



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE

MY NEIGHBOR WILL

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SUMMER - MAY / JUNE / JULY / AUGUST 2019

THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

Wednesday, September 11th, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., will review the Illinois Secretary of State **REAL ID procedures and discuss travel safety issues**. People continue to plan for Fall



get-aways and the upcoming holiday season, so we want to encourage good safety practices while they are reaching their destinations.

Refreshments will be served.

Hope to see you there!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...



Due to recent Bloomingtondale events and related news stories earlier in the year, the May Neighborhood Watch meeting was dedicated to Personal Safety / Self-Defense issues for the public. The Bloomingtondale Police Department Defensive Tactic Instructors conducted a presentation and addressed the citizens' questions and concerns. Awareness and being alert to your surroundings are keys to lessen the chance of a crime being committed. Many times police officers are asked the "what if" scenarios, but individuals should be asking themselves those scenario questions during every aspect of daily life. Unfortunately, times have changed. And again unfortunately, the way of life that used to be, is not going back. Detective Joe Cressman emphasized that Visualization is a powerful tool, in which police officers are encouraged to use it in every aspect of training. It reduces the fear and 'freeze up' that can occur during an encounter. Visualization compliments physical training and establishes a warrior mindset – not giving up. A 'commitment to win' and a 'survival mindset' is essential if an encounter were to occur.

What are a potential attacker's main advantages? The first move against a person – puts that person on the defense, possibly into a victim mode. Additionally, the offender may have size, strength, and/or skill over the victim. Also, the offender may have better knowledge of the surroundings, in which they have done their "homework" – planned things out. Regarding your personal safety, it is always best to give up any item that an offender wants – nothing is worth your life. Detective Cressman showed videos to the audience on situational awareness, in which he pointed out the verbal and non-verbal cues of aggression. Attention should be paid not only to someone's words, but to their facial expressions and body language. Take in the complete picture of what is being

presented to you. For physical encounters, Detective Cressman spoke about distance management, which is key and it is shown in all combat arts. Reactionary gap is a 6'(feet) minimum. It is always encouraged to have a good angle and position on an opponent which aids in defensive moves. Also, understand and consider reaction time and try to avoid tunnel vision. When countering an offender, use of barriers, use of improvised weapons, and choosing where to engage. Finally, if you can prevent it, Don't become a victim! Most attackers are looking for an easy target – Reduce the opportunity for someone to get the better of you. Strength in numbers is effective, encouraging many to travel with others when in the public. Maintain eye contact in your daily routine – try to avoid looking at your phone / electronic device while walking in public. Perception that you give to others matters – How do you carry yourself in public? BREATH – Be confident and stay calm if an encounter occurs. Look for escape route. Communicate and Take Control. Be loud – draw attention from others if someone has you in a bad position. Have a positive mindset – You can get through it. Execute Action if needed – Strike, Kick, Stomp – What to hit: Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat, Shins, Knees, Legs, Groin – out maneuver, not out muscle. Keep it Simple and Assertive. Never stop fighting. Start training now – mentally and physically. Like many things in life... Hopefully it is something that doesn't happen, but you need to be prepared.

Safety Information: Many people are taking advantage of the warm weather days and enjoying the great outdoors. The Bloomingtondale Police Department wants children & parents to be aware that some unscrupulous individuals



may monitor the playground area and neighborhoods where today's youth gather. It is strongly encouraged that children and young adults avoid contact with unfamiliar individuals who may ask for directions, attempt to provide gifts / money, or engage in any conversation. "Stranger Danger" talks apply to everyone, no matter the age or physical size of a person. The Bloomingtondale Police Department also encourages that if an encounter with a suspicious person and/or vehicle occurs; notify our agency as soon as possible once safety has been established. Any questions or comments, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingtondale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

SPECIAL EVENTS

REMINDER TO ALL DRIVERS:

Attention Drivers: Construction Speed Zones are in effect at all times! As the “construction season” continues, construction workers have various working hours and the special speed limit signs (and penalties) are enforced. Although a driver may not see a construction worker or believe that the weather or time of day may not be conducive for construction work, the speed zone is imposed throughout the time that the construction is occurring. The penalties begin at \$375.00 and increase depending upon the incident and the driver’s record. Most tickets will have an attached court appearance with additional court fines. Note: If there is not a special construction speed limit sign posted, then the driver is required to adhere to the posted speed limit for the area.

During the summer months, our community can experienced power outages due to weather conditions or overloaded electronic issues, which can cause the traffic control devices / traffic signals to malfunction. The Bloomington Police Department would like to remind drivers that traffic intersections need to be monitored at all times to make sure that the traffic signals are working properly. If a traffic signal is not working at all or has conflicting signals (example: flashing red & green lights), drivers are to treat the intersection as a four-way stop, even without stop signs posted. It is requested that drivers pay attention on the roadways to reduce the opportunity for traffic crashes.



REGARDING SOLICITORS...

Some residents have contacted the Village of Bloomington and the Bloomington Police Department asking about solicitors in their neighborhoods. Solicitors must comply with local registration procedures. Please call the police department regarding those who are not complying or any suspicious person(s), vehicle(s) or activity in the area.

Any questions or comments, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomington Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED...

Theft of Misplaced Property

Planet Fitness (152 S. Gary Avenue)

A Carol Stream man reported that sometime between 10:00 p.m. and 12:30 a.m., person(s) unknown removed his wallet from an unlocked locker. No further information at this time.

A Frankfort man reported that sometime between 11:30 a.m. and 12:20 p.m., person(s) unknown removed his cellular phone from an unlocked locker. Nothing further.

Theft of Misplaced Property

Lifetime Fitness (455 Scott Drive)

A man reported that sometime between 10:07 p.m. and 10:52 p.m., person(s) unknown entered his locker by unknown means and removed his cellular phone from his duffle bag. No further information.



Remember: Report all suspicious person(s) and vehicles in your neighborhood and around shopping areas, including unregistered solicitors, repair services, and those seeking assistance.

“National Night Out Against Crime”

Tuesday, August 6th, 2019 - 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bloomington Park District / Circle Park

Annual event thanking the community and encourage further efforts from citizens to “**Take a Bite Out of Crime**”. The pool is open to all and organized games will be provided. Food (hot dogs, hamburgers, etc) will be provided free of cost and will be served from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Also, featured during the event will be..... 

Heroes vs. Half Pints Softball Showdown

Tuesday, August 6th, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. Circle Park

Middle school players showcase their skills against the Bloomington Police Officers. See how softball is played as both teams take the field to victory. ☺ **AND**

Whiffle Ball Classic with Bloomington Fire Department

Children entering grades 1st - 4th are invited to play whiffle ball with the Bloomington Fire Department.

This is a non-competitive game and everyone plays.

Please join us for this free, fun, family event.

International Overdose Awareness Day Event

Time to Remember, Time to Act

Wednesday, August 28th, 2019,

begins 5:30 p.m.

Bloomington Library parking lot



Every day, more than 130 people in the United States die after overdosing on opioids. In DuPage County alone, deaths from illegal opioids increased 13%-from 72 to 81—from 2017-2018.

Bloomington Police Department and LTM Foundation (a non-profit organization the works to prevent substance use disorders) have come together for an event to make the public aware of the effect on our Bloomington community.

- *Learn what the community is doing to fight this epidemic
- *Tour the “**In Plain Sight**” trailer – location of hidden drugs
- *“**Save a Life**” – Training on administering Naloxone (Narcan)
- *Celebrate the lives lost to accidental overdose
- *Meet resources that provide addiction related support, services, awareness
- *Get Involved!

If you are a parent, grand-parent, legal guardian, educator, any contact with today’s youth, family member or friend, consider joining us to increase your awareness of what’s going on and to take a stand against this deadly force in society.

For more information: ltmfoundation.org

Citizen Police Academy

September 4th – November 13th, 2019

Wednesday evenings

from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Presentations and discussions on various areas of law enforcement will be addressed. Also, there will be tours of the new Dispatch Center & Police Academy. The classes provide a unique opportunity to have police officers as instructors.

The program is free. Refreshments will be served.

Don’t miss out on such a great learning experience!

Questions and/or to Register for the program,

please contact Officer Dawn Odoi at (630) 529-9868.