

# Village of Bloomingdale

# *Ammanac*



December 2017

Growth with Pride

## Thanks for Investing In Bloomingdale Spirit

A shout out and heartfelt thank you to these community-minded Bloomingdale businesses which graciously partnered with the Village to make the 2017 Christmas Light Display possible. Their generous support also helped fund the July 4th Fireworks Display.

We invite other like-minded businesses to partner with the Village in spreading the magic and joy of the season through our festive Christmas light displays throughout town. To learn more about participating, email Jennifer at [schwelgerj@vil.bloomington.il.us](mailto:schwelgerj@vil.bloomington.il.us) or call her in the Mayor's office, 630-671-5600.

Pan American Bank  
Catering Enterprises Ltd.  
Golf Plus Inc.  
Bloomingdale Old Town Property Owners Assn.  
Pink Studio  
Pickle Piano  
Bloomingdale Mobil  
Stratford Square  
Blooming Nails  
Anyways American Grill Pub

## Bloomington Breaks into the Holiday Spirit

Friday, December 1st, marks the beginning of a month filled with events, activities and family time. It also marks the second annual Lighting of the Giant Village Christmas Tree and beginning of the month-long Festival of Lights in Old Town. When Mayor Franco and Bloomingdale Park Board President Buzz Puccio throw the switch at 6:30, Old Town will come alive, ablaze with color and light.

This year the Bloomingdale Chamber will host an Open House with light refreshments at 104 S. Bloomingdale Road from 4 to 6 p.m. and give away gift bags at the tree lighting ceremony.

Pan American Bank reprises its "Home for the Holidays Event" from 4-7 p.m. at 108 W. Lake Street. Santa, his Elves and live reindeer will be on hand. Stop in for some treats and a holiday gift. Call



*The Festival of Lights returns!*

630-283-5777 for details.

Wolfden Brewery and Alcentro Trattoria will join in the fun, as will D's Treats. Both restaurants will open in 2018, but wanted to participate in this joyful holiday tradition now. Adding to the ambience will be "Simple Treasures," a crafter who specializes in hand-crafted mittens, as well as hand-crafted decorations such as wreaths, vintage window frames

and centerpieces.

The Park District Museum is open 6 – 8:30. In addition to enjoying the Lego Trains, Toys and Teddy Bears, Rockin Santa will keep everyone in the holiday mood. Outside Carriage Rides run from 6:30-8 p.m. Watch for the ice sculptures as you tour Old Town.

There will be something going on every evening until Christmas Eve. *(cont on p. 6)*

## Toys, Trains and Teddy Bears

A larger Lego exhibit returns to the Old Town Museum with nine trains racing around the track, plus a wonderful assortment of toys and Teddy Bears from the 1920s to the present. Kid crafts & complimentary refreshments.



# Young Chefs from Marquardt Middle School Show Off Their Sizzle

## VILLAGE BOARD, COMMISSION &

The public is encouraged to attend all Board and Commission meetings

## REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE VILLAGE BOARD

2nd and 4th Mondays of the month January - November

1st & 3rd Monday in December  
7 p.m. – Village Hall

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

2nd and 4th Mondays of the month January - November

1st & 3rd Monday in December  
6 p.m. – Village Hall

## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. – Village Hall

## 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

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2nd Wednesday of every month  
7:30 p.m. – Library

## SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION

2nd Thursday of the month  
February through November  
7:00 p.m. - Village Hall

## BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3rd Thursday of the month  
4:00 p.m. – Firehouse,  
179 S. Bloomingdale Road



Marquardt Middle School's Young Chef Club students were honored to have the opportunity to participate in 50 Men Who Cook and Divas Who Dish - Taste of Bloomingdale. Starting at 1:00 PM the day of the event, about 12 Young Chef Club students worked alongside teachers and administrators in the middle school kitchen to prepare five different seasonal dishes. These dishes included seasonal produce, like their zucchini brownies and German apple cake. Some of the Young Chef students stayed to distribute the samples to attendees at the event. They really enjoyed showing off their recipes. It was a great opportunity for students to showcase their cooking and serving skills to the community.

## Stay in Touch

E-News is a great way to keep up with timely information on news in Bloomingdale, such as a heads-up about a street closing due to construction, a reminder about the branch pick-up schedule, or even a note about the Halloween activities for the little ones.



And in the case of an unusual event, such as a major snowstorm, the Village can send out critical information to all subscribers, as it becomes available. To sign up for the E-News, go to [www.villageofbloomingdale.org](http://www.villageofbloomingdale.org) and click on Village News on the right side of the homepage. Click on "Sign Up for Village E-News." It's easy and free!

## Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

**Franco A. Coladipietro**  
Village President

**William Belmonte**  
Traffic and Streets

**Frank Bucaro**  
Planning, Zoning  
& Environmental  
Concerns

**Jane E. Michelotti**  
Village Clerk

**Bill Bolen**  
Finance and  
Administration

**Vince Ackerman**  
Facilities, Infrastructure

### TRUSTEES

**Judi Von Huben**  
Public Safety

**Patrick Shannon**  
Intergovernmental and  
Community Relations

Thanks you to Building Inspector and resident Terry Spradling for her breathtaking photograph of the lights surrounding the gazebo at the corner of Bloomingdale Road and Fairfield Way.

## A Message from Mayor Franco

This year seems to have flown by and we are entering my favorite time of the year – the holiday season! (Oh, those Christmas lights!!) Although Thanksgiving is behind us, I have to thank all our residents and the business community for the support and feedback received in 2017. I held a few informal public “Meetings with the Mayor” this year and they have been an invaluable tool to learn what you think about what we’re doing. The Village Board and I are committed to stay the course, revitalizing, redeveloping, and renewing the excitement, while exercising financial discipline to ensure Bloomingdale continues to prosper.

A quick review of the commercial activity this year – We started the year with the opening of Mariano’s and every month thereafter, there have been ribbon cuttings, grand openings, remodels and expansions. We’ve seen big additions to the Village, such as Lakeview Memory Care and DuPage Medical Group Building, a variety of eateries, including Jimador Mexican Restaurant, plus more than 15 new businesses in Stratford, including Wild 1 Harley Davidson, which opened in November! There is more on the horizon for 2018.

And now...The Christmas light extravaganza is catching! This year the Village will be alight with more Christmas lights in more places, spreading the holiday spirit. Family activities abound throughout the month and can be found within this issue. Kicking off the Christmas festivities is the second annual Christmas Tree Lighting on December 1, marking the beginning of the month-long Festival of Lights held in Old Town Bloomingdale. When the switch is pulled at 6:30 p.m., Old Town Park and the Village’s giant Christmas tree on the Piazza will be lit simultaneously! Check out the front page of this Almanac to learn about the additional activities slated for Old Town that evening. You’ll find the Festival of Lights Calendar of Events on p. 9.

Something to keep in mind, please “Keep the Cheer Here,” by buying in Bloomingdale when you are shopping for the holidays. Keeping your sales taxes in the Village builds a stronger local economy. Did you know that 49% or \$8.43 million of the Village’s General Fund’s total revenues come from sales taxes? The next largest source is property tax at 14%, followed by income tax at 11%. All other revenues are in the single digits.

Our businesses, including our locally owned independents, are the lifeblood of our economy! Shopping in town also keeps our businesses here. Please, please support our local businesses when you can, as opposed to purchasing online. Many stores will match online prices, i.e., Best Buy. I’m an online shopper when I can’t find the product locally. The sales tax you pay online does not come back home to Bloomingdale; it goes to the State. This year, let’s “Keep the Cheer Here.”

And if you are looking for ways to help “Share the Cheer,” take a look at p. 8 for ideas to make the holiday season a little bit happier for someone less fortunate.

From the Coladipietro Family to your Family - Warmest Wishes for a Joyful Holiday Season.

Mayor Franco



## Proposal for Indian Lakes Golf Course Redevelopment Plan

The Village of Bloomingdale has received a submittal for the Indian Lakes Golf Course Redevelopment which is now available for public review. The document is from K-Hovanian Homes for a 535-unit age-restricted (55 and older) development for the former Indian Lakes golf course property. The 1400-page submittal can be viewed online at [www.villageofbloomingdale.org](http://www.villageofbloomingdale.org). A link to the document is located on the front page of the website under “News Flash.”

Village Staff is working diligently sorting through and analyzing the documents. Due to the size of the submittal, the Village has engaged the assistance of several consultants to help with the review of the information specializing in the particular segments of the project. The Village is currently working to determine a timeline for the process that will be shared with the public when known.

Mayor Franco and the Village Board have continually stated the Village will not be making any redevelopment decisions without significant input from Village residents. As part of any golf course redevelopment, the Village will seek to balance the often competing interests of the golf course owner, the developer, the surrounding residents, and the Village. During this process, the Village will be guided by its obligation to maintain the zoning integrity of the surrounding residential properties along the golf course and its commitment to preserving the open space of the property contemplated under the Village's Comprehensive Plan.

Residents are encouraged to visit the Village dedicated website page and reach out to Village Administrator Pietro Scalerà at [scalerap@vil.bloomingdale.il.us](mailto:scalerap@vil.bloomingdale.il.us) to share your ideas and concerns regarding the future of the Indian Lakes Golf Course.



