

Village of Bloomingdale *Ammanac*

December 2023

Growth with Pride

The Village Christmas Tree Has Arrived at Old Town Plaza!

The "2023 Village Christmas Tree" now graces the Old Town piazza, waiting to be lit. This beauty, which is a Norway Spruce standing 40 feet tall and approximately 28-foot wide, originated near the Village mulch site at Carriage Way & Glen Ellyn Road and now is a symbol of holiday tradition in Bloomingdale! The tree made its way to Old Town on November 10th bringing holiday spirit to Old Town in a BIG way and is ready for the community tree lighting.

Each year the community gathers for the Tree Lighting and Kris Kringle Market, held in conjunction with the Park District's opening night of Festival of Lights. This year, the event will kick off the holiday season on December 1st, with the lighting of the tree & park at 7:00 PM.

Getting the tree installed & decorated has challenges, but our Public Works team always works their magic, providing a tree full of lights & ornaments, complete with the spirit & hope that the holidays bring to Bloomingdale.

Join us for a Winter Festival of Fun!



Friday, December 1, 2023
3:30-8:30 PM in Old Town Bloomingdale

Featuring

- Vendors Selling Food, Refreshments, Crafts, Gifts, Pet Items, Holiday Décor, Wood Crafts, Accessories, and More!
- FREE Kids Crafts, Activities, Face Painting, and Balloon Artist
- A Beer Tent with an Assortment of Beers & Mulled Wine
- Visit Santa and Watch the Tree Lighting in the Old Town Piazza
- Charles Dickens Carolers
- Special Visitor Pete the Cat

Schedule of Events

- 3:30pm-6:30pm: Pan American Bank Open House with Santa & Snow Globe
- 3:30pm-6:30pm: Chamber of Commerce Open House
- 3:30pm-8:30pm: Kris Kringle Market
- 3:30pm-8:30pm: Park District Museum Holiday Show
- 3:30pm-8:30pm: Festive Kiddie Train Rides
- 4:45pm-6:45pm: Live Ice Sculpting Presentation
- 7:00pm: Tree & Park Lighting Ceremony with Santa & the Fire Department



Parking Available at:

Old Town Bloomingdale Parking Lot at Schick & Third St.
Rooster's Barn & Grill Parking Lot

Shuttle Service:

Free parking & shuttle ride from Village Hall Gazebo. Shuttle will be running from Village Hall to the event from 4:30pm-9:00pm

Thank You to Our Event Sponsors



Congratulations to the 2023 American Youth Character Award Recipients

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



Pictured l to r: Village Trustee Vince Ackerman, Kaitlyn Grumeretz (Principal Stefan Larsson, Westfield Middle), Julian Buelvas (Principal Corie Alimento, St. Isidore School), Emilia Stranz (Principal Stacy Johnston, Erickson Elementary), Blake Marvucic (Principal Patrick Haugens, DuJardin), Genesis Fuentes (Principal Cody Battaglia, Winnebago Elementary) and Aiden Sickler (Coach Kelly Keats, Bloomingdale Baseball Softball Association)

The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition's annual Celebration Night was held on Tuesday, October 3. This year's theme was the Pillar of Trustworthiness. The evening kicked-off with the Presentation of Colors conducted by the Bloomingdale VFW 7539 followed by the Westfield Middle School Chorus and Band's performance of "America the Beautiful". The evening also included the presentation of the 2023 American Youth Character Awards, (award recipients are pictured with their respective nominating official). Village Trustee Vince Ackerman read the Proclamation proclaiming CHARACTER COUNTS! Day in the Village of Bloomingdale. To view photographs of the evening and to learn more about CHARACTER COUNTS!, please visit the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition Facebook page.

Limited Edition Commemorative Mug At Kris Kringle Market

Purchase your 3rd annual limited-edition commemorative mug with special 2023 holiday design! Find it at the Kris Kringle Market **Bloomingdale Lions tent** on Dec 1, where it comes filled with warm mulled wine provided by Mahan Family Wines, using a secret family recipe from Germany. The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce thanks the sponsors who help cover the costs, Pan American Bank & Trust, Hovde & Tufo Law and SBC Waste Solutions.



Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

Franco A. Coladipietro
Village President

William Belmonte
Traffic and Streets

Patrick Shannon
Facilities, Infrastructure

Pamela S. Hager
Village Clerk

Bill Bolen
Finance and
Administration

Frank Bucaro
Planning, Zoning
& Environmental
Concerns

TRUSTEES

Judi Von Huben
Public Safety

Vince Ackerman
Intergovernmental &
Community Relations

The photo on the top of page 1 was taken by Gizep Battisia

A Message from Mayor Franco

I am excited as Buddy the Elf that it is my favorite time of year again! Although Thanksgiving is behind us, I'd like to thank the Village Board, residents, business community, and staff for the support throughout this past year. We have enjoyed another year of fiscal growth, commercial expansion, improvements to infrastructure, and most importantly, continued community spirit!

Development remains robust & many new businesses have made Bloomingdale their home; from additions such as Cooper's Hawk, Belle Tire & Burlington along Gary Avenue, to Jollibee Poke Bros, & Eggceptional Cafe along Army Trail. Additionally, Shake Shack and BIBIBOP Asian Grill opening in early 2024 will add even more dining options. However, our progress is in the rear-view window, and we turn to our work in making the upcoming year as promising and successful as 2023!

Two projects with long-term impact to our community will be the property redevelopment of the former Indian Lakes golf course and Stratford Square Mall. The Board & I have been working with the new hotel ownership group, exploring the possibility of bringing back the golf course, a 9-hole par 3 course, driving range and a public walking path for our residents. The Board is evaluating the cost & feasibility of such an endeavor. A decision on the future of this property will be made in the coming month and I will keep you all posted.

The Stratford property has been a challenge but we are making progress and will be in a better position to move forward with a comprehensive plan for the redevelopment of this significant piece of property in 2024. To date, the Village has acquired the former Carson's, Burlington, and Sears parcels along with the vacant area commonly referred to as the canoe piece along Springfield Drive. The Village is pursuing eminent domain against Namdar Realty who owns the former JCPenney piece & main in-line center, while Kohl's has agreed to remain and be a partner in the new development. The Village has been working on a land plan for the area based on the overwhelming response to the community survey which solicited input related to uses and amenities for the new center.

And now... my favorite seasonal topic! You may have seen our Public Works employees decking trees with lights over the last several weeks, as our Christmas light extravaganza is in full swing. Kicking off the holiday festivities is the annual Tree Lighting and Kris Kringle Market on Friday, December 1st marking the beginning of the month-long Festival of Lights in Old Town Bloomingdale. I am excited to join my friend, Bloomingdale Park District President Andre Burke, at the top of the Village's Christmas Tree with the help our Bloomingdale Fire District friends! The event starts at 3:30PM with Old Town Park, Village Hall and the giant tree on the Piazza simultaneously illuminated later that evening! Check out the front page of this Almanac to learn about the additional activities slated for the event.

When shopping for the holidays, please "Keep the Cheer Here," by buying in Bloomingdale. Keeping your sales taxes in the Village builds a stronger local economy. Did you know that for the Fiscal Year 2023 nearly 50% or \$10.70 million of the Village's General Fund's total revenues came from sales taxes? Supporting our local businesses is a win-win! Our local business community is the lifeblood of our economy; your support for our local businesses helps strengthen a vibrant Bloomingdale community.

If you are looking for ways "Share the Cheer," the back page of this almanac shares ideas to make the holiday season a little happier for someone less fortunate.

From the Coladipietro family to yours- Warmest Wishes for a Joyful Holiday Season!

Mayor Franco



Village Introduces New e-bill and Online Payment Provider

The Village of Bloomingdale is changing e-bill and online payment providers. Please go to www.invoicecloud.com/villageof-bloomingdale to sign up for the new e-bill and online payment provider.

If you previously received e-bills or had an online account with the old provider, Green



Pay, your account will not be transferred. You will need to create a new account with the new provider, Invoice Cloud. You may use either Green Pay or Invoice Cloud to pay your current bill. If you are currently set up on auto pay, you will remain on auto pay.

Check out the Village of Bloomingdale "Pay My Utility Bill" webpage for more information: www.villageofbloomingdale.org/739/Pay-My-Utility-Bill

For questions, call (630) 893-7000.

Water Meter Replacement

United Meters, Inc (UMI) has divided the Village's Water Meter Replacement Project into 9 phases. As each phase opens, letters are sent with information on how to schedule an appointment. Follow-up Notices are sent to properties that do not respond & UMI staff may come to the door to request access to replace the meter; the best way to avoid this is to promptly schedule an appointment. Please call UMI directly to schedule at the number in the mailing, Village staff are unable to schedule appointments.

Participation is required to continue receiving water from the Village. For details about this project, visit the Village's website at www.villageofbloomingdale.org/868/Water-Meters or call Public Works (630) 671-5800.

Platt Hill Nursery Honored for Its Ongoing Generosity to the Village

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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630-671-5600

Articles and information for the
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Almanac must be submitted to
Jennifer Sassano by
January 5, 2024
email
sassanoj@vil.bloomington.il.us



At the October 9th Village Board meeting, Platt Hill Nursery was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for their continued support and generosity to the Village of Bloomington.

For many years, Platt Hill Nursery has provided the Village with donations of trees, shrubs & flowers. These donations allow the Public Works Department to complete additional beautification projects throughout the Village.

Most recently, they donated 35 trees & 20+ shrubs which provide a multitude of benefits to people & the environment: cleaner air, energy savings, stormwater management, increased shade, improved mental health, greater support for wildlife & natural ecosystems, & beautification.

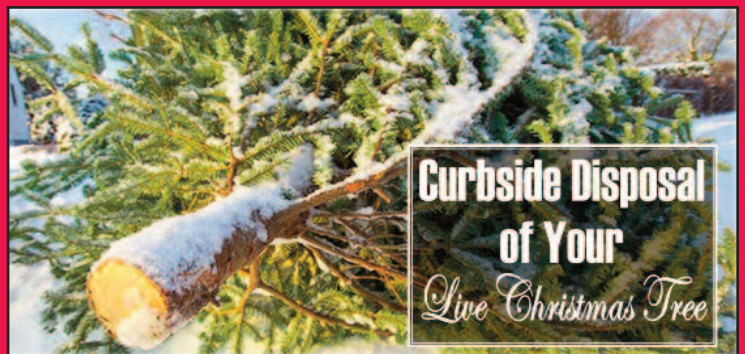
We are grateful to Platt Hill Nursery for their generosity & for recognizing the preservation of our environment as a priority.

Platt Hill President Graham Hill and Nursery Manager Scott Deike were present at the meeting to accept the award. They are pictured with Public Works Director Jim Monkemeyer, Village Forester Jim Johnson and Trustees Von Huben, Shannon, Bucaro, Bolen, Ackerman and Clerk Hager.

Curbside Christmas Tree Disposal Begins Week of January 1

SBC Waste Solutions, the village's refuse hauler, will pick-up live Christmas trees on your regularly scheduled refuse day during the weeks of January 1st, January 8th, and January 15th. Any tree set out after the above weeks starting January 22nd of 2024 will require three (3) yard waste stickers.

Please do not put trees in plastic bags, and be sure all decorations are removed. Christmas trees should be positioned with the cut end toward the curb for easy loading.



Caterina Bonura Brings Feeling of Home to McDonald's



Whether you only visit the McDonald's at 72 Stratford Drive occasionally, or whether you are one of the many "regulars" there, you probably know Caterina Bonura.

More than seven years ago, Bonura began working as the hostess of this Bear Family McDonald's, where a group of regulars who spend their mornings there have become like family and she has become a "local celebrity." Customers go there "because they feel like they are visiting her home." She received the 2023 "Crew Person of the Year" award and is often complimented; one restaurant review states "If you are looking for a friendly restaurant to go for a sandwich and to feel at home, this is definitely the place to visit."

Caterina speaks very highly of Bear Family Restaurants (BFR) President David Bear and staff. BFR has a history of philanthropy and their employees dedicate hundreds of hours volunteering.

Caterina's warm personality is part of her Italian heritage. She and her husband Joe moved from Palermo, Sicily in 1962, living in Chicago before making Bloomingdale their home in 1970. She recalls "at the time there were no streets, just a lot of dust!" She still lives in the home on Schick Road that they built 52 years ago (Joe literally built the house - he laid the bricks); it is where they raised their daughter and son. Although her husband passed away 12 years ago, she has no plans on moving until "God takes her." She welcomes visitors and loves to cook for them!

In her recollections of life in Bloomingdale, she remembers when both Stratford Mall and Indian Lakes didn't exist. She saw both structures being built, and for 20 years she worked at Indian Lakes, retiring at 60 years old to take care of her husband when he became ill.

For many people, home is more than the physical place where they reside, it is within their hearts. For 83-year-old Caterina Bonura, home is the feeling of being cared for. She provides the feeling of a welcoming home and gracious hospitality wherever she goes, turning strangers into family.

Stop by the McDonald's at 72 Stratford Drive where she will welcome you with the warmth of home and plenty of good stories.

Holiday Weekend Expanded Dial-a-Ride Hours Runs Through December 31

Pace Dial-A-Ride will offer extended holiday weekend hours available from Saturday, November 25 and running through Sunday, December 31, 2023.

The Dial-A-Ride paratransit bus service provides pre-arranged curb-to-curb service for all residents. Discounted rates are available for seniors 65 and older, students, and persons with disabilities whose eligibility has been determined by the regional certification process. During the holidays, the Dial-A-Ride bus will operate from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays, excluding Christmas Day when the bus is closed.

The Dial-A-Ride service area includes Bloomingdale Township and the following locations:

- AMITA Health, Alexian Brothers Medical Center and Campus (including Dialysis Center at 935 Beisner Rd)
- Alexian Brothers Day Rehab Center at 701 Biesterfield Rd, Elk Grove Village
- DuPage Oncology Clinic
- Mona Kea Medical Complex
- Wheaton Medical Group
- Wheaton Eye Clinic
- Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital
- AMITA Health, Adventist Medical Center, Glen Oaks Hospital
- DuPage County Complex, East & West side of County Farm Road
- Kenneth Moy Convalescence Center

To make reservations, call 800-713-7445 or TTY 800-713-7415, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Reservations will be accepted beginning the Thursday prior to the week service is desired. Same-day reservations may be accepted if there is availability.

Wishing You the Merriest of Holidays

The Bloomingdale Village Hall holiday closings:

Christmas:

Monday, December 25, 2023 & Tuesday, December 26, 2023

New Year's:

Monday, January 1, 2024 & Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Service delays for the curbside residential refuse and recycling collections performed by SBC Waste Solutions for both Christmas and New Year's Day:

- **Monday, December 25** -Curbside pickup will be delayed one day for this week.
- **Monday, January 1** -Curbside pickup will be delayed one day for this week.

During both of the holiday weeks:

Tuesday collection will be on Wednesday

Wednesday collection will be on Thursday

Thursday collection will be on Friday

Warm wishes to all for safe and happy holidays from the elected officials and staff at the Village of Bloomingdale.



Here's What You Need to Know About Bloomingdale's 2023-2024 Salting Operations

Water Reclamation Facility

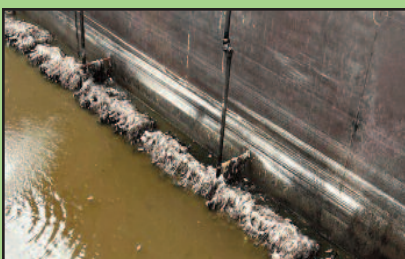
Removal of grit removal from south aeration tank. The debris covering the aeration pipes is a result of flushing rags and non-flushable wipes, which leads to significant maintenance issues, repair costs and could potentially interfere with operations.

Flushable products, despite being advertised as flushable, do not decompose in the sanitary sewer system, causing damage and residential service backups. They should always be disposed of in the garbage.

Think before you flush! How do I know what I can flush? Remember the three P's of flushing: Pee, Poop and (toilet) Paper

Items that should not be flushed:

- Wipes (baby, feminine, personal), just because something says it's flushable doesn't mean it is.
- Dental floss
- Facial tissue
- Condoms
- Feminine hygiene products
- Cotton swabs
- Cat litter
- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Hair
- Old Medication
- Fats, Oils, and Grease from food



It's that time of year when the snow and ice cover the ground. Here are some reminders about Bloomingdale's salting procedures. Keep in mind, in all areas each storm will dictate the amount of material placed down on the roadway.

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

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.

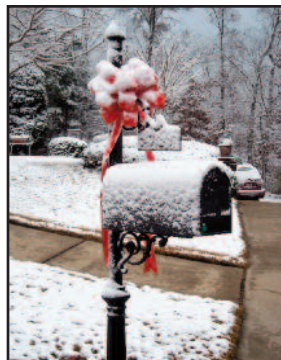
Winter Salting Operation Intersections will be treated 100 feet adjacent to each intersection using salt dosed with liquid calcium chloride.

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?



Damage to mailboxes and parkways may happen. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to report any damage caused by plows to the Public Works Department at 630-671-5800.

Public Works will perform an inspection of the damage once it's been reported. Residents can either have their mailbox replaced by the village or be reimbursed up to \$50 for a new mailbox. A temporary mailbox will be put in place until weather permits a full replacement to avoid any mail delivery service interruptions.

Bloomingtondale Wintertime Q & A

With the winter season fast approaching, the Public Works Division is ready to combat now and ice on the 151 miles of Village streets, making them safer for motorists.

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

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

When Will the Village Roads Get Cleared?

During a snow event, routes are carefully designed to allow for optimum use of available snowplowing equipment and personnel. Typically, snow operations concentrate on main streets before crews begin working on side streets and then making it to cul-de-sacs and dead ends. The rate at which the streets are cleared depends on many factors including total accumulation, type of snow (wet or powder-like), temperature and volume of traffic on streets during plow operations. All Village owned streets will be cleared of snow and ice eventually.

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. Dirt and seed restoration of parkways will take place in the Spring, weather permitting, as this is the best time for grass seed germination. 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 most efficient means available to remove snowfall from the streets. As a result, snow is discharged along the length of the curb, the parkways & the private driveway areas. Therefore, we strongly recommend residents delay clearing the driveway until the snowplows have cleaned the majority of your street. Village Ordinance prohibits blowing or plowing snow onto Village streets or property. Excessive snow in the street can freeze which creates a hazardous situation for all motorists.

Village owned plow trucks will not remove snow & ice from private property including residential driveways. The cleaning of private driveways is the responsibility of the property owner. Please use caution when outside and shoveling; take breaks, lift lighter loads and be aware of slick roads and sidewalks.

Who Do I Call About Snow Removal Operations?

Questions regarding snow removal should be directed to the Public Works Division at 630-671-5800.



Winter Phone Numbers

Village of Bloomingtondale Snow Phone (630) 671-5800

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

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

Non-emergency & general information

Bloomingtondale Fire District - Emergency 911

Illinois Department of Transportation Information Line 312-DOT-INFO (312-368-4636)

For information on State Roads, for example, Lake Street. The District One Communication Center is open 24/7. All hazardous conditions should be reported to 847-705-4612 for immediate action. IDOT offers weather/road condition information on their website. www.dot.il.gov

Division of Transportation DuPage County 630-682-7321

For information on DuPage County roads: For information on DuPage County roads: Army Trail Road, Bloomingtondale Road, Gary Avenue, Medinah Road, Schmale Road

Illinois Tollway Roadway Information Line 800-865-5394

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.



Chamber Honors 2023 Recipients of Best of Bloomingdale Awards

Garden Club Celebrates 60th Anniversary

The Bloomingdale Garden Club celebrated its 60th Anniversary with a gala "Gratitude" luncheon on October 29th at the Bloomingdale Golf Course. Over 80 guests included members



and their families, as well as VIPs and longtime friends. Mayor Franco presented a

Proclamation and offered congratulations; he is pictured with Joyce Basel.

The aspirations of the original small group of women who started the club 60 years ago have certainly been achieved by the men and women who are today's dedicated and hard-working members.

Congratulations!

A ceremony took place at the Village Board Meeting on Monday, November 13, to recognize the promotion of Officer Jeremy Redic to Sergeant and the swearing-in of new police officer, Officer Matthew Fauth.



They are pictured with Mayor Franco, Director of Public Safety Giammarese and Trustees Belmonte, Shannon, Von Huben, Ackerman, Bucaro, and Bolen and Clerk Hager. Congratulations - We wish them all the best in their new positions!



The 2023 Best of Bloomingdale Awards recipients were announced during an awards dinner at Medinah Banquets. The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce awards are designed to recognize outstanding members of the greater Bloomingdale business community.

Congratulations to all: Annie Occasion for Any Occasion; ANYWAY'S American Grill & Pub; Bloomingdale Bank & Trust; Bloomingdale Park District; Bloomingdale Parks Foundation; Bloomingdale/Roselle Rotary Club; Brambert Chiropractic and Acupuncture, Ltd.; Bucaro Funeral Home & Cremation Center; Catalyst Counseling; Century 21 Circle - Branka Poplonski; Chicago Pastry; Chick-fil-A Bloomingdale; Divine Signs & Graphics; Eagle Falls Dentistry; Edward Jones Investments; Kencie Zmich; Eye Level Learning Center; Hector's Car Wash and Detail, Inc.; Highlander Improvement Co.; Home Helpers Home Care; HOT-WORX; Martucci Law; Platt Hill Nursery; Purpose - Therapeutic Massage; Rana-Reagan Pharmacy; Sporty's Restaurant & Catering; St. Isidore Catholic Church; Suite 115 Salon & Spa Ltd.

Rock and Crystal Shop Fulfills Couple's American Dream

Wellington & Gay Ferreira came to America in the 1980's, Wellington from Brazil and Gay from the Philippines; in 1997, they made their home in Bloomingdale and in 2010, started a wholesale business. Fast forward to 2019 when they opened Minas Gerais Krystallos, AKA MGK Rock Shop, the only rock shop in Bloomingdale. Minas Gerais Krystallos was named for Minas Gerais, the state in Brazil where most of their crystals are from and where Wellington was born.



MGK not only survived COVID, they thrived and moved to a larger store front in their current location, 276 Glen Ellyn Rd. Besides rocks & crystals, they have a collection of jewelry, incense, candles, tarot & oracle cards and metaphysical products. All of these items would make wonderfully unique Christmas gifts; the staff are friendly and knowledgeable, so stop in and ask questions to find that perfect present...and pick out something for yourself too! Reach them at 847-648-648-4124 or minasgeraiskrystallos.com.

The Ferreira's mentioned that they are "thankful to Bloomingdale and the surrounding communities for helping us achieve our American Dream."

They have two other stores located in Hawaii.

Business News

Cooper's Hawk, 200 S. Gary Ave

Cooper's Hawk is now open and business has been booming. Pictured at the Ribbon Cutting on October 21st, is Head Kitchen Manager Alfredo Romero, General Manager Brien Terhune, and Jason Plutz, also in attendance are Village Clerk Pam Hager, Trustees Judi Von Huben & Bill Belmonte & State Representative Sanalitra, along with Cooper's Hawk staff, community and Chamber members.



The Cooper's Hawk concept includes distinct components: an upscale casual dining restaurant, full-service bar, private dining room, and tasting room and retail gift store, all under one roof.

Jollibee, 396 Army Trail Road

At the end of October, Jollibee officially opened; as one of the largest Asian restaurants in the world, Jollibee is best known for Chickenjoy, their signature fried chicken.

Jollibee also serves different forms of chicken, as well as burgers and spaghetti.



Enzo's Bar and Grill, 298 Glen Ellyn Road

Work continues at Enzo's Bar and Grill. Interior improvements are well on their way and they will begin the process for their outdoor patio, just in time for Spring and warmer weather!

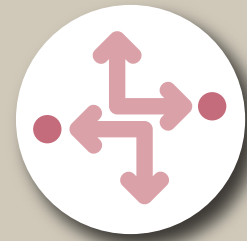
The restaurant is projected to open in early spring of 2024.



Shake Shack/Old Second Bank

355 Army Trail Road

Works continues at the site for Shake Shack and Old Second Bank. Foundations are in and walls are up at Shake Shack; site work is underway for Old Second Bank. They are projected to open spring of 2024.



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

Kristy Malone Receives Woman of the Year Award

Congratulations to Kristy Malone of Oasis Senior Advisors, recipient of BAWIB's Georgene Geils



Woman of the Year Award.

Kristy is a shining example of dedication and excellence, working tirelessly to provide support for seniors and their families. Beyond her professional achievements, Kristy devotes time & energy to bettering the community, embodying the spirit of giving back that this award represents & is an inspiration to all!



Mahan Family Wines Celebrates Beaujolais Nouveau

Mahan Family Wines thanks all who descended on Bloomingdale's beautiful Piazza to celebrate their Beaujolais Nouveau inspired event on November 11th. Alcentro Trattoria did a wonderful job with wine pairing and Michael Marsico won the amateur wine competition! His People's Choice Award Winning Red Zinfandel will advance to Winemaker Magazine's International Wine Competition.

The winery was recently featured in Forbes magazine; read the article on Mahan Family Wines blog site, where you can also find the growing number of awards their wines have won & where their next pop-up will be.

Where is Mahan Family Wines? Have you found their Speakeasy inspired Wine & Piano bar? They are open on select evenings & feature live music. Once your reservation is made, they'll send information on finding the secret entry. Intriguing, isn't it? Book a fun evening with friends!

Sign up for their Wine Club, order Gift Certificates for their Speakeasy & more at MahanFamilyWines.com.



Art of Book Folding at Artists Association Program

The Art of Book Folding with Beth Dover

Wed, Jan. 10 at 6:30pm

Bloomingdale Park District Museum
108 South Bloomingdale Road

Create folded book art! Please bring supplies: hard-cover book (without color illustrations inside) 7.5-8 inches tall & minimum 470 pages, mechanical pencil, ruler with millimeter markings, sharp point scissors.

\$10 visitor fee. Registration is required; contact Lois Shaffer at 630-924-1577.



VFW Clothing Drive Wraps Vets in Warmth and Love

The Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 conducted a Winter Clothing Drive for Homeless Veterans throughout October.

Members of the VFW took multiple trips, with generous donations of 300+ coats, 350+ sweaters, 150+ other items. Also, the Post purchased 672 hat, gloves, scarf and sock sets, all delivered to Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, Chicago.

Thank you to all who donated to this wonderful cause to help keep our veterans warm this winter!



More than 1,500 Attendees Made 2023 Boo'mingdale Halloween Event a Success!



What a beautiful fall day on October 21st and the Boo'mingdale Halloween event had over 1,500 attendees. The community Halloween party hosted many activities, including balloon artists, face painting, games, donuts and cider, and much more; it is co-sponsored by the Village of Bloomingdale, the Bloomingdale Library, Police, Fire and Park District.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who help make this a successful event! The Police Department would specifically like to acknowledge Richard Baggio; Carol Cosentino; Linda Derrico; Roberta DiBasillio; Darlene Griffin; Margo Gusman; Francine Howard; Carol Nies; Brenda Nies; Milan Stevanovich.



Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1



© JLT Photography

HOLIDAY FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

Promote safety at home and in the workplace

Between 2013-2017, U.S. fire departments responded to an average 160 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year.

These fires caused an average of three deaths, 15 injuries, and \$10 million in direct property damage annually.

More than two of every five decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

Simple safety precautions can help keep your home and workplace safe and merry during the Holiday season.

Inspect lights before plugging them in- check to make sure there is no damage to the cord or strands.

Never overload a circuit – take into consideration major appliances when plugging lights in.

Turn off/blow out decorations before leaving the office or your home.

During your Holiday baking challenges, make sure to monitor and tidy kitchens to avoid flammability risks and ignition.

When decorating your office, maintain a clean environment- keep area clean and tidy. Lots of clutter with flammable materials could spread a fire fast. Never block fire exits.

Do not block fire sprinklers/alarms with anything – you don't want to hinder the operability of your equipment.

These are just a few steps you can take to maintain a culture of safety in your workplace, and your home.

Wishing you and your loved ones a safe, Happy Holiday this year!

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

Robert Spejcher Promoted to Lieutenant

On September 21st, Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District 1 celebrated the promotion of Robert Spejcher to Lieutenant.

After doing a ride along with Bloomingtondale Fire Department in 2009, Robert enjoyed it so much that he changed his career path the next day at college. He wanted to work with his brother who was already a Fireman for Bloomingtondale, so he started out as a paid on-call in 2012 & was then hired as a full time Fire-fighter Paramedic in 2015. He became a rescue diver and started up the TEMS (Tactical Emergency Medical Support) Team. Currently, he is the Team Leader for the TEMS on The DuPage County SWAT Team & the Public Education Coordinator for the Fire Department.



He is pictured with his family at his promotion ceremony.



Global Risk Consultants





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**

Congratulations to St. Isidore Catholic School

In September 2022, St. Isidore Catholic School was recognized as a Microsoft Incubator School. During the 2022 - 2023 school year, many of our teachers became Microsoft Certified Educators and/or Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts, giving them the opportunity to instruct using 21st-century skills, technology, and innovation.



Recently, St. Isidore School was recognized as 1 of 29 schools nationwide to be awarded the distinction of Microsoft Showcase School! A Microsoft Showcase School is committed to school-wide digital transformation while driving a culture of innovation & continuous improvement. The school designs learning activities/spaces to develop computational & critical thinking. Through parish support & fundraising, technology was greatly improved & the school transformed into a learning environment that challenges students & staff to consistently learn and grow using 21st-century skills.

For inquiries contact Gloria Lorusso, Director of Advancement for St. Isidore Catholic School at: glorusso@sicatholic.org

www.villageofbloomingdale.org

Season of Giving

While the world is full of people in need year-round, no time is more apparent than during the holiday season. Whether it's through donation or action, you can help someone whose spirits might need a little extra lifting this holiday season. Many residents look for ways to give back this time of year. Here are some of the local opportunities to share the spirit of the season.



Village of Bloomingdale Holiday Diaper Drive: Many families are in critical need of diapers and cost has been on the rise. There will be a Holiday Diaper Drive tent at the **December 1st Kris Kringle Market** in Old Town, from 3:30-8:30 PM. All packages of diapers will be distributed to local families in need through the **Bloomingdale Township**; Newborn to adult diapers are appreciated, size 5 is most needed. Contact Jennifer at sassanoj@vil.bloomingdale.il.us for more information.

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. The Angel Tree benefits 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. Tags will be available following Thanksgiving. If you're interested in participating and would like a tag, please e-mail Kate Buggy at buggyk@vil.bloomingdale.il.us, indicating gender/age preference, if you have one, and a tag will gladly be sent to you.

The Bloomingdale Township: is doing a **Toy Shop on December 22nd** from 9AM-3PM. Parents are allowed to pick toys for their children. We require a current utility bill, ID and birth certificates for their children. No appointment is needed. Anyone interested in donating new toys for the Township to distribute can donate through 12/18/23. Toys need to be new and not wrapped. We service children from newborn to 18 if still in school. Older children's toys are our greatest need. The Township will also distribute Christmas Food Baskets on December 15th from 9AM -3PM with a current utility bill. Any questions, please call the township at 630-529-9993.

Bloomingdale Park District: Presents for Pets and People- In the spirit of holiday giving, the Park District is again participating in the annual **Marklund Giving Tree program**, as well as including our four-legged friends with a Giving Tree to benefit **Almost Home Foundation**. All are invited to light up this holiday season for Marklund residents, as well as for deserving pets. Stop by the "Giving Trees" at the Johnston Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle, to pick up a wish list and cheer up the lives of children, canines and kittens! The Johnston Recreation Center is also a **Toys for Tots collection site through December 10**.

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539: periodically makes deliveries of needed items to VA facilities, including Jesse Brown VA Medical Center. Donations are used to purchase move-in essential items for Veterans who are exiting homelessness. You can donate toward the purchase of these items, please make checks payable to: VFW Post 7539 & mail to VFW Post 7539 c/o Bloomingdale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way, Bloomingdale, IL 60108.



Winter Reading:

Get Your Mitts on a Good Book!

December 11, 2023 through February 2, 2024

Registration opens December 11 for all ages. Four ways to register:

- | | | |
|---------------|--|---|
| 1. online: | mybpl.beanstack.org | mybpl.beanstack.org |
| 2. by phone: | Adults/Teens: 630-924-2730 | Youth: 630-924-2740 |
| 3. by email: | Adults/Teens: bdref@mybpl.org | Youth: bdys@mybpl.org |
| 4. in person: | Adults/Teens: Adult Reference Desk | Youth: Youth Services Desk |

Using Previous Registrations: If you previously registered for any 2022-2023 library reading programs, your login information is also valid for Winter Reading and all future reading programs.

Family Registration: You can register all family members under one account. Start your family registration at the Adult Services Desk.

Logging Minutes: Kids, teens, and adults all log minutes. Reading to your child or sibling? Those minutes count for you, too!

Beanstack App: Download the optional app for Apple or Android to easily track minutes and stats like reading streaks. The app makes participating fun and easy!

The Winter Reading Program is open to Bloomington residents only.

Adult & Teen Program (7th grade to adult)

Cozy up with a warm drink and read! For every 120 minutes logged, earn an entry into our grand prize drawing.

Grand Prizes:

\$25 Amazon gift card (2 winners) | BPL branded tote bag (1 winner)

Youth (Infants through 6th grade):

For every 120 minutes logged, readers receive a free book!

Grand Prizes: Wolves Reading Prize Packs



December 20 & 21 | 3:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Open to all high school students, grades 9-12 (Drop-In)

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, snacks, and opportunities to de-stress – you provide the brain power! Pizza served at 7:00 p.m.

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.

Library Closings:

Closed Saturday, December 23 through Monday, December 25
in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
Closed Saturday, December 30 through Monday, January 1
in observance of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

For updates to hours/services offered:

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



If A.D.A accommodations are needed for a program, please contact the Library at least 48 hours before the program.

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.

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

🗄️ VIRTUAL: The Art of Norman Rockwell

Monday, December 11 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. *Zoom Webinar*

Art historian Jeff Mishur presents the development of Norman Rockwell's career from his earliest days at *The Saturday Evening Post* to the years after he left and began illustrating for *Look* and *Life* magazines.

🗄️ The History of Carole King

Tuesday, December 12 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *In-Person Event*

Carole King began writing pop hits in her teens but her career exploded in 1971 with the release of her solo album *Tapestry*. It's an amazing story of a young, earnest songwriter whose mix of gently rocking pop, folk, and soul music touched and warmed us all.

🗄️ VIRTUAL: Christmas Markets in Prague and Germany

Monday, December 18 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. *Zoom Webinar*

World traveler Gene Flynn takes us on an amazing tour of Christmas markets in Prague and Germany. With very few international tourists, December trips are a festive change from summer visits.



ONGOING ADULT PROGRAMS

Genealogy Club (Drop-In)

Wednesday, January 17 | 6:30 – 8:45 p.m.
no meeting in December

🗄️ Great Decisions

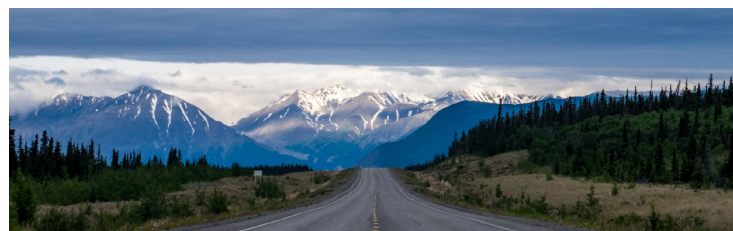
Wednesday, January 17 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
no meeting in December

JANUARY PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL: Life on the Alaska Highway

Monday, January 8 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. *Zoom Webinar*

Join us on an adventure along the Alaska Highway with outdoorsman John Lynn who biked 1500 miles through scenic British Columbia and the Yukon Territory to reach "The Last Frontier" of Alaska.



Drop-In Craft: Upcycled Greeting Cards

Tuesday, January 16 | 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. *In-Person Event*

Drop in and make greeting cards for any occasion by upcycling your old greeting cards. We'll provide everything you need to make new greeting cards (while supplies last), but feel free to bring in your old greeting cards, along with washi tape, stamps, and stickers to make those old cards new again.

🗄️ VIRTUAL: Constellations: Where Do They Come From?

Monday, January 22 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. *Zoom Webinar*

88 constellations define the entire night sky. Explore the history of constellations, including the astronomers involved and former constellations. Presented by Astroeducator Michelle Nichols.

🗄️ VIRTUAL: Winslow Homer - The Great Themes

Monday, January 29 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. *Zoom Webinar*

Join art historian Jeff Mishur as he examines the great themes of Winslow Homer's long career, beginning with his treatment of Civil War subjects for *Harper's Weekly* and concluding with his powerful renderings of the sea and humanity's relationship to nature.

bpl makerspace crafts



🗄️ Engraved Acrylic Keychain

Registration opens Monday, December 4 at 9:00 a.m.
5 per session. Register for one session:

Thursday, January 11 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Monday, January 22 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Engraving takes 30-60 minutes depending on design complexity, so patrons will pick up their keychains on a later date.

Learn how to use the library's Makerspace equipment to make creative craft projects.

Registration Information:
Ages 12 to adult, BPL card & computer experience required.
Please sign up for one session only

🗄️ Paper Flower Shadow Box

Registration opens Tuesday, January 2 at 9:00 a.m.
8 per session. Register for one session:

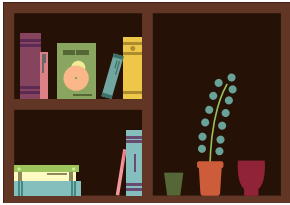
Thursday, February 1 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Monday, February 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.





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.

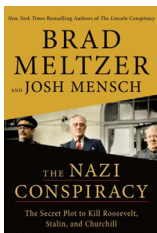


book discussion groups

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.

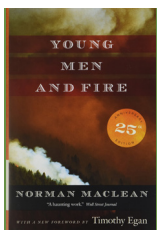
HISTORICAL BOOK DISCUSSION

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



The Nazi Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill

by Brad Meltzer and Josh Mensch
Tuesday, December 5 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Young Men & Fire

by Norman Maclean
Tuesday, January 2 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

MONDAY NIGHT PAGE TURNERS

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



📅 **Our Favorite Picks Party**

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

Register for our end of year party! There's no book discussion this month. Instead, we'll be sharing our favorite picks of the year. A list of all shared titles will be available after the party, so you're sure to find some great book, movie, and TV show recommendations.



One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

by Ken Kesey
Monday, January 15 | 7:30 – 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.



While You Were Sleeping

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

A hopelessly romantic Chicago Transit Authority token collector is mistaken for the fiancée of a coma patient.

Rated PG



When Harry Met Sally

Wednesday, January 10 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Harry and Sally are very good friends, but are afraid to fall in love and ruin the friendship.

Rated R



Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.

Wednesday, December 27 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

When her family moves from the city to the suburbs, 11-year-old Margaret navigates new friends, feelings, and the beginning of adolescence.

Rated PG-13



Fast X


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

Dom Toretto and his family are targeted by the vengeful son of drug kingpin Hernan Reyes.

Rated PG-13

Computer Classes



Registration is encouraged for computer classes to receive program updates. Virtual Classes are noted with  and will be posted to our YouTube channel. Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2730, or by email at bdref@mybpl.org.



iPhone Basics

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

Learn to download and run apps, organize your icons, configure your settings, find and use your pictures, play your music, synchronize your phone with other devices, and much more.

Cutting the Cord

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

Explore entertainment options beyond paying for cable. Discuss how to connect your TV or other devices to streaming services, what options are out there to replace or improve on current service, and how to determine what's right for you.

Ruby: Classes and Objects

Thursday, January 18 | 7:00 p.m.
Instructor: Charlie

Explore the concepts of classes and objects in object-oriented programming while learning to create and implement them with Ruby.

Smartphone Accessibility Guide

Monday, January 22 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Instructor: Christian

Smartphone features like screen readers, magnifying glass, adjustable zoom, and touch sensitivity are designed for users adjusting to physical challenges. Learn how to find and implement these tools to make other aspects of phone use easier.

OneDrive

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

Learn all about the cloud storage system OneDrive, from beginners storing files for remote access and collaborative work to more advanced users syncing their entire computer as a disaster recovery method.

Audiobooks, eBooks, & More at the Library

Thursday, January 25 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Instructor: Salvador

Looking for entertainment while driving, walking outside, or working around the house? Consider some of the free digital resources provided by the library. Students will learn how to download audiobooks, ebooks, and stream content to their phones, tablets, computers, or smart TVs.

Getting Familiar with MacOS

Thursday, January 25 | 7:00 p.m.
Instructor: Salvador

Discover the basics to get started with MacOS, from finding your way around the operating system to installing programs.

Excel 1

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

Format, design, and sort spreadsheets, plus learn the first steps towards creating formulas and using functions.

Classes for Seniors

In these friendly introductory classes, we'll give you lots of guided hands-on practice and time to ask questions.

Word Processing & Windows

Tuesday, January 16 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Instructor: Sean

Learn the basics of computer use and dealing with Windows.

Internet Use & Safety

Tuesday, January 23 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Instructor: Sean

Discuss and learn about internet topics, such as browsing the web, email questions and concerns, how the cloud works, and how to avoid viruses.

Tablets & Smartphones

Tuesday, January 30 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Instructor: Salvador

Familiarize yourself with your smartphone or tablet. Use one of our iPads or bring your own smart device to class.





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

exam cram

December 20 & 21 | 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. (Drop-In)
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, snacks, and opportunities to de-stress - you provide the brain power! Pizza served at 7:00 p.m.



GAME NIGHT

Game Night (Drop-In)
Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
December 28 & January 25

Join other teens for gaming on our big screens or a tabletop! Check out the Nintendo Switch, race in Mario Kart 8, brawl in Super Smash Bros., or discover your new favorite tabletop or board game!

Teen Crafts @ BPL In-Person Crafts

📅 Candy Sleds

Wednesday, December 6 | 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
registration opens Monday, November 6 at 9:00 a.m.

Craft a sled made entirely from candy. Keep it for yourself or give it to a friend as a gift. Limit 12.

📅 Custom Mug

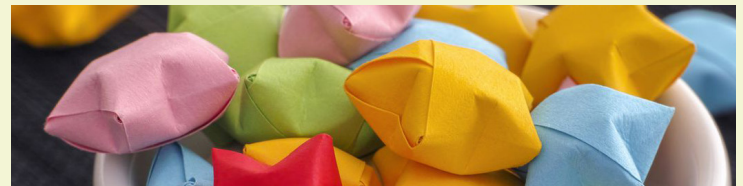
Wednesday, January 10 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
registration opens Monday, December 11 at 9:00 a.m.

Use the library's Cricut and Mug Press to create a custom mug. Limit 4 teens.

Perler Bead Club (Drop-In)

Wednesday, January 17 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Join us on the third Wednesday of each month in the Makerspace for Perler Bead Club. Choose from tons of different patterns to create a fun and colorful work of art using Perler beads.



Take & Make Crafts

You will be contacted by email when your craft kit is ready to be picked up.

📅 Pusheen Christmas Cross-Stitch

Registration begins November 13
Kit Pickup begins Monday, December 4

Stitch your very own Christmas-inspired Pusheen patterns with this kit. Keep it for yourself or give it as a holiday gift. Limit 12 teens.

📅 Lucky Star Jar

Registration begins December 11
Kit Pickup begins Monday, January 8

Learn some origami skills and create a colorful lucky star jar for yourself! Limit 12 teens.



Join us to watch a great movie and enter for a chance to win a copy! Movie giveaway held at the conclusion of the movie and you must be present to win.

Home Alone (PG)

Wednesday, December 13
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.



Clueless (PG-13)

Wednesday, January 24
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Teen Book Reviews & Book'd Bags

Love to read and looking to earn some service hours? Be sure to submit a book review and sign up for a Book'd Bag! Check out the details here:

mybpl.org/teenbookreviews mybpl.org/teenbookbags

Youth Programs



Registration required for some youth programs (noted with 📅). Registration for **December** programs begins Monday, November 27 at 9:00 a.m.
Registration for **January** programs begins Tuesday, December 26 at 9:00 a.m.
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

📅 Explore Bags

Grades 3-6

Starting Friday, December 1

Register for a book experience bag curated just for you. Each bag will contain 1-3 books personally selected with teasers, a handwritten note, an activity idea, and some goodies. Books will be checked out to your card, so just return them when you are done and keep the treats.

Middle Grade Makers (Drop-In)

Grades 4-8

Thursdays, December 7 and January 4
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Explore our Makerspace as we create all sorts of fun and useful items like keychains, coasters, custom buttons, or jewelry. Crafts will take anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour – drop by and see what's new each month!

📅 Makerspace Club: STEM Time

Grades 3-6

Thursdays, December 14 and January 11
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!

December – 3D pen ornaments

January – magic wands

📅 Jan Brett Book Party

Grades K-2

Sunday, December 17 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Come explore a wintry wonderland with stories, crafts, and snacks.

📅 Hug in a Mug

Grades 3-6

Thursday, December 21 | 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Make a custom mug and fill it with goodies to make a gift for someone special.

📅 DIY Dot Painting Tote Bag

Grades K-2

Thursday, December 28 | 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.

Come in from the cold to DIY your own canvas book bag with a dot painting technique and pick up cozy winter books to put inside of it!

📅 Snowman Playdough

Grades 2-6

Tuesday, January 2 | 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

Create your own snowman and seal him up in a decorative mason jar.

Bingo Blast (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6

Friday, January 5 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Start your year with some bingo fun! Join us for a twist to an old favorite as we play bingo with holiday flair. Drop in anytime and stay as long as you like. Collect tokens for each game you win. Once you have three tokens, you can trade them in for a prize!

📅 Winter Writer's Workshop

Grades 3-6

Monday, January 8 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Bring your own journal or get ready to start a new one. Enjoy a warm cozy cup of cocoa or apple cider while you spend time with your muse.

📅 Crochet Along with Miss Carol

Grades 3-8

Video posted on our YouTube channel on Monday, January 15

Learn to crochet along with Miss Carol. Check the Library's YouTube page for video tutorials for each project. A supply list and written instructions can be picked up at the library. New projects will be posted quarterly. January project: Wave pattern

📅 Learn to Use a Sewing Machine

Grades 4-6 with caregiver

Monday, January 15 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Get an introduction to the sewing machines in the BPL Makerspace. We will learn the parts of the machine, how to thread it, wind a bobbin, and sew a simple pillow. An adult is welcome to accompany their child.

LEGO® Club (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6

Tuesday, January 16 | 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

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

📅 Snowflakes, Snowballs, and Stories—Oh My!

Grades K-2

Wednesday, January 17 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Winter is here! We will read some great winter stories, make crafts, and have an indoor snowball fight.

📅 Percy Jackson Book Party

Grades 3-6

Monday, January 29 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Excited about the new Percy Jackson series? Come in to enjoy crafts and activities based on the popular series.

📅 C.N.P.D.

Celebrate National Puzzle Day

Grades K-2

Tuesday, January 30 | 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

If you enjoy fun puzzles, this is the place to be! We will have many different kinds for you to puzzle over.

📅 Gnometastic Craft Time

Grades 3-6

Thursday, February 1 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Are you obsessed with these cute little creatures? We will have various materials available to make your very own gnome!





Youth Programs

Registration required for some youth programs (noted with 🗓️). Registration for **December** programs begins Monday, November 27 at 9:00 a.m.
Registration for **January** programs begins Tuesday, December 26 at 9:00 a.m.
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)

0-24 months

Every Wednesday | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Meet and chat with other parents & caregivers while your child socializes and explores with hands-on toys. Weekly drop in event for ages 0-24 months. *Will be offered simultaneously with Baby Tales and Tunes when in session. *

There will be no Come Together on December 27 or January 3.

🗓️ Polar Express

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, December 5 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

All aboard! Join us for a reading of this holiday classic. There will be crafts and activities - pajamas are optional.

🗓️ Playing with STEM

Ages 2-5

Tuesday, December 12 and January 30
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Start your child in STEM early with our fun play to learn program. Each session, we will have different stations for kids to explore.

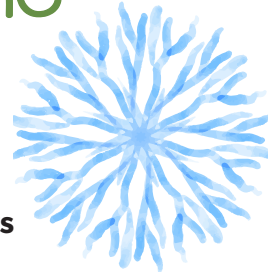
December – ice and snow
January – winter animals

🗓️ Let's Make a Snowman

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, December 19 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

It may be too cold to venture outside for long! Make a snowman out of craft materials here at the library.



🗓️ Messy Fingers

Ages 2-4

Friday, December 22 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.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!

🗓️ Take It, Make It: New Year's Party in a Bag

Ages 3-5

Kit Pickup: December 26 – December 29

This kit will have everything you need for the perfect New Year's celebration!

🗓️ Hoo-ray for Owls

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, January 9 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

"Owl" you need for this program is a love of owls and you'll have a hooting good time.

🗓️ Happy Books, Happy Cooks

Ages 3-5

Thursday, January 25 | 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 food allergies when registering.*

For Families

🗓️ Homeschool Hangout Series

Families

Thursdays, December 7 and January 4
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.

Science and Fun with Frozen (Drop-In)

Families

Wednesday, December 20
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

We will celebrate the movie with science activities, games, and crafts for all!

Craft Time (Drop-In)

Families

Friday, December 29 | 9:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Come craft with us! While supplies last.

Have Fun with Hula (Drop-In)

Families

Monday, January 15 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Let's learn a new skill on this school day off. Shasta Hud will teach the meaning, culture, and dance steps of Hula.

Penguin Awareness Day (Drop-In)

Families

Saturday, January 20 | 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Enjoy a storytime and special craft all about penguins!

Watercolor Snowflakes (Drop-In)

Families

Tuesday, January 23 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

It's snowing! Come create pretty snowflake art to hang on your windows.

🗓️ Bluey Bonanza

Families

Sunday, January 28 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Visit the land of *Bluey* with games of Keepy Uppy, dance mode competitions, and lots more wackadoo fun!



Winter Storytimes

Winter Mini Session: November 27 through December 15

Winter Full Session: January 8 through February 16

The Youth Services department provides age-appropriate interactive fun with stories, sign language, music, and more. Storytimes are limited to the first 20 children to arrive.

Preschool Storytime

Ages 3-5
Mondays, 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Evening Storytime

All ages with caregiver
Wednesdays, 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

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.



Baby Tales

Ages 0-24 months with caregiver
Wednesdays
10:00 – 10:20 a.m. OR
10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

Introduce your baby to books, songs, rhymes, and movement that will aid in the development of early literacy skills.
Out of consideration for baby safety and to encourage child/caregiver bonding, older siblings cannot be accommodated in this program.

*Check out *Come Together*, our playtime program done in conjunction with this program Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. See pg. 7 for details.

Valentines for Veterans

for all ages

Monday, January 8 – Monday, February 5

The BPL Youth Services department will again sponsor their annual Valentines for Veterans program! We invite children and adults to make Valentine cards for veterans. All Valentine cards will be delivered to veterans who have served our country and are currently hospitalized at **Hines Veterans Hospital** in Hines, IL and **Jessie Brown Hospital** in Chicago.

Art and card supplies will be available at the Youth Services desk to create cards while visiting the library. Everyone is also welcome to bring in cards made at home from personal craft materials (please do not glue anything onto the card that may break off easily, and glitter is discouraged). **Please turn in all cards to the Youth Services desk.** Envelopes for cards are not required.



bpl
makerspace

Limited Hours in December

Be sure to visit the Makerspace by Saturday, December 16 to get in your last minute holiday crafts and gifts!

The Makerspace will be closed for the holiday starting Thursday, December 21 and will reopen for Bloomingdale cardholders on Thursday, January 4.

Festival of Lights

A December Filled with Fun!

Festival of Lights activities at the Bloomington Park District Museum & Old Town Park continue through December.

Holiday Crafts | Horse-drawn carriage rides | Holiday-themed programs | Complimentary refreshments during Bloomington Park District Museum open hours | Photo opportunities with a Snowman and Reindeer | Cookie Decorating | Holiday Cooking & Baking Programs | Holiday Scavenger Hunt

The festivities continue through December! For a complete list of the special holiday-themed programs and activities visit www.bloomingtonparks.org. Reservations are required for some of the programs along with a fee. Activities and entertainment offerings are **Friday, December 1 through Saturday, December 23, and the Old Town Park lights will stay lit through New Year's Day!**



Holiday Show at the Museum

During December, the Bloomington Park District Museum will highlight the holiday season with a special exhibition. The Museum will be the center of activity during Festival of Lights. Once again, this season, enjoy the fabulous LEGO train layout. But in addition to that you will see an extensive exhibit about Coca Cola. The museum is appropriately festively decorated for the holiday season with trees and lights, and ugly Christmas sweaters! Visitors will see nine freight and passenger trains, as they chug through the city and country landscape. Crafts for kids, photos with Santa, carriage rides, and complimentary refreshments all make this holiday one to remember.

Museum December Hours

6PM-8:30PM Thursdays | 6PM-8:30PM Fridays | 2PM-4:30PM Saturdays



Vintage Sleigh Photo Opportunity

This antique restored sleigh was donated by Roberta Abell, in memory of her father, long time Bloomington resident, George Robert Rentner. The sleigh will be on display beginning Monday, December 4 in the Old Town Park Pavilion. Ideal for holiday photos.

Presented by:



Sponsored by:



The Lounge



THE LOUNGE

The Lounge is relaxing space in the Johnston Recreation Center for active adults and seniors. Checkout the programs below for a wide variety of things to keep you busy this fall. Our Recreation Coordinator, Rebecca Roche, is excited to welcome you and enjoy your company and participation in The Lounge. Free coffee is available whenever activities are planned.

Most Lounge programs are FREE to all adults; however, some programs and lunches require registration and/or a minimal fee to participate. Contact Rebecca, rebecca@bloomingtonparks.org or (630)529-3650 to join the emailing list.

You can find more information about The Lounge at <https://www.bloomingtonparks.org/facilities/jrc/the-lounge>.

December

Holiday Party

December 5 | 10-11AM | \$12 per person | Code: 203792-A1

Grab your friends and come dressed in an ugly sweater or your holiday attire and be entered into a raffle at our Holiday Party! We will make ornaments, decorate cookies, listen to holiday music and enjoy refreshments that will include donuts, fruit, juice and coffee.

Presentation on KiDDieLAND

December 12 | 10:30AM-12PM | \$5 per person | Code: 203796-A1

Explore the 80-year history of the amusement park with vintage pictures, memorabilia and learn about its closure. Exclusive 2009 videos and pictures of the park on a busy day will be featured as well as videos of the auction and the prices paid for the rides. The presentation is given by Cheryl Brown, a historian and Oakton College professor. Registration is required. The presentation is conducted via Zoom. Light refreshments provided. Seminar will take place in the Lounge.

Bingo - Holiday Themed

December 13 | 10-11:30AM | Free | Code: 203777-A1

Save the second and last Wednesday of every month and join us for some Bingo fun. All supplies will be provided. Prizes to all winners! Registration is required. The second Wednesdays of the month are themed Bingos.

"Lucy"

December 14 | 11:15AM-12:30PM | \$15 per person | Code: 203789-A1

Jill Gabrielle is back again with her new show "Lucy" an original solo musical based on the life of Lucille Ball; written and directed by, Jillian Gabrielle. Lunch provided. No drop-ins please. Registration required.

Craft Day

December 19 | 10:30-11:30AM | Free | Code: 203780-A1

Stop in to make a craft. This program is free, but registration is encouraged. Supplies provided.

Bingo

December 27 | 10-11:30AM | Free | Code: 203777-A2

Save the second and last Wednesday of every month and join us for some Bingo fun. All supplies will be provided. Prizes to all winners! Registration is required. The second Wednesdays of the month are themed Bingos.

January

Bingo - Winter Themed

January 10 | 10-11:30AM | Free | Code: 203777-B1

Save the second and last Wednesday of every month and join us for some Bingo fun. All supplies will be provided. Prizes to all winners! Registration is required. The second Wednesdays of the month are themed Bingos.

Craft Day

January 16 | 10:30AM-11:30AM | Free | Code: 203780-A2

Stop in to make a craft. This program is free, but registration is encouraged. Supplies provided.

Hot Dog and Movie

January 18 | 11AM-12:30PM | Free | Code: 203788-A2

Enjoy a hotdog lunch and movie. Lunch is free but registration is required.

National Pie Day

January 23 | 10:30-11:30AM | Free

Stop in anytime between the 10:30 to 11:30AM for a yummy piece of pie on National Pie Day.

Cards and Games

January 25 | 9AM-12PM | Free

Grab your friends and save the last Thursday of the month to play a variety of card games in the Lounge. Stop in anytime between the hours of 9AM-12PM. Game ideas are Poker, Crazy Eights, Spades, Rummy and more.

Blood Pressure Checks

January 31 | 9:30-11AM | Free

Come join Alden Valley Ridge outside The Lounge at the Johnston Recreation Center for a free blood pressure screening.

Bingo

January 31 | 10-11:30AM | Free | Code: 203777-B2

Save the second and last Wednesday of every month and join us for some Bingo fun. All supplies will be provided. Prizes to all winners! Registration is required. The second Wednesdays of the month are themed Bingos.

Bloomingtondale Park District *Museum*

108 South Bloomingtondale Road • Phone: 630.339.3570
Email: bpdmuseum@bloomingtondaleparks.org

Museum Hours During Exhibits

Wednesday 5-8PM
Thursday 12-4PM
Saturday 12-4PM

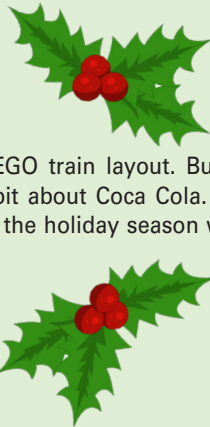
Admission: \$1/residents, \$2/non-residents, \$.50/seniors

Festival of Lights at the Museum

Galleries I & II
December 1-23

Opening Night : Friday, December 1

Once again, this season, enjoy the fabulous LEGO train layout. But in addition to that you will see an extensive exhibit about Coca Cola. The museum is appropriately festively decorated for the holiday season with trees and lights, and ugly Christmas sweaters!



Festival of Lights Bloomingtondale Park District Museum Hours

Thursdays 6PM-8:30PM
Fridays 6PM-8:30PM
Saturdays 2PM-4:30PM

Schedule for Museum Programs:
Friday, December 1 - Saturday, December 23

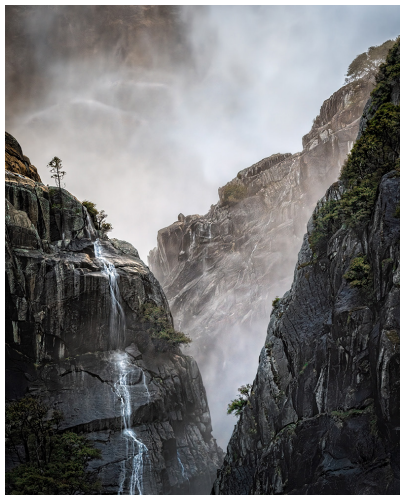


Photo Finish (Photo 2024)

Galleries I & II
January 13- February 10, 2024

Opening Reception: Sunday, Jan 21, 2-4PM

The theme of this annual juried exhibit suggests speed and process. This popular show always attracts visitors interested in how experienced photographers use specific tools to convey a personal statement about the visible world. Most works are available for purchase.



"Mystic Y" by Mark Bates

40th Annual Student Art Show

Galleries I & II
February 24- March 23, 2024

The artwork created by students of area schools will entertain and delight everyone. These young artists explore uses of varied materials as they learn to express their individual creativity.



B-FIT CENTER



Cardio

- Treadmills
- Ellipticals
- Recumbent bike
- Upright bike
- NuStep recumbent cross trainer

Machines/Weights

- Weight benches
- Weight rack
- Leg press/calf extension machine
- Leg extension/leg curl machine
- Pulldown machine
- Cable crossover machine

Group Exercise

- 946 square feet
- TRX Stations
- Members have access when no classes are in session.

Membership

Enrollment Fee \$25

Annual membership (Adult & Youth Age 14-15)
 Child must always be accompanied by an adult member
 \$145 Resident \$185 Non-Resident

Monthly membership (Adult & Youth Age 14-15)
 Child must always be accompanied by an adult member
 \$15 Resident \$19 Non-Resident

Student Memberships
3 Month Summer + FREE 1 Month Winter Break
 \$45 Resident \$57 Non-Resident
1 Month Winter Break
 \$15 Resident \$19 Non-Resident

Senior (62+) Annual Membership
 \$116 Resident \$156 Non-Resident

Senior (62+) Monthly Membership
 \$12 Resident \$15 Non-Resident

Daily Fee (Adult Only)
 \$5 Resident \$7 Non-Resident

Corporate/Business Employee Membership
 contact Amber, amber@bloomingtonparks.org.

SilverSneakers & Prime Membership
 FREE for SilverSneakers & Prime Participants

B-Fit Hours*

Monday-Thursday 6:30am-8:30pm
 Friday 6:30am-8pm
 Saturday-Sunday 8:30am-12:30pm

Holiday Hours*

Thanksgiving Day Closed
 November 24 7-11AM
 Christmas Eve Closed
 Christmas Day Closed
 New Year's Eve 7-11AM
 New Year's Day Closed
 Easter Closed
 Memorial Day Closed

*Hours subject to change. The B-Fit Center may close 30 minutes before the scheduled closing time if no one is working out.



Silver Sneakers & Prime Network Programs

The Bloomington Park District is proud to offer SilverSneakers and Prime Network in partnership with Tivity Health. If you are a member of either program, you are eligible for a membership at the B-Fit Center and SilverSneakers classes at the Bloomington Park District. For more information regarding either program, please visit www.tivityhealth.com.

One Free Visit to the B-Fit Fitness Center

Bring this coupon in to the B-Fit Center at 172 S. Circle Ave, Bloomington, IL 60108 for one FREE WORKOUT!

Valid for new guests only. Age 16 and up.

B-Fit Center Winter Promotion

New Members FREE Enrollment
 FREE 10-Punch Group X Card

Promotion valid 1/2/24 - 1/31/24