



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

will be Wednesday, November 17th, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Room.

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County will discuss "Open Spaces", an overview of current conservation projects, education centers and recreational opportunities. Refreshments will be provided. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors for the last meeting of the year. Hope to see you there!



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

Glendale Heights Police Officer Don Darby and his canine partner "Lucky" crossed over Army Trail Road to assist a neighboring town and provided a great presentation for the Bloomingtondale audience. Although the pair had conducted similar appearances, the Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch General Meeting in September gave our residents a unique opportunity into a police department's canine unit.

From the moment that Officer Darby and "Lucky" walked into the room, they had the audience's attention. During his twelve year career, Officer Darby has been a patrol officer and he has worked in the Narcotics Unit. A canine officer position became available and Officer Darby applied and tested for it. After being chosen as the department's new canine officer, Officer Darby then chose his partner. He had an idea about what type of demeanor would be a good fit in the police department, in the community and at his home. Canine officers and their partners (the dog) work and live together. So, Officer Darby thoughtfully considered the dog that would work well on the job and with Officer Darby's family life. Officer Darby selected "Lucky", partly because he is a smaller German Shepherd (possibly less likely to develop health issues, such as a hip problem). **Note:** The police department / canine officer is able to review and obtain x-rays and family history information during the selection process. Also, Officer Darby wanted a dog that would have a social aspect, in which to attend community and school events. Thus, Officer Darby and "Lucky" (then 2 1/2 yrs. old, now 3 1/2 yrs. old) became partners, in which they just celebrated their 1 year anniversary. Once "Lucky" was selected, Officer Darby then had to be trained in being a dog handler. In those five weeks, Officer Darby learned the language to give commands to "Lucky", understood tracking techniques and built his relationship with

his new partner, resulting in the dog understanding his master. After the initial training, Officer Darby and "Lucky" attend 3-day re-certification training each year. Officer Darby is "Lucky's" only master / handler and "Lucky" is not in service if Officer Darby is not on duty, such as a family vacation. Police departments enlist the assistance from another canine units when theirs is not available.



"Lucky" has a multi-purpose role, but his main duties are to track narcotics (Meth, Cocaine, Heroin, Ecstasy, etc.), including items associated with drugs. "Lucky" is a passive response dog, in which he will sit / stay on the find that he was seeking. "Lucky" can also track individuals / suspects to a crime, and in perfect conditions, it may entail a couple of miles. If "Lucky" is given a command to detain a certain subject, then he will obey the command until he is given another command to release the subject. At this point in the presentation, Officer Darby gave a live demonstration, in which "Lucky" was told to detain / grab hold of Officer Odoi's left arm (which was padded prior to the demonstration). Even though the audience knew Officer Odoi was willing and prepared, once "Lucky" lunged and his teeth grabbed Officer Odoi's arm, the audience was a little startled. Officer Darby gave the command to release and "Lucky" then returned to his master's side, in which the audience seemed relieved. "Lucky" has been involved in some large search details, his first big one comprised of 10 kilos of cocaine. Although "Lucky" is not perfect, he seldom misses.

After the talk and demonstration of "Lucky's" skills, Officer Darby gave the audience an opportunity to visit with "Lucky" (unlike his encounter/demonstration with Officer Odoi). "Lucky" appreciated the attention. Officer Darby and "Lucky" gave a wonderful presentation about the roles / duties of a police department's canine unit and the benefits to the nearby Bloomingtondale community.

SAFETY INFORMATION:

During the summer, the following change to the Illinois Pedestrian Crossing Law went into effect: When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall stop and yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is

traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger. Residents are also reminded of these provisions within the Illinois Pedestrian Crossing Law: 1. No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a moving vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard; 2. Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle; and, 3. Whenever stop signs or flashing red signals are in place at an intersection or at a plainly marked crosswalk between intersections, drivers shall yield right-of-way to pedestrians as set forth in Section 11 904 of this Chapter. (Source: 625 ILCS 5/11-1002). Any questions or comments, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED.