# Drive Like Your Kids Live Here<sup>®</sup>

## Important Village & Community Phone Numbers

### Main Village Hall Number

630-893-7000

### Village Departments

Administration 630-671-5610

Building & Zoning 630-671-5660

Engineering 630-671-5676

Finance 630-671-5630

Mayor's Office 630-671-5600

Police – non-emergency  
630-529-9868

Public Works 630-671-5800

Water Billing 630-671-5650

Utilities 630-671-5830

### Other Useful Numbers

Fire Department non emergency  
630-894-9080

Bloomington Library  
630-529-3120

Bloomington Park District  
630-529-3650

## VILLAGE ALMANAC

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**Village of Bloomington**  
**Mary Ellen Johnson,**  
Editor

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Bloomington, IL 61018

630-671-5600

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February issue of the  
Almanac must be submitted to  
Mary Ellen Johnson by  
January 2, 2018  
email  
JOHNSONM@  
vil.bloomington.il.us

Families are often concerned about the speed or volume of traffic in their neighborhoods and intersection traffic control. These concerns are especially pronounced when residents are impacted by traffic or observe motorists exhibiting aggressive or distracted driving.

Aggressive and distracted driving is not only dangerous to the driver, but puts other drivers and users of the road or sidewalk at risk. Our neighborhood streets and sidewalks are used by a great number of people whether in a vehicle, on a bicycle or as pedestrians on foot. With so many people sharing the road and sidewalks, it is important for everyone's safety to follow the rules of the road.

People are frequently busy and rushed, but motorists should always be aware of the speed limit where they are driving. When approaching intersections, please slow down and make sure to look for traffic control signs, other vehicles and the presence of pedestrians. At this time of year when the daylight hours are shorter, the presence of pedestrians during non-daylight periods may be more difficult to see. Also, children walking to or from the school bus stop during twilight periods can be difficult to see, especially small children. For safety purposes, reduced vehicle speeds are strongly encouraged in our neighborhoods.

The Village asks all area drivers and users of the road or sidewalks for their cooperation. Please obey all traffic control signs, as well as adhering to the posted speed limit and other traffic control in our neighborhoods.

Please pass the word along to family and friends who reside in your area: drive safely and watch your speed.



## Enjoy Your Live Christmas Tree . . . Then Dispose of It at the Curb

Republic Services, Inc. the Village refuse hauler, will pick up live Christmas trees, up to six-feet tall, at the curb on residents' first four scheduled pick up days in January. 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 begins the week of Tuesday, January 2 and ends Friday, January 26, 2018.

Yard waste stickers are not required for Christmas tree disposal.

## Wintertime Q & A

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.



### 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

Refuse and recycling collection will be pushed back by one day, the weekdays following the Christmas and New Year's Holiday.

**From**  
Wed 12/27 – Fri 12/29  
Wed 1/3 – Fri 1/5

**To**  
Thurs 12/28 – Sat 12/30  
Thurs 1/4 – Sat 1/6



## Winter Phone Numbers

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

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

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

Call this number for non-emergency general information.

### Bloomingdale Fire District - Emergency 911

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

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

### Information on DuPage County Roads

### Division of Transportation DuPage County 630-682-7321

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

### Information Tollway Roadway Information Line

800-865-5394  
or 800-TOLLYI

For tollway information including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans. The information is updated every four hours, or more often if weather conditions warrant.



# Here's What You Need to Know About Winter 2018 Salting Operations

## 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 25 through Sunday, December 31.

Hours are Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. 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. Children (under age 7) when accompanied by a fare-paying adult are free.

Reservations shall be accepted beginning Thursday of the preceding week service is desired, and with as little as one (1) day advance notice. Same day service requests are not guaranteed.

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

The November weather has been chilly enough to remind us that the snow and ice cannot be far off. So here are some reminders about the salting procedures. **Keep in mind, in all areas each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down.**

Main Village Roads . . . (Brighton Drive, Butterfield Drive, Byron Avenue, Camden Drive, Cardinal Drive, N. Circle Avenue, Covington Drive, Edgewater Drive, Euclid Avenue, Fairfield Way, Fox Court, Glen Ellyn Road, Greenway Drive, Knollwood Drive, Madsen Drive, Schick Road, Scott Drive, Springfield Drive) will be treated using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride.

Just for clarification – Lake Street is State owned, Bloomingdale Road, Army Trail, Medinah Road and Gary Avenue are DuPage County roads. Snow and ice control for these roadways are carried out by these respective agencies.

2017-18 Winter Salting Operation Intersections . . . will be treated 100 feet adjacent to each intersection using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride.

Hills and Curves . . . will be treated 50 feet adjacent to hazardous areas using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride.

All Other Village Streets and Cul-De-Sacs . . . will be either untreated or spot salted when conditions dictate using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride.

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

## 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.



## Holiday Spirit Comes to Bloomingdale (cont from p. 1)

Check out the Festival of Lights calendar on p. 9.

Also take a look at the Library pages in the *Almanac* and the pages in the Park District winter brochure to see what programs they have in store in keeping with the season. Visit [www.StratfordMall.com](http://www.StratfordMall.com) to learn about its special events in December, including pet photos with Santa, an Artisan Holiday Show, and a free movie with Santa, The Star.

Relax, rejoice and revel in all the community has to offer this holiday season.

## Holiday Giving Opportunities

Each year many residents look for opportunities to help others less fortunate during the holiday season. Here are some of the local opportunities to share the spirit of the season.



**Please be An Angel** by joining together with the Village of Bloomingdale Employees this upcoming holiday season in support of the Salvation Army's Angel Tree benefiting infants (newborn to 24 months) with teen Moms and preschool age children (ages 2 to 5) attending Salvation Army's Red Shield Head Start program. Each Angel Tree tag indicates the gender, age and gift desired by each child.

If you're interested in participating and would like a tag, please e-mail Barb Weber at [weberb@vil.bloomington.il.us](mailto:weberb@vil.bloomington.il.us) or call 630-671-5613, (indicating gender/age preference, if you have one), and a tag will gladly be sent to you.

**Bloomington Township Sharing Tree** – Last year the Volunteer Council of Bloomington Township helped make the season brighter for more than 810 children in Bloomington Township. Names & wishes of local needy youngsters, as well as residents of convalescent and nursing homes are on the Sharing Tree, located at the Township Transportation Building, 123 Rosedale Road, now through December 15. Wrapped gifts must be returned by December 15.

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 15. 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**  
**Marklund Philip Center, 164 S. Prairie Ave.**  
**Bloomington 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 Bloomington Park District is once again participating in the annual Marklund Giving Tree program, as well as including our four-legged friends at Almost Home. All are invited to open up their hearts to light up this holiday season for Marklund residents, as well as for deserving pets. Stop by the 'Giving Tree' at the Johnston Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle Avenue, to pick up a wish list and cheer up the lives of children, canines and kittens! Happy Holidays!

**Bloomington VFW Post 7539** – Bloomington VFW Post 7539 is putting together holiday packages for our troops who are still far from home. Shipments have already been sent from St. Walter and St. Isidore churches, but the VFW will be sending more. Items can be delivered to the Bloomington Fire Station at 179 S. Bloomington Road seven days a week, between the hours of 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Please enter on the south side of the building and ring the doorbell.

If shopping isn't your thing, but you still want to help, the VFW post can always use donations to help pay for shipping all the packages they send out. Please make checks payable to: VFW Post 7539. Send them to VFW Post 7539, c/o Bloomington Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way, Bloomington, IL. 60108, and in the memo put "Support the Troops."



## Another 30-Footer!



Last year the John & Jane Zanghi Family donated their beautiful 30-foot Pine tree to the Village for the very first Christmas Tree Lighting in the Old Town Piazza. It became the backdrop to many a family holiday photo and looks to be a new tradition.

A similar residential tree could not be found this year, but another “home grown” tree was harvested from our east side pump station. See photo above.

When those lights go on, it will be breathtaking. In the words of Mayor Franco, the man of many Christmas lights, “Wow-za!”

## Wishing You the Merriest of Holidays

The Bloomington Village Hall holiday closings:

### Christmas:

Friday, December 22 & Monday, December 25

### New Year's:

Friday, December 29 & Monday, January 1, 2018

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



# Con and Scam Alert

## 2018 Neighborhood Watch Meetings

January 10th

March 14th

May 9th

July 11th

September 12th

November 14th

All meetings are on Wednesdays evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Room

### Tuesday, August 7th, 2018 – National Night Out Against Crime event

The January 10, 2018 meeting is the annual Open Forum with Village Officials representing the Mayor's Office, Village Services, Police Department and Fire Protection District.

## Police Raise Funds for Special Olympics



*Pictured are (l to r) Officers Jaffe, Donald, Han, Iwanicki, Corsiglia and Spontella.*

From 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday October 21, members of the Bloomingdale Police Department teamed up with the Stratford Square Red Robin in the annual Red Robin Tip a Cop Fundraiser for the Illinois Special Olympics. Bloomingdale Officers assisted Red Robin staff in waiting tables and visiting with patrons. Thank you to everyone who came out to support this annual event. Just over \$800 was raised, all of which went directly to the Illinois Special Olympics.

Recently, the Bloomingdale Police Department has been investigating incidents of **Ruse Entry Burglaries**, during which a group of individuals use a ruse to enter residents' homes in order to steal cash, jewelry and other valuables. These scam artists offer to do work, such as clean up leaves, help repair a driveway, etc. or tell the resident they are buying the home next door and are making changes to the property, so they would like to see the view from the resident's backyard. During these scams, one individual keeps the victim (resident) preoccupied in conversation inside the home or lures the victim outside, while other individuals enter the residence and look for valuables.



The Bloomingdale Police Department wants all citizens to be aware of such scams and to practice the following safety tips.

