



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



FRANK GIAMMARESE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

BLOOMINGDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
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BLOOMINGDALE, ILLINOIS 60108-1499

IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL

(630) 529-9868
www.villageofbloomingtondale.org

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2020

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

Next meeting is on Wednesday, March 18th, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in the Village Hall Council Room and will feature **Mayor Franco Coladipietro, Village Administrator Peter Scalera** and a **representative from Village Services / Public Works** to provide the audience with the "State of Bloomingtondale" address. Village Officials will provide the audience an opportunity to get first-hand information on the current status of community development projects and activities and to ask questions about the future.



Please consider joining us for this informative presentation.

Refreshments will be served.

Hope you can attend and look forward to seeing you there!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...

As the saying goes, "If it's not broke, don't fix it." That's the feeling for the annual Neighborhood Watch Program – Open Forum Meetings. Although the Open Forum has been split into two meetings, there was no decline in attendance. For the January meeting, Bloomingtondale Director of Public Safety Frank Giammarese and Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District Fire Chief Jeff Janus were prepared for the well attended event as they met with residents to provide a summary of agency accomplishments and what is in sight for the future.

Director Giammarese first noted that it will be 3 years (January 19, 2017) since Officer Raymond Murrell's passing due to a traffic crash as he was responding to an in-progress call. Many remember the difficult time for the family and friends, the police department and the community, in which a young life and a career ended before it really began. The Bloomingtondale Police Department will always honor Officer Murrell's service to our citizens.



As communities deal with rising mental health issues, the Bloomingtondale Police Department continues to receive grant funds so that we can enlist the services of Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services (NEDFYS). NEDFYS strives to help with Crisis Intervention, Youth/Adult/Family Counseling, and Referrals to Food, Shelter, and Legal Services. With an increase in mental health service calls / incidents, NEDFYS provides another option for emergency personnel. In the past, the options were limited: possible transport to Elgin Mental Health Center or to provide a ride to another location. Police officers these days need to help people find proper connections and resources for quality of life issues. Many of our Police

Officers are Crisis Intervention trained so that they can handle and work to de-escalate situations that in the past would have ended differently. Individual incidents were discussed and Director Giammarese promoted keeping the public informed to alleviate some citizens' concerns. Updates for situations will be provided to those in the immediate residential areas.

Director Giammarese chose to give the audience his remaining time so that they could bring up issues that have been on their minds. Traffic issues were voiced, in particular the congestion at the intersection of Schick Road and Ridge Road during the afternoon/evening rush hours. The Village will be looking into the traffic patterns for the area. Other residents commended the re-positioning of signs at Third Street and Washington Street. There will be new traffic lights on Third Street in the future as part of the Old Town Project. Director Giammarese advised that there will be no Red-Light cameras in the town. Director Giammarese further advised that he would prefer that the police officers have discretion when handling traffic stops, in which he reminded the audience that we are in the 'people' business. Director Giammarese assured the audience that the department does conduct truck details due to the increase truck traffic since I-390 (tollway) was opened. An audience member did commend the police department on the foot patrol initiatives as well as the bike patrol – when weather conditions are more favorable. Indian Lakes Hotel continues to operate and the police department continues to be proactive regarding any suspicious activities. Director Giammarese advised that the police department and the Village had requested for lighting enhancement and for a security presence, in which the hotel management has complied with these requests. Marijuana law began January 1, 2020, in which the Village of Bloomingtondale has determined not to be a dispensary. Yet, residents may still purchase marijuana items at other locations and use in their private residences. The police department has on-going training and exchange of information with other agencies as laws and the times change.



Due to a longtime working relationship, Fire Chief Jeff Janus effortlessly transitioned as the next speaker from Director Giammarese, but not without noting that the Director did not make a comment about the friendly rivalry between the police department and the fire department. ☺ Chief Janus noted that the motto for the Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District continues to be: **SERVICE–SAFETY–TEAMWORK**. The fire department's response totals for the 2019 year were 5,101 calls for service,

