



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE MY NEIGHBOR WILL

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MARCH / APRIL 2014

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

On Wednesday, May 21st, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Room our meeting will discuss summer safety tips. The public is encouraged to attend and bring any questions or concerns regarding our community. Refreshments for the meeting will be provided.



Hope to see you there!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

 The March meeting provided an opportunity to get an insight into the **BASSET program (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education and Training)**. Watch Commander Matt Wolenberg drew the audience's attention from the start with a video of a very intoxicated male subject who was attempting to purchase a case of beer. In the video, the subject can be seen stumbling throughout the store on his way to the refrigeration section to obtain the beer. The subject falls down repeatedly and cannot stand-up straight without assistance from another person. The cashier refuses the sale of alcohol but allows the individual to stumble out of the store. Many in the audience thought that 9-1-1 should have been called in case the male subject needed medical assistance. The video demonstrated the reason why the BASSET Program is so important for those placed in the position of distributing alcohol.

Watch Commander Wolenberg provided an overview of the BASSET Program, in which the police department has provided alcohol awareness training since 1988. There have been over 3,600 participants to the State certified Bloomingtondale program that is overseen by the Mayor who is the Liquor License Commissioner. Bloomingtondale has 37 licensed liquor establishments, which include on-premise (ex. Restaurant) and off-premise (ex. Liquor store). The number has been higher and lower at times depending on the growth of businesses in the area. There are 7 categories for liquor classification, which may depend on location and open/close times. A background investigation is completed on each individual. The class is 4-hours long and there is a \$40.00 registration fee. BASSET is mandatory in Illinois.

Bloomingtondale offers the class every 2 months. Elsewhere there are on-line classes available, but questions may arise regarding the individual seeking certification and the validity of the business providing the class (the business may not operate in Illinois). The certification is good for life (no additional training), but this may change in the near future, in which an individual may need to renew certification every 3 years.

The material covered discusses the scope of the problem regarding alcohol (the attitude of drinking; high risk problems; and the myths concerning alcohol). The program seeks in the prevention of underage sales to minors, in which it stresses the proof of legal age, the screening and checking of id's, types of fraudulent id's, the detecting of fraudulent id's, and additional strategies for combating underage drinkers. Lastly, the class addresses the rules and regulations of the licensing authorities. These issues include the minimum age for alcohol, the "happy hour" laws that were put into place which are now offer "drink specials", Dram Shop Liability and local ordinances. The program stresses alcohol management, in which to recognize the signs of impairment. Those trained should be monitoring patrons to prevent over-consumption and provide alternatives to drinking alcohol. Also, be on alert for second party sales. The class provides intervention techniques. The 3 main things that are emphasized. **1) Don't serve under the age of 21.** Compliance checks are done, with underage volunteers, at every establishment in Bloomingtondale at least once a year. Please know that the police department and the Village want the establishments to succeed **but** they need to comply with the law. **2) Don't serve intoxicated customers.** **3) Report disorderly conduct – call 9-1-1.** If businesses do not comply, citations are written, followed by a hearing before the liquor commission and the Mayor can issue a fine up to \$1,000.00 for the first offense and \$1,500.00-\$2,500.00 for subsequent offenses at the same establishment.



For those who may question the strict policy, alcohol is a drug, as addictive as any other drug. The BASSET program requires 4-hours for certification to sell and distribute

alcohol. Other professions, nail, hair, massage therapist, driver's license require more certification hours. In the overall perspective, the BASSET program may prevent unnecessary traffic crashes and deaths.



DISPLAY HOUSE NUMBERS CORRECTLY FOR EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDERS

As many get outdoors to work on exterior projects, the house numbers displayed on your home may need to be considered for the project list. In an emergency, whether you need Police, Fire, or EMT personnel, minutes really do count for first responders. Oftentimes, these critical minutes can be wasted when responding emergency personnel try to locate poorly marked or unmarked addresses.

Please display your address numerically, rather than written form, i.e. 200 E. Wood Street. Also, the numbers should be at least 6" inches in height.

Be sure your address numbers contrast to the color of your house. Do not put light-colored numbers on a white house. Also, do not place your address numbers on either the front door or garage door. If the doors are open, no one will be able to find the address.

Finally, illuminate your address at night to allow an officer or fire personnel to find your home more easily in an emergency. A good rule of thumb – if you can't see the house numbers, neither can we.

JOGGING SAFETY TIPS

Runners or joggers should never assume that they are in a "safe" neighborhood. Anyone may be a potential victim, which is why attackers often seek out areas where people do feel safe and secure. When you feel safe, you instinctively let down your guard while walking or jogging. Take precautions to avoid becoming a victim and always act as a Neighborhood Watch in motion! If you notice someone or something suspicious, trust your instincts. Dial 9-1-1 and alert the police. Follow these basic tips while staying fit!

- ❖ Jog with a friend.
- ❖ Stay alert to the surroundings, occasionally check behind you.
- ❖ Stay on busier streets.
- ❖ Do not use headphones – or just use one earphone with the volume on low.
- ❖ Be cautious of anyone who stops you to ask for directions, money, etc.
- ❖ Do not wear any jewelry.
- ❖ Carry a cell phone with an "In Case of an Emergency" contact.
- ❖ Change your route – patterns become noticeable.
- ❖ ALWAYS let someone know your route and your expected time back.
- ❖ Avoid night jogging if possible, or wear highly reflective clothing and shoes.
- ❖ Wear / carry a personal alarm or whistle.
- ❖ Avoid long hedge rows and empty parks.
- ❖ Consider a self-defense class.

- ❖ Keep in mind - Items that you carry may be used against you.
- ❖ Dogs are great companions, but don't exhaust a pet.
- ❖ Wear sunscreen.

Have a safe and healthy summer!!

CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED...

Burglary to Motor Vehicle 100 Block of Chatham

On Wednesday, April 16, 2014, a Bloomingdale woman reported that sometime between 6:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., unknown person(s) entered her 2007 Pontiac and removed personal items. The vehicle was parked, secured, and unattended in her driveway at the time of the incident.



Burglary to Motor Vehicle Stratford Square-152 Stratford Drive

A Glendale Heights man reported that sometime between 6:50 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2014, person(s) unknown entered his unlocked 2007 Toyota and removed personal items. No further information at this time.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle; Ross-166 W. Army Trail Road

A Carol Stream woman reported sometime between 9:00 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. on Thursday, April 24, 2014, person(s) unknown removed several personal items from her vehicle. The vehicle was parked, secured and unattended in the parking lot when the incident occurred. No suspect information at this time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Rooftop Cop" at Dunkin Donuts

(169 E. Lake Street)

Friday, May 30, 2014

5:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Bloomingdale Police Officers unite with the Dunkin' Donuts staff to bring attention to the Special Olympics' mission of recognizing the tremendous courage, strength and perseverance of its athletes on the playing fields and in life. Officer Dawn Odoi and Officer Dominic Corsiglia will conduct a "rooftop sit-in" to greet Dunkin' Donuts customers and welcome donations for Illinois Special Olympics. So, come on in to Dunkin Donuts and don't forget to look up!



Illinois Special Olympics

Torch Run – Leg #14 – DuPage

Sunday, June 8, 2014

Location: Village Hall parking lot.

Time: approx. 12:50 p. m.

Please check the Village website from upcoming details.

Law Enforcement Officers throughout DuPage County will be carrying the Special Olympics "Flame of Hope" and running in intervals along a planned route to show support and unity for this great cause.



Reminder:

National Night Out Against Crime

Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Bloomington Park District / Circle Park

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT & INVOLVEMENT!