify can be found on the CHAMP application. For a complete list of ComEd's financial assistance programs, or to enroll in ComEd's bill-payment assistance programs, call 1-888-806-CARE (2273) or visit ComEd.Com/CARE.

Recycle Old and Broken Holiday Lights

Thank you to the Village of Carol Stream for sharing this information with us. Com2 Recycling Solutions LLC, in partnership with the Carol Stream Village, Park District and Public Library will be coordinating a holiday light recycling program effort that began on Monday, November 18th continuing through Monday, February 3rd. Holiday lights acceptable for recycling include traditional bulb lights (screw in), mini-Italian lights, rope lights, LED lights and frayed and non-working extension cords. The copper wire within holiday light strands and extension cords has considerable value on the reclaimed metals market and 100% of the proceeds from the sale of reclaimed copper will be donated to the Village of Carol Stream's Christmas Sharing program that provides food, clothing and toys to under-resourced families during the holiday season.



When inventorying your holiday lights this month, set aside those broken light standards and cords and conveniently deposit them in recycling collection barrels located in the lobbies of any one of the following four drop off locations:

- Carol Stream Municipal Center - 500 N. Gary Avenue
- Simkus Recreation Center - 849 W. Lies Road
- Fountain View Recreation Ctr. - 910 N. Gary Avenue
- Carol Stream Public Library - 616 Hiawatha Drive



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 pipe 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.

Please note:

- The Village of Bloomingdale reminds owners of lawn irrigation systems to please isolate and winterize their systems as the cold weather approaches. This will avoid accidental damage and high water usage during the winter months.

Share the Spirit of the Holidays

Care Packages for Our Troops

Since the start of the Iraqi War, VFW Post 7539 has been receiving donations from the community to prepare packages for our servicemen and women who are fighting for our freedom overseas.

Our past heroes want to ensure that those present heroes overseas feel the love and support from back home. We realize firsthand what receiving a package can do for their morale.

The names of servicemen and women are received from people within the community like yourself. Each service person receives at least one package per month in hopes that it will put a smile on their face.

Some of the items we send are: peanut butter, jelly, crackers, tuna, canned fruit, canned pasta, beef jerky/Slim Jims, nuts, Pringles, granola bars, Altoids, Lifesavers, Tic Tacs, Crystal Lite, Gatorade, eye drops, saline, nasal spray, antibiotic ointment, vitamins, BenGay, Q-tips, cotton balls and handwritten notes or cards during the holiday season. Non-food items appreciated are: CDs and DVDs, pencils, blank birthday cards, tissues, batteries, bug spray, fly swatters, thank you cards, and sunscreen in the summer.

As members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we know all too well what it's like to be away from home during the holiday season. Post 7539 has not missed a month forwarding packages since the Iraqi war began, and we will continue until the war ends and all of our heroes are back home safe and sound. The number of packages this Post has shipped to our service people since the beginning of the Iraqi War is now at 8,100 plus.

With the holiday season upon us, many residents look for opportunities to help others less fortunate. Here are some of the local opportunities to share the spirit of the season.

Angel Tree tags for the annual **Bloomingtondale Employees' Salvation Army Angel Tree** were delivered to the Village Hall the week of Thanksgiving. The Angel Tree benefits needy boys and girls (infant through pre-school) who attend the Salvation Army's Red Shield Head Start Childcare Program in Chicago. Each Angel Tree tag identifies the clothing needs and toy desires of each child. If you're interested in participating and would like a tag, please contact Barb Weber at weberb@vil.bloomingtondale.il.us or 630-671-5613, (indicating gender/age preference, if you have one), and a tag will gladly be forwarded to you.

Bloomingtondale Township Sharing Tree – Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomingtondale Township helped make the season brighter for more than 750 children in Bloomingtondale 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 16 through December 13. Wrapped gifts must be returned by December 13.

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 13. 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:

Olive Garden, 332 W. Army Trail Road

Pivot Point, 144 E. Lake Street (Springbrook Shopping Center)

Bloomingtondale Park District, 172 S. Circle

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

Want to help the VFW?

