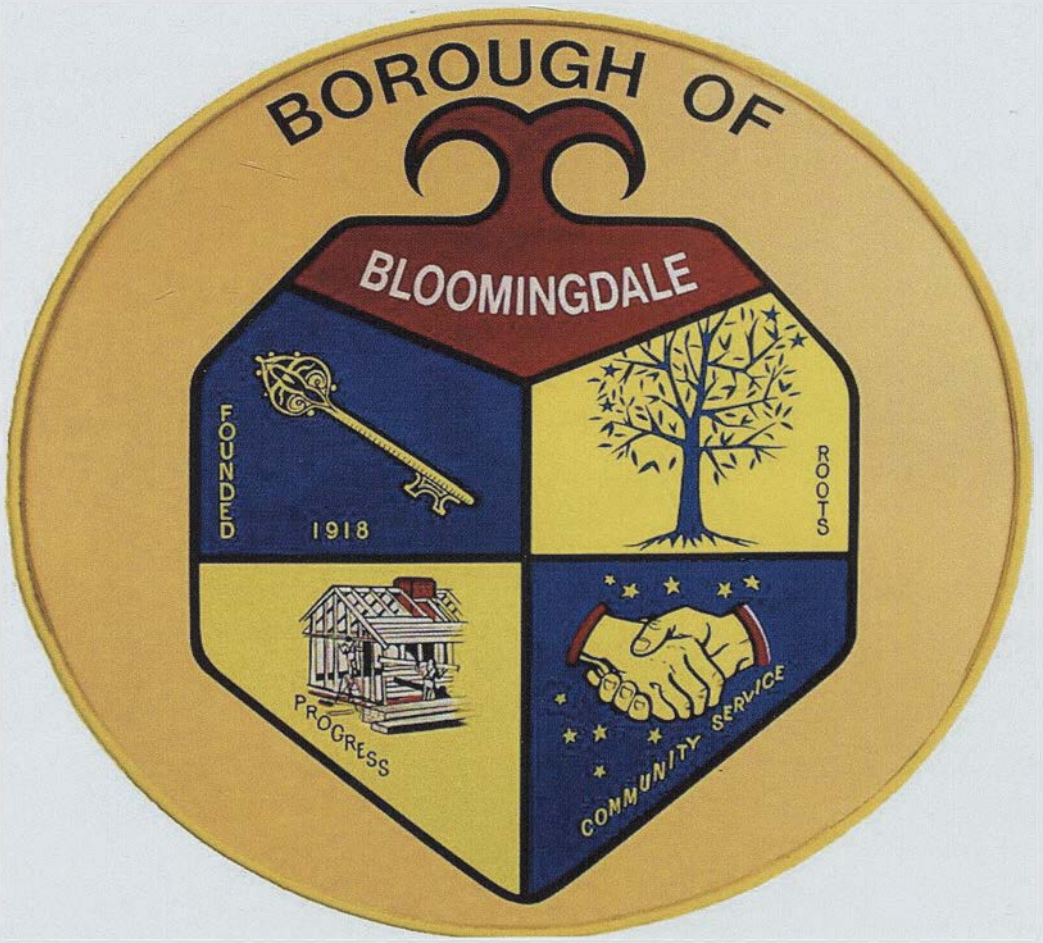
Bloomingdale Centennial 1918-2018



1918 2018

Borough of Bloomingdale



Centennial

BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE

101 HAMBURG TURNPIKE • BLOOMINGDALE, NEW JERSEY 07403
(TEL) 973-838-0778 (FAX) 973-838-5115

An American Small Town
1918 - 2018

As your Mayor and Town Council we are pleased to join you for a fun year as we celebrate the Centennial of our beloved Borough. We are indeed fortunate to have, as our town motto states, a strong past, pleasing present, and promising future. We owe much to our residents, the Borough staffs, both past and present, as well as all past Governing Bodies and volunteers for making our Borough the special place that it is today.

Councilman John D'Amato has been meeting monthly with the Centennial Celebration Committee and the 100th Anniversary Book Committee for over a year to make this event the best that it can be. It has been a pleasure to plan for the occasion and put together a new book about the history of our town. We are grateful to the many people who have contributed, and we take this opportunity to express our thanks to everyone involved.

It is our sincere hope that you will all join us at both the Winter Celebration on February 24, 2018 at Sloan Park, and the Summer Event at the Walter T. Bergen School on June 23, 2018. Let's make these celebrations fitting tributes to the creation of our town government 100 years ago.

Our new history book clearly shows how our Borough has grown from a small village centered around the production of iron, into a growing residential community in the 1960s, and finally into the prosperous town we call home today. The hundreds of volunteers who serve on Borough Committees and Boards, as well as our professional public servants, contribute daily to the smooth operation of our town. Our exemplary Police and Fire Departments, dedicated School Teachers and staff, committed town employees, and others, work hard to protect and educate us, and keep our children safe.

The history of our town should be an inspiration to all of us. Not only does it show us where we have been, it explains why we are the way we are today and gives us insight into where we want to go tomorrow.

Happy Anniversary Bloomingdale, we hope much health, happiness, and good fortune to everyone in the *next* 100 years.

Thank you,

Jonathan Dunleavy

Mayor Jon Dunleavy and Council Members: Dawn Hudson, John D'Amato, Ray Yazdi, Mike Sondermeyer , Richard Dellaripa, and Anthony Costa.

Bloomingdale Centennial
1918 - 2018



Dawn Hudson, Michael Sondermeyer, Anthony Costa, Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy, John D'Amato, Ray Yazdi, Richard Dellaripa



Bloomingdale Borough Hall
101 Hamburg Turnpike

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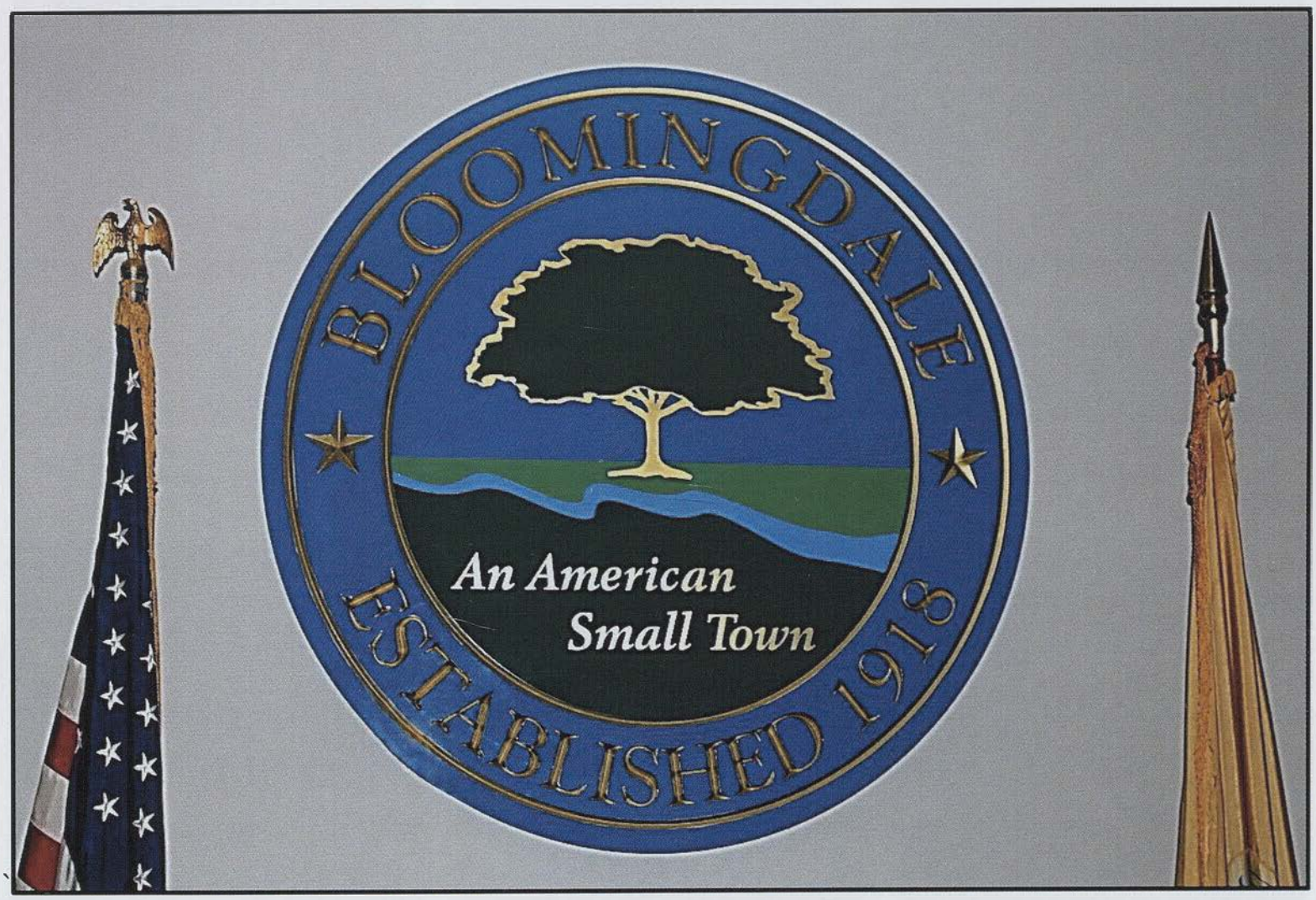
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Borough Emblem
2018

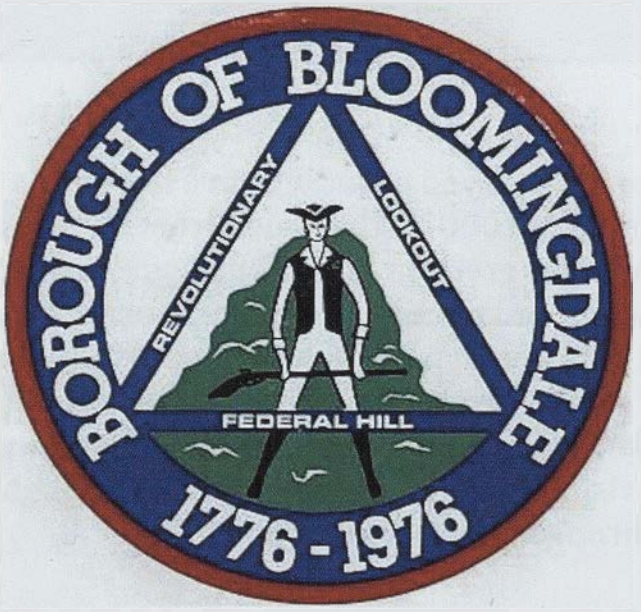


The current borough emblem is displayed proudly above the dais in the municipal building's council chambers. It was designed in 2000 by the Main Street Revitalization Committee formed by Mayor Craig Ollenschleger. The color green in the emblem pays tribute to the two-thirds of the borough that is dedicated to active and passive recreational uses. The color blue honors the many fresh water bodies for which the borough is known, highlighted by the Pequannock River as its southern boundary. The color gold reflects the pride of its citizenry in Bloomingdale's identity as an "American Small Town." Emblems, carved by American Woodworking of Wayne and financed the Lakeland Bank, also welcome visitors at each entrance to the borough: Main Street; Union Avenue; Glenwild Avenue; Hamburg Turnpike; and Macopin Road.

Other Borough Emblems

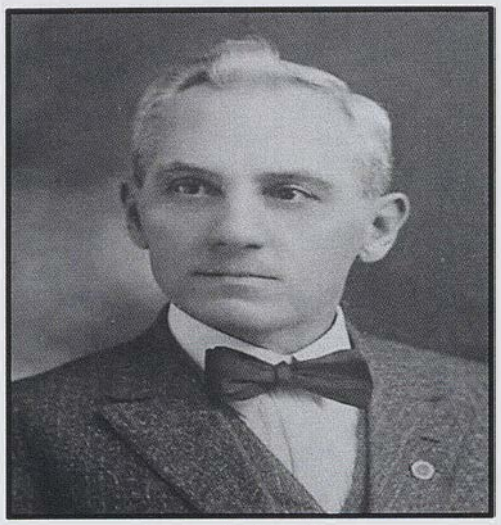


Adopted September 8, 1966, this design by Jeanette Loughery was the winner of a contest sponsored by the Bloomingdale Jaycees. The key in the left-hand corner signifies the founding of the Borough in 1918. The house under construction indicates progress. The tree and its roots represent strength and the stars, opportunity. The clasped hands in the lower right-hand corner stand for cooperation in community service.

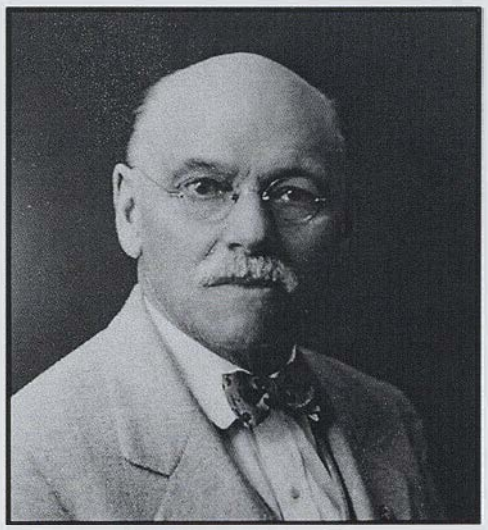


This emblem was designed by fifth grader Scott Silence winner of the Bicentennial Seal Contest in 1976. It recognizes the import role Federal Hill played as the sight of a Revolutionary War signal beacon that was used as an early warning system for George Washington's army. Federal Hill was also the scene of the Pompton Mutiny in 1781, Two leaders of the mutiny were executed and buried nearby.