which averaged to about 14 calls a day. BFD responded to 3,484 EMS calls and 1,617 Fire calls. All fire department personnel are cross-trained for Fire calls and EMS calls. Chief Janus reminded the audience that the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District is part of the “Alliance”, to consolidate resources with other fire agencies. By dropping the borders, the fire agencies in the Alliance not only help one another, but they are all operating under the same procedures – “same playbook”. The Fire Chief reflected and noted the major and minor events that the fire department has taken part in. The BMW Golf Championship last summer enlisted the assistance from many local emergency service agencies to be ready for anything—including the fire incident at Eagle Ridge Resort that almost delayed Phil Mickelson from attending the event. A gas main break near the intersection of Army Trail Road/ Bloomingdale Road caused a few headaches for the surrounding area, including an elementary school (Glendale Heights). Photos of traffic crashes incidents showed the audience that sometimes vehicles don’t stay on the roadways or the parking lots. Chief Janus showed a vehicle that left the roadway and into a home. The Fire Chief also advised that Jersey Mike’s restaurant building has been struck by vehicles on 3 separate occasions, in which the joke has been that they should add a drive-thru to avoid these incidents. Other photos showed the fire department personnel in action during the following calls for service and/or training drills: In-Trench Training (assistance provided by the Public Works Department to dig the trench); Mass Casualty Drills (including Active Shooter); Driving Training of Fire Vehicles; photos of Roll-over crashes; and Evacuation from smoke-filled rooms. Training for the fire department personnel, such as Ice Rescue and even Airplane Crash Training, is regularly scheduled throughout the year. Chief Janus jokes around with his staff that “there is no 9-1-2”, emergency services is the last defense.

Fire Chief Janus encourages the public to please do the following: Furnance Checks; Chimneys & Vents – checked; Clothes Dryers routinely cleaned (also white plastic vents will catch on fire – metal vents are needed to be installed); Candles & Space Heaters are discouraged unless they are constantly monitored; Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors need to be installed; Addresses need to be visible and should be numbers instead of letters (322 instead of three twenty-two); Keep Hydrants clear of snow so they can be located; Practice with all family members – EDITH (Exit Drill In The Home); Obtain and know how to use fire extinguishers; Register with Smart 9-1-1 for quick access to a person’s medical conditions and medications for emergency personnel to administer immediate help. Also, Chief Janus promoted the use of the File of Life packets (mini medical files that are placed on the refrigerator door) that can be obtained by the fire department and/or the police department.

“Close before you doze!” Bloomingdale Fire Department Chief Jeff Janus and fire personnel continue to bring that message to the public. Closing bedroom doors before going to sleep will help keep carbon monoxide and smoke out of the room if an incident occurs. To prevent falls, it is always best to keep walkways / sidewalks and driveways clear.

The audience conveyed their appreciation for the service given by Director of Public Safety Frank Giammarese and Fire Chief Janus to lead Bloomingdale’s first responders.

Fire Chief Jeff Janus retired in January, in which the Bloomingdale Police Department and the community wish him and his family our best wishes for the future. ☺

SAFETY REMINDERS:



Even during the winter months, there are many people who will seek to enjoy the outdoors and escape ‘cabin fever’. Pedestrian safety is a Village priority. Please try to observe the following guidelines.

- ❖ Pedestrians should use the crosswalk when available and look both ways when entering the crosswalk.
- ❖ Pedestrians should wear light colored or reflective clothing when going out for a walk after dark.
- ❖ Drivers stopping for a traffic signal or stop sign should stop before the crosswalk pavement marking.
- ❖ Drivers should look both ways before driving through a crosswalk.
- ❖ Keep Village sidewalks clear of vehicles and/or snow. Please be considerate of neighbors, children, dog walkers, bicyclists, and any other travelers who wish to use public sidewalks.

During a busy day, residents sometimes forget that little things do matter. Parking over a sidewalk forces pedestrians to walk or ride their bike out into the street to maneuver around the vehicle. This can be dangerous due to oncoming traffic. It is important to keep the sidewalks clear to comply with Village code and avoid a \$25.00 fine. The ordinance prohibits vehicles from blocking the use of a sidewalk during all hours of the day. Please obey this ordinance to respect the rights of pedestrians. Any questions or comments regarding this information please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

CURRENT CASES BEING INVESTIGATED...

Theft

Kohl’s – #6 Stratford Square Mall

A 75 year old Carol Stream woman reported that after shopping at Kohl’s she noticed her wallet missing from her purse.



A 59 year old Glendale Heights woman reported that she was shopping between 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. When she went to the checkout, she noticed her purse was missing. No further information at this time.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

249 Edgewater Drive

A 27 year old Bloomingdale man reported that sometime between 9:00 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. (next day), unknown person(s) by unknown means entered his Honda and removed some personal items. The vehicle was parked, secured and unattended in his driveway when the incident occurred. No further information is available at this time.

Burglary to Motor Vehicle

Bloomingdale Golf Club – 181 Glen Ellyn Road

A 51 year old Carol Stream woman reported that sometime between 9:00 a.m. and 4:55 p.m., unknown person(s) shattered the passenger’s side window of her Toyota and removed some personal items. The approximate value of the loss is unknown. The vehicle was parked, secured and unattended in the parking lot when the incident occurred. No further information.

Kids vs. Police – Hockey Showdown

Saturday, February 1st, 2020 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Circle Park – skating rink



Players ages 6-10 years old will use their skills and challenge the Bloomingdale Police Officers to a Hockey Game. See how hockey is really played, outdoors, as both teams take the ice to victory. ☺