

# Village of Bloomingdale

# Almanac

February 2025

Growth with Pride

## Save the Date for Annual Senior Fair

Friday, April 11

Free to attend, the Annual Senior Day Fair is set for Friday, April 11, 2025. 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.

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

## Annual Shop With a Cop Fosters Community Connections

The Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #175 kicked off the holiday season with the heartwarming "Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops" event on Saturday, December 14th. This cherished annual tradition brought joy to local families, creating unforgettable moments for children while fostering community connections.

The day began with breakfast at the Bloomingdale Police Station, catered by Sporty's Catering and Woodman's Food Market. Excitement filled the air as the children enjoyed a special parade-style ride in police cars, complete with flashing lights and sirens, en route to Meijer.

At Meijer, the children participated in a unique shopping adventure,

pairing up with police officers to select their own Christmas gifts. In addition to toys and treasures, each child received a coat, hat, and gloves generously donated by Salerno Rosedale Chapels. The event created lasting memories for the children and fostered positive interactions between law enforcement and the community. (continued on page 4)



Smiles all around at Meijer on December 14th for the Bloomingdale Police Department's 'Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops' event.

## In This Edition



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# Looking for a Summer Job? Join Our Team!

## VILLAGE BOARD, COMMISSION &

The public is encouraged to attend all Board and Commission meetings

## REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE VILLAGE BOARD

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

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

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

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

## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

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

## BOARD OF

### POLICE COMMISSIONERS

3rd Wednesday of every month  
5:00 p.m. – Village Hall

### POLICE PENSION BOARD

Quarterly beginning in January  
4th Monday  
5:00 p.m. – Village Hall

### LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

### SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION

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

### BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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



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

## Stay Warm in Style With a Bloomingdale Beanie!

Stay warm and show your Bloomingdale pride this winter with our stylish pom pom beanies! Available in green, red, or blue, each hat features bold "Bloomingdale" lettering on the front and "est. 1833" on the back. Perfect for chilly days or as a gift, these beanies combine comfort and hometown pride.

They're \$25 each, with all proceeds supporting future community events. Beanies are available at Bloomingdale Village Hall, 201 S. Bloomingdale Road. Please note, credit card payments include a 3% fee (minimum \$2.50).

Bundle up in style while supporting a cause—while supplies last!



## Village of Bloomingdale Elected Officials

**Franco A. Coladipietro**  
Village President

**William Belmonte**  
Traffic and Streets

**Patrick Shannon**  
Facilities, Infrastructure

**Pamela S. Hager**  
Village Clerk

**Dan Vitacco**  
Intergovernmental &  
Community Relations

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

### TRUSTEES

**Judi Von Huben**  
Public Safety

**Vince Ackerman**  
Finance and  
Administration



## A Message from Mayor Franco

What a magnificent evening it was for the Bloomingdale community at the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Kris Kringle Market! This cherished event marked the beginning of the annual Festival of Lights and brought a month of festive activities to Old Town Park. It's heartwarming to see the event grow each year, along with the number of visitors, and even more so to witness so many happy faces. I am grateful to our Public Works crews, whose tireless efforts continue to improve the event and create lasting memories. A special thank you to SBC and Christopher Burke Engineering for sponsoring the incredible drone show, and to our event sponsors: the Bloomingdale Park District, Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, and Pan American Bank & Trust, whose support made the evening a tremendous success. It was a wonderful way to close out 2024 and set the stage for an exciting 2025.



Looking ahead, the Village Board and I are hard at work analyzing the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, addressing infrastructure needs, and setting long-term goals for the community. Two key projects that will significantly shape Bloomingdale's future, enhancing both community vibrancy and financial strength, are the redevelopment of the former Stratford Square Mall and the Village Open Space.

The Stratford Square Mall redevelopment is progressing with the demolition phase underway. We're refining the land development plan I presented to the community in September, incorporating valuable input from residents and feedback from potential retailers. This transformative mixed-use development will include entertainment, retail, housing, and public open spaces, creating what I believe will be a dynamic and sustainable district. A video of the September presentation is available on the Village website for those who would like to learn more about the vision for the area.

Additionally, the Village has begun a critical water and stormwater project to address long-standing backyard and street flooding issues in the Indian Lakes and Bloomfield Club subdivisions. This project also includes a new recreational path, offering residents a peaceful retreat within the open space. While the return of golf is still being evaluated at this time due to the hotel owner's financial challenges, the open space will remain accessible for residents to enjoy. The Village continues to engage with the hotel owners as they evaluate their next steps for the hotel, ensuring alignment with the Village's expectations for our community.

The Village's retail centers continue to thrive, with exciting new additions like Shake Shack, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Boba House, Fry N' Wings, and Empower Bloomingdale. The success of these businesses depends on both visitors and the continued support of our residents. Thank you for supporting Bloomingdale businesses and helping our community grow!

By focusing on economic development and maintaining financial discipline, Bloomingdale will continue to flourish as a vibrant community where families can live, work, and thrive. The Village Board and I remain committed to advancing our motto of "Growth with Pride" in 2025.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Mayor Franco



## Support Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 and Military Outreach USA

During the month of February donations of Move in Essentials (listed below) will be accepted at the Bloomingdale Village Hall, 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

# 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 perform cleaning and televising of selected areas within the sanitary and stormwater collection systems. This annual program runs from mid-January through April.

This year's sanitary sewer work includes the Old Town Estates Subdivision, Colony Green area, Indian Lakes East (Cardinal-Raven) area, and Old Town area. Stormwater system work will focus on sections along Schick Road (from Glen Ellyn Road to Gary Avenue) and Knollwood Drive, as well as smaller sections near Langton Drive, Skylark Drive, Royal Lane, and Villa Way.

Sewertech crews and equipment will be present on roadways, and employees may be accessing manholes located in easements on private property, including rear yards. No access to the interior of residences is required, and the work is not expected to impact residents.

If you have any questions or experience any issues related to 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.*

## Shop With a Cop Fosters Community Connections

(continued from page 1)

The event was made possible through the generosity of Meijer, whose significant gift card donation played a pivotal role in its success. Special thanks are also extended to these contributors for their support:

- Bloomingdale Township Republican Party
- Mayor Franco Coladipietro
- John Dabrowski
- Phyllis Denoma
- AEGIS Construction Group
- Salerno Rosedale Chapels
- Sporty's Catering
- Costco Wholesale
- Domenic Torsen
- Michael Hovde, Tufo Law
- Lee Clarbourn
- Alex Willart, Geoffrey Metals
- Sam Tornatore
- Woodman's Food Market

Sincere appreciation goes out to the dedicated police officers who volunteered their time to make this event extraordinary.

Thank you to all those who support the Bloomingdale F.O.P. #175.

## Police Department Alcohol Service Training On March 4

The Bloomingdale Police Department will host its next Responsible Alcohol Service (BASSET) training class on Tuesday, March 4th, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM in the Police Department Training Room. The cost to attend is \$40.00, but employees of non-profit organizations may attend at no charge.

Per the Village's Liquor Code, all employees involved in selling, serving, pouring, or handling alcoholic beverages are required to complete liquor control training. This includes bartenders, servers, clerks, and retailers.

To reserve your spot or for more information, contact the Police Department Records Division at (630) 529-9868.

## VILLAGE ALMANAC

is published bi-monthly by the Village of Bloomingdale

Jennifer Sassano,  
Editor

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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, 2025 email sassanoj@vil.bloomington.il.us

# Let's "Swing Into Spring" - 2025 Golf Season

**HAPPY NEW YEAR to ALL!!**

Spring is just around the corner, and so is the highly anticipated 2025 Golf Season! Let's keep thinking springtime greens as we prepare for another fantastic year on the course.



