



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL

FRANK GIAMMARESE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

BLOOMINGDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
201 SOUTH BLOOMINGDALE ROAD
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108-1499

(630) 529-9868
www.villageofbloomingtondale.org

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...
will be held Virtually / Live Streamed on
Wednesday, January 13th, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.,
from the Bloomingtondale Police Department,
featuring an Open Forum with Bloomingtondale Police and
Fire Officials. The tradition continues, with a twist, as the new Fire Chief of the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District and the Director of Public Safety address the virtual audience will an annual “State of Bloomingtondale” address. Each will summarize the current status and future developments for each agency. The public is encouraged to participate, but **citizens will need to RSVP to Officer Dawn Odoi at (630) 529-9868 BY Friday, January 8th, 2021.** To view the meeting via Live Stream (Internet), the access information will be given on the day of the meeting through an e-mail address once a person has registered (sent an RSVP). For more information or for any questions regarding the meeting, please call Officer Odoi. Please consider joining us for this informative presentation.



2021 Neighborhood Watch Meetings / Events:



- March 10th – Mayor / Village Services
- May 12th – To be announced
- September 8th – To be announced
- November 10th – To be announced

Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021 – National Night Out Against Crime

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

The September Neighborhood Watch General Meeting featured Mayor Coladipietro, Village Administrator Scalera, and Director of Public Safety Giammarese. The format included limited in-person attendance at the Bloomingtondale Golf Club and a Virtual / Live Streamed audience. Although, this was the first time that a Neighborhood Watch meeting utilized the Internet, everything worked out well. Director of Public Safety Frank Giammarese provided some updated information regarding safety matters. Basic information about police staffing and the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center was addressed first. While there have been recent police officer retirements, the police department is well staffed and should the need arise, there are agreements with other agencies to help, such as NIPAS and other multi-jurisdictional support. In May 2021, the police department will assess the need for a police officer test to occur. Due to the current social climate, there has been more solicitors in our town. **Please report any and all suspicious activity in the residential and commercial areas via 9-1-1.** Remember: 9-1-1 Calls are directed to ACDC (Addison Consolidated Dispatch

Center), in which callers need to provide as much detail as possible so the information can be processed and prioritized. Available police officers will respond asap and each call will be handled, but please be patient. The RING door system has gained in popularity and has been integrated with the police department’s efforts to use the video footage to obtain possible suspect information. Vehicle and foot patrol efforts continue at the Indian Lakes Hotel property to handle calls for service and deter criminal acts. A letter was sent to the property owner regarding lack of security, property maintenance, sub-par training of hotel personnel, and overnight hotel management concerns. A paper trail documents the activity with the property and the public concerns. The Village has purchased 200 acres of the property, which includes the golf courses and the convention area (east side of property). The Village is working on the purchase of the hotel property (20 acres) as well. At this time, the asking price is too high, but negotiations continue. Those who travel on Schick Road can see the demolition of the Indian Lakes convention center, which was the former owner’s responsibility per the purchase agreement. The future of the land is being considered and the priority is to benefit the Village as a whole. With the Village dealing with the pandemic after-effects, Mayor Coladipietro assured residents that the town is in good shape with little debt and working on an Essential-based budget utilizing general revenue funds and reserve funds, if needed. The Lake Street Project was planned before the Pandemic, and the money was based on revenue streams. The Indian Lakes purchase has been completed through the use of bonds. The Mayor continually encourages Bloomingtondale citizens to buy local more than ever so that businesses can survive this difficult year. Please keep in mind that with On-Line purchases, there is a very small percentage that goes to the State and a smaller percentage to an individual town. The Mayor dispelled the rumor that Mariano’s is closing – it is untrue. When getting information, please consider the source – Social media posts are unreliable. Please check with the Village if you hear or see something concerning our town. KFC has been demolished to be replaced by Raising Cane’s Chicken Fingers. Woodman’s Food Market continues its impressive construction pace and, in the meantime, Amazon Fresh Store will open soon. Each store / market serves different consumers, which brings more people to buy things in Bloomingtondale. Stratford Square Mall will be the next priority for the Village. Shopping dynamics have changed, and the Board will carefully plan and place the building blocks for the future of the property. As the cold weather is settling in, the Mayor also would like the public to patronize the restaurants

in our town for take-out, delivery, or outdoor dining (if you can tough-out the winter elements ☺).

Working together & adapting to tough situations will get us into the new year!

Everyday Home and Vehicle Safety should be considered.



- Secure doors and windows at all times.
- When unoccupied, then make your home appear to be occupied; use timers on lights, radio, and T.V.

- Do not advertise vacation plans on social networking sites or casually with businesses you may frequent.
- Ask a friend or relative to check on things while you are away on vacation.
- Notify police department of the dates you will be away.