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times.
- Never open the doors to strangers. You can answer & talk through a door if necessary. **Ask service people for identification and call the company for further verification.**
- Report any suspicious people or activity. **Contact our police department at 911 immediately.** This includes individuals knocking on doors to see if anyone is home or ask directions.
- 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. Being "the eyes and ears of the community" will help reduce victimization for you and others.

For more information, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

### Update on Scams and Safety Tips

Due to the recent criminal activity as described above and a need to enhance communication, the Police Department is reaching out to our senior citizen population. A meeting with the Director of Public Safety, Frank Giammarese and Officer Dawn Odoi will take place Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the Village Hall Council Room. Senior Citizens and Caregivers are encouraged to attend.

### One Extra Week for Yard Waste Collection

Republic Services will collect yard waste through the last regular collection on December 8th. Yard waste consisting of grass clippings, twigs, leaves, and plant material must be set out at the curb prior to 6:00 a.m. on the day of collection, in biodegradable Kraft paper bags weighing no more than 50 pounds. A yard waste sticker must be affixed to each bag. Stickers can be purchased at a cost of \$3.16 per sticker at the Village Hall, Bloomingdale grocery stores, and other area locations.

calendar

## An Occasion for Giving

When Bloomingdale businesswomen Annie Kasak met Heather Kash (Development Director, Neighborhood Food Pantries) at a January Chamber event, she jumped at the chance to get involved with the mission to provide food security to our neighbors in need in NW DuPage County. The owner of Annie Occasion, a charming gift shop reminiscent of Galena & Door County, volunteered to set up a series of "Give-Back Days" throughout the year. These fundraisers dedicate 10% of floral orders and gift sales to Neighborhood Food Pantries. Her first "Give-Back Days" started with the 10 days leading up to Valentine's Day; she repeated the campaign for the 10 days leading up to Mother's Day. According to Kash, "Annie also volunteered countless hours of time and effort to help plan the organization's annual HarvestFest dinner/auction this October, bringing her expertise, talents and contacts to be a part of a record-setting year for the event."

As a result of her enormous generosity, Annie was presented with a "2017 Good Neighbor Award" by Neighborhood Food Pantries. Her last set of "Give-Back Days" will be held from December 9 – 19, 2017, when 10% of all floral orders and gifts will be donated to NFP. Annie Occasion, 148 S. Bloomingdale Road is located on the back side of Delish Cakes, facing the Bloomingdale Post Office. Her eclectic mix of affordable luxury merchandise, from original artwork to jewelry, unique gifts, gourmet baskets, and a myriad of gift items will surprise & delight you, as will Annie [www.annieoccasion.com](http://www.annieoccasion.com) or 630-283-5973.



*Heather Kash, Development Director NFP and Annie Kasak, Owner, Annie Occasion for Any Occasion*

## Stratford Sees Increase in Retail

Among the new stores opened at Stratford Square in the last couple months are Wild 1 Harley Davidson, located at 324 Stratford Square, which opened its doors on November.15.

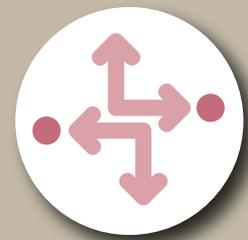
October saw ToPlay VR (virtual reality games), Elegance Styles (shoes and accessories), Bricks & Bear (like a build a bear with Legos combined), and Dreamland Comics, an established comic book store from Schaumburg.

Other recent additions include Infinity Jewelers, GoCalendar and the Ornament Kiosk.

## Eagle Falls Dentistry Honored as Best Friend of Illinois Parks

Thanks to their unbelievable generosity and community support, Eagle Falls Dentistry was awarded Best Friend of Illinois Parks (Small Business) at the Illinois Association of Park District's Best of the Best Awards Gala in October.

As a primary/major sponsor of the Park District's major events, Eagle Falls Dentistry impacts the community year-round. Read more about it at [www.bloomingdaleparks.org](http://www.bloomingdaleparks.org)



## 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

**H2 Fit Camp**  
185 E. Lake Street

**B Fit Energy**  
120 Ridge Street

**The Chicago Ballet Company**  
162 E. Lake Street

**Custom Apparel**  
5270 Glen Ellyn Road

**Halloween City**  
340 W. Army Trail Rd

**Dental Group of Bloomingdale**  
1 Tiffany Pointe

**Goosehead Insurance**  
125 E. Lake Street Suite 207

**Stratford Square**  
ToPlay VR  
Dreamland Comics  
Wild 1 Harley-Davidson  
Elegance Styles  
Brick & Bear  
Infinity Jewelers  
Go Calendar

## Chicago School of Ballet Comes to Bloomingdale

The Chicago School of Ballet recently opened a studio at 162 E Lake Street, Suite C.

Owner/Director Steve Norman has assembled a team of some of the finest instructors, all of whom have extensive professional experience teaching and performing in their various styles.



The mission at The Chicago School of Ballet is to provide students of all levels with more than just dance classes, but a unique experience in which the student can grow both mentally and physically as a dancer. The instructors all have a passion for the art of dance and for helping others discover their inner dancer.

The school's pre-professional students are among the top in the country, receiving scholarships and placing in such prestigious competitions as YAGP, World Ballet Competition, Carey Rose and more. For more information regarding the program, please call 630-418-5525 or visit <https://www.thechicagoballetacademy.com>

The hours of operation are Mon - Fri: 3pm-10pm; Saturday: 10am - 4pm; Sunday: by Appointment. Private Coaching is Available upon request.

## Bloomingdale Chamber Sponsors Best of Bloomingdale 2018



The Best of Bloomingdale 2018 is a signature event designed to recognize outstanding members of the business community. This event reaches beyond the chamber and into the community, requesting nominations and incorporating a voting component to augment judging in the selection process. The Best of Bloomingdale culminates with an award dinner to recognize the

winners. Recognition of nominees and award recipients will continue throughout the year. This premier event will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Bloomingdale Golf Club from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce is currently seeking nominations for the Best of Bloomingdale 2018 Awards. Nominations of businesses will take place December 1st-22nd, 2017. Forms are available on the Chamber website [www.bloomingdalechamber.com](http://www.bloomingdalechamber.com). Rules for nominations can also be found on the Chamber's website.

Nominees who meet the initial qualifications of the program will be sorted into categories. The selection process will incorporate the results of two concurrent activities: an internal evaluation by a Chamber awards committee and a popular vote. Online voting at [www.bloomingdalechamber.com](http://www.bloomingdalechamber.com) is open January 8 and concludes at midnight on Wednesday, January 31, 2018.



## Halloween with Seniors and Students



DuJardin Elementary School Student Council and Kids for Character Students visited the seniors at **Lakeview Memory Care Community** on Halloween for some trick or treating! It was treats all around as the seniors were treated to a visit from the youngsters in costume and the kids loved meeting the seniors (and of course, there were the treats!). A wonderful community outreach on both sides!

## Virtual Reality Comes to Stratford Square

ToPlay VR and the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce hosted a grand opening/ribbon cutting on October 18 at Stratford Square. The new gaming site brings a world of virtual reality to the mall.



# Community Events

## Nominations Being Accepted for Georgene Geils Business Woman of the Year Award

The Bloomingdale Area Women in Business (BAWIB) is seeking nominations beginning December 1 and continuing through the end of January, 2018 for the Georgene Geils Award.

This award is named for prominent local business woman Georgene Geils (1928-2011), who was a forerunner in the movement of professional women, known for mentoring through her involvement in the community and within her own business.

For information about the characteristics and qualifications sought for this award, as well as a nomination form, visit [www.bloomingdalechamber.com](http://www.bloomingdalechamber.com) or call 630-980-9082.

The winner will be presented by the Bloomingdale Area Women in Business at the Best of Bloomingdale event, slated for March 1 at the Bloomingdale Golf Club.

More information on the Best of Bloomingdale event will appear in the February 2018 Almanac issue.



*Christine Smith, President of Bloomingdale Bank & Trust, was the recipient of the 2017 Georgene Geils Award.*

## Culinary Event Raises \$4,500 for Local School Programs

The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce's 9th annual 50 Men Who Cook and Divas Who Dish, A Taste of Bloomingdale (the ladies and several more restaurants got into the act too this year!) was a great time. The culinary talent prepared 42 of their best dishes and the multi-course competition ensured none of the more than 200 attendees walked away hungry.

The event raised funds to support the Chamber of Commerce, as well as benefit health and wellness programs at area schools. Each of the three school districts received \$1500 to support their programs.



*Fire Chief Jeff Janus and Police Chief Frank Giammarese both worked the chamber event to benefit school kids. (Jeff brought S'mores!)*

### 1st place winners -

**Appetizers and Snacks** - Cheesy Bacon Tots by Eric Becker, "The Swine Guy"

**Sides and Salads** - Meatballs by Patrick Devitt of Devitt Investment Firm

**Entrees** - Swedish Pancakes by Stefan Larsson of Bloomingdale

School District 13 and his daughter Emma

**Desserts** - Smokey Bear S'mores by Bloomingdale Fire Protection District #1

Chief Jeff Janus

**Professionals** - Anyway's American Grill & Pub - Bloomingdale with their

Homestyle Pot Roast & Mashed Potatoes

## Mayor's Visit to Erickson Elementary

On October 5th, Ms. Atchison's Second Grade class at Erickson Elementary School had a special visitor. The class was learning about the duties and role of a mayor, so they extended



an invitation to our very own, Mayor Franco, to help facilitate this lesson. Both the students and the mayor had a great experience!