Bloomingdale Mayors
1918 – 1960



Isaac DeLazier
1918 – 1924



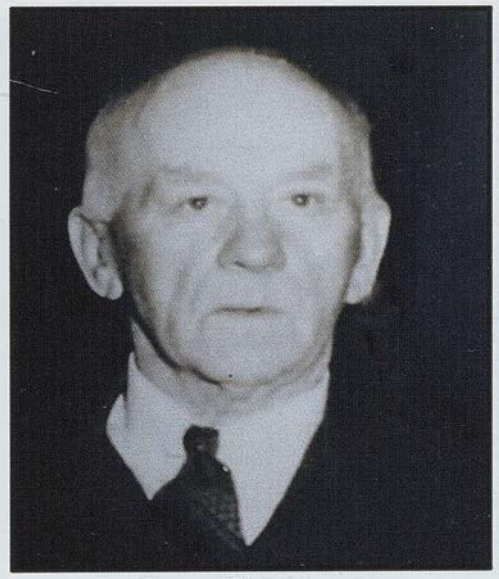
William Donald
1925 – 1926



DeGray White
1927 - 1932



John B. Garrison
1933 – 1934



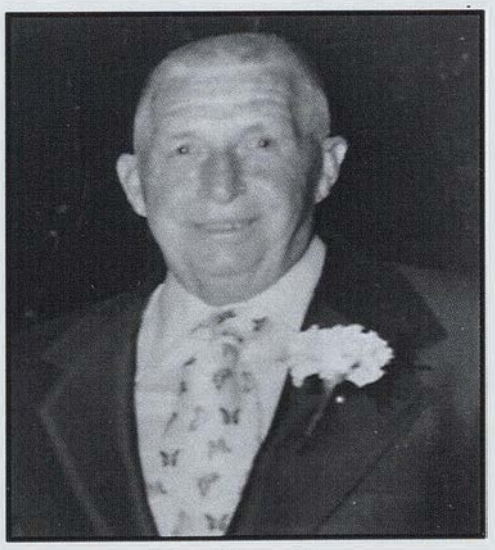
Henry Van Dam
1935 – 1940



Norman Cook
1941 – 1948



Roy Mickens
1949 – 2/1952

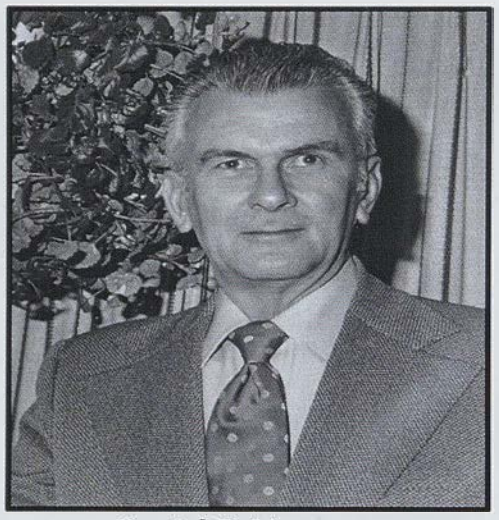


John Brandt
2/14/1952 – 1952

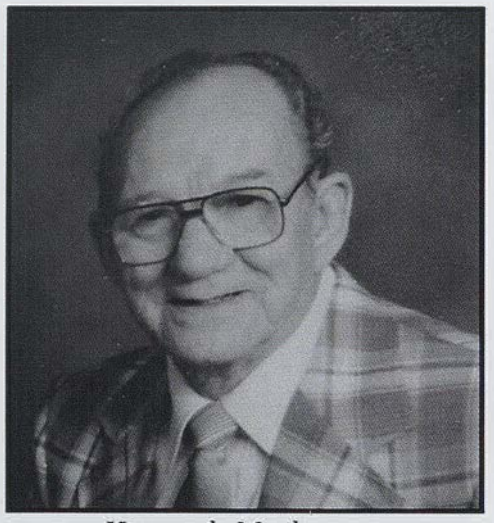


William Tice Jr.
1953 - 1960

Bloomingdale Mayors
1961 – 1993



Daniel R. Morse
1961 – 1962 1974 – 1978



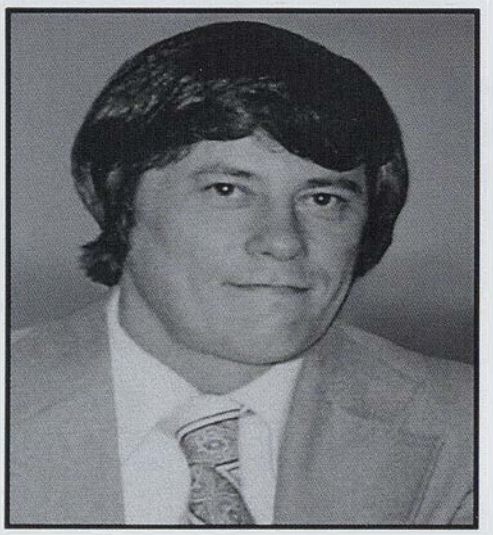
Kenneth Mathews
1963 – 1964



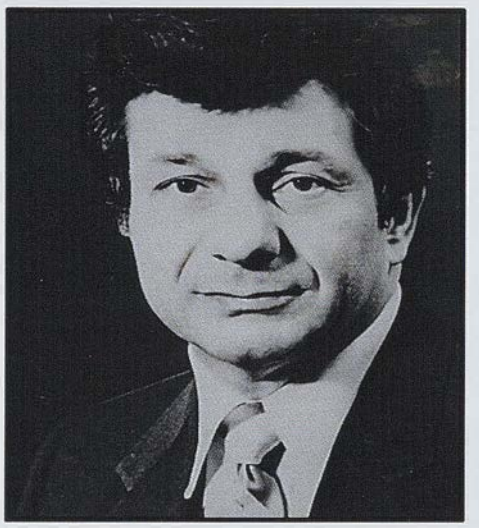
R. Howard Smith
1971 – 8/17/1973



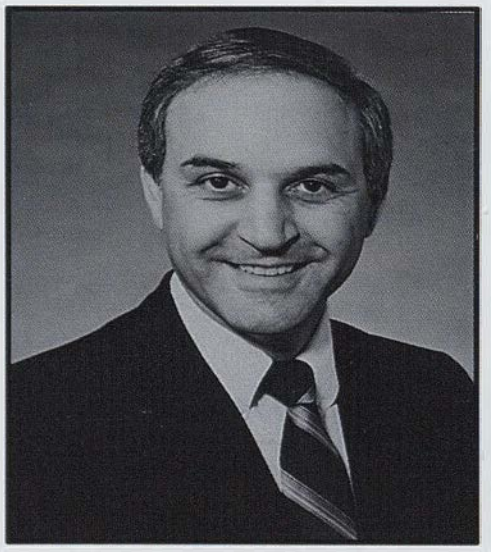
Peter B. Shultis
9/27/1973 – 12/1973



Donald Seaman
1979 – 10/6/1981



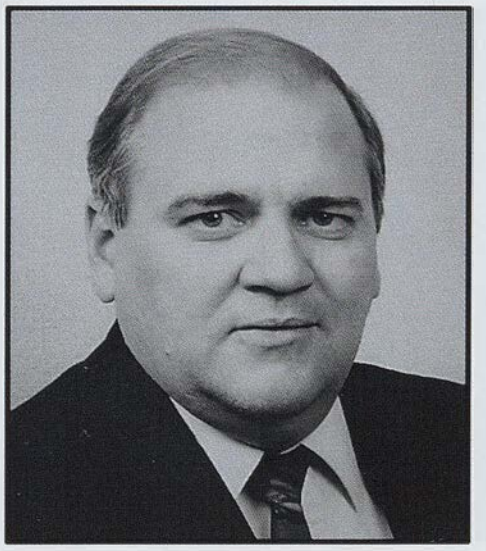
Vincent A. Sabio
12/29/1981 – 1986



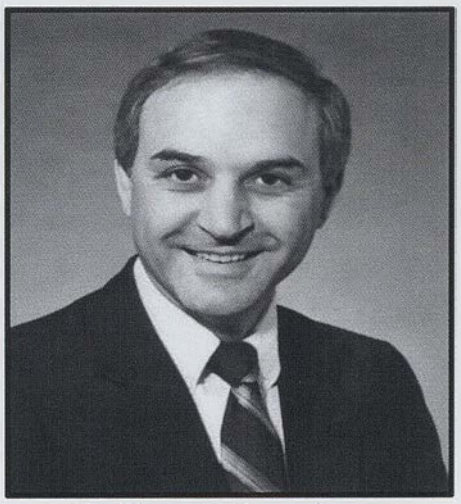
Anthony Graziano
1987 – 1990



Walter Struble
1991 – 3/1/1993



William Hulme
3/30/1993 – 11/1993



Anthony Graziano
Mayor, 1987 - 1990

During my time in office, we benefited from the help of many fine professionals. Police Chief Ed Fletcher, Treasurer Terry Benack, Tax Assessor Brian Townsend and DPW Manager Ken Barrett immediately come to mind. But the person I am most indebted to is our long time Borough Clerk Millie Bird. She knew municipal law and procedure like she knew the back of her hand and she personally knew so many Borough residents even better. Millie was a good friend and a wonderful public servant.

There came a time when we wanted to hire someone to assist Millie in her many duties. Councilman Walt Struble and I interviewed and hired a young woman named Jane McCarthy. It was not long before we realized that we had found a real jewel in Jane. Walter later observed, "Sometimes it is better to be lucky than smart, and we were very lucky to have found her." Jane served the Borough for many years and later achieved the position of Borough Clerk.

Upon becoming Mayor in 1987, my first act was to appoint a committee to explore the possibility of erecting memorial monuments to honor those who served in the armed forces in Korea and Vietnam. As it turned out, there were serious disagreements among veterans concerning the details of such a project. Nevertheless, within that year, two committees succeeded in raising funds sufficient to accomplish our goal and Bloomingdale proudly dedicated both monuments. Our common goal was to recognize and thank all of those who served our country in those two wars and everyone came together to do just that.

One of our most solid achievements was the decision to sell vacant Borough owned land and enact a zoning law for the development of a nursing home health care facility on Union Avenue. The project resulted in the acquisition of an excellent tax ratable, a source of local employment, and a beneficial resource not only for Bloomingdale, but for the entire area.

Running for public office was a difficult thing to do and serving in office was even more so. I am indebted to many people whose support and cooperation I received. It was a tremendously satisfying experience and I am grateful to my fellow citizens who gave me that opportunity.



Anne DuHaime
Mayor, 1993 – 1998

It was my pleasure to serve as the first woman Mayor of our great little town. I served for five years as Mayor and three years on the Town Council prior to that.

I had always been a volunteer in town. A friend and I started Tri -Boro Animal Welfare almost 40 years ago. I also served on the Recreation Commission and helped with all the activities in which children were involved.

During my term as Mayor, I was determined to bring pride back to our town. Hence "Pride Day" was started when I became Council President and chairperson of the celebration of Bloomingdale's 75th Anniversary. We had activities all year long and a parade on the actual day of the anniversary. It makes me happy to see that "Pride Day" continues to be celebrated every year.

An area animal shelter had always been my dream. When I was Mayor, this became a reality thanks to numerous wonderful people who helped make it happen. We now serve seven other towns, and it is a facility that I am extremely proud of.

It also became evident to me that our senior citizens needed a building in which to hold their meetings and other activities. That too became a reality and today our Senior Citizen Center is a popular place that helps enrich peoples' lives every day.

The beautification of our town was also very important to me. We planted many blossoming pear trees and a number of flower gardens at various locations around town. We improved Sloan Park so concerts, holiday celebrations, and other fun activities could be held there again. I am pleased to see that many of the beautification projects that we started are still being cared for today.

I thank all those who helped me become your Mayor and to achieve so many goals in the few years that I served.



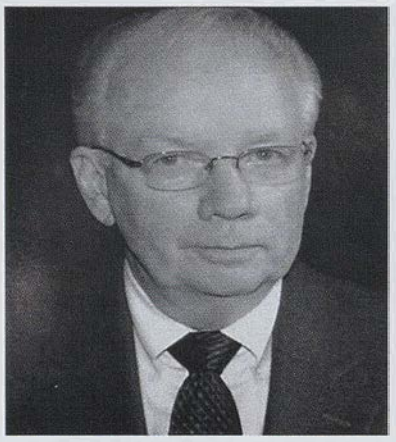
CRAIG A. OLLENSCHLEGER
Mayor, 1999 - 2006

Only in a small American town like Bloomingdale could someone who grew up on Orchard Street, attended the Martha B. Day and Walter T. Bergen Schools, and played at DeLazier Field as a young boy, be entrusted with the responsibility of serving as the mayor of his hometown. It was not only an honor to have been elected at age 28 as the twenty-second and youngest mayor in Bloomingdale history, but a privilege to have served with a dedicated municipal clerk, Jane McCarthy; a diligent professional staff; and borough council members—Hack Miller (open space preservation); Ted Snure (senior citizens and flood mitigation); Jon Dunleavy (recreation); Don Boonstra (public health and safety); Bill Steenstra (planning and zoning); Bernie Vroom (search and rescue); and Bob Voorman (budgeting and utilities)—who worked tirelessly to forge our community's commitment to its families into a new century.

The cornerstones of our civic society and local government were put in place under our stewardship. Public comment at borough council meetings was opened. A new municipal website was developed. New volunteer boards and commissions, such as the Recreation Commission, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Economic Development Commission, were chartered. Public referenda were held. New community events, including the September 11th Candlelight walk, the Christmas holiday stroll, and a town carnival, were organized. Today, Bloomingdale citizens are better informed and more engaged in our community and its governance than ever before.

Sound investments were made in public resources, facilities, and infrastructure for Bloomingdale's future. More than $7 million in county, state, and federal grant funding was secured over seven years for local tax relief and public works projects, such as the renovation of the Bloomingdale Municipal Building for handicapped accessibility and the installation of Glenwild Avenue sidewalks. In 2001, the Recreation and Open Space Establishment (ROSE) Trust Fund was created to provide a stable local funding source to help maintain our playgrounds and recreational fields, open a new recreation center on Main Street, and preserve open space—including more than 100 acres of Federal Hill. Downtown Bloomingdale received its most significant facelift in decades when new brick-paver sidewalks, Belgian Block curbing, and decorative street lights were installed along the Main Street corridor in 2004. Most significantly, construction finally began in 2006 on the Union Avenue Public Safety Complex, the Borough's first new firehouse in more than forty years.

It has been said that each of us should try and leave this world a little better than we have found it. With the loving support of my parents, Charlie and Betty, and my wife, Christine, only in a small American town like Bloomingdale could someone like me have the unique opportunity to work with my fellow citizens as mayor to achieve that goal for my hometown.



William Steenstra
Mayor, 2007 – 2010

After serving on the Borough Council for six consecutive years, I had the opportunity to run for Mayor. I decided to accept the challenge and try for the position. From my previous years' experience, I knew there was much that needed to be done for our town. I had lived in Bloomingdale for 36 years and wanted to continue to see the Borough make progress. After winning the election in November 2006, I took office on January 1, 2007, and working with the Town Council over four years, made several positive changes.

The antiquated firehouse on Ballston Street had severe safety problems and couldn't accommodate today's modern equipment. The new firehouse on Union Avenue had been approved in 2006, but construction had just begun. With a generous donation of time and material from Tilcon Quarry, the Station One Firehouse was completed.

Because of a lack of commercial ratables, Bloomingdale taxes are always problematic. In an effort to help alleviate some of the burden, we started shared service agreements with neighboring towns. Bloomingdale hosted agreements with five towns, sharing Animal Control. We also shared street sweeping with Pompton Lakes and hosted an agreement with Butler and Kinnelon with respect to their Building Departments. Many of these shared agreements still exist today and continue to help reduce costs for Bloomingdale.

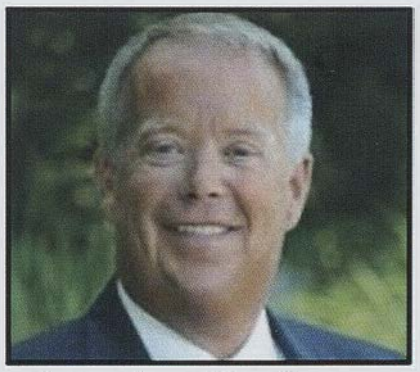
An opportunity arose for the town to acquire a building on Union Avenue near the new firehouse. It was purchased with the intension of being used by the Police Department, but ended up being used by the Building Department instead. This building also provides much needed storage for Borough records.

Our Fire Department had a major problem with outdated equipment. Within fours years, three new firetrucks were purchased. Keeping the town safe should always be a top priority, and acquiring the new fire apparatus was a major step in that direction.

We also restructured the town's debt to take advantage of lower interest rates, brought public water to parts of Morse Lakes to circumvent failing wells, and in 2008, razed the old DPW building and replaced it with a modern building with new safe equipment.

In 2009 work began on the Avalon Bay Apartments. It was the town's first major development in 50 years. Avalon Bay added revenue to the Borough and helped decrease water bills by putting more users into the system. Very few students were added to our school system, and there was a minimal increase in traffic. The Avalon Bay Complex is fully rented, and has a waiting list.

It was a great pleasure to serve my town!



Jonathan Dunleavy
Mayor, 2011 - Present

I am honored to have been serving as the Borough's Mayor since 2011. I am also grateful and humbled by the support of our Community in allowing me to serve as your Mayor.

Bloomingdale is truly an American Small town and a place where you actually know your neighbors. This is what makes our Borough a very special place. I have lived in the Borough since 1990 and have enjoyed raising my family here. In an effort to give back to the community I wanted to get involved so in 2000 I successfully ran for Council and served through 2005. During this time I was actively engaged in recreation and developing Community events for our residents to enjoy.

I wanted to contribute more to our Borough, so I decided to run for Mayor. During my tenure I am proud of our many achievements. But the achievements would not be possible without the support of our fine Governing Body-Councilmen John D'Amato, Ray Yazdi, Rich Dellaripa, Mike Sondermeyer, Tony Costa and Councilwoman Dawn Hudson. I must also acknowledge the Borough's dedicated and professional staff, as well as all our borough volunteers.

Our governing body has strived to be fiscally responsible while still making the necessary capital investments in our town. We are most proud of the fact that we have been able to stabilize the Municipal tax rate. The Borough has found innovative ways to increase revenue and reduce expenses while still providing excellent service to our residents.

The Governing Body is making an investment in our Borough, whether it be paving 70% of the Boroughs roads in 6 short years or replacing utility infrastructure to stabilize these rates, our goal is to make Bloomingdale a great and affordable place to live. We are extremely proud of the fact that we have secured in excess of $7 million in Federal, State and County grants to allow this investment. We have restored 100% of our recreation facilities and the long-awaited flood mitigation and beautification of Sloan Park will be completed in 2018.

We must thank our predecessors for their commitment and service to our Borough. They have laid the ground work so our current Governing Body can make things even better. The Borough has supported smart growth with the new and welcomed the Avalon Bay development. We look forward to many new developments in the very near future to continue the progress we have begun. We are especially thrilled about the redevelopment of our downtown area. This has been a dream of mine for many years, to create an American Small Town downtown where we can all gather, shop and dine. This dream will become a reality and I look forward to continue being your Mayor to see this through.

In closing, I ask all our residents to get involved in our community, whether it be serving on a board, coaching, attending a meeting or simply calling me with your thoughts and ideas. We are a team and you are the most valuable player. I am encouraged by our progress as we continue to make positive changes and achieve great things for Bloomingdale.



Jane McCarthy
Borough Clerk, 1992 - 2017

Jane McCarthy, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Bloomingdale retired on December 31, 2017 after 30 years of dedicated service to the Borough. Jane is known for her bright and sunny disposition as well as being a consummate professional. In addition to her service in municipal government, Jane served as an officer in the Passaic County Municipal Clerk's Association multiple times, most recently retiring in the midst of her second term as President of the Association. Jane served as secretary to the Tri-Boro Area Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the Tri-Boro Rotary Club, and is an avid supporter of Toys-for-Tots. Prior to becoming a clerk, she worked for eight years in the private sector, holding the title of Vice-President of Marketing.

Jane is particularly proud of her children, Richard (R.I.P.) and Dana, and her grandchildren, Riley and Brennan. She actively supported their development as a cheering advisor and CCD advisor. Jane plans to continue to be an active supporter of Veterans' groups in memory of her beloved son Richard. She plays the cymbal and was active in the Stardustets All-Girl Drum & Bugle Corp., was a Butler Bulldog Booster, and served as a member of the St. Anthony's Church Council. She was also recognized by the Bloomingdale VFW as Citizen of the Year. Jane plans to spend quality time with her 93-year old Mom and her grandchildren in her retirement.



Tax Collector, Barbara Neinstedt; Municipal Clerk, Breeana Calabro; Deputy Municipal Clerk, Terry Sauer; Assistant CFO, Michael Yazdi; Treasurer, Sherry Gallagher; Chief Financial Officer, Donna Mollineaux



Linda Bennett, Agnes Sydoryk, Laura Pluymers, Library Director, Patricia Perugino, Barbara Licitra, Kelly Sondermeyer, Valerie Chica, Madison Levine, Not Pictured, Barbara DeKorte



Construction Official and Zoning Officer, Daniel Hagberg; Office Assistant Cathy Lime; Technical Assistant, Maureen DePascale; Property Maintenance Official, Robert Westdyk

2018 STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE GOVERNING BODY

FY2018 Budget Committee:	Richard Dellaripa / John D'Amato / Jonathan Dunleavy
Governmental Operations:	John D'Amato / Michael Sondermeyer / Ray Yazdi
Public Health & Safety:	John D'Amato / Dawn Hudson / Michael Sondermeyer *Alternate: Ray Yazdi*
Ordinance Review Committee:	William Steenstra / Edward Simoni / Pete Croop William Graf / Dan Hagberg / Ray Yazdi Brian Guinan
Shared Services Committee:	Jonathan Dunleavy / Ray Yazdi / Dawn Hudson
Flood Committee:	Jack Miller / Jon Dunleavy / Tony Costa / Bernie Vroom / Richard Dellaripa
Grants Committee:	Jon Dunleavy / Dawn Hudson / Richard Dellaripa

Dedicated Service

The Borough of Bloomingdale is very fortunate to have many dedicated people who volunteer their services for the benefit and general welfare of the Borough and its people. We appreciate their countless hours of dedicated service to help make our town a better place.

GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy
Councilman Anthony Costa
Councilman John D'Amato
Councilman Rich Dellaripa
Councilwoman Dawn Hudson
Councilman Michael Sondermeyer
Councilman Ray Yazdi

BOARD OF HEALTH

Linda Parry Carney
Mary Ann Fallon
Jason Reynolds, Alt. I
Kelly Innamorato
Kristen Peterson
Maureen Tierney
Rory Lovelace
Liaison – Councilwoman Dawn Hudson

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Karen Labazetta
Mary Knight
Jennifer Altfield
Frank O'Reilly
Carol Jagiello
Mark Crum
Elizabeth Crevar, Alt. II
Liaison – Councilman Tony Costa

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Elisa Kolenut
Michelle Reynolds
Jennifer Ellis
John Graziano
Nadia Hussain
Suzanne Osborne
Anne Sundstrom
Michael Rudge
Liaison – Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joann Crawford
Dennis DiLorenzo - *Superintendant Rep.*
Debbie Sondermeyer – *Mayor's Rep.*
Ed Simoni
Karen Kirby
Thomas Kroncke
Lynn Ferrara
Darlene Nowak
Robert Bloodgood
Liaison – Councilman Michael Sondermeyer

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL

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Ray Muller, *Deputy Coordinator*
Eric Hubner, *Deputy Coordinator*
Councilwoman Hudson
Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy
Robert Voorman
Bernie Vroom
Al Gallagher
William Steenstra
William Sondermeyer
Gayle Dunlap
Dr. Vincent Occhino
Chief Joseph Borell
Dan Hagberg
John D'Amato
Eric Tuason
Pete Croop
Liaison – Councilman John D'Amato

MUNICIPAL DRUG ALLIANCE

Cyndy Hopper, *Coordinator*
Debbie DuHaime
Christine Spencer
Kim Juhlin
Rachel Millward
Kim Buscher
Lauren Grecco, BOE Liaison
Police Chief Joseph Borell
Detective Daniel Greenwood
Mayor Dunleavy
Marisa Cironi French
Christine Riggio
Mary Westcott
Christine Spicuzzo
Liaison – Councilman Richard Dellaripa

PLANNING BOARD

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Kevin Luccio, Alt. II
William Steenstra, Class IV
Craig Ollenschleger, Class IV
Robert Lippi, Alt. I
Brian Guinan, Alt. IV
Councilman Ray Yazdi, Class III
Ken Fioretti, Alt. III
Mark Crum, Class II
William Graf, Class IV
Pete Croop, Class IV
Ed Simoni, Class IV
Barry Greenberg, Class IV
Barbara Neinstedt – *Secretary*
Tom Boorady - *Darmofalski Engineering Assoc.*
Richard Brigliadoro, Esq. – *Attorney*

RECREATION COMMISSION

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Robert Alvarado
Mary Wescott
Drew Juhlin
John Timpanaro
Matthew Zaccone, Alt. II
Meg Gray
Barbi Grecco
Liaison – Councilman Michael Sondermeyer

ROSE FUND

Robert Lippi
Karen Labazetta
Drew Juhlin
Jack Miller
Tia Brady
Liaison – Councilman Ray Yazdi

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD

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Sonny Brennan
Barbara Westdyk
Frank Blacksmith
Jessica Mirabella
Joan Auletta
Maryann Rickelman
Jacqueline Blacksmith
Linda Shortman, Mayor's Rep.
Liaison – Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Bernie Vroom
Kevin Branvall
Al Saint Jacques
Darin Miller
Harvey Miller Jr.
Christopher Synol
Charles Manella
William Steenstra Jr.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY ASSISSIANCE TEAM

Bernard Vroom, Coordinator
Kevin Branvall
Al Saint Jacques
Darin Miller
Harvey Miller Jr.
Christopher Synol
Tom Fuchs
Peter Brand
John Descafano
William Plog
Charles Manella
Alan Bird
Susan Popp
Maryann Vroom
Greg Reilly
William Steenstra
Andy Colan Jr.

