

Village of Bloomingdale *Annac*

February 2026

Growth with Pride

Annual Lions Spaghetti Dinner On February 6

Save the date for an evening of great food, fun, and entertainment at the Bloomingdale Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, February 6, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Bloomingdale



Golf Club. Dinner tickets are \$19 per person and can be purchased at the door, with children 8 and under dining for \$8.

The event will feature an early draw of the Lions Club's "We Serve" Raffle, with tickets available for purchase during the evening.

For more information, please contact Camille at Cari4@sbcglobal.net.

A New Chapter for Bloomingdale Begins at The Grove

On December 10, the Village of Bloomingdale unveiled official site plans, a new logo and its first tenant for The Grove at Bloomingdale, a \$78 million mixed-use development set to redefine the heart of the community. "The Grove represents the next chapter in Bloomingdale's growth, a place where families, friends and visitors can come

together to live, dine, shop and celebrate," said Mayor Franco Coladipietro.

The announcement captured widespread attention, making Chicago Business

Journal's list of the 10 most-read stories of 2025 and receiving coverage from ABC 7 Chicago, NBC 5 Chicago, FOX 32 Chicago, *(continued on page 4)*



Top photo: Officials gathered to put shovels in the ground at The Grove on November 24, 2025
Bottom photo: The Grove - Courtesy of Gravity Architecture and Design

In This Edition



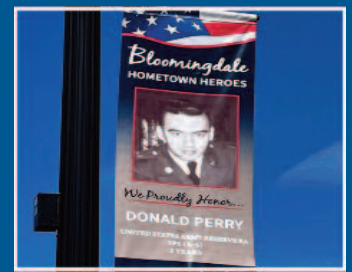
Character Counts Awards
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Bunny Bash March 28
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Scholarship Opportunities
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Looking for a Summer Job? Join Our Team!

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

2nd & 3rd Monday in December
7 p.m. – Village Hall

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

2nd & 3rd Monday in December
6 p.m. – Village Hall

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month 6:00 p.m. – Village Hall

BOARD OF 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



The Village of Bloomingdale is now accepting applications for seasonal only positions in the Public Works Maintenance and Utilities Divisions. These roles involve physical labor, and applicants must be at least 18 years old and possess a valid Illinois driver's license. Applications are available online at www.villageofbloomingdale.org under Employment Opportunities.

The Village of Bloomingdale is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Congratulations and Welcome to These Officers

The Bloomingdale Police Department is proud to welcome Officer Bella Kincaid and Officer Tyler Kuhn, who graduated from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy on December 19th. Officer Kincaid and Officer Kuhn have completed their sixteen-week basic academy training. During their training, they were supervised by Officer Michael Giovenco, who also completed his leadership development course at SLEA. Officer Giovenco continues a long tradition of Bloomingdale Class Supervisors at SLEA. We are thrilled to have all three in our Bloomingdale Family!



Pictured Left to Right: Officer Michael Giovenco, Deputy Chief Bruce Mason, Officer Tyler Kuhn, Director Frank Giammarese, Officer Bella Kincaid, Watch Commander Levi McGhee, Deputy Chief Matt Wolenberg, Sergeant Dominick Corsiglia

Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

Franco A. Coladipietro
Village President

William Belmonte
Traffic and Streets

Patrick Shannon
Facilities, Infrastructure

Pamela S. Hager
Village Clerk

Dan Vitacco
Intergovernmental &
Community Relations

Frank Bucaro
Planning, Zoning
& Environmental
Concerns

TRUSTEES

Judi Von Huben
Public Safety

Vince Ackerman
Finance and
Administration

A Message from Mayor Franco

Despite challenging winter weather, I was proud to see our community come together as the spirit of the season shone brightly at Bloomingdale's Tree Lighting Ceremony, kicking off the month-long Festival of Lights in Old Town Park. As heavy snowfall covered the area, residents shared a memorable moment of community celebration. I extend my thanks to our dedicated Public Works staff, along with our partners at the Bloomingdale Park District and our generous sponsors, the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce and Pan American Bank & Trust, whose collective efforts made the gathering a success and provided a meaningful close to 2025.



Bloomingdale continues to move forward with several exciting redevelopment initiatives, including the transformation of the former Stratford Square Mall site. With demolition now complete, this long-anticipated project, known as The Grove, represents a bold step in reimagining the heart of our community. Featuring lakeside dining, entertainment, year-round community events, and the future home of Bloomingdale Yard, The Grove is envisioned as a vibrant, community-centered destination. I encourage residents to follow the progress of this development by visiting www.thegrovebloomingdale.com.

From 2020 through late 2024, the Village worked diligently with an investment group to evaluate the potential renovation of the former Indian Lakes hotel property. When the group was unable to secure the necessary capital and the property faced foreclosure, the Village Board acted decisively in January 2025 to acquire the site. This action ensured local control of the property and allowed the Village to thoughtfully guide its future redevelopment.

Following the acquisition, every viable option to secure a new hotel operator was explored. After these efforts were exhausted, the Village Board, upon recommendation from the Plan Commission, approved an amendment to the Village Code Zoning Regulations to allow single-family residential use as a special use within the R-R Hotel-Motel Resort and Recreation District. The Board is evaluating proposals to redevelop the former hotel site into a low-density single-family neighborhood. The vision is to transform this long-neglected property into a valuable asset that enhances our community.

Another significant milestone is the redevelopment of the Village's Open Space, which will officially open to the community this spring. This completed water and stormwater project addresses long-standing flooding concerns in the Indian Lakes and Bloomfield Club subdivisions. In addition, a new recreational path and a large pond in the southern portion of the site will provide residents with a peaceful and scenic area to enjoy. Bloomingdale's retail corridors continue to grow and thrive, with several new dining establishments on the way. Upcoming additions include Andy's Frozen Custard on Lake Street; Dave's Hot Chicken and Qdoba Grill on Gary Avenue; Pazzi di Pizza in the former Alcentro location; and Massa Café Italiano in the former Steak Burrito space on Schick Road. Once open, these new businesses will further enhance the vibrancy of our community and attract visitors from neighboring areas.

By remaining focused on responsible economic development and maintaining strong financial discipline, Bloomingdale continues to be a community where families can confidently live, work, and grow. On behalf of the Village Board and staff, I wish you and your loved ones a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2026.

Mayor Franco



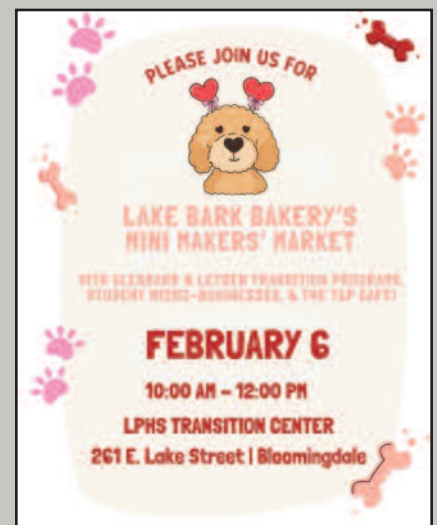
Nominations Open for CHARACTER COUNTS! Recognition Program

The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition is now accepting nominations for its 25th Annual Recognition Program, honoring individuals in the Bloomingdale community who exemplify one or more of the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.



Residents are encouraged to nominate individuals who live, work, volunteer, or attend school in Bloomingdale and consistently demonstrate these core values. Nomination forms are available on the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! website at www.character60108.org.

The nomination deadline is March 2, 2026. Honorees will be recognized at the Annual Recognition Breakfast on May 2.



A New Chapter for Bloomingdale Begins at The Grove

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

Bloomingdale Library
630-529-3120

Bloomingdale Park District
630-529-3650

VILLAGE ALMANAC

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Jennifer Sassano,
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Articles and information for the
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Almanac must be submitted to
Jennifer Sassano by
MARCH 1, 2026
email
sassanoj@
vil.bloomingdale.il.us

(continued from page 1)

WBBM-AM, WGN-AM, the Daily Herald and Crain's Chicago Business.

Developed in partnership with Segovia Partners, Gravity Architecture & Design, Peak Construction Corporation and Christopher B. Burke Engineering, The Grove will feature a man-made lake, a central event lawn that transforms into a winter ice rink, 280 luxury residences, several dining and entertainment venues, a dog park with a walk-up bar and welcoming outdoor spaces.