## Bloomingdale School District 13 Community Survey

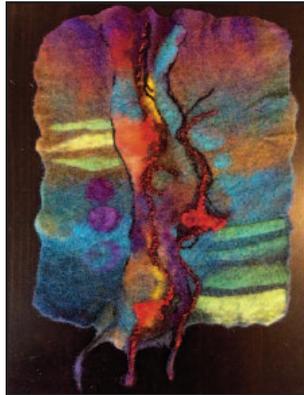
Bloomingdale School District 13 is seeking input from the community through an anonymous survey questionnaire, developed by Panorama Education. The district encourages families, staff members, students, and the wider community of District 13 to fill out the anonymous survey between November 10 and December 10, 2017. Visit [sd13.org](http://sd13.org) to learn about or take the survey on the homepage.

Call Claudia Fecho at 630-893-9590 for more information.

## Bloomington Artists Association Upcoming Programs

### January 10 - Oil and Cold Wax Demo

Joanne Laudolff has been creating artwork inspired by nature throughout her adult life. A graduate of Columbia College in Chicago, she taught Papermaking and Botanical Printing. She will be demonstrating her most recent passion, the Oil and Cold Wax Technique, covering the use of different surfaces, types of oil paint and tools/effects.. Members will have time to create a small piece. \$10 visitor/materials fee.



### February 14 - Felt Tapestry Workshop

Tammy Deck, artist/owner of TLD Design Center & Gallery in Westmont, will present a workshop on Felt Tapestry. Registration is required for this program; visitors will be limited. For more information about the program and fee, contact Bev Petrosius, 630-624-9545 or [bpetrosius@gmail.com](mailto:bpetrosius@gmail.com).

Both programs meet at the Bloomington Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomington Road. at 7 p.m.

## Garden Club Annual Business Meeting January 16

The annual business meeting will be held with the executive board and standing committee members. Agenda Items include elections, charitable endeavors, annual plant sale and programs for the year.

Visitors are welcome. Social Time; 6:15 p.m. Business Meeting starts at 6:45 p.m. at St. Paul Church, 118 First Street in Bloomington.

Visit [www.bloomingtongardenclub.org](http://www.bloomingtongardenclub.org) or contact-contact [bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com) for more information.

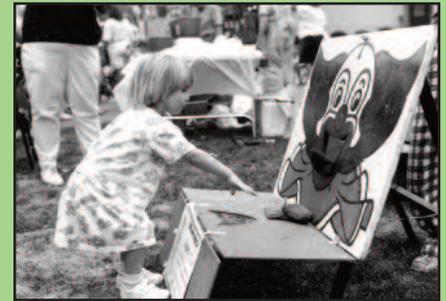
## Lions Hosting Spaghetti Dinner on February 9

The Bloomington Lions Club hosts its annual winter Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, February 9 from 5-8 p.m. at Bloomington Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Road. The cost is \$10 per person; children eight and under eat free. Proceeds from raffles and dinner will benefit visual and hearing impaired persons in the community, as well as other needs. For more info or tickets, contact Arlene Zilinsky at [zilinsky1534@comcast.net](mailto:zilinsky1534@comcast.net) or Stan Poplonski at 630-461-1283.

The Lions are also rolling out the tickets for a repeat of their Centennial Raffle. Only 200 tickets will be sold for \$100 each. The top prize is \$5,000, with nine more cash prizes being awarded. Proceeds will help fund community programs, help provide vision and hearing tests for all residents and much, much more.

The drawing will take place at the Lions annual Steak Dinner in May.

## Share Your History With Us



Septemberfest mid 80s

The Bloomington Historical Society's second "Images of America" Arcadia History Book is in research mode. Members are looking for photos from the 1960s forward. All original photos will be scanned and returned. For more information, call Bonnie at 630-582-8101 or Mary Ellen at 630-351-1503.

**PAN AMERICAN BANK & TRUST**  
Live the Dream

Join us before the Old Town tree lighting  
**Home for the Holidays Event**

**Friday, December 1, 2017**  
4 to 7 p.m.  
108 W. Lake Street, Old Town Bloomington  
Call us at 630.283.5777 for more details.

**Santa & his Elves**   **LIVE Reindeer**   **Sweet Treats**   **Holiday Gift**



# Around and About Town

## Pride in Performance

Every grading period Lake Park High School names Pride in Performance Winners. This first quarter, a number of Bloomingdale students were recognized.

### East Campus

#### Academics:

**Nick Paterala** has straight As with a rigorous schedule that includes two Advanced Placement courses and three Honors courses. His work ethic and engagement in academics are top notch!

#### Activities:

**Anthony Schwegler** brings a positive outlook to school every day. He is extremely helpful to others and is a responsible member of several Lake Park activities, including Lancer HERO.

### West Campus

#### Academics:

**Sahil Patel** is a 4-year member of the Math Team. A great role model and leader on the team, Sahil recently scored a perfect 25/25 points on a North Suburban Math League contest on the topic of Trigonometry.

#### Activities:

**Brianna McAloon** has sought opportunities to become involved in activities, athletics and multiple leadership groups, including Student Council. She demonstrates passion for leadership and an ability to motivate her fellow students to become involved.

#### Athletics:

**Nicole Hansen** is a 3-time Girls Golf State Qualifier. This year, she was an IHSA Regional and Sectional champion. Congratulations to Nicole for a successful 2017 season and Lake Park career!

## 2017 American Youth Character Award Winners



The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition's annual Celebration Night took place on October 11 in Old Town Park. This year's theme was the Pillar of Caring; students conducted a "Change for Change" collection. The children chose Anderson Animal Shelter as the charity to receive the monies raised. The evening also included the annual presentation of the 2017 American Youth Character Awards, Photo: Village Trustee Frank Bucaro with the student recipients and their nominating officials, front row left to right: Hailey Benoit (Denise Miranda, Chris Helms, Bloomingdale Bears Cheerleading), Jaden Mahoney (Principal Stefan Larsson, Westfield Middle), Maddie Buck (Principal Patrick Haugens, Erickson), Makayla Testolin (Principal Cyndi Collins, St. Isidore), Sophia Piemonte (Principal Mark Dwyer, DuJardin), and Rachel Daciolas (Principal Jon Pokora, Winnebago).

## Joyce Boryla Honored with Senior Volunteer Award

Joyce Boryla received a Senior Citizen Volunteer Award at the 21st Illinois TRIAD Conference Awards Ceremony on September 13. The Award is designed to encourage law enforcement agencies to honor and recognize senior citizens as vital members of their department as well as essential community liaisons. Joyce has been a Senior Citizen Volunteer since January 2012. Congratulations Joyce!



## Lock Your Car Doors

The Bloomingdale Police Department reminds you to Lock your Car Doors and do not leave valuables inside your vehicle unsecured. As the Holidays approach, car burglaries increase with all of the gift-shopping taking place. Please, lock your car doors at home and away from home.

While this piece of advice should be a no-brainer, up to a quarter or more vehicle thefts are from unlocked cars, according to some law enforcement agencies. Even if you're running into the store for a minute, that's too long to leave your vehicle's contents open for the taking. Simply locking the doors will deter those who might just be waiting around for an easy target.

## Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is a free statewide health insurance counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers under the Illinois Department of Aging. SHIP offers free counseling service for people with Medicare and those planning to sign up for Medicare. SHIP is not affiliated with any insurance company and the counselors do not sell, solicit information for or represent any insurance companies, products or services.

SHIP counselors are trained to:

- Educate consumers and answer questions about Medicare, Medicare Supplement, long term care insurance, Medicare HMOs, private fee-for-service and other health insurance;
- Organize and assist in filing Medicare and Medicare Supplement claims; and
- Analyze Medicare Supplement and long term care policies.

For further information about SHIP, call 1-800-252-8966 or visit [Aging.SHIP@Illinois.gov](mailto:Aging.SHIP@Illinois.gov)

Local Contact: Glendale Heights Center for Senior Citizens, 200 Civic Center Plaza, Glendale Heights, IL 60139. Available all year to assist you. Call 630-260-6050 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday)

## Make a Difference Day at Lake Park High School

Lake Park High School's annual "Make a Difference Day" involved nearly 700 Lancers - supported by 50+ adults sporting a sea of navy blue and white at volunteer sites throughout the community. Among the many locations impacted by the teens were: Feed My Starving Children, Phil's Friends, visiting with residents at nursing facilities, DuPage Habitat for Humanity, Northern Illinois Food Bank and many more locations.



## Nicole Hansen – Golf is Her Game!



Bloomington resident and Lake Park High School senior Nicole Hansen has had an exceptional record on the LPHS Girls Golf Team. She joined as a freshman and has been named MVP four years running. She also achieved All Conference and All Academic Conference all four years.

This year Nicole won Regionals and was a Sectional first-place medalist with a 2 under par 70! The senior member of the Girls Varsity Team and three-time IHSA State individual qualifier entered the 2017 Illinois tournament in the number one position.

Nicole committed to the Purdue girls golf team on March 20, 2017, making her a Lady Boilermaker in fall of 2018.

## LPHS Holiday Craft Fair

The Lake Park Holiday Craft Fair featuring nearly 100 crafters, takes place on Saturday, December 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the West Campus Field House. Adult admission is \$2.00; children and senior citizens are free.



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

Chief  
Jeffrey Janus

District Trustees  
Tim Deutsche  
Lydia DiBuono  
Bill Wolff

Commissioners  
Marshall Gray, Jr.  
Shawn Flood  
Joseph Zeno

## Joint Effort – Trench Operations Drill

Wednesday, September 6, the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1 hosted a joint Trench Operations drill with Bloomingtondale Public Works and Bloomingtondale Police Department.