Golf continues to grow in popularity, with new participants discovering the game every year. This past season, we saw a significant number of golfers enjoying our course, and we're excited to welcome even more players in 2025!

Effective January 1, 2025, the State of Illinois requires a 7.5% sales tax on all rented tangible property. This includes golf cart and club rentals. We appreciate your understanding as we implement this change.

We are currently finalizing our 2025 golf course materials and expect them to be ready by early to mid-February. Once available, this information will be accessible on our website. In the meantime, here are some important updates and reminders to help you prepare for the upcoming season.

If you haven't already, remember to re-register your Community Card. Residents of Bloomingdale and select nearby communities can enjoy reduced green fees by registering in the golf shop. With a small annual fee, you'll save money if you play more than two or three times a year. Registration begins the first week of February.

The Youth on Course program, now in its eighth season at Bloomingdale Golf Club, is a fantastic opportunity for junior golfers. Offered through the Chicago District Golf Association (CDGA), this program allows juniors to play at participating courses nationwide for just \$5. The annual registration fee is \$30; this is a walking fee and time restrictions apply. For more details, visit [www.CDGA.org](http://www.CDGA.org) and look under the membership section.

Our Adult Golf Clinics and Junior Golf Program are excellent ways to start the season or introduce kids to this great game! Start planning now so you're ready to register when materials become available.

Here are a few event dates to mark on your calendar:

- The Friday Night Haddock Fish Fry returns on March 7th and runs through April 18th. This popular offering will once again feature convenient curbside service.
- Our "Swing into Spring" Opening Scramble is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 13th.

For more information on the upcoming season, visit our website at [www.bloomingdalegc.com](http://www.bloomingdalegc.com) or call the golf shop at 630-529-6232.

Let's make 2025 another memorable golf season!



## Join the Library's Youth Services to Create Valentines for Vets

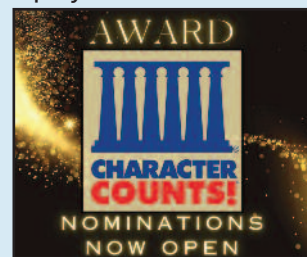
Join BPL Youth Services in spreading love to veterans with the Valentines for Veterans program, running until February 3rd!

Art supplies will be available in the Library's Youth Services Department for making cards. Alternatively, create cards at home and drop them off at the library by February 3. Envelopes are not required, and please no glitter.

Valentines will be delivered to veterans at Hines VA and Jessie Brown VA hospitals.

## The 24th Annual CHARACTER COUNTS! Recognition Program – Nominations Open

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 consistently displays one or more of the Six Pillars of Character, nominate them for this award by completing and submitting a nomination form.



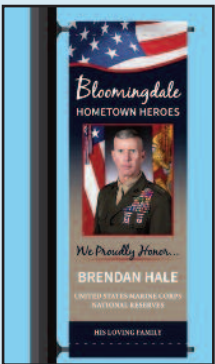
Visit the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! website at [www.character60108.org](http://www.character60108.org) to access the nomination form. Submit your nominations by March 1, 2025. Recipients will be honored at the Annual Recognition Breakfast this spring. Let's celebrate the individuals who make Bloomingdale a community of character!

# Local Schools, Organizations, Offer Scholarship Opportunities

## Veteran Banner Recognition Program

The Village of Bloomingdale continues its 2025 Veteran Banner recognition program, a tribute to current & former Bloomingdale residents who have served in the United States military. To honor a Bloomingdale veteran, simply fill out this application and submit a high-resolution digital photo (preferably with uniform on). There is no cost for this service.

You can access the application online at [tinyurl.com/VetBanners25](http://tinyurl.com/VetBanners25) or pick up a copy from Village Hall.



The banners will be displayed on Lake Street for a period of two weeks prior to Memorial Day through the 4th of July, timeframe is subject to change. Due to

very limited space, applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS APRIL 4. To apply or for more information, email the completed application and photo to [sassanoj@vil.bloomingdale.il.us](mailto:sassanoj@vil.bloomingdale.il.us).

## Stay in Touch

Consider signing up for the Village's E-News, which gets delivered weekly to subscribing emails.

This is a good way to keep up with timely information in and around town and critical information to all subscribers as it becomes available.

Go to <http://www.villageof-bloomingdale.org> to sign up.

**Bloomingdale School District 13** Parent-Teacher-Organizations will be offering \$750 scholarships to seniors who attended **DuJardin Elementary, Erickson Elementary, and/or Westfield Middle School** for at least ONE year. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (C or better) and plan to attend college or trade school. Students who attended both DuJardin and Erickson may only apply to the school they most recently attended. Those who attended one of the elementary schools and Westfield Middle School may apply to both. Applications are available at the District 13 school offices, through weekly newsletters, or online at [www.sd13.org](http://www.sd13.org). Applications must be received by March 7th.



**The Septemberfest Commission** is offering five scholarships totaling \$16,000, funded through contributions from private donors, the community, and corporate sponsors. These scholarships are open to Bloomingdale residents aged 17–20, with awards including (3) \$2,000 scholarships and (2) \$5,000 scholarships. The application deadline is April 22, 2025, all submissions must be postmarked by this date. Scholarship winners will be announced during the 51st Septemberfest on Saturday, September 12, 2025. We kindly request winners to attend the event, but if unable, a family member may accept the award on their behalf. Applications available on the Village of Bloomingdale website: [tinurl.com/SeptemberfestScholarships](http://tinurl.com/SeptemberfestScholarships)

**The Lake Park Educational Foundation** is proud to announce that it will award over 40 scholarships totaling \$75,000 to Lake Park High School seniors graduating in 2025. With more than 20 awards available, students have opportunities to qualify based on academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, career interests, financial need, and other criteria. Scholarship applications are now open and can be accessed on Going Merry at <https://app.goingmerry.com/edu/lake-park-high-school-roselle-il>. All applications must be submitted by March 7, 2025.

For further details, visit [www.lphs.org/Foundation](http://www.lphs.org/Foundation).

**The Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce** is accepting applications for its annual scholarship program, offering financial assistance to students pursuing higher education or trade school. Applicants must be either a Chamber member, the child of a member, or a current Bloomingdale resident. Scholarships are available for high school seniors graduating in 2025 (7–12 awards), current college students in their freshman through junior year (one award), and high school seniors entering trade or certificate programs (1–2 awards).

Applications are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 7, 2025, and are available at [www.BloomingdaleChamber.com](http://www.BloomingdaleChamber.com).

**The Bloomingdale Artist 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 BAA 2025 Membership Exhibit. Application deadline: April 15, 2025. For more information, contact: Beverly Petrosius 630-624-9545, [beverlypetrosius@gmail.com](mailto:beverlypetrosius@gmail.com) or Lois Shaffer 630-924-1577, [litloie@aol.com](mailto:litloie@aol.com).

## Love is in the Air—for Coyotes!

February marks the start of coyote breeding season, with denning season following in April when pups are born. During this time, you may notice coyotes becoming more visible and territorial. Here's how to peacefully coexist with these fascinating creatures:



- **Supervise Pets:** Always keep pets leashed and supervised outdoors. If you have a small dog and encounter a coyote, pick up your pet immediately. Keep cats indoors.
- **Change Your Routine:** If you frequently see a coyote in the same place, adjust your routine. Coyotes are creatures of habit and may be guarding their territory.
- **Stand Your Ground:** If a coyote approaches too closely, make noise by clapping, yelling, or using a noise maker to scare it off. Avoid turning your back or running away.

While spotting a coyote can be exciting, it's important to respect their space. Coyotes mate for life and typically raise 4 to 7 pups each season. They're simply working to keep their families safe—just like us!

(Source: Forest Preserve District of DuPage County)

## Salvation Army Angel Tree

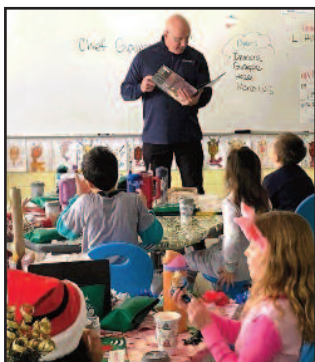
The Bloomingdale community recently embraced the spirit of giving through The Salvation Army's Angel Tree Charity Toy Drive, fulfilling the wishes of over 80 Angel Tree tags for boys and girls ages 5 and under in the Red Shield Head Start program. These thoughtful gifts, along with extra donations from residents, included toys, clothing, and essentials were picked up on December 18.



The Salvation Army Angel Tree Program provides gifts to hundreds of thousands of children each year, bringing joy to those who need it most, supporting young children from low-income families with quality early education.

This heartwarming effort reflects the caring spirit of Bloomingdale. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this drive a success!

## Polar Express Tradition Continues at St. Isidore



The beloved tradition of reading *The Polar Express* returned to St. Isidore School, spreading holiday cheer and the magic of Christmas. Invited by Principal Corie Alimento, special guest readers from the Village of Bloomingdale Police Department brought the story to life for students.

Officer Liz McGuire delighted the kindergarteners, Chief of Police Frank Giammarese captivated the third graders, and Officer Phil Jaffe engaged the fourth-grade class. The timeless tale, celebrating the joy of believing, created a memorable experience for all, filling the school with holiday spirit.



## Food, Fun and Entertainment at Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner

Save the date for an evening of great food, fun, and entertainment at the Bloomingdale Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, February 7, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. Dinner tickets are \$18 per person and can be purchased at the door, with children 8 and under dining for free.

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

For more information, please contact Camille at [Cari4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Cari4@sbcglobal.net).



## Artists Association Meets March 12

The Bloomingdale Artists Association invites you to a hands-on workshop, "Decoupage on Glass," led by Barb Shefcik on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:30 PM at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 South Bloomingdale Road. Most materials are provided, but bring a bottle to decorate, a 1-inch brush, and a water container.



Ribbon (at least ½ inch wide) and fairy lights are optional, with lights available for a \$5 fee. The workshop is free for members and \$10 for visitors. Space is limited—register by February 26 with Bev Petrosius at 630-624-9545 or [bpetrosius@gmail.com](mailto:bpetrosius@gmail.com).

# Village President, Three Trustees And Clerk to be Elected in April

The offices of Village President and three Trustees are up for re-election; the Office of Village Clerk is up for election. Following is a brief overview of candidates who are running.

**Franco Coladipietro**  
Village President



Franco, his wife Amy, and their children Alyssa and Joey have called Bloomingdale home since 2000. A managing partner at the Blooming-

dale law office of Amari & Locallo, Franco has served three terms as Village President. Proactive in bringing positive changes, he remains energized to continue his service on behalf of our Village and its residents, fully committed to his collaborative work with the Board. "I will bring the same work ethic, energy, and integrity to the position of Village President as I did on my first day in office. While we've achieved much, there's still work to do with the recently purchased Indian Lakes parcel and the Stratford Square Mall property revitalization. With these efforts and continued financial discipline, Bloomingdale will prosper as an attractive community to live, work, and play."

## Consolidated Election Information – April 1, 2025

### Voter Registration Deadline:

To vote in the April 1, 2025 election, you must register at least 28 days in advance. The deadline to register or update your registration by mail or in person is **Tuesday, March 4, 2025.**

To register, visit the DuPage County Election Commission Office at 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL. **Bring two forms of identification**, including one with your current address.

**Early Voting:** Available from **March 17 to March 31, 2025.**

**Election Day Polling Hours:** Polls will be open on **April 1, 2025**, from **6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

For a list of early voting locations, visit [www.dupageco.org/election](http://www.dupageco.org/election). For additional information, call **630-407-5600.**

**Dan Vitacco**  
Village Trustee



Dan Vitacco, a long-time resident of Bloomingdale, returned to the area in 2010 with his wife, Kelly, and their daughters, Katie and Isabella.

He is a member of the Executive Leadership Team at a large IT consulting company in Oak Brook, bringing leadership experience to his community roles. Dan has been actively involved in Bloomingdale since 2018, serving as Treasurer of the SeptemberFest Commission from 2018 to 2024, on the Planning and Zoning Commission from 2019 to 2024, and as Sponsorship Chair for the Bloomingdale Brew Fest. "As a first-term Trustee, I look forward to serving our community in this new capacity and collaborating with the Village Board on all the exciting opportunities we have ahead of us."

**Frank Bucaro**  
Village Trustee



Frank Bucaro is a lifelong Bloomingdale resident, living in the home his parents built in 1975. He is married to Lauren, and they have three chil-

dren: Frankie, Sammy, and Mackenzie Rose. A licensed Funeral Director since 1996, Frank opened Bucaro Funeral Home in 2020 along Army Trail Road in Bloomingdale. He is deeply involved in the community, serving as president of the Bloomingdale Athletic Club, a parish council member at St. Isidore, and past president of the Father's Club at St. Francis High School. Currently completing his third term as a Village Trustee and serving as lead Trustee for Facilities and Infrastructure, Frank shares, "My goal is to continue fostering a strong sense of community and pride for all residents."

**Judi Von Huben**  
Village Trustee



Judi Von Huben and her husband, David, have called Bloomingdale home for 40 years. Judi is self-employed, offering marketing and computer consulting

services to small businesses. As the senior Trustee, Judi has been a dedicated member of the Village Board since April 2001. She has chaired and served as a liaison to various intergovernmental groups focused on fostering development and maintaining strong fiscal management. She is committed to preserving Bloomingdale's tradition of quality growth while advocating for open spaces and addressing environmental concerns. "I am excited to help lead Bloomingdale into a new era of redevelopment and remain focused on ensuring our services and quality of life continue to thrive," she says.

**Pamela Hager**  
Village Clerk



Pamela Hager, a Bloomingdale resident for over 35 years, has been married to her husband, Jim, for 42 years, and has three daughters and

seven grandchildren. She has served as PTO President in District 13 Schools and volunteers in the Erickson School library. Pam has supported DuPage Pads, the American Cancer Society, and helped launch Relay for Life in Roselle. She has served on the Church Council and as Financial Secretary at Cornerstone Faith Community Church. A former Septemberfest Commission chairperson, Pam was named Bloomingdale's Georgene Geils Woman of the Year in 2014. "I am honored to serve the Bloomingdale community as Village Clerk. This role keeps me connected to the people and traditions that make our village so special."

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

The Village of Bloomingdale depends on the dedication and hard work of our Committee and Commission volunteers. Throughout the year, these individuals generously contribute their time and expertise to support the distinct missions of each commission, making a meaningful impact on our community's well-being. We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who gave their time and talent in 2024.

## Police Pension

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

## Planning & Zoning Commission

Len Jaster  
Benita Shah  
David Brambert  
Eric Poplonski  
Tim Coleman  
Chris Troiola  
Dan Vitacco  
Sheri Degen

## Septemberfest Commission

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

## Board of Fire & Police

Louis Pavone  
Theodore Cucci  
Giuseppe Battista  
Chris Troiola



# Police Department Recognizes Neighborhood Watch Block Captains

The Bloomingdale Police Department extends appreciation to the dedicated Block Captains of the Neighborhood Watch Program in 2024. Your steadfast efforts have been essential in fostering positive communication between neighborhoods and emergency service agencies, strengthening the bonds of our community.

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

Albert Presco  
Alyssa Cunningham  
Andreia Golder  
Azam Nizamuddin  
Bill Bahr  
Bill Wirkus  
Brenda Nies  
Carol Cosentino  
Carol Nies  
Darlene Griffin  
Dorothy Prohaska  
Francine Howard  
Gil Michelotti  
Gina Leonard  
Giuseppe Battista  
Holly & Mark Paoletti  
Jacquelyne Hill-Hulslander  
Janet Davitt  
John Carroll

Ken Mixer  
Kim Parlor  
Laura Geraci  
Lee Anne Clarbourn  
Linda Auchincloss  
Linda Derrico  
Marjorie Kelly  
Marvin Roehlke  
Mary Sue Fornari  
Milan Stevanovich  
Mitch & Vivi Frumkin  
Norm & Juanita Hathaway  
Patrick Quigley  
Paul Bergl  
Phillip Abraham  
Richard Baggio  
Robert & Lucy Jones

Roberta DiBasilio  
Sharyn Murphy  
Sheryl Woods  
Steve Higgins  
Steve Vitez  
Theresa Graves  
Tom Leonard

## Management Offices of:

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



The Village of Bloomingdale proudly honors the 2024 Milestone Anniversaries of our dedicated employees. Their commitment, hard work, and exceptional contributions have shaped our community and strengthened our organization. Together, they represent 250 years of collective service, and we extend our sincere gratitude.

## 35 Years

Patrick Maranto  
Lynn Heitz

## 25 Years

Wendy Reiter  
Brian Sisco

## 20 Years

Andrew Dibasilio  
Christopher Mitchell

## 15 Years

Tony Mannerino

## 10 Years

Jin Han  
Michael Giovenco  
Pietro Scalera  
Tracy Celestino

## 5 Years

Patrick McGinn  
Michael Roberts  
Melissa Gruber  
Marius Miraka  
Jassen Perry  
Jacob Dary  
Diana Paskon

# Village Reaffirms Pledge to Protect Monarch Butterflies

In December 2024, Bloomingdale's Mayors' Monarch Pledge report was approved by the National Wildlife Federation for the fourth year, reaffirming efforts to protect monarch butterflies and pollinators.

Learn more:  
[nwf.org/MayorsMonarchPledge](http://nwf.org/MayorsMonarchPledge).

# Business News

## Bloomington Chamber Food Pantry Donation

The Bloomington Chamber of Commerce recently raised funds for three local food pantries—Neighborhood Food Pantries, Bloomington Township Food Pantry, and Roselle Community Food Pantry—through two impactful efforts.



### Grand Raffle Raises \$1,928 for Local Food Pantries

Thanks to community support, the Chamber's Bloomington Grand Raffle raised \$1,928. Every dollar of the proceeds was donated, with each food pantry receiving \$642 to help serve those in need.

Pictured are Elizabeth Zrelak from Neighborhood Food Pantries, Mike Hovde and Sue Ryan from Bloomington Township Food Pantry, along with members of the Bloomington Chamber Executive Board: Chris Karountzos of ANYWAY'S American Grill & Pub, Susan DiMeo Sargent of Pan American Bank & Trust, and Joe Fulco of Fruitful Yield. Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and contributed to this meaningful effort.

### 1st Annual "One Meal at a Time" Initiative Raises \$1,365

Eight local restaurants joined forces for the One Meal at a Time initiative, donating 1% of sales over four days. Spearheaded by Chris Karountzos of ANYWAY'S American Grill & Pub and Rocco Zaccardi of Sporty's Restaurant & Catering, the event raised \$1,365, with each food pantry receiving \$455.

We extend our gratitude to participating restaurants and everyone who dined out to support this cause. Restaurants that made this initiative possible include:

- Anyway's PUB - Bloomington, IL
- Saffron of Bloomington
- La Campana Mexican Restaurant
- Atlas Chicken Bartlett
- BIBIBOP Asian Grill
- Sporty's Restaurant & Catering
- Pholicious
- Mapleberry - Carol Stream

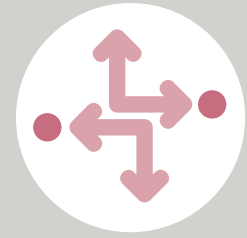
These initiatives showcase the power of community and collaboration in making a difference.

## Bloomington Women in Business Scholarship

The Bloomington Area Women in Business (BAWIB) Scholarship is now open for applications through **Friday, April 11, 2025**, on the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce website at [bloomingtonchamber.com](http://bloomingtonchamber.com).

This scholarship supports adult women over the age of 20 who are advancing their careers, reentering the workforce, or pursuing additional training or education. Funds may be used for certifications, college credits, CEUs, or advanced degrees. Bloomington residency is not required, applicants should have ties to the community or its surrounding areas.

Generously funded by Neil Moscicki, CFP, of Wintrust Wealth Management and Embolden Wealth Management, and Cornerstone Faith Community Church, this opportunity is ideal for women seeking to enhance their employment prospects. Please share with those who may benefit!



## The Bloomington 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 BLOOMINGTON**

### Celebrate Life's Special Moments At Mahan Speakeasy

Mahan Family Wines extends a thank you to everyone who visited their booth at Bloomington's Kris Kringle Market. They also invite you to discover the charm of Mahan Speakeasy—an intimate venue perfect for celebrating life's milestones.

Whether it's a birthday, anniversary, or corporate event, Mahan Speakeasy is a local treasure where unforgettable memories are made.

To make a reservation for your next event or to join an evening when the Speakeasy is open to the public, visit the Private Events tab at [MahanFamilyWines.com](http://MahanFamilyWines.com).



# Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1



## Its a Fact: Fire is Getting Faster



Forty years ago, you had about 17 minutes to escape a house fire. Today, due to modern synthetic materials and furniture, that time has shrunk to just 3 minutes. Newer homes and their contents burn much faster, making preparation critical.

In the first nine days of the year, the American Red Cross responded to over 1,700 home fires. To protect your family:

- Test your smoke alarms monthly.
- Create a fire escape plan with at least two ways to exit every room.

The Red Cross offers a simple worksheet to help you design your plan. Visit their website or search "American Red Cross home fire escape plan" to get started.

## Santa Brings Spirit of the Season to Fire House

On December 21, the Bloomingtondale firehouse had a very special visitor — Santa himself!

He took time out of his busy schedule to spread some festive cheer and check in on the hardworking firefighters who keep the community safe. It looks like they've officially made the nice list this year!



## Winter Months Bring Risk for Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

As temperatures drop, heating systems run more frequently. The Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District reminds you to stay vigilant about the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO).

### What is Carbon Monoxide?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas and the leading cause of poisoning deaths in the U.S.

### How Can You Prevent CO Poisoning?

CO poisoning is preventable by following these simple steps:

- Regularly inspect gas appliances for proper operation and venting.
- Ensure flues, chimneys, and vents are clear of debris and functioning properly.
- Install CO monitors in your home and check them regularly.
- Avoid using unvented space heaters, gas stoves, charcoal grills, or Sterno-type fuels for heating. Never cook on charcoal grills indoors.
- Maintain your car's exhaust system and never run vehicles or gasoline-powered engines in a garage, even with the door open.

### What to Do if You Suspect CO Poisoning

If you suspect CO exposure, leave the area immediately and call 911. Move affected individuals to fresh air and provide oxygen if needed. Follow standard first aid: Keep victims warm and quiet until help arrives.

For more information, contact the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District at 630-894-9080.



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

## Be a Friend to a Fire Hydrant in Your Neighborhood This Winter



Blocked or buried fire hydrants can delay emergency response when every moment matters. Snow, ice, or other obstructions make hydrants difficult to locate and access, slowing efforts to fight fires.

Fire trucks carry a limited water supply, so one of the first tasks for firefighters is connecting to the nearest hydrant. Keeping hydrants clear ensures faster access to water, allowing firefighters to focus on what truly matters—saving lives and property.



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 18, 2025 – Annual Business Meetings

The new year begins with the Annual Business Meeting, featuring a review of 2024 activities, a preview of 2025 events (including May's Annual Flower & Plant Sale), and discussions on charitable donations.

March 18, 2025 – Do's, Don'ts, and Myths of Landscaping with Curb Appeal



Discover how to enhance curb appeal while avoiding common landscaping mistakes. Learn practical tips, debunk myths, and explore trends from Florida, New Mexico, and Arizona that inspire Midwest gardens. Presented by Ken Benson, a landscape architect with horticulture degrees from the University of Illinois and extensive experience in ecological landscaping.

Visitors are welcome at Cornerstone Faith Community Church, 118 First Street, Bloomingdale, IL. Social time starts at 6:15 PM, announcements at 6:45 PM, and the program at 7:00 PM. Contact [bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingtongardenclub@gmail.com) or visit [www.bloomingtongardenclub.org](http://www.bloomingtongardenclub.org).

## Tree Lighting & Kris Kringle Market 2024



### Love Was in the Air for This Couple At Kris Kringle Market



The holiday season is often a time of magic, but for Daniel Tomasello and Jessi Meilahn, it became a moment they will cherish forever. The couple got engaged at the Bloomingdale Kris Kringle Market on November 30th, 2024. Daniel and Jessi, both Bloomingdale residents, met in 2018 while working at Marklund Day School Bloomingdale, and by March 2019, they were dating. Surrounded by the festive cheer and warm spirit of the community, their engagement was a joyful celebration, and now they are looking forward to their wedding in February 2026. Congratulations to Daniel and Jessi on their magical moment!

## CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF BPL!

Keep an eye out for events throughout the year celebrating our 50 years of service to Bloomingdale! We'll let you know all of our events, presentations, and displays via our website, Village Almanac, in the library, and via our eNews.

To subscribe to our eNewsletters, visit <https://bit.ly/mybpl-eneews-signup>



BLOOMINGDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

February &  
March 2025



### McDonald's Storytime (Drop-In)

Families

Tuesday, March 4 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Join us at the Bear Family McDonald's for a storytime and a special surprise. This McDonald's is located at 72 Stratford Square Drive in Bloomingdale.



programs for kids of all ages  
March 31 - April 4



### 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)



WEISS  
FINANCIAL  
RATINGS



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.

Monday

#### 📅 *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* Book Party

Grades 3-6  
Monday, March 31  
3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

#### 📅 Learn to Use a Sewing Machine

Grades 4-6  
Monday, March 31  
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday

#### Craft Time (Drop-In)

Families  
Wednesday, April 2  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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

Under 3 years old with caregivers  
Wednesday, April 2  
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Friday

#### 📅 Toddler Dance Party

18 months to 36 months  
Friday, April 4  
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

# Adult

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.

## 🗳️ VIRTUAL: Bob Hope – American Smart Aleck

Monday, February 10 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Bob Hope was one of the most iconic figures of the 20th century, conquering stage, radio, film, and television. Join film expert Steven Frenzel in discovering Hope's groundbreaking work and humor.

## 🗳️ VIRTUAL: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin

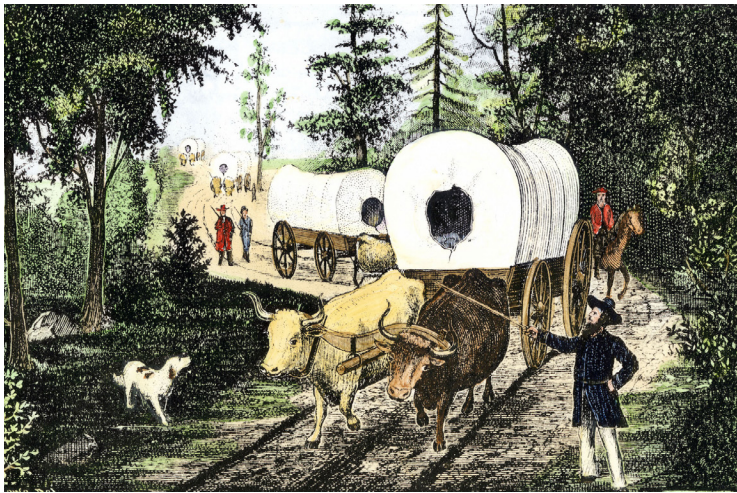
Monday, February 24 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Art historian Jeff Mishur returns to discuss Horace Pippin, a World War I veteran who overcame adversity to become a professional folk-inspired artist and a part of the Harlem Renaissance.

## 🗳️ VIRTUAL: Life on the Cumberland Road

Tuesday, February 25 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

As the first wagon road leading over the Allegheny Mountains, the Cumberland Road became a heavily used route between the eastern seaboard and the emerging states west of the mountains. Explore the original route to Wheeling, WV and see how it travels to Vandalia, IL with outdoor enthusiast John Lynn.



## 🗳️ Crochet for Beginners (ages 14+)

Thursdays, March 6 & 13 | 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

registration begins Monday, February 10 (limit 8)

Come ready to learn the basics of crochet with step-by-step instruction. This is a two-part program. Ages 14 and up. Materials provided.

## 🗳️ VIRTUAL: Luck of the Irish – A St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Monday, March 10 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

March is the perfect time to celebrate our favorite Irish-American actors with great stories, dancing, and music. Gene Kelly, Maureen O'Hara, James Cagney, Donald O'Connor, and many more will help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day! Hosted by film expert Steven Frenzel.



## 🗳️ VIRTUAL: The Art of Ruth Asawa

Monday, March 24 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

First introduced to art education in a Japanese internment camp, artist Ruth Asawa achieved success by creating handmade wire sculptures as well as figural public art (especially fountains). She was also a passionate activist for education in the arts. Presented by art historian Jeff Mishur.

## 🗳️ VIRTUAL: Life on the Missouri River

Tuesday, March 25 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

The Missouri River flows 2,321 miles from its origin at Three Forks, Montana to the Mississippi River. Travel with John Lynn and experience the adventure of paddling every mile through seven states.

# bpl makerspace crafts

### Registration Information:

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

### 🗳️ Custom Stickers

Create custom stickers using Cricut's **Print Then Cut** feature.

Registration opens Monday, February 10 at 9:00 a.m.



Monday, March 10 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday, March 24 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 17 | 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

## ONGOING ADULT PROGRAMS

### Genealogy Club (Drop-In)

Wednesdays, February 19 & March 19 | 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 19 & March 19 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

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

# Programs



## I-PASS On Demand Event (Drop-In)

Tuesday, March 11 | 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The Illinois Tollway's **I-PASS On Demand** team will be on hand to help you with your I-PASS needs including:

- opening an account
- adding new license plates
- receiving/activating your new sticker tags
- I-PASS Assist Program

Please bring your vehicle plate number.  
Please note: there may be wait times.

*This event is co-sponsored by State Senator Seth Lewis, State Representative Jennifer Sanalitra, and the Village of Bloomingdale.*



### **It Ends With Us (PG-13)**

Wednesday, February 12 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

When a woman's first love suddenly reenters her life, her relationship with a charming but abusive neurosurgeon is upended and she realizes she must learn to rely on her own strength to make an impossible choice for her future.



Enjoy our 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.



### **The Wild Robot (PG)**

Wednesday, March 12 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

After a shipwreck, an intelligent robot called Roz is stranded on an uninhabited island. To survive the harsh environment, Roz bonds with the island's animals and cares for an orphaned baby goose.

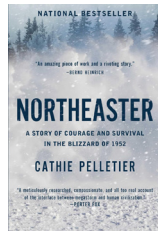
## HISTORICAL BOOK DISCUSSION

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

### **Northeaster: A Story of Courage and Survival in the Blizzard of 1952**

by Cathie Pelletier

Tuesday, February 4  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



### **The Six: The Untold Story of America's First Women Astronauts**

by Loren Grush

Tuesday, March 4  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



## 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.

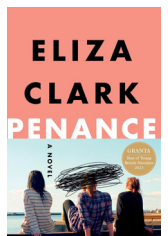
## MONDAY NIGHT PAGE TURNERS

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

### **Penance**

by Eliza Clark

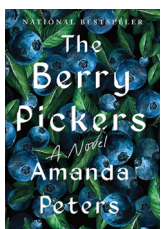
Monday, February 17  
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.



### **The Berry Pickers**

by Amanda Peters


Monday, March 17  
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.



# Computer Programs

Registration is encouraged for in-person computer classes to receive program updates.

Register **online**, by phone at (630) 924-2740, or by email at [bdref@mybpl.org](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org).

Virtual classes are noted with  and will be posted on our YouTube channel.



## master MICROSOFT EXCEL

### Excel 1

Monday, February 10 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Sean

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

### Excel 2

Monday, February 17 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Sean

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

### Excel 3

Monday, February 24 | 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 concepts like logic functions.



### Excel PivotTables

Thursday, February 27 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Instructor: Charlie

Excel PivotTables can be very helpful in organizing data. Work with several examples to develop a comfort level with the tools Excel provides.

### Using Tablets

Thursday, February 20 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Salvador

Become more comfortable working with apps, the touchscreen interface, and navigating the settings, parental controls, and tools that can make your tablet as fun and useful as possible. iPads will be used for demonstration but other options will also be discussed.



### Smartwatches 101

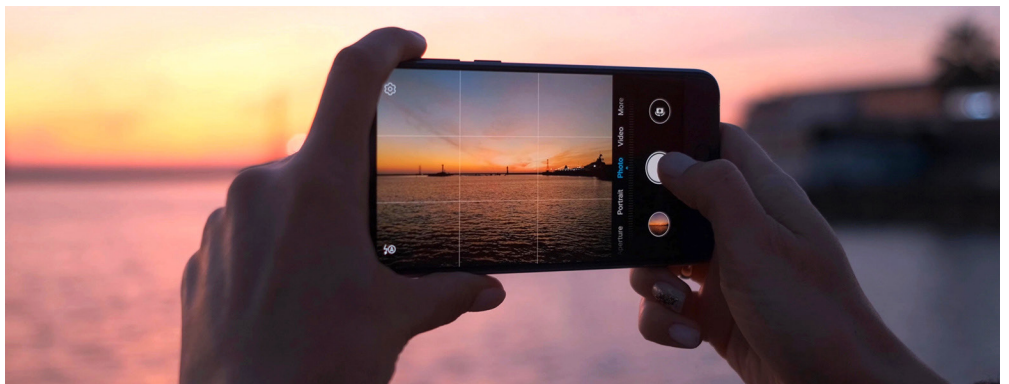
Thursday, March 6 | 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Salvador

Our phones allow us to carry a computer in our pocket, but smartwatches like the Apple Watch give us computers on our wrists! Learn how tools available with the Apple Watch and Android alternatives can help you meet your fitness goals and even replace your phone for common tasks.

### Smartphone Photography & Editing

Monday, March 10 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Instructor: Sean

Learn the basics of taking and editing pictures and movies with Android and iPhones. Students will learn to use free editing products to prepare their photos and movies for sharing. *Please note: Different phones offer a wide range of camera features, so we will focus on more generally available tools.*



### Getting Started: WhatsApp

Thursday, March 13 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Christian

WhatsApp is a popular free messaging platform for staying connected with friends and family. Learn to start your account and how to message and call people. Once you register with your phone number, you can use WhatsApp on desktop and mobile devices.

### Smart Homes

Thursday, March 20 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Salvador

Your home thermostats, lights, and more can now be controlled from your computer or smartphone. Learn how to integrate different elements of your home and manage them from your device.

### Disaster Prevention

Monday, March 24 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Instructor: Sean

No preventative measures are 100% effective, but there are practical steps you can take to become less attractive to targets. Learn basic safety measures to block viruses, keep your personal information secure, good privacy practices, safely back up data, avoid fraud, and avoid scary situations with your computer.

# 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-12th graders  
unless otherwise noted.*

## Teen Taste Test: Generic vs. Name Brand (Drop-In)

Thursday, February 27 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Challenge your taste buds with a blind taste test of an assortment of name brand snacks versus their generic alter-egos.

## Sunrise on the Reaping: Hunger Games Celebration (Drop-In)

Monday, March 3 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Let's celebrate the release of the new *Hunger Games* prequel, *Sunrise on the Reaping* in March. Enter a giveaway to win a copy of the book!  
Must be present to win.

## 📅 Crochet for Beginners (ages 14+)

Thursday, March 6 & 13 | 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.  
registration begins Monday, February 10 (limit 8)

Come ready to learn the basics of crochet with step-by-step instruction.  
This is a two-part program. Ages 14 and up. Materials provided.

## Teen Territory Fun!

*Drop-in activity all month in the Teen Territory space.*

*Supplies available throughout the month specified, while supplies last.*

### Vintage Valentine's Day Cards (February)

Create a retro valentine, complete with cheesy lines and quirky characters.

### New & Improved Origami (March)

Create a new origami creation in the Teen Territory!

## Take & Make Crafts

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

### 📅 National Park Color by Number

Kit Pickup begins Monday, February 10  
registration begins Monday, January 27 (limit 12 teens)

Color in five stunning scenes of American wilderness, each from a different national park, and learn about their fascinating history and wildlife with this color by number kit and book.

### 📅 Needle Point Mushroom Forest

Kit Pickup begins Monday, March 3  
registration begins Monday, February 17 (limit 10 teens)

Create a beautiful mushroom forest scene through needle felting, capturing the colors and magic in each poke.

## Teen Craft Night

### 📅 Watercolor Coasters

Wednesday, February 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
registration begins Monday, January 27 (limit 8 teens)

Turn rustic wood slices into a masterpiece using watercolor painting.  
Create up to 4 coasters to keep for yourself or as a gift to a friend.

### 📅 Make Your Own Merch

Wednesday, March 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
registration begins Monday, February 17 (limit 12 teens)

Going to C2E2 in April? Or just want some new fan merch for your collection? Come and create buttons, keychains, or photocards to represent your favorite show/movie/artist!



### Teen Bookish Boxes

Sign up to receive a teen subscription box full of specially curated books and goodies each month! After filling out the registration form, the teen librarian will work to select titles based on your preference. And guess what? You get to keep everything in your box, including the books! Every month, participants will get new books and special surprises.

Visit [mybpl.org/teenbookishboxes](http://mybpl.org/teenbookishboxes) for details.



### Teen Book Reviews

Teens who enjoy reading, audiobooks, or writing can write book reviews for service hours! The reviews may appear in whole or part on the library's website, the Teen Space, social media, or in print resources at the library. You may review fiction, non-fiction, comics/graphic novels/manga, and audiobooks. If you are interested, get started on the library website!  
Check out the details at [mybpl.org/teenbookreviews](http://mybpl.org/teenbookreviews).



# Preschool Programs

Ages 0-5

# Youth

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

Registration for **February** programs begins **Monday, January 20 at 9:00 a.m.**

Registration for **March** programs begins **Monday, February 17 at 9:00 a.m.**

## Come Together (Drop-In)

Up to 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. **No session April 2. Will be offered simultaneously with Baby Tales and Tunes when in session.**

## 🗳️ Happy Books, Happy Cooks

Ages 3-5

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

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

## Baby, Let's Make Music (Drop-In)

Up to 24 months

Wednesdays, February 19 & 26  
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

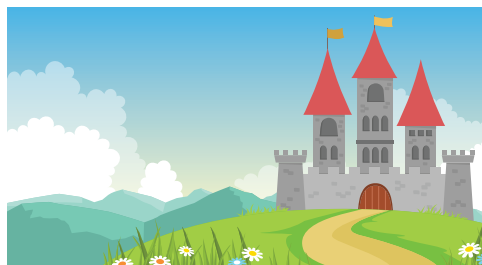
Join us for a parade of fun! We will explore the world of music and movement using an array of instruments, flannel stories, rhymes, and songs.

## 🗳️ Creepy Carrots

Ages 3-5

Friday, February 21 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Join us for a *Creepy Carrots* reading and other fun activities.



## 🗳️ Fairy Tale Ball

Families

Sunday, March 2 | 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.

## Preschool Process Art (Drop-In)

Ages 3-5

Saturday, March 15 | 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

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

## 🗳️ Messy Fingers

Ages 2-4

Tuesday, March 18 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

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

## Explore with Your Senses (Drop-In)

Under 3 years old with caregivers

Wednesday, April 2 | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

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



## 🗳️ Toddler Dance Party

18 months to 36 months

Friday, April 4 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

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



## 🗳️ Playing with STEM

Ages 2-5

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

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

SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS

# Family Programs

## 🗳️ Homeschool Hangout Series

Families

Wednesdays,  
February 5 & March 5  
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

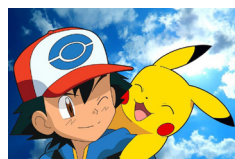
Join us to explore a new topic each month with books, crafts, and activities specially designed for each grade level.

## Pokémon Love Day (Drop-In)

Families

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

Come share in the love of Pokémon and make Pokémon bookmarks.



## Imagination Station (Drop-In)

Families

Friday, February 28  
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Enjoy stories and rhymes that inspire imagination and then stay for a process art project.



## McDonald's Storytime (Drop-In)

Families

Tuesday, March 4  
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Join us at the Bear Family McDonald's for a storytime and a special surprise. This McDonald's is located at 72 Stratford Square Drive in Bloomingdale.

## Craft Time (Drop-In)

Families

Wednesday, April 2  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Stop by Youth Services to make a craft. While supplies last.

SPRING BREAK PROGRAM

# Programs

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.



## Middle Grade Makers (Drop-In)

Grades 4-8

Tuesdays, February 4 & March 4  
Thursdays, February 20 & March 20  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**NEW STATION FORMAT!** Drop by to try a new skill, make a fun craft to take home, and hang out with friends.

## 🍷 National Pizza Day

Grades K-2

Sunday, February 9 | 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Celebrate National Pizza Day with us! Enjoy stories, crafts, and your own mini pizza.

*Dairy will be served.*

## 🍷 Valentine Crafts & Card Making

Grades K-2

Monday, February 10 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come in from the cold for some crafting that will warm your heart.

## 🍷 Makerspace Club: STEM Time

Grades 3-6

Thursdays, February 13 and March 13  
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!

## DIY Cactus Pet Rock (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6

Sunday, February 16 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Come make your own adorable pet that requires no maintenance when you get it home.

## 🍷 Beginning Crochet

Grades 3-8

Mondays, February 17 & 24  
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

This is a two session program. In session 1, learn how to hold your yarn and hook and the single crochet stitch. In session 2, learn how to start a project and read a pattern.

# School Age Programs

Grades K-6

## 🍷 Collagraph Printmaking Design Studio

Grades 3-6

Tuesday, February 18 | 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Design your collagraph plate with various shapes and discover the process of printmaking. Each piece will be uniquely your own creation.

## 🍷 Origami Crafternoon

Grades 4-8

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

Learn the basics of origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. See a demonstration of a beginner origami creation, then make some art of your own.

## 🍷 Plant a Flower with BPL

Grades K-2

Wednesday, February 26 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come to the library to plant some flowers and learn how they grow.



## 🍷 Our Furry Family

Grades K-6

Friday, February 28 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Our pets need many things from us to keep them happy and healthy. Explore what being a responsible pet guardian means for a variety of animals. This program is brought to you by Dupage County Animal Services. There may be a surprise shelter pet visitor, if available that day.

## 🍷 Middle Grade Mixology

Grades 4-8

Monday, March 3 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Come chill with drinks and treats inspired by coffee shops but customized by you.

## 🍷 TAKE IT & MAKE IT Ponybead Fidget Pals

Grades 3-6

Kit Pickup: Monday, March 3 – 7

Adopt a tiny tactile friend with these kits designed to make retro animals. Kits will be available to be picked up the week of March 3 – 7.

## 🍷 Rainbow Spring Fling

Grades 1-5

Saturday, March 8 | 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

To celebrate all things rainbows, come in to create three fun projects: a rainbow cloud art, DIY binoculars, and Fruit Loop necklaces.

## 🍷 Homeschool Hangout Book Club

Grades K-6

Friday, March 14 | 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Dive into graphic novels and discuss story, character, and how to make the most of reading with pictures. Grades K-2 will read *Diary of a Pug*, while grades 3-6 will read *Pawcasso*. A limited number of books will be available at the Youth Services Desk.

## 🍷 Crochet Along with Miss Carol (Virtual)

Grades 3-8

Saturday, March 15

Learn to crochet along with Miss Carol! Check the BPL YouTube channel for video tutorials for each project. New videos released quarterly.

March Skill: Increases and Decreases

## 🍷 Crochet Skills: Patterns

Grades 3-8

Monday, March 17 | 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Basic crochet skills required. Learn the structure of a crochet pattern and how to read abbreviations.

## 🍷 Puzzle Race

Grades 4-8

Wednesday, March 19 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Calling all puzzle lovers! Go head-to-head to see who can complete their puzzle first.

## LEGO® Club (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6

Tuesday, March 25 | 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

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

## 🍷 DIY Device Bean Bag Chair

Grades 3-6

Thursday, March 27 | 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Make a bean bag chair to hold your device.

## 🍷 Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book Party

Grades 3-6

Monday, March 31 | 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

Join us for the CHEESIEST party around! Be ready for wimpy crafts and activities that are Greg approved.

## 🍷 Learn to Use a Sewing Machine

Grades 4-6

Monday, March 31 | 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Learn the parts of a sewing machine, how to thread the machine, wind a bobbin, and sew a simple pillow in this introduction to our machines in the Makerspace. An adult partner is welcome to accompany each student.



## BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Library Hours:

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

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

Sunday:  
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Social Media

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



### Library Photos

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



### ADA Accommodations

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

### BPL Board of Trustees

- Benjamin Hoyle, President
- Natalie Valenti, Vice President
- Lauren Dixon, Secretary
- Ken Johnson, Treasurer
- Ashok Dhiman
- Sharon Karpel
- Kory Atkinson

### BPL Contacts

- Director [tjzernsky@mybpl.org](mailto:tjzernsky@mybpl.org)
- Business Office [bdbo@mybpl.org](mailto:bdbo@mybpl.org)
- Adult Services [bdref@mybpl.org](mailto:bdref@mybpl.org)
- Circulation [ckarns@mybpl.org](mailto:ckarns@mybpl.org)
- Computer Services [bdcs@mybpl.org](mailto:bdcs@mybpl.org)
- Youth Services [bdys@mybpl.org](mailto:bdys@mybpl.org)
- Local History [bdlh@mybpl.org](mailto:bdlh@mybpl.org)

# 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 6 through February 14**  
**Spring Session: March 3 through April 13**  
*(no storytimes the week of March 31-April 4)*

### 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.



Don't forget to keep an eye out throughout 2025 for events celebrating our 50 years of service to Bloomington! Subscribe to our BPL Bulletin eNews and never miss an event – sign up at <https://bit.ly/mybpl-eneews-signup>.

Our Library has a subscription to **TumbleBookLibrary**, and your family can access it from home. It's unlimited, and it's FREE for you to use!

TumbleBookLibrary is an online collection of eBooks for children. They are a great way to encourage tech-savvy kids to enjoy reading! There are over 1,200 animated, talking picture books, along with Spanish and French books, read-along chapter books, non-fiction books, and exciting games and puzzles!

You can use your computer, tablet, or mobile phone. All you need is an internet connection. There are no downloads necessary; books are streamed right to your device at the click of a button.

Check [www.mybpl.org/kids](http://www.mybpl.org/kids) and click the TumbleBooksLibrary link to access this free service.

Enjoy, and happy reading!





## **Oasis Water Park Season Pass Kickoff Events**

**Early Bird Kickoff Day One:  
6-8PM, Wednesday, February 5**

**Early Bird Kickoff Day Two:  
10AM-12PM, Saturday, February 8**

**Johnston Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle Avenue, Bloomington**

Purchase your 2025 Oasis Season Pass during the Kickoff event and save \$5.00 per pass.

The first 50 individuals to purchase a season pass will receive an Oasis sports water bottle.



# Blake Wittkamp Joins The BPD As The New Aquatics and Facilities Supervisor

The Bloomingdale Park District is excited to announce the addition of Blake Wittkamp as the new Aquatics and Facilities Supervisor. Bringing a wealth of experience in recreation management, aquatic operations, and community engagement, Blake will be an asset to the Park District's commitment to providing exceptional programs and facilities for the community.



A graduate of Illinois State University with a B.S. in Recreational Management and a minor in Business, Blake has dedicated his career to enhancing recreational experiences. He also currently has certifications as a Certified Pool Operator (CPO) and Jeff Ellis & Associates Lifeguard Instructor and is currently pursuing a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) certification.

Blake comes to the Bloomingdale Park District from the Schaumburg Park District, where he served as the Assistant Manager of the Community Recreation Center. There, Blake oversaw operations for multiple facilities, managed staff and memberships, and contributed to planning special events, such as Movies in the Park and holiday celebrations. Prior to that, he held supervisory roles at Hanover Park Park District, where he managed athletic leagues, aquatic facilities, and community events.

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## 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/Green Flag

-  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 flag pole near the rink for skating conditions.**

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

Ice Rink Hours (weather permitting)  
Monday-Friday 1:30PM - dusk  
Saturday-Sunday 11AM - dusk

Designated Hockey Hours  
Tuesday and Thursday 3-5PM  
Saturday 2:30-5PM  
Sunday 11AM-2PM

## Doggie Easter Egg Hunt

Tuesday, April 1

6-7PM

Circle Park

163 Fairfield Way, Bloomington

Registration Deadline: March 27

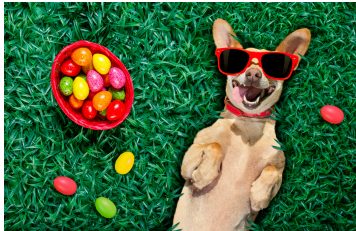
Dogs of all shapes and sizes are invited to attend our first Doggie Easter Egg Hunt at Circle Park. Dogs will hunt for eggs filled with doggie treats. All dogs must be leashed during this event. Dog handlers must be age 16 or older. Dogs must be friendly to others to participate. The egg hunt will begin at 6:45PM. No drop-ins are allowed. Register one family member per dog.

\$5 R/NR

Registration Required

Registration Code:

#204313-A1



## Ties & Tiaras Daddy Daughter Dance

Friday, February 21

6-8:30PM

Medinah Shriners

550 Shriners Drive, Addison

Registration Deadline: February 14

Join us for a night of fun at the Ties and Tiara's Daddy Daughter Dance. Bring a dad, grandfather, uncle or other special guest. Couples experience a memorable evening dancing to the music of the DJ and enjoying a grand dinner. Dinner includes salad, bread rolls, pasta, cheeseburger sliders, chicken strips, green beans, mashed potatoes, soft drinks and cookies. Girls will have an opportunity to get Tinsel for their hair provided by Pivot Point. Each couple receives a photo to cherish for years to come. Reservations are required. The fee is per couple. Additional participants are welcome at \$40 each. No drop-ins are allowed. **Registration will not be accepted after February 14.** Please register early to reserve your spot. Do not wait to register. This event fills up fast.

\$90R/\$95NR Ages: 3-12 Registration Required

Registration Code: #204301-A1



## Breakfast with the Bunny

Saturday, April 5

9-10:15AM

Bloomington Golf Club

181 N. Glen Ellyn Road, Bloomington

Registration Deadline: March 28

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.

Sponsor



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. Please register early to reserve your spot.

Ages 2+ \$25R/\$30NR

Registration Code: #204312-A1

Under Age 2 FREE

Registration Code: #204312-A2

Registration Required

## SUMMER JOB FAIR

Located at the Johnston Recreation Center

Calling everyone interested in working at the Bloomington Park District this summer! We are hosting an open house job fair for positions at the pool, concession stand (must be 15 years old) and summer camp (must be 16 years old). We want to meet you! This is a one stop shop for a summer job, and there are many opportunities available. Stop in between **3-5PM on Wednesday, March 26** 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).



# Bunny Bash

**FREE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12  
9:30-11AM  
CIRCLE PARK  
163 FAIRFIELD WAY, BLOOMINGDALE**

All activities will be held outdoors, please dress for the weather. In the event of inclement weather, limited number of activities will be moved indoors to the JRC and Westfield Gyms. The Bunny Bash starts immediately following the Bloomingdale 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)  
Bloomingdale Public Library - Book walk

Eggceptional Easter Egg Trunk Hunt in the JRC parking lot immediately following the Circle Park Egg Hunt.  
**\*A quiet and accessible opportunity\***

## LIONS CLUB EASTER EGG HUNT

**FREE** SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 9:30AM  
CIRCLE PARK  
163 FAIRFIELD WAY, BLOOMINGDALE

The Egg Hunt starts promptly at 9:30AM. No wristband is required to participate in the Egg Hunt.

### PARTNERS:



### SPONSORS:

