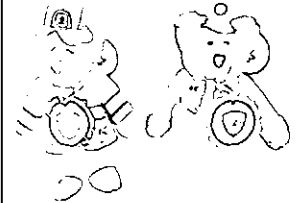


## Village of Bloomingdale

# Almanac

December 2002

## Bloomingdale Bears!



See page 5

## From the Desk of Mayor Bob Iden

Here we are at the holiday season again. It's been a year of healing and looking at life and liberty just a little bit differently. Before I get into some ways you can share the spirit of the season with others, I have some other news to share.

Congratulations to the Bloomingdale Park District on its nomination for the National Gold Medal Award. Read more about it on page 7. The video is excellent -- check it out if you're at the park district.

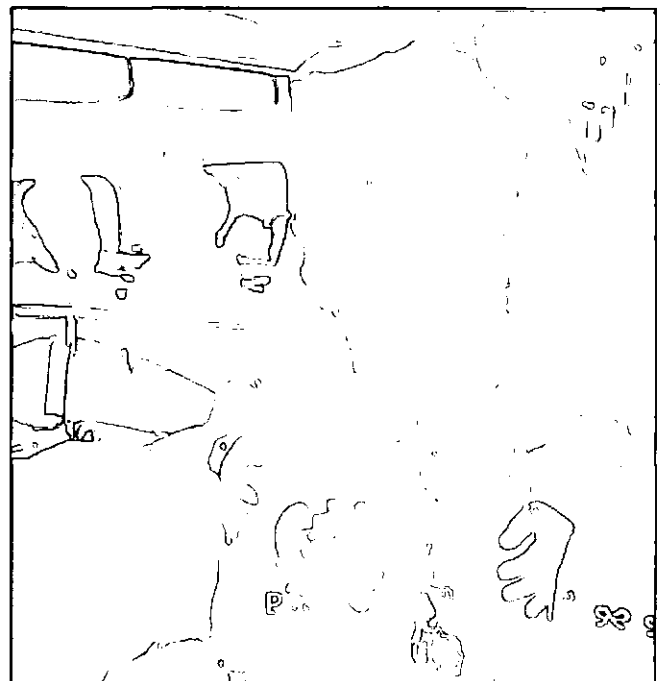
Also in November, Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 attended the 34th annual Veterans Day celebration presented by the DuPage County Veterans Association at Lake Park High School, west campus. The short, but moving ceremony, was a fitting tribute to the men and women in all branches of the service. From the 85th Division Army Band musical selections to the monument ceremony and the flag folding ceremony to the Gettysburg address as delivered by Abe Lincoln, the hour-long event was inspirational and touching. I would urge all residents, especially veterans, to attend next year's event. You deserve to be a part of this.

The post is also participating in Operation Support the Troops for the holiday season. See page 10 to learn how you can be a part of it. Other holiday events are on pages 11 and 12. And, as always, there are a number of ways that Bloomingdale residents can share the spirit of giving with those less fortunate. Following are some local options.

The Bloomingdale Park District will be helping provide gifts for Marklund residents. Tags with the name of the child, something about him/her and some suggested gift ideas are available in the main lobby of the Johnston Center, 172 S. Circle. Wrapped gifts, with the child's name attached, should be brought back to the park district by Friday, December 13.

The Bloomingdale Sharing Tree, sponsored by the Bloomingdale Township, is located at the Transportation Building on Rosedale Road. Names and wishes of local needy youngsters and residents of convalescent and nursing homes can be picked up here. Wrapped gifts need to be returned by Friday, December 13.

Please be An Angel by joining together Village of Bloomingdale employees in support of the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Kids, (ages 3 through 5) attending the Salvation Army's Emergency Lodge Headstart Childcare Program in Chicago. Angel Tree tags identifying each child's gift needs and toy desires are available at the Village Hall. All gifts need to be purchased and returned unwrapped to the Village Hall by December 18th. If you would like to be sent a tag, please call Barb Weber at the Village Hall 671-5613.



Happy Holidays to all!

*The Polar Express comes to life!*

**VILLAGE BOARD,  
COMMISSION & COMMITTEE  
MEETINGS**

*The public is encouraged to attend all Board  
and Commission meetings*

**REGULAR MEETINGS  
OF THE VILLAGE BOARD**  
2nd and 4th Monday of every month  
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
1st, 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month  
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

**PLAN COMMISSION**  
1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month  
7:30 p.m. -- Village Hall

**BOARD OF FIRE AND 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

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
1st Thursday of every month  
8:00 a.m. -- Indian Lakes

**FAMILY FEST COMMISSION**  
2nd Wednesday of every month  
9:30 a.m. -- Library

**SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION**  
4th Tuesday of the month  
March-December  
7:00 p.m. - Village Hall

**BUSINESS PROMOTION &  
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE**  
1st Friday of the month  
10:00 a.m. - Village Hall

**BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
2nd Tuesday of the month  
7:30 p.m. - Firehouse,  
179 S. Bloomingdale Road

*The following committees meet on a less regular  
basis or as needed. Call the Village Hall at  
671-5600 for the next scheduled meeting.*

**RECREATIONAL PATHWAY  
COMMITTEE**  
As needed

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
Six times a year or as needed

**VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE  
ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Robert G. Iden**  
*Village President*

**Susan L. Bartucci**  
*Village Clerk*

**TRUSTEES**

**Robert Czernek**  
*Legal & Intergovernmental*

**John Dabrowski**  
*Police*

**Patrick S. DeMoon**  
*Finance & Personnel*

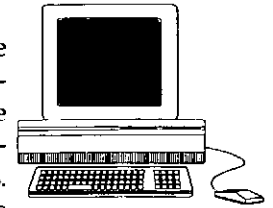
**James M. Gebis**  
*Planning, Zoning  
& Environmental Concerns*

**Judi Von Huben**  
*Community Programs &  
Special Events*

**Gloria Reyes**  
*Public Works & Services*

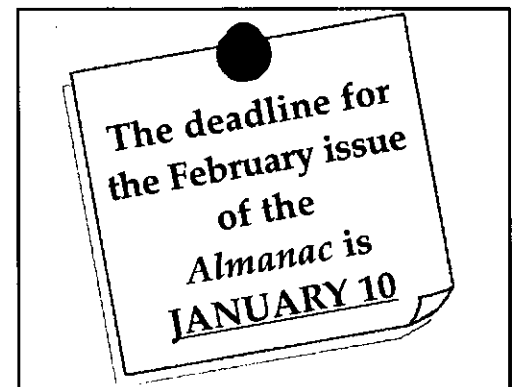
**We'd like to hear from you:  
Please note our website  
address --**

If you're "surfing the  
net" and have a ques-  
tion to ask or an issue  
to bring to our atten-  
tion, just E-mail it to us.  
If you wish to send us  
an electronic message, our address is:



**VILLAGE.BLOOMINGDALE@world-  
net.att.net**

**Our website address is:**  
[www.vil.bloomington.il.us](http://www.vil.bloomington.il.us)



**Students Receive CC! Awards**



Five Bloomingdale School students were awarded the American Youth Character award by the Bloomingdale CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition at the October 22 celebration. Mayor Bob Iden presented awards to the young people pictured here: Jason Healy, 8th grade, St. Isidore; Brittany Czischki, 5th grade, Winnebago; Raouf Berrabah, 8th grade, Westfield Middle School; and Tommy Reboletti, 5th grade, DuJardin. Not able to attend was Theresa Hughes, 5th grade, Erickson

# WELCOMB

## Printing Company Delivers Service with a Smile

Print & More offers printing for small & large businesses...and so much more. In addition to printing, Print & More offers copying services, graphic design, full color printing, and direct mail packages that take the project from concept to the mailbox.

"Direct mail continues to be a cost-effective way of reaching your target market," says Mike Husnick, Vice President of Operations. "At Print & More, we pride ourselves on customer service. We understand the 'on-demand' needs of today's consumer, and always meet them with a smile."

Print & More is located at 158-B East Lake Street in the Springbrook Shopping Center, behind Portillo's. Contact Mike for a quote or for more information on direct mail advertising programs at 630-307-3585 or e-mail at [mike@themailingpros.com](mailto:mike@themailingpros.com).

## Katseye Solutions Provides Website Development Service

From one-page informational page designs to multi-level sites with e-commerce options, Katseye Solutions offers full-service web development for small to mid-size customers seeking an online business presence.

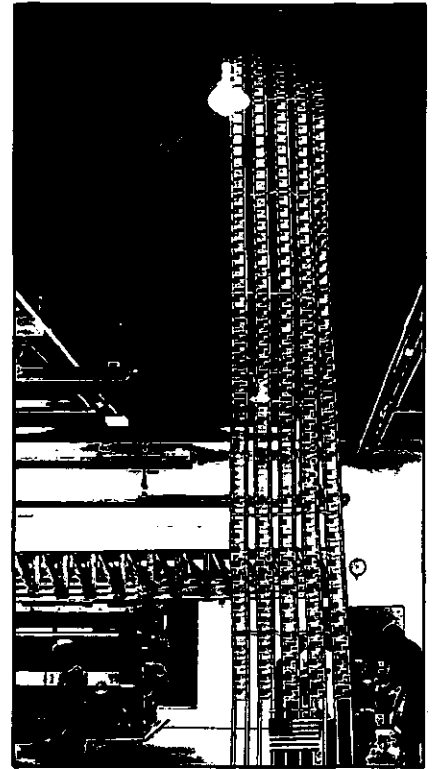
The company specializes in web design and hosting, data basing, advertising options, business to business applications, intranets, multi-media and photography. Training, as well as technical assistance and support, is also offered.

"We provide our customers with the tools they need to do business online," said Kathryn Krischke, runs the company with her husband, Kurt. Katseye Solutions employs seven employees, offering more than 35 years of combined technical experience.

To schedule a free consultation and quote, contact Krischke at (630) 309-5878.

## Honoring the Heros of September 11

This banner contains the names of the 343 New York firefighters who perished on 9/11. Each name is written on a 4x6 American flag. Julie Koehn, administrative assistant at the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District, put this 36-foot long banner together for the memorial ceremony held on September 11, 2002 at the Bloomingdale Fire District headquarters. It is pictured here displayed at the department's open house during October. The banner has since been sent to New York.



## Village Considering Purchase of Hi-Tech Automated Radio Frequency Water Meters

The Village is currently evaluating proposals and negotiating a contract for the installation of new Automated Radio Frequency Water Meters which will replace existing water meters and provide an automated method of reading of the meters. The estimated \$2.1 million project will provide the Village with an efficient and economical method of collecting water usage data, preparing invoices and investigating usage concerns raised by water users. The project is in response to notification from NiCor Gas that they will cease reading water meters in the Village sometime around June 2003. It is envisioned that the project will start in early 2003. In the upcoming weeks and months look for more information in future direct mailings, in your water billings and in upcoming Village Almanacs about project specifics and the Village's need to access your building to replace the existing water meter.

### New Businesses Now Open!

*These business are all located in Stratford Square*

**Pegasus Gallery**  
**Blarney Everything Irish**  
**Hot Dog Express**  
**Hickory Farm**  
**Garbo Home Accents**

**Kiosks**  
**Santa's Pen**  
**Stackable Sport Dolls**  
**Achievement Enterprise**  
**Shirley's Potpourri**  
**CoCo Collections**  
**Go Wireless, LLC**  
**Day by Day Calendar**

## Neighborhood Watch: Keep Your Holiday Season Happy and Safe!

The holiday season has come upon us! The Thanksgiving Day dinner is quickly enjoyed, followed by the Christmas shopping workout. Safety should be carefully considered at all times, but particularly now when so many will be shopping for those large purchases or for those few last minute items. During this hectic time of the year, the following safety measures can help to ensure the protection of your belongings and your personal well being.

### While Shopping...

- Keep your purse/wallet and packages with you at all time.
- Hold your purse close to your body and keep it in front of you.
- Place your wallet, money, etc. in your front pants pocket.
- Don't display large amounts of cash to others.
- Take only the appropriate amount of money, credit cards, or checkbook for the shopping you are conducting.
- Do not leave items unattended in a shopping cart, on a counter, or floor.
- Teach children to go to a cashier if they are lost.
- Be alert and walk confidently.
- Pay attention to those around you.
- Be careful when giving out your credit card or when using an ATM facility.
- Try not to burden yourself with too many packages at one time.
- Place all valuables in your trunk. Anything in plain view may be taken.
- Keep your receipts.
- If possible, do not shop alone. If you are alone, do not hesitate to have an attendant or security officer escort you to your vehicle if you do not feel safe.

**WELCOME**  
Bloomingdale is a  
**CRIME WATCH**  
**COMMUNITY**



We immediately report  
all suspicious activities  
to our police department

### FOP Purchases 40 Bears For Needy Kids

The Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 175 recently purchased 40 police bears to give away to needy youngsters in the area. The FOP raises funds, primarily through an annual phone solicitation, in order to do be able to do charitable works, such as this.



Leaving possessions in plain view in an unattended car is an invitation to thievery. Put them in the trunk, lock all doors and take the keys.

### At Home...

- Park in well-lighted, busy areas. Consider the time of day or evening that you will be doing your shopping.
- Look around and inside your vehicle before opening your vehicle.
- Any problems, notify the security department or the police department.
- Secure doors and windows whenever the home is unoccupied.
- Make your home appear to be occupied; Use timers on lights, radio, and TV.
- Do not leave valuables near windows or in plain view for others to notice.
- Do not advertise vacation plans with strangers or casually with businesses you may frequent.
- Ask a friend or relative to check on things while you are away.
- Notify the police department of the dates you will be away.

# Has the Police Department Got Programs for You!

## T.A.L.K. (Teens And Law Enforcement "K"ommunicating)

The T.A.L.K. Program is a six week program designed to give Junior High and High School aged participants an opportunity to exchange information, clarify misconceptions, discuss (pertinent) current issues, provide safety information, and advise about laws that directly effect their present and future. The topics include the following: D.U.I./Zero Tolerance Laws (including driving questions), Gang and Drug Awareness, Juvenile Law, Retail Theft, Team Building Skills, Internet and Personal Safety. The program also offers an opportunity to tour the DuPage County Jail facilities.

T.A.L.K. Program - six consecutive Thursday evenings 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.  
January - 16th, 23rd, 30th  
February - 6th, 13th, 20th

## CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY

The program is designed to be an overview of the various areas of law enforcement. The topics are presented by our own professional police officers that are specialists in each area. The course covers topics, such as: Administrative Services, Radar Enforcement, Use of Force/Liability, Gang and Cult Awareness, Constitutional Law/Juvenile Law, Tour of DuPage County Jail.

Citizen Police Academy - six consecutive Thursday evenings 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

January 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th  
February 6th, 13th



## CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY II

As a continuation of Citizen Police Academy I, this program provides further insight into additional elements of police work. The topics addressed in these sessions are as followed: Illinois Vehicle Code, Violence Awareness, Scams/Con Games, Internet Safety, Personal Safety, Crime Scene Processing and a Tour of the DuPage County Lab.

Citizen Police Academy II - six consecutive Thursday evenings 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

February 20th, 27th  
March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

## STREET SMART SENIORS

The program focuses on the needs and concerns of today's senior citizens. The purpose is to educate about police procedures, to promote and encourage safety practices, and to create awareness in order to reduce victimization. Topics covered include: Police and Village Services, Cons and Scams, Gang and Drug Awareness, Domestic Violence/Elder Abuse, Home/Vehicle/Personal/Fire Safety.

Street Smart Seniors - six consecutive Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

February 26th  
March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th  
April 2nd

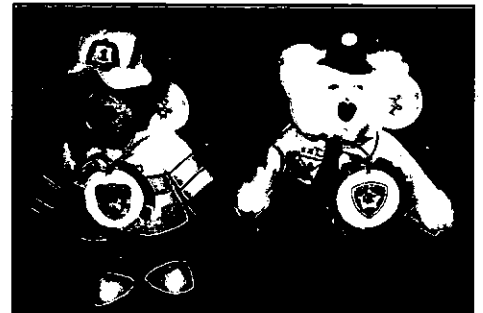
Call Detective Dawn Odoi at 529-9868 with questions or to sign up.

## 'Everyday Heroes' Slated to be Next Statue

The Business Promotion & Cultural Development Committee is on its way toward that third statue, a tribute to the police and fire personnel, entitled "Everyday Heroes." The Bloomingtondale Park District has enthusiastically agreed to have the statue located on the south end of Old Town Park. The committee is currently working with two artists to get renderings and quotes on a design.

The Fire District, Police Department and Park District are all on board to make this a reality. Fundraisers, such as a Las Vegas Night, a bowling benefit and some friendly competitions between the fire and police departments, are in the works. In addition, we have police and fire bears back in stock, so there are plenty on hand for holiday gift giving. Get yours today.

More details on the statue will be available by the next Almanac. Also watch local papers for details on upcoming fundraisers.



## VILLAGE ALMANAC

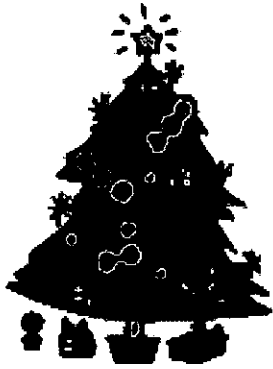
*is published bi-monthly by the*

**Village of Bloomingtondale**

**Mary Ellen Johnson, Editor**

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

**671-5600**



## Enjoy Your Christmas Tree . . . Then Recycle It At the Curb

During the month of January, Browning Ferris Inc., the Village refuse hauler, will pick up Christmas trees on your regularly scheduled refuse pick-up day, December 26th through January 24th. All decorations must be removed from the Christmas trees. Residents are requested to position their Christmas trees cut end toward the curb for easy loading.



## Think Trees . . . Tips for Planting a Live Christmas Trees

Choosing to decorate a live Christmas tree will benefit both your landscape and the environment if you take steps to ensure your tree has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year thereafter.

Planting a live Christmas tree not only makes your landscape more beautiful, it also provides habitat for birds and wildlife, replenishes the air with oxygen and increases soil stability. The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) suggests homeowners take the following steps to give live Christmas trees the best opportunity to thrive – before and after the holiday season:

**Think before you dig.** Most species used for Christmas trees (pine, spruce and fir) grow to be more than 50 feet tall and 20 feet wide. Make sure you have enough space allotted for a fully-grown tree.

**Dig before it freezes.** Then fill the hole with straw and for safety cover it with boards or protect with fencing until planting time. The soil itself should be removed from the hole and stored in an area (a garage, for example) where it will not freeze. Another option is to use a 12 to 18 inch layer of straw, leaves or other insulating material over the planting site to prevent the ground from freezing. To be successful, the cover needs to be much larger than the hole to be dug – about six feet in diameter. Fencing should be used to keep the straw/leaves/insulating material in place.

**Choose a moist soil ball.** Trees with frozen soil balls are more prone to die than those in moist and unfrozen soil.

**Garage your tree.** Let your tree gradually acclimate to temperature changes. Spending a day or two in the garage before being brought indoors will reduce tree stress associated with rapid and drastic climate changes. If your tree is purchased further in advance than a few days before bringing indoors, be sure to protect the soil ball with straw or other insulating material to keep it moist and unfrozen while you hold it outdoors.

**Limit indoor exposure.** Five to seven days inside is enough for any live Christmas tree – the less time spent in your home, the better the tree's chance of survival. Garage your tree again. When family celebrations end, repeat this brief storage period before planting the tree.

**Plant and water.** Remove any burlap from the soil ball, place the tree in its designated spot, and fill the remaining hole with soil removed from the hole. Water the tree thoroughly to sustain it through the winter.

For more information, contact Larry M. Slavicek, Village Forester or visit [www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org)



## Need an unusual holiday gift idea? - Buy a brick!

There are still bricks available at the first two statue sites - the Bloomingdale Public Library and the Bloomingdale Golf Club. A 4"x8" brick costs \$75 and can be imprinted with three lines, 13 characters across. It's a gift that will last a lifetime. A holiday gift card will be provided showing the wording to be imprinted. Bricks will be placed in late spring 2003. Proceeds will benefit the "Everyday Heroes" statue. (see p. 5). Call 671-5600 for more information.

## Village of Bloomingdale Expanded Holiday Weekend Hours for Dial-A-Ride Transportation

The Village of Bloomingdale will again be offering Expanded Weekend Dial-A-Ride hours during the holiday season from Saturday, November 30th through Sunday, January 5th. The Holiday Weekend Service will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Bloomingdale residents may ride anywhere within the Bloomingdale Township Boundaries, and also to Central Dupage, Alexian Brothers and Glen Oaks Hospitals; DuPage Oncology Clinic, Monakea Medical Complex, Wheaton Medical Clinic, and Wheaton Eye Clinic.

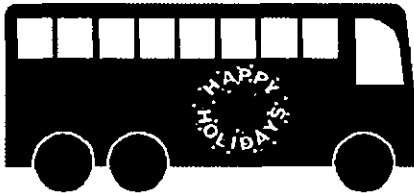
Bloomingdale's Weekend Dial-A-Ride one-way rates are:

- \$1.30 For Adult Residents (age 14 and older)
- \$.75 For Village Residents with a Disability, Village Seniors (age 65 and older) and for students (age 7 to 13).

Free for children (under age 7) when accompanied by a fare-paying adult

Reservations shall be accepted up to one week in advance on a first serve basis.

Same day service requests are accepted, however, transportation cannot be guaranteed.



**Weekend Dial-A-Ride Reservations may be made by calling:**  
**1-888-405-2060**

## Park District Museum Featuring 'Explorations in Watermedia' and 'Art Lovers Affordable Art'

Two outstanding art events are currently on-going at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road. *Explorations in Watermedia*, featuring the prize-winning work of Chicago area artists Bobbie Brown, Bruce Peterson and Evelyn Ecale Schultz, and *Art Lovers Affordable Art*, a multi-media art sale of work priced at \$300 or less, will both hang through December 14.

Brown, Peterson and Schultz create a kind of visual jazz, using line, shape and color to create their improvisational work on paper. Long years of study and artistic practice have allowed them to express themselves with such confidence. Brown and Peterson are strongly influenced by the creative forces of nature; stressing color, design, emotion and beauty. Schultz's work uses the medium of painting to communicate with the viewer. Images from her father's old newspaper collection appear in her collages; linking us to the historical and cultural events that have shaped her work.

Art Lover's Affordable Art, showcases the work of many talented and accomplished local artists, using a wide variety of media; alkyd, oil, watercolor, colored pencil, limited edition prints, art quilts, dye-painted cloths, and photographs. All work is very reasonably priced at \$300 or less.

The museum is open from 4 - 8 p.m. Wednesday and from 10 - 4 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Admission is free. For more information, call Curators Diane Duffy or Sidney Jostes at 630-539-3096.

## Park District Receives Prestigious National Gold Medal Award Nomination

The Bloomingdale Park District was recently honored by being selected as one of four finalists for the 2002 National Sporting Goods Association's (NSGA) Gold Medal Award in the fewer than 25,000 population class.

"This is a wonderful and significant honor that we all should be very proud of, one that comes to park districts that are truly committed to offering outstanding open space and recreational opportunities," says Executive Director Steve Scholten. NSGA's Sports Foundation is a non-profit membership organization founded to stimulate interest in the development of new recreational activities and facilities and to encourage participation in sports.

As part of the nomination process each finalist had to create a themed 12-15 minute video showcasing their partnerships within the community, cooperative agreements, parks, volunteers, facilities, programs, awards, technology, customer service, and more. The completed video can be viewed daily in the JRC lobby.





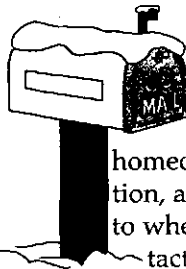
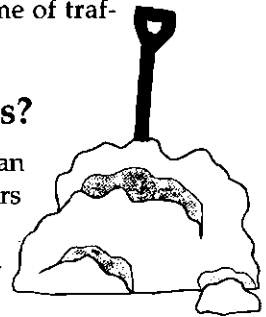
# The Holiday Season is Here --

With the seasonal snowfall just around the corner, the Village Services Department, Public Works Division is ready to combat snow and ice on the 118 center lane miles of Village streets, making them safer for motorists.

When a storm begins, day or night, Village crews are promptly mobilized and begin spreading salt. The Village initially salts all Village streets approximately 100 feet before and after each intersection. The initial salt application mitigates icing conditions contributing to more effective snow removal operations. After a 1-inch to 2-inch accumulation of snow, crews begin the snowplow operations according to predetermined snow routes. The routes consist of 4 routes with 8 vehicles (2 separate vehicles handle cul-de-sacs and dead ends) and have been carefully designed to allow for the optimum use of the available snowplowing equipment and personnel. All Village-owned streets will eventually be plowed, but main streets are cleared before side streets, which are cleared before cul-de-sacs and dead ends. The rate at which the streets are cleared depends on many factors including total accumulation, type of snow (wet or powder-like), temperature and volume of traffic on streets during plow operations.

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

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



## What If a Snowplow Damages My Mailbox?

The Village will replace and/or reimburse a resident up to \$50.00 for a mailbox and post which is damaged as a result of the Village snowplow operations, provided the homeowner notifies the Village of the damage, the Village performs an in-house investigation, and the mailbox is installed per Village setback requirements. If you have questions as to whether or not your mailbox is in compliance with Village requirements, you may contact the Village Services Department -- Street Maintenance Division at 671-5800.

## Why Does My Driveway Sometimes Get "Plowed In" When a Snowplow Truck Passes?

The Village snowplows are designed to direct the snow to the curb side of the plow blade. "Side delivery plows" are the fastest and most efficient means available to remove snowfall from the streets. As a result, snow is discharged along the length of the curb, the parkways, and the private driveway areas. The Village has thousands of private driveways abutting Village streets, the cleaning of which is the responsibility of the property owner.



Manpower and equipment limitations prohibit the Village from responding to routine requests to remove snow from private driveways. Therefore, we strongly recommend you delay your schedule for clearing the driveway until the snowplows have cleaned the majority of your street. **THE VILLAGE ORDINANCES PROHIBIT THE DISCHARGE OF SNOW ONTO THE VILLAGE STREETS.** This illegally placed snow may freeze or become compacted, creating a safety hazard for all motorists.

## Who Do I Call With Questions About Snow Removal Operations?

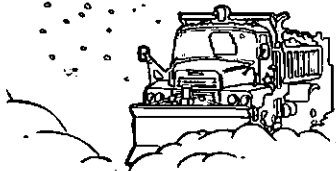
Any questions regarding snow removal should be directed to the Village Services Department - Public Works Maintenance Division Superintendent at 671-5800.

# Can Winter Weather be Far Behind?

## Wintertime Words to the Wise . . .

### Use extra caution when driving through intersections following a heavy snowfall.

Snow is piled on cross streets when intersections are plowed. Until crews have had their final pass to completely clear the intersection, the snow piles along the curb lane may hinder visibility.



### Please do not attempt to stop the snow plow operators to discuss questions or problems.

Such interruptions slow crews and reduce the speed of the truck and the efficiency of the snow removal operations. Drivers are instructed not to stop to talk to residents.

### If it is still snowing, or if snow is anticipated on the evening before garbage pick-up day, we ask that you delay putting out your garbage for as long as possible.

This will eliminate the problem of garbage containers being covered by snow that is pushed against the curb by the plows. Place garbage containers on the driveway or as close to the driveway as possible to give refuse collectors room to pick them up

### Additional Snow Removal Information

Ornamental rocks along the curb or next to the pavement on non-curb streets present a serious safety hazard to the snow removal equipment. **If residents use rocks or planters for landscape beautification, they need to insure that they are a minimum of three feet in back of the curb or pavement on non-curb streets.** If these obstacles are not removed by the residents, the Village will remove them, if deemed necessary for safe snow removal operations.

### Fire Hydrants

For the convenience of firefighters - if an emergency should occur (maybe at your address), dig a path to the fire hydrant in front of your house **from the street.** Dig out around the fire hydrant too. If firefighters can see a hydrant, they can get to it more quickly. Better yet, adopt a hydrant near your home and see that it is accessible.

### Motorists - Stay Back Three Car Lengths

Do not follow snow plows too closely. Sometimes they stop and then back up. If you're right behind one when that happens, well . . . Give snow plows plenty of space. Also, remember driving on slick wintertime pavements is dangerous, even if they've been plowed. Take more time to get where you're going, begin slowing for stops sooner and, for heaven's sake, don't drink and then try to drive.

## Winter Phone Numbers

### Village of Bloomingdale

**Snow Phone . . . . . (630) 671-5800**

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

### Village of Bloomingdale

#### Police Department -

**Non-Emergency . . . . . (630) 529-9868**

Call this number for non-emergency general information.

#### Bloomingdale Fire District -

**Emergency . . . . . 911**

### Illinois Department of Transportation

**Information Line . . . . 312-DOT-INFO**

**(312-368-4636)**

Call this number for information on State roads (i.e., Lake Street)

### The Illinois Department of

**Transportation** also offers weather/road condition information on their web site:

**<http://www.dot.state.il.us/tpublic.html>**

### Division of Transportation - DuPage County . . . . 630-682-7321

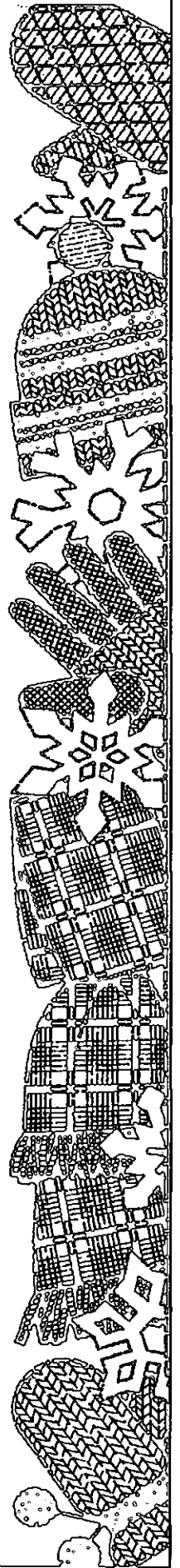
Call this number for information on DuPage County Roads (i.e., Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale Road, Gary Avenue, Schmale Road)

### Illinois Tollway Roadway

**Information Line . . . . 800-865-5394**

Call this number for tollway information including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans. The information is updated every four hours, or more often if weather conditions warrant.

**Weather Information . . . 630-976-1212**



## Village honors John Eggert for Eagle Scout award:

Resident **John Eggert** recently received his Eagle Scout Award, which is the highest ranking a boy scout can achieve. In addition to earning the required badges, John participated in numerous service projects and held several leadership roles, including patrol leader, assistant patrol leader and scribe. He is also a member of the Order of the Arrow.



The young man's Eagle Scout project was planting 50 seedling trees for the Bloomingdale Park District. These seedlings will be transplanted in seven years to areas throughout the 11 parks. John is currently a freshman at Indiana University, majoring in business.

Bloomingdale Mayor Bob Iden issued a proclamation in honor of Eggert's achievement, noting congratulations on his major accomplishment, as well as commending him for his efforts and his example to his fellow scouts everywhere.

## Bloomingdale Police officer honored with 'MADD About You' award:

**Mark Kreciak**, a Bloomingdale police officer since 1990, was recently presented with a **MADD About You Award** from the Mothers Against Drunk Driving, DuPage County. This is the second time Mark was honored with this distinction, the first time being October 26, 2000.

He has also been recognized by the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) with a Certificate of Excellence in March of this year. According to Tom Howard, Director of Legal Affairs, Mark is one of our best producers of DUI arrests. He says he has not lost any of Mark's cases at trial because they are solidly documented. Thanks and congratulations, Mark!

## Trustee DeMoon Knighted by Queen Elizabeth:

Our own trustee, **Patrick S. DeMoon**, was recently honored as he was knighted as a Knight of Grace in the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. The sanction for this honor came directly from Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

The Order of the Hospital of St. John is the oldest heraldic organization, even older than the Knights of Malta, which was formed during the 11th century. The order had its beginnings in Great Britain, but also exists here in the United States. DeMoon became a member of this group in the late 1980's while working in hospital administration.

The organization is dedicated to the work of caring for the sick and needy. DeMoon, who was very honored by this distinction, was invested in his new grade on November 2.

## Bob's Christmas Trees celebrating 24th year:

Resident **Bob Gergen** will continue a 24-year tradition when he opens Bob's Christmas Trees on November 29. He started selling only Scotch pines back in 1978, but now offers a wide variety of the most popular trees. This year he will also have a limited number of Balsam wreaths available. Members of the Wheaton College football team have been his loyal employees for the last 12 years. For the last two years, the Gergens' son, Ryan, a Glenbard East senior, has been part of the staff. Bob's Trees is located at the corner of Bloomingdale and Army Trail Roads.

## Operation Support the Troops

Bloomingdale VFW Post 7539 urges residents to take part in this project to send items to troops overseas. Small juice boxes, small canned fruits, snack bars, candy, beef jerky, instant coffee and tea bags, processed cheese & crackers and power bars are suggested. Homemade moist cookies, brownies without frosting, newspapers, magazines and comic books are also appreciated. Letters from children will also brighten their days. Items can be delivered to the Bloomingdale Fire Department, 179 S. Bloomingdale Road, 7 days a week from 8 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The VFW will see the items are sent. Cash donations to help cover the cost of shipping are also welcome. Contact the Bloomingdale VFW at 894-5692 or e-mail [geocities.com/vfw7539](mailto:geocities.com/vfw7539)

# Community Events Community Events

## Park District's Victorian Christmas on December 2

It will be an enchanting evening in Old Town Park on December 2 as the Bloomingdale Park District hosts a Victorian Christmas, complete with Victorian carolers, refreshments, a magical horse-drawn carriage and a Victorian Santa, as well as the annual lighting of Christmas tree. Event runs 6-8 p.m.



## Chamber Sponsors Wreath Silent Auction

The 3rd Annual Wreath Silent Auction, sponsored by the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, is going on now at the Bloomingdale Public Library. Over 50 beautifully decorated wreaths have been donated by various chamber members. Stop in and check them out, enter your bid on your favorite(s)! Bidding ends promptly at 5 p.m. on December 5. Winners will be notified by telephone. Proceeds will benefit the chamber's local scholarship program. For more information call the chamber at 980-9082.



## Library's Tree Lighting Ceremony, Open House on December 3

The Bloomingdale Public Library and Village of Bloomingdale will sponsor the 14th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Open House from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3. The community and village tree lighting begins at 6:30, followed by children's crafts, musical performers, such as Marquardt Middle School Mustang Choir and Christ the Redeemer Bell Choir, as well as refreshments inside the library from 7 to 9 p.m. Bring your camera and take your picture with a reindeer. Call 529-3120 for more information.

## Park District Hosts Holiday Magic Open House December 7

A Holiday Magic Open House is also planned for Saturday, December 7 from 11:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Park District's Johnson Recreation Center, 172 S. Circle. The holiday fun will include refreshments, holiday crafts, games, plenty of children's entertainment, and of course, a visit from Santa. Questions? Call 529-3650.

## 'Sing the Messiah' on December 20

"Sing the Messiah," along with community members at 7:30 p.m. on December 20 at Lake Park East Campus, 600 S. Medinah Road. The second annual area "Do it yourself Messiah" is sponsored by the Five Star Performing Arts Community, made up of five area communities. The choir is the audience, which will be divided by voice. A 17-piece orchestra will accompany the singers. The libretto is available for purchase for \$8 at the park district and library offices in Roselle and Itasca. For more information, call Joan Stinton, 630-259-7938.

## 'For a Great Stocking Stuffer -- Buy a Bear (or a Pair)!

The Bloomingdale Police and fire bears are still on sale at the Bloomingdale Village Hall, Library, Park District, Fire Department and in the gift shop at Indian Lakes. Just \$10 each and all proceeds will go toward the next statue. Call 671-5600 for more information.



Members of the Bloomingdale Police Department Senior Citizens Advisory Council are among 20 local groups decorating a tree for Snowman Crossing, located outside the Library. The trees will be lit as part of the Village/Library Tree Lighting ceremony on at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3.

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# Community Events Community Events

## Breakfast with Santa at Indian Lakes in December

Indian Lakes Resort will again sponsor its popular **Breakfast with Santa** at the Sedona Grille on Sundays, December 1, 8, 15 & 22. The brunch is served 10 am - 2 p.m. Adults are \$26.50; 12.95 for children. Kids under 5 are free. The extensive breakfast includes champagne and a large sweet table. Children will be able to sit on Santa's lap, tell him what they want for the holiday, receive candy and have a complimentary photo taken with the jolly old soul. Reservations are suggested. Call 529-0200 ext. 6749.

## Newcomers Invited to Attend Upcoming Culture Club Programs

The **Culture Club** warmly welcomes newcomers to their next two meetings. Wednesday, January 8, will feature a hands-on project, making miniature folding books. The February 8 program will be a demonstration of painting on silk by renowned artist and teacher, Rhonda Popko. Both programs start at 7 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Public Library, 101 Fairfield Way, lower level. There is no fee and refreshments will be served. Call Bev at 630-529-1367 with questions.

## Open Forum with Police at January 15 Neighborhood Watch Meeting

The next **Neighborhood Watch** meeting will be 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15 in the Council Room at the Village Hall. Topic: **Open Forum with Police Department Personnel**. Come with Questions. Block captain id cards will also be renewed that night.

## NORDCAT Meeting January 29

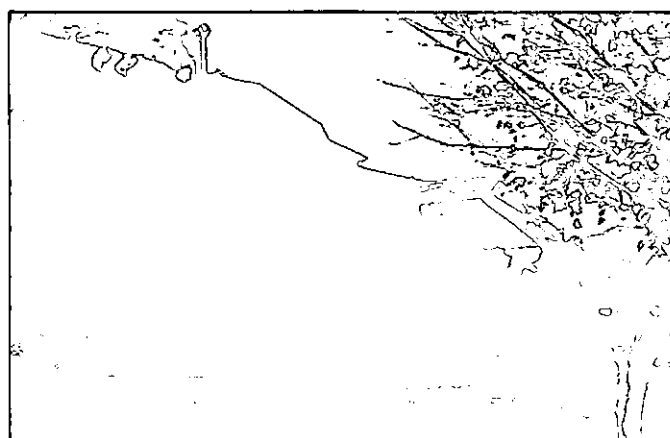
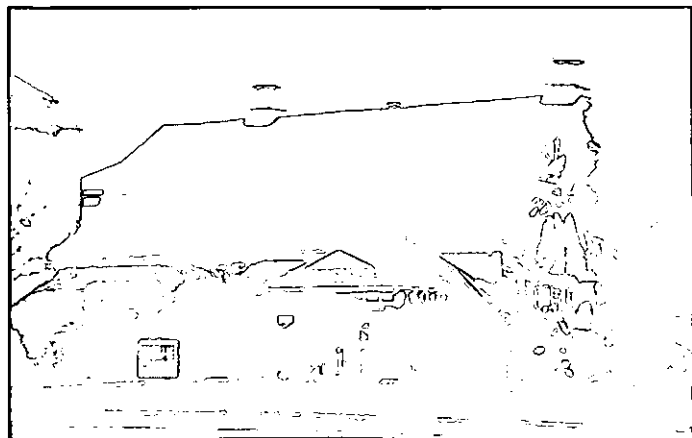
The next **NORDCAT (cable TV franchise)** meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on January 29 at the Itasca Village Hall, 100 N. Walnut. These meetings are open to the public. The five member municipalities (Bloomingdale, Roselle, Itasca, Wood Dale and Carol Stream) welcome residents who have questions or comments to this open meeting.

## Meals on Wheels Drivers Needed

The **DuPage Senior Citizens Council** is in great need of weekly and substitute volunteer drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels in the Bloomingdale area. You can volunteer alone, with a friend, or with your children. Call Carol, volunteer coordinator, at 630-620-0804 for more information.

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## Speckman Barn Razed



The big white barn, which has been a landmark on Lake Street since the 1800's has now become a memory in Bloomingdale history. It was razed in early November due to code and health issues regarding the structure. The farm the barn sat on was originally owned by George Speckman who was born in 1863. After the original barn burned down, some 100 neighbors came together to raise a new barn. That barn stayed in the Speckman family until 1954 when the property was sold to several people. In the 50's and 60's area youngsters played basketball there; from the 70's through the 90's, the barn served as a restaurant, playhouse, mini-mall and retail space. George's granddaughter Lois Speckman Franzen, her son Chuck and daughter-in-law Marsha still live in Bloomingdale. The property, which is zoned for commercial use, is currently up for sale.



# Bloomington Fire Protection District #1

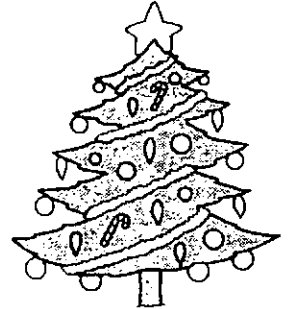


## HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Electrical decorations and strings of lights can help brighten the holiday season, but misusing or using damaged decorations may lead to dangerous situations—including injury from shock or fire.

The safety experts at Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) encourage you to use this checklist when decorating your home this holiday.

- Does your live tree or greenery have fresh green needles?
- Is your tree a safe distance (at least three feet) from fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, heating vents, and other sources of heat? Is it blocking an exit?
- Do you use light strings that carry the UL Mark?
- Before plugging in newly purchased electrical decorations, or those you've used previous seasons, do you carefully inspect each decoration?
- Do you unplug light strings and electrical decorations before replacing light bulbs or fuses?
- Do you keep light strings and electrical decorations away from the reach of children?
- Do you check for red or green UL Marks on your light strings? - the green holographic UL Mark means that the light string should only be used indoors. The red holographic UL Mark indicates the light string can be used both inside and out—and can withstand conditions related to outdoor use.
- Do you turn off electrical light strings and decorations before leaving your home or going to bed?
- Have you made sure your home is equipped with working smoke detectors?
- Have you developed a fire escape plan for your household?



If you answered "yes" to all of these questions, congratulations! If you answered "no" to any of these questions, you owe it to yourself and your loved ones to correct the electrical hazards in your home.

## HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Many people are unaware that December, January, and February are the leading

months for home fires and home fire deaths in the United States. According to the NFPA, more than one-third of home fire deaths in the U.S. occur during the winter months.

According to the United States Fire Administration, each year fires associated with the holiday season injure 1,200 individuals and cause over \$25 million in damage.

There are simple life-saving steps you can take to ensure a safe and happy holiday. By following some of these tips, you can greatly reduce your chance of becoming a holiday statistic!

- Keep young children at least three feet away from kitchen appliances when cooking.
- Dress correctly for cooking. Wear short or tight-fitting sleeves and use caution when working near heat sources.
- Have plenty of fire-resistant potholders and oven mitts ready to use when cooking.
- Keep stovetop clean and clear. Store combustible materials away from heat sources.
- Turn off and unplug all appliances when not in use. Periodically check on food being cooked in an oven, microwave, or on the stove.
- Use caution when using electrical appliances. Never plug more than one high voltage appliance into a single outlet. Check appliances for frayed or cracked cords.
- Never stand in or near water when using electrical appliances.

Chief Tim Marrocco  
Administrative Offices  
179 S. Bloomington Road  
Bloomington, IL 60108  
(630) 894-9080  
FAX (630) 894-8720

Station Two  
6N480 Keeney Road  
Roselle, IL 60172

Station Three  
246 S. Gary Avenue  
Bloomington, IL 60108

### District Trustees

Marshall L. Gray, Jr.  
President  
Ralph Scalise -  
Secretary  
Lydia DiBuono -  
Treasurer

### Commissioners

Michael McKeon  
Jac L. Williamson  
Franco Coladipietro

*Have a Safe and  
Happy Holiday  
Season  
from the  
Men and Women  
of the  
Bloomington  
Fire Protection  
District #1*

# Off the Shelf



## BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

101 Fairfield Way, Bloomington, IL 60108  
Home page: [www.bloomington.lib.il.us](http://www.bloomington.lib.il.us)

Phone: 630-529-3120  
E-mail: [bdref@linc.lib.il.us](mailto:bdref@linc.lib.il.us)

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Linda Szramiak.....President  
Bonni Rothbaum.....Vice President  
Elaine Mitchell.....Secretary  
LeRoy Gaertner.....Treasurer  
Kathy Kohl.....Trustee  
Branka Poplonski.....Trustee  
Alice Spanos.....Trustee  
Mary Rodne.....Library Director  
Peggy Carlson.....Adult Services Department Head  
Annamarie Erickson.....Local History Coordinator  
Rosie Lukas.....Youth Services Department Head  
Brian Meyer.....Computer Department Head  
Melissa Willer.....Circ./Tech. Department Head



### LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### December, 2002

2	Bloomington Historical Society	7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
*3	Historical Book Discussion Group	10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
3	Holiday Open House	6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
*5	Adult Program - Holiday Wreaths	1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
*8	Polar Express	1:00 p.m.
10	Bloomington Seniors	11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
10	Teen Movie Night (6th - 12th grades)	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
11	Library Board Meeting	7:30 p.m.
12	Writer's Workshop	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
*14	Breakfast/Brunch with Santa	9:00 a.m./11:30 a.m.
14	Writer's Workshop	9:00 - 12:00 Noon
17	Final Exam Cram (9th - 12th grades)	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
18	Final Exam Cram (9th - 12th grades)	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
19	Final Exam Cram (9th - 12th grades)	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
22		<b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b>
23		<b>LIBRARY CLOSING at 5:00 p.m.</b>
24	Christmas Eve	<b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b>
25	Christmas Day	<b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b>
29		<b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b>
30		<b>LIBRARY CLOSING at 5:00 p.m.</b>
31	New Year's Eve	<b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b>

#### January, 2003

1	New Year's Day	<b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b>
2	Registration begins for Youth Services Winter Storytime Programs	
6	Bloomington Historical Society	7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
*7	Historical Book Discussion Group	10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
*8	Adult Program - Lyric Opera <i>Thais</i>	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
8	Culture Club	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
8	Library Board Meeting	7:30 p.m.
9	Writer's Workshop	7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
*9	Mother/Daughter Book Club Informational Meeting	7:30 - 8:00 p.m.
11	Writer's Workshop	9:00 - 12:00 Noon
13	Youth Services Winter Storytime Programs Begin	
14	Bloomington Seniors	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
15	Garden Club	7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
*16	Book Discussion	7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
*16	Adult Program - Investing in Yourself	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
*20	Captain Underpants (3rd - 5th grades)	2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
22	Writer's Workshop	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
23	Teen Coffeehouse (6th - 8th grades)	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
*30	Gong Xi Fa Cai (1st - 2nd grades)	4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

\*REGISTRATION REQUIRED (630) 529-3120



### MOTHER/DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB (grades 5 - 8)

This book discussion group for girls in grades 5 - 8 and their moms will meet for four Sunday afternoons to share satisfying conversations about literature and life! Come to an Informational Meeting to learn more about this popular book discussion format, to pick up the first title, and to vote on future titles. **Register now at the Youth Services Reference Desk in-person or by phone at (630) 529-3120 ext. 332.** If you are unable to attend the Informational Meeting, please let us know and our program instructor will contact you with details. *Registration priority is given to Bloomington Public Library cardholders. Non-residents will be placed on a waiting list.*

#### Informational Meeting

Thursday, January 9 from 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

#### First Discussion

Sunday, February 9 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### Second Discussion

Sunday, March 9 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### Third Discussion

Sunday, April 13 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### Fourth Discussion

Sunday, May 18 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Youth Services Department

# WINTER YOUTH PROGRAMS

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION/REQUIREMENTS FOR WINTER STORYTIME PROGRAMS

In-person registration begins at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 2. Phone-in registration will be accepted after 10:00 a.m. that same day at (630) 529-3120 ext. 332. Please have your library card when you register. *Registered storytimes are limited to Bloomingdale Public Library cardholders only.*

The following age appropriate programs are intended for the registered child. Please make alternative arrangements for siblings.

*Winter Programming begins the week of January 13  
Winter Programming ends the week of March 31*

## STORYTIMES

*Programs for Newborns through Kindergarteners*

### BEDTIME STORIES (All ages)

**Tuesdays, January 14 - April 1**

**7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.**

Bedtime Stories is designed to serve families with babies, toddlers and preschoolers who are unable to attend daytime sessions. **FEEL FREE TO COME IN YOUR PAJAMAS. NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROGRAM.**



### ROMPER RHYMES

(Birth - 15 months)

**Tuesdays, January 14 - April 1**

**9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

The best way to start "reading" to infants is not really reading at all! Romper Rhymes is a language-enrichment program in which nursery rhymes, songs, and fingerplays are shared with babies and their caregivers. The program is designed to engage parents/caregivers and children in a bonding experience while allowing participants to meet other caregivers and share information. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

### BUDDING READERS (16 months - 23 months)

**Tuesdays, January 14 - April 1**

**11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Budding Readers is a transition class designed to prepare toddlers for our two year old storytime. Children and their parents/caregivers will enjoy nursery rhymes, songs, and fingerplays in addition to a story or flannelboard. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

### TIME FOR TWOS (24 months - 32 months)

**Fridays, January 17 - April 4**

**10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

What now? Your baby's two! Join us for stories and tunes to suit your active two year old. This interactive program is designed for children and their parents/caregivers. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

### JUST THREES (33 months - 42 months)

**Fridays, January 17 - April 4**

**11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Your three year old is becoming self-reliant, but wants you to share in the fun. This story program is for children newly turned three and not ready to be left alone in preschool storytime. Bring only the child that is registered. Please make other arrangements for siblings so parents/caregivers can participate with their child.

### PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR (ages 3 - 5)

**Mondays, January 13 - March 31**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Tuesdays, January 14 - April 1**

(See Bedtime Stories above)

**7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.**

**Wednesdays, January 15 - April 2**

**2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**



Preschool Story Hour includes a variety of book sharing, flannelboard stories, videos, filmstrips, and musical activities. In order to foster the child's independence, parents/caregivers and siblings are asked to remain outside the program area during the storytime. This program is limited to preschool age children. For those children in Kindergarten, please see Kindergarten Kapers program information.

### KINDERGARTEN KAPERS (Kindergarteners)

**Thursdays, February 6 - March 13**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. OR 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Kindergarten Kapers is a six week morning or afternoon program for the kindergartener who has outgrown preschool story hour, but not outgrown the library. The children will enjoy a fun-filled hour of stories, crafts, and musical fun selected for their newly developing skills. In order to foster the child's independence, parents/caregivers and siblings are asked to remain outside the program area during the storytime.

# WINTER YOUTH PROGRAMS

## SCHOOL AGE SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Register now at the Youth Services Reference Desk in-person or by phone at (630) 529-3120 ext. 332.  
Registration is required and limited to Bloomingdale Public Library cardholders only.

### CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS & THE LOOPY LIBRARIANS FROM FAIRFIELD WAY

(3rd - 5th grades)  
Monday, January 20  
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

You have the day off school! What are you going to do? Join Poopsie Monkeychunks and Flunky Waffletush for an afternoon of Dav Pilkey's "Captain Underpants" themed adventures. For your munching pleasure, we'll even serve Mr. Krupp's Krispy Krupcakes and Anti-Evil Zombie Nerd Juice.



**"GONG XI FA CAI"**  
**(Happy Chinese New Year!)**  
(1st - 2nd grades)  
Thursday, January 30  
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Bang! Pop! Pop! The golden dragon is coming and all the children shout "Gong Xi Fa Cai"! Which means: "Best Wishes and Congratulations!" or "Happy Chinese New Year"! Please join us as we get ready to celebrate this colorful holiday which falls on February 1, 2003 (the Year of the Sheep). We will craft a colorful dragon mask, Chinese lantern; and enjoy refreshments and music, while we learn the Chinese trivia behind the holiday!

## WINTER READING PROGRAMS

Winter Reading Programs start on the day you register and end on Saturday, February 22.

Registration begins on Thursday, January 2.

**PLEASE REGISTER IN PERSON TO GET YOUR MATERIALS.**

### "BOOKS ARE COOL!"

(Family Reading Program for Parents and/or Caregivers and their Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Kindergartners.)

Families keep track of the reading and listening time on the log provided at registration, beginning January 2. **Turn in completed reading log to the Youth Services Reference Desk between January 13 and February 22 to enter the PRIZE DRAWING.** Sign up in person during regular program registration.

### "READ TO SUCCEED"

sponsored by the Chicago Wolves Hockey Team  
(1st - 8th graders)

Participants in this reading program have the chance to win exciting prizes, such as Chicago Wolves merchandise! Register in person beginning January 2. **Turn in completed reading log to the Youth Services Reference Desk between January 13 and February 22 to enter the PRIZE DRAWING.**

## YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

### TEEN MOVIE NIGHT: A CHRISTMAS STORY

(6th - 12th grades)  
Tuesday, December 10  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

We'll warm you up with hot chocolate and coffee. We'll also fill your tummy with yummy holiday treats while you and your friends relax and enjoy your favorite holiday movie, "A Christmas Story." Please bring a nonperishable food item as admission, to be donated to the Bloomingdale Food Pantry. No registration is required.

### FINAL EXAM CRAM (9th - 12th grades)

Tuesday - Thursday, December 17 - 19  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Are you ready for finals? Take a break from the books or study with your friends at the library's Study Hall during finals week. Get rejuvenated while enjoying coffee, food and other refreshments. The Exam Cram is open to teens in grades 9 - 12, no registration required. Be on the lookout for February's coffeehouse for high school students only!

### TEEN COFFEEHOUSE (6th - 8th grades)

Thursday, January 23  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Looking for a place to hang out with your friends? Ring in the New Year at the library's Coffeehouse. Share your stories, poetry, jokes, or even your New Year's resolutions with us during the open mic session. We'll also have chess, checkers, monopoly and other games to play. No registration is required.

**Adult Services Department**

**WINTER ADULT PROGRAMS**

All programs are free of charge but require registration which should be made by calling the Reference Desk at (630) 529-3120, ext. 324



**HOLIDAY CENTERPIECES**

Thursday, December 5  
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Peggy Garvin of Garvin Gardens is back to show you how to make festive holiday centerpieces. She will be providing fresh evergreens, pine cones, holly, juniper, candles, ribbons and more. You will need to bring a low bowl (or other container) approximately 8 to 10 inches wide and 3 to 4 inches deep. It will need to hold water. The class is limited to 25 people and preference will be given to Bloomingdale library cardholders. A \$10.00 deposit will be required to register for this class. This deposit will be returned to you at the end of the class.



**LYRIC OPERA LECTURE SERIES:**

**THAIS**

Wednesday, January 8  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Please join the library for the next in the Lyric Opera Lecture Series. *Thais* is about a beautiful courtesan and Athanaël, the Cenobite monk who is determined to bring her to salvation. When they both meet, each transforms the other forever! Don't miss this chance to hear emotional music "perfumed with sensuality." The Lyric's own Renee Fleming plays the title role.

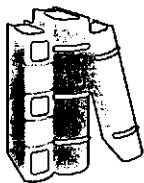
**INVESTING IN YOURSELF:**  
**PART II OF WILLS AND TRUSTS**

Thursday, January 16  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Local attorney John Pankau is back as he explains the next step in preparing your will and/or trust. Now that you've decided which document to prepare, John will explain the personal papers and records you will need. Also, for those who missed the first part of this lecture, a short overview of wills and trusts will be given. Come ready with any questions you might have. Handouts will be provided.



**WANTED**



Donations of used books for our ongoing Book Sale! May be left any time at the library or can be arranged for pickup. Call (630) 529-3120.

**THE HOMEBUYING PROCESS**

Wednesday, February 5  
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Again, the library is offering this overview of the homebuying process. If you are considering buying a home and are uncertain of what the process entails, then you won't want to miss this seminar. On hand will be a mortgage lender representative, a realtor, an attorney, and an insurance agent speaking about each aspect of buying a house. Ample time will be provided for questions. This program has proved popular in the past. Don't miss this opportunity for free professional advice!

**LYRIC OPERA LECTURE SERIES:**

**UN BALLO IN MASCHERA**  
**(A MASKED BALL)**

Wednesday, February 26  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



Sorcery. Political intrigue. A love triangle. Suspicion and emotion swirls around the court as the king shares a fatal attraction to his best friend's wife. An unfortunate trip to a fortuneteller's tent sets the action in motion with the climax occurring during a masked ball. This is Verdi at full throttle. Please plan to attend what is called one of opera's "brightest jewels."

**JOIN OUR**  
**FRIENDLY SENIORS!**

The Bloomingdale Seniors Club meets at 11:00 a.m. at the Bloomingdale Library on the second Tuesday of every month.

Join them for conversation, informational speakers, bus trips, and card playing. *Come join the fun and activities!*



Please call ahead so we may assist you . . .

Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend Library programs and who require certain accommodations to participate are requested to call the library, (630) 529-3120 (TDD number 529-4739), 48 hours in advance of program date.



# FALL AND WINTER ADULT PROGRAMS

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS . . .

The evening Adult Book Discussion Group continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Our selections for January and February are as follows:

January 16     *The Pull of the Moon* by Elizabeth Berg  
February 20    *The Magician's Assistant* by Anne Patchett

The morning historical book group meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Book selections for January and February are:

January 7     *Burr* by Gore Vidal  
February 4    *America's Jubilee: How in 1826 a generation remembered fifty years of independence* by Andrew Burstein

Copies of the books are available at the Reference Desk. New members are always welcome!

## BOOK GROUP KITS AVAILABLE

Do you participate in a book discussion group? Bloomingdale Public Library is now offering book group kits that are available for book groups to check out. Kits contain multiple copies of book discussion titles previously used in the Bloomingdale Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group, questions for discussion and author information. The kits circulate for six weeks. The individual who checks out the kit is responsible for all the books contained in the kit. Book discussion kits can be reserved up to two months in advance by calling the Reference Desk at (630) 529-3120 x324. There are twenty one titles currently available.



To wish you a happy holiday there will be a special from December 21, 2002 through January 2, 2003. Three videos and three DVDs per card may be checked out free during this period with a limit of one checkout per day.

## PEP Volunteers Needed

The People Educating People (PEP) Program from College of DuPage needs volunteers to proctor tests and register ESL students the evenings of December 16 and 19, 2002. Fluency in Spanish is desirable but not required.

For more information, please call  
(630) 942-3794 or (630) 942-3788.



## HOLIDAY HOURS



December 22	Library closed
December 23	Library closes at 5:00 p.m.
December 24	Library closed
December 25	Library closed
December 26	9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
December 27	9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
December 28	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
December 29	Library closed
December 30	Library closes at 5:00 p.m.
December 31	Library closed
January 1	Library closed

## ADOPT-A-MAGAZINE

The Bloomingdale Public Library is conducting its annual Adopt-A-Magazine drive to help maintain and expand the periodicals collection.

If you would be interested in making a financial donation for the collection, please contact Peggy Carlson at 529-3120 ext. 328 for more information and a list of suggested magazine titles.

## Computer Lab WINTER PROGRAMS

*The following computer classes are recommended for ages 13 and older. There is a \$10.00 refundable deposit for each class, due at the time of registration. Classes are limited to twelve participants. Residents of Bloomingdale will be placed in the class (if space is available). Non-Residents will automatically be placed on a waiting list and will be contacted if space becomes available. Residents on the waiting list will be given priority over non-residents on the waiting list. Please register in the Business Office of the Library beginning November 29. Deposits will not be refunded unless cancellation is made at least 24 hours in advance of the class start time.*

### USING THE INTERNET

**Tuesday December 3, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor: Sean**

This course will cover all from the most basic Internet questions and topics to more intermediate material such as search engines and downloading. This class is intended for those with little or no computer experience.

### USING POWER POINT

**Wednesday December 4, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Instructor: Sean**

Power Point can be used to create slides, overheads, audience handouts or on-screen presentations. This class will cover the basics of creating and organizing a presentation. (Having taken "Introduction to Microsoft Word" or equivalent experience is recommended.)

### INTRODUCTION TO WORD

**Saturday December 7, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor: Sean**

This class will be aimed at those with little or no experience using Microsoft Word. Topics such as creating and saving files, formatting, and editing documents will be covered. There will be time available for questions and specific problems related to Microsoft Word. (Having taken "Understanding Windows 1" or equivalent experience is recommended.)

### DESIGNING WEB SITES

**Monday December 9, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Instructor: Sean**

This class will pick up where "Creating Web Pages With HTML" left off. It will teach students how to acquire web space online, transfer their files to the Internet, weave together multiple pages to make their web sites more efficient and easier to understand, and cover more advanced HTML topics more thoroughly. (Having taken "Creating Web Pages With HTML" or equivalent experience is strongly recommended.)

### USING EMAIL

**Tuesday December 10, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor: Sean**

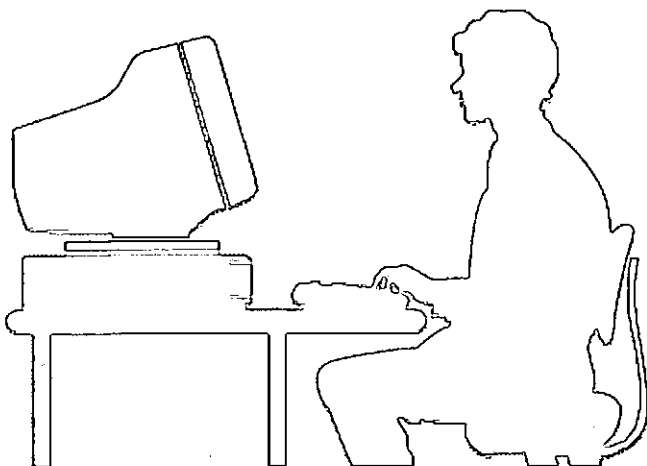
This class will introduce the students to creating an Email address, performing basic functions, and more advanced procedures such as using attachments and managing folders. (Having taken "Using the Internet" is recommended.)

### INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL

**Saturday December 14, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor: Sean**

This class will cover the basic concepts of creating and using spreadsheets. (Having taken "Introduction to using Microsoft Word" or equivalent experience is recommended.)  
Intermediate Word



## Computer Lab

# WINTER PROGRAMS

### Adults Computer Course

*Please note: A \$60.00 deposit is required for this course*

Monday, Jan. 13	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan 14	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday, Jan 20	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan 21	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday, Jan 27	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan 28	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This six-session course will cover a wide range of computer topics. It is intended to give students a strong foundation in computing, teaching them general computer/Windows principles, using the Internet, and familiarity with Microsoft Office products. The skills learned here will help to prepare the student for whatever computing task interests them. Please see the following Course Outline for more information.

#### Adults Computer Course Outline

##### **Sessions 1 and 2:**

Very basic introduction to computers and how we use them. Topics such as learning how to use disks and CD-ROMs, becoming comfortable with the mouse, using windows, and running programs.

##### **INTERMEDIATE WORD**

Wednesday January 8, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class is intended for users who have some experience with computers and Microsoft Word. It will cover how to use the more advanced options available in Microsoft Word 2000. Lecture will include using outlines, adding images, and other formatting/design topics. (Having taken "Introduction to using Microsoft Word" is recommended.)

##### **INTERMEDIATE EXCEL**

Wednesday January 15, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class covers more advanced topics in Excel such as formulas, graphs and linking between multiple worksheets. (Having taken "Introduction to Microsoft Excel" or equivalent experience is recommended.)

##### **ADVANCED EXCEL**

Wednesday January 22, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Sean

This class will provide a deeper investigation of Excel topics introduced in the Intermediate Excel course, as well as examining other functions provided by Excel. (Having taken "Intermediate Excel" is recommended.)

Discussion will continue over first two classes with recommended practice exercises given after both session 1 and 2.

##### **Sessions 3 and 4:**

These two classes will introduce participants to using the Internet. Basic understanding of connecting and using the World Wide Web will be covered as well as more detailed E-Mail questions and introducing more complicated Internet topics such as downloading, searching, and using multimedia products online (music, movies, games, etc.).

The third class will cover most of the topics covered in "Introduction to the Internet and E-Mail" with a few changes to better suit the class. In the fourth session we will fill in E-Mail and Browser details missing from the third session and begin with the complicated topics discussed above.

##### **Sessions 5 and 6**

The final two sessions of this course will introduce the Microsoft Office Suite, paying particular attention to MS Word but also introducing products such as Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher, while discussing the Office environment. These classes should provide enough comfort to get started in any MS Office program.

## BLOOMINGDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES NEW MEMBERS

The Bloomingdale Historical Society Steering Committee meets on the first Monday of each month at the Bloomingdale Public Library. Meetings are held from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. New members are always welcome. For additional information, call (630) 529-3120 ext. 324.

## HOMEBOUND SERVICE

Are you . . .

- A senior without a car?
- Physically handicapped?
- Recovering from surgery?
- Limited by illness?

AND

- A Bloomingdale resident?

If so, you are eligible to receive free delivery of library materials to your home. Call Karen Ludwinski at (630) 529-3120 ext. 327 for more information.



# BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2001/2002

## STATEMENT OF MISSION

The Bloomingdale Public Library strives to provide for residents of all ages current topics and titles in a variety of formats; resources to support informal, lifelong learning; a welcoming center for people to meet and interact in our community; a means to explore our community heritage, and opportunities to develop skills in finding, evaluating, and using information effectively.

## COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

The Library Board of Trustees and staff are committed at all times to providing excellence in library service. The trustees and staff actively work together to make the library an open, friendly and warm place for patrons to visit.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

On April 30, 2002, Bloomingdale Public Library's fiscal year ended, and the statistics revealed that 2001-02 was a great year for the Bloomingdale Library. Our year was so successful because of the wonderful patronage of our community and the outstanding support of the Bloomingdale business community and non-profit organizations. In addition, the fine support the Library received from the Village of Bloomingdale helped to make the Library's year very successful.

## BELOW ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF FY-2001/2002

### **Our Patrons –**

- checked out 275,556 items (books, videos, cassettes, etc.)
- visited the library 207,580 times. This averages out to approximately 9.58 visits for each resident in Bloomingdale.
- placed 2,571 requests for library items online.

### **Our Staff –**

- added 16,159 new items (books, cassettes, videos, CD's, etc.) to our collection of materials, which increased our total collection to 107,670 items.
- presented programs to 18,258 patrons; 14,911 children and 3,347 adults.
- answered 30,646 reference questions for our patrons.
- registered 1,767 new cardholders. Currently, 15,467 residents (71%) of Bloomingdale residents have library cards.
- Made 190 visits to residents in nursing care facilities and delivered 808 items.
- Made 104 visits to homebound residents and delivered 1,026 items.

### **The Library –**

- borrowed 6,211 items from other libraries for our patrons.
- provided rooms for 48 community group meetings 404 times and for library programs 476 times, for a total of 880. That's an average of almost 16 activities each week.

### **Extension of Services –**

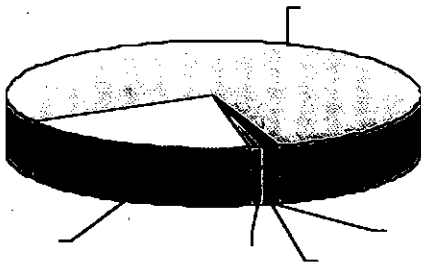
During Fiscal Year 2001/2002, the services of the Bloomingdale Public Library were expanded in the following ways:

- Launched a new service for adults, an Automatic Hold program for a preset list of popular fiction authors, whereby patrons can automatically have new books by these authors put on hold for them.
- Enhanced adult programming by doing cooperative programming with the Itasca Public Library for an opera series.
- Expanded materials available for patrons with special needs by adding a new service, circulating adaptive devices.
- Enhanced patron accessibility to the Library's Local History area and collections by creating a new full-time position, Local History Coordinator.
- Launched a new local history program, special rotating historical exhibits.
- Expanded service to patrons conducting genealogy research by adding a new paid online subscription database, AncestryPlus.
- Increased patron accessibility to the Library's video and DVD collections by introducing hold capabilities for these materials.

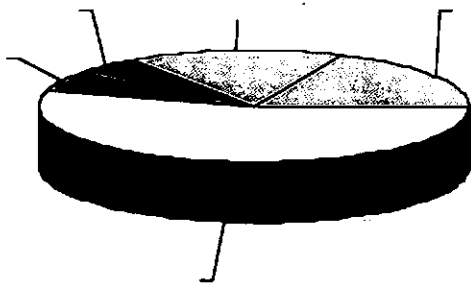
- Expanded adult computer course offerings by introducing several new computer classes taught by librarians. They included: How to Effectively Search the Library's Subscription Databases, Using Search Engines, and three classes on specific topic searching on the Internet: travel, health and car buying.
- Expanded and revised computer classes offered to the public to include: Introduction to Microsoft Word, Intermediate Microsoft Word, Advanced Microsoft Word, Introduction to Excel, Intermediate Excel, Advanced Excel, Introduction to Access, Intermediate Access, Using Power Point, Using Publisher, Using Outlook, Using the Internet, Using Email, Introduction to the Personal Computer, Understanding Windows, Understanding Your Computer 1, Understanding Your Computer 2, Understanding Your Computer 3, Seniors Computer Course, and Adults Computer Course.
- Greatly expanded the number of computer classes offered and the number of patrons served reaching totals of 139 classes given and 1187 patrons attending (a 224% increase over last fiscal year's attendance of 528).
- Improved the computer services available to the public by adding a new scanner to the Adult Computer Lab.
- Enhanced patron access to the Library's resources via the Internet by completely redesigning the Library's web page in an easier to use format.
- Improved printing service for patrons by replacing eight color printers, one black laser, and adding one black laser printer in the public computer labs.
- Enhanced community access to Bloomingdale happenings by launching a Village of Bloomingdale Community Calendar on the Village web site.
- Expanded outreach services to local scout troops by offering a special computer class for scouts to earn technology badges.
- Expanded youth services programming by adding several new special programs, a Fall Fling event for young adults, a Sunday afternoon storytelling event for families and a "Parenting Children - Discipline" program for parents hosted jointly by youth and adult services.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY – Fiscal Year 2001/2002**

**TOTAL REVENUES = \$2,539,516.00**



**TOTAL EXPENDITURES = \$2,296,552.00**



**THANK YOU...**

Fiscal year 2001/2002 was a very busy and progressive year for the Bloomingdale Public Library. The Library Board and Staff extend a special thank you to everyone for making it so successful.



# Bloomington Park District

*We're right around the corner!*

## Register Early for February Daddy Daughter Dance



This year's Daddy Daughter Dance promises to provide a perfect evening for dad and daughter to spend together dancing the night away to popular music provided by a DJ. The couples will also enjoy refreshments and have a photo taken to capture this moment in time. Come dressed in your best for the night of your life! Daddy Daughter Dance takes place February 22 from 7:00-9:00pm at the Johnston Recreation Center. Register early to reserve your couple's spot. Call the Park District at 529-3650 or register online at [www.bloomingtonparks.org](http://www.bloomingtonparks.org).

## Dance Registration Begins

Registration begins December 12 for Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Lyrical, and more. Call 529-3650 for more information.

## Dance Shoes Now On Sale at the Park District

The Park District sells quality ballet, tap, and jazz shoes at reasonable prices. See the front office to order.



## Email Santa!



Santa is waiting to hear from children ages 3-8 this Christmas! The Bloomington Park District is helping Santa by giving him his own email address that he can use from the North Pole. Just write your name, age and email address and then send Santa a nice letter telling him all about yourself,

your family, your pets and school! Don't forget to let him know what you want for Christmas and what your special Christmas wishes are. Children are invited to email Santa by going to the Bloomington Park District website at [www.bloomingtonparks.org](http://www.bloomingtonparks.org) and clicking on "Send Email to Santa" on the home page. Hurry and email your letters because Santa will only take emails until December 13, so he can get ready for Christmas! For more information call the Park District at 529-3650.

## Register Now for Kids' Place Camp for Winter Break

Camp is here for winter break December 23 through January 3! Sign up for one day or the entire session at the JRC. Activities include games, crafts, open gym, special events, trips, cooking, and more fun than you can imagine. Camp is from 8:30am to 3:30pm each day. Additional morning and afternoon care is available. Call the Park District for fees at 529-3650.

## New! Cooking with Camille Classes at the JRC



Cooking classes are back at the Park District and begin February 20 with Dessert Night. Register now as classes may fill quickly! Each class is \$35 for residents, and \$40 for nonresidents. Discover how simple and delicious cooking can be.

## Get in Shape for the Holidays with Adult Fitness & Athletic Opportunities at the Park District



Open Gym-available for ages 6-adult, call for schedules. Cost for adult open gym is \$4 per visit for residents, youth cost is \$2.

**Rec Basketball** - Sundays 10:00-noon

**Open Volleyball** - Thursdays 8:00-10:00pm

**Walking Track at Westfield** - 7 days a week, call for times.

## Check Out these Fun Athletic Programs for Youth:

December 30-January 3, M, Tu, Th, F

**Basketball Camp** Ages 7-14, 12:30-3:30pm at Westfield Gym  
R/NR Fee: \$65/75

**Volleyball Camp** Ages 8-14, 9:00-11:30am at Westfield Gym  
R/NR Fee: \$60/70

Beginning week of January 20

**Indoor Tennis Lessons:** Call for adult and youth opportunities, 529-3650.

January 30-March 6

**Youth Floor Hockey** Grades 3-5, 5:45-6:30pm at Westfield Gym  
R/NR Fee: \$50/55

**Super Sports Class** Grades 1-2, 7:15-8:00pm at JRC Gym  
R/NR Fee: \$50/55

Register for the above classes today!

## At the Museum...

### Art Lovers Affordable Art-Gallery I

NOW-DECEMBER 14

Mixed media show featuring painting, photography, fiber art, and more from dynamic local artists.

### Explorations in Watermedia-Gallery II

Featuring work by Bobbie Brown, Bruce Peterson, & Evelyn Eate Schulz

### Photo 2003

JANUARY 11-MARCH 8, 2003

Join us for our very popular annual juried exhibition of black and white color and digital photography. Cash awards will be presented in each category. The Opening Reception for the show is Sunday, January 19, 1-4pm.



Entry forms are available at the Museum and the Park District Office.

**Drop-off Dates at the Museum:**  
Friday, Jan. 3 - 10:00am-2:00pm  
Saturday, Jan. 4 - 10:00am-2:00pm

**Bloomington Park District Museum**

108 South Bloomington Rd. - Ph. & Fax: 630-539-3096

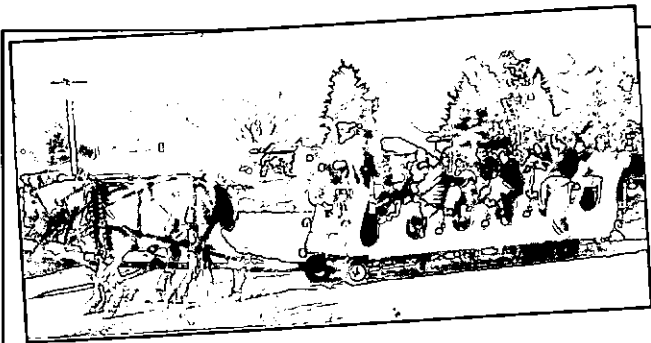
# Bloomington Park District

172 South Circle Avenue • Phone 630-529-3650

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 8:00 pm; Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

*Parks and Recreation... The benefits are endless!*

visit us on the web at [www.bloomingtonparks.org](http://www.bloomingtonparks.org)

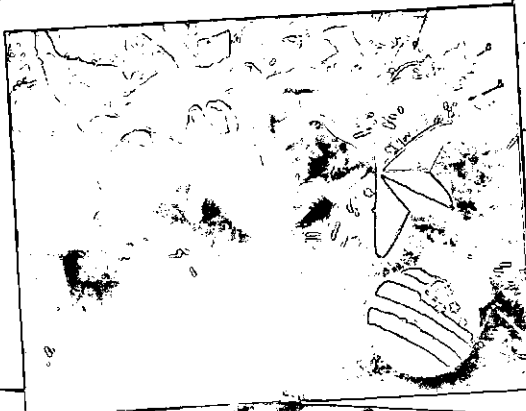


Village of Bloomingdale  
201 S. Bloomingdale Road  
Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108

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

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL  
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108

## Signs of the Season



Village of Bloomingdale  
Municipal Center  
Police Facility  
Library Facility

**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR**  
**ST ISIDORE**  
**FRI NOV 8 SAT NOV 9**