OFFICERS and OFFICIALS

Jonathan Dunleavy.....Full Time Mayor
Breeanna Calabro.....Municipal Clerk
Theresa Sauer.....Deputy Municipal Clerk / Registrar
Donna M Mollineaux.....Chief Financial Officer
Michael Yazdi.....Assistant CFO
Sherry Gallagher.....Treasurer
Barbara Neinstedt.....Tax Collector
Brian Townsend.....Tax Assessor
Phyllis Muter .....Court Administrator
Daniel Hagberg.....Construction / Zoning Official
Maureen De Pascale.....Technical Assistant – Construction
Cathy Lime.....Office Assistant
Ralph Porrino.....Fire Sub Code / CCO Official
Thomas Zaconie.....Plumbing Subcode
Craig Smith..... Plumbing Inspector
Christopher Walthouer.....Electrical Subcode
Michael Tabback.....Building Inspector
Lisa Perry.....Animal Control Officer / Investigator
Fred Semrau.....Borough Attorney
Paul Darmofalski / Tom Boorady.....Borough Engineers
Joseph Faccone..... Borough Auditor
Richard Kunze.....Qualified Purchasing Agent
Dave Vozza..... Risk Management Consultant
Albert Gallagher.....DPW Superintendent
Rocco Di Gregorio..... DPW Assistant Superintendent
Tony Marciano.....Fire Chief
Richard Kopleton.....Municipal Prosecutor
Andrew Wubbenhorst..... Municipal Judge
Joseph Borell..... Chief of Police
Robert Westdyk.....Property Maintenance
Dana D'Angelo..... Public Defender
Rachel Bodor.....Recreation Director
Frank Neuberger .....DPW Foreman
Patricia Yannacci.....Senior Center Director
Patti Perugino.....Library Director
John Whitehead.....Recycling Coordinator
Robert Buono.....CPWM/Field Consultant
John Wegele.....Water/Sewer Operator

Mildred Bird, Former Borough Clerk



Millie Bird, Borough Clerk
1966 – 1992

Millie Bird wore many hats over the years for Bloomingdale, and everyone agreed, she wore them well. She started as registrar of vital statistics and secretary to the Board of Health in 1963. All previous borough clerks had worked out of their homes. In 1966 Millie became the first Borough Clerk to have an office in the old municipal building.

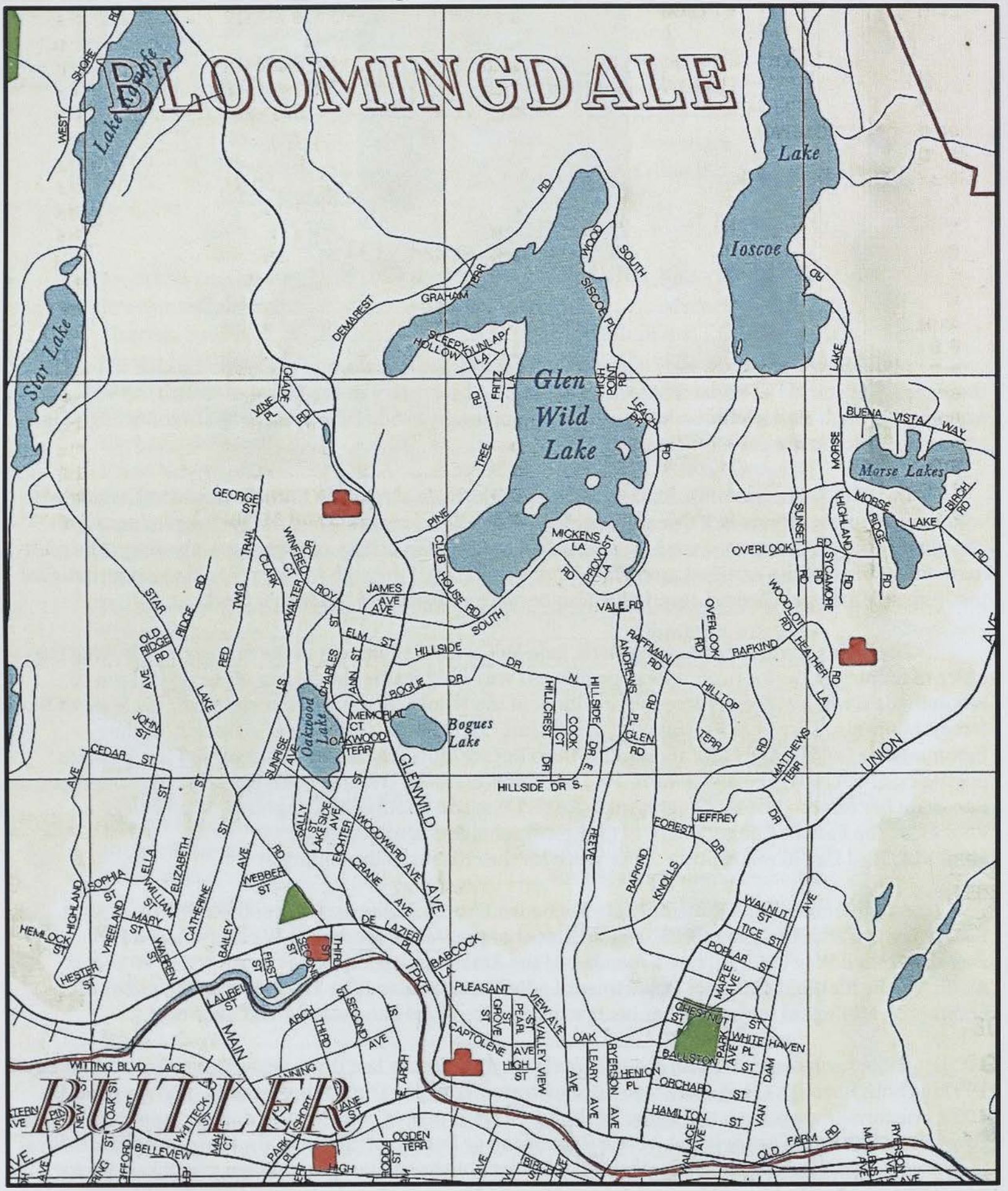
In 1968, Millie was one of 101 municipal clerks from across the United States and Canada who volunteered to participate in a three-year college level pilot program specifically designed to train borough clerks. The program was held as a summer extension course of Syracuse University. The pilot marked the birth of the certified municipal clerk's title (CMC) through the auspices of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Later, Millie also became a Registered Municipal Clerk.

According to retiring borough clerk, Jane McCarthy, "Millie was in the forefront of making the office of municipal clerk a professional position. It was a big feather in the cap of the little town of Bloomingdale when Millie became the president of the Municipal Clerks' Association of the State of New Jersey. Millie also served as President of the Passaic County Municipal Clerks' Association, the Bloomingdale Golden Age Club, and the Tri-Boro Rotary Club, where she was awarded the Rotary's prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Award. Two U.S. Congressional Tributes were placed in the Congressional Record in her honor - one by Congressman Robert Roe and another by Congresswoman Marge Roukema. The Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders also named a Mildred C. Bird Day in recognition of her work for the citizens of the county.

As a member of the Bloomingdale Methodist Church, Millie was Secretary to the Governing Board, Treasurer of the Ester Circle, and President of the United Methodist Women's Association. She was also United Way Chairperson, a member of the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, the Bloomingdale Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, and the Tri-Boro Area Chamber of Commerce. Millie said it warmed her heart when Mildred Bird Lane was named after her.

Millie served under seven Bloomingdale Mayors, for the last three years before her retirement in 1992, as both Borough Clerk and Town Administrator. When hearing of her passing on November 26, 2008, one former mayor related sadly, "Millie saw a lot of people come and go during her tenure in town government. She didn't care if you were a Republican or Democrat. She was always respectful and loyal to everyone. She was a straight shooter and didn't let politics influence her. When you asked her for something, she treated you like you were her favorite Mayor in the whole world." Perhaps former mayor Tony Graziano said it best: "Millie knew municipal law and procedure like she knew the back of her hand, and she personally knew most people in town even better. Millie was a good friend and a wonderful public servant."

Bloomingdale's Residential Areas



Bloomingdale's Early History

Native people probably crossed from Asia to North America sometime between twelve and twenty thousand years ago. For examination purposes, we divide this period into four sections; the Paleo Period, Archaic Period, Woodland Period, and the Period of European Contact.

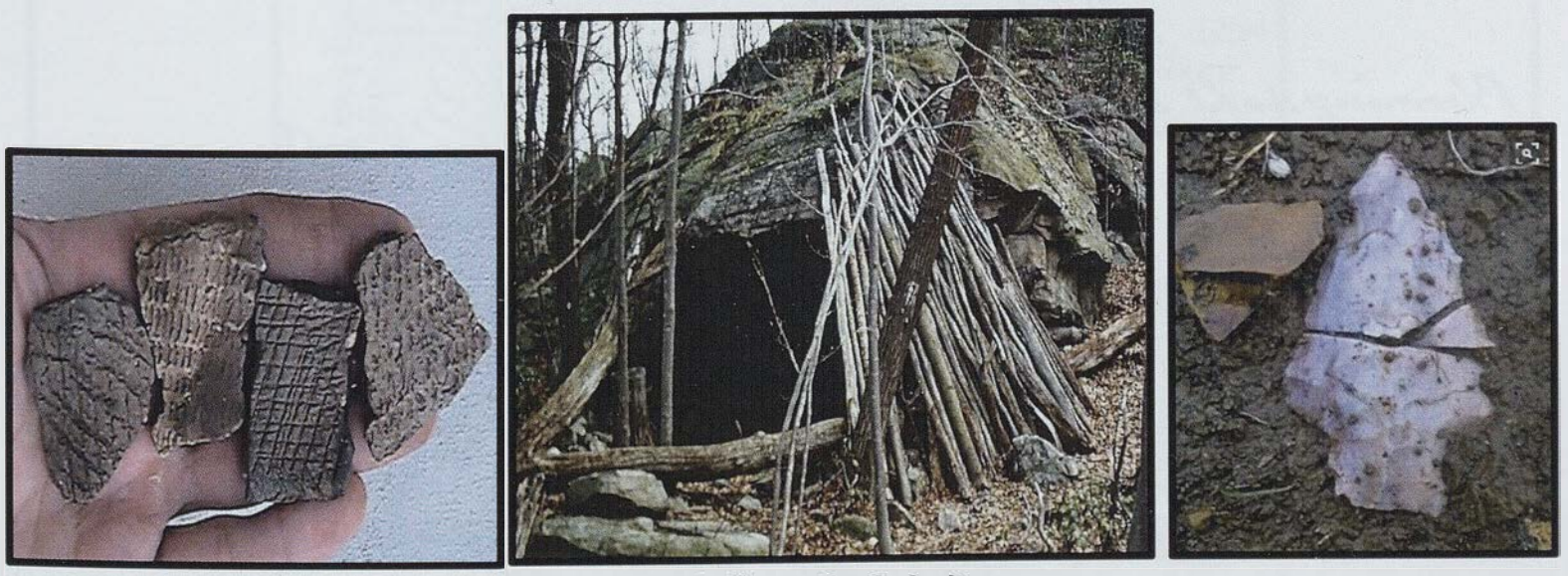
Prehistoric Cultural Periods

Period	Beginning Date	Ending Date
Paleo-Indian	12,000 B.P.	10,000 B.P.
Early Archaic	10,000 B.P.	8,000 B.P.
Middle Archaic	8,000 B.P.	5,000 B.P.
Late Archaic	5,000 B.P.	3,000 B.P.
Early Woodland	3,000 B.P.	2,000 B.P.
Middle Woodland	2,000 B.P.	1,000 B.P.
Late Woodland	1,000 B.P.	450 B.P.
Historic Contact	450 B.P	250 B.P.

Local archeologist, Ed Lenik, over a thirty-year period, identified 130 sites of American Indian occupation in the New Jersey Highlands. The earliest artifacts he found dated from the Middle to Late Archaic Period. Parts of three Native American dugout canoes recovered from peat bogs in Glen Wild Lake were dated between 700 and 1,000 years B.P. The cedar trees from which they were carved are thought to have become extinct before the arrival of European settlers. Many artifacts have been found in the area around Glen Wild Lake. By the Woodland Period, our native people were referring to themselves as the Minsi, the northern branch of the Algonquin speaking Lenape.

Several Native American Rockshelters were discovered in Bloomingdale by local archeologist and naturalist Max Schrabisch in the early 1900s. He located three shelters on Federal Hill, one of which contained a number of projectile points and pottery shards. This cave-like shelter was later cemented up and is known today as "The Cave with the Iron Door." He also examined the "Squaw Rockshelter" near Kampe Lake in Norvin Green State Forest. There are two other Native American rockshelters on the fringes of Norvin Green, Wahlikamika near Lake Iosco, and Assiniwikam (Stone Hunting House) which is an excellent example of the type of temporary shelter preferred by Native Americans.

In May 1982 Ed Lenik and his associates recovered forty-seven projectile points and many stone fragments from the Apshawa Rockshelter on the Bloomingdale side of the Pequannock River near the Smith Mills Bridge. Their finds included three pitted hammerstones, two drills, a scraper, and a



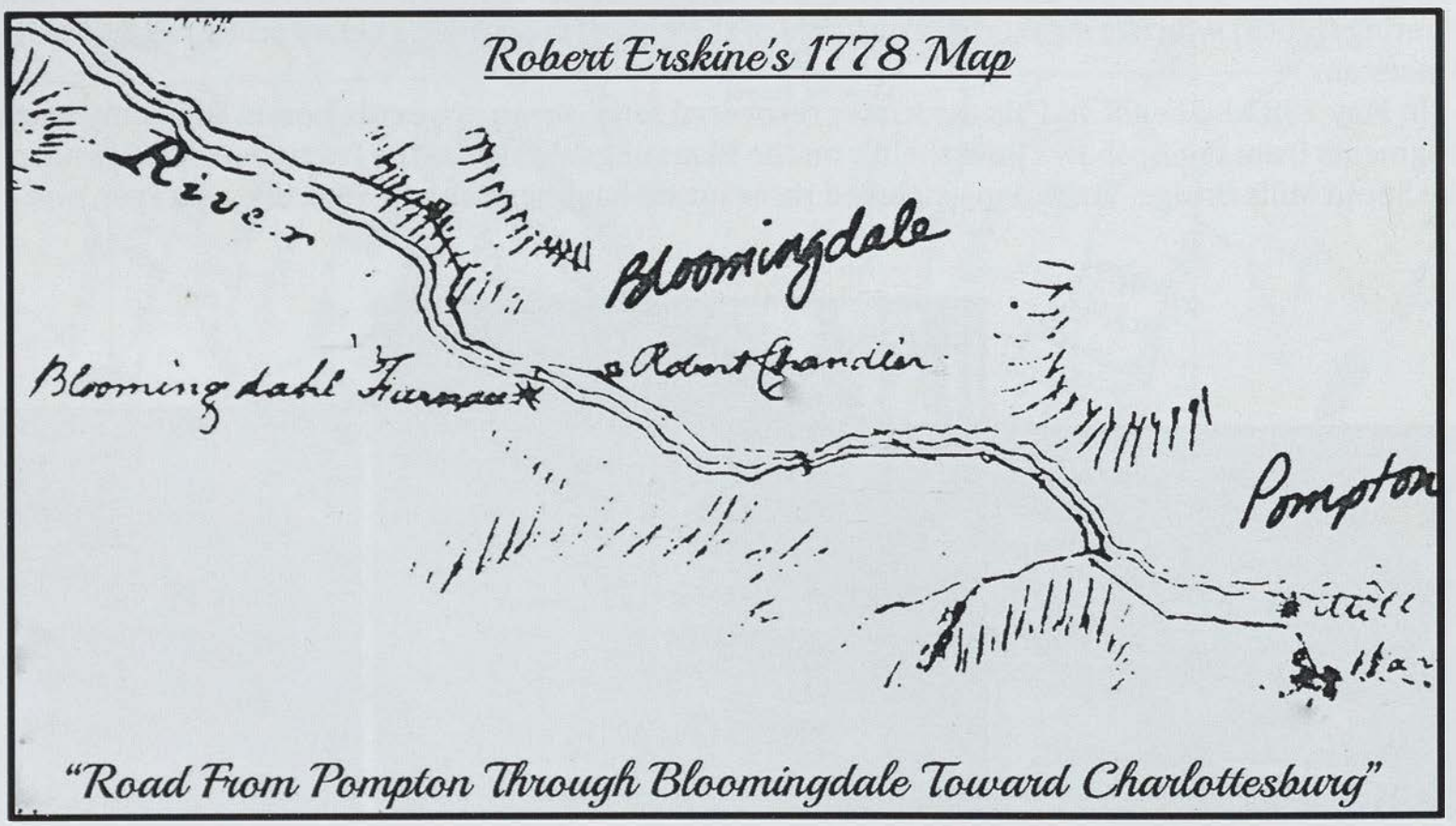
Assiniwikam Rockshelter

European made clay tobacco pipe stem which dated from 1650 to 1680 A.D. The remains of five fire hearths were uncovered within the shelter. Hundreds of bone fragments were found in the hearths and large deer bones, many showing butcher marks, were discovered buried in the floor. Many shells of hickory nuts, butternuts, acorns and sunflower seeds were also found. In addition, eighty-nine pottery shards were uncovered. These vessel fragments were reassembled to form the original shape of the pot. It was dated to the Middle Woodland Period (ca. 2000 B.P. to 1000 B.P.) and along with some of the other artifacts from the shelter, can be seen at the Butler Museum. The archeological evidence suggests that over a long period of time, the site was utilized intermittently by small family groups as a fall and winter hunting and gathering camp.

