



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



FRANK GIAMMARESE
CHIEF OF POLICE

BLOOMINGDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
201 SOUTH BLOOMINGDALE ROAD
BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108-1499

IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL
(630) 529-9868

www.villageofbloomingtondale.org

January / February 2011

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...



**Our next meeting is set for Wednesday
March 16th, 2011, 7:30p.m. in the
Village Hall Council Room.**

The scheduled speaker for the meeting is William Lawler, who is the Director of the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy at the College of Dupage. Bill is a former Chief for the Aurora Police Department and believe it or not, he was the first "McGruff", (law enforcement crime fighting dog). Bill will give us an insight into the life of a police recruit at the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy. (SLEA is one of six police academies in the state of Illinois) He will give us a history of the Academy and also a look into the future as College of Dupage is currently building a state of the art Homeland Security building. This building which will open in the fall will provide 1st responders with the first, non-military municipal 4-D immersive training facility in the country. Bill has been quoted in COD's newsletter "Impact" with saying "we're integrating all we need all in one place" and "I've been in police work for more than 30 years and this goes way beyond anything I have encountered". This is one speaker that you do not want to miss as Bill is passionate about the law enforcement profession. Maybe we can ask him to share the McGruff story. Refreshments for the meeting will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Mark your calendars!

2011 Neighborhood Watch General Meetings:

March 16th August 2nd (National Night Out Against Crime)
May 18th September 21st
July 20th November 16th

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

Our first Neighborhood Watch general meeting of the new year took place on Wednesday, January 19th 2011 at the Village Hall. There were approx. 25 residents in attendance at this meeting. Prior to the start of our January meeting, Officer Dawn Odoi presented our very

own Marv Roehlke with an award for his many years of volunteer service to the Bloomingtondale Police Department.

This meeting was the annual "Open Forum" meeting where several of our Village Officials presented a "State of Bloomingtondale" address as they summarized current and future developments. Chief Frank Giammarese represented the Bloomingtondale Police Department. Chief Dave Christensen represented the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District. Trustee Judy Von Huben represented the Bloomingtondale Village Board and Director Mike Marchi represented the Bloomingtondale Village Services Department.



The police department is currently staffed with 45 sworn police officers, 15 non-sworn personnel, and 4 part time non-sworn personnel. Chief Giammarese is completing his first year as our police chief. He has been very pleased with the overall performance of our police department, however he stressed that the police department must do a better job of using modern technology to communicate with our citizens. He mentioned the Village systems of "Code Red," "E-News" and the Village of Bloomingtondale web site as examples of technology that must be utilized.

Fire Chief Christensen gave statistics of fire and paramedic calls for the year. He also explained the different trauma levels at our area hospitals and how his staff makes the determination of which hospital to respond to. He also mentioned that they do assess fees for some of the services they provide.

Trustee Von Huben presented a number of new developments including the Scottish Rite National Headquarters located at Lake and Medinah; HH Gregg Appliances that will be located in the former Circuit City store in Bloomingtondale Court; a Ross Dress for Less store in the former Linens and Things located in Bloomingtondale Court; a Smash Burger restaurant at Stratford Crossings; and a new Shell gas station located on the corner of Army Trail and Gary Ave. Other expansions include a

Community Center expansion at the St Andrews Orthodox Church on Army Trail Road; the Super Walmart and tenant relocations next to the current Walmart; enhancements at our Bloomingdale Park District building including a new elevator and stairs; and last but not least, the Dunkin Donuts on Lake Street made improvements by providing streamback shoring to save their parking lot.

Director Marchi advised that his staff is currently at 49 employees, down from 54 due to voluntary separations and retirements. No vacant positions have been filled. Consolidating management duties and re-allocating remaining resources to sustain operations and services in the four village service divisions of Public Works, Utilities, Building and Zoning, and Engineering remains a significant challenge.

He presented the Village's snow and ice response plan, now in its third season, which has resulted in conserving salt in the interest of the environment and budget, but always being mindful of motorists safety. He asked for potholes on Village streets be reported to Public Works at 630-529-5865. He asked the group to encourage neighbors not to deposit driveway snow in the street especially after the street has been plowed. He discussed the Emerald Ash Borer infestation response plan, which will result in the removal and replacement of the nearly 2300 Village owned ash trees. The \$675,000 Cardinal/Oriole area watermain replacement project; the \$4.9 million Water Reclamation Facility Phase 2A improvements, and the \$1.017 million 2011 Road Program were also presented. Building and Zoning Division will begin annual property maintenance inspections in April 2011. He asked residents to report house vacancies to the Building Commissioner at 630-671-5660.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS:



- Plan ahead of route, time of day, traffic, weather forecasts. Allow extra time for travel.
- Wear seat belts at all times.
- Clean windshield, windows, rear windows, headlights, brake lights, and license plate area, especially if snow is on the vehicle.
- Keep your car's headlights on low beam. This provides better visibility particularly in fog or snow.
- Use turn signals.
- Watch the car in front of you for signs of trouble. Keep extra space between cars. Anticipate and prepare for slippery roads or other dangers.
- If you travel below the posted speed limit, please stay in the far right lane to avoid any speeding vehicles.
- If you miss an exit or street, go to the next exit / street. Do not cause an accident in a last minute maneuver. Drivers behind can only do so much.

- If you need to slow down or stop on a slick road, apply the brakes firmly and steadily, but not so firmly that they lock up. As you begin to slow, gently ease up on the brakes. Do not pump the brakes.
- If you skid, don't panic. Take your foot off the brake and then steer in the direction of the skid. Once the car regains traction, you can straighten the wheel.
- For emergency vehicles, please slow down and move to the right lanes, if possible. Make sure that all emergency vehicles have passed before resuming driving.
- If you have an accident, stay in your vehicle and always contact the police.



Did we remember the above driving tips? These tips would have been useful during our February blizzard. The Village received 20 inches of snow overnight. An emergency snow plan went into effect which consisted of our village services, police department, fire department, and other county officials. The police department received over 237 calls for service during a 24 hour period. Most of these calls were for disabled vehicles or stranded motorists. During the midnight hours it was virtually a matter of survival. The following are a few notes that the police department compiled pertaining to the storm.

The police department used Code Red, Village E-News, and Local Cable Access to update our residents regarding snow issues, fire department concerns and alternate garbage day pick-up. It was also discussed that the police department may encourage our Neighborhood Watch Block Captains to assist in making critical notifications to their neighbors.

Local warming centers were identified utilizing the police department and the library. The police department kept a log of all police service calls which identified key intersections that needed additional public works or police attention. Officers diligently patrolled areas where there were identified power outages. A walk in system was established for property damage accidents. The police department utilized all four-wheel drive vehicles in the fleet for emergency services and assigned two officers to each vehicle. A response plan was activated with the fire department by having a snow plow lead them in the event of an emergency. A big thank you should go out to our Village Street Department employees that worked countless hours plowing our streets.

Interesting Statistic from Jan 1, 2011 to Feb 28 2011:

Traffic Accidents Investigated: 190
 Case Reports Investigated: 355
 Service calls: 2535
 DUI Arrests: 33
 Traffic Stops: 1547