Regarding your vehicle, valuables should be secured in a trunk (if possible) and items should not be left in plain view – too inviting to others. Criminals are betting that during the holiday season, citizens are busy running around and things are so hectic, in which many will leave their car doors unlocked, items unsecured, and some may leave cars running in driveways to warm up or leave a car unattended for a quick trip inside a day care center, a bank, store, and/or gas station. No car should be left running & unattended for any period of time. There are unscrupulous people who observe – ‘stake out’ neighborhoods and become familiar with your routine so they can take advantage of a situation that presents itself. Leaving vehicles running in commercial areas, (including day care centers, gas stations) give those lurking around an opportunity to steal your vehicle – a quick trip inside is not as quick as you think when other people or computer systems may slow you down. It’s worth the time to properly secure the vehicle and the items inside for all the work that you put towards making the holiday season enjoyable for others and yourself.

Additional Holiday Safety Tips:

Pay attention to those around you. Be alert & confident.

Place wallet, money, cell phone, in front clothing (pants/coat).

Keep your purse/wallet and packages w/you at all times.

If possible, keep purse and packages close to your body & in front of you. Do not leave items (purse, phone) unattended in a shopping cart, on a counter, or floor. Park in well-lit, busy areas – consider the time of day upon arrival & departure.

BE ALERT!

Street solicitation around the commercial areas will increase since those soliciting want to take advantage of citizens who enjoy being charitable. Individuals may approach the public to ask for money to purchase gasoline for their disabled vehicle or buy a meal for their family. Some have been quite persistent in their request for financial help. It may be a scam. It is sometimes difficult to tell a ‘hard luck’ story from an individual who may be legitimately in need. Although you may want to spread the “good feelings” of the holidays onto others, please know that there are agencies and/or church groups that can provide the support that is needed (also, for a longer period of time and to work on the bigger picture for the person in need). The Bloomingdale Police Department strongly discourages citizens from getting involved with such matters **and** to notify the police department if someone needs assistance. It would be better to play it safe and get help for the situation. There are unscrupulous individuals who will do or say anything for a buck. **Note:** Donations to any charity/organization should be verified as legitimate worthwhile causes and their donation procedures fully explained. Please be alert and aware of your surroundings

at all times and contact store personnel, security officers and/or local police departments regarding any **and** all suspicious persons and activity. **Again, Please don’t hesitate to call 9-1-1.**

WINTER DRIVING TIPS:



- Plan ahead – route, time of day, traffic, weather forecasts. Allow extra time for travel.
- Wear seat belts at all times.
- Clean windshield, windows, rear windows, headlights, brake lights, **and** license plate area when snow and/or ice are on the vehicle.
- Keep your car’s headlights on low beam. This provides better visibility particularly in fog or snow.
- Use turn signals when turning **and** changing lanes.
- Watch the car in front of you for signs of trouble. Keep extra space between cars. Anticipate and prepare for slippery roads or other dangers.
- If you travel below the posted speed limit, please stay in the far right lane to avoid any speeding vehicles.
- If you miss an exit or street, go to the next exit / street. Do not cause an accident in a last-minute maneuver; drivers behind can only do so much to avoid you.
- If you need to slow down or stop on a slick road, apply the brakes firmly and steadily, but not so firmly that they lock up. As you begin to slow, gently ease up on the brakes. Do not pump the brakes.
- If you skid, don’t panic. Take your foot off the brake and then steer in the direction of the skid. Once the car regains traction, you can straighten the wheel.
- For emergency vehicles, please slow down and move to the right lanes, if possible. Make sure that all emergency vehicles have passed before resuming driving.
- If you have an accident, stay in your vehicle and always contact the police.

Illinois law prohibits all drivers from texting and driving, from using a hand-held cell phone while driving, and all teen drivers from using a cell phone while driving. Motorists are encouraged to: “Drop It and Drive”.

CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED...

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

Speedway – 463 W. Army Trail Road

A Texas man reported that he ran into the gas station and when he returned to his truck, person(s) unknown removed his laptop. The vehicle was unsecured and unattended in the parking area when the incident occurred. Nothing further.



Burglary to Motor Vehicle 100 Block of Ashfield Court

A Bloomingdale man reported that sometime between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., person(s) unknown rummaged through his 2019 Rambler and entered his attached garage.

Motor Vehicle Theft 200 Block of Park Avenue

A Bloomingdale woman reported that at approximately 5:15 a.m., person(s) unknown attempted to remove her vehicle from her driveway. No suspects at this time.

Theft Meijer – 130 S. Gary Avenue

Two reports indicated that wallets were removed from purses while the women were shopping.

Both cases are pending further investigation.