Several other examples of Native American habitation have been found in the Borough. The Main Street section of Hamburg Turnpike was part of the Pompton Indian Trail that followed the Pequannock River. This trail was part of the Minisink Trail System that ran from the Hudson River to the Delaware Water Gap. In fact, a Native American burial was discovered on the bluff overlooking the river not far from the Samuel R. Donald School.

One of the first Europeans to follow the Pompton Trail through what is now Bloomingdale was the Dutchman Arent Schuyler. On February 7, 1694, Captain Schuyler was sent up the trail to Minisink by the Governor of New York to investigate rumors that the French were inciting the Minsi against the English. He didn't find any French, but he was so impressed with the area he traveled through, that upon his return he set in motion the process of acquiring large tracts of land in the Pompton and Pequannock Valleys. English law required purchasers of land to first acquire title from the Native Americans, and then from the East Jersey Proprietors who had been granted the land by the King. By the early 1700s, Arent's son, Peter Schuyler, along with George Ryerson and Guilliam Bartolf, were purchasing tracts of land that would later be called Bloemendaal, perhaps after the rich grow of blooming mountain laurel that lined the river banks and hills.

As early as 1682 it was realized that the North Jersey Highlands had the three resources necessary for the production of iron. Large deposits of high-quality iron ore, an abundance of good forest land to make charcoal to fuel the furnaces, as well as rivers and streams to power the waterwheels.

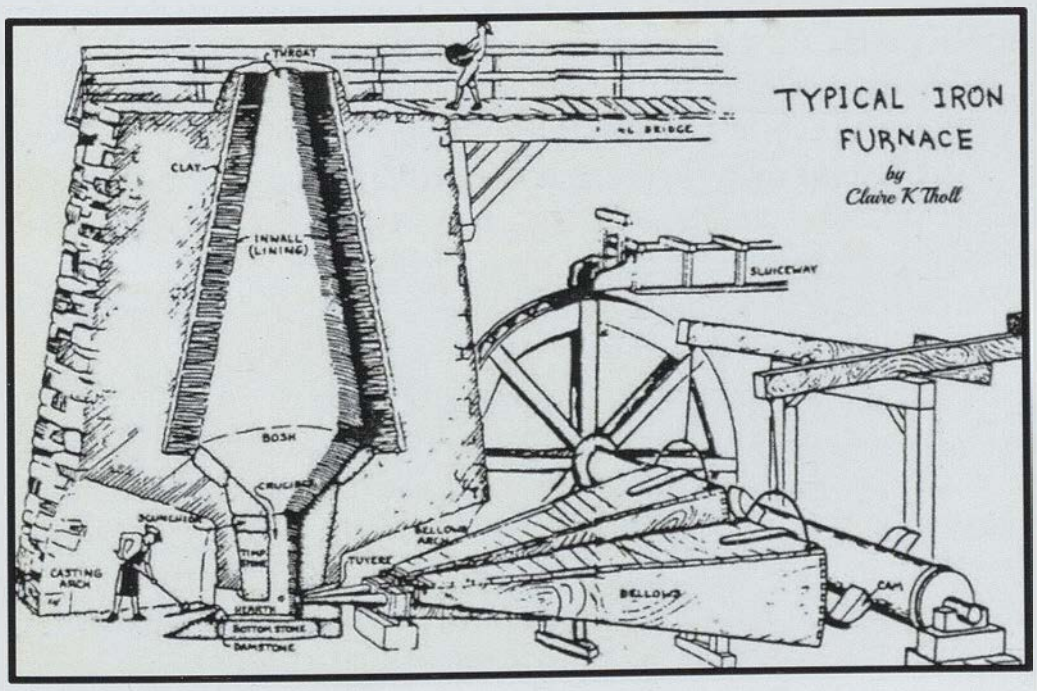


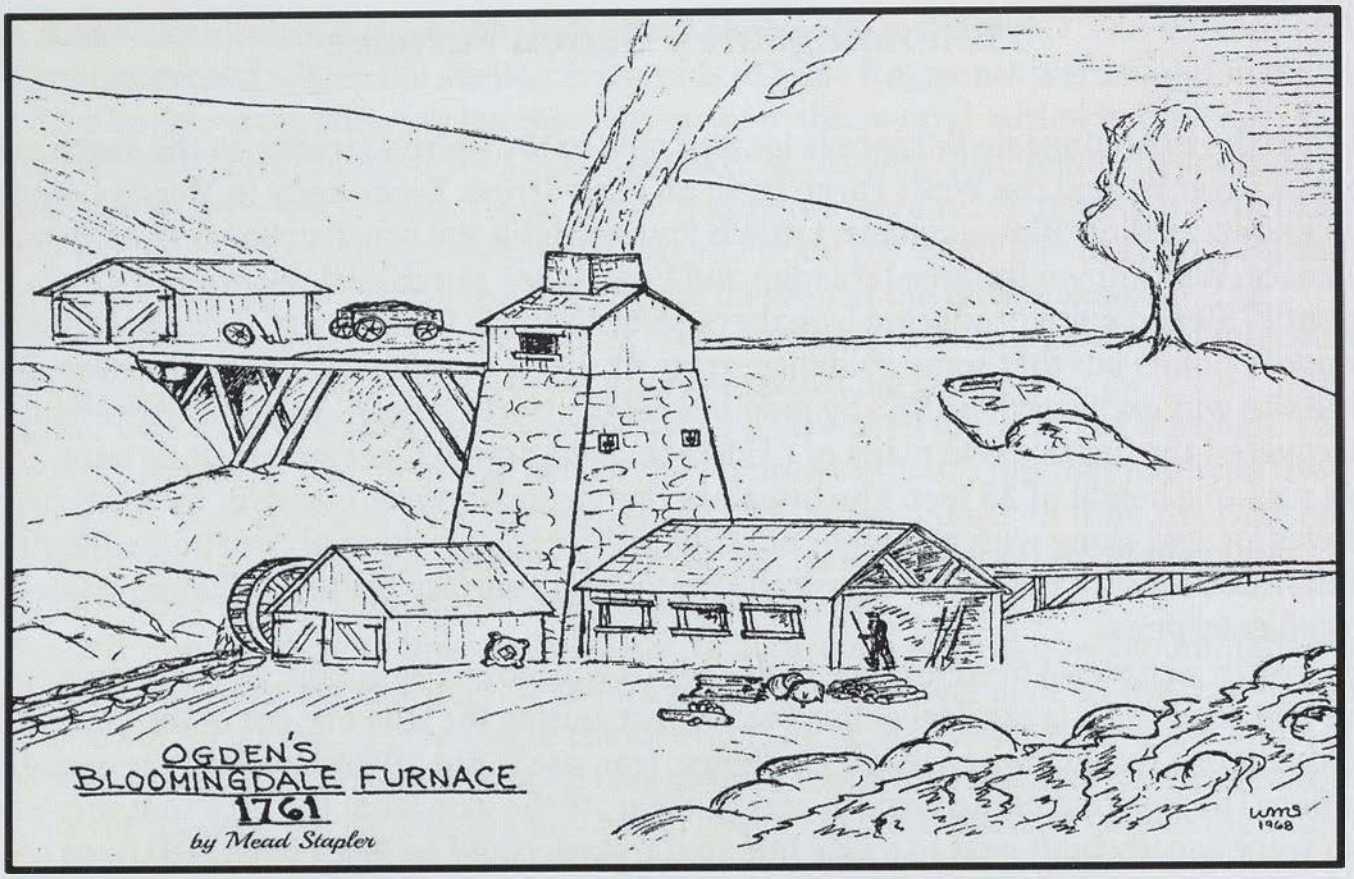
Bloomingdale's Ogden Furnace

The site of the Bloomingdale Furnace is located next to the railroad tracks on the south side of the Pequannock River behind the Wells Fargo Bank on Main Street. Technically in Morris County, the area was known as West Bloomingdale. Little is known about the construction and early operation of the furnace. Well known ironmasters John and Uzal Ogden purchased the property from Peter Schuyler in 1759 and were producing iron there prior to 1765. Emil Salvini, in his book *Historic Bloomingdale*, points out that some evidence suggests that it may have been in operation as early as 1726. The site was excavated in 1963 by members of the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society. They discovered the furnace was made of fieldstone, measured 27 feet square at its base, and probably rose to a height of 25 feet. The headrace that brought water to power the waterwheel and bellows was located along with a number of artifacts. The construction of the Midland Railroad in 1872 obliterated most of the site and basically removed all surface traces of Bloomingdale's first commercial enterprise.

Making iron in a charcoal fired furnace in the 1700s was not an easy task. It was very labor intensive and required a great deal of hard work. Just getting the iron ore out of the ground and transporting it to a furnace was a major challenge. Iron ore is not 100% iron and varies greatly in composition. The function of the furnace was to separate the iron from the rock that surrounds it. Furnaces were usually built next to a side hill, so the stack could be filled (charged) from the top. A typical charge consisted of 180 bushels of charcoal, two tons of iron ore, and a quarter ton of limestone to act as a flux to help the iron separate from the rock. This mixture would produce about one ton of cast iron which could be made into a great number of products like kettles, frying pans, and plates for stoves. Cast iron pigs could also be processed at a forge to make wrought iron, which could then be hammered into horseshoes, nails, nuts, bolts, chains and a host of other products.

Wood was the only source of fuel at the time and charcoal burns twice as hot as wood. When the burning charcoal, helped by a continuous flow or "blast" of air from the bellows, approached a temperature of about 3,000° F on the inside of the furnace, the iron melted, and molten metal began trickling down to the bottom of the furnace. Twice a day the furnace was tapped, and the hot liquid iron flowed into a series of channels in the sand floor of the casting shed. Impurities called slag floating on top of the liquid metal were skimmed off and discarded. The term "pig iron" originated because the system of channels resembled a mother pig feeding her young. A charcoal fired blast furnace the size of the one in Bloomingdale, could produce about 15 tons of cast iron a week. The process was continuously repeated, and a blast might last from days, to weeks, to as long as a year.





It took vast amounts of forest to keep a furnace supplied with charcoal. A furnace could consume from 250 to 350 acres of woodland per year depending on the size and type of trees. A cord of wood measures 4 feet wide by 4 feet high by 8 feet long, and a furnace required at least 5,000 to 6,000 cords of wood annually. Most tree cutting took place during the winter months, while the firings were done from May to the end of October. All the work was done with axes and a ten to twelve-hour work day was the norm. Making charcoal took skill and experience. Stacking the 4-foot lengths of wood in the proper manner was especially important. Giant cones containing 30 or more cords of wood covered with dirt or sod, could reach 25 feet in diameter by 6 -8 feet high. Openings in the sides of the piles were created to supplement the central flue in providing the proper draft of air through the stack. Five days to two weeks were required to char a large cone properly and the process called for round-the-clock surveillance to keep the wood smoldering slowly. Each burning yielded about 300 bushels of charcoal.

Evidently the return on their investment was not high enough for the Ogdens because in February 1771 they advertised in a New York newspaper that the furnace and surrounding properties were for sale. The "Furnace and Iron Works at Bloomingdale" were sold to William Ellsworth in January 1775, but it is not known if he ever made iron there. The surveyor, Benjamin Roome, noted that the furnace had not been in blast for many years, but was still in fair condition in 1812. It is shown as "in ruins" on James Renwick's map of the Morris Canal in 1823. In 1833, William Ellsworth's daughter, Henrietta Leary, sold the property to Martin J. Ryerson.

In the end, it was probably the lack of a good transportation system that put the Bloomingdale Furnace out of business. Transportation costs and the distance from the source of the ore (probably Ringwood) were just too great to make the operation profitable.

What's important is that the demand for goods and services needed to operate the iron works created the nucleus of the small village that grew up around the furnace. English, German and other workers came to live among the original Dutch settlers. Martin Ryerson built a gristmill, sawmill, and forge along the river. Farms, stores, hotels, stables, blacksmith shops, carpenter shops, and other establishments were built to meet the needs of the workers, and the town that we know today was created.

Bloomingdale Forge

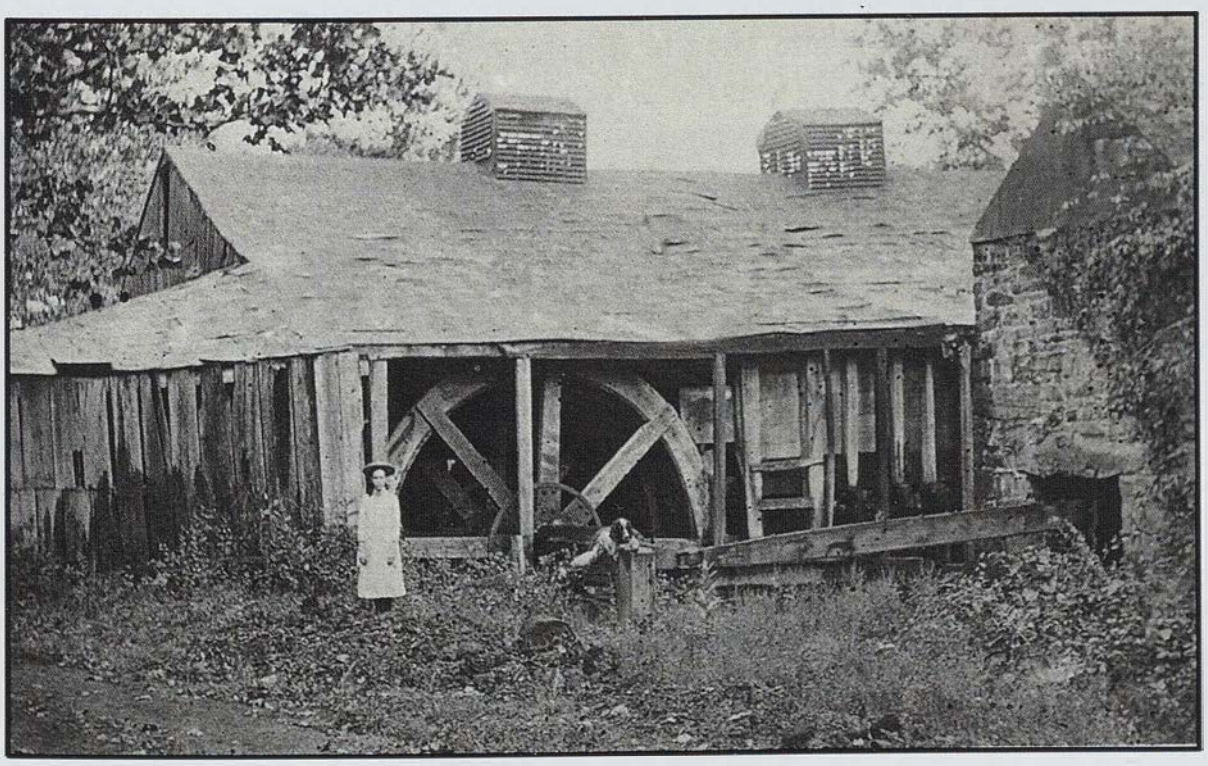
The Bloomingdale Forge, also known as Ryerson's Forge, was located on the north side of the Pequannock River a short distance downstream from the old furnace, on the site of today's Riverside Square Mall. It was probably built around 1800 by Martin John Ryerson, owner of the ironworks at Ringwood, Pompton Falls and Long Pond near Greenwood Lake. At his death in 1839, the forge passed to his grandson bearing the same name. Martin J. Ryerson (1814-1889). He also inherited mineral rights at Ringwood which made available to him an unlimited supply of iron ore.

The pig iron produced at a furnace was later refined into wrought iron at a forge by remelting the brittle cast iron pigs on a charcoal hearth and pounding out the impurities with a trip hammer connected to a waterwheel. The much more mailable wrought iron could then be worked by a blacksmith into everything from horseshoes to household goods.

The forge was rebuilt in 1839 and 1841 as an American bloomery, a state-of-the-art design that was much more efficient. Two other forges were also operating in the Bloomingdale area in 1850, one by Henry Vreeland and another by T&G Smith. In 1855 Ryerson made 255 tons of bar iron for shafts and boiler plate. A report in 1859 described the forge as having "four fires and two trip hammers driven by water." Operations were later reduced to three fires and one trip hammer for processing scrap iron rather than raw ore. Water to power the forge was provided by a race that left the river parallel to Main Street at what is now Sloan Park and crossed in front of the Methodist Church. The last products made at the forge were "charcoal blooms for boiler plate and wire, made from scrap." Ryerson's forge, saw mill and grist mill were operated until 1882 when the complex was closed and left to ruin.

In 1893, photographer Vernon Royle took several pictures of the ruins of the forge which provide excellent documentation of the site. The waterwheel, trip hammer, hearth, anvil, headrace flume, shears, and bellows house can clearly be seen in Royale's photos. An unusual provision in the deed of the property calls for the preservation for 99 years of the original small stone building that housed the bellows of the forge. It is now connected to the factory building behind 63 Main Street. A rare survivor, it is the last remnant of more than 60 forges that once operated in northern New Jersey.

Much of the above information came from an article by Bierce Riley in the 1966 issue of *The North Jersey Highlander*, the former publication of the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society, Ringwood, New Jersey.



Martin J. Ryerson



The Ryerson family of Pompton Township were the descendants of two brothers who emigrated from the Netherlands in 1646. Martin Ryerson (1751 – 1839) was one of the largest and wealthiest landowners in the state. At one time, he owned most of the furnaces, forges, iron mines, and woodlands in Pompton Township, including the Iron works at Ringwood. As Martin took a larger role in governmental affairs, and a less active role in the operation of his vast holdings, his sons, John and Jacob became more involved in running their father's business interests. When Martin Ryerson died in 1839, his property in New York and New Jersey, was divided among his children and grandchildren.

His grandson, Martin J. Ryerson (1814 - 1889), inherited a forge, gristmill, sawmill, tannery, large farm and other buildings that made up the Bloomingdale Forge Complex. According to Emil Salvini, in his book *Historic Bloomingdale*, "Martin J. Ryerson played the single most important role in Bloomingdale's development in the 19th Century." Some maps of the time show Bloomingdale as "Ryerson's" or "Ryerson's Plantation."

Martin J. and his mother lived at Ringwood Manor after his father's untimely death in 1820. When his grandfather passed in 1839, they moved to Bloomingdale. The large Ryerson house stood at the corner of Main Street and Union Avenue and was described as "a stately affair befitting the village's number one citizen." Martin married Mary Ann Conklin in 1843 and they had five children. After her passing in 1862, he married Anne Woodward and together they had three more children.

He was proud of his Dutch heritage and was an early member of the Holland Society as well as an elder in the Dutch Reformed Church. Like his grandfather, who donated the land in 1812 and helped build the Pompton Church, Martin J. was also community minded. In 1842 he donated the land for the first Methodist Church, and 1844 he did the same for Bloomingdale's first school. Mr. Ryerson was also active in politics. He was elected to the New Jersey Assembly in 1842, became a State Senator in 1848, and served as a Passaic County Freeholder from 1850 to 1853.

One of Martin's greatest desires was to see the railroad come to Bloomingdale. He was one of the first directors of the New Jersey Midland Railway and in 1871 was serving as its Vice-President. A grand celebration was held on April 22, 1871 when the first train arrived in the village carrying 800 stockholders, directors, and dignitaries.