Bloomingtondale VFW Post 7539 gladly accepts any of the care package items suggested in the column to the left. These can be dropped off at the Bloomingtondale Fire Department, 179 S. Bloomingtondale Road anytime between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. We

can no longer accept monetary donations on our web site, but donations can be made out to Bloomingtondale VFW Post 7539 and mailed directly to the Bloomingtondale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way, Bloomingtondale, Illinois 60108. They are also greatly appreciated and will be put toward the purchase of items to ship or toward the postage to mail the care packages.



Water Rate and Fee Increase Effective January 1, 2014

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.

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-TOLLYFI

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.



The Village's water source comes from Lake Michigan through the City of Chicago and the DuPage Water Commission (DWC). The City of Chicago adopted a multi-year water rate increase plan for the purchase of Lake Michigan water which was assessed to the DWC and subsequently passed-through to the Village. The Village can not absorb these rate increases and as a result, a water rate increase of 70¢ per thousand gallons of water used will go into effect on January 1, 2014 and begin to be reflected on Village utility bills issued in February 2014. The average residential bill is projected to increase \$8.40, or approximately 6%. Details of the new water and sewer rates are available on the back of your water bill.

What can you do to take control of your costs for water and sewer and minimize these rising costs? Conserving can make good financial sense because you reduce your water bill, as well as have a positive effect on the environment. The following are some specific conservation suggestions.

Fix leaks – Probably the single greatest water waster is a leaky toilet. A simple worn-out flapper valve could waste a gallon of water every ten minutes. This is almost 150 gallons of water wasted each day. A leaking toilet gone unattended for a month could cost you an additional \$52.

Install water flow restrictors – While a long, hot shower might feel good in the winter months it's an easy way to use an extra 500 gallons of water a month. Install water flow restrictors on your shower heads and possibly reduce your water bill by \$11.

Lawn watering – A deep, green lawn really looks great but all that watering might be costing you an extra \$22 each water bill. When you step on your grass, if it springs back up, it's healthy and might not need as much water. Cut back on the unnecessary watering and reduce your water bill.

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 24, 2014.

New Illinois Laws Effective January 1, 2014



Illinois transportation and law enforcement officials recently joined forces to launch the "Ice and Snow - Take it Slow" winter campaign. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Illinois Tollway and the Illinois State Police (ISP) are partnering to roll out the state's frontline winter road crews and ensure that snow plows and other emergency equipment are ready for the upcoming snow and ice season.

The traffic safety advocates also took the opportunity to remind motorists of two safety laws Governor Pat Quinn signed into law earlier this year. Aimed at reducing the number of distracted driving crashes, both laws are set to take effect January 1, 2014.

The first law prohibits the use of all hand-held mobile phones while driving anywhere in Illinois. It does make exceptions for hands-free devices, including those with headsets that can initiate a call using a single button or a voice command. The second law increases penalties when any use of an electronic device while driving is the cause of an accident.

Seniors Wanted

The Bloomingdale Township Senior Center encourages involvement in the activities and events that focus on senior needs and interests. The center, located at 6N050 Rosedale Avenue, is a great place to visit with other seniors, as well as take advantage of many available services, such as Notary, AARP Drivers Safety classes, income tax assistance, flu shots, exercises classes, Christmas party and more.

There is no fee to register to be a member, but you must be 60 or over and a Bloomingdale township resident. You will receive the bi-monthly Senior Connection newsletter, with news about daily activities at the senior center, such as art classes, Bingo, Bunko, and upcoming trips and luncheons. Don't miss out!

Stop by and sign up today! Call 630-529-7794 for more information or visit the website at www.bloomingtondaletownship.com Look under the Township Services section for the Senior Center. Looking forward to seeing you!

Bloomingtondale Senior Citizen Advisory Council

The Bloomingdale Police Department and the Senior Citizen Advisory Council join forces to bring information, programs and events to enhance the quality of life for senior citizens. Currently, the Council is seeking new members who want to get more involved, network with other senior citizens, and put their ideas into action to benefit the senior community. Meetings are held at 9:30 a.m. the second Monday each month in the Police Training Room, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road. If interested, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi at (630) 529-9868 for more information.



