

# Village of Bloomingdale

# Almanac

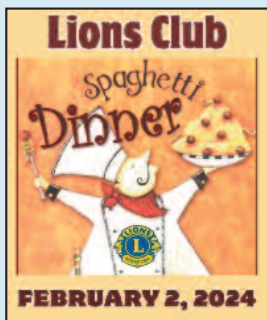
February 2024

Growth with Pride

## Lions Spaghetti Dinner February 2

Friday, February 2 @ 5-8 PM

Save the date for great food, fun and entertainment by Tony Spavone at the Bloomingdale Lion's Club Spaghetti Dinner held at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. Dinner tickets, \$17 per person, can be purchased at the door. They will be doing an early draw of their WE SERVE RAFFLE; tickets can be purchased at the event. Children 8 & under are free.



If you have any questions, contact Camille at [Cari4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Cari4@sbcglobal.net).

## Public Works Team: Bloomingdale's Unsung Heros!

They are on call 24/7. They work out-of-doors in temperatures ranging from extreme cold to extreme heat; in rain, snow, and sleet. They are the members of Bloomingdale's Public Works Team who work behind the scenes to enhance the quality of life for our residents.

When winter brings a blanket of snow and ice, this dedicated group of individuals "hits the road" with plows and salt trucks to ensure village roads are clear and safe.

Their meticulous planning and rapid response ensure that residents can navigate the village with few if any disruptions even during the

harshest winter conditions.

In addition to maintaining our roads, the Public Works Team also routinely inspects infrastructure that



*Bloomingdale's Public Works Team is pictured with their director Jim Monkemeyer as well as Village Trustee Von Huben, Village Administrator Peter Scalera, and Building Commissioner Mike Gricus.*

can be affected by snow and ice. Water mains are particularly susceptible to harsh weather conditions. Prompt repair of water main breaks assures that water service to homes and businesses will be uninterrupted.

Winter can bring unexpected emergencies, from power outages to extreme weather events.

The Public Works Team is on call 24/7 to address emergencies and keep residents safe. Their professionalism is evident in their ability to handle unforeseen emergencies with professionalism and efficiency.

As we cozy up indoors, let's

take a moment to express our gratitude and appreciation for this diligent and hardworking crew, who are committed to keeping Bloomingdale safe and functional in the face of winter's demands.

## In This Edition



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Spring Break Programs, All Ages; see Library Pages

# 'Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops' Brings Holiday Smiles to All!

## 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 Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #175 ushered in the holiday season with the heartwarming "Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops" event, held on Saturday, December 9th. This annual tradition brought joy to deserving local families, providing children with a memorable day.

The day began with breakfast at the Police Station, catered by Sporty's Catering and Woodman's Food Market. The children, filled with excitement, were then treated to a special police car ride, parade style, with lights and sirens in route to Meijer's.

The children participated in a unique shopping experience at Meijer's, pairing up with police officers to select their own Christmas gifts. Each child also had the opportunity to choose a coat, hat, and gloves, donated by Salerno Rosedale Chapels. The event created lasting memories for the children and fostered positive interactions between law enforcement and the community.

Gratitude to Meijer's for their significant gift card donation, which played a pivotal role in making the event a success. The generous support of the following contributors also deserves special mention:

- Bloomingdale Township Republican Party • Salerno Rosedale Chapels
- Chicagoland Italian American Charitable Organization • Costco Wholesale
- Mayor Franco Coladipietro • Domenic Torsen • John Dabrowski
- Michael Hovde, Tufo Law • Phyllis Denoma • Sam Tornatore
- Sporty's Catering • Woodman's Food Market

A thank you to all those who supported the Bloomingdale F.O.P. #175 and the dedicated police officers who volunteered their time to make this event truly special. Together, they exemplified the true meaning of the season by spreading joy and goodwill within the Bloomingdale community.

## 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

## A Message from Mayor Franco

Despite the less-than-ideal weather conditions, I was so proud of the strong community turnout at the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Kris Kringle Market, kicking off the annual Festival of Lights month-long activities in Old Town Park. The event always brings me joy as I watch the crowd of smiling faces. Many thanks to our dedicated Public Works staff who work tirelessly to make the event better each year. Special gratitude to our partner, the Bloomingdale Park District, and our sponsors, the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce and Pan American Bank & Trust. A team effort of support that contributed significantly to the event's success. This wonderful finale to 2023 serves as a hopeful prelude to the excitement that awaits in 2024.



As you may have read in previous announcements, the Village has acquired all parcels at Stratford Square Mall to bring the property under one decisive ownership entity. The Village Board and I are committed to finalizing a land development plan utilizing the valuable input we have received from the community. This transformative mixed-use development will be detailed and shared with our residents, encompassing elements such as entertainment, retail, housing, and public open spaces. This significant project is positioned to impact Bloomingdale's landscape, fostering both community vibrancy and financial strength.

The redevelopment of the Village's Open Space stands as another transformative project set to elevate Bloomingdale. Partnering with the new hotel owners, the Village is set to redevelop the open space into a state-of-the-art golf facility, featuring an 18-hole course, a 9-hole Par 3, expansive putting green, and driving range. The hotel owners are undertaking interior renovations of the rooms and common areas. Upcoming plans include the refurbishment of the Pro Shop and Masters Grill, the enhancement of patio and lobby areas, and the replacement of all 432 exterior windows, scheduled to commence in the spring. This multifaceted initiative promises a positive transformation for Bloomingdale, aligning with the vision for a dynamic and thriving community.

Our retail centers thrive with the much-anticipated addition of Cooper's Hawk on Gary Avenue, along with Jollibee on Army Trail, and upcoming openings such as BiBiBop on Army Trail, Pita Pita on Gary Avenue, and Shake Shack at Springfield Drive and Army Trail Road. The ongoing success of these centers provides options for our residents and welcomes visitors from surrounding communities to experience our wonderful Bloomingdale!

Last, the Village of Bloomingdale has monitored activities related to migrant bus arrivals into neighboring communities to utilize Metra trains for transportation into Chicago. At our January 8th meeting the Village Board approved an ordinance requiring bus companies to submit a formal application requesting approval to make a bus stop within the Village to the Director of Public Safety of the Village's Police Department at least 5 calendar days before the proposed drop-off date. The Village's primary concern regarding these activities is for the health and safety of our residents and anyone, including migrants and their families, who may pass through our community.

By focusing on economic development and maintaining our unwavering financial discipline, Bloomingdale will continue to thrive as an attractive community for people to reside and raise their families. Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy and prosperous 2024!

Mayor Franco



## Mayor Honored for Commitment to Save Monarch Butterflies

In December 2023, Bloomingdale's Mayors' Monarch Pledge report was reviewed and approved by the National Wildlife Federation for the third year.



Mayors and other heads of government are taking action to help save the monarch butterfly, an iconic species whose eastern populations have declined by over 90% in recent years. Through the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge, U.S. cities, municipalities, and other communities across North America are committing to create healthy, sustainable habitat for the monarch butterfly and pollinators.

In line with this commitment, the Village of Bloomingdale now has designated areas as Monarch Waystations, which provides milkweed and nectar plants for monarchs throughout their annual cycle of reproduction and migration. Look for these signs located in the open space near the two ponds. Additionally, we designated a public space, installed, and maintained a Monarch Waystation/Butterfly Garden that also houses a Rock Garden Snake adorned with rocks painted by community members, located on the side of Village Hall.

The Village of Bloomingdale is also a member of the DuPage Monarch Project. For more information, <https://www.nwf.org/MayorsMonarchPledge> or <https://dupagemonarchs.com/>

# Annual Inspection of Sanitary Sewers Now Underway

## 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

The Village has contracted Sewertech, LLC to clean and televise areas of the sanitary and stormwater collection systems. This annual program takes place from mid-January through April.

Sanitary sewer areas in this year's program include the Fairfield Subdivision, Westlake Country Fours (College Dr), Indian Lakes West (Meadowlark-Skylark area) and the Heritage at Stratford Subdivision.

Stormwater sections include along Glen Ellyn Rd, Longridge Dr, St Francis Ct, and Old Gary Ave, as well as the area between the Country Club Estates and Chateau Lorraine Subdivisions.

Sewertech equipment will be present in the roadway and employees may be accessing manholes in easements on private property including rear yards. Access to the inside of a residence is not needed and residents should not be affected by the work. If you experience any issues or have questions regarding the project, please 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.*

## VILLAGE ALMANAC

is published bi-monthly by the Village of Bloomingdale

Jennifer Sassano,  
Editor

Address all correspondence to:  
Village of Bloomingdale  
201 S. Bloomingdale Road  
Bloomingdale, IL 60108

630-671-5600

Articles and information for the  
APRIL issue of the  
Almanac must be submitted to  
Jennifer Sassano by  
MARCH 1, 2024  
email  
sassanoj@  
vil.bloomington.il.us

**Senior Fair**  
April 12, 2024  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Medinah Banquets  
550 N. Shriners Dr., Addison

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Vendors can register at  
[BloomingtonChamber.com/Events](http://BloomingtonChamber.com/Events)

Brought to you by

Free to attend, the Annual Senior Day Fair is set for Friday, April 12, 2024. The event, which is sponsored by the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, will be held from 9AM until noon at Medinah Shriners Banquet Facility, 550 North Shriners Drive, Addison, IL 60101. The facility is located on Swift Road, just north of Army Trail Rd.

- Safety & Health information, including Blood Pressure Checks, Chiropractic & Therapy needs
- Community Groups & Support Services opportunities
- Bloomingdale Lion's Club will perform vision and hearing screening services & collecting used/unwanted eyeglasses

Be sure to check the April issue of the Almanac for more information, or contact Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, 630-980-9082.

# Looking “FORE”ward to the 2024 Golf Season

**HAPPY NEW YEAR to ALL!!**

The 2024 Golf Season will once again be quickly upon us. Especially if the current mild winter continues!! Let's keep thinking SPRING!!



We have completed the first season utilizing our updated POS system in the golf shop. For the most part, it went well. We feel another full season of utilization is needed to really learn and understand all its features. Please work with us and be patient as the staff continues to get more and more comfortable with it.

If you recall, we placed our Loyalty Program on hold last season due to the new computer system switchover in our golf shop. A promise was made that we will bring this back in 2024. We are currently looking into this. How we implement it is the challenge, but I will be doing my best to get it up and running. We will keep you posted.

As for golf, the game continues to take off with greater participation. Last year showed continue growth in the number of rounds played throughout the country and it is anticipated this will continue in 2024.

At this time, we are currently working on the 2024 golf course material. We anticipate much of this information to be available by the early/middle period of February and will be accessible on our website. In the meantime, here are a couple things and reminders that will interest you in anticipation for the golf season:

Remember to re-register your **Community Card**. If you are unfamiliar with this program, by registering in the golf shop, residents of Bloomingdale and selected communities in the area are given the opportunity to receive reduced green fee rates. It's a small annual fee, and if you play more than 2-3 times a year, you will save money! We will begin registration the first week of February.

Participation in the “Youth on Course” program, through the Chicago District Golf Association – CDGA kicks off its 7th season at Bloomingdale Golf Club. If you have juniors in the family who play golf, we strongly encourage that they register through the CDGA (Chicago District Golf Association). For an annual registration fee of \$30 through the CDGA, juniors can play golf at nationwide participating golf courses for a fee of \$5. **This is a walking fee and time restrictions do apply.** Visit the CDGA website: [www.CDGA.org](http://www.CDGA.org) and look under membership for additional information.

Adult Golf Clinics and our Junior Golf Program are a terrific means to start your golf season outright and to introduce the kids to this great game! Start planning now so when the registration material becomes available you won't be left out!



## Golf Event Dates: Mark Your Calendar For These Events

- Friday Night “Haddock Fish Fry” at the golf course begins February 16th and goes through March 29th. The fish fry will once again be curbside service.

“Swing into Spring” Opening Scramble – Sunday, April 21st .

For more information on course activities and programs, please visit our website at [www.bloominglegdc.com](http://www.bloominglegdc.com) or call the golf shop at 630-529-6232.

## Nominations Now Being Accepted for 23rd Annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Recognition Program

The Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition annually recognizes members of the Bloomingdale community who regularly exhibit one or more of the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. If you know an individual who lives, works, volunteers, or attends school in Bloomingdale who displays one or more of the Six Pillars of Character, you are encouraged to nominate them for this



award by completing and submitting a nomination form.

Nomination forms can be found on the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! website at [www.character60108.org](http://www.character60108.org). The deadline for nominations is March 6, 2024.

Recipients will be honored at the Annual Recognition Breakfast in April.

# Local Schools, Organizations, Offer Scholarship Opportunities

## VFW Announces Scholarship Winners

Alan Schabelski emerged as the distinguished recipient of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Bloomingdale Post 7539's Voice of Democracy award for 2023. A student at Lake Park High School, Alan's outstanding contribution earned him not only a well-deserved plaque but also a commendable \$350 check from the post. This success propels him to the next stage of the competition—the District Competition—where he will have the opportunity to further showcase his skill and patriotic spirit.

Noteworthy contenders in the Voice of Democracy competition included: Second place - Anya Talwar, St. Francis High School, Third place - Isabella Benza, Lake Park High School, and Fourth Place - Mohammed Khan, Lake Park High School.

Like the Voice of Democracy, the Patriot Pen youth essay program, designed for 6th through 8th graders, witnessed its own set of exceptional winners. Bloomingdale Post 7539 proudly recognized St. Isidore student George Schager for first place, followed by Roselle Middle student Jocelyn Ocasio in second place and Spring Wood Middle student Victoriya Klyuchenko in third place. Their essays explored the theme of "What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy?"

In acknowledging the efforts of all participants, it is evident that each student demonstrated exceptional dedication and skill. The Bloomingdale Post 7539 commends these talented individuals for their contributions.

## Bloomingdale School District 13 Scholarships:

Bloomingdale School District 13 offers scholarships for college-bound seniors who attended District 13 schools. Erickson and DuJardin Elementary as well as Westfield Middle PTOs, provide two \$750.00 scholarships each. Former DuJardin and Erickson students may apply to the most recent school attended. Those who attended one elementary school and Westfield Middle School can apply to both the elementary school and Westfield. Applications are available at District 13 school offices, weekly newsletters, or download from [www.sd13.org](http://www.sd13.org). Applications must be submitted by March 8, 2024.



The **Septemberfest Commission** is offering scholarships funded by private, community, and corporate contributions. Open to Bloomingdale residents aged 17-20, applicants can contend for one of the following scholarships being offered: (3) \$2,000 Joe Draghi Scholarships and (2) \$5,000 Dominic Froio Scholarships. Other requirements noted on the application. The application deadline is April 22, 2024, and must be postmarked no later than April 22, 2024. Winners will be announced at the 50th Septemberfest on Saturday, September 7. We ask that the scholarship winners be present; if the winner cannot be present, a member of their family can accept the award on their behalf. Applications available on the Village of Bloomingdale website at:

[tinyurl.com/SeptemberfestScholarships](http://tinyurl.com/SeptemberfestScholarships)

The **Lake Park Educational Foundation** is pleased to announce the availability of 39 scholarships worth \$68,000 for Lake Park Seniors, Class of 2024! Scholarship applications and required support material are due on Friday, March 8, 2024. The Lake Park Education Foundation is posting their scholarships on a platform called GoingMerry where students can browse the scholarships and apply directly on the website. Please visit [www.lphs.org/Page/155](http://www.lphs.org/Page/155) for more scholarship information. There are a variety of scholarships with different criteria based on academics, athletics, activities and financial aid.

**Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce** is offering multiple \$1,000 scholarships for students graduating high school or current post-secondary students. Applicants must be Chamber members, children of members, or Bloomingdale residents. A Trade School Scholarship is available for those pursuing trade or certificate programs. All applications are available at [bloomingdalechamber.com](http://bloomingdalechamber.com) & must be received by 5:00 PM on March 6, 2024. Local businesses fund scholarships, your support significantly enhances their community impact. Interested in the opportunity to create a scholarship in honor of someone or to leave a legacy that contributes positively to the community? The Chamber provides the option to name scholarships. For further details, please contact Cindy Allston at 630-980-9082.

The **Bloomingdale Artists Association (BAA)** is pleased to announce one \$1,000 scholarship for a qualified candidate pursuing a Visual Fine Arts Degree. Co-sponsored by the BAA and Masterpiece Framing of Bloomingdale, this scholarship 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 2024 BAA Member Exhibit. Application deadline: April 15, 2024. For more information, contact: Roberta Cencig 847-848-3482, [robertacencig@yahoo.com](mailto:robertacencig@yahoo.com) or Joanne Barsanti 630-217-4909 or [jobarsanti@gmail.com](mailto:jobarsanti@gmail.com).

## Anthony Marchese Honored for Achievements

At the January 8th Village Board meeting, Mayor Franco and the Village Board proudly presented a proclamation to Bloomingdale resident Anthony Marchese, acknowledging his unwavering commitment to excellence and celebrating his numerous academic and athletic achievements. Beyond his impressive successes, Anthony is known for his fun-loving personality, always ready to lend a helping hand, and recognized as a thoughtful son. Congratulations to Anthony! We extend our best wishes for success in all his future endeavors. Anthony is pictured with his family and the Village Board.



## Salvation Army Angel Tree

The Red Shield Head Start program, a vital Salvation Army initiative, provides quality early childhood education and support to children from low-income families, laying a strong foundation for their future success.

The success of the Angel Tree Charity Toy Drive is a testament to Bloomingdale's caring spirit.

Thanks to all who participated, demonstrating the powerful impact communities can have when they come together for a meaningful cause: Department FOP Lodge 175; Meijer's; Salerno Rosedale Chapels; Sporty's Catering; Bloomingdale Township Republican Party; Woodman's Food Market; Costco Wholesale; John Dabrowski; Alyssa Cunningham and several Bloomingdale residents.



## Bloomingdale Artists Association

**March 13th at 6:30 PM Introductory to Needle Felting by Lois Shaffer**

Please bring scissors, all other supplies will be provided. You can bring a small battery-operated table lamp if preferred. Walk ins welcome-with \$10 fee, members are free. Registration is required; please contact Lois Shaffer at 630-924-1577.



*BAA February Program is a member only workshop.*

On November 15, the Bloomingdale Artist Association convened for a festive gathering dedicated to crafting holiday centerpieces and swags. Pictured are the talented members proudly showcasing their artistic creations.



## Looking for a Summer Job? We're Hiring!

Looking for a Summer Job? The Village of Bloomingdale is accepting applications for seasonal employment only in the Public Works Maintenance and Utilities Divisions.

The type of work involves physical labor. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and must have a valid Illinois driver's license.

Find applications online at [www.villageofbloomingdale.org](http://www.villageofbloomingdale.org) under Employment Opportunities. The Village of Bloomingdale is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



## Chamber Raffle Benefits Food Pantries

Bloomingdale Chamber's Grand Raffle supports local food pantries – Bloomingdale Township, Roselle UMC, and Neighborhood Food Pantries, each receiving \$750. Board member Stephanie Fuller donated her winnings to the cause; she is pictured with Mike Hovde, Township Supervisor, and Sue Ryan of Bloomingdale Township Food Pantry.



# Bloomingtondale Resident Pat Tallungan Founder of Neuroblastoma Foundation

## Support Bloomingtondale VFW Post 7539 and Military Outreach USA

During the month of February donations of Move in Essentials (listed below) will be accepted at the Bloomingtondale Village Hall, Library, Fire Department and Park District (JRC) facilities. Donated items will be provided to Veterans who are 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 (2) Wash Cloth

### MISCELLANEOUS

Smoke Detector w/ Batteries  
Flashlight w/Batteries  
Garbage Bags

ONLY NEW, STORE BOUGHT  
ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED

The Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation (CNCF) is a global organization dedicated to funding research for a cure for neuroblastoma, a solid tumor cancer affecting infants and toddlers. Founded in 2000 by Pat Tallungan, a longtime resident of Bloomingtondale who lost her son Nick to neuroblastoma, CNCF aims to raise awareness, provide resources for affected families, and fund critical research.

Neuroblastoma is a devastating pediatric cancer, with an average age of diagnosis at 18 months. Between 700-800 children in the US are diagnosed annually, and over 50% of those at high risk do not survive, constituting 15% of all childhood cancer deaths.

CNCF addresses the lack of awareness, research funding, and education surrounding neuroblastoma. Since its inception, the foundation has contributed nearly \$3 million to research and programs at hospitals nationwide, including Lurie & Comer Children's Hospitals and others in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York, and Texas.

The foundation sponsors Parent Education Conferences featuring researchers presenting current studies and clinical trials. These conferences provide crucial support for parents who have lost their children and survivors coping with long-term side effects. Pat Tallungan emphasizes the impact of these conferences, with some parents crediting them for saving their child's life.

CNCF's commitment extends globally, as they collaborated to establish the first Parent Education Conference in the UK, attracting over 700 attendees from 43 countries in a virtual symposium.

Despite the heartbreak of losing a child, Pat Tallungan remains dedicated to preventing others from experiencing the same pain. She envisions a future where families can watch their children grow up healthy and successful, free from the memories of loss. The foundation, reliant on generous donations, encourages support to continue its vital mission in the fight against neuroblastoma.

You can join the fight against neuroblastoma by supporting CNCF. Visit CNCF's official website, [www.cncfhope.org](http://www.cncfhope.org) for more information or connect with them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CNCFHope](https://www.facebook.com/CNCFHope).

## Liz Spontella Retires

In 2003, Officer Liz Spontella embarked on her law enforcement journey with the Bloomingtondale Police Department. After 20 years of dedicated service, she completed her final shift on December 20th. A model police officer, Spontella consistently prioritized the well-being of the Bloomingtondale community. She will be missed. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for her dedicated service.

Top photo is Pat's son Nick, who was diagnosed at age 6 and lost his battle at age 10. Bottom photo is of Pat and her friend Amir at a recent CNCF conference.



## Thank You to the Village of Bloomingdale Committee & Commission Volunteers

The Village of Bloomingdale depends on the efforts of the dedicated volunteers of the Village of Bloomingdale Committees and Commissions. Throughout the year, these individuals generously contribute their time to fulfill the distinct purposes of each commission, playing a crucial role in the community's well-being. We extend sincere thanks to all those who dedicated their time in 2023.

### Police Pension

Bruce Mason  
Ed Levato, Jr  
Harsh Shah  
Jeff Fritz  
Len Jaster  
Phil Jaffe

### Planning & Zoning

**Commission**  
Benita Shah  
Chris Troiola  
Dan Vitacco  
David Brambert  
Eric Poplonski  
Len Jaster  
Tim Coleman

### Septemberfest

**Commission**  
Vivi Frumkin  
Cindy Allston  
Dan Vitacco  
Debbie Pasiewicz  
Jason James  
Justin DiSalvo  
Lindsey Boehne  
Melissa Jacobsen  
Mike Dworianyn  
Nick Fratto  
Sara Dworianyn

### Board of Fire & Police

Chris Troiola  
Louis Pavone  
Theodore Cucci

*grateful*

## Police Department Recognizes Neighborhood Watch Block Captains

The Bloomingdale Police Department extends acknowledgment and gratitude to the dedicated Block Captains of the Neighborhood Watch Program in 2023, as highlighted below. Their unwavering efforts play a vital role in fostering positive communication between their neighborhoods and the emergency service agencies in our area.

The Police Department sincerely thanks these residents who generously volunteer their time, contributing to the improvement of safety and overall quality of life in our community. Their commitment has been instrumental in the achievements of the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Phillip Abraham	Theresa Graves
Mary Albert	Patrick N Griffin
Richard Baggio	Darlene Griffin
Bill Bahr	Norm & Juanita Hathaway
Giuseppe Battista	Steve Higgins
Paul Bergl	Jacquelyne Hill-Hulslander
Lesley Bollenbach	Francine Howard
John Carroll	Robert & Lucy Jones
Lee Anne Clarbour	Marjorie Kelly
Carol Cosentino	Gina Leonard
Patricia M Cox	Jane Michelotti
Alyssa Cunningham	Ken Mixer
Janet Davitt	Sharyn Murphy
Linda Derrico	Brenda Nies
Roberta M DiBasilio	Carol A Nies
Mary Sue Fornari	Holly & Mark Paolettis
Mitch & Vivi Frumkin	Kim Parlor
Laura Geraci	Albert Presco
Andreia Golder	

Patrick R Quigley  
Marvin E Roehlke  
Milan Stevanovich  
Steve Vitez  
Bill Wirkus  
Sheryl Woods

### Management Offices of:

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



*Congratulations*



**ON YOUR SERVICE MILESTONE**

The Village of Bloomingdale proudly acknowledges the 2023 Milestone Anniversaries of the following dedicated employees. We extend our sincere appreciation for their unwavering commitment and hard work, contributing a collective 320 years of invaluable service.

### 40 Years

Rob Blum

### 35 Years

Frank Giammarese  
Tim Finnander

### 30 Years

Paul Alcozer  
Sandy Aronson

### 25 Years

Matt Wolenberg

### 20 Years

Kim Lukowski

### 15 Years

Joe Cressman  
Angelo Tenerelli  
Bob Wright  
Levi McGhee

### 10 Years

Scott Franzen  
Tom King  
Nick Marx

### 5 Years

Adam Johnson  
Jennifer Geroux  
Natalie Valenti

## Valentines for Veterans

Join BPL Youth Services in spreading love to veterans with the Valentines for Veterans program, running until February 5th! Make Valentine cards at the library's Youth Services desk where art supplies will be available while visiting. Or make them at home and drop them off by February 5th; envelopes not required. Avoid breakable items & glitter. Valentines will be delivered to veterans at Hines and Jessie Brown Hospitals.

# Business News

## Macy's

Excitement is in the air as Macy's prepares to open at 344 W. Army Trail Road. Following the closure of its Stratford Square location in 2017, Macy's is making a return with a modified retail concept reminiscent of an outlet shop. The 35,000-square-foot space, formerly TJ Maxx/HomeGoods, is being transformed into a hub for close-outs, overruns, and other fantastic products at discounted prices. Exterior renovations have begun, promising an enhanced shopping experience. Macy's plans a summer 2024 opening, marking its return to the community. Stay tuned for updates on this exciting retail revival!



## Old Second/Shake Shack

Watch the transformation at 355 W. Army Trail Road as Old Second Bank and Shake Shack make significant progress in con-



structing their respective buildings on the northeast corner of Army Trail Road and Springfield Drive. Shake Shack is anticipated to open its doors in March 2024 and following closely behind, Old Second Bank is set to unveil its space approximately a month later. These exciting developments are shaping up to enhance the local landscape and provide new and vibrant options for the community.

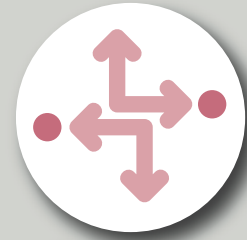
## BiBiBop

Exciting news! BiBiBop, an Asian quick-service restaurant known for its healthy, affordable menu options made from real, unprocessed, high-quality ingredients, is joining Bloomingdale Square Shopping Center next to Poke Bros. With a mission focused on family empowerment and continual improvement, BiBiBop brings wholesome dining to our community. Stay tuned for updates!



## Enzo's Sports Bar & Wood-Fire Pizza

We are thrilled to share that Enzo's Sports Bar & Wood-Fired Pizza is set to open soon in Bloomingdale, bringing the irresistible aroma of Neapolitan wood-fired pizzas and expertly crafted cocktails. Finishing touches are underway and the vibrant atmosphere will be perfect for enjoying bar-food favorites. Join us in welcoming Enzo's in Spring 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**

## Have you Found the Mahan Speakeasy Wine & Piano Bar?

Experience Mahan Speakeasy, a hidden gem in Bloomingdale blending fine wine, live music, and the allure of a bygone era. This exclusive retreat, accessible through reservations, promises an exceptional night behind a secret door marked by a single light. Mahan Speakeasy is no ordinary wine tasting room but an evening for those in the know, opening on specific days each month. It offers award-winning wines, and the owners guide guests through a journey of flavors. As the secret door swings open, guests enter a world where conversation and clinking glasses harmonize seamlessly, bound by a code of discretion.

Visit [MahanFamilyWines.com](https://www.MahanFamilyWines.com) to secure your reservation and discover Mahan Speakeasy's enchanting blend of secrecy, exceptional wine, and live music.

# Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1



## Be Sure Your Fire Hydrant is Visible and Accessible

Winter weather poses fire safety risks, such as ice and heavy snowfall obstructing fire hydrants. To mitigate these hazards, help keep fire hydrants accessible by clearing them of ice and snow.

In emergency situations, every second is vital. Blocked or concealed fire hydrants due to snow or ice can impede the swift response of firefighting teams. Since fire trucks carry a limited water supply, one of their initial tasks is locating the nearest hydrant upon arriving at a fire. Clearing hydrants ensures quicker access to water, allowing more time for the crucial task at hand—fighting the fire.



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

## Firefighters Collect Items for Bloomingtondale Food Pantry



In December, our on-duty crews, in collaboration with members of our fire prevention bureau, successfully delivered essential food items to the Bloomingtondale Township Food Pantry as part of the Holiday Food Drive organized by the Northern Illinois Food Pantry.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who took the time to stop by and generously contribute to this meaningful cause. Your support is greatly appreciated!

To stay safe and avoid house fires, keep these tips in mind.

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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**

## Garden Club Programs

**February 20, 2024 -  
Curative Properties of Tea**

Speaker Marcy Lautenan-Raleig discusses the difference between black tea and herb tea as well as what herbs make good tea, how to formulate your own teas and the various medicinal properties discovered throughout time of various native plants with pictures to help with identification. We can create our own blends to sample at the end of the program. Medicinal herbs qualities and recipes will be provided to participants.

Social time and announcements begin at 1:15 PM. Program starts at 2:00 PM.

**March 19th, 2024 -  
Fighting Climate Change in  
Your Backyard**

Mike Nowak will be our presenter. He will walk us through the basics of native plants (especially oaks), harvesting rainwater, reducing lawn area, composting and other gardening decisions, all designed to help our yards conserve rather than deplete natural resources.

Social time and announcements begin at 6:15 PM. Program starts at 7:00 PM.

Both programs are held at Cornerstone Faith Community Church, 118 First Street, Bloomingdale and visitors are welcome. For more information contact [bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com) or visit [www.bloomingtongardenclub.org](http://www.bloomingtongardenclub.org).

## Tree Lighting & Kris Kringle Market 2023





## NEW!

### The SWAN Libraries + app

lets you store your library card, manage your account, and find books, movies, and more from your phone or tablet. It is free and available to anyone with a library card.



*If you had the previous version of the SWAN Libraries app, please delete, and download the new SWAN Libraries + app. The old app is no longer operational.*

#### Features listing:

- Find new titles and curated lists from librarians based on your personal tastes.
- Save your library card in your app, so you're never without it. You can also save your family's library cards through linked accounts.
- Manage your holds, checkouts, lists, and more right in the app.
- Search for titles across the whole SWAN consortium, place holds, and see which libraries have what you're looking for.
- Find and download eBooks, eAudio, streaming movies, and more all in one place.

Find the SWAN Libraries + App in your app store for Apple or Android.



### 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](http://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](http://tax.illinois.gov)

### Solar Eclipse Glasses While Supplies Last

Starting on Monday, March 4th, stop by the library to pick up your solar eclipse glasses to view the total solar eclipse on April 8th!

One pair of glasses per person, while supplies last. For more information about the upcoming total solar eclipse, visit [eclipse.aas.org](http://eclipse.aas.org).



## NEW!

BPL cardholders now have access to **Weiss Financial Ratings**, giving you independent, unbiased financial strength ratings of banks, credit unions, insurance companies, Medicare, and investment options.

Access this new service through our website at <https://mybpl.org/databases#bus> and click on Weiss Financial Ratings.



**WEISS  
FINANCIAL  
RATINGS**

## 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](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org) • Visit our website at [www.mybpl.org](http://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](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org). For programs with special registration requirements, please follow those instructions.

## 📅 VIRTUAL: Life on the Oregon Trail

Monday, February 5 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Join us for an adventure along the Oregon Trail with outdoorsman John Lynn, who bicycled all 2,000 miles of today's Oregon National Historic Trail.

## 📅 VIRTUAL: Faith Ringgold - The Story Quilts and Paintings

Monday, February 12 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

In this presentation about artist and award-winning author Faith Ringgold, art historian Jeff Mishur discusses a selection of her paintings and story quilts pertaining to important themes including the challenges faced by women artists, the relationship between "fine art" and "craft," and African American history.



## 📅 VIRTUAL: Abraham Lincoln on Film

Monday, February 19 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Explore the life and times of our sixteenth president with a collection of fascinating clips from films such as *Young Mr. Lincoln*, which re-creates his assassination, to Bob Newhart's razor sharp sketch, *Inventing Abraham Lincoln*. This presentation paints a compelling portrait of the man, the politician, and the brilliant mind behind them both. Presented by film expert Steven Frenzel.

## Drop-In Craft: Tea Cup Fairy Gardens

Tuesday, March 5 | 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In-Person Event

Drop in and make a miniature fairy garden inside of a teacup, **while supplies last**. We'll provide everything you need, but feel free to bring in your own miniature trinkets, foliage, pebbles, and tea cups.

## 📅 VIRTUAL: Audrey Hepburn: Graceful Legend

Monday, March 11 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

As kind and talented as she was beautiful, Audrey Hepburn was one of the most beloved figures of the 20th century. Film expert Steven Frenzel will share many personal stories about Ms. Hepburn and display scenes from her greatest films, such as *Roman Holiday*, *Funny Face*, and *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

## 📅 VIRTUAL: Barbie - The History of America's Most Famous Doll

Monday, March 18 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

No other doll has been played with, analyzed, collected, criticized, and loved as much as Barbie. In this illustrated lecture, historian Leslie Goddard delves into the history of Barbie and her inventor, the passionately creative and intensely competitive Ruth Handler. Learn what inspired Handler to develop Barbie in 1959, how Barbie helped make Mattel one of the world's most successful toy companies, and what Barbie's impact has been on American culture.



## 📅 VIRTUAL: Edward Hopper and the American Scene

Monday, March 25 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Edward Hopper painted emblematic works such as *Nighthawks* that depicted urban life in structured compositions with bold contrasts of light and shadow. This lecture, presented by art historian Jeff Mishur, will show how Hopper's work focused on the psychological isolation of modern life.

# bpl makerspace crafts

## 📅 Engraved Metal Bracelet

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. Computer experience is required.

### Registration Information:

4 per session, ages 12 to adult, BPL card required. **Please sign up for one session only**

Monday, March 11 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday, March 25 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26 | 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 16 | 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Monday, April 29 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.



## ONGOING ADULT PROGRAMS

### Genealogy Club (Drop-In)

Wednesdays, February 21 & March 20 | 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.


### 📅 Great Decisions

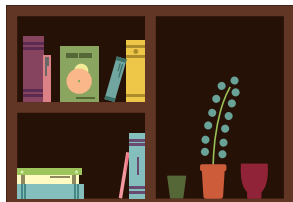
Wednesdays, February 21 & March 20 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

The Great Decisions discussion program is a civic education program administered and produced by the Foreign Policy Association.



# 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](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org). For programs with special registration requirements, please follow those instructions.

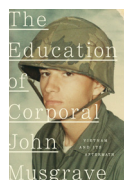


## book discussion groups

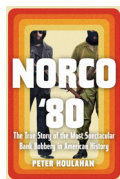
Selections are available at the Circulation Desk one month in advance of the discussion. If you have any questions, please call the Reference Desk at (630) 924-2730.

### HISTORICAL BOOK DISCUSSION

To register, email Julie Deeke at [jdeeke@mybpl.org](mailto:jdeeke@mybpl.org).



**The Education of Corporal John Musgrave: Vietnam and Its Aftermath**  
by John Musgrave  
Tuesday, February 6 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



**Norco '80: The True Story of the Most Spectacular Bank Robbery in American History**  
by Peter Houlihan  
Tuesday, March 5 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### MONDAY NIGHT PAGE TURNERS

To register, email Jessica Frazier at [jfrazier@mybpl.org](mailto:jfrazier@mybpl.org).



**True Biz**  
by Sara Nović  
Monday, February 19 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.



**Small Things Like These**  
by Claire Keegan  
Monday, March 18 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.



Join BPL on **Goodreads!** Get reading suggestions and book reviews shared by library staff and Board.

[www.goodreads.com/mybpl](http://www.goodreads.com/mybpl)



## DROP-IN MOVIES

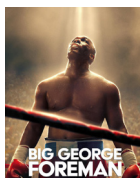
Come enjoy a movie with us at BPL's Drop-In Movie and enter for a chance to win a copy of that day's movie on DVD.

Movie giveaway will be held following the conclusion of the movie and you must be present to win.

### FEBRUARY



**Love Again** (rated PG-13)  
Wednesday, February 7 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
A young woman tries to ease the pain of her fiancé's death by sending romantic texts to his old cell phone number, and forms a connection with the man who now has the number.



**Big George Foreman** (rated PG-13)  
Wednesday, February 21 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
Fueled by an impoverished childhood, George Foreman channeled his anger into becoming an Olympic Gold medalist and World Heavyweight Champion, followed by a near-death experience that took him from the boxing ring to the pulpit.

### MARCH




**Sabrina** (rated PG)  
Wednesday, March 13 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
A playboy becomes interested in the daughter of his family's chauffeur, but it's his more serious brother who would be the better man for her.



**Barbie** (rated PG-13)  
Wednesday, March 27 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
Barbie suffers a crisis that leads her to question her world and her existence.

# 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](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org). Virtual classes are noted with  and will be posted on our **YouTube channel**.

## Getting Started series

*Introductory classes for all ages*

### Social Media Safety

Thursday, February 29 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Christian

Explore privacy settings for popular social media sites like Facebook and Instagram, while learning how to avoid common social media scams.

### Organizing and Backing Up Your Computer Files

Monday, March 4 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Christian

Discover ways to organize your files for easy accessibility, including file naming conventions, structures, image tagging, and common backup methods.

### Excel 2

Monday, February 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Sean

Take the next step in learning Excel! This class covers more advanced topics such as formulas, graphs, and linking between multiple worksheets.

### Excel 3

Monday, February 19 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Sean

Get a deeper understanding of Excel formulas, graphs, and formatting techniques, as well as examining other more complex formulas.

### Getting Familiar with Apple Watch

Thursday, February 22 | 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Salvador

Smart watches like the Apple Watch give us computers on our wrists! Learn how they can help you meet your fitness goals and even replace your phone for common tasks.



### Girls Who Code

*Grades 3-5*

Mondays, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
February 5 through April 8  
*no session March 25*

Interested in coding? Then join us for our new Girls Who Code Club!

The BPL Girls Who Code Club is a free program for girls and non-binary students that provides a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models using computer science to change the world.

We hope you can join us!



### Google Docs & Cloud Backup

Monday, February 26 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Sean

Cloud tools offer more opportunities for computer users. Learn about cloud storage options to work collaboratively, access saved items anywhere in the world, and provide a backup in case of computer failure.

### Digitizing Audio Cassettes

Thursday, March 7 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Salvador

Learn how to digitize your audio cassette tapes using our Digital Archiving Station in the computer lab. Create audio files for use on computers and other media storage. We will also review basic functions and audio editing with Audacity and Adobe Audition.

### Ruby - Class Inheritance

Thursday, March 14 | 7:00 p.m.  
Instructor: Charlie

Inheritance makes code more organized, efficient, and reusable. Explore the object-oriented concept of inheritance and learn how to implement it in Ruby code.



## 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, February 20 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Sean

Learn the basics of computer use and dealing with Windows.

### Internet Use & Safety

Tuesday, February 27 | 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, March 5 | 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.

### Introduction to Cura

Thursday, March 21 | 7:00 p.m.  
Instructor: Charlie

Cura is a free, open-source application used to communicate with a 3D printer and prepare digital 3D objects for printing. Learn the basics of using the software.

### BPL Makerspace: Intro to Cricut Design Space

Monday, March 25 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Christian

Get started using Cricut Design Space, the free design software used with the Cricut Maker cutting machines in our Makerspace.



# 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](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org). For programs with special registration requirements, please follow those instructions.

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

## Teen Crafts @ BPL

### Take & Make Crafts

You will be contacted via email when your craft kit is ready to be picked up at the Adult Reference Desk.



#### 📅 Candy Chemistry

Kit Pickup begins Monday, February 5  
registration begins Monday, January 15  
limit 10 teens

Explore chemistry as you cook up candies and chocolates in the kitchen!

#### 📅 Harry Potter Felt

Kit Pickup begins Monday, March 4  
registration begins Monday, February 12  
limit 12 teens

Stitch your own collection of Wizarding World-inspired projects!



### In-Person Crafts

#### 📅 Cupcake Decorating

Wednesday, February 14  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
registration opens Monday, January 15  
limit 12 teens

Show off your creative side by decorating a tasty treat!



#### Perler Bead Club (Drop-In)

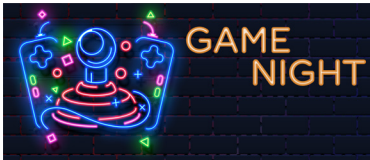
Wednesdays, February 21 & March 20 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Join us on the third Wednesday each month in the BPL Makerspace to create a fun and colorful work of art using Perler beads.

#### 📅 Temporary Tattoos

Wednesday, March 6 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
registration opens Monday, February 12 - limit 8 teens

Use the library's printer and Cricut cutting machine to make unique temporary tattoos.



#### Game Night (Drop-In)

Thursdays, February 22 & March 28 | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

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!

### Meet Me @ THE MOVIES

📅 Registration Required  
Friday, March 29



Meet to watch the winner of our movie faceoff:  
**Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire**  
VS  
**Kung Fu Panda 4**  
Vote for your choice at  
<https://bit.ly/mybpl-movies-202403>



Meet at The Picture Show, 324 Army Trail Rd, Bloomingdale.  
Meeting time is TBD. Limit 10.



#### Drop-In

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.

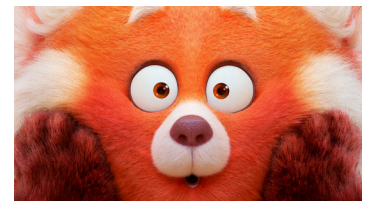
#### Five Nights at Freddy's (PG-13)

Wednesday, February 28  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.



#### Turning Red (PG)

Wednesday, March 27  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.



## SAT Practice Test

Stressing about taking the SAT? Take a full-length practice test to ward off test day jitters and see how you may score on the big test.

Experience first-hand what test day will be like!

A representative from C2 Education will provide a practice test and contact you with scores and analyzed results.

#### 📅 SAT Practice Test

Saturday, March 2 | 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 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: [www.mybpl.org/teenbookreviews](http://www.mybpl.org/teenbookreviews) AND [www.mybpl.org/teenbookbags](http://www.mybpl.org/teenbookbags)

# Youth Programs



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

Registration for February programs begins Monday, January 22. Registration for March programs begins Monday, February 19. Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2740, or by email at [bdys@mybpl.org](mailto:bdys@mybpl.org). Please have your library card when you register.

## School Age Programs

### 📅 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!

### Hedgehog Buddy (Drop-In)

Grades K-2

Tuesday, February 6 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Decorate a cute little hedgehog!



### 📅 Makerspace Club: STEM Time

Grades 3-6

Thursdays, February 8 & March 14  
4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

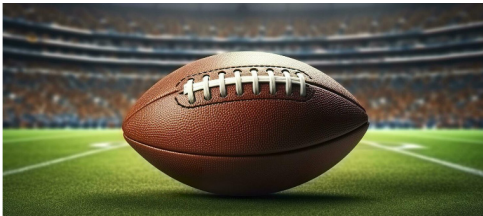
Libraries are a great place to learn about science and technology while making cool stuff. Come join the fun!

### 📅 Super Bowl of Fun

Grades 1-6

Thursday, February 8 | 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Are you going to watch the big game? Join us to make some fun crafts that will get you ready for game day.



### 📅 Mardi Gras Customs and Crafts

Grades K-2

Tuesday, February 13 | 4:30 – 5:15 p.m.

Learn about the customs and celebrate the enthusiasm of Mardi Gras by creating colorful and musical crafts. A parade might be involved!

### Middle Grade Makers (Drop-In)

Grades 4-8

Thursdays, February 15 & March 7  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Explore our new 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!

### 📅 Willy Wonka's Candy Olympics

Grades 3-6

Monday, February 19 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Use some "pure imagination" of your own to compete in these candy themed games that would make Willy Wonka himself proud!



### 📅 Pokémon Day

Grades 1-6

Wednesday, February 28 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come to the library and catch some Pokémon! We will have stories, games, and fun. Catch all the Pokémon and win a prize.

### 📅 Beginning Crochet

Grades 3-6

Mondays, March 4 & March 18  
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

This is a two session program.  
Session 1- Learn the basics: how to hold your yarn and hook, plus the single crochet stitch.  
Session 2 - Learn how to start a project and read a pattern.



### 📅 Special Saver Scrapbooks

Grades K-2

Tuesday, March 5 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Make a uniquely decorated book of pockets to keep stickers, cards, bookmarks, and other sentimental treasures.

### 📅 Library Mystery Party

Grades K-2

Monday, March 11 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Learn what it takes to be a detective and help solve a mystery at the library. You will also learn about some great mysteries that you can take home!



### 📅 Let's Go to Space!

Grades 3-6

Saturday, March 16 | 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

Come create your own rocket ship and alien to blast into space!

### 📅 Spring Fairy Fun Day

Grades K-2

Thursday, March 21 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Spring is here and it is time to celebrate with stories and myths of these nature beings. Crafts and games will be part of the fun.

### LEGO® Club (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6

Tuesday, March 26 | 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

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

### 📅 Choose Your Own Adventure... with Friends

Grades 3-6

Thursday, March 28 | 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.

We are going on an adventure... lots of them! Meet new friends as you make big choices. Every choice you make leads to different activities, new groupings, and more choices!



# Youth Programs

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

Registration for February programs begins Monday, January 22. Registration for March programs begins Monday, February 19. Register online, by phone at (630) 924-2740, or by email at [bdys@mybpl.org](mailto: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 March 27.

### **📅 Playing with STEM**

Ages 2-5

Tuesday, February 20 | 10:00 – 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. Each week, we will have different stations for kids to explore.

### **📅 Happy Books, Happy Cooks**

Ages 3-5

Thursdays, February 22 & March 28  
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 about any allergies when registering.*



### **📅 Potty Party**

Ages 1-5

Friday, February 23 | 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 and songs to encourage and motivate potty training.

### **📅 Fairy Tale Ball**

Ages 3-10 with caregiver

Sunday, March 3 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Every Prince, Princess, Knight, and Jester is invited to the Fairy Tale Ball!

Come dressed like your favorite fairy tale character or creature and join us for an afternoon of fun, crafts, games, and treats.



### **📅 If You Give A Mouse a Cookie**

Ages 3-5

Tuesday, March 12 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Do you know what happens if you give a mouse a cookie? Come to this program and find out!



### **Messy Fingers (Drop-In)**

Ages 2-4

Tuesday, March 26 | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Drop in during this timeframe to develop their fine motor skills through this hands-on messy art class. Join us for all the mess and lots of fun!

### **Explore with Your Senses (Drop-In)**

Under 3 years old with caregivers and families  
Friday, March 29 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

### **Preschool Process Art (Drop-In)**

Ages 3-5

Saturday, April 6 | 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

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

## Family Programs

### **📅 Homeschool Hangout Series**

Families

Thursdays, February 1 & March 7  
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.

### **Craft Time (Drop-In)**

Families

Monday, February 19 | 9:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Come make a craft. While supplies last.

### **Artful Storytime (Drop-In)**

Families

Friday, March 1 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Enjoy a lively storytime all about art and create a masterpiece to take home.



### **📅 Peeps Family Challenge**

Families

Wednesday, March 27 | 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Come as a family to create a scene from a favorite children's book with Peeps. Families will take home their Peep creation afterwards.

# It's Storytime!

The Youth Services department provides age-appropriate interactive fun with stories, sign language, music, and more. Storytimes are drop-in (no registration necessary) and limited to the first 20 children to arrive.

**New Year Session: January 9 through February 16**

**Spring Session: March 4 through April 21 (no storytimes the week of March 25-29)**

## 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 & Tunes

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

Introduce your baby to the world of music, movement, rhymes, and books that will aid in the development of early literacy skills.

## Come Together (Drop-In)

Ages 0-24 months  
Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Every Wednesday, meet and chat with other parents & caregivers while your child socializes and explores with hands-on toys. Will be offered simultaneously with Baby Tales and Tunes when in session. There will be no Come Together on March 27.

# SPRING BREAK

programs for all ages March 25 - 29



## Monday

**📺 VIRTUAL:**  
**Edward Hopper and the American Scene**  
Monday, March 25  
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Zoom Webinar  
see pg 2 (adults)

**BPL Makerspace:**  
**Intro to Cricut Design Space**  
Monday, March 25  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Christian  
see pg 4 (adults)



## Tuesday

**Messy Fingers (Drop-In)**  
Ages 2-4  
Tuesday, March 26  
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.  
see pg 7 (preschool)

**LEGO® Club (Drop-In)**  
Grades 1-6  
Tuesday, March 26  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
see pg 6 (school age)

## Wednesday

**Drop-In Movie: Barbie**  
Wednesday, March 27  
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
see pg 3 (adults)

**📺 Peeps Family Challenge**  
Families  
Wednesday, March 27  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
see pg 7 (families)

**Teen Movie Night: Turning Red (PG) (Drop-In)**  
Wednesday, March 27  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
see pg 5 (teens)

## Thursday

**📺 Choose Your Own Adventure... with Friends**  
Grades 3-6  
Thursday, March 28  
3:15 – 4:00 p.m.  
see pg 6 (school age)

**📺 Happy Books, Happy Cooks**  
Families  
Thursday, March 28  
6:00 – 6:30 p.m.  
see pg 7 (preschool)

**Game Night (Drop-In)**  
Thursday, March 28  
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
see pg 5 (teens)

## Friday

**Explore with Your Senses (Drop-In)**  
Under 3 year old with caregivers and families  
Friday, March 29  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
see pg 7 (preschool)

**📺 Meet Me at the Movies: Ghostbusters OR Kung Fu Panda 4 (Drop-In)**  
Friday, March 29  
time to be announced  
see pg 5 (teens)

# Oasis Season Pass Kick Off Events



## Johnston Recreation Center

February 7 6-8PM  
February 10 10AM-Noon

Purchase your 2024 Oasis Season Pass during the Kick-Off event and save \$5.00 per pass. The first 50 individuals to purchase a season pass will receive an Oasis drawstring backpack!

# Daughter Date Night Glow Dance!

Friday, February 23, 6-8:30PM  
Medinah Shriners

Fee: \$75R/\$80NR Early Bird - Register by Feb. 9  
Fee: \$85R/\$90NR February 10-16 - Register by Feb. 16  
Additional Child \$30  
Code: 204301-A1

# Son Date Night Bowling Bonanza

Friday, April 19, 6-8PM  
Bowlero Bowling Alley

Fee: \$60R/\$65NR \*Register by April 12  
Additional Child \$30  
Code: 204303-A1

# Circle Park Outdoor Ice Skating

Thanks to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources grant, the Circle Park roller hockey rink has been fitted with a liner to support ice skating when the weather permits. The outdoor skating rink is located in Circle Park, 163 Fairfield Way, near the Homola Picnic Shelter. The rink and skating are unsupervised.

### Skating Conditions – Red Flag/Green Flag

Check the flag pole near the rink for skating conditions.

**Green Flag** - Safe to skate on cleared areas during open hours. Skating is unsupervised.

**Red Flag** - No skating due to unsafe ice conditions.

Check the BPD website RainoutLine at [www.bloomingtonparks.org](http://www.bloomingtonparks.org) or call 630-529-3650 for more information and skating conditions.

### Ice Rink Hours (weather permitting)

Monday-Friday: 1:30PM-dusk

Saturday-Sunday: 11:00AM-dusk

### Designated Hockey Hours

Tuesday and Thursday: 3:00-5:00PM

Saturday: 2:30-5:00PM

Sunday: 11:00AM-2:00PM



# Breakfast with the Bunny

**Saturday, March 16, 9-10:30AM**  
**Bloomington Golf Club**

Program  
Sponsor



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 8.

**Code:** 204312-A1

**Fee:** \$25R/\$30NR per person ages 2 and up.  
Children under 2 are free



## Glow in the Dark Egg Hunt

**Tuesday, March 26**  
**Springfield Park**  
**Baseball Fields**

Join us for a Glow in the Dark Egg Hunt where participants search for hundreds of eggs containing an assortment of prizes and goodies. Find one of the golden eggs containing a gift card! Thank you to the Bloomington Lions Club for the assistance with eggs. This event is for 3rd through 8th grade students only. No drop-ins allowed. Registration is required. Register by March 21.

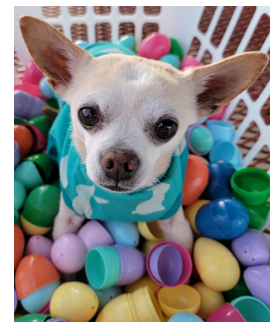
**Fee:** \$5R/\$10NR

**Code:** 201022-A1 3rd and 4th Grade 7:30-7:50PM  
201022-A2 5th and 6th Grade 8:00-8:20PM  
201022-A3 7th and 8th Grade 8:30-8:50PM

## Doggie Easter Egg Hunt

**Thursday, March 14**  
**6:30-7:30PM**  
**Circle Park**

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 6:45PM. No drop-ins are allowed. Registration is required.



**Code:** 204313-A1

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

# Bunny Bash

**Saturday, March 23**

**9:30-11AM**

**Circle Park**

**163 Fairfield Way, Bloomington**

**FREE!**

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

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 - Bookwalk
- Bounce House
- Food Trucks



Sponsored by:



**FREE! Lions Club  
Easter Egg Hunt**

**March 23, 9:30AM  
Circle Park**

Egg Hunt starts promptly at 9:30 a.m.

Partners:



Eggceptional Easter Egg Trunk Hunt in the JRC parking lot immediately following the Circle Park Egg Hunt.

**\*A quiet and accessible opportunity!**

# Pickleball Open Gym

Come enjoy some friendly pick-up games or just practice your skills. Balls are provided and paddles may be borrowed with a photo ID.

Tue 9AM-1PM through May 21

Thu 9AM-1PM through May 23

**Location:** Johnston Recreation Center

**Fee (per day/per person):** \$3R/\$5NR



# Pickleball & Pizza **NEW!**

**Thursday, March 21**  
**10:30AM-1PM**  
**JRC Gym**

Come join us for some open pickleball play, followed by some tasty pizza from a local Pizzeria! Pickleball play will begin at 10:30am and pizza and beverages will be served around Noon. The fee covers your lunch and entry into Open Gym Pickleball. Register by March 18.

**Age:** 18+  
**Fee:** \$9R/\$11NR  
**Code:** 203460-A1



# Summer Job Fair

**Wednesday, March 27, 3-5PM**  
**Johnston Recreation Center**

Inviting anyone interested in working at the Bloomington Park District this summer, we want to meet you! We are hosting an open house job fair for positions in aquatics (must be 15 years old), concessions (must be 15 years old), and summer camp (must be 16 years old). This is a one stop shop for a summer job and there are many opportunities available. Stop in between 3:00-5:00PM 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@bloomingtonparks.org](mailto:nicole@bloomingtonparks.org).