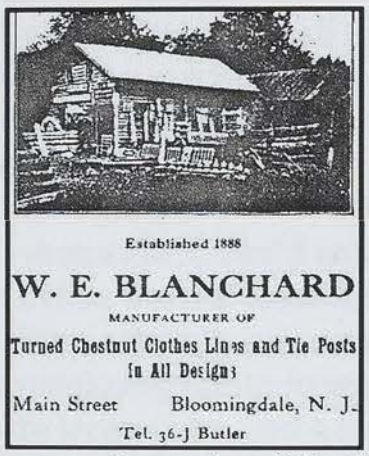
Martin and his sons successfully operated his Bloomingdale businesses for over fifty years. By 1882, however, Ryerson's forge was shut down and by 1889, the same year as Martin J. Ryerson's death, most of the iron industry in the area was abandoned. Competition from Pennsylvania mines had made New Jersey's iron works unprofitable. Starting first along Reeve and Van Dam Avenues, his entire farm was eventually subdivided into building lots and developed.

The following is a quote from a New York City newspaper:

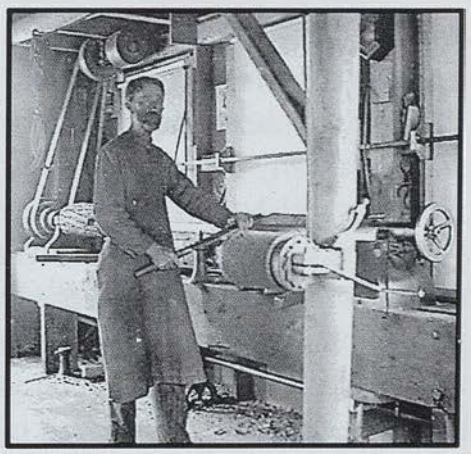
"Martin J. Ryerson, Bloomingdale, New Jersey's most prominent citizen, was a gentleman of the old school, dignified in carriage, commanding in appearance, and cordial and entertaining in manner. With the death of Mr. Ryerson, a link connecting the past to the present is gone."

William E. Blanchard's Turning Mill

Martin J. Ryerson's forge, sawmill, and gristmill site on Main Street lay abandoned until 1888 when William E. Blanchard purchased the property. The raceway for the mills was intact and Mr. Blanchard used its water to power his belt driven lathes. He specialized in all types of decorative turned posts especially those used to support front porches and stair railings. He also made hand-cut scroll and mill work used to decorate the exterior of homes. Samples of his artistry can still be found on old homes in the Flats section of town between Reeve and Van Dam Avenues.

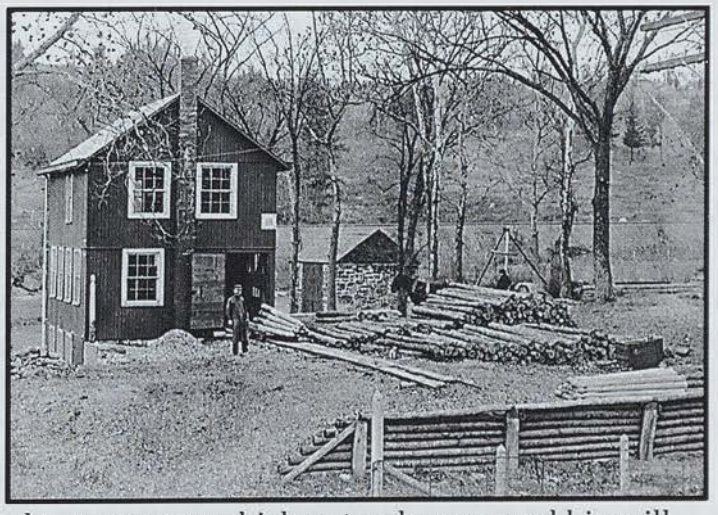






Examples of Mr.Blanchard's work are seen above leaning against and hanging from his shop.

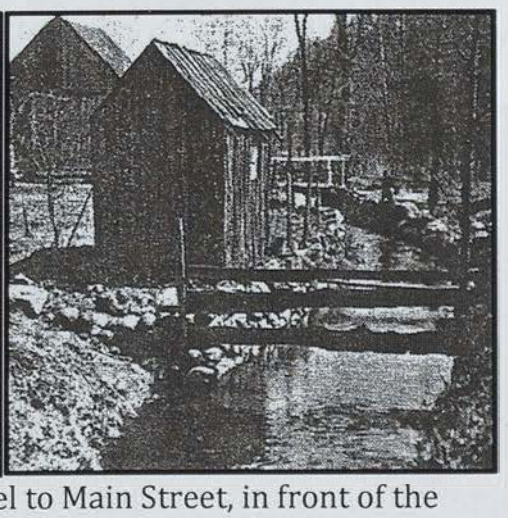




In later years, Blanchard added a second story and installed a generator which not only powered his mill, but his house and the Methodist Church as well. Notice the old Ryerson Forge bellows house on the right.







The raceway left the river by way of a gate at Sloan's Park, ran parallel to Main Street, in front of the Methodist Church, into a pond, then through the mill site, re-entering the river downstream.

Blue Mine

Two iron mines straddle the Bloomingdale/Ringwood border in the Snake Den Road section of the Borough. Blue mine, the older of the two, was probably opened by Peter Hasenclever as early as 1765. Hasenclever was the ironmaster of Ringwood's London Company, as a result, the mine was first named the London Mine. Later it was also known as the Iron Hill Mine and the Whynockie Mine. It undoubtedly received the name Blue Mine from the dark blue color of its ore. For a number of years before 1855 it was worked by Peter Ryerson, the ore being used at the Freedom Furnace in Wanaque. In 1868 it was inspected by a state geologist who reported that the mine had been worked 150 feet. The vein of iron was about 10 feet thick and was pitched 58 degrees to the northeast. When later worked to a depth of 500 feet, the ore body was 16 feet wide.

Blue Mine was reopened in 1871, worked for two years and closed. In March 1886, the Whynockie Iron Company added another 100 feet to the mine and for a short period, recovered about 300 tons of ore a month. In 1890 work resumed and a crew of twenty men raised 8,000 tons of ore before it was once again shut down. At that time, the Midvale Mining Company operated three boilers and two pumps and hoists at the site. They also built two roasters near the mine to heat the ore and burn off sulphur, an undesirable impurity. Further processing included the removal of waste rock, after which the ore contained fifty-four percent iron. The mine was opened for the final time in 1905, but there is no record of any ore being removed.

Because its shaft goes practically straight down, the mine fills with water when it's not pumped. Every time the mine was reopened, it had to be dewatered. During its early period of operation, Blue Mine Brook was used to power a waterwheel which drove the pumps and hoists. A millpond was created by an earthen dam across the brook upstream from the mine. A banked stone foundation located nearby is the ruin of the mine's powder house where explosives were stored. The large concrete pad in front of the mine was probably used by later operations as a base for steam powered equipment. Large piles of mine tailings are located on the hillsides around the mine.

One of the workers who helped dewater the mine once described the process. He recalled that workmen would stand on a raft which sank lower and lower as the water was pumped out. Their job was to clear away debris left clinging to the walls and shore up timbers used as bracing. It required men with good "sea legs" who could keep their balance while working with their hands as the raft sank to the bottom of the mine.

Just across the boundary in Ringwood, about a half mile northeast of Blue Mine, is Roomy Mine, which is also called the Laurel or Red Mine. Opened in the 1840s, by 1857 it consists of a horizontal shaft about 60 feet long. It was reexamined in 1890, but the is no record of any mining activity at that time. (For the safety of the bats that hibernate there, Roomy Mine should be avoided during the winter months.)





Mica Mine

Like generations of kids before and after them, sometime in 1893, two friends were exploring Federal Hill and came across a bed of unusual looking scaly rock. They were amused by the way it split into thin translucent flakes. J. O. Poole, the uncle of one of the boys, sent a sample to the National Geological Survey office in Washington, D.C. and they reported back that the material was white mica.

Mr. Poole visited the site secretly because it was located on the large farm owned by the estate of Martin J. Ryerson. Small excavations were made at various points, and each test hole reveled considerable layers of mica. By the end of his visit, he was thoroughly convinced of the value of the discovery made by his young relative. Later investigation found that white mica of the best quality was, at the time, selling for $2,500 per ton. He was able to keep the discovery quiet and succeeded in purchasing the 20 acres of the farm that contained the deposits.

In August 1897, the Federal Hill Mining Company was organized. Stock was sold for $100 a share. Investors included J. O. Poole, his father, Hudson Poole, assayist David DeBaun, attorney Alfred Gartner, Fred Wentworth, a Paterson architect, Judge Frank Scott, and NJ Governor John W. Griggs.

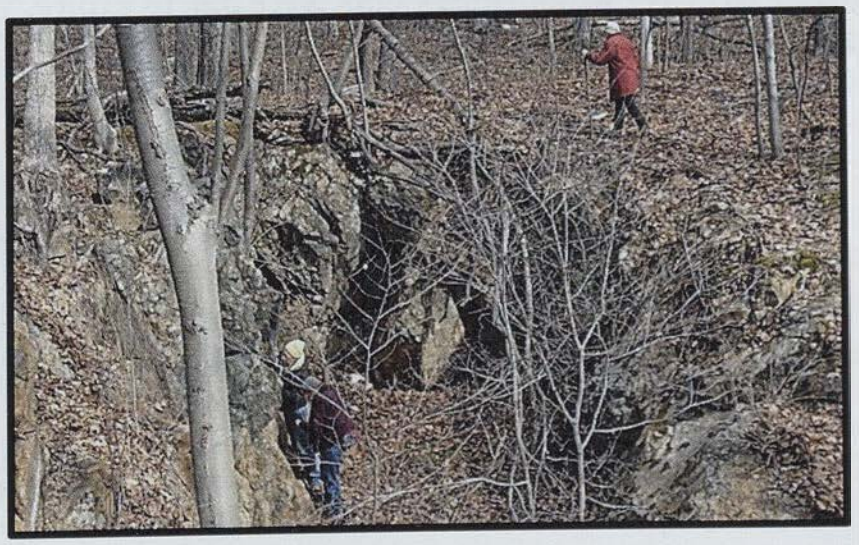
It was the intention of the company to sink a shaft two hundred feet into the mica beds, ending in a spacious gallery, from which tunnels could be mined in all directions. The mica was to be blasted into large slabs, and hoisted to the surface through the central shaft.

All indications were promising, and the potential for financial success seemed hopeful. Mica was playing an important part in many industries and demand was growing. One important factor that figured prominently in the discovery was the fact that the Federal Hill mica deposits were the first ever found in the State of New Jersey. The bulk of the material was coming from North Carolina and Canada. The only mica mine in the Northeast was in Massachusetts.

Mica is a silicate that forms in layers. It is heat resistant and does not conduct electricity. These qualities led to its use as windows in potbellied stoves, as insulators in the rapidly expanding electrical industry, and later, as gasmask lenses.

Despite the expectations of its investors and the hope for renewed mining activity in Bloomingdale, mining Federal Hill mica proved to be economically unfeasible. There was plenty of mica there alright, but it could not be extracted in large enough sheets, and it was contaminated with brown iron oxides. It also contained cut lines or "rulings" which made it unfit for commercial use. Only one freight wagon load of mica was mined, and the Federal Hill Mining Company was declared insolvent on January 12, 1909. The deep shaft was never dug and what can be seen today is an open-pit about 100 feet long with a short tunnel at the end. Mica can still be found on the surface and in the walls.





Bloomingdale During the Revolutionary War
The Pompton Mutiny







There are two chapters to Bloomingdale's Revolutionary War history. One is the story of the beacon established on Federal Hill as part of an early warning system for Washington's Army. The other centers around the mutiny of New Jersey Troops on January 20, 1781.

After the successful mutiny of 1,500 Pennsylvania Troops at Morristown on January 1, 1781, the 160 angry, cold, and hungry men of the New Jersey Line stationed near Pompton, revolted and demanded the same concessions given to the Pennsylvanians. There was no violence. At Morristown one officer was killed and two others wounded. They just packed up and started to march toward Trenton to have their grievances heard by the state government. Their commander, Israel Shreve, and the other officers had little choice but to follow. At Chatam, they were met by their regimental commander, Elias Dayton, and two representatives of the New Jersey Legislature, Colonel Frederick Frelinghuysen and Rev. James Caldwell. All three men were highly respected officers. A committee of three sergeants, led by Sargant Major George Grant, was elected to talk for mutineers. Grant pointed out that the men were not traitors, and that they had taken a solemn oath to execute anyone who attempted to go over to the British and hang every Tory who tried to convince a soldier to do so. They only wanted the rations, clothing, and pay they had been promised when they enlisted. A major bone of contention centered around the issue of enlistments. Many soldiers who enlisted in 1779 had signed on for "three years or during the war." In January 1781 many troops considered their obligation met, but were told by their officers that "during the war" meant "duration of the war." In many cases, because of poor or nonexistent recordkeeping, it was impossible to prove when enlistments were due to expire. This issue was resolved for the Pennsylvanians by accepting a soldier's word for his date of enlistment. Col. Dayton and the legislative representatives promised the men that they would carry their grievances to Trenton and do everything in their power to convince the State Legislature of their dire condition. They made clear, however, that the issue of enlistment was beyond their control and could not be negotiated. The soldiers asked in reply, "Is not a Jerseyman's word as good as a Pennsylvanian's?" Without resolving the issue of enlistments, Dayton offered the men a blanket pardon if they would "act in a soldiery manner" and return to their huts at Pompton under the command of their officers. The men gave three cheers as a reply of acceptance and prepared for their return march.

The agreement began to unravel on the way back to Pompton when some men ignored orders from officers they disliked. A major incident occurred when they got back to camp. A soldier and an officer got into an argument that resulted in the officer having a bayonet put to his chest. A melee

followed, and when a shot was fired the rest of the brigade responded with a show of armed resistance. Tempers cooled and when the men turned in for the night they had no idea what was in store for them. General Washington, having arrived at Ringwood by sleigh, had no intention of letting this second mutiny in less than a month go unpunished. Unable to bring a large enough force against the 1,500 Pennsylvania mutineers, he was confident that the 160-man New Jersey mutiny could be easily subdued. He needed to send a message to the rest of the army that any future insubordination would be met with severe punishment. Washington assembled a force of nearly 600 New England troops and placed them under the command of General Robert Howe. He ordered Howe to "compel the mutineers to unconditional submission, to show no leniency, and to grant no terms. When they are subdued you will instantly execute a few of the most guilty and incendiary leaders." On January 27 at 1 a.m., the troops left Ringwood and began the eight-mile march, through deep snow drifts, to Bloomingdale. They arrived within sight of the mutineer's camp at dawn. Dr. James Thatcher, an eyewitness, recorded what happened next.

At daylight the mutineers awoke to find themselves surrounded with all avenues of escape blocked. Lt. Colonel Francis Barber was sent to explain the hopelessness of their situation. He ordered them to muster without arms in front of their huts. Some men, showing reluctance, called out "What! No Conditions?" Three field pieces (cannons) were brought forward and the mutineers were given five minutes to comply, or the entire camp would be put to the sword! The threat had its desired effect and the men turned out as ordered. A court martial was immediately convened. Three leaders of the revolt were found guilty and sentenced to be executed. Twelve of the mutineers were chosen to serve as the firing squad, which was a most painful duty, themselves being guilty. Six men were ordered to be the executioners, three were ordered to aim at the victim's chest and three at his head. Sargent David Gilmore was brought out first, blindfolded, and placed on his knees. The order to fire was given and for some strange reason, all six shots missed. The remaining six executioners were brought forward and when ordered to fire, Gilmore's life was instantly extinguished. The second victim, John Tuttle was, by first fire, sent into eternity. The third offender, Sargent Major George Grant, being less criminal, by the recommendation of his officers, and to his unspeakable joy, received a pardon.

Dr. Thacher tells us that the court martial and executions took place right at the camp, so the mutineers were probably buried nearby. It was also said that the graves were covered with large fieldstones to keep wild animals from digging them up. Theories about the location of the mutineers' camp point to three different areas. One is on the top of Federal Hill which is probably the least likely location because of its rough terrain and lack of water. Another is on the ridge overlooking the Pompton Lakes Railroad Station, between Cannonball Road and the Wanaque River. Most local historians think it was in the area on the border of Bloomingdale and Wanaque, off Union Avenue, north of Sager's Pond (Upper Twin Lake).





Federal Hill Revolutionary War Signal Beacon

Information traveled slow in the late 1700s. The only way to get messages from one person to another was on horseback. For an army, in an emergency, that could mean disaster. A faster means of communication was needed. Washington and his generals fell back on an age-old method of sending a message. Smoke and fire was the answer, they needed a beacon system.

In 1779 George Washington put General William Alexander in charge of creating a string of signal beacons that would stretch from Sandy Hook, through Northern New Jersey, and up the Hudson River Valley. Smoke from fires would signal an alarm by day and flames from massive bonfires would spread the warning from hilltop to hilltop at night. Prominent hills that could be seen from one to another were chosen as beacon sites. In northern New Jersey these included; Great Notch near the Passaic River, High Mountain in Haldon, Burnt Mountain (Federal Hill) in Pompton, and Governor's Mountain in Ringwood. Nineteen additional sites were chosen all the way to Beacon, New York.

General Alexander gave specific orders directing the construction of the beacons. They called for a pyramid of logs 14 feet square at the base, rising to a height of about twenty feet. Highly combustible bundles of kindling or dry split wood were to be used to fill the pyramid, and a keg of tar or pitch was added to create a column of thick black smoke.

At times Continental Army Troops were used to build beacons, but their construction and maintenance were usually assigned to the local militia. Long hours must have been spent manning and maintaining the beacons, so they could be torched at a moment's notice. Many beacons, like the one on Federal Hill, were accompanied by artillery so the sound of cannon fire could also be used as an alarm.

The beacon system proved effective in June 1780 when the British and their German mercenaries attempted to attack Washington's Continental Army Camp at Morristown. As soon as the British left Staten Island, the beacons were fired, and 500 New Jersey militiamen and regulars responded. They successfully repelled the invaders at the battles of Connecticut Farms (Union, NJ) and Springfield.

On November 25, 1783, 10,000 British soldiers and 32,000 Loyalists sailed away from New York City, relinquishing their last major stronghold in America. In 2008, in recognition of the 225th anniversary of that event, twelve 21st century beacons lit up the sky from Princeton, NJ, to Beacon, NY. Xenon beams (like the ones used to illuminate the World Trade Center site) were placed at former beacon locations to symbolically recreate the beacon system used during the Revolution. The Beacon Project was part of an interstate effort to recognize the significance of the beacons and highlight the importance of preserving historical landmarks.