The Senior Citizen Advisory Council recently met with the Mayor and Police Chief regarding senior interests.



Neighborhood Watch Meeting Dates for 2014

January 15 – Open Forum -
Speaking with Mayor,
Village Services Director,
Police & Fire Chiefs

March 19

May 21

July 16

September 17

November 19

All meetings are on
Wednesdays evenings at 7:30
p.m. and located in the Village
Hall Council Room.

**National Night Out Against
Crime** will be on Tuesday,
August 5, 2014, 6:00 p.m. –
9:00 p.m.



**Bloomingtondale is a
CRIME WATCH
community.**

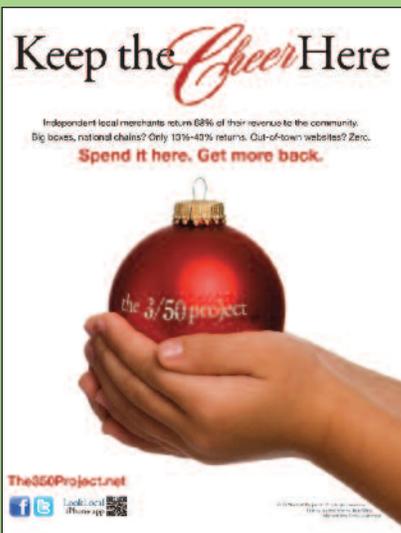
**We immediately report
all suspicious
activities to our
Police Department.**

**Frank Giammarese,
Chief of Police**

**Dawn Odoi,
Community Policing Officer**

630-529-9868

Retailer highlight: Masterpiece Framing



Small business is the lifeblood of the American economy, yet locally owned independent businesses are under more pressure than ever. Trying economic times, plus corporate buyouts of smaller businesses, have made it a treacherous business environment for the little guys.

In support of Bloomingdale's Small Independent Businesses, the Village of Bloomingdale is a member of the 3/50 Project, which is a national initiative created for the primary mission of saving the "Brick & Mortars Our Nation is Built On." There is a simple message, "Pick 3 local businesses; Spend \$50 collectively at them each month."

So this holiday season, as you make your gift purchases- "Keep the Cheer Here." Your loyalty keeps local businesses around. Remember, every dollar spent in Bloomingdale returns money to our economy. When you spend it on-line, nothing comes home! If your favorite independent business is not a 3/50 member, encourage them to join the 3/50 Project movement online at www.the350project.net for free publicity.

At the age of 20, Matt Puchalski started Masterpiece Framing out of his parents' basement while he was still a student at the American Academy of Art in Chicago. That was 12 years ago. In 2003 he opened a small retail storefront in Springbrook Shopping Center on Lake Street, where his business has grown and evolved for the past ten years.



Matt says he has met some wonderful customers along the way; many whom he now considers close friends. He even met his wife at work; she was a customer! Over the years, he has become very close to the community. As he says, his roots are set deep in Bloomingdale, where he and his wife now live with their daughter.

Noting that through "gritty determination and lots of hard work," he was fortunate to survive the recession and tough economic times. Now he is excited to announce a new chapter in his business and his life. This summer, he bought a building in the Bloomingdale's Old Town Preservation District. Matt notes the building itself has great historic character and was originally built in the 1940s as the Village's post office. He has renovated the space and expanded Masterpiece Framing in its new digs.

The company's website says Masterpiece Framing is Chicagoland's premier custom frame gallery and design boutique. It also notes, "Driven by passion, we strive to provide excellent customer service, awesome designs and superior craftsmanship." This is a man who loves his work - framing pictures, restoring photos, printing images and helping customers design with art in home or office. All that, plus the young owner is an occasional contributing writer to the trade publications, and he still paints when there is time.

Matt admits this has been the biggest challenge of his career, by far. But he is approaching this new development with the same enthusiasm, energy and creativity that has served him so well. You can reach Masterpiece Framing at 630-893-4390 or visit the website at www.mframing.com where you will see for yourself that this is no ordinary frame shop.