The three departments tried out some new hydraulic shoring and worked to prevent further collapse.

Special thanks to Maggie Ward from Farmers Insurance for providing lunch.



## Preparing for A Disaster: Emergency personnel may need hours or days to reach you during winter storms, tornados or floods

In the wake of so many recent disasters, the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) would like to remind you that in a disaster, local officials and relief workers cannot reach everyone immediately. Help may not arrive for hours or days. You need to be prepared ahead of time because you won't have time to shop or search for the supplies you will need when a disaster strikes.

Most disasters are natural disasters, the result of some force of nature, such as tornados and floods. Some natural disasters can be predicted, such as severe winter storms, while others, such as tornados and earthquakes, happen with little or no warning. Some disasters are the cause of human actions, intentional or unintentional. A disaster plan will help with safety, security, and comfort. Regardless of the type of disaster, there are things you can do to prepare. Contact your local Red Cross chapter or visit the FEMA Web site to make sure you are aware of the potential for natural disasters in your community. After you have identified the types of disasters that could strike where you live, create a family disaster plan. Remember to make it simple so everyone can remember the details.



### General Preparedness

- Discuss what to do in an evacuation, and don't forget to include the needs of those with disabilities.
- When told by officials, go immediately to a shelter as instructed or to the home of a friend or relative who lives out of the area. Find out about your local shelters beforehand.
- Know evacuation routes. Pre-establish several different routes in case certain roads are blocked or closed.
- Family members can become separated during an emergency. Be prepared by creating a plan for how to reach one another. Establish an out-of-area contact (such as a relative or friend) who can coordinate family members' locations and information should you become separated. Make sure children learn the phone numbers and addresses, and know the emergency plans.
- Quiz children every six months so they remember what to do, where to go, and whom to call in an emergency.
- Decide how to take care of pets. Pets are not allowed in places where food is served, so you will need to have a place to take your pets if you have to go to a shelter.

For more information about emergency preparedness or other safety information, contact Battalion Chief Richard Kurka of the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District at 630-234-8967.



## Another Bountiful Season from the Community Gardens



*From Master to experienced to novice, the gardeners at the Harvest Picnic all enjoyed the camaraderie and the variety of dishes provided.*

The second annual Harvest Picnic celebrating the Community Gardens' bountiful season was held under the trees near the gardens on October 1. Bloomingdale and Roselle garden club members, along with Master Gardeners and several community gardeners joined in.

Many of those attending brought their favorite dishes to share and some of the most unusual treats were tasted and commented on. A new item was the "cucumelon" grown by Shari Aldous in her plot. Since none of the other guests knew what they were, Shari spent time explaining about the plant and the uses for this tasty little vegetable!!

The harvest throughout the season from the Bloomingdale and Roselle gardens, as well as that from the Master Gardeners, was impressive and helped to feed those less fortunate in both villages. Many of the individual gardeners also donated their produce; these gardens are an inspiration to everyone involved.

*An excerpt from an article by Joyce Basel, former Garden Club President*

## Time to Disconnect Hoses & Shut Off Water to Exterior Spigots

In December, sub-freezing temperatures are occurring more frequently. If you haven't done it yet, now is a good time to disconnect your garden hoses and turn off the water supply inside your house (if shut-off valves are present) to exterior hose spigots.

Leaving a hose connected to a spigot during sustained periods of sub-freezing temperatures, (even if the water is off), can cause the hose bib to crack. Due to the construction of typical hose bibs, you may not become aware of the leak until the next time the hose is used. Attending to this simple maintenance activity in the fall, will save you from the burden of replacing a cracked hose bib next spring.



## Avoid Ruptured Water Pipes This Winter

Here are a few ways to prevent water pipes from freezing during extreme cold snaps in winter:

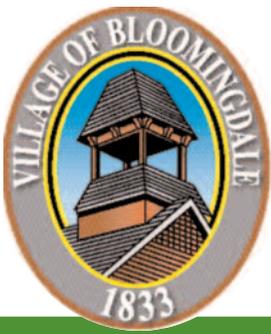
- Seal cracks in doors, windows and foundations. Small openings can create a concentrated blast of air that can quickly freeze pipes.
- Make sure that all rooms in the house that have plumbing fixtures are heated. Water pipes in unheated rooms can freeze, rupture, and cause extensive water damage.



- Consider installing pipe insulation around the water pipes. Local hardware stores carry the proper type of insulation for this task. Remember to check the insulation to make sure it is not wet. Wet insulation is worse than no insulation.
- Advise all family members where the main water shutoff valve is located (usually near the water meter) in case of emergency.
- Open cabinet and closet doors so that warm air can circulate around the pipes.
- Allow cold water to trickle through the faucets at the highest part of the house to prevent water from freezing in the pipes.

**If pipes freeze, NEVER thaw frozen pipes with an open flame. This is a fire hazard.**

- Use hot air from a hair dryer, the exhaust from a vacuum cleaner, heat lamps, heat tape, or electric heaters to thaw a frozen pipe.
- Consider using the heat from a light bulb to thaw pipes slowly. Be sure to keep the bulb away from combustible material to avoid starting a fire.



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**

### Coming Together to Make a Difference

Each year, "Make A Difference Day" at Bloomingdale Park District is organized by Wolff Construction of Roselle. It includes cleaning up trash, clearing invasive plants and vegetation, seeding native plants and vegetation, and more at the Wetlands at Springfield Park. This year, in addition to adult volunteers, the park had Boy Scouts, Brownies and Lake Park High School students all working together.

Student volunteers from Lake Park High School did quite a bit of seeding natural plants.

Wolff Construction owner Bill Wolff, Jr. (standing) works with Nathan Karas (above) to repair a pier at the wetlands.



### Thank You for Your Service to Our Country and to Our Community

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 held their annual November 11th Veterans Day 11 a.m. service at the gazebo by the library.

The Post members were joined by other Veterans on Thursday, November 9 as they visited with students at Westfield Middle School.





**READING  
WINTERLAND  
DEC. 18 - FEB. 9**



**ADULT & TEEN WINTER  
READING CHALLENGE**

Discover a **reading winterland** by joining our Adult & Teen Winter Reading Challenge!

Enter our two drawings for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card prize!

- Reading prize drawing – Log 1 book, earn 1 entry. All books count!
- Challenge prize drawing – Log 1 book that fits a challenge, earn 1 entry. Read books in different genres & subjects to complete challenges.
- Sign up in person or online at [www.mybpl.org/winterreading](http://www.mybpl.org/winterreading).

**YOUTH SERVICES WINTER  
READING CHALLENGE  
(BIRTH - 6TH GRADE)**

It's a **reading winterland!**

- Beginning Monday, Dec. 18, you may register in person at the Youth Services desk to receive your information packet and starting prize.
- Complete your reading log by reading for just three hours.
- Turn in your log at the Youth Services Reference desk by Friday, Feb. 9 to receive your final prize and be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing.

# LIBRARY EVENTS

## Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 - 5 p.m.

## Board of Trustees:

Bonni Rothbaum, President  
Milton Clark, Vice President  
Ben Hoyle, Secretary  
Alex Contes, Treasurer  
Natalie Valenti, Trustee  
David Strutzel, Trustee,  
Sharon Schade, Trustee

## Library Staff:

Tim Jarzemsky, Library Director  
Abby Budzynski, Adult Services  
Christine Sporleder, Circulation/Technical Services  
Sean Luster, Computer Services  
Lisa Palmer, Youth Services  
Nicole Swanberg, PR/Marketing

## Connect With Us:

101 Fairfield Way, Bloomingdale, IL  
P: 630-529-3120  
www.mybpl.org

Business Office: 630-924-2720  
Circulation: 630-924-2750  
Adult Services/Homebound: 630-924-2730  
Youth Services: 630-924-2740

Local History: 630-924-2765  
Computer Services: 630-924-2767

Email: [bdref@mybpl.org](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org)  
Text a Librarian: Text "mybpl" to 66746

## On The Same Page

Thank you to all who participated in our seventh annual On the Same Page series of programs and book discussions of *The Geography of Genius* by Eric Weiner. This program is made possible in part by our sponsors, Itasca Bank & Trust, Friends of the Bloomingdale Public Library, Friends of the Roselle Public Library, Rotary Club of Bloomingdale-Roselle, and Salerno Rosedale Chapels.

## Exam Cram (Drop-In)

**Monday, Dec. 18 - Wednesday, Dec. 20 | 3:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

Open to all high school students (Grades 9-12)

Get ready for finals at the library's Exam Cram! We'll have group and quiet study areas, Wi-Fi, and computers. We'll provide caffeine and snacks - you provide the brain power! Pizza served at 7:00 p.m.

## Winter Concert Series



**Heather Bradoudakis Presents: Rosemary Clooney**  
Tuesday, January 9 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Are you a Rosemary Clooney fan? Me too! Come On a My House and Mambo Italiano with me as we reminisce on the music and life of this beloved entertainer. Presented by professional singer and Grammy Award winner Heather Braudakis.

**Love & Marriage: Musical Theater Style**  
Tuesday, February 13 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Art imitates life, and in this heartwarming cabaret, Matt and Cynthia chronicle the many stages of relationships while performing varied and powerful songs from the Broadway stage!



= registration required.

## Holiday Family Event

**Smarty's Holiday Balloon Show (Drop-In)**

Sunday, December 3 | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

For families

Join us this holiday for an afternoon featuring comedy, magic and Smarty Pants' award-winning, eye-popping balloons featuring all your winter favorites for the season!!

