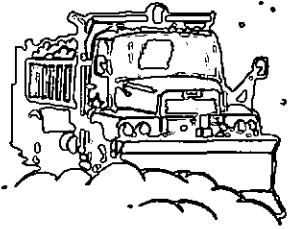
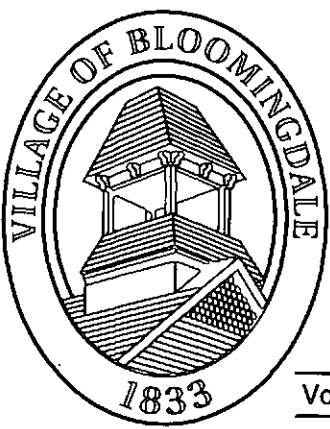


Winter info to help you go in the snow!



See pages 4 & 5



VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE
1833

The Village Almanac

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE

Volume 22, Number 6December 1997

In the spirit of the season

Community Reaches Out to a Family Fighting for Its Life

As the holiday season approaches, thoughts often turn to helping those less fortunate. Often those we help are nameless or faceless to us as our donation goes to an organization or church who then administers the aid.

This holiday season our residents have a chance to help right here in the Bloomingdale community. We have a family of two parents and four children who are in great need of immediate assistance as a result of some very serious medical problems. Parents Scott and Denise Sircher are both currently fighting for their lives.

Scott Sircher was a firefighter in Glendale Heights until he had to retire on disability. He is currently on life support systems, requiring oxygen 24 hours a day, as well as enzyme therapy. He also suffers from severe osteoporosis which has caused bones in his back to collapse. The 43-year old is on a list for a double lung transplant, although his doctors say he may no longer be a candidate due to the condition of his bones.

Scott's wife, Denise, is suffering from systemic lupus and multiple sclerosis, as well as congestive heart failure. She requires chemotherapy, oxygen and takes over 20 medications daily. To further complicate everything, she suffered a stroke in July. The 42-year old is bedridden and cannot take care of herself, much less her family.

The Sirchers' 10-year old son, Jeffrey,

also has lupus and is receiving chemotherapy. Eight-year old Christopher is currently being screened for the disease. The two remaining teenage children are carrying the burden as best they can.

The Sirchers fill up to 43 prescriptions in a month. The bulk of their budget is spent on insurance premiums, co-payments and doctor visits. Their church friends have been taking care of the home maintenance and providing meals for the family.

The youngest son cries everyday worrying that his parents are going to die. Denise admits it's difficult to reassure him because the reality is, this could very well be true.

The Sirchers' home is in the beginning stages of foreclosure and they do not

have the funds to save it. Interested residents are trying to organize some fundraisers, a possible pancake breakfast and hopefully a fundraiser sponsored by the Bloomingdale Lions Club. Watch local papers for details on these when available.

In the meantime, a fund has been set up in the Sircher family name:

The Sircher Family Fund at the Bloomingdale Bank & Trust
150 S. Bloomingdale
Bloomingdale, IL

Anyone interested in helping this Bloomingdale family monetarily, can contact Lisa Rojewski at the Bloomingdale Bank & Trust or can send contributions directly to the bank At: Sircher Fund.



The over 60 Erickson Elementary PTO volunteers who cooked and served the second annual Thanksgiving Feast (turkey with all the trimmings) to every teacher and student, as well as some VIP guests.

**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 PM -- Village Hall

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1st, 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month
7:30 PM -- Village Hall

PLAN COMMISSION

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
7:30 PM -- Village Hall

**BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE
COMMISSIONERS**

3rd Thursday of every month
6:30 PM -- Village Hall

POLICE PENSION BOARD

Quarterly beginning in January
2nd Wednesday
7:00 PM -- Village Hall

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2nd Wednesday of every month
7:30 PM -- Library

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Board of Directors Meeting
1st Thursday of every month
8:00 AM -- Indian Lakes -
Illinois Room

FAMILY FEST COMMISSION

3rd Wednesday of the month
(except September & October)
7p.m. - Library

SEPTEMBERFEST COMMISSION

3rd Wednesday of the month
March-December
7 p.m. - Village Hall

**BUSINESS PROMOTION &
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

4th Tuesday of the month
7:30 p.m. - Village Hall

**BLOOMINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month
7:30 p.m. - Firehouse, 108 W. Washington

The following committees meet on a less regular basis or as needed. Call the Village Hall at 893-7000 for the next scheduled meeting.

TRAFFIC CONCERNS COMMITTEE
Quarterly or as needed

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Six times a year or as needed

**VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE
ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Robert G. Iden
Village President

Harriet Ford
Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

Robert Czernek
*Legal & Intergovernmental
Relations*

Patrick S. DeMoon
Police and Community Relations

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

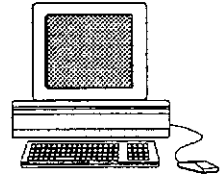
Dorothy Lester
Public Works and Services

Anthony B. Mulizio
Finance and Personnel

Gloria Reyes
*Business Development
& Social Services*

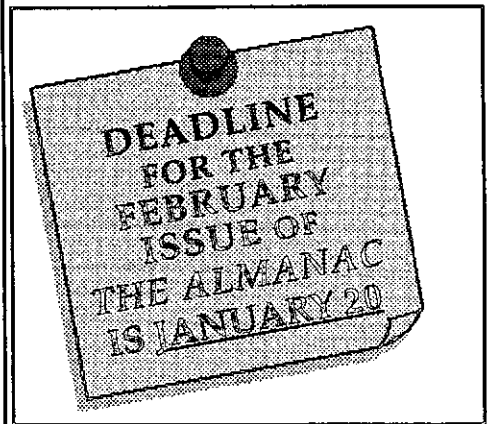
**Our E-Mail Address --
Look Us Up!**

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



VILLAGE.BLOOMINGDALE@worldnet.att.net

Visit our web page site at:
<http://www.xnet.com/~bdale>



New Floor Pats a Spring in Their Step

Kate Iden, a former Bloomingdale Park District gymnastics team member, signs a board covering the newly installed spring floor at the Park District gymnastics studio. The 2,200 square foot floor contains 2,400 springs and was installed with the help of many volunteers and staff people. Pictured with Kate are (left to right) Tom Witacki, head gymnastics coach, Joellen Iden and her grandson Christopher Valentine, and Mayor Bob Iden. The floor was paid for by numerous donations and several fundraisers.



(Photo by Tom Schaezler)

Holiday Safety Tips

Have your fireplace cleaned annually.

Ashes from the fireplace or ashtrays should only be emptied when cool.

Put holiday wrappings in the trash, never burn them in the fireplace.

Place a screen in front of the fireplace when in use.

Your fire escape plan should have two ways out.

Holiday candles must be kept away from live trees, boughs and wreaths.

Old Christmas lights with cracked wires should be replaced.

Lights should be turned off when leaving the house or going to sleep.

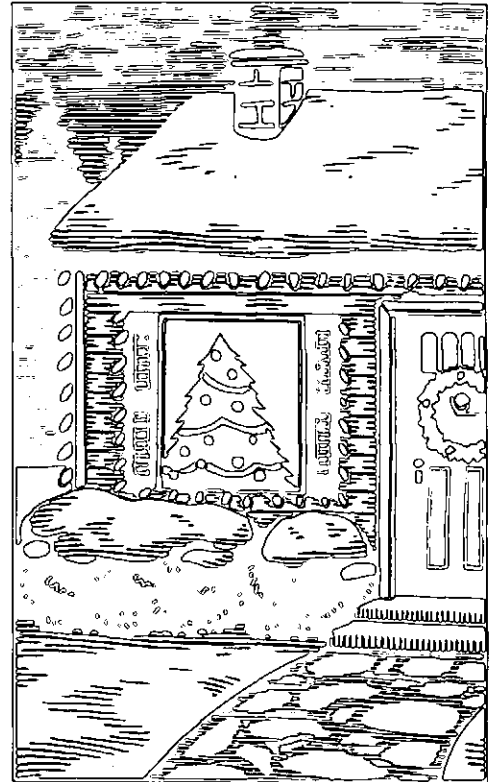
Insist that the tree be removed when the needles are dry and fall off easily.

Dampers should be opened before starting a fire.

Always be sure your Christmas tree has enough water.

Your extension cords should be heavy duty and not overloaded.

Safe holidays means a working smoke detector . . . check yours today!



Turano Bakery Honored for Award Winning Cannolis

Congratulations to **Turano Bakery**, 142 N. Bloomingdale. The bakery's cannoli was recently chosen as one of "The Top Three" cannolis in the Chicagoland area by Channel Two's Steve Baskerville for his "Best of..." feature!!



VILLAGE ALMANAC

is published bi-monthly
by the
Village of Bloomingdale

Editor
Mary Ellen Johnson

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

893-7000

Village's Dial-a-Ride Transportation Offers Expanded Holiday Weekend Hours

To better accommodate Bloomingdale Village residents with their holiday travel and shopping needs, the Village of Bloomingdale's weekend Dial-A-Ride hours will be expanded again during this holiday season.

The expanded weekend holiday hours will be in effect from Saturday, November 29, 1997 thru Sunday, December 28, 1997. The 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 Hospital, Glen Oaks Hospital, Wheaton Medical Clinic, Wheaton Eye Clinic, and MonaKea Medical Complex.

The Village of Bloomingdale Weekend Dial-A-Ride rates are as follows: (one way)

\$1.30	for Adult Village Residents (age 14 and older)
75	cents for Village Seniors (age 65 and older)
75	cents for Village Residents with a disability
75	cents Student Rate (ages 7 to 13)
free	Children under age 7

Advanced notice is required to arrange for a trip. A minimum of 48 hours advanced notice is required to guarantee transportation. Same day service requests are accepted; however, transportation cannot be guaranteed.

Weekend Dial-A-Ride reservations may be made by calling (630) 893-7555.

GET OUT THE SNOWBLOWER AND

With the seasonal snowfall just around the corner, the Village Services Department, Public Works Division is ready to combat snow and ice on the 112 center lane miles of Village streets, making them safer for motorists.



When a storm begins, day or night, the 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 snow plow 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 snow plowing 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.

Will the Village Repair My Mailbox If It Is Damaged During Snowplowing Operations?

The Village will replace and/or reimburse a resident up to \$35.00 for a mailbox and post which is damaged as a result of the Village snow plow operations, provided 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 Street Division of the Village Services Department or the Public Works Division at 529-5865.



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

The Village snow plows 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 snow plows 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.



SAVE & POST



THE SHOVEL -- WINTER'S HERE!

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 529-5865.

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 minimize 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.....529-5865

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.....529-9868

Call this number for non-emergency general information.

BLOOMINGDALE FIRE DISTRICT

EMERGENCY.....911

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT

OF TRANSPORTATION.....312-DOT-INFO

(312-368-4636)

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

DEPARTMENT OF ROADS -

DUPAGE COUNTY.....630-665-1155

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

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

INFORMATION LINE.....630-241-6868

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



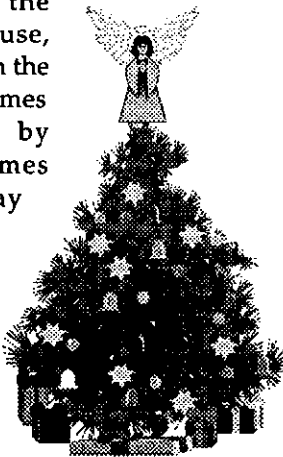
SAVE & POST

Be an 'Angel' This Holiday Season

Residents are invited to join with employees of the Village of Bloomingdale in support of The Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. The Angel Tree program provides needy children in the Chicagoland area with new toys and clothing for the Holidays. This year, Bloomingdale's Angel Tree will be sponsoring pre-school age children from Chicago's Emergency Lodge Head Start Center.

Located in the Village Hall reception area, the angel tree will display 100 tags identifying gift needs of 100 individual pre-school aged children from Chicago's Emergency Lodge Head Start Center. To participate, simply pick an angel tag from the tree, purchase one or more gifts on each angel tag, and return your "unwrapped" gift to the Village Hall no later than Monday, December 15th.

The Bloomingdale Township Tree is located in the Meacham House, 126 W. Lake, in the offices of "Homes for Sale by Owner." Names and holiday wishes of local needy children and residents of the local convalescent and nursing homes can be picked from this tree. Purchase a gift, wrap it and return it to the Sharing Tree by December 20. Gifts will be distributed to the appropriate agency.



Note: More ways to share the spirit of the season can be found on page 9.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IN ACTION

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FROM BLOOMINGDALE'S NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

- ◆ Don't let a crook ruin your holidays!
- ◆ Keep your purse close to your body with your hand on the clasp.
- ◆ Don't leave packages on the car seat, lock them in the trunk.
- ◆ Teach your children to go to a cashier if they are lost.
- ◆ Don't display gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway

REMEMBER: Neighborhood Watch is neighbors watching out for neighbors. No one knows a neighborhood better than the people living there. When in doubt -- call the Police Department. They are here to help!

If you are interested in learning more about NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, plan to attend the next general meeting on Friday, January 30, 1998 at 7:30 PM in the Village Hall, or contact Detective Randy Sater at the Bloomingdale Police Department, 529-9868. See first hand how your involvement can make a difference.

OUR SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY THE SCOPE OF YOUR INVOLVEMENT

WELCOME
BLOOMINGDALE IS A
CRIME WATCH
COMMUNITY



WE IMMEDIATELY REPORT
ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES
TO OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Parks Foundation Honors Volunteers

This year's Bloomingdale Parks Foundation's annual recognition dinner raised over \$7,000 for the Foundation's many activities. Close to 200 people attended the event to honor the contributions of citizen volunteers. Pictured are Mike Vogl of the Bloomingdale Baseball Association flanked by Foundation members Lou Pavone and John Ball. Vogl was one of seven award recipients honored for his volunteer service.



Bloomingtondale Community Events

Indian Lakes Resort offers its annual **Sunday Brunch with Santa** on December 7, 14 and 21 in the Sedona Grille. The champagne brunch is offered from 9:30am to 2pm. Santa will be on hand to talk with children and give them gifts. The brunch price is \$16.95 for adults, \$7.95 for children four through ten. Children three and under are free. A family photo with Santa is included. Call 529-0200 for reservations.



The Bloomingtondale Public Library hosts **Breakfast with Santa** on Saturday, December 13 at the Bloomingtondale Golf Club. There are two seatings available. Cost for breakfast is \$5 per person at time of registration (children three years and under are free). Register in person at the Youth Services desk.



Join the Bloomingtondale Public Library for a 'magical afternoon' at its Ninth Annual Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 7 from 2-5 p.m.



The Bloomingtondale Barnes & Noble is offering a variety of events in December:

December 14, 2:00 PM: The Glenbard North Gold Tones will present holiday music for your listening pleasure;

December 19, 8:00 PM: Chinese Classical Music, featuring Betty Xiang and Wei Yang playing authentic Chinese instruments.

Now through December 26 --The Giving Tree: The store will feature a holiday tree with special ornaments, specifying the age and sex of a child. Customers may take an ornament to the children's department and select a book to purchase for that child and place it under the Giving Tree. All books purchased for the Giving Tree will be given to a child at Marklund Home.



The Bloomingtondale Professional Firefighters Association Local 3272, is raising funds by selling the **Entertainment Book**, which contains hundreds of "two for one" discounts on dining, movies, sports activities, hotels, etc. Proceeds from the sale will help fund public education activities within the fire district. The \$35 book can be ordered by calling Richard Kurka at 894-8488.

Treat Yourself to Some Holiday Music!

Erickson Elementary School, 277 Springfield Drive, will host its annual Winter Choral Performance on Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 PM.

The DuJardin Elementary School Chorus will perform at 11:00 AM on December 8 at Charlestowne Mall.

Westfield Junior High, 149 Fairfield Way, is offering two holiday concerts. The Chorus will perform at 7:30 PM on December 11; the band concert will be at 7:30 PM on December 16.

Marquardt Junior High will showcase its choir for a holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 15 at the Glenbard East campus, 1014 S. Main in Lombard.

The choir **Glenbard East High School** holds its Holiday Concert featuring band, orchestra and chorus on Sunday, December 7 at 1:30 and 4:00 p.m. The Madrigal Singers will be in concert at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

ABOUT TOWN

The generosity of Bloomingdale residents, as well as those motorists passing through Bloomingdale during the annual Lions Club Candy Day fundraiser, has allowed the Bloomingdale Lions Club to make contributions this year to many local groups, including the Bloomingdale Baseball Association, Bloomingdale Food Pantry and Bloomingdale Public Library, as well as providing individual exams, eyeglasses and hearing aids for needy residents of the community.

The club supports the Halloween Party for children, conducts an annual Christmas basket program, an Easter egg hunt for the community's children, supports the Septemberfest Mr. & Ms. Bloomingdale Scholarship contest and conducts a World Lions' Service project.

Candy Day Chairman Lion Rob Pauling, on behalf of the Bloomingdale Lions Club, thanks all who gave so generously to the fundraiser so that our local club can continue its charitable work.

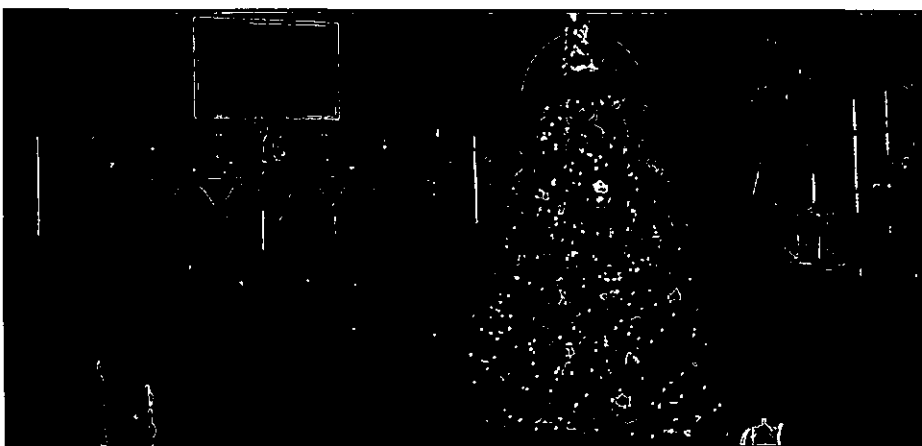


The Bloomingdale Lions get ready to hit the street.

After a highly successful Holiday Housewalk, the Villagers Club members continue their monthly philanthropic activities. These include gathering special bingo prize items to be delivered to the Trinity Adult Day Care Center in Roselle, as well as to Human Services in Glen Ellyn. Treats for the animals at Pet Rescue are also collected on a regular basis.

With no meeting in January, the Villagers look forward to their February 5 get together where renown psychologist Dr. Ed Dundelblau will present a program on laughter therapy. "Laughter is the best medicine. It is very inexpensive, has virtually no side effects, doesn't need to be dispensed by a doctor and isn't regulated by the FDA - yet," quips Dr. Dundelblau.

The meeting is open to everyone. For more details call Paula Duffey at 894-0849.



One of the homes featured in the 1997 Christmas Walk

Helpful Numbers

Police & Fire Emergency	911
Village Hall Administration	893-7000
Building, Engineering	893-7073
Public Works	529-5865
Police Department (non-emergency)	529-9868
Library	529-3120
Park District	529-3650
Fire Department (non-emergency)	894-8488
Bloomingdale Township	529-7715
Post Office	529-5252

Immediate Medical Care

Stratford North - Branch of Central Dupage Hospital: Open 7 days a week	
Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.	
Sat-Sun 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.	893-9600

Buses, Buses, Buses

Pace Passenger Service	364-PACE
RTA Information Center	836-7000
Bloomingdale Township Transportation	893-7555
Dial-a-Ride (weekends only)	682-7542
DuPage County ADA Paratransit Services	1-312-917-4537

Hotlines

Adoption:

For adoption info call 1-800-572-2390

AIDS:

For testing info call 1-800-243-2437

Business:

Small Business Hotline call 1-800-252-2923

Children and Teenagers:

Child Abuse Hotline call 1-800-252-2873

Child Support:

For help collecting child support call 1-800-447-4278

Crime:

We Tip Hotline (for reporting crime) call 1-800-782-7463

Internal Revenue Service:

1-800-829-1040

Labor:

State Occupational Safety and Health Act info call: 1-800-321-OSHA

Lawyer Referral Service:

1-800-252-9916

Missing Children:

1-Search call 1-800-843-5763

Secretary of State:

General info call 1-800-252-8980

Driver's license info call 1-800-252-2904

Senior Citizens:

General info for seniors call 1-800-252-8966

Attorney General:

Senior citizens consumer protection call 1-800-252-8666

Tourism:

Illinois tourism info call 1-800-223-0121

Volunteer Development of DuPage (volunteers always needed) 682-7586

Share the Spirit Of the Season

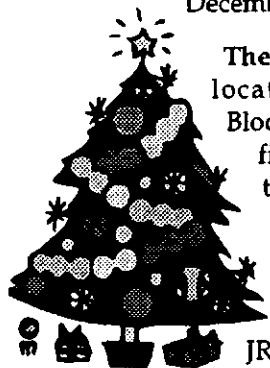
There are a number of ways Bloomingdale residents can share with those less fortunate this year.

Toys for Tots: In conjunction with the United States Marines, "Toys for Tots" drop-off boxes for new, unwrapped toys will be available at the locations listed below. The Marines will distribute donated toys to children in our area who would otherwise receive nothing for the holidays.

Food Pantry: In conjunction with Bloomingdale Township, a Food Drive to collect non-perishable food items, canned goods and paper products is also being held this holiday season. The Township will distribute the food to needy families in the Township.

Drop-off boxes for both Toys for Tots and the Food Drive are available in the following locations:

- Bloomingdale Park District,
172 S. Circle
 - DuJardin School, 166 S. Euclid
 - Westfield Junior High, 149 Fairfield
 - Winnebago School, 195 Greenway
- These drives run through Friday,
December 19.



The Marklund Home Sharing Tree is located in the upstairs lobby of the Bloomingdale Park District. Pick a card from the tree and fulfill the wishes of the Marklund Home resident on the card. Gifts may either be returned to the JRC or dropped off at Marklund Home which is located across the parking lot from the JRC at 164 S. Prairie.

There are a number of sharing trees also located in town. See page 6 for others.

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 regular scheduled refuse pick-up day - Thursday, January 8th and 15th, 1998, and on Friday, January 9th and 16th, 1998.

Residents are requested to position their Christmas trees cut end toward the curb for easy loading. Browning Ferris Inc. will dispose of the Christmas trees.

Think Trees . . . Winter

Contrary to popular belief, nature doesn't shut down during winter. Although the flowers are gone and there may be snow on the ground, the plants are still there, going about their business.

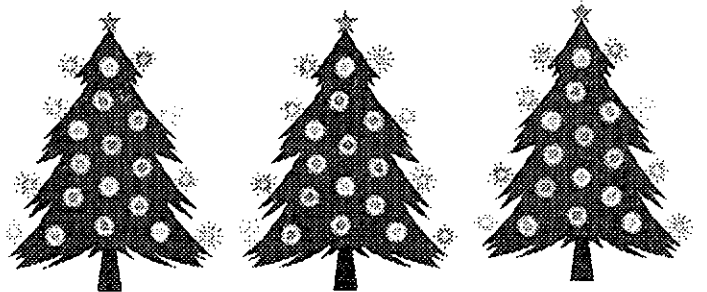
Most plants undergo a period of dormancy during winter, and may appear dead. Dormancy, which occurs in both seeds and mature plants, is actually a period of rest during which active growth slows or stops completely. It often is characterized by leaf drop in trees and shrubs, and, sometimes, by death of above ground plant parts. Dormancy is a good thing. Plants and seeds don't expend energy germinating or producing new growth that would be damaged or killed by harsh weather, and flowers aren't left waiting for absent pollinators. Winter temperatures help break seed dormancy in some species, allowing seeds to germinate the following spring.

That "dead, brown" plant material we tend to overlook provides forage, shelter, and nesting for a variety of wildlife, as well as warm cover for plant seedlings which sprouted in fall. Fruits and berries are a nutritious food source for animal populations, especially many bird species that don't migrate.

Biology aside, nature has its own winter beauty. Grasses, which have gone to seed, offer a wide variety of beautiful shapes and textures against a white carpet of snow. The rustle of spent seed heads moving in the breeze provides a soothing counterpoint to winter's inherent stillness. Fruits and berries create startling splashes of color on the winter landscape, and the vibrant hues of lustrous evergreen leaves remind us that nature is only sleeping and spring is just around the corner.

Winter trees have their own surreal beauty. The outlines of bare branches contrasting starkly against gray skies resemble a mad architect's city skyline. Ice covered branches sparkle in the sunlight. Dangling icicles act as prisms, sending rainbows across the snow.

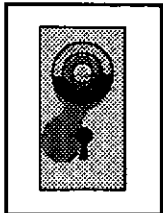
Take some extra time this year to look closely at the winter landscape. You'll be surprised at the often overlooked and hidden beauty. And take to heart the words of Anne Bradstreet: "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant."



Upcoming Bloomingdale Park District Programs

Winter/Spring Brochure Coming Soon!

The Bloomingdale Park District's latest Winter/Spring brochure will be hand delivered to residents the week of December 30th. The brochure will **not** be mailed to you but hung on your front door or placed in the lobby of your apartment building. You may mail in your program registration for programs as soon as you receive your copy. Call the Park District at 529-3650 for further information.



"Choice Pics III" Photography Competition

Drop-off for the third annual photography competition will be December 29th from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, and Saturday, January 3 from 9:00-10:00 AM at the Museum. Entries will be judged on January 5. Best of Show award this year is \$250. Call Becky Karoliussen, Museum Coordinator, at 529-3650 for further information or to receive an entry form.



Aerobics Free Week January 12-17

Try any one of the Bloomingdale Park District's aerobics classes during our twice-a-year free week -- January 12 to 17. Choose from Reebok Step Plus, Tighten 'N Tone, and Reebok Step classes. Every level of instruction is available. Classes are held in our state-of-the-art aerobics studio on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Saturdays. Steps are available at the Park District. Call 529-3650 for specific times. Free week does not include Jazzercise.



Dog Obedience Classes Starting in January

The Bloomingdale Park District is offering several dog obedience classes starting in January. It's never too early to get your puppy or dog off on the right foot! Puppy classes will begin on Tuesday, January 6 at 6:15 PM for dogs eight weeks to four months. Basic dog obedience for dogs older than four months will be on Wednesday evenings beginning January 7. An agility training class, designed for both you and your dog, will be held on Thursday evenings beginning January 8. For further information on all of our dog obedience classes or to register, please call the Park District office at 529-3650.



Bloomingdale Park District

Holiday Magic



Open House



172 S. Circle

1:00-4:00 PM

Santa arrives at 1:00 PM

Pictures with Santa

Horse-drawn sleigh rides

Musical entertainment by Bill Hooper

Damen Avenue Puppet Show

Refreshments

Call 529-3650 for more information

Cable TV Rates Increase in January

Time Warner Cable, the cable company that services Bloomingdale, recently sent out notices that it is making price adjustments to its rates as of January 1998. As of January 1998, the new basic service price will remain at \$10.27 and the standard cable service will be \$19.23. The changes also involve equipment and installation prices. A notice and listing of rate changes should accompany an upcoming cable bill.

It should be noted that the Village does not have control over the amount charged by Time Warner Cable. The price structure must meet the federal guidelines and be consistent with regulations established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

NORDCAT, our five-town cable television consortium, is currently in negotiations with Ameritech New Media for cable services, which would provide competition to Time Warner.

Residents who have any questions or comments regarding cable television rates can reach the Time Warner offices at 894-4949, or may contact the Village Hall.

Bloomingtondale Commemorative Brick Program Brings Lifesize Statuary to Village

The Village of Bloomingtondale Promotion & Cultural Development Committee is continuing its project to place bronze, lifesize statues throughout the Village. The first statue, a mother and child sitting on a bench reading, is in place at the Bloomingtondale Library in Friendship Court. The statue was paid for entirely through the purchase of commemorative bricks which are placed in the walkway leading toward the statue.

If you have not already done so, we hope you will consider joining your friends and neighbors in becoming part of history through the purchase of a commemorative brick. The monies raised will go toward the purchase of another statue and the bricks will be placed in the walkway in the library's Friendship Court which serves as a focal point in town.



The cost of a family/group brick is \$75.00. A business brick is \$250.00. All donations are tax deductible. Application forms are available at the Library and Village Hall.

Female Self-Defense Training Classes Expanded for 1998

Fifteen female residents took part in Deputy Chief Chuck Mader's adult female self defense class this fall. Based on the success of this program, Mader will be scheduling more classes in 1998, the first beginning in February.

Also starting in spring will be a self defense class for mothers and daughters (high school juniors & seniors).

Each program will consist of five 3-hour sessions (15 hours total). The first session is a lecture format; the following four consist of self-defense activities. These classes are restricted to Bloomingtondale residents.

The class dates/times have not been selected yet, but will be done based on responses. If you are interested, please contact Donna Hulata at the Police Department at 529-9868.

Welcome New Businesses

Cyber Shoppe

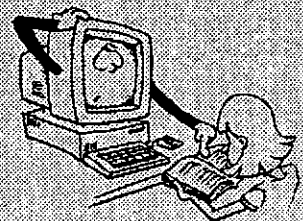
Can't find the perfect gift for someone special on your gift list this holiday season? If your friend or loved one is into computers, head to Cyber Shoppe's kiosk in Stratford Square Mall, where you'll find a variety of computer-related gifts and novelties. The newly opened shop is located on the lower level between Montgomery Ward and Carson's.

In addition to 100 styles of mouse pads, Cyber Shoppe also offers t-shirts, ties, calendars, books and a wide selection of work-related gift and novelty items. The store also carries popular licensed merchandise featuring images from the Looney Tunes, Dilbert, Coca-Cola and the Beatles.



"Cyber Shoppe appeals to millions of people who use computers every day," explains Wendy Bialik, who owns the shop with her partner and husband John. "We offer a one-stop computer shopping experience."

Although the kiosk is limited to the holiday season, Bialek said she is planning a full time store and catalog business in the near future. Holiday hours are Monday-Saturday (9:30 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.), and Sunday (10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.). Phone: (630) 582-2032.



Off the Shelf

BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER
101 Fairfield Way, Bloomingtondale 60108 529-3120



Volume XVIII

Number 6

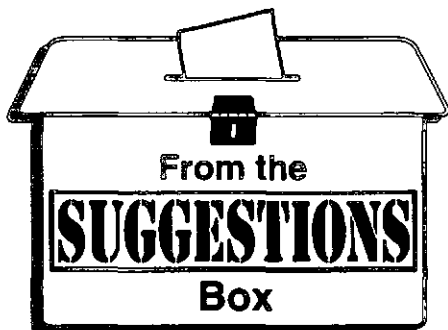
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alice Spanos.....	President
Branka Poplonski.....	Vice-President
Linda Szramiak.....	Secretary
Kandy Litchfield.....	Treasurer
Kathy Kohl.....	Trustee
Bonni Rothbaum.....	Trustee
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Mary Rodne.....	Library Director
Holly Sorensen.....	Adult Services Department Head
Kristin Nilsen-Noonan.....	Youth Services Department Head
Sally Mee.....	Circ./Tech. Department Head



Local History Notes

Volunteers Elsie Fish, Dorothy Jaskey and Bob Kurek continue their work on the reorganization of local history files. Again, we want to thank them for their sustained efforts on this long-term task. Volunteers for future local history projects are welcome! Call Kandy Jones at 529-3120, ext. 629, or Judy O'Loughlin at 529-3120, ext. 330.



Q. When will the copiers be replaced?

A. The library board has approved the purchase of three new copiers. They should be here by the middle of December. Final testing and evaluating of color copiers is now taking place. Look for a new color copier to be at the library in early 1998. We thank you for your patience with this project and hope that you will enjoy the new copiers when they arrive.

Q. Please, more books on cassette.

A. A major purchase of books on cassette has just taken place. Check "This Week's Additions" display or the books on cassette shelving area for these new items.

LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

3	Friends of the Library	7:30pm-9:00pm
7	Holiday Open House	2:00pm-5:00pm
9	Bloomingtondale Seniors	10:00am-3:00pm
10	Library Board Meeting	7:30pm
11	Writer's Group Subcommittee	7:00pm-9:00pm
*13	Breakfast With Santa, Bloomingtondale Golf Club	8:30 & 10:30am seatings
13	Writer's Group	9:00am-Noon
24	Christmas Eve	Library Closed
25	Christmas Day	Library Closed
31	New Year's Eve	Library Closed

JANUARY

1	New Year's Day	Library Closed
5	Registration for Winter Programs Begin	
7	Friends of the Library	7:30pm-9:00pm
8	Writer's Group Subcommittee	7:00pm-9:00pm
8	Book Discussion	7:30pm-9:00pm
10	Writer's Group	9:00am-Noon
13	Bloomingtondale Seniors	11:00am-3:00pm
14	Library Board Meeting	7:30pm
28	Writer's Group	7:00pm-9:00pm

FEBRUARY

4	Friends of the Library	7:30 pm-9:00 pm
5	Book Discussion	7:30 pm-9:00 pm
11	Library Board Meeting	7:30 pm
12	Writer's Group Subcommittee	7:00 pm-9:00 pm
14	Writer's Group	9:00 am-Noon

*Registration Required (630--29-3120).

ADOPT A MAGAZINE IN 1998

We are excited to start our 1998 Adopt-A-Magazine campaign! Thanks to contributions from local residents, businesses, and organizations our magazine collection has grown in size and variety. Magazines such as American Demographics, Vanity Fair, Jack and Jill and many more are available for "adoption" this year. You can "adopt" a magazine by paying the subscription price, which ranges from \$15 to \$100. Then your name will appear on the magazine's protective cover on display in the magazine browsing area of the library. And, as with any donation to the library, it's tax deductible. Please contact Holly Sorensen at 529-3120 to join the program

Youth Services Department

WE'VE GOT GREAT NEW WINTER PROGRAMS – JUST FOR YOU!

Toddler Time

Tuesdays, January 20 – April 7

9:45-10:15am (18-24 months old)
10:30-11:00am (25-35 months old)
11:15-11:45am (18-35 months old)

Toddler Time is presented for children 18-35 months old accompanied by an adult. Stories, action rhymes and musical activities are featured. Please wear comfortable clothing so you can participate with your child.

Family Drop-in Storytime

(Toddlers and Preschoolers)

Tuesdays, January 20 – April 7 7:00-7:45pm

This is a brand new program for the entire family! Caregivers can bring their toddlers AND preschoolers for stories, action rhymes, musical activities and a video. Please wear comfortable clothing so you can participate with your children. No registration is required for this evening program.

Preschool Story Hour

(Ages 3-5 years)

Mondays, January 19-April 6 10:00-11:00am
Wednesdays, January 21 – April 9 10:00-11:00am
Thursdays, January 22 – April 10 1:30-2:30pm

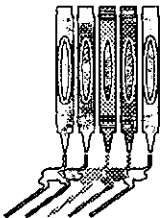
Stories, musical activities, filmstrips, songs, fingerplays and crafts will be featured in this program for 3-5 year old children. Five-year-old children enrolled in kindergarten are welcome!

Drop-in Craft Days

(All Ages)

Saturdays, January 31-March 7
9:00am-4:30pm

Drop in any time during the above hours to make a fun and easy craft. This is perfect for the busy family! Children under the age of 6 must be accompanied by someone over age 12. There is no registration for this program.



Story Art

(Kindergarten – 2nd Grade)

Mondays, January 19 – February 23 4:30-5:30pm
(6 weeks only)

Story Art will bring your imagination alive! Each program features an author, illustrator or story theme and includes a variety of crafts and other creative activities.



Story Art

(3rd – 5th Grades)

Saturday, January 31 1:00-2:00pm Mr. Popper's Penguins
Saturday, February 28 1:00-2:00pm TBA
Saturday, March 28 1:00-2:00pm TBA

Older kids get in on the penguin action! Have your child read Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard and Florence Atwater before January 31 (or read it to them or read it as a family! It's hilarious!) and then come to this program prepared for penguin fun! We'll make penguin crafts, play penguin games and maybe even eat a bucket of fish.

The themes for the other Story Art events will be announced at the January 31st program. You may register for these programs separately.

No School Program

(School-Aged children)

Friday, February 27 12:00-4:30pm



There's no excuse for being bored on this day off of school. Watch for details on this open-house style event at the library.

Youth Services Department

WE'VE GOT GREAT NEW WINTER PROGRAMS – JUST FOR YOU!

REGISTRATION

Begins Monday, January 5 at 9:00am

Registration will be available in person and by calling the Program Registration Hotline at 630-529-9029. Please have your library card ready when you call. Those who use the hotline will receive a confirmation phone call before the start of programming.

All programs require registration except Family Drop-in Storytime and Drop-in Craft.

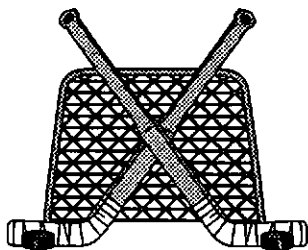
WINTER READING PROGRAMS

For Preschool and School-Aged Children
January 26 – March 7

"READ TO SUCCEED" WITH THE CHICAGO WOLVES HOCKEY TEAM!!

For Kindergarten – 8th Graders

All participants in this reading program have a chance to WIN team pennants, hockey pucks and even Chicago Wolves hockey game tickets! Just keep track of the books you read between January 26 and March 7 and return your booklog to the Youth Services Department. (The booklogs contain order forms for discounted Wolves hockey game tickets! Proceeds from ticket sales benefit your local library system). Sign up during regular program registration (see REGISTRATION) or sign up at the following event:



Meet a Real Professional Hockey Player!

January 20 4:30pm



A player with the Chicago Wolves will come talk to kids at the library to help us kickoff the "Read to Succeed" reading program. Two lucky people will win FREE tickets to a Wolves hockey game!

During the 6 weeks of the reading program, children can stop by and make a craft project any time on Saturdays (see DROP-IN CRAFT).

"WARM UP WITH A GOOD BOOK" **FAMILY READING PROGRAM**

For Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers and their Caregivers
January 26 – March 7

Children love PENGUINS. And so do we! Penguins will be all over the library as they encourage families to read together. Families should keep track of the books they read between January 26 and March 7 and return their booklog to the Youth Services Department. Both children and CAREGIVERS have a chance to win great prizes! Sign up during regular program registration (see REGISTRATION).

During the 6 weeks of the reading program, children can stop by and make a craft project any time on Saturdays (see DROP-IN CRAFT).

Super Sitters!

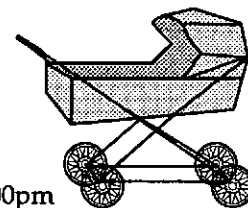
(Ages 10 and up)

Sunday February 15 1:00-5:00pm

Sunday February 22 1:00-5:00pm

Participants must attend BOTH sessions.

Cost: \$15.00



This babysitting course emphasizes the physical safety and security of the child as well as the importance of companionship, understanding and patience. Students will learn about children of different ages, how to relate to them, and how to avoid some of the pitfalls that often accompany child care.

Each Super Sitter participant will receive two books, handouts, a certificate, and a wallet card at the completion of the class. Please bring a doll on which to practice and a sack lunch.

Baby Talk

"Language, Literature and Love for Infants"

(Ages birth to 18 months)

Mondays, January 19 – April 6 10:00am – 10:45am

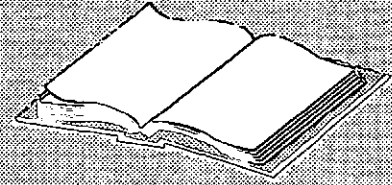
Wednesdays, January 21 – April 9 10:00am – 10:45am

The best way to start "reading" to infants is not really reading at all! Baby Talk is a language-enrichment program in which nursery rhymes, songs, fingerplays and books are shared with babies and their caregivers. Caregivers will learn about age-appropriate activities and how to make homemade toys. Please wear comfortable clothing so you can participate with your child.

1998 ADULT BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Bloomington Library's 1998 Adult Book Discussion Group will meet at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of the following months. Because of the holiday the January meeting will be held on the second Thursday.

- Jan. 8 THE LAST CONVERTIBLE by Anton Myrer
- Feb. 5 THE LADDER OF YEARS by Anne Tyler
- Mar. 5 DEAD MAN WALKING by Sister Helen Prejean
- Apr. 2 THE DEEP END OF THE OCEAN by Jacquelyn Mitchard
- Oct. 1 WHEN I WAS PUERTO RICAN by Emerelda Santiago
- Nov. 5 EVENING CLASS by Maeve Binchy



"YeAh!"

"YeAh!," the Bloomington Public Library Young Adult Advisory Board composed of sixth to twelfth graders, is now established and going strong. They are publishing a teen newsletter to be distributed in the schools and are also making plans for teen programs at the library.

If you would like to join this crazy crowd, please give your name and phone number to the Youth Services Department staff so we can notify you of our next meeting.

Junior Friends

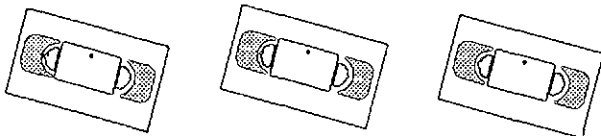
Every year, members of our Junior Friends group (sixth to twelfth graders) donate hundreds of volunteer hours to the library and its programs. In the last Almanac edition, we regretfully failed to acknowledge the hard work of the following people. Their contribution to the Summer Reading Program was invaluable!

Nicole Roche
 Jenna Rubino
 Danielle Ryan
 Stephanie Scorzo

Check Out This Video Check Out Deal for the Holidays!

One free video rental will be given when two feature films are checked out.

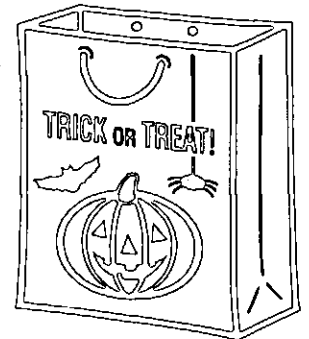
December 21, 1997 through January 3, 1998 only.



OUR HALLOWEEN PARTY WAS A 'BEWITCHING' SUCCESS!

This year's Halloween Party was a great success! Almost 600 children and adults played games, drank cider and ate popcorn under the big top tent donated by Braun Enterprises. We wish to extend a special thank you to the following groups:

- Friends of the Library
- Junior Friends of the Library
- Village of Bloomington
- Bloomington Public Works Dept.
- Braun Enterprises

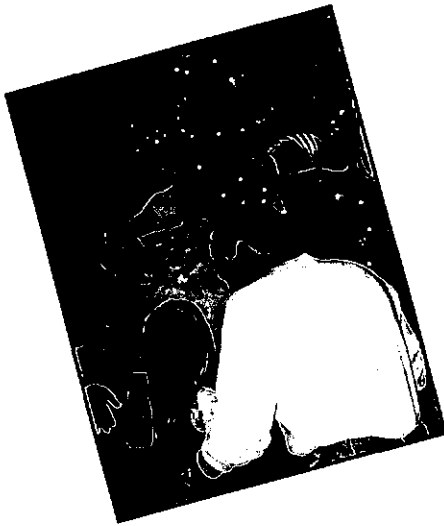


LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S

DECEMBER 24, 1997	LIBRARY CLOSED
DECEMBER 25, 1997	LIBRARY CLOSED
DECEMBER 26, 1997	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
DECEMBER 27, 1997	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
DECEMBER 28, 1997	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
DECEMBER 29, 1997	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
DECEMBER 30, 1997	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
DECEMBER 31, 1997	LIBRARY CLOSED
JANUARY 1, 1998	LIBRARY CLOSED
JANUARY 2, 1998	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Happy Holidays!



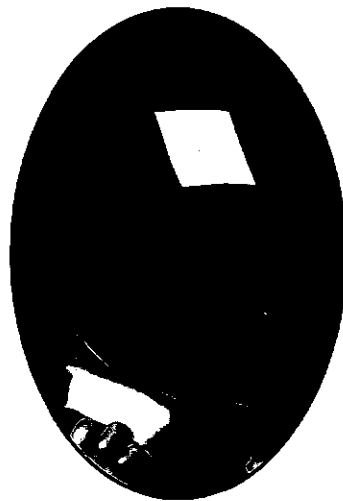
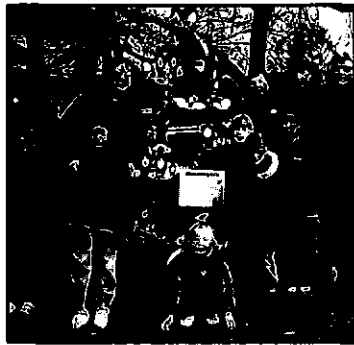
Village of Bloomingdale
201 S. Bloomingdale Road
Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108

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Bloomingdale, IL
60108
Permit No. # 16

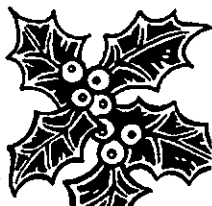
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BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108



*The
Holiday Season
arrives in
Bloomingdale!*



*The staff and officials of the
Village of Bloomingdale
extend to you and your family*



*Season's Greetings
and best wishes for a
Happy New Year!*