Or better yet, Matt suggests "When you have a moment, stop by 109 South Bloomingdale Road. We're open for business!"

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.



Rooster's Healthy Menu Fits Biggest Losers Lifestyle

Eaglewood Resort in Itasca is one of the four resorts in the United States which are affiliated with The Biggest Loser TV Show. As such, its philosophy is to "... inspire people to overcome their wellness-related obstacles and challenges. Everyone deserves a long, rewarding life, amazing relationships with friends and family, and satisfying and productive careers. That all starts with a balanced, healthy lifestyle."

Owners Dana and Frank Cook are excited to share that Bloomingdale's Roosters Barn & Grill, 122 W. Lake Street, has been chosen by Eaglewood staff to offer a menu for their guests on an as-needed basis. Dana said she has worked with Eaglewood to create a healthy menu that works directly with The Biggest Loser's healthy lifestyle.

Welcome Blooming Smiles Dental Studio



Bloomingdale Village Clerk Jane Michelotti, Dr. Garbiela Duraes, Mayor Franco Coladipietro and Dr. Duraes' husband Bruno Jham are all smiles on September 26 as they cut the ribbon for Bloomingdale's newest dental practice, Blooming Smiles

Dental Studio, located at 156 E. Lake Street in Springbrook Shopping Center, Bloomingdale.

Jersey Mike's Opens in Bloomingdale

Owner Mark Michalak cuts the ribbon to Jersey Mike's Subs, surrounded by family, friends and Bloomingdale Chamber members. Mayor Coladipietro, third from left, was happy to welcome this well respected restaurant with a 57-year tradition of excellence and a great product that keeps customers coming back. Located at 383 W. Army Trail Road, Jersey Mike's offers a wide variety of authentic Northeast-style subs.



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.

Remember -
BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE

Welcome to These New Businesses

Capri Pizza & Deli
148 S. Bloomingdale Rd.

Cugini's Pizza
360 W. Schick Rd.

Smart Style Hair Salon
314 W. Army Trail Rd.

Star Smiles Orthodontics and
Pediatric Dentistry
148 E. Lake St.

Commercial Insurance
261 E. Lake St.

Bed & Mattress Furniture
Gallery
152 S. Gary Ave.

Masterpiece Framing (moved)
109 S. Bloomingdale Rd.

New Stores in
Stratford Square Mall

Go! Games Toys & Calendars
Erskine Reeves Salon & Barbers
Bath Planet
Incas Andes
Champion Vaping
Crave Hand-Crafted Soaps
(kiosk)

Community Events

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 24th through Monday, December 30th. There is no Dial-A-Ride service on Thanksgiving Day or 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

Garden Club

The Tuesday, January 21st annual business meeting includes the club's exciting programs for 2014, plans for annual flower sale in May and significant charitable endeavors. Visitors are invited to drop in and meet the members. The club welcomes gardeners of all ages and experience.

Green Gardening is the topic of the Tuesday, February 18th meeting. Back by popular demand, Bill Schefler is all about organic and green gardening. With his many years of gardening experience, the owner of Pure Prairie Organics in Wheaton, will provide sound advice to those who like a natural approach to gardening. Bring your questions.

Meetings and programs are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Police Department, lower level, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road. Questions can be directed to Bobbie at 630-295-8315.

Bloomingdale Artists Association

The January 8th meeting features Irene Peterson, a Signature Member of the Illinois Watercolor Society and award-winning artist. She will demonstrate oil pastel application techniques, as well as products that help to blend pastels or make them paintable with brushes. Pastels and paper will be available so everyone can try their hand after the demo. The meeting begins at 7p.m. at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road. Photo: Coleus in oil pastel.



Train to Run the April Fool's 5k Run

A 10-week Walk to Run program led by Board-Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician Dr. Erin Ducat will begin January 25, starting indoors and moving outside as the weather allows. It will prepare participants to go from walking to running in the April Fools 5k Run on Saturday, April 5th, 2014 in Bloomingdale. Proceeds from the race go to support Stepping Stones for Women of Domestic Violence. For more information on the training program and the race, go to www.AprilFools5k.com



On hand to congratulate the Bloomingdale Garden Club President Joyce Basel and members on their 50th anniversary were (l to r) Bloomingdale Park District Director Carrie Fullerton, Village Trustee Michael Hovde, Jr., Basel, Village Clerk Jane Michelotti and Mayor Franco Coladipietro.

Garden Club Celebrated 50th Anniversary in October

The Bloomingdale Garden Club marked its 50th anniversary with a dinner in October. As part of the festivities, they honored their most senior members. Members also recently announced the organization had presented over \$6000 in donations to a variety of charitable causes in 2013. They include:



Garden Club most senior members (l to r) Jane Czyzewski, Vivian Krotz, Jo Dabrowski, Dolores Franson, Mary Fortino and Esther Ahlrich.

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539, DuPage County Convalescent Center, DuPage PADS, Heifer International, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Peoples Resource Center, Poised for Success, Scholarship (James Wallich), Seeds for Africa (Fosick), Seeds for High School Project, Stepping Stones, University of Illinois DuPage County Extension Office, Volunteer Council of Bloomingdale Township Food Pantry and Stillman Nature Center.

Library Open House on December 3

Bloomingdale Public Library's annual Holiday Open House, 101 Fairfield Way, takes place on Tuesday, December 3 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. Fun activities for the whole family: carolers, face painting, refreshments, music and more! Visit with Santa who will arrive in his very own fire engine!

Breakfast and Brunch with Santa, hosted by the Bloomingdale Public Library takes place at the Bloomingdale Golf Club on Saturday, December 14. Call the library at 630-529-3120 to check availability of tickets.

Park District Museum Holiday Show Runs from November 29-December 30

Gallery I showcases the 12 Days of Christmas, a personal collection of various, festive objects by a BPD museum curator. Items include ornaments, wall hangings and more. Christmas trees and other holiday decorations also adorn the gallery. Art materials are available for children to make a seasonal ornament or card to decorate one of the trees.

Gallery II features a 12 by 12-foot working LEGO train display by Randy Fiones. The walls and areas around the train display games from various years, starting in 1920 to the present. Board games, video games, sidewalk games, card games and more adorn the gallery walls. The room also features an interactive area, with the opportunity for kids to play hop scotch, work on puzzles, throw a bean bag, use a hula hoop, etc. Games are from Museum staff collections.

Special Holiday Hours: Monday - Wednesday, 6-8 p.m.; Thursday, 4-8 p.m.; Friday - Saturday, 5-9 p.m.; Sunday, 4-8 p.m.

Wintertime Gardening Tips

- Water plants, especially evergreens, before the ground freezes.
- Prune trees and shrubs in winter when the branches are without leaves. Remove waterspouts, dead, or crossing branches.
- Apply winter mulch to perennials and roses after a hard frost when ground begins to freeze.
- Protect trunks of young, thin-barked trees, such as ash, maples, and lindens, from winter sun scald by wrapping trunks with a commercial tree wrap.
- Place a cylinder of hardware cloth, chicken wire, or fencing around plants to provide a good defense against rabbits, mice, and deer.
- Spray evergreens, especially broadleaves (rhododendrons) with anti-transpirant to prevent winter burn.
- Protect multi-stemmed evergreens, such as arborvitae, junipers, and yews, from winter storm damage by tying trunks together with old nylons or cotton twine.
- Evaluate last year's garden and decide what changes need to be made. Draw garden plans on paper.
- By February, order seeds and garden plants for spring planting.

Reprinted from Morton Arboretum – Visit www.mortonarb.org for more information



Around and About Town

Students Bake Bread In Unique Life Skills Program



King Arthur Flour Co representative Nate Sandel with his baking assistants, St. Isidore 5th grader Nicholas Shute and 8th grader Taylor Rotundo.

St. Isidore students were in for a real treat last month – literally – when representatives from King Arthur Flour Co. were on hand for a 4th – 8th grade school assembly to present and demonstrate its Life Skills Bread Baking Program.

The Bread Baking Program, themed “Learn, Bake, Share,” provides students with a fun, real-world application of skills they are learning – math, science, reading, creative problem-solving and more, while they learn to bake bread. Plus they can participate in an event that serves others in a way that is fun, relevant and hands on.

Their subsequent assignment is to bake two loaves, keep one for their family and bring one back to school one week later which they will deliver to Bloomingdale Township and Neighborhood Food Pantries.

Bloomington Blast 10U Helps Fund CureSearch

September 2013 was proclaimed Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Bloomingdale as requested by childhood cancer survivor, Janine Delaney. In addition to the donation to CureSearch from the Walmart Foundation and the support of the Bloomingdale Bears, enthusiasm for raising awareness and funds to fight childhood cancer continues. On October 20th, Springfield Park hosted six local 10U travel softball teams for a tournament that benefitted this special cause. The Bloomingdale Blast 10U team managed by Vince Ackerman donated a portion of the tournament proceeds to CureSearch, the charity benefiting children’s cancer research in the Chicago area.



The Bloomingdale Blast 10U team

Ackerman stated that he had become aware of Janine’s efforts through the Almanac and the Bloomingdale Bears Football efforts to raise funds for the charity. As a team, the Blast 10U team is seeking to not only improve the girls’ softball skills but also to make them better people through service projects throughout the year. “We were very happy to donate a portion of the proceeds to CureSearch and have asked Janine and the Delaney family to partner with us at future tournaments in Bloomingdale. We will find an opportunity to wear gold in support of pediatric cancer research,” said Ackerman.

St. Paul Evangelical UCC Welcomes Jeremy Heitkam



St. Paul Evangelical UCC is very excited to announce that Jeremy Heitkam has joined St. Paul as its Minister of Family Life. Jeremy plans to expand family programming and St Paul’s presence in the community. He began that initiative with the St. Paul Block Party in conjunction with Septemberfest and with a fall Bonfire Night. Involvement in Cross Roads Kids Clubs in the Bloomingdale elementary schools, coffee house music nights at St. Paul and Life Group programming are just a few upcoming activities. St. Paul extends an

invitation to meet Jeremy and his family on Sunday mornings at the 10:00 a.m. worship service., 118 First Street.

Know Anyone Having Trouble Paying Their Energy Bill?

Help is available at 877-411-WARM (9276) or liheapillinois.com #LIHEAP

The Nicor Gas Sharing Program provides a one-time annual grant for your heating bill that does not need to be repaid. 773-205-3520 nicorgas.com



Hands-on Learning

Students in Lake Park High School Anatomy and Physiology classes recently learned how to suture a laceration using suturing kits and a banana with a "laceration".

The banana peel simulated the layers of skin, and the students had to suture the "layers of

skin" back together using the same technique as a physician would on a human patient. Pictured are Derek Burke and Brandon Popp.

Anthony Pavone Graduates from John Marshall Law School

Anthony Pavone is a 2004 graduate of Lake Park High School, and a 2008 graduate of Wesleyan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. The young man went on to graduate from John Marshall Law School in Chicago, receiving his Juris Doctorate. Earlier this year he passed the Illinois Bar and is now practicing as an attorney with the law firm of Loss & Pavone in Lombard. He is the son of residents Louis and Ann Marie Pavone.



Anthony Pavone

Village Halloween Party

Roughly 1100 youngsters attended the giant Halloween Party sponsored by the Police & Fire departments, Bloomingdale Public Library and Bloomingdale Park District. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the seasonal weather.

The fun family event was an excellent way to begin the Halloween festivities.



Super Weekend at BGYFL Super Bowl

Three teams in the Bloomingdale Bears Football League emerged victorious in their Division at the November 10th Super Bowl at Benedictine University in Lisle. This was a wonderful showing for the league. Bloomingdale is very proud of these team members and their coaches. Congratulations!



The 103 Gold team achieved their 2013 103 Gold AFC Division Super Bowl victory and are pictured with the 5th Grade Cheer Squad. This team went into the Super Bowl with an undefeated season!



The JV Gold team captured their 2013 AFC Junior Varsity Super Bowl victory, the second in three years. They are pictured with the 6th Grade Cheer Squad.



The 93 Silver team earned the 2013 93lb Silver Division Super Bowl victory. They are pictured with the 4th grade girls Pom Squad.

Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1

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

Chief
Michael McNamara

District Trustees
Tim Deutschle
Lydia DiBuono
Bill Wolff

Commissioners
Michael McKeon
Jac L. Williamson
Fran Scalafini



Chief Michael McNamara

The Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District announces the Retirement of Fire Chief Michael McNamara With Over 27 Years of Dedicated Service.

Hired June 1, 1986

Founding Member of IAFF
Local 3272-President

EMS Educator– Northwest
Community Hospital EMS

Promoted to Lieutenant
March 1998

Promoted to Battalion Chief
2004

Promoted to Deputy Chief
2008

Promoted to Fire Chief 2012

Thank you and best wishes,
Chief!

Carbon Monoxide: The Odorless, Colorless, Invisible ‘Silent Killer’

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.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District would like to share the following information about carbon monoxide.

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.
- Each year, 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. The number of incidents increases by nearly 10 percent every year. This increase is most likely due to the increased use of CO detectors, which alert people to the presence of CO.

Safety Tips

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

For more information about carbon monoxide or other home safety tips, contact Battalion Chief Richard Kurka at the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District 630-894-9080.

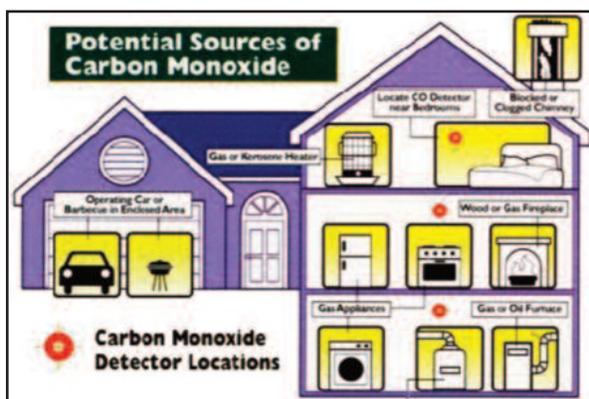


Now's the time! Winter Maintenance Tips for Your Home



Help to protect your home and family during the upcoming cold winter months by performing these simple home maintenance tasks

- **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.
- **Disconnect all garden hoses** from exterior hose bibs to prevent water line freeze-up into the house.
- **Check all exterior electrical fixtures for bird nests.** Failure to remove nests from electrical fixtures may cause a fire.
- **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.
- **Check all chimneys and flues** (i.e. fireplace, water heater, and furnace) 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 electrical holiday decorations for tight connections.** If possible use 3-prong plugs and cord sets, and 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 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. Danger can come from more than just your furnace (see illustration above).



Be Warm and Safe This Winter

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fire-place. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms monthly.



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**

Veterans Day 2013

Members of Bloomingdale Post 7439, along with Veterans who were family members of School District 13 staff, were honored at DuJardin elementary and Westfield Middle schools on Veterans Day.

They were treated to lunch with students at DuJardin, spent time talking with them in classrooms and were treated to a concert performed by the 4th and 5th grade choir.

They also spent time speaking with the students at Westfield and attended a Veterans Day assembly presented in their honor. Viet Nam veteran Bill Wolff addressed the students during the assembly.

Help your local VFW help the community. We...

- Ship packages monthly to servicemen overseas
- Provide Christmas gifts to Hines VA Hospital patients
- Participate in color/honor guards and local parades
- Perform memorial services at cemeteries
- Support the WWII Veteran Honor Flight program
- Offer assistance to servicemen on active duty
- Offer Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy student scholarships
- Support Scout of the Year and Teacher of the Year programs
- Organize Flag Day, Memorial Day, and Veterans Day programs