## Holiday Hours

Sunday, Dec. 24: CLOSED  
Monday, Dec. 25: CLOSED  
Sunday, Dec. 31: CLOSED  
Monday, Jan. 1: CLOSED



**The Garbo: The Musical**  
Monday, December 4 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Want to see an off-Broadway show this winter without the hefty ticket price? Join us at the library for an original one-woman musical based on the legendary and enigmatic Swedish film star Greta Garbo starring Jillann Gabrielle.

**Heather Bradoudakis Presents: Rosemary Clooney**  
Tuesday, January 9 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Are you a Rosemary Clooney fan? Me too! Come On a My House and Mambo Italiano with me as we reminisce on the music and life of this beloved entertainer. Presented by professional singer and Grammy Award winner Heather Braudakis.

**Anyone Can Sing!**  
Tuesday, December 5 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Molly McLinden, a voice teacher and singer, will lead participants of all ages in simple vocal exercises and songs. She'll also answer any questions you may have about vocal health and how to practice.

**Love & Marriage: Musical Theater Style**  
Tuesday, February 13 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Art imitates life, and in this heartwarming cabaret, Matt and Cynthia chronicle the many stages of relationships while performing varied and powerful songs from the Broadway stage! Through favorites such as "Summer Lovin," "There Is Nothing Like a Dame," "Kids," "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better," "People Will Say We're in Love," and "All I Ask of You," audiences will certainly relate to the many facets of "Love and Marriage - Musical Theatre Style!"

**Christmas Traditions at the White House**  
Monday, December 11 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Few American houses enjoy as lavish a holiday season as the White House. In this beautifully illustrated talk, historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., discusses the traditions that bring Christmas alive inside America's most famous address. Take an insider's view of one of the most historic homes in the world during the most magical time of the year.



**Lose Weight This Winter**  
Tuesday, December 12 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



It can be difficult to maintain our waistline over the holidays, but Chiropractic Physician Lynn Capodagli is willing to share some tips for losing weight in a healthy way. She will teach us how to recognize unhealthy outside influences on our weight, which healthcare providers help with weight loss, and some appropriate medical interventions for weight loss like acupuncture, physical therapy, and dietary counselling.

Discover a reading winterland by joining our Adult & Teen Winter Reading Challenge! Enter our two drawings for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card prize!

- Reading prize drawing – Log one book, earn one entry. All books count!
- Challenge prize drawing – Log one book that fits a challenge, earn one entry. Read books in different genres and subjects to complete challenges.

**DIY Make & Take: Washi Tape Valentines**  
Monday, January 29 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Valentine's Day is only 2 weeks away! Join us and learn how to make adorable washi tape-embellished Valentines on the cheap for all your sweethearts. Registration opens on Friday, December 1 and is limited to 30 adults.

Adults and teens can sign up in person or online at [www.mybpl.org/winterreading](http://www.mybpl.org/winterreading).



**The Sweet Art of Making Maple Syrup**  
Monday, February 5 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Chef Maddox Presents: Brunch!**  
Tuesday, February 6 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Some programs require registration (  ) as noted. You may register for programs online at [www.mybpl.org](http://www.mybpl.org) (click on "Calendar" at the top of the page), at the Adult Services Reference Desk, or call (630) 924-2730.



### Spend Smarter Right NOW!

Monday, January 8 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



In this seminar, we will tackle the following ideas about spending smarter: what are "today dollars" and "tomorrow dollars," and what does that mean to you; how do we hide our spending from ourselves and how to stop it; and what is a strong "financial fortress" and how do you build it? Presented by Steven Briggs, author and Financial Advisor at Waddell & Reed.

### Powerful Presence: Colonel Jill's Empowering Strategies to Advance Your Career

Monday, January 15 | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Colonel Jill wants to show you ways to move forward, while eliminating unconscious mistakes that could be holding you back. When you recognize and change certain behaviors, results pay off in career opportunities you never thought possible along with an image that identifies you as someone with the power and knowledge to lead and succeed.

### Decluttering Your House

Tuesday, January 23 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Leslie Gail, owner of Declare Order Professional Organizing, will teach us how to declutter our houses and start the New Year off right!



We'll supply the popcorn! Come enjoy new releases at BPL's Movie Matinee and enter for a chance to win a copy of that day's movie on DVD at the end of the showing. You must be present to win.

### The Glass Castle

Wednesday, December 13 | 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.



A young girl comes of age in a dysfunctional family of nonconformist nomads with a mother who's an eccentric artist and an alcoholic father who would stir the children's imagination with hope as a distraction to their poverty. Starring: Brie Larson, Woody Harrelson, Naomi Watts. Rated: PG-13 / 127 minutes

### Dunkirk

Wednesday, January 24 | 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.



Allied soldiers from Belgium, the British Empire, and France are surrounded by the German army and evacuated during a fierce battle in World War II. Starring: Fionn Whitehead, Damien Bonnard, Aneurin Barnard. Rated: PG-13 / 106 minutes

### Bloomington Seniors' Club (Drop-In)

Tuesday, Dec. 12 & Jan. 9 | 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Do you enjoy playing cards and meeting others who share your interests? Join the Seniors Club!

### Downloadable Resources

Tuesday, Jan. 2 | 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.



We'll have a librarian available to get you started using eBooks, audiobooks, and digital magazines. Please contact the Adult Services reference desk to schedule a 45 minute appointment.

### Scrabble Club (Drop-In) (NEW!)

Thursday, Dec. 14 & Jan. 11 | 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of Scrabble! The library will provide Scrabbleboards and dictionaries, as well as snacks and beverages. Whether you play for fun or for the challenge, all skills level are welcome. Come enjoy some classic wordplay!

### Genealogy Club (Drop-In)

Thursday, January 25 | 6:30 - 8:45 p.m. (no meeting in Dec.)

Members share search strategies and explore library resources with guidance from genealogy librarian Leslie Drewitz.

### Great Decisions

Wednesday, January 17 | 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



The Great Decisions discussion program is a civic education program administered and produced by the Foreign Policy Association. In preparation for the discussion, participants read the relevant chapter on a particular foreign policy issue in the Great Decisions briefing book that will be available for check out, followed by a moderated discussion among the participants.

### Tai Chi

Friday, Dec. 1 & Jan. 5 | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.



Join us at the library for a hour of Tai Chi, which combines breathing, slow movement, meditation, and balance. Bob Plucinsky is a Tai Chi and Qi Gong instructor.



### Historical Book Discussion | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 5 | The Invisibles: The Untold Story of African American Slaves in the White House by Jesse J. Holland  
Tuesday, January 2 | Capital Dames: The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868 by Cokie Roberts

### Monday Night Page Turners | 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Monday, December 4 | Join the Monday Night Page Turners book group for a book sharing party! Bring a few faves and flops to share with the group and enjoy some light refreshments.  
Monday, January 15 | Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein

# Teen Scene

Open to 7-12th grade unless otherwise noted. Register at the Adult Reference Desk, online, or call 630-924-2730.



= registration required.

## Hour of Code

Wednesday, December 6 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Celebrate Computer Science Education Week (Dec. 4 - 10) by joining us for a Hour of Code™. No matter what your plans are in life, everyone can benefit from learning how to code. With fun activities provided by Code.org, you'll see that anyone can learn the coding basics! The 'Hour of Code™' is a nationwide initiative by Computer Science Education Week [csedweek.org] and Code.org [code.org] to introduce millions of students to one hour of computer science and computer programming.

## Candy Sled Craft

Thursday, December 7 | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.



Come construct a sled made entirely out of candy! Keep it as a sweet treat for yourself, or give it as a gift to one of your friends!

## Movie Night: *Elf* (Drop-In)

Wednesday, December 13 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Teens are welcome to join us as we watch the movie *Elf*. We will try to stick to Buddy the Elf's four main food groups during the movie: candy, candy corn, candy canes, and syrup. Only a cotton-headed ninny-muggins would miss this fun!

## ACT Practice Test

Sunday, December 17 | 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Stressing about taking the ACT? Take a full-length practice test to ward off test day jitters and see how you may score on the big test. Experience first-hand what test day will be like! A rep from C2 Education will provide a proctored practice test and contact you with scores and analyzed results. Don't forget to bring a couple of pencils, your calculator, and a snack to eat!

## Exam Cram (Drop-In)

Monday, Dec. 18 - Wednesday, Dec. 20 | 3:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Open to all high school students (Grades 9-12)

Get ready for finals at the library's Exam Cram! We'll have group and quiet study areas, Wi-Fi, and computers. We'll provide caffeine and snacks - you provide the brain power! Pizza served at 7:00 p.m.

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi**  
@ Century Stratford Square  
Friday, December 29 | Time TBA



Location: Cinemark, 804 Stratford Square, Bloomington

May the Force be with you! Jedis are invited to celebrate the release of the newest Star Wars movie, *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* at the Century Stratford Square. Movie tickets and snacks will be provided. We'll meet at Cinemark Century.

Limit 6 Jedis and registration opens Friday, Dec. 1.

## Ginormous Games Day (Drop-In)

Wednesday, January 3 | 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Drop in and play super-sized games with us! From giant Jenga, super Twister, behemoth bowling, and humongous Uno, there's life-sized fun and games for everyone!

## Escape Room: Star Wars

Thursday, January 4 | 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



You are a team of elite Rebellion spies and soldiers who were sent to the city-planet of Coruscant in order to find a new source of fuel for the Rebellion. However, the team was betrayed by one of your contacts, who trashed your cover story. Can you find the clues and solve the puzzles to make it out of out in time?

\* Escape Room game courtesy of Ames Public Library \*

## DIY Unicorn Bark

Wednesday, January 10 | 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.



Create a colorful and tasty treat using white chocolate, food coloring, and sprinkles!

## SAT Practice Test

Sunday, January 14 | 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Stressing about the SAT? Take a full-length practice test to ward off test day jitters and see how you may score on the big test. Experience first-hand what test day will be like! A rep from C2 Education will provide a proctored practice test and contact you with scores and analyzed results. Don't forget to bring pencils, calculator, and a snack!

**Teen Book Club: *Thirteen Reasons Why***  
Thursday, January 25 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Starbucks, 170 E. Lake St., Bloomington



Join us for a beverage and a snack as we discuss Jay Asher's *Thirteen Reasons Why*, a moving story about high school bullying and suicide. We will discuss why the book has been banned from many schools and why it was the third most challenged book of 2012.

## Ongoing Teen Programs

### Teen Game Night (Drop-In)

Thursday, December 14 & January 11 | 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Join other teens for gaming on our big screens or a tabletop! Have a dance-off using our Kinect, start your own Rock Band, race in Mario Kart 8, battle in Super Smash Bros., or discover your new favorite game!

### TAB: Teen Advisory Board

Thursday, December 21 & January 18 | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

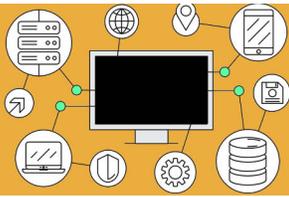


Make your voices heard! Join us monthly to meet over pizza to help plan programs for teens, make decisions for the library's teen space, play games, promote the library, earn volunteer hours, and more!

### 3D Print Club (Drop-In)

Wednesdays, December 27 & January 24 | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Are you curious about 3D printing? Do you want to learn how to create your own designs and print them out? Teens are welcome to join us for a 3D print class, where we will create our own Tinkercad accounts, learn the basics of 3D printing and design, and even get to see the 3D printer in action. No experience is necessary!



# Computer Classes

## Computer Shopping

**Monday, December 4** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sean



This class covers two different topics related to technology shopping. First, students will learn how to select the right computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone to buy. Then we'll discuss websites, apps, and other emerging tech tools to make shopping easier.

## Creating Photo Albums & DVDs

**Thursday, December 7** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Mario



Students will learn how to work with digital images and videos to put together slide shows, do basic editing, create watchable DVDs, and more.

## 3D Printing

**Monday, December 11** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sean



Ever wanted to learn how to use a 3D printer? The Bloomingdale Library allows patrons to print objects using our equipment and it's easier than you might think! Come to class to learn how to find free designs on the web, make edits, and print them through the library's website.

## Digital Archiving

**Thursday, January 4** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Mario



Learn to convert VHS tapes, 35mm slides, documents, and photos into digital files. Great for record keeping and making it easier to share memories.

## Using Android Phones

**Monday, January 8** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sean



Learn how to install and manage your apps, customize your phone using settings and widgets, take advantage of expandable storage, use Google tools, and much more!

## Getting Started: Windows 10

**Thursday, January 11** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Charlie



This class will provide a basic understanding of how to use Windows. Topics such as using the desktop, settings, manipulating windows, understanding files, and installing new programs will be covered. This class will also discuss the visual changes associated with Windows 10.

## Using Android Phones 2

**Monday, January 15** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sean



Students will learn more about their Android phones, including account syncing, connections to the cloud, managing their files, pay by phone, and beyond.

## Access Databases

**Monday, January 22** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sean



This class will provide a basic understanding of using Microsoft Access. Topics such as creating tables, queries, forms, and reports will be covered.

## Get Organized with OneNote

**Monday, January 29** | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sean



Learn to use OneNote for collaborative projects, note taking, or personal organization. It can be used on your phone, tablet, or computer, and allows you to access your files from any location. We'll cover the basics of getting started with this free product.

## Did you know?

The Library has amazing equipment and materials available for checkout with your library card!

Video games  
TV series DVDs  
eBooks  
Audiobooks  
Mp3 players  
Roku  
Mini speakers  
Playaways  
Engraving pens  
ComEd power meters  
Projector screens  
Microwave leak testers  
and much more!

Classes require registration (  ) as noted. You may register for programs online at [www.mybpl.org](http://www.mybpl.org) (click on "Calendar" at the top of the page), in the Business Office, or call (630) 924-2720.



Preschoolers of all ages can join us for a storytime. The Youth Services department provides age-appropriate, educational, and interactive fun with stories, sign language, music, and more. Each program runs for five weeks. Storytimes begin the week of Jan. 8 and end Feb. 9.

**Registration is required for the following storytimes:**



- Romper Rhymes (3-15 months): Thursdays, 9:45 - 10:30 a.m.
- Budding Readers (16-23 months): Thursdays, 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.
- Time for 2s (24-35 months): Wednesdays, 10 :00 - 10:30 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5): Tuesdays, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.  
OR Tuesdays, 1:30 - 2:15 p.m.

**The following storytime may be attended on a drop-in basis:**

- Family Storytime (all ages): Fridays, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.



**Valentines for Veterans**

**Monday, December 18 – Thursday, February 1**

Children are invited to make Valentine cards for men and women serving in the military and for veterans in Hines Veteran's Hospital. Art and card supplies will be available at the Youth Services desk. Stop by and make a card to show how much we care.

**ocus on FUNdamentals**



**Mondays, January 8 - February 5** | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. | grades K-1

Join us for a fun twist to essential skills. We will focus on everyday skills that will prove essential to a successful school year — listening, following directions, and more. \*No class on Monday, Jan. 15.

**Magic by Randy (Drop-In)**

**Monday, January 15** | 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. | all ages + families



Enjoy a day off school! Randy brings fun and excitement with his engaging magic show! Randy is a regular performer at Navy Pier and Chicago Bulls' pre-game programs and will entertain the whole family.



**Pop In Stories for Popcorn Day**

**Thursday, January 18** | 6:30 - 7:30 pm | all ages + families

It is popcorn day, so come to the library to celebrate this munchy crunchy snack. We will read some stories, learn the science behind the pop, then play games and do some popcorn crafts. We will end the program with a popcorn snack where you can vote for your favorite flavor.

**Paper Strip Art (Drop-In)**

**Tuesday, January 23** | 4:15 - 5:00 p.m. | grades 3-5

Come turn strips of paper into marvelous 3-D sculptures, gifts, cards, and more!



It's a Reading Winterland! Our Winter Reading Program is designed for children from infants - 6th grade. Beginning Monday, Dec. 18, you may register in person at the Youth Services desk to receive your information packet and starting prize. Complete your reading log by reading for just three hours. Turn in your log at the Youth Services desk by Friday, Feb. 9 to receive your final prize and be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing.



Come to the library for the planned programs below and a variety of fun activities throughout Winter Break.

**Turn Back the Clock (Drop-In)**

**Wednesday, December 27** | 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. | grades 2-6

Turn back the clock and join us to play some games of yesteryear. You might try your hand at marbles or jacks. Perhaps you'll want to test your skill with our hula hoops or clothespin in the bottle. We will have a variety of games to play.

**Bubble Blow Out New Year's Eve Party**



**Thursday, Dec. 28** | 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. | ages 2-3 + caregiver

Rock out and celebrate the New Year! We will dance, read stories, and blow bubbles as we count down to our own ball drop!

**Ginormous Game Day (Drop-In)**

**Wednesday, January 3** | 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | grades 1-6

Drop in and play super-sized games with us! From giant Jenga, super Twister, behemoth bowling, and humongous Uno, there's life-sized fun and games for everyone!

**Craft Time (Drop-In)**

**Thursday, January 4** | 1:00 - 8:00 p.m. | all ages

Stop by the Youth Services department the first Thursday of every month to make a fun craft. We'll supply all the materials needed. Please note January Craft Time is expanded for Winter Break.

Some programs require registration (  ) as noted. You may register for programs online at [www.mybpl.org](http://www.mybpl.org) (click on "Calendar" at the top of the page), at the Youth Services desk, or call (630) 924-2740. Please have your library card when you register.

Registration for Bloomingdale residents begins Monday, Dec. 4 and for non-residents one week before each program begins.

# Kids Corner

## LEGO Madness (Drop-In)

**Monday, December 4 & January 8** | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | grades K-6

Come challenge yourself and learn new techniques with the monthly theme, or stretch your imagination with free building.

## Storytime with a Surprise at Stratford Square Mall (Drop-In)

**Thursday, December 7 & January 4** | 11:00 - 11:45 a.m. | all ages

Location: Stratford Square Mall, 152 Stratford Dr, Bloomingdale, IL

Join us at Stratford Square Mall (meet in the Lower Level Café Court near the center of the mall) and receive a treat for being a good listener! All ages welcome; caregivers must remain with their children. December will be a special storytime with Santa!

## Craft Time (Drop-In)

**Thursday, December 7 & January 4** | 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. | all ages

Stop by the Youth Services department the first Thursday of every month to make a fun craft. We'll supply all the materials needed. Please note January Craft Time will be expanded from 1:00 - 8:00 due to Winter Break.

## Time for Toys (Drop-In)

**Thursday, Dec. 14** | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. | 3 months-5 years + caregiver

Time for Toys is an informal program giving parents with small children the opportunity to meet and talk with other parents, while children play with toys and games. Toys and games are most appropriate for children ages 3 months to 5 years.

## Holiday Family Event

### Smarty's Holiday Balloon Show (Drop-In)

**Sunday, December 3** | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. | families

Join us this holiday for an afternoon featuring comedy, magic, and Smarty Pants' award-winning, eye-popping balloons featuring all your winter favorites for the season!