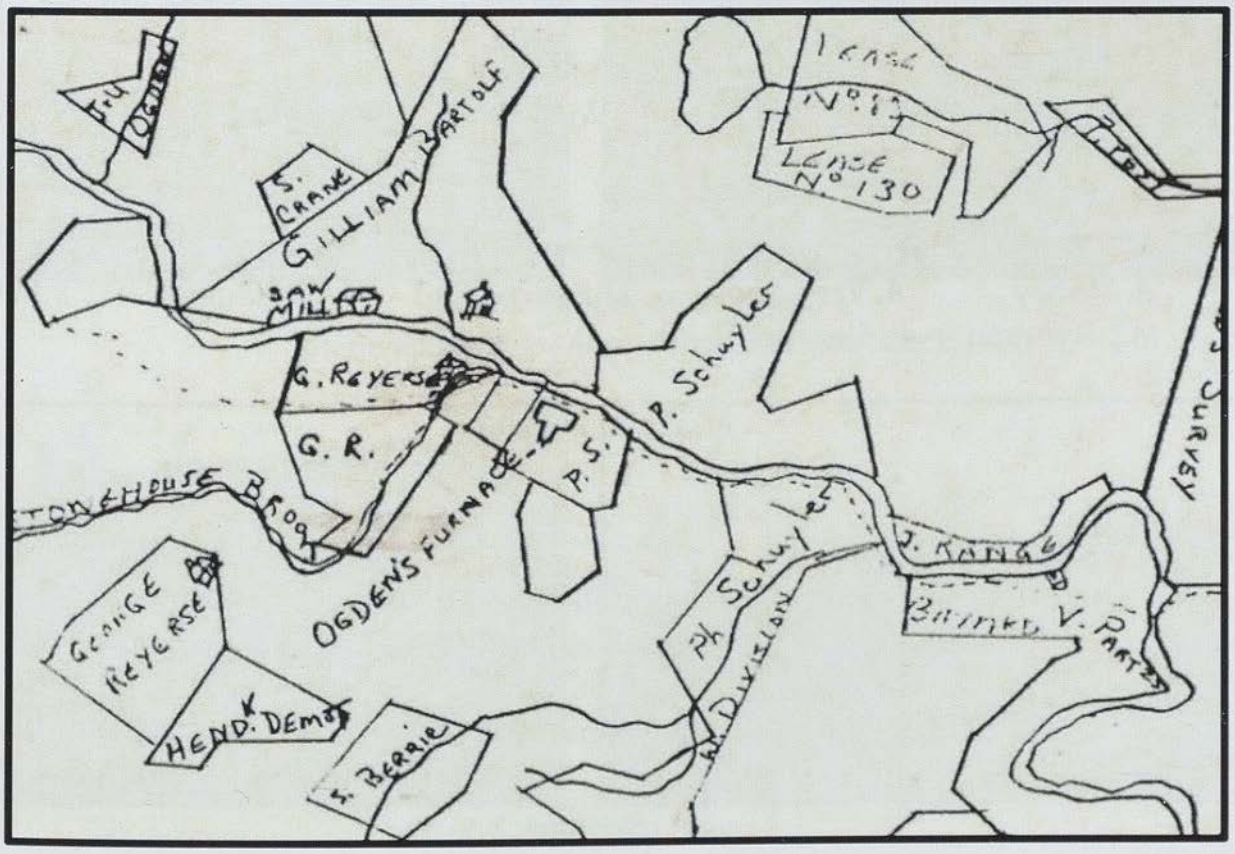


Early Settler Thomas Carman c. 1763 – 1849

Thomas Carman Sr. was born near Hempstead, Long Island about 1763. As a young man he left home and wandered toward what, at the time, was referred to as "out west," to New Jersey. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War he joined Captain Alexander Mitchell's Company of the 1st Regiment, NJ Line. It is possible that Tom Carman fought with the 1st NJ Regiment at the battles of Trenton, Princeton, and Monmouth. The spring of 1780 found Thomas and his young wife, Hannah Vreeland, leading a team of oxen and a covered wagon up a rough and narrow trail heading north out of Bloomingdale. After traveling about three miles, clearing the trail as he went, they came to a valley east of Torne Mountain, near today's Kampfe Lake on Glenwild Avenue. Here he eventually purchased several hundred acres of land and here, on a knoll near a spring, he built his homestead. Tom and Hannah raised 12 children and as the family members grew and married, they established their own farms. The area became known as Carmantown and the road leading to it, Carmantown Road. Hannah died about 1813 while Tom Sr. and his son Tom Jr. were off fighting in the War of 1812. The home Thomas Sr. constructed, part of stone and part of wood, was rebuilt on the same foundation in 1820 and for many years was considered the oldest home in Bloomingdale. By the end of his life in 1849, Thomas was receiving a pension of $76 per year and had been granted 100 acres of bounty land for his military service. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the Old Bloomingdale Cemetery on Manning Avenue in Butler. Tom Carman's original property was handed down to family members or sold. Much of it ended up in the hands of millionaire Friedrick Kampfe, inventor of the Star Safety Razor, who built a 21-room mansion on the property. The mansion burned in the 1920s and the area is now owned by the residential community of Kampfe Lake.

Bloomingdale 1767

Map No. 29 of the Alexander Papers at the New York Historical Society shows Bloomingdale's property owners in 1767 as John and Uzal Ogden, owners of the Bloomingdale Furnace, Gilliam Bartholf, George Ryerson, S. Crane, Phillip Schuyler and J. Range.



Bloomingdale 1834

In the *Gazette of the State of New Jersey*, published in 1834 by Thomas Gordon, Bloomingdale is described as "a village on Pequannock Creek in Pompton Township, Bergen County." It is located 20 miles northwest of Hackensack, upon the Paterson and Hamburg Turnpike. It contains 1 forge, a saw mill, grist mill, machine factory, bark mill, 1 tavern, 2 stores, and 8 to 10 dwellings. The country around it is mountainous and barren.

The forge, saw mill and grist mill were part of the complex owned by Martin J. Ryerson. The machine factory described by Gordon was probably the Phenix Works which was operated by Cephas Hall, Robert Lacklison and Henry T. Smith for the purpose of making machinery for cotton, woolen, flax, and paper mills.

Bloomingdale 1844

A description of Bloomingdale was noted in the *Historical Collection of the State of New Jersey* published in 1844. "Ryerson's, on the Pequannock River, in a fertile valley about 9 miles from Paterson, contains two stores, a furnace (forge), 3 grist mills, a church, an academy (school) and about 20 dwellings considerably scattered."

Bloomingdale 1861

According to a map of Passaic County dated 1861, published by G.H. Cory in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, there were approximately thirty-two property owners listed in Bloomingdale, NJ.

Carmantown Road (Glenwild Avenue)

T. Carman	D. Carman	H. Sisco	T. Cherry	M. Little	I. Waters
M. Ramion	Wm. Smith	Wm. Copper	D. H. Reeves	P. Mabey	

Union Avenue and Oak Street

J.A. Van Wagnoner	A. Vreeland	J. Worden	J. Van Orden	R. Haycock

Main Street (Hamburg Turnpike)

A. Adams	A. Mabey	A. Vreeland	H.A. Vreeland	J. Bailey	P.V. Mabey
G.M. Cooper	M.J. Ryerson	F. Sloan			

Macopin Road

A. Carman	W. Pool

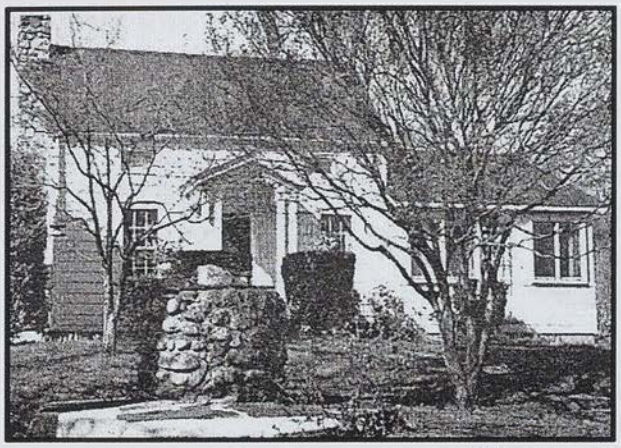
Near the Bloomingdale/Haskell Border

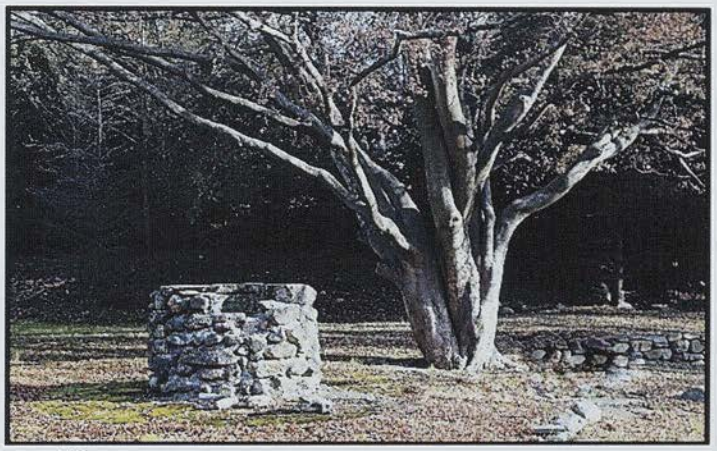
J.B. Smith	J. Van Wagnoner	J Pellington	J.R. Van Houten	H. Tice

Businesses

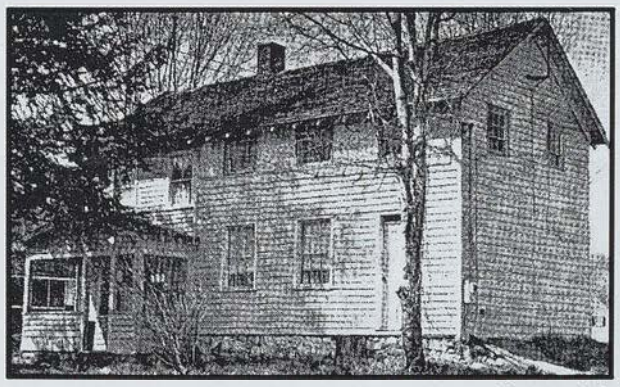
1 Forge	1 Saw Mill	1 Store	1 Blacksmith Shop	1 Tannery

Old Homes No Longer Standing





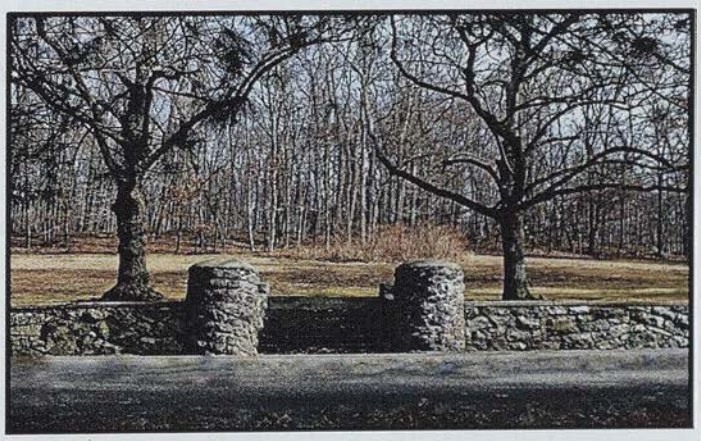
Thomas Carman House
428 Glenwild Avenue



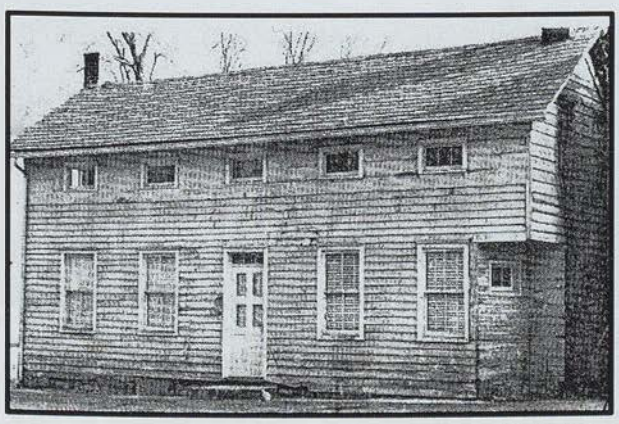


Peter Mabey House
132 Hamburg Turnpike





Friedreich Kampfe Mansion
Glenwild Avenue (Across from Kampfe Lake)





P. S. Francisco House
107 Main Street

Bloomingdale 1887

The following is a partial list of Bloomingdale Citizens and their occupations. It appeared in the *Directory of the Lehigh and Hudson Railway and the New York Susquehanna and Western Railroad*, published by the Breed Publishing Company of Newburgh New York in 1897.

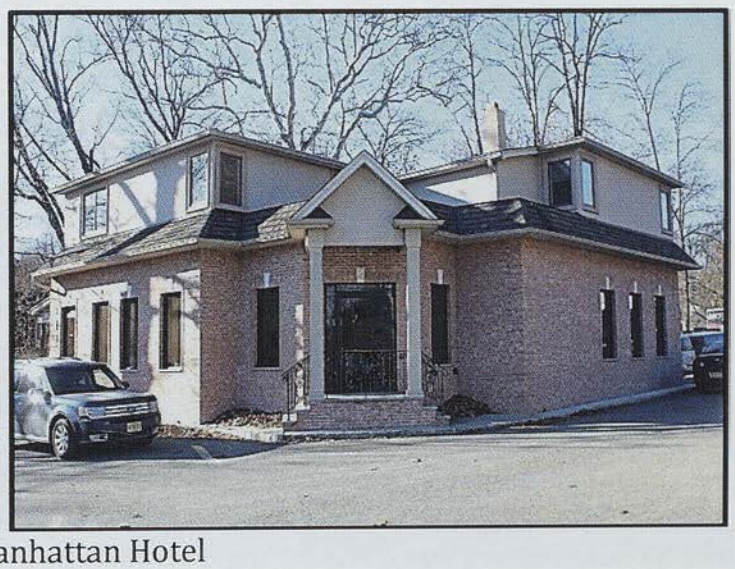
Edward E. Ball, general store and lumber William E. Blanchard, turner Joseph Bosler, baker John Brown, farmer James Carman, Union Hotel John Cook, horse trainer and farmer S.H. Courter, propr. Bloomingdale House Hotel David Davenport, baker David DeBaun, essayist Richard J. DeBaun, telephone, N.Y. Edward Decker, mason Frank Decker, electrician Isaac DeLazier, jewelry John Delazier, millinery Samuel R. Donald, shoe dealer John E. Dow, bottling works Prof. Dr. Hiram J. Dreher, pres. Dreher Grease & Oil Co. Coe Finch, editor & publisher *The Argus* newspaper John Fredericks, stableman Horace Francisco, blacksmith Prof. Daniel Gormley, school principal Horace Hamilton, painter Robert Hardman, confectioner Robert Haycock, blacksmith Samuel Hennion, carpenter and prospector Rev. John Hoffman, evangelist, Fred Hosking, bakery William Johnson, huckster (peddler) Charles Luke, guide and hunter Abraham H. Mabey, conductor S.&W.R.R. Aaron Mathews, retired farmer Silas Mead, carpenter Douglas Monks, clerk Bloomingdale House Rev. William Morris, Baptist Church John Pinkerton, machinist Lewis Provost, fruits William Rhinesmith, turner Isaiah Riley, carpenter William Rodda, miner William Roome, farmer A. Z. Ryerson, real estate Gerry Schulster, farmer George Schulster, asst. farmer Charles Sever, Postmaster John F. Sisco, mason Fred G. Sloan, turning mill and livery George Stagg, bicycles George Struble, lab David Tice, mason George Tintle, fisherman Joseph Turk, hostler Vanorden & Vanorden, painters and suppliers Harrison Vreeland, farmer George Westervelt, painter James White, Pequannock Valley Paper Company, Charles Whiteman, rubber worker David Whritenour, engineer Joseph Wyble, lab

"Just One Great Big Green Field"
A Conversation with Miss. Lucy Tintle

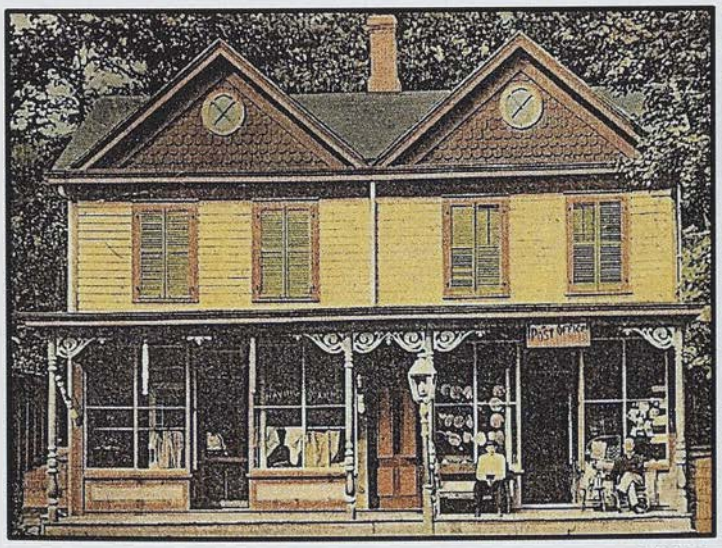
The following conversation took place in 1968 with Miss. Lucy Tintle in her home at 20 Ryerson Avenue. She was 91 years old at the time of the interview. Aunt Luce, as she was known to her neighbors, moved with her family to Bloomingdale from Pennsylvania in 1888. She was 11 years old. "Most of this part of town was just one great big green field. There were only a few buildings, most of it was all farmland." There was an old mill, a store, a mule barn, an orchard, and "Porktown" where Martin Ryerson kept about 25 pigs. Lary was Martin Ryerson's driver, I can still see him sitting on a high seat, with his tall silk hat and button-down coat, driving Mr. Ryerson's carriage around town. They say Lary had once been a slave. Reeve Avenue and Oak Street were called the road to Wynockie in the old days and all the roads were dirt. Bloomingdale was a nice little clean town. You didn't have to lock your doors, and everybody knew everybody else. There was no high school, you had to ride the train to Paterson, it was like going to college. Things started to change when the Rubber Mill was built, and they changed the name of West Bloomingdale to Butler. "Like just about everybody else, I went to work in the mill when I was 14. I worked there for 21 years. Neighbors helped each other back then." Aunt Luce should know better than most, she was the local midwife. "I brought a whole generation of Bloomingdale residents into this world," she said. "The men have grown up and married, and their families have grown up. It makes my day when they come to visit. It warmed my heart when a chime was placed in my honor on the organ at the Baptist Church a few years ago, I'm glad they remember."