Anchoring the development is Bloomingdale Yard, a 100,000-square-foot indoor sports and family recreation facility that will offer year-round sports programming for all ages including leagues, training sessions and after-school sports.

Slated to open in 2027, The Grove represents a major milestone in Bloomingdale's long-term revitalization strategy shaped by extensive resident feedback gathered through surveys, public forums and Village Board discussions.

Visit thegrovebloomingdale.com to stay updated on this exciting project.

Stratford Drive Closure Update

Stratford Drive is currently closed between Entrance Drive 1 (the north entrance off Schick Road) and Entrance Drive 2 (the northernmost entrance off Springfield Drive) as underground utility work continues. As construction progresses south, additional closures will occur between Entrance Drive 1 and Entrance Drive 3.

Underground utility work in this area is anticipated to take approximately 4–6 weeks from January 8, with a projected completion timeframe of mid- to late February, weather permitting.

As construction for The Grove moves forward, Stratford Drive will ultimately be permanently removed between Entrance Drive 2 and Entrance Drive 3 (the southernmost entrance off Springfield Drive). Both entrances will remain as access points to Stratford Drive. The Village will share additional information regarding the removal of portions of Stratford Drive as it becomes available.



Congratulations to the Bloomingdale Bears!

In October 2025, the Bloomingdale Bears celebrated a milestone season as their first girls flag football teams competed at the inaugural Girls Superbowl 2025. JV Blue and Varsity Red each captured championship titles, marking an extraordinary debut season for the program.



JV Blue won a hard-fought championship against fellow Bears team JV Red, while Varsity Red battled through three intense games, including a six-overtime thriller, before defeating undefeated Tri City to claim the title. Congratulations to all four girls flag teams on an outstanding season.

'Swinging' Into the 2026 Golf Season

Happy New Year! As we look ahead to spring, we're excited to share updates and reminders as we prepare for the 2026 golf season at Bloomingdale Golf Club.

New Management & Staff Updates

As of January 1, the Village has partnered with **Oliphant Golf Management (OGM)** to oversee day-to-day operations at Bloomingdale Golf Club. Based in Wisconsin, OGM is a nationally recognized



leader in golf course management and construction, with more than 250 high-profile projects completed since its founding in 1996, including award-winning new construction and management work at highly regarded golf clubs across the country. The company is known for its expertise in long-term golf property improvement and exceptional course operations. We are pleased to welcome OGM and look forward to a successful long-term partnership. Learn more at oliphantgolf.com.

We also share some important personnel news. After 25 years as Head Golf Professional and Director of Golf, and more than 40 years in the golf industry, David Shallcross has announced his retirement. Dave will remain on staff for a transition period to support continuity. Longtime Assistant and Head Golf Professional Paul Scheffert has been promoted to Director of Golf. Paul's experience and leadership will ensure the outstanding golf experience our patrons expect as he works closely with Oliphant Golf Management.

Looking Ahead to the 2026 Season

We are currently finalizing 2026 golf course materials, which are expected to be available on the Bloomingdale Golf Club website by early to mid-February. In the meantime, here are a few important reminders:

- **Community Discount Program:** Be sure to re-register to participate. Bloomingdale residents and select neighboring communities can receive reduced green fees for a small annual fee. Registration begins the second week of February, if you play more than three times a year, you'll save money!
- **Youth on Course (CDGA):** Bloomingdale Golf Club is entering its 9th season participating in the Youth on Course program through the Chicago District Golf Association. For a \$30 annual CDGA membership, juniors can play at participating courses nationwide for \$5 per round (walking only; time restrictions apply). Visit cdga.org and select Membership for details.
- **Clinics & Junior Programs:** Adult Golf Clinics and our Junior Golf Program are great ways to kick off the season and introduce new players to the game. Plan ahead, registration information will be available soon.

Dates to Mark on your Calendar:

- **Friday Night Haddock Fish Fry** - February 20 – April 3 (curbside service)
- **Swing Into Spring" Opening Scramble** - Sunday, April 19 (tentative)

For updates and additional details, visit www.bloomingdalegc.com or contact the Golf Shop at 630-529-6232.



Support Bloomingdale VFW POST 7539 and Military Outreach USA

During the month of February, donations of Move-In Essentials (listed below) will be accepted at the Bloomingdale Village Hall (201 S. Bloomingdale Road), Bloomingdale Public Library (101 Fairfield Way), Bloomingdale Fire Department (601 S. Bloomingdale Road), and the Bloomingdale Park District – Johnston Recreation Center (172 S. Circle Avenue).

All donated items will be provided to veterans exiting homelessness.



PERSONAL HYGIENE

Bath Soap
Shampoo & Conditioner
Razor
Shaving Cream
Deodorant
Combs/Hair Brush
Nail Clipper
Toothpaste/Toothbrush

KITCHEN & CLEANING

Kitchen Trash Can (Plastic)
Windex
Pine Sol
Dishwashing Liquid
Dishcloth/Sponge
Mop/Bucket/Broom/ Dustpan
Paper Towels
Laundry Detergent
Laundry Basket & Hamper

BATHROOM

Shower Curtain
Toilet Paper (4 or 6 pack)
Plunger/Toilet Brush
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Bath Towels and Wash Cloths

MISCELLANEOUS

Smoke Detector w/Batteries
Flashlight w/Batteries
Garbage Bags

ONLY NEW, STORE BOUGHT ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Local Schools, Organizations, Offer Scholarship Opportunities

Bloomingtondale Community Supports Local Families

The Bloomingtondale community once again demonstrated its generosity through two successful seasonal giving initiatives that supported local families and children in need.

Through The Salvation Army Angel Tree Toy Drive, residents fulfilled the wishes of more than 80 Angel Tree tags for boys and girls ages five and under enrolled in the



Red Shield Head Start program. Donations included toys, clothing, and essential items, along with additional gifts contributed to ensure every child was remembered. All donations were collected and distributed in time to bring joy to families during the holiday season.

In addition, the Village of Bloomingtondale hosted a Thanksgiving Diaper Drive at Village Hall from November 10–26, collecting nearly

70 boxes of diapers in sizes ranging from newborn to adult. Do-



notations were distributed to local families through Bloomingtondale Township, helping meet an important everyday need for families in the community.

Together, these efforts reflect the compassion and giving spirit that define Bloomingtondale. Thank you to all who donated and helped make a meaningful difference for families this holiday season.

Bloomingtondale School District 13 Scholarships: For seniors who attended District 13: DuJardin Elementary, Erickson Elementary and/or Westfield Middle School, for at least ONE year. Must have cumulative GPA of 2.0 (C or better) & planning to attend college or trade school. District 13 Parent-Teacher-Organizations will be offering \$750.00 scholarships. Past students of both DuJardin and Erickson apply only to the school most recently attended. Students who attended one of the elementary schools and Westfield Middle School may apply to the elementary school, as well as to Westfield. Applications will be available from District 13 School offices, from their weekly newsletters, or downloaded from the district's website, www.sd13.org. Applications must be received by March 6th at 11:59 CST.



The Septemberfest Commission is offering five scholarships totaling \$16,000, funded through contributions from private donors, the community, and corporate sponsors. These scholarships are open to Bloomingtondale residents aged 17–20, with awards including (3) \$2,000 scholarships and (2) \$5,000 scholarships. The application deadline is April 25, 2026, all submissions must be postmarked by this date. Scholarship winners will be announced during the 52nd Septemberfest on Saturday, September 12, 2026. We kindly request winners to attend the event, but if unable, a family member may accept the award on their behalf. Applications available on the Village of Bloomingtondale website: villageofbloomingtondale.org/924/Septemberfest-Scholarship-Fund

The Lake Park Educational Foundation is proud to announce that it will award over 40 scholarships totaling \$65,000 to Lake Park High School seniors graduating in 2026. With more than 20 awards available, students have opportunities to qualify based on academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, career interests, financial need, and other criteria. Scholarship applications are available on the Going Merry website, <https://app.going-merry.com/edu/lake-park-high-school-roselle-il> and are due by March 6, 2026. For details, visit www.lphs.org/Foundation.

The Bloomingtondale Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for its annual scholarship program, offering financial assistance to students pursuing higher education or trade school. Applicants must be either a Chamber member, the child of a member, or a current Bloomingtondale resident. Scholarships are available for high school seniors graduating in 2026, current college students in their freshman through junior year, and high school seniors entering trade or certificate programs. In 2025, 16 total scholarships were given. Applications are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 6, 2026, and are available at bloomingtondalechamber.com/scholarship-program.

The Bloomingtondale Artist Association (BAA) is pleased to announce one \$1,000 scholarship for a qualified candidate pursuing a Visual Fine Arts Degree. The scholarship is made possible through the support of the Bloomingtondale Artists Association, Masterpiece Framing of Bloomingtondale, and Mayor Franco Coladipietro and is open to residents of DuPage County and neighboring areas. Applicants, either high school seniors or 18 years and older, are invited to apply. The chosen recipient must also participate in the BAA 2026 Membership Exhibit. Application deadline: April 15, 2026 For more information, contact: Beverly Petrosius 630-624-9545, Bpetrosius@gmail.com or Lois Shaffer 630-924-1577, litloie@aol.com.

Senior Fair on April 10

The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce will host Senior Fair 2026 on Friday, April 10, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Medinah Banquets, 550 Shriners Drive, Addison. This free event connects seniors and families with health, safety, and community resources.

New this year, the Illinois Secretary of State Mobile DMV will offer on-site services (appointments required by calling 630-980-9082), along with a Versiti community blood drive. Additional highlights: free vision and hearing screenings by the Bloomingdale Lions Club, a scavenger hunt with \$100+ in gift cards, and access to numerous resources.

Vendor and sponsorship opportunities available, with sponsorships confirmed by February 20, 2026, to be in printed material. Registration and details available at BloomingdaleChamber.com or contact Cindy Allston at 630-980-9082.



Chamber Donates \$3,000 to Food Pantries



The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce donated \$3,000 to the three food pantries serving Bloomingdale: Bloomingdale Township, Roselle Community Food Pantry, and Neighborhood Food Pantry.

The donation was made possible through the generosity of 12 local restaurants that contributed proceeds or one-time donations. Participating restaurants included ANYWAY'S Grill & Pub, Chick-fil-A, Culver's, Delish Cakes, Dino's Café, La Campana Mexican Restaurant, Mapleberry Pancake House, McAlister's Deli, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Pholicious Vietnamese Cuisine & Boba, Sporty's Restaurant & Catering, and US Ramen.

This effort highlights the generosity of Bloomingdale's business community and its support of neighbors in need.

Local Students Recognized by Bloomingdale VFW

Members of Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 recognized local students for their achievements in national youth scholarship programs.

Anya Talwar, a senior at St. Francis High School in Wheaton, earned first place in the Voice of Democracy competition representing Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539, which encourages students to explore patriotism and civic responsibility through a recorded essay. Pictured: VFW Commander Cliff Hall, Anya Talwar, and Randy Winter.

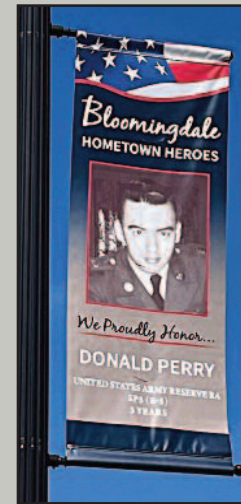


Zaria F. Sherazee, a seventh-grader at St. Walter School in Roselle, was named first-place winner of the Patriot's Pen competition, which invites middle school students to reflect on American values through a written essay. Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 is proud to recognize students who demonstrate leadership, patriotism, and civic engagement through these programs.



Bloomingdale Offers Veterans Banner Recognition Program

The Village of Bloomingdale continues its Veteran Banner Recognition Program, honoring current and former Bloomingdale residents who have served in the United States military.



Residents may honor a Bloomingdale veteran by completing an application and submitting a high-resolution digital photograph (preferably in uniform). There is no cost to

participate. Applications are available at Village Hall and on the Village website.

Veteran banners will be displayed along Lake Street beginning approximately two weeks prior to Memorial Day through the Fourth of July (timeframe subject to change). Due to limited space, applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If capacity is exceeded, banners will be expanded into Old Town this year.

Now in its third year, the program continues to grow. Banners displayed in previous years will remain part of the program, and resubmission is not required for returning participants. Existing banners will be reviewed on a yearly basis, as the Village works to accommodate new submissions.

Submission Deadline: April 1

For more information or to submit a completed application and photo, email sassanoj@vil.bloomingdale.il.us

Bloomingtondale Artists Association Chalk Pastel Demo & Workshop

Join the Bloomingtondale Artists Association for a Chalk Pastel demonstration and hands-on workshop on Wednesday, March 11, at 6:30 PM at the Bloomingtondale Park District Museum (108 S. Bloomingtondale Rd.).

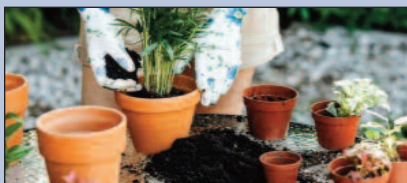
Artist Linda Kay will present chalk pastel techniques and a live demonstration, followed by a hands-on session. The workshop is free for members and \$10 for visitors; space is limited.

Annual membership is \$30 (September–May). For information or a supply list, contact Bev Petrosius at (630) 624-9545.

Bloomingtondale Garden Club News & Programs

The Bloomingtondale Garden Club celebrated a special milestone, honoring Jo Dabrowski, its most senior member, on her 100th birthday. On January 12, members gathered to sing to Jo and present her with flowers recognizing her remarkable life and longstanding involvement with the Club.

The Club kicks off its 2026 season on February 17 with its annual business meeting. On March 17, guest speaker Gail Sanders will share helpful tips on container and small-space gardening. The Club is also busy preparing for its popular Annual Plant Sale, scheduled for May 8–9.



Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at Cornerstone Faith Community Church, 118 First St. Social time at 6:30 PM, program at 7:00 PM. More information, visit www.bloomingtondalegardenclub.org.

Annual Inspection of Sanitary Sewers Now Underway

The Village will be working with a contractor to complete routine cleaning and televising of select sanitary and stormwater collection systems. This annual program is scheduled for mid-January through April.

This year's sanitary sewer work includes the Old Town Area, Colony Green Area, Westlake Townhomes Area, Bloomfield Hills, Chateau Lorraine, West Pointe Estates, Longridge Area, Harvard Area, and Byron Westlake Area. Stormwater system work will focus on subdivisions along Fairfield Way, Colony Green, and sections of Carriage Way.

Crews and equipment will be present on roadways and workers may access manholes in easements on private property, including rear yards. No interior home access is required, and no impacts to residents are expected. For questions or concerns, contact the Public Works Utilities Division at (630) 671-5800.



Crawler cameras are remotely-controlled, self-propelling, and able to record high-quality videos and images of sewers and pipelines. The camera's transmitter sends signals above ground that provide information about the direction of the pipeline, as well as the exact location of potential problem areas.

Shop with a Cop Brings Holiday Smiles to Local Kids

The Bloomingtondale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #175 hosted its annual Shop with a Cop event on December 13, bringing Bloomingtondale Police officers and local children together for a meaningful holiday tradition.



The event was made possible through generous support from local businesses, organizations, and individuals contributing to the Bloomingtondale Cops and Kids at Christmas program. Sporty's Catering provided a hot breakfast,

Salerno Rosedale Chapels donated hats, coats, and gloves, and Meijer provided significant financial support. Additional thanks go to the Bloomingtondale Township Republican Party, Costco Wholesale, Domenic Torsen, John Dabrowski, Mayor Franco Coladipietro, Phyllis De Noma, Sam Tornatore, Woodman's Food Market, the Chicago Italian American Charitable Organization (CIACO), Hovde and Tufo Law, and Dollar Tree. Their generosity helps ensure Shop with a Cop remains a cherished community tradition.

Transforming Lives Through Literacy



Literacy DuPage helps adults build essential life skills through personalized English language and literacy tutoring, promoting self-sufficiency and community engagement. Since 1972, the organization has supported adults reading below a ninth-grade level or strengthening English skills. Residents are encouraged to become vol-

unteer tutors, no teaching or foreign language experience required. To get involved, visit www.literacydupage.org or call (331) 472-7160.

Thank You to the Village of Bloomingdale Committee & Commission Volunteers

The Village of Bloomingdale relies on the dedication and commitment of its Committee and Commission volunteers. Throughout the year, these individuals generously contribute their time and expertise in support of each commission's mission, making a meaningful difference in the community. We extend our sincere appreciation to all who shared their time and talents in 2025.