## Storytime, Milk, and Cookies at Panera (Drop-In)

**Monday, December 11 & January 8** | 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. | all ages

Location: Panera Bread, 370 W. Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale, IL

Enjoy a special themed storytime and nibble on some yummy cookies and milk from Panera!

## LEARN with LEGOs for Preschoolers

**Wednesday, December 6** | 11:00 - 11:45 a.m. | ages 3-5

Build with LEGOs and build your child's school readiness too! Come to the library for stories, learning, and fun. Each month we will have a different theme and learning objective like numbers, colors, or letters.

## Kitchen Kids

**Wednesday, December 20 & January 17** | 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. | grades 3-5

Come practice kitchen skills and make easy, kid-friendly snacks and treats! Food is prepared and served at this program, so please notify Youth Services if your child has dietary restrictions.

## Parent/Baby Holiday Storytime

**Monday, December 11** | 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. | birth-23 months

Location: Bloomingdale Park District Museum  
108 S. Bloomingdale Road, Bloomingdale, IL

Come bring the little one for this festive holiday storytime! We sing songs, play with some jingly bells, and get into the holiday spirit with some jubilant seasonal stories. Register through the Bloomingdale Park District.

## Holiday Crafts and Ornaments (Drop-In)

**Wednesday, December 13** | 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. | all ages

The Youth Services' craft room can't ho-ho-hold it any longer! 'Tis the season to get creative with some festive crafts and ornaments. Refreshments will be served.

## PostCrossing Club (Drop-In)

**Monday, Dec. 18 & Jan. 15** | 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Grades 1-6

Make and write postcards to send to special recipients all over the world—then come back to see what we get in return!

## Doodlebugs

**Monday, Dec. 18** | 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. | ages 2-3 + caregiver

This is a special art class just for toddlers and parents. Little fingers will experiment with painting, gluing, sticking, and creating, while developing fine motor skills.

## Early Learning Kickstart

**Wednesday, Dec. 20 & Jan. 17** | 1:00 - 1:30 p.m. | ages 3-5

Get early learners off to a great start. This program is designed to build an academic foundation and a love of learning. Children will begin to connect words and learn letter sounds. Presented by the Bloomingdale Kumon Center.

## Have a Very Grinchy Christmas, NOT!

**Thursday, Dec. 21** | 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | all ages + caregiver

It is the 60th anniversary of the publishing of the book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss. We don't want you to be grinchy, so come to the library and make some gifts and cards to give your friends and family.

## Grinchmas Storytime (Drop-In)

**Friday, Dec. 22** | 10:30 - 11:15 am | all ages + caregiver

It is time to get ready for Christmas, but please don't do it like the Grinch. It is the 60th anniversary of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss and we are celebrating with stories and fun.



## Festival of Lights

**December 1 - 31**  
**@ Old Town Park**

### Programming and entertainment to include:

#### Holiday Show at the Museum

“Toys, Trains and Teddy Bears” – The popular LEGO exhibit returns and will be even larger this year (12'x16'). Nine freight and/or passenger trains will be racing around the track. In addition, a wonderful assortment of toys from the 1920 to present day. Kid crafts, Elf on the Shelf and complimentary refreshments are part of every holiday Museum experience.

#### Museum Hours (Dec. 1 – Dec. 30)

- o Thursdays: 6-8:30PM
- o Fridays-Saturdays: 6-9PM
- o Sundays: 1-4PM

#### Additional entertainment to include:

- o Horse-drawn carriage rides
- o Holiday Crafts
- o Family Bingo
- o Santa Visits
- o Cookie Decorating
- o Rockin' Santa
- o Train Rides
- o Christmas Card Decorating

### Platinum Sponsors



STRATFORD SQUARE MALL



A member of the MyDentist family

### Gold Sponsor

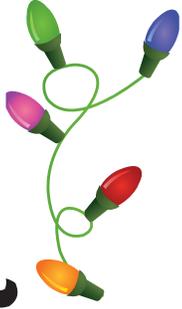
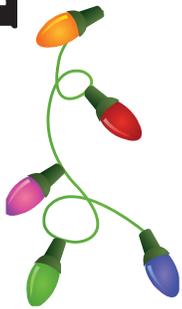


A WINTRUST COMMUNITY BANK



# Bloomington Park District

## December Calendar of Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Opening Night, 6:30PM Carriage Rides, 6:30-8PM Rockin' Santa, 6:30-8:30PM Kris Kringle Market	<b>2</b> Holiday Crafts, 6-9PM
<b>3</b> Christmas Card Decorating, 1-4PM	<b>4</b> St. Nick Stocking Fun, 6-7PM	<b>5</b> Winter Canvas, 7-9:30PM Holiday Appetizers, 6:30-8:30PM	<b>6</b> Holiday Cupstacking, 4:30-5:30PM	<b>7</b> Reindeer Cookie Decorating, 6-8:30PM	<b>8</b> Santa, 6-8PM	<b>9</b> Carriage Rides, 6:30-8PM Christmas Card, Decorating 6-9PM
<b>10</b> Rockin' Santa, 2-3PM Oranment Workshop, 1-4PM	<b>11</b> Holiday Nursery Time, 6:30-7PM Ornament Making, 5-6PM	<b>12</b> 'Tis the Season Canvas, 7-9:30PM	<b>13</b> Bedtime Stories with Santa, 6:30-7:30PM Holiday Tea Party, 6-7:30PM	<b>14</b> Rockin' Santa, 6:30-7:30PM Holiday Craft, 6-8:30PM	<b>15</b> Family Bingo, 6-9PM	<b>16</b> Holiday Cookie Bake & Exchange, 9AM-12PM Holiday Creations, 10-11AM Carriage Rides, 6:30-8PM Holiday Crafting, 6-9PM St. Paul Church Choir, 6:30-8PM
<b>17</b> Train Rides, 1-4PM Cookie Decorating, 1-4PM	<b>18</b> Holidays Around the World, 6-7:30PM Cookie Decorating, 6:30-7:30PM	<b>19</b> Holiday Magic, 7-7:55PM Holiday Game Night, 6:30-8PM	<b>20</b> Holiday Crafts, 6-8:30PM	<b>21</b> Wreath Decorating, 6-8:30PM	<b>22</b> Carriage Rides, 6:30-8PM	<b>23</b> Family Bingo, 6-9PM
<b>24</b> CLOSED	<b>25</b> CLOSED	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> CLOSED						

**Museum Hours (December 1-30)**

Thursdays: 6:00-8:30PM

Fridays & Saturdays: 6:00-9:00PM

Sundays: 1:00-4:00PM

 - Requires registration & may charge a fee

## SCHOOL'S OUT!

### Days Off Of School Program

School's Out! provides endless opportunities for kindergarten through fifth-graders on days off of school. Each day offers a variety of structured yet relaxed activities for your child to enjoy including games, sports, arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor playtime, cooking, trips, special events and more!

#### Upcoming Days Off Options

December 26-29

January 2-5, 12, 15, 17

## SUMMER JOB FAIR

Calling everyone 16 and older interested in working at the Bloomington Park District this summer! We are hosting an open house job fair for positions in aquatics, parks maintenance and summer camp and we want to meet you! This is a one-stop shop for a summer job and there are many opportunities available. Stop in between 3 and 6 p.m. on January 4 to apply and have your initial interview. If you have questions or to send your application or resume ahead of time, please contact Liz at [liz@bloomingtonparks.org](mailto:liz@bloomingtonparks.org).

## Winter Break Options

### Basketball Camp (ages 7-8, 9-10)

December 27-29; 10-11:30AM, 1-2:30PM

@ Johnston Recreation Center

Bounce back into basketball with a winter camp that improves passing, dribbling and shooting skills. Every child receives a T-shirt.

### Little Chef Cook-Off (ages 5-13)

January 2-5, 15; 9AM-3PM

@ Johnston Recreation Center

Participants create and sample the goodies they prepare during these one-day cooking classes. Extended care is available.

### Ninja Warrior Camp (ages 4-6, 7-12)

January 4-5; 9-10AM, 1:15-11:45AM

@ Johnston Recreation Center

Ninjas gain endurance and strength in this camp featuring obstacle training, martial arts, gymnastics, tumbling and freestyle movement.

Register for these programs online at [www.bloomingtonparks.org](http://www.bloomingtonparks.org) or at the Johnston Recreation Center.



## P.A.A.R.C.

Looking for something to do this winter? Drop in at the Johnston Recreation Center every Friday beginning for a FREE activity or event. Try a new activity, socialize or maybe just relax. Cards and games will be available along with refreshments.

### Location: Johnston Recreation Center

Age: Adult Days: Fridays Time: 10AM-Noon

#### December 8 - National Brownie Day

Taste test various types of your favorite brownies in honor of National Brownie Day!

#### December 15 - Social and Movie Day

Devour our FREE popcorn and soda while watching our featured Friday film. Contact Nicole for movie title.

#### January 5 - Chair Yoga

Chair yoga can increase muscle strength, helps you maintain a balanced metabolism, and improve circulatory health all from the comfort of your chair!

#### January 12 - National Pharmacist Day

Join us for a presentation from Mariano's to learn about vaccines and the diseases the vaccines prevent.

#### January 19 - Yahtzee Day

Challenge your PAARC friends to a friendly game of Yahtzee.

#### January 26 - Social and Movie Day

Devour our FREE popcorn and soda while watching our featured Friday film. Contact Nicole for movie title.