Stratford Square Mall (152 Stratford Square)

A Bloomingdale woman reported that sometime between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 7, 2010, person(s) unknown removed her Apple I-Phone 4 from her purse while she was shopping in the mall. The approximate cost of the loss is valued at \$500.00.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

300 Block of Dawn

A Bloomingdale man reported that sometime between 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 10 and 7:00 a.m. on Monday, October 11, 2010, unknown person(s) entered his unlocked 1992 Ford and removed a Ryobi 18 Volt Circular Saw and a Cobra Radar Detector from the glove box. The vehicle was parked and unattended in his driveway when the incident occurred. The approximate cost of the loss is valued at \$160.00.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

200 Block of Fremont

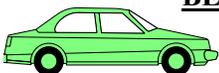
A Bloomingdale woman reported that sometime between 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 10 and 8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 11, 2010, person(s) unknown entered her unlocked 1991 Toyota and unlocked 2005 Nissan and removed a TomTom GPS unit and personal checks. Both vehicles were parked and unattended in the residential driveway when the incident occurred. The approximate cost of the loss is valued at \$200.00.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

Stratford Place Apt. Complex (314 Stratford Place)

A Bloomingdale man reported that on sometime between 12:00 a.m.(midnight) and 9:30 a.m. on Monday, October 18, 2010, person(s) unknown shattered the passenger's side window of his 2001 Chevy. Once entry was gained, the offender(s) removed a Garmin GPS unit, black wallet, two 15' telescoping ladders, large flashlight and a Nikon camera. The approximate cost of the loss is valued at \$1,720. The vehicle was parked, secured and unattended in the parking lot when the incident occurred. No suspect information at this time.

BEWARE OF CAR BURGLARIES



Car burglaries are one of the most frequent crimes reported to the police.

A car burglary occurs when a vehicle is illegally entered (with or without force) and items are taken from inside the car. There have been many car burglaries

reported to the Bloomingdale Police Department during the past few months and surprisingly the incidents have a common theme of an unlocked door or window. Here are simple reminders that can help protect your car from a burglary.

* Park your vehicle in a secure garage whenever possible. If you live in an apartment or condominium area without garage access, park your vehicle in a well-lit area close to a street or building entryway.

* Lock all car doors even when parked in your driveway or in a garage. An unsecured door is an easy opportunity and the most common point of attack in car burglaries. Also, properly secure the windows paying special attention to small vent windows and sliding back windows.

* Always remove your keys from the ignition even in your garage. This will help prevent burglaries and car thefts.

* Never leave personal belongings in plain view. Avoid leaving valuables in your vehicle. If you must store belongings in the car, hide them from view in a glove box, under the seats or in your trunk.

If your vehicle is burglarized despite your efforts, always report the burglary to police, even when nothing appears to be missing. Your information could reveal a crime pattern in a specific area of town and greatly increase the likelihood of catching the burglar. Remember that the police are unable to solve crimes that go unreported.

Any questions or concerns regarding this information or other crime prevention issues, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

SPECIAL EVENTS

2010 Bloomingdale Police Department Open House

The 4th Annual Bloomingdale Police Department Open House occurred on Saturday, October 30, 2010 and it was a wonderful community event. We would like to Thank all the Neighborhood Watch Block Captains and other volunteers for your contributions which led to its success. Many children dressed in costumes and with their family members, they visited the police department facility with its decorated jail cells. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the warm weather and it was an excellent way to begin the Halloween weekend. We would like to recognize and extend our gratitude for your time and hard work towards the occasion. It was truly a fun, family event!

Annual "Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops" at Meijer's

Saturday, December 11th, 2010 8:30 a.m.

Kids Shop with Bloomingdale Cops is organized by the Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #175. Each holiday season, the officers of the department seek to share and spread joy to community children in need. This



event is a great opportunity for area children to meet with local police officers in the holiday Spirit of Giving, in which each child is accompanied by a Bloomingdale police officer while shopping for gifts to be personally enjoyed or to give to other family members. All donations or for additional information, please contact Detective Bruce Mason at (630) 529-9868.