Police Pension

Len Jaster
Dominick Ranallo
Harsh Shah
Phil Jaffe
Michael Roberts

Planning & Zoning Commission

Len Jaster
Ed Levato, Jr
Benita Shah
David Brambert
Eric Poplonski
Tim Coleman
Sheri Degen

Septemberfest Commission

Vivi Frumkin
Cindy Allston
Debbie Pasiewicz
Jason James
Justin Di Salvo
Lindsey Boehne
Melissa Jacobsen
Nick Fratto
Liliana Rasic

Board of Fire & Police

Theodore Cucci
Louis Pavone
Giuseppe Battista



Police Department Recognizes Neighborhood Watch Block Captains

The Bloomingdale Police Department extends its appreciation to the dedicated Block Captains of the Neighborhood Watch Program for their service in 2025. Your ongoing efforts play a vital role in strengthening communication between neighborhoods and emergency service agencies, helping to build a safer, more connected community.

We sincerely thank these residents for generously volunteering their time and energy to enhance public safety and improve the overall quality of life in Bloomingdale. Your commitment has been instrumental to the continued success of the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Linda Auchincloss	Norm & Juanita
Bill Bahr	Hathaway
Giuseppe Battista	Steve Higgins
Paul Bergl	Jacquelyne Hill
John Carroll	Francine Howard
Lee Anne Clarbour	Robert & Lucy Jones
Carol Cosentino	Marjorie Kelly
Alyssa Cunningham	Tom & Gina Leonard
Vito Dambrosio	Denise Mackowiak
Janet Davitt	Gil & Jane Michelotti
Linda Derrico	Ken Mixer
Roberta DiBasilio	Sharyn Murphy
Jason Riforgiato	Brenda Nies
Mary Sue Fornari	Carol Nies
Mitch & Vivi Frumkin	Holly & Mark Paoletti
Laura Geraci	Kim Parlor
Andreia Golder	Albert Presco
Theresa Graves	Dorothy Prohaska
Darlene Griffin	Patrick Quigley
Patrick Griffin	Milan Stevanovich

Management Offices of:

Camden Apartments
One Bloomingdale Place
Wilshire Tower Apartments
Windsor Estate Apartment Homes



The Village of Bloomingdale proudly recognizes the 2025 Milestone Anniversaries of our dedicated employees. Their commitment, hard work, and service have helped strengthen our organization and enhance the community we serve. Together, these milestones represent 100 years of collective service, and we sincerely thank each of them for their contributions.

35 Years

Al Bruno

25 Years

Bruce Mason

20 Years

Michelle Mila

10 Years

Sean Gascoigne

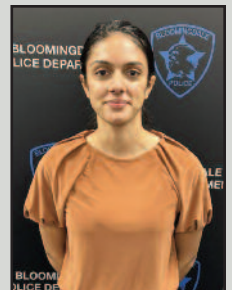
5 Years

Tori Montbriand
Ed Lewis (as CSO)

Police Department Welcomes Zeel Mody

The Bloomingdale Police Department is pleased to welcome its newest hire, Zeel Mody.

Recruit Mody will start her law enforcement journey by attending the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy at the College of DuPage in January. Best of luck to Recruit Mody as she begins this exciting next chapter!



Business News

252 S. Gary Avenue – New Restaurant & Retail Development

A new 9,800-square-foot multi-tenant restaurant and retail building is coming to 252 S. Gary Avenue, bringing a blend of shopping and dining options to Bloomingdale. This single building will be designed as a pedestrian-friendly destination, the development will include **five tenant spaces**, with two occupied upon completion.



The southernmost tenant space will be home to **Dave's Hot Chicken**, while Qdoba will anchor the northern end of the building. The three center tenant spaces are reserved for future retail businesses and are currently being marketed as planning and construction continue.

Founded in 2017 as a small street food stand in California, Dave's Hot Chicken has grown rapidly into a global brand with more than 280 locations worldwide, specializing in Nashville-inspired hot chicken. With a very limited menu, they have perfected their no-frills approach to Dave's Hot Chicken's signature hot chicken recipe. The Bloomingdale location is anticipated to open late summer or early fall 2026.

Qdoba Mexican Restaurant



Qdoba is a fast-casual Mexican restaurant known for preparing fresh ingredients daily in full view of customers, coming also to 252 S. Gary Avenue. The business prides itself as a healthier option to typical quick service establishments, as they prepare fresh ingredients every day in plain view of the customers.

Qdoba serves familiar, but contemporary Mexican-inspired flavors, with a variety of toppings and items for everyone to customize as they like.

Courtyard by Marriott Exterior Remodel

The Courtyard by Marriott at 275 Knollwood Drive is undergoing an exterior remodel as part of the brand's refreshed design initiative. Updates will enhance visibility and the guest arrival experience while maintaining the building's existing brick exterior.



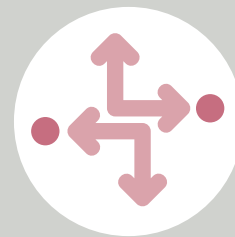
Improvements include a more modern, neutral color palette, updated roofing, a streamlined logo, and upgraded exterior lighting to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere that complements the warm, wooded textures.

Welcome Angel's Pancake Café



A ribbon cutting was held on December 10 to celebrate and welcome Angel's Pancake Café to Bloomingdale. This marks the family-run restaurant's fourth location, bringing its signature fluffy pancakes, extensive breakfast menu, and warm hospitality to 142 E. Lake Street. The Village is happy to

welcome Angel's Pancake Café to its new home.



The Bloomingdale Business Beat

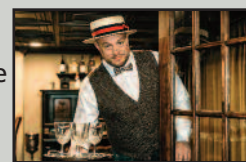
The Business Beat features news about businesses - newly opened ones, those under construction and those who have something special to tell the residents about - awards won, charitable fundraisers hosted, recent major remodels, etc.

Retail businesses provide a significant part of the village's tax base. Supporting them helps keep the Village portion of your property tax bill low.

Remember -
BUY IN BLOOMINGDALE

Love Is in the Air... and Behind a Secret Door

This Valentine's Day, a memorable experience awaits behind a secret door at Mahan Family



Wines. The reservation-only Mahan Speakeasy offers a cozy setting centered on conversation, laughter, and handcrafted wines, perfect for a romantic evening.

Mahan Family Wines offers an unexpected twist on traditional Valentine's plans, from date nights to gift certificates. Adding to the celebration, Mahan's 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon has been accepted into the commemorative competition marking the 50th anniversary of the historic 1976 Judgment of Paris, placing Bloomingdale on the international wine map.

From hidden doors to global recognition, Mahan Family Wines blends local charm with world-class ambition. Learn more at MahanFamilyWines.com.

Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1



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

BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

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



Heating Equipment Smarts

Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you **smell** gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.



FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of **December, January, and February.**

Fire District Welcomes Three New Firefighter/Paramedics

Bloomingtondale proudly sworn in and welcomed three new Firefighters/Paramedics during the recent Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District Trustee Meeting. Congratulations to all three as they begin their careers serving our community. Please join us in welcoming Nicholas Paveza, Donald Craft, and Kyle O'Connor to the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District.



Nicholas Paveza



Kyle O'Connor



Donald Craft



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

Chief Matthew Beyer

Deputy Chief Alan Emody

District Trustees
Tim Deutschle
Robert Gaseor

Joseph Alexander

Commissioners
Marshall Gray, Jr.
Edward Aubin
Brandt Leischner

Fire District Mourns Passing of Tim Deutschle

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District Trustee Tim



Deutschle. Tim proudly served as a district trustee since 2007 and played a pivotal role in shaping the district.

He began his fire service career with the Addison Fire Protection District in 1971 and retired in 2004 after more than 12 years of dedicated service as Fire Chief. Throughout his tenure, Tim was committed to ensuring the district was equipped with high-quality medical equipment, ambulances, fire apparatus, and fire stations to best serve the community.

Tim will be greatly missed, and his legacy of service and dedication will be remembered. Thank you, Trustee Deutschle, for your many years of leadership and commitment to the Bloomingtondale community.



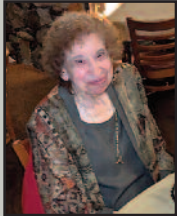
Village of Bloomingdale
201 S. Bloomingdale Road
Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108

PRESORTED
STANDARD
PAID
Bloomingdale, ILA
60108
Permit No.# 16

**POSTAL PATRON LOCAL
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108**

Celebrating 100 Years of Josephine Dabrowski

In January 2026, Bloomingdale resident Josephine Dabrowski celebrated her 100th birthday, a milestone reflecting a life of hard work, devotion to family, and love for her community.



Born on January 12, 1926, at Streeter Hospital in Chicago, Josephine and her late husband,

Thaddeus T. "Ted" Dabrowski, built their Bloomingdale home in 1975, where she has lived for over 50 years.

Josephine worked as a cashier for National Foods, A&P Foods, and Jewel, and spent many years with the railroad. She and Ted married in 1952 and shared 63 years together, earning recognition through Bloomingdale's CHARACTER COUNTS! program for caring citizenship.

She is the proud mother of John T. Dabrowski, Bloomingdale Township Assessor and former Village Trustee, and has been an active community member as a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain and longtime member of the Bloomingdale Garden Club.

Today, Josephine enjoys Bingo, watching Hallmark movies and Shark Tank, feeding wildlife, spending time with neighbors, and sharing meals with her son.

The Village of Bloomingdale extends its warmest congratulations and best wishes to Josephine on this milestone.

Tree Lighting — November 29, 2025



Westfield Choir Celebrates the Season

The Westfield Choir lit up the Bloomingdale Library's Holiday Open House on December 1, serenading guests with festive music and warm holiday spirit.

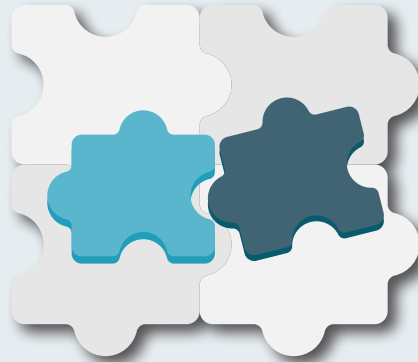




new for 2026:

Puzzle Exchange

Saturday, February 21
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Stop by the library and trade your used jigsaw puzzle for a “new-to-you” one!

You may drop off up to 10 gently used jigsaw puzzles (300+ pieces) at the Adult Reference Desk before the exchange Wednesday through Friday, February 18 – 20. Puzzles may also be dropped off on the day of the event.

For each puzzle dropped off, you will receive a coupon for a new-to-you puzzle to use on Saturday, February 21.

New or gently used puzzles must be in their original box and have all the pieces secured in a resealable plastic bag. Puzzles must be in good condition and odor-free.

TAXtime

Federal and State Tax Forms

The library has common federal income tax forms available to the public. Other forms may be printed at the library.

To order additional federal forms, call the IRS at 1-800-829-3676 or download forms online at www.irs.gov/forms-instructions

To order state forms, call the Revenue Department at 1-800-356-6302 or download forms online at tax.illinois.gov

Friends of the Bloomington Public Library

Join the Friends in 2026!

Our quarterly meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

January 28 | April 22 | July 22 | October 28

You can support the Friends year-round by shopping the Perpetual Book Sale wall at BPL!

New books for all ages are added as they come in, so check back often!

Calling all artists!

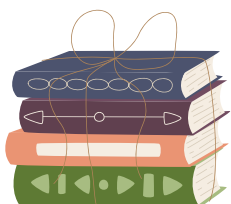
Did you know the library has an Artist of the Month program?

Artists interested in displaying their work can download the exhibition policies and necessary space request forms on our website at

mybpl.org/artist.

Contact the Business Office at bdbo@mybpl.org or call 630-529-3120 ext. 0 with any questions.

Save the date for our



SPRING BOOK SALE

Saturday, April 25 | 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Adult Programs

Registration required for some adult programs (noted with 📅). Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2730, or by email at bdref@mybpl.org. For programs with special registration requirements, please follow those instructions.

Puzzle Exchange

Saturday, February 21
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a puzzle exchange!
See page 1 for details.



📅 Romance Scams: Will You Be the Next Victim?

Tuesday, February 10 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Avoid so-called "romance scams" during this season celebrating love. Former police detective John Good will present an interactive program examining all aspects of this crime.

📅 VIRTUAL - Night with a Museum: Lake Placid Olympic Museum

Tuesday, February 17 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Join us online as we tour the Lake Placid Olympic Museum in New York. Staff will share stories from their collection helping us celebrate the 2026 Winter Olympics. *This program is a partnership with Schaumburg Township District Library.*

📅 VIRTUAL - Armchair Tour of the Universe

Monday, February 23 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Go on a trip around the Universe! This presentation, hosted by Michelle Nichols, will take you on a whirlwind visit through our Universe's most amazing objects using images from the world's most advanced telescopes. This is the 2nd of a two-part series with Armchair Tour of the Solar System (January 26), available on our YouTube channel.

📅 A Reluctant Cook Shares Tips on Preparing Plant-Based Meals While Minimizing Kitchen Time

Monday, March 2 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In this presentation, Joan Davis, RN, MS will share tips on how to cook healthier and faster. Pull together greens, grains, and beans for quick soups, salads, and main dishes. Samples will be provided!

📅 Discover Your Inner Storyteller

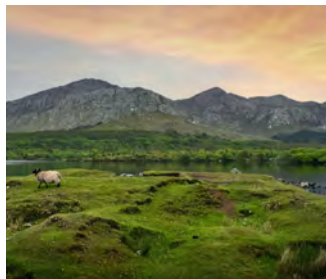
Monday, March 9 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Did you know the Chicago area hosts 50 storytelling shows a month? Storytelling – a.k.a. true stories told live – is fun and open to everyone. Writing coach & teller Victoria Reeves will perform a *Moth*-style story and then show you how to write a true story about a memorable experience! No writing or performance experience necessary.

📅 Ireland in the 21st Century

Tuesday, March 10 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Join Gene Flynn as he chronicles his travels in the Emerald Isle to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Go behind the scenes to understand how Ireland has changed over the past 50 years and the important role the United States played in this transformation.



📅 The History of The Rolling Stones

Tuesday, March 24 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The Rolling Stones are one of the most influential rock bands of all time. Their longevity, rebellious image, and musical evolution have cemented their status as rock legends. Using performance and interview video clips, we'll dig deep into the band that is the very definition of sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll! Presented by Gary Wenstrup.

Level Up Your Job Search

📅 Cover Letters Made Easy

Tuesday, February 24 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Learn how to write a standout cover letter employers will want to read. Follow along as job coach Jez Layman breaks down the process step-by-step to create a cover letter unique to you that complements your resume and highlights your skills.

📅 Ace Your In-Person Interview

Monday, March 23 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Wow an employer at your next interview! Job coach Jez Layman explains the before, during, and after of the most crucial part of the job hunting process.

ONGOING ADULT PROGRAMS

Genealogy Club (Drop-In)

Wednesdays, February 18* & March 18 | 6:30 – 8:45 p.m.

Join us in person to learn about internet and archival genealogy and research support. Members share strategies and explore library resources with guidance from genealogy librarian Leslie Drewitz.

**The February meeting will include a program about Ida B. Wells by Letra Bledsoe.*


📅 Great Decisions

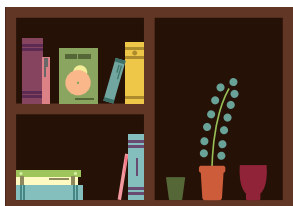
Wednesdays, February 18 & March 18 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

The Great Decisions discussion program is a civic education program administered and produced by the Foreign Policy Association. Contact Julie Deeke at jdeeke@mybpl.org for more information.



Adult Programs

Registration required for some adult programs (noted with ). Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2730, or by email at bdref@mybpl.org. For programs with special registration requirements, please follow those instructions.



book discussion groups

Selections are available at the Circulation Desk one month in advance of the discussion. If you have any questions, please call the Reference Desk at (630) 924-2730.

HISTORICAL BOOK DISCUSSION

To register, email Julie Deeke at jdeeke@mybpl.org.



The Greatest Beer Run Ever: A Memoir of Friendship, Loyalty, and War

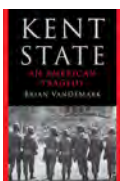
by John "Chick" Donohue and J.T. Molloy

Tuesday, February 3 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Kent State: An American Tragedy

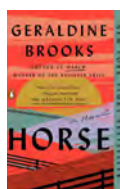
by Brian VanDeMark

Tuesday, March 3 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



MONDAY NIGHT PAGE TURNERS

To register, email Jessica Frazier at jfrazier@mybpl.org.



Horse

by Geraldine Brooks

Monday, February 16 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Frankie

by Graham Norton

Monday, March 16 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.



bpl makerspace crafts

Registration Information:

Ages 12 to adult, BPL card and computer experience required.

Please sign up for one session only.

Beginner Machine Embroidery

4 per session. Registration is open now.

Monday, February 9 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 19 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Engraved Metal Bracelet

4 per session. Registration opens Monday, February 16 at 9:00 a.m.

Use our Cricut Maker to engrave a metal bracelet. Depending on the design complexity, patrons may need pick up their bracelets on a later date.

Monday, March 9 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 24 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Custom Tote Bag

6 per session. Registration opens Monday, March 16 at 9:00 a.m.

Create a custom tote bag using a sublimation printer. Makes a great Mother's Day gift!

Wednesday, April 22 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday, April 27 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.



DROP-IN MOVIES

Come enjoy a movie with us at BPL's Drop-In Movie and enter for a chance to win a copy of that day's movie on DVD. Movie giveaway will be held following the conclusion of the movie and you must be present to win.

FEBRUARY



Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy

(rated R)

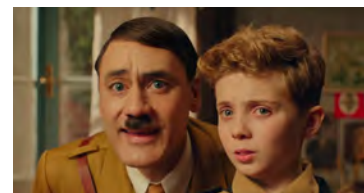
Wednesday, February 11
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

MARCH

Jojo Rabbit

(rated PG-13)

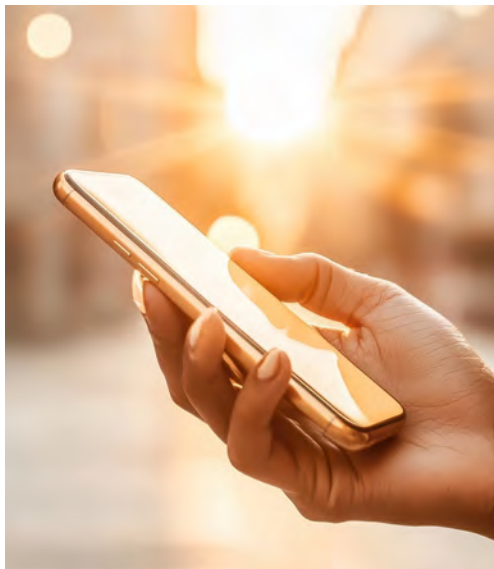
Wednesday, March 11
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.



Computer Classes



Registration is encouraged for in-person computer classes to receive program updates. Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2730, or by email at bdref@mybpl.org. Virtual classes will be posted on our [YouTube channel](#).



for your phone

Uber and Lyft for New Riders

Monday, February 23 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Christian
Uber and Lyft are modern transportation apps for appointments, trips, and grocery shopping. Learn how to download and use these popular rideshare apps.

iPhone Basics

Thursday, March 5 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Salvador
Your iPhone is a computer in your pocket! Learn to use the most popular functions while keeping your phone organized.

Gardening Apps

Monday, March 9 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Christian
Whether on your balcony or your backyard, technology makes it even easier to be a successful gardener by identifying plants, creating care schedules, learning landscape design, and more. Discover popular free gardening apps and how to use them.

Free and Open Source Software for Windows

Thursday, February 5 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Salvador
Learn about great free software and tools to enhance your experience on Windows, possibly replacing your paid and subscription services like Microsoft Office and Adobe with comparable software (e.g. LibreOffice and Affinity).

Excel 1

Monday, March 2 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Sean
Learn the basic concepts of creating and using spreadsheets. Formatting, designing, and sorting spreadsheets will be discussed along with the first steps towards creating formulas and using functions.

Graphic Design with Canva

Thursday, March 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Charlie
Discover how to use this popular, cloud-based graphic design application. Get started with digital creations (social media posts, presentations, and logos) and printables (planners and wall art, e-books, templates, and physical goods).

Getting Familiar with Apple Watch

Thursday, March 19 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Salvador
Smartwatches like the Apple Watch give us computers on our wrists! Discover how they can help you meet your fitness goals, keep track of important events, and even replace your phone for common tasks.

Excel 2

Monday, March 23 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Sean
Move on to intermediate topics in Excel such as formulas, graphs, and linking between multiple worksheets. After a thorough examination of basic formula design, take the next step into more advanced spreadsheets by learning about charts and complex functions like VLookup.

design for the BPL Makerspace

Intro to 3D Printing

Thursday, February 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Charlie
Discuss the fundamentals of 3D printing, basic 3D modeling with Tinkercad, and how to submit projects to our 3D printing service.

Makerspace: Cricut Shirt Design

Thursday, March 12 | 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Instructor: Christian
Learn the Cricut Design Space process for heat-transfer vinyl projects, including software setup, material options, and heat press functionality. BPL cardholders with their own t-shirts can use the Makerspace immediately after class to make their own project!

VIRTUAL - Intro to Silhouette Studio

Thursday, March 26 | 7:00 p.m. Instructor: Charlie
Learn to use this free application to create custom vinyl decals, iron-on designs, intricate paper crafts, stencils, and more!
Watch this program on our [YouTube channel](#).

bpl makerspace

For people interested in DIY, crafting, and making, the BPL Makerspace is a place where you can gather to work on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge.

We've designed a space suitable for learning, crafting, and collaborating. The Makerspace is open to Bloomingdale Public Library cardholders ages 12 to adult.

Open Use Hours:

Thursday, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Visit <https://mybpl.org/makerspace> for full details.



Teen Programs

Registration required for some teen programs (noted with 📅). Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2730, or by email at bdref@mybpl.org. For programs with special registration requirements, please follow those instructions. Registration begins Monday, January 19.

Teen Programs are open to 7th-12 graders unless otherwise noted.

Take & Make Crafts

For Take and Make crafts, you will be contacted via email when your craft kit is ready to be picked up at the Adult Reference Desk.



📅 DIY Miniature Cozy Bear Cabin

Kit Pickup begins Monday, February 9 (limit 12 teens)

Pack your bags for a cozy retreat! This bear family is ready for a vacation with all the amenities. Put it all together with paper craft furnishings in a cabin-like scene, complete with miniature books, a tiny faux fire pit, and much more.

📅 Mushroom Wood Plaque Diamond Art

Kit Pickup begins Monday, March 9 (limit 12 teens)

Create a shimmering work of art for your wall with this diamond painting kit. This colorful mushroom and flower design is created by placing tiny diamond-like pieces on a printed plaque. It even includes a cord for hanging, so you can show off your project when finished.

Teen Craft Club

The Teen Craft Club is on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, unless otherwise noted.

📅 Loom Woven Heart Art

Wednesday, February 11 | 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. (limit 8 teens)

Learn the basics of loom weaving to design a one-of-a-kind woven heart tapestry!



📅 Build a Birdhouse

Wednesday, March 11 | 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. (limit 10 teens)

Welcome spring and migrating creatures by creating a birdhouse. Add some birdseed to encourage visits from winged friends.

Mindful Skills

Mindful Skills are the 1st Monday of every month, unless otherwise noted.

📅 Kindness Project

Monday, February 23 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. (limit 12 teens)

Spread some love to the people in your community! Decorate compliment cards to hand out, leave in random places, or save for a special occasion.



📅 Self-Care Stations

Monday, March 2 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. (limit 12 teens)

Make your own products for a self-care night. Stop and try out each of the stations from DIY perfume to create your own facial mask.

Teen Territory Fun!

Drop-in activity all month in the Teen Territory space. Supplies available throughout the month, while supplies last.

Love Your Library Letter (February)

Create a handwritten letter expressing your love for the library - what it means to you, what your favorite memories are, or a thank you note to the librarians.

Friendship Bracelets (March)

Channel your inner Taylor Swift or just create something fun for yourself or a friend.



More Teen Programs

📅 Polar Vortex: Teen Escape Room

Thursday, February 19 | 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. (limit 10 teens)

A polar vortex hit the library! Work together to solve puzzles, find hidden clues, and restore power before the snow piles up.

When your team escapes, you can celebrate with a hot cocoa bar reward!

📅 Let's Cook: Mini Pies

Thursday, March 19 | 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. (limit 10 teens)

Let's celebrate "pie day" by making some delicious no-bake pies. Decorate a themed pie box to carry your treat home.

Teen Book Reviews

Teens who enjoy reading, audiobooks, or writing can write book reviews for volunteer service hours!

Check out the details at mybpl.org/teenbookreviews.

Teen Bookish Boxes

Sign up to receive a teen subscription box full of specially curated books and goodies each month!

For details and to register, visit mybpl.org/teenbookishboxes.



Youth Programs



Registration required for some youth programs (noted with 📅).

Registration for February programs begins Monday, January 19. Registration for March programs begins Monday, February 16. Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2740, or by email at bdys@mybpl.org. Please have your library card when you register.

Preschool Programs

Come Together (Drop-In)

Up to 24 months

Wednesdays | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Meet and chat with other parents and caregivers while your child socializes and explores with hands-on toys. Weekly drop-in event for ages 0-24 months.

No Come Together on April 1.

*Will be offered simultaneously with Baby Tales and Tunes when in session. *

📅 Playing with STEM

Ages 2-5

Tuesdays, February 10 & March 10
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) are important learning areas for kids of all ages. Start your child early with our fun play to learn program.

February: Air March: Music

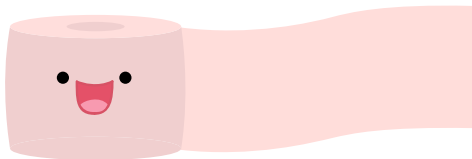


📅 Potty Party

Ages 1-5

Friday, February 20 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

No more diapers, it's time to use the potty! Toddlers of all stages of potty training are invited to a party with stories, songs, and activities to encourage potty use.



📅 Messy Fingers

Ages 2-4

Tuesday, February 24 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Your little ones will have the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills through this hands-on messy art class. Join us for all the mess and lots of fun!

📅 Happy Books, Happy Cooks

Ages 3-5

Thursdays, February 26 & March 26
6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

A storytime for all the budding chefs! Read a food-filled story and create a tasty treat. Please let us know of any allergies at the time of registration.



Preschool Process Art (Drop-In)

Ages 3-5

Saturday, March 7 | 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

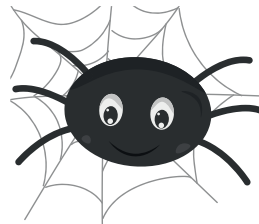
Little hands, but big creativity! Pop in to the Makerspace to try this month's artsy activity.

📅 Out Came the Sun

Ages 3-6

Tuesday, March 17
1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Join us for the *Itsy, Bitsy Spider* and other spring stories, games, crafts, and more!



Toddler Dance Party (Drop-In)

18-36 months

Wednesday, April 1 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Does your toddler like to move, groove, and wiggle? Join us for a morning of music and movement.

Explore with Your Senses (Drop-In)

Under 3 years old with caregivers

Friday, April 3 | 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Come participate in different activities designed to develop sensory processing skills. Explore texture, sound, smell, colors and patterns.



It's Storytime!

The Youth Services department provides age-appropriate interactive fun with stories, sign language, music, and more.

Storytimes are drop-in and limited to the first 20 children to arrive.

New Year Session:
January 5 through February 13

Spring Session:
March 3 through April 17

(no storytimes the week of March 30 – April 3)

Preschool Storytime

Ages 3-5

Mondays, 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Evening Storytime

All ages with caregiver

Mondays, 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Baby Tales & Tunes

0-24 months with caregiver

Wednesdays

10:00 – 10:20 a.m. OR 10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

Baby Tales & Tunes will introduce your baby to the world of music, movement, rhymes, and books that will aid in early literacy skills development.

Toddler Storytime

Ages 2-3 with caregiver

Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Family Storytime

All ages with caregiver

Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.





Youth Programs

Registration required for some youth programs (noted with 📅).

Registration for February programs begins Monday, January 19. Registration for March programs begins Monday, February 16. Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2740, or by email at bdys@mybpl.org. Please have your library card when you register.

School-Age Programs

Sit and Stitch (Drop-In)

Grades 3 and up

Sunday, February 1 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Calling all crochet enthusiasts. Join us for some fun with yarn. Bring your own project and share social time with other stitchers.

Culture Connections Club (Drop-In)

Grades K-2

Wednesdays, February 4 & March 25
4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Visit faraway countries through stories, songs, snacks, and activities.

February: Thailand March: Portugal

📅 Valentine Yarn Wrapped Tree

Grades 3-6

Thursday, February 5 | 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

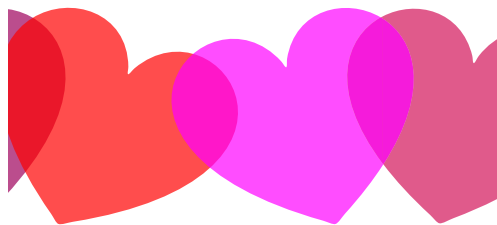
Trees aren't just for Christmas. Join us in making this fun Valentine decoration.

📅 I Heart You

Grades 3-6

Tuesday, February 10 | 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Craft a variety of hearts to give to your special someone or keep for yourself.



📅 Makerspace Club: STEM Time

Grades 3-6

Thursdays, February 12 & March 12
4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Libraries are a great place to learn about science and technology while making cool stuff. Come join the fun!

February: LED dance glove

March: moon phases

📅 Edible Slime

Grades K-2

Monday, February 16 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Make slime with various recipes. All are safe to taste test. *Please let us know of any allergies at the time of registration.*

📅 Beginning Crochet

Grades 3-8

Mondays, February 16 & 23 | 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

This is a two session program.

Session 1- learn the basics: how to hold your yarn and hook and the single crochet stitch.

Session 2 - learn how to start a project and read a pattern.

Mardi Gras Masks (Drop-In)

Grades 2-6

Tuesday, February 17 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Celebrate Mardi Gras by making your own mask.

Happy Birthday, Mo Willems! (Drop-In)

Grades K-2

Wednesday, February 18 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

It's Mo Willems' birthday month. Come enjoy his famous stories and enjoy activities that Elephant and Piggie would even enjoy!

📅 Octo-party

Grades K-6

Sunday, February 22
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Stories, science, and crafts all about one of the earth's smartest non-mammals.



Middle Grade Makers (Drop-In)

Grades 4-8

Tuesday, February 24 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Drop by to try a new skill, make a fun craft to take home, and hang out with friends.

📅 How to Train Your Dragon Book Party

Grades 3-6

Wednesday, February 25 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Calling all dragon lovers! Come enjoy crafts and activities based on this popular series.

📅 Minute to Win It Olympics

Grades 4-8

Thursday, February 26 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Step up against other middle-grade kids and smash fun and silly challenges to win prizes and bragging rights!

LEGO® Club (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6

Tuesday, March 3 | 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Design and build with the library's LEGO® supply to complete the challenge.

📅 OREO® Day

Grades 3-6

Wednesday, March 4 | 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

Come celebrate the famous sandwich cookie! We will learn about the cookie's history and taste test some flavors.

Please let us know of any allergies at the time of registration.

📅 Wild About Owls

Grades K-2

Thursday, March 5 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come in to enjoy crafts and stories about magnificent owls.



📅 Beeswax Candles

Grades 3-6

Wednesday, March 18 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Make a pair of unique rolled beeswax candles to light up winter's dark days.

📅 Sprout Heads

Grades K-2

Thursday, March 19 | 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

Spring is just around the corner, so get a head start on your garden by planting your own sprouting head.

Melted Quilt (Drop-In)

Grades 4-8

Thursday, March 26 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Piece together mini pixel squares then combine them to make colorful creative masterpieces.

📅 Paint a Spring Magnet

Grades 3-6

Wednesday, April 1 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Create a pretty refrigerator magnet with springtime colors.



**BLOOMINGDALE
PUBLIC LIBRARY**
for learning...for life

Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday:
9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday:
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday:
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

For updates to hours/services offered:

- **Call** (630) 529-3120
- **Email** bdref@mybpl.org
- **Visit** our website at mybpl.org

Social Media

Follow us on social media for the latest information, virtual classes, and random fun!



Library Photos

Photos or videos taken at the library may be used for promotional purposes. If you do not want your image taken, please inform library staff.

ADA Accommodations

Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in a program should contact Bloomington Public Library at least 7 days prior to the program. Call **(630) 924-2730** or email requests to ADA@mybpl.org.

eNewsletters

Sign up to get programming and materials information right in your inbox! Visit mybpl.info/enews-signup and mybpl.org/nextreads to select which information you'd like to receive.

Family Programs

A Love Letter to Our Library (Drop-In)

Families

Tuesday, February 3 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Join us for a reading of *A Love Letter to My Library* and then we will make letters that will be used for a library love display!

Homeschool Hangout Series

Families

Wednesdays, February 11 & March 11
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Join us to explore a new topic each month with books, crafts, and activities specially designed for each grade level.

Peeps® Family Challenge

Families

Sunday, March 29 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Come as a family to create a scene from a favorite children's book with Peeps®. Peeps® and some craft supplies provided. *Please register as a family.*

KPop Demon Hunters Bookmarks (Drop-In)

Families

Tuesday, March 31 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Be golden and create some *KPop Demon Hunters* bookmarks!

Fairy Tale Ball

Families

Sunday, March 8
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Every prince, princess, knight, and jester are invited to join!

Wear your shiny suit of armor, ball gown, or your favorite fairy tale creature.

Join us for an afternoon of fun, crafts, and games.

Please register one time per family.



N Find your next great read with **NoveList or NoveList K-8!**

NovelList contains information on over 260,000 fiction and nonfiction titles. The database features lists of award-winning books, book discussion guides, read-alike recommendations, and complete series information. Also included are reader ratings and reviews. You can create your own reading wish list right in your account!

NovelList K-8 helps readers in grades K-8 find just the right book by subject, age, awards won, books made into movies, and much more. Includes tools for parents and teachers such as Lexile levels and Common Core standards.

Get started today at <https://www.mybpl.org/databases#lit> and click the **NovelList** or **NovelList K-8** links.

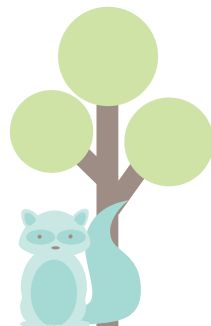
NovelList



Did you know that reading to your child is one of the most powerful ways to boost their brain power?

Join our **Born to Read** program and receive tips and support to begin your child's journey into the world of reading.

Sign up at the Youth Services desk to receive a gift for your new baby and discover all of the resources BPL has to offer you and your little one.





Bloomington Park District



FREE

Bunny Bash

Saturday, March 28, 2026

9:30-11AM

Circle Park

163 Fairfield Way, Bloomington

All activities will be held outdoors, please dress for the weather. In the event of inclement weather, a limited number of activities will be moved indoors to the JRC.

The Bunny Bash starts immediately following the

Bloomington Lions Club Egg Hunt.

The Egg Hunt begins promptly at 9:30AM.

**Lots of activities
and non-stop fun
for the entire family!**

Coloring Contest

Crafts

Entertainment

Pictures with the Bunny

Refreshments
while supplies last

Bloomington Public
Library - Book Walk

🌟 Eggceptional Easter Egg Trunk Hunt in
the JRC parking lot at 9:30AM.
*A quiet and accessible opportunity 🌟

PARTNERS:



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SPONSORS:



The Oasis Water Park Season Passes

The Oasis Season Pass Kickoff Event!

Location: Johnston Recreation Center

Early Bird Kickoff Day One: 6-8PM, Wednesday, February 11

Early Bird Kickoff Day Two: 10AM-12PM, Saturday, February 14

Purchase your 2026 Oasis Season Pass during the Kickoff Event and save \$5.00 per pass. The first 50 individuals to purchase a season pass will receive an Oasis fanny pack.

Season Pass Rates

Season passes go on sale beginning February 11 at the JRC and online at www.bloomingtondaleparks.org.

Oasis



SUMMER CAMP



Registration begins Wednesday, April 15 at 10AM.

Summer Camp registration begins April 15 for residents & April 22 for non-residents. Complete information will be available in the Summer 2026 Program Guide.

Summer Camp features activities for ages 3 up to entering 9th grade with an aging date of September 1, 2026.

****With ongoing District 13 construction projects, Camp enrollment will be limited due to space constraints****

Daddy Daughter Dance Through the Decades



**Friday, February 20
6-8:30PM**

**Location: Medinah Shriners 550 Shriners Drive
Addison**

Join us for a night of fun at the Daddy Daughter Dance Through the Decades. Bring a dad, grandfather, uncle, or other special guest. Couples experience a memorable evening dancing to the music of the DJ and enjoying a grand dinner. Dinner includes salad, bread rolls, pasta, cheeseburger sliders, chicken strips, green beans, mashed potatoes, soft drinks, and cookies. Girls will have an opportunity to get manicures and Tinsel for their hair provided by Pivot Point. Each couple receives a photo to cherish for years to come. Our sponsor Insight Vision Care will be passing out glow wands.

Reservations are required. The fee is per couple. Additional participants are welcome at \$40 each. **Registration deadline is February 16.** No drop-ins are allowed. Registration will not be accepted after February 16. Please register early to reserve your spot. Do not wait to register. This event fills up fast.

SPONSOR:

Registration Code #: 204301-A1



Doggie Easter Egg Hunt

**Tuesday, March 31
6-7PM**

**Location: Circle Park, 163 Fairfield Way
Bloomingdale**

Dogs of all shapes and sizes are invited to attend our Doggie Easter Egg Hunt at Circle Park. Dogs will hunt for eggs filled with doggie treats. All dogs must be leashed during this event. Dog handlers must be age 16 or older. Dogs must be friendly to others to participate. The egg hunt will begin at 6:15PM. No drop-ins are allowed.

\$5 per pooch (register one family member per dog)

Registration deadline is March 27.

Registration Code #: 204313-A1



Breakfast with the Bunny

**Saturday, March 21
9-10:15AM**

**Location: Bloomingdale Golf Club, 181N Glen Ellyn Road
Bloomingdale**

Hop on over for a tasty breakfast buffet with the Bunny. Buffet includes pancakes, pork sausage links, bacon, scrambled eggs, sweet breads, assorted juices and coffee. Kids will receive a goody bag and are invited to visit the craft station to create a springtime themed project. The Bunny will visit with families during breakfast. Bring your camera/phone to take your own photos. Registration required. No drop-ins. Be sure to register each family member. Registration deadline is March 16. Please register early to reserve your spot.

**Registration Code #: 204312-A1 (Ages 2+)
204312-A2 (Under Age 2)**

SPONSOR:



Klub Friday Nite

**February 6 Valentine's Day
Code #: 502903-06**

**March 13 St. Patrick's Day
Code #: 502903-07**

7:30-9:30PM

**Location: JRC Gym, 172 S. Circle Avenue
Bloomingdale**

Every KFN Features:

- Open Gym
- A Ticket For a Piece of Pizza & Bottled Water
- Other Concession Available for Purchase from Chef's Corner
- Raffles
- DJ
- Meet New Friends
- PlayStation
- Nintendo Switch



Registration available online or in person at the Johnston Recreation Center or at KFN. ALL participants must be signed out by a parent/guardian at the end of the evening.

Admission:

\$10 Early Bird
\$15 Day Of

SUMMER JOB FAIR

Located at the Johnston Recreation Center

Calling everyone interested in working at the Bloomingdale Park District this summer! We are hosting an open house job fair for positions in aquatics (must be 15 years old) and Summer Camp (must be 16 years old). We want to meet you! This is a one stop shop for a summer job, and there are many opportunities available. Stop in between 3-5PM on Wednesday, March 11 to apply and have your initial interview. If you have questions or to send your application or resume ahead of time, please contact Nicole at nicole@bloomingdaleparks.org.



Speaker SERIES

Speaker Series: The Magic of Oz by Michelle Gibbons

Ages: 21+

Min/Max: 25/50

Location: Museum

Follow the yellow brick road with Dorothy Gale and Toto into the magical world of Oz! Historical Presenter Michelle Gibbons will delight audiences with a theatrical portrayal of beloved actress, Judy Garland. Learn about Garland's worldwide fame, childhood, and struggles to stardom from her point of view.

Instructor: Michelle Gibbons

Day	Time	Date	R/NR Fee	Code #
Tue	6:30-7:30PM	Mar 24	\$20/\$25	203405-A1



Speaker Series: How to Plan Your Garden



Ages: 21+

Min/Max: 25/50

Location: Museum

Thinking about starting a garden, or just want to make better use of your space? This class will walk you through the basics of garden planning so you can grow the right plants in the right place—at the right time. During this interactive talk, Dave will cover assessing the area, what to plant, where, & when, and how to amend your soil. By the end, you'll have a simple plan you can take home and start using right away—no green thumb required!

Instructor: Dave Hodge

Day	Time	Date	R/NR Fee	Code #
Tue	6:30-7:30PM	Mar 10	\$15/\$20	203407-A1