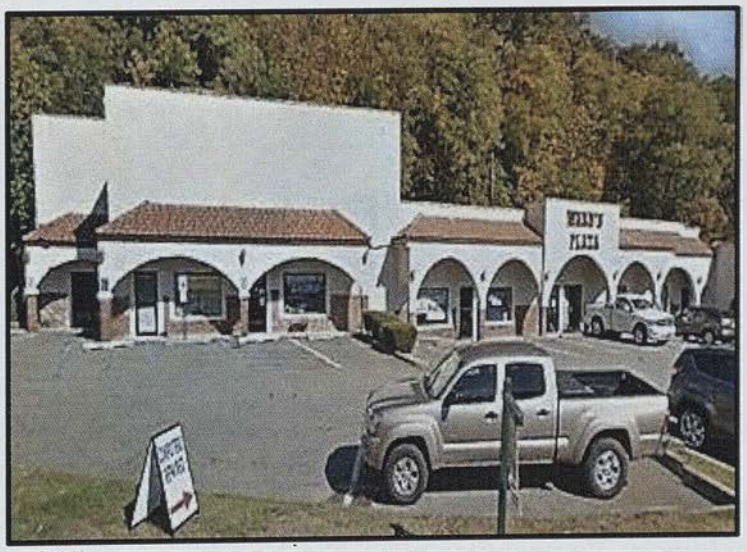
Union Square



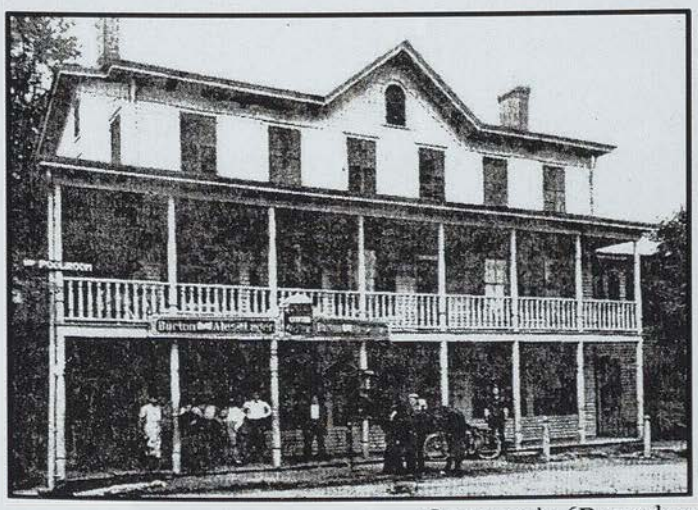


Shippee's Manhattan Hotel
Main Street





Old Post Office
142 Main Street





Carman's (Reardon's)Union House Hotel
132 Main Street

Bloomingdale Cornet Band



In the 1800's local bands not only gave people an opportunity to express their musical talents, as one of the only sources of entertainment, they were also an important social activity. Such was the case for Alfred Benson and his friends who met occasionally to share their interest in music. They were soon joined by others and eventually formed a small band. The twelve members of the new Bloomingdale Cornet Band made their first appearance in the 1884 Memorial Day Parade.

The band started giving concerts at the band stand in the old picnic ground near the site of the school on Captolene Avenue. Later, a new one was built on the corner of Main Street and Leary Avenue. By 1909, the band was performing Friday night concerts on the front lawn of bandmember Fred Sloan.

In the 1920s band members started building a bridge across the Pequannock River to the present location of Sloan Park. They wanted access to a plot of land that bandmember Fred Blanchard was filling in with residue from the American Hard Rubber Company in Butler. Overs the years, they performed hundreds of concerts on the large metal covered band stand they constructed. Finally, in 1968, like most everything built in the park, it was carried away by flood waters.

In January 1889, Samuel R. Donald became the band's director. He loved music and served in that capacity for over 50 years. The band has received so many trophies over the years, they have trouble finding space to store them all. In 1938, Emma Sehulster became their first majorette and in the 1970s women were finally welcomed into the band as musicians.

The Bloomingdale Cornet Band continues to perform concerts and parades throughout Northern New Jersey. For many years, the band has earned the distinction of "Best Band in NJ" at the annual NJ State Firemen's Convention Parade. Mike Kallimanis has served as band director since 2011.

The Bloomingdale Jazz Band was formed in 2016. Styled after traditional Big Bands, this ensemble has quickly grown in popularity. They perform tunes from the 1920s through the 1980s that include Swing, Jazz, Soul, Blues, and Rock 'n Roll. The Jazz Band is very happy to accept the invitation to perform at Bloomingdale's 100th Anniversary Celebration.



Oldest Homes Still Standing

It is believed the following homes were built between 1830 and 1860.



Robert Haycock House
56 Oak Street



James Westervelt House
25 Reeve Avenue



Little Family House
106 Glenwild Avenue



Henry Luther House
37 Reeve Avenue



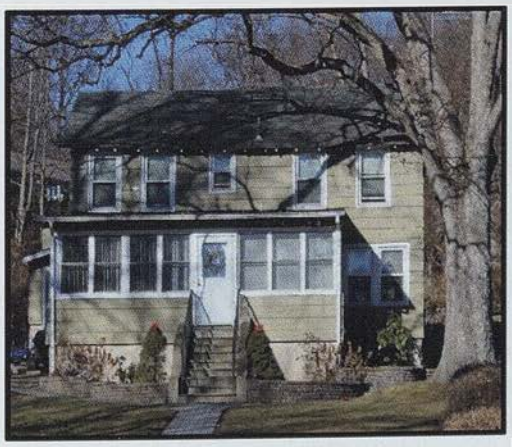
Abe Vreeland House
184 Hamburg Turnpike



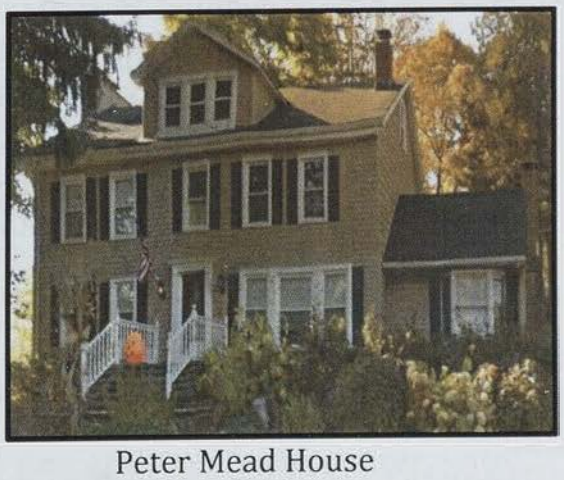
Al Sisco House
40 Captolene Avenue



Al Whritenour House
187 Union Avenue



Spencer Riley House
149 Union Avenue



Peter Mead House
61 Glenwild Avenue

The End of Pompton Township and Origin of Bloomingdale Borough

Pompton Township was formed in 1797, from portions of Saddle River Township and Franklin Township in Bergen County. Incorporated on February 21, 1798, it included what is now Bloomingdale, Ringwood, Wanaque, West Milford and the Village of Pompton (Pompton Lakes). West Milford was the first to break from Pompton Township on March 10, 1834. When Passaic Country was established on February 7, 1837, it included both Pompton and West Milford Townships. The Village of Pompton was next to leave, forming the municipality of Pompton Lakes on February 26, 1895.

The movement to dissolve Pompton Township probably began in Haskell (Wanaque). According to news accounts at the time, local leaders felt that rapid population growth was hindering the ability of the Township Committee to govern. The Haskell discussion about forming their own borough probably prompted the other two sections of the Township, Bloomingdale and Ringwood, to follow their lead. Serious discussions between the three sections resulted in all three areas applying to the State for incorporation charters in 1915.

The devolution of Pompton Township was probably inevitable because its three sections were growing in different directions and therefore, had different priorities. Haskell and Midvale (Wanaque) were interested in developing the business districts along Ringwood Avenue and wanted their resources (taxes) to be spent on that endeavor. With the expansion of the rubber industry in the Morris County section of West Bloomingdale (Butler), Main Street Bloomingdale interests found themselves orienting more in that direction. Ringwood remained mostly rural, with a small population and without a commercial center, it was still focused on the Ringwood Company, mining, and agriculture. Ringwood taxes being spent in far away Bloomingdale and vice versa, must have seemed unreasonable.

It took three years of negotiations to hammer out boundary lines, finalize the disbursement of assets, and to distribute the debt they owed to Passaic County. The township school system was to be similarly divided into separate districts in each town. A meeting was called for January 12, 1918 to work out the final details. On January 10, 1918 the following article appeared in the *Bloomingdale Argus* newspaper.

"Everyone in Bloomingdale should attend the meeting to be held at the Y.M.C.A. auditorium in Haskell on Friday evening at 7:30 pm. The present state of feeling in the three localities seems to augur well for the establishment of the proposed three boroughs. The incorporation of the boroughs will give citizens the power to spend their money (taxes) as they wish. One thing should be understood; however, Bloomingdale's taxes will probably not be lowered. Only by employing the strictest economy can the tax be held at its present rate. We favor the move, but the above is a statement of fact. We feel that the facts are better before, rather than after the fact."

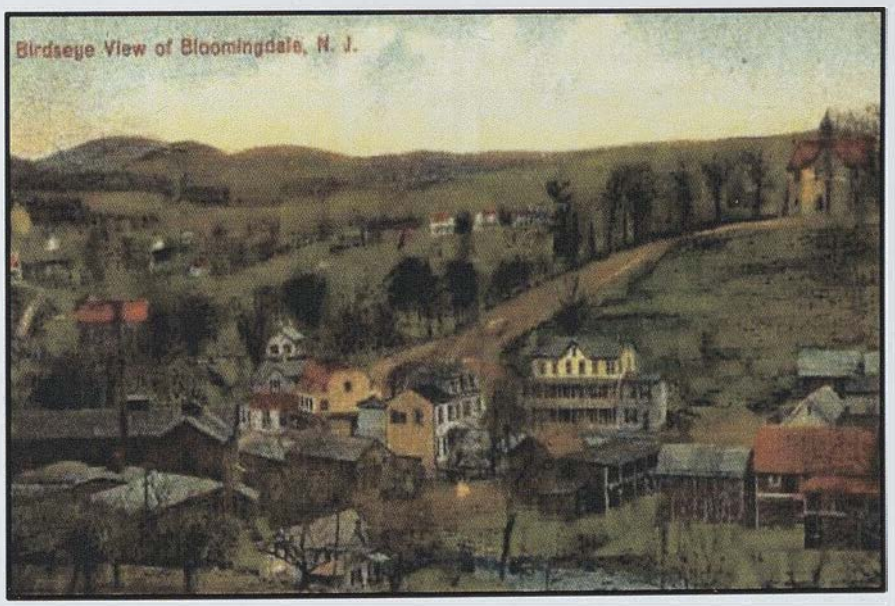
"Remember, we have been called "Wild Bloomingdale Barbarians" and "The Barbarous Hordes from the Southwest." Let's attend the meeting on Friday and let's act wisely and as fair-minded gentlemen, insisting upon a fair deal. Let's give and take."

The vote to split the Township was approved on Feb. 23, 1918 and the independent Boroughs of Bloomingdale, Wanaque, and Ringwood came into existence. After incorporation, adjustments with Pompton Lakes and Wanaque added $6,000 to Bloomingdale's tax rolls in 1921. Six years later a boundary dispute with West Milford, which had been waged since 1834, was amicably settled. Isaac DeLazier was elected Bloomingdale's first Mayor and the first Town Council consisted of: Oscar Tintle, John Vreeland, Allen T. Haycock, Charles Bogue, Chester Sisco, and William F. Sisco.

History of Bloomingdale's Schools

Bloomingdale's First School

Bloomingdale's first school was called the Bloomingdale Academy. Its not clear if that is the same school that was part of the Pompton Township School System, or an earlier one. A school is noted in Bloomingdale as early as 1840. The Pompton Township School was located at approximately 101 Main Street (site of the Car Wash). The land for the school was donated by Martin J. Ryerson in 1844. There were only three rooms in the school, two small classrooms downstairs and one large room upstairs. When the Hilltop School was built on Captolene Avenue in 1886, the upstairs of the Main Street School became the headquarters of the John E. Beam Post No. 92 of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR, Civil War Veterans). The GAR or Grand Army Hall as it was known, was the largest interior space in town available for social events like wedding receptions and banquets. It served as the center of Bloomingdale's social activities for many years. Organizations from the Fire Department, to church groups, to fraternal organizations, met there. The two downstairs rooms of the old school later became Louis Van Orden and Fowler Vanderhoff's Paint Shop. (See the GAR page for a partial photo of this school.)



The Hilltop School

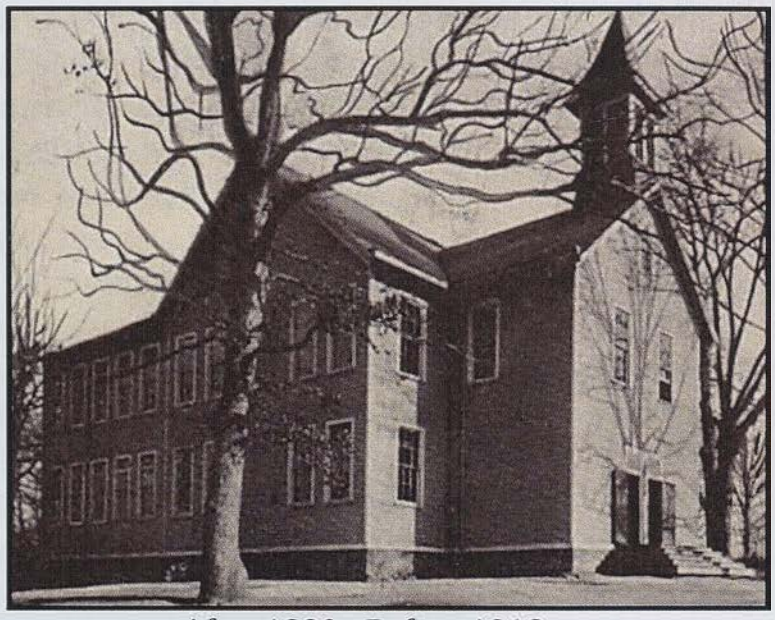
J. Frank Day, the last Principal of the Main Street School, became the first Principal of the new Hilltop School when it was completed in 1886. The school we see today is a hodge-podge of wings and additions that have been added over the years. No record of its date exists, but a large wooden addition was added to the back of the original school sometime between 1890 and 1918. Photos on one of the following pages trace the growth of the school.

Today's school starts to become recognizable when a large two-story brick addition was added to the front of the original wooden building in 1918. The break with Pompton Township took place at this time and the Bloomingdale Board of Education was created. As student enrollment increased, another almost identical brick wing was added to the back of the original school in 1928. At this point the school consisted of the original wooden school and the first addition in the center, with two brick additions, each with four rooms, on both ends. As the town continued to grow, so did the student population, and by 1938 additional space was needed. With a grant from the Works Progress Administration (WPA), a major renovation of the school took place at this time. The entire wooden middle section of the school, including the original school, was demolished and a new brick section, containing eight classrooms, was constructed to attach the wings on each end. The result was an "I" shaped structure with 16 classrooms, made completely of brick. This building served Bloomingdale students well for the next twenty years.

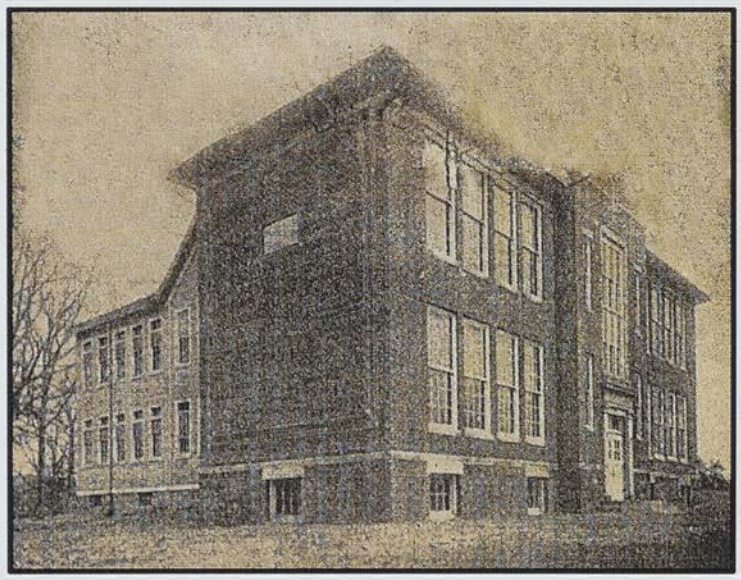
Hilltop School
Samuel R. Donald School



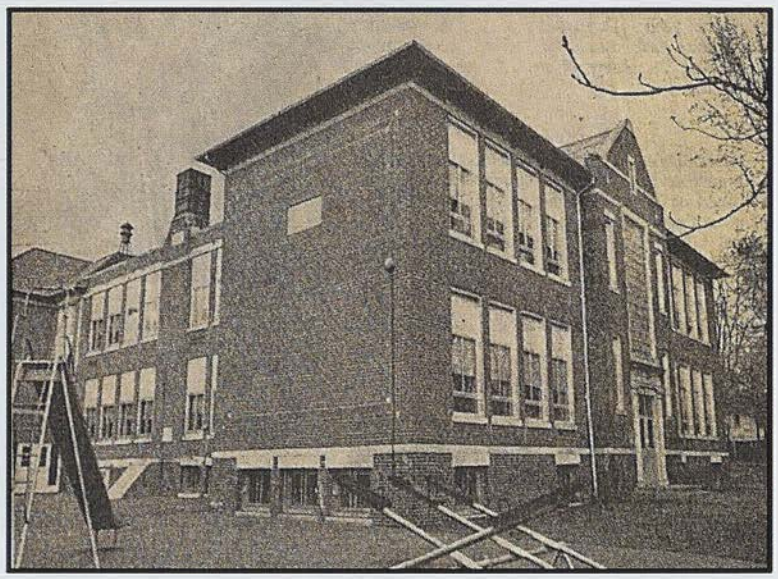
1886 - Original Building



After 1890 - Before 1918



1918



1938



1918 1938 1928



1928 1958

(Dates Indicate Additions)

The town continued to grow, and in 1957 it was decided that a fourth addition to the school was needed. Using hillside construction, an additional five classrooms and a multi-purpose room were added. The multi-purpose room consisted of an auditorium/gymnasium which for the first time, provided a stage for plays and community events, as well as a gymnasium. Physical education classes could now be conducted inside during the winter months. In addition to baseball and touch football, Bloomingdale athletes could now also compete with other area schools in basketball.

The Preakness Homes development in the upper Reeve Avenue section of town continued to put pressure on the school system. Despite the recent addition, classes were still overcrowded, and the school was bulging at the seams. Half-day sessions were instituted for students in the lower grades levels where overcrowding was the most severe. Bloomingdale needed another school.

The Martha B. Day School

After a couple of referendum defeats, a modern 16-room $685,000 school, was constructed on Rafkind Road in 1963. The school was named in honor of long-time Bloomingdale teacher and principal, Martha B. Day. William Spreen was appointed teacher/principal of the new school.

Miss Day started her educational career in Bloomingdale in 1912 after graduating from Trenton State College. Soon after World War I she became the school's principal. She was known as an outstanding educational leader and innovator. After serving the children of Bloomingdale for 36 years, she retired in 1948. Miss Day had the pleasure of participating in the cornerstone laying ceremony of the school named in her honor. She passed away in 1966 at the age of 81.



The Hilltop School was also named at this time in honor of one of Bloomingdale's most respected citizens, Samuel R. Donald. Mr. Donald made many outstanding contributions to the town. Before there was a Borough of Bloomingdale, Mr. Donald served on the Pompton Township Board of Education where he held the office of treasurer for many years. He was one of the first members of the Bloomingdale Cornet Band and held the position of director for 50 years. Mr. Donald was also an enterprising businessman. He helped found the Bloomingdale Bank and served as its managing director. He helped start the town's first Boy Scout Troop and was the organist at the Methodist Church for 45 years. He also served as the town tax collector and helped start the fire department. The Samuel R. Donald School is an outstanding tribute to one of Bloomingdale's most outstanding gentlemen.

In 1967 the Board of Education tried to address the overcrowding problem with the purchase of four portable classrooms for both the Donald and Day schools. Despite this effort, the school population continued to grow. With no other option, split-sessions at the lower grade levels had to be reinstituted. Again, there just weren't enough classrooms to meet the needs of Bloomingdale's growing student population.

Bloomingdale Public School



Main Street School
Before 1886



First Graduating Class
Hilltop School



About 1889



Graduates 1927



Bloomingdale School Teachers
1950's



School Baseball Team
1948

Another School Needed

The construction of the Martha B. Day School alleviated the need for part-time classes, but only temporarily. A study of student population growth found that for the 1964 – 1965 school year, 1,302 students would be attending the two Bloomingdale elementary schools. A previous study had estimated that figure wouldn't be reached until 1970. The number of students was rising twice as fast as predicted. Because of the current space restrictions, 300 children would have to return to a split-session schedule for the 1965 – 1966 school year. Everyone, parents, Board members and administrators, found that situation unacceptable. A Citizen Advisory Committee was formed, and the Board of Education embarked on another school expansion project.

There were two obvious solutions to the problem, expand the Martha B. Day School, or build another school. After nine months of study, the Citizen Advisory Committee recommended a 24-room addition to the Day School. The Board of Education, having already considered and rejected that option, favored the construction of a new school on property the town had purchased on Glenwild Avenue when the Day School property was acquired. An architect was hired to draw up plans for both options, so a cost comparison could be made.

It was decided that a new 26-room, K -8 school would be built on the 18.5-acre Glenwild Avenue site. A $1.89 million referendum was put to the public for a vote and rejected. Planners went back to the drawing board and presented a revised plan that was also voted down. Plans for the building were scaled back again and on the third try a $1.6 million school plan was approved.

Instead of having three K – 8 Borough schools, a middle school plan was adopted. Both the Day and Donald Schools would act as neighborhood schools, attended by students in grades K -5. All students in grades 6 – 8 would attended the new middle school. The elementary schools would remain self-contained classes, but the middle school, would be completely departmentalized with students traveling from class to class. After some debate, the middle school became a 5 – 8 grade school in 1998. The new school needed a name, and the whole town agreed there was only one logical choice.

The Walter T. Bergen School

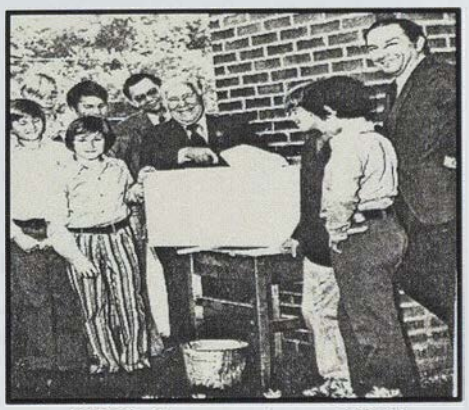
After graduating from Paterson State Normal School, Walter T. Bergen started his educational career in Bloomingdale as an Industrial Art Teacher. He then became an eighth-grade teacher and for many years, as the only male teacher, coached the school's interscholastic sports teams. His 50-year career spanned from 1929 to 1978, when he was forced to retire by state law at the age of 70. Mr. Bergen became Teaching/Principal of the Bloomingdale Public School in 1950. He then served as Administrative Principal when the Martha B. Day School was built, and as Principal of the Samuel R. Donald School until his retirement.

Mr. Bergen is remembered by colleagues, former students, and friends as a warm caring man who shared his faith in people. There were no "bad kids" to Mr. Bergan, only children who if pointed in the right direction and given positive role models, would succeed. He left a legacy of integrity and selfless service to the children of Bloomingdale and his five decades of enthusiastic and inspiring commitment to our town will long be remembered.



Emily Riley W.T. Bergen


Walter T. Bergen School


WTB Cornerstone 1971

Bloomingdale and Butler High School

Butler High School is the oldest High School in the North Jersey Highlands area. Since its inception in 1903, Bloomingdale students have continuously attended Butler High. Students from Bloomingdale make up about half the school's population. This 50 – 50 ratio has existed for a number of years and at least three times, going all the way back to 1948, regionalization plans have been proposed to replace the current "sending - receiving" relationship. In each case voters rejected the propositions. Today the area once served by Butler High School contains nine public high schools, four county-technical schools and a number of parochial schools.

In 1991, Bloomingdale began a legal action to withdraw its secondary school students from Butler High School and send them to Pequannock High School. A long legal battle followed until an Administrative Law Judge ruled in favor of Butler. It was estimated that the switch to Pequannock would have saved Bloomingdale a million dollars a year over a ten-year period. The judge's ruling also put an end to the idea of converting the Walter T. Bergen School into a high school.

School Closing and Expansion Referendum

In 1997 the Board of Education briefly entertained the idea of leasing out the Samuel R. Donald School as an alternative middle school and adding a $4.9 million addition to the Day School. After a $7,500 study recommended the plan, and a special meeting was called that was attended by 200 people, the plan was scraped because it was obvious it had little chance of passing in a referendum. Another plan in 2005, put before Bloomingdale voters a $22.3 million referendum. It proposed closing the Samuel R. Donald School, funding a $3.5 million 10-room addition to the Martha B. Day School, and the addition of administrative officers to the Walter T. Bergan School. The plan included the sale of the Donald School to the town for $1, and a switch from half-day to all-day kindergarten. Proponents of the plan pointed out that the town could then use the building to house the Public Library, a civic center, municipal offices, and a recreation center. Opponents pointed out that a 1992 feasibility study funded by the Board of Education, found no benefit to the town if the school was closed. It was estimated that taxes on the average $146,700 Bloomingdale home would increase $280 or more per year if the plan was approved. It was defeated by a three to one margin.

Clustering

The beginning of the 2006 – 2007 school year saw a change in the way Bloomingdale elementary schools "clustered" classes in grades K – 4. Up until that time, both the Samuel R. Donald School and the Martha B. Day School functioned as neighborhood schools, serving students in the areas of town in which the schools were located. The clustering concept resulted in the Day School housing a pre-K class, three full-day kindergartens, and four first grades. The Donald School became a 2 – 4 grade school of three classes each. Grades 5 – 8 at the Walter T. Bergen School were not affected.

The pros and cons of the plan were hotly debated at well attended Board of Education meetings. Some residents called for a town wide referendum to decide the matter. The Board of Education insisted it was within their jurisdiction to make an executive decision. The main concern was an increase in class size as a result of switching from four classes to three at each grade level. Representatives of the Teachers Association also voiced a concern about the effect larger classes would have on the learning process, and the elimination of teaching positions. In the end, the clustering plan was passed by the Board in an 8 to 1 vote. The plan remains in effect today.

On the passing of Mr. Bergen, long-time eighth grade teacher and Martha B. Day Principal, Marge Reda, reflected on some things she learned from him over the years. She pointed out how sentimental he was, and how much he valued the contributions of the people that came before him who helped build Bloomingdale's educational system. He encouraged her to remember their stories and pass that heritage along to younger teachers and her students, so they could continue to build on the legacy.

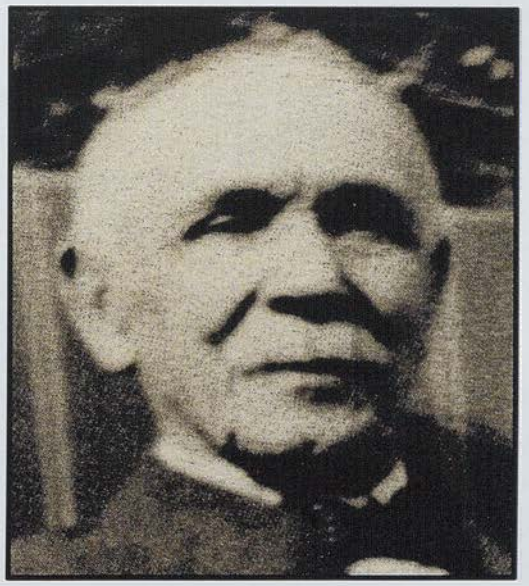
Almost A Century of Educational Leadership



Walter T. Bergen



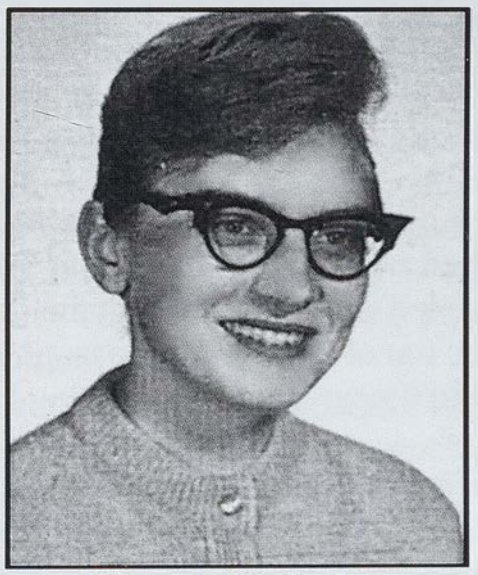
Martha B. Day



Samuel R. Donald



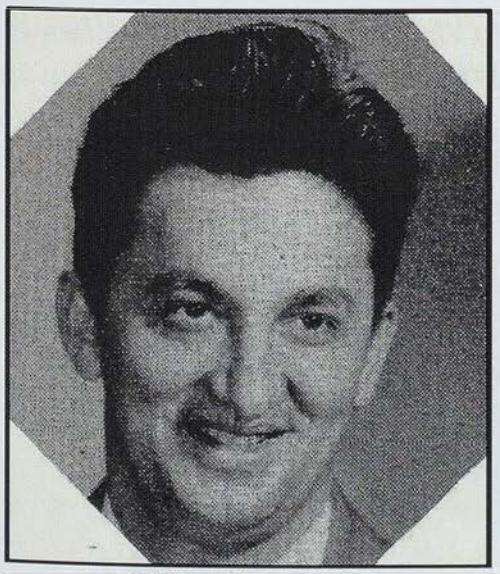
William F. Spreen



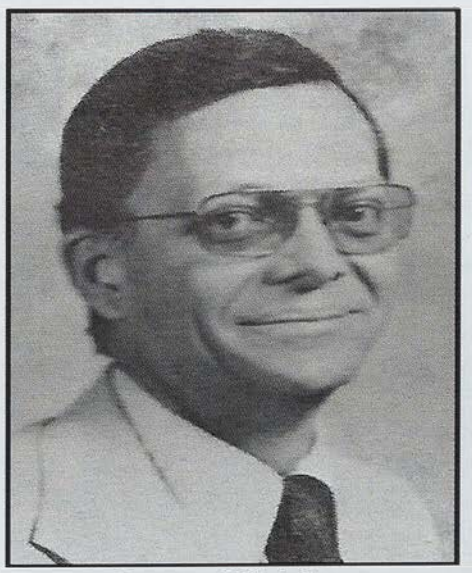
Margaret Reda



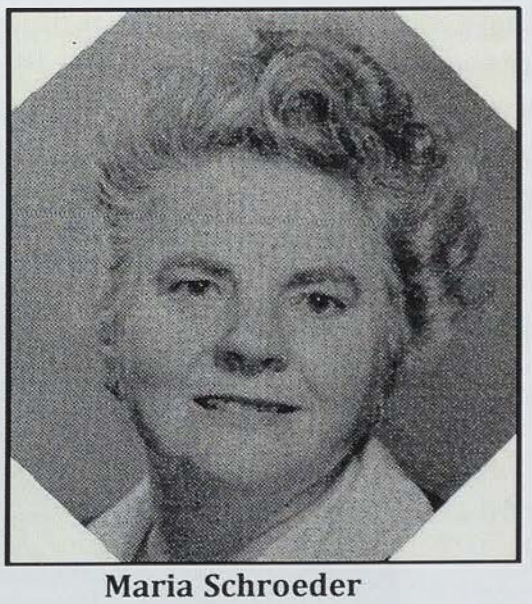
Al Alvine



Michael Barna

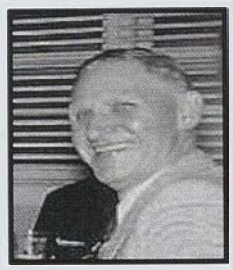


James Ullrich



Maria Schroeder

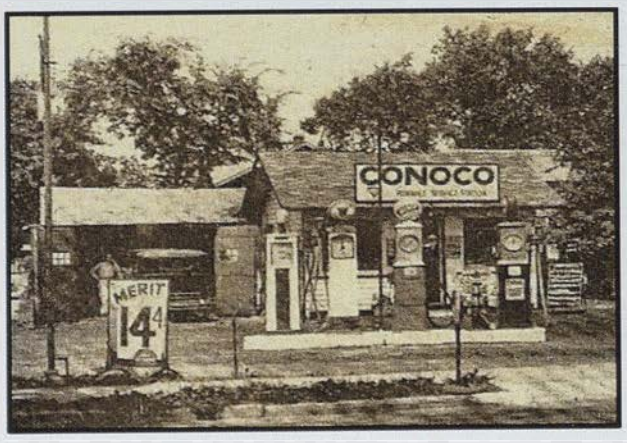
"Growing Up In Bloomingdale"
By Ned Romain

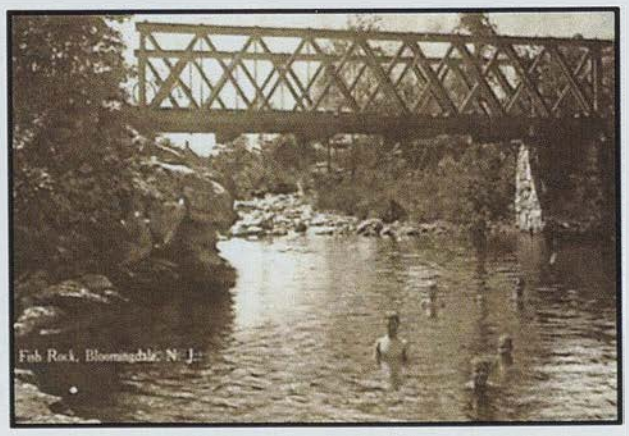


Ned Romain was born in Pompton Lakes and moved to Bloomingdale in 1908 when he was six years old. He lived in town for 84 years and passed away on March 30, 1994, four days short of his 93rd birthday. If you attended Bloomingdale School (there was only one) in the late 1950s, you remember Ned as the friendly custodian. Some older residents may remember him as the owner of Romain's Service Station which he operated on Main Street from 1927 to 1955. Others may remember him in his later years when he rode in the town's 75th Anniversary Parade as the town's oldest resident. For that occasion, Ned made a tour of Bloomingdale's historical landmarks with his son Tom. They made a video that was distributed to friends and family. He was proud of his nickname "Mr. Bloomingdale" and kept many scrapbooks, postcards, photographs, and artifacts of the town's history. Ned states at the end of his essay that he had "so many fond memories he could write a book." We wish he had. This is his story.

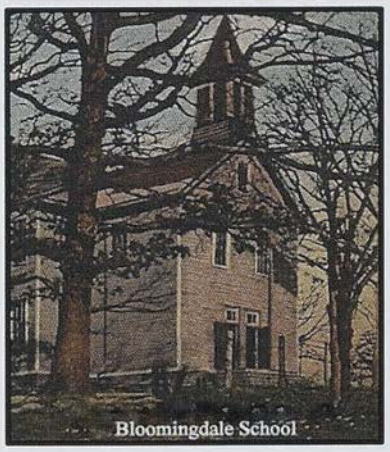
The toys I had growing up were mostly hand-crafted out of wood. We lived on Main Street, so the river was our playground. I once had a wooden airplane that I could fly all the way across the river on a string. Another time I found a sled with wooden runners floating down the river. As soon as snow hit the ground, I took it to the top of Larry Hill, (Pleasant View Avenue) pointed it in the direction I wanted to go (you couldn't steer it) and away I went. What a thrill it was to go down that hill on that old sled!

Hopping rocks was another favorite pastime. It was a lot of fun in the summer because it didn't matter if you fell off into the river and got soaking wet. Behind what is now Sloan Park, there were two large boulders with the impressions of footprints in them. We called one "Devils Foot Rock" because the toe came to a point like the toes of one of Santa's elves. The footprint was about two feet long and eight inches deep. Nearby was the "Lord's Footprint," but you had to use your imagination to see it. When a bulldozer widened the river in the 1970s the footprints were lost. Our favorite swimming spot was Fish Rock by the bridge (now gone). No girls were allowed because skinny-dipping was the mode of the day. On one occasion some wise-guys tied all our clothes in knots and we had to stand there naked using our teeth to get the knots out while the pranksters yelled "Chaw-Beef "at us.





In 1910, when I was nine years old, I was bitten by my pet dog. He was foaming at the mouth and I was really scared. The dog was put down and his skull was later sent to Trenton for testing. The results came back positive for rabies. My mother didn't wait for the test results, she went right to Mrs. Debow to buy the "Reeve Mad Dog Bite Cure." It was expensive, $25, but it didn't matter, the alternative was a month of painful stomach injections or a painful death. It came in a plain brown bottle and was taken orally once a day for nine days. It required a special diet, so I lived for nine days on matzo crackers from Schuman's store in Butler. It was a secret formula said to have been handed down from the Indians. I didn't die, so I guess I'm living proof that the Reeve Cure works. People ask me what the cure was like, all I can remember is that it tasted like ground up bricks.







Mr. Martin Anderson, my next door neighbor, was a blacksmith. I liked to pump the bellows for him as he worked at his forge. Sometimes he would ask me to shoo the flies away as he shoed the horses. Mr. James Reardon, another neighbor, owned one of the first automobiles in Bloomingdale. His 1903 Oldsmobile had one cylinder and one seat. Sometimes on Sunday morning he would take my sister and I on a ride down Hamburg Turnpike to Pompton Lakes. We really enjoyed those rides with him, it was a real privilidge and made us feel special.

Once in awhile, my mother would rent a horse and carridge from Mr. Fred Sloan's Livery stable to go to Paterson. It was a long trip. We would eat at Child's Restaurant, and watch the steam engines from Cooke's Locomotive Works being towed on the trolley tracks down to the Erie Railroad. It was a lot more fun and a bigger adventure to take the train to Paterson and ride in comfort.

My schoolboy claim-to-fame was the day I climbed up into the school belfry and tied a rag around the clapper of the bell, so we could get some extra time at recess. The other kids told on me and our teacher, Miss. Martha Day, gave me lightning and a week's detention. Then she made me climb up again and take the rag off. I was in big trouble when I got home and really caught the devil. Most kids quit school around 13 and went to work. Miss. Day tried hard to get my mother to make me stay, but the Hard Rubber Mill was paying $6.90 for a forty-eight-hour week, and I couldn't resist the opportunity to make that kind of money.

One of my favorite jobs was assistant projectionist at the Rex Movie Theater on Main Street. They were silent movies accompied by a piano player. We learned all the new songs at the movies, the words flashed on the screen and everyone sang along. It was also my job to feed the three potbellied stoves that heated the theater. The building was later converted to an Overall Factory (approx. location of the carwash).

Once I saw a rare Stanley Steamer automobile fill up at the old horse watering trough (it's still there in front of Sloan Park). In about five minutes he was on his way. I learned to drive a Model T Ford in the cornfield that is now DeLazier Field. I have so many fond memories I could write a book!

German American Vocational League Camp
Federal Hill



At first glance, the eastern slope of Federal Hill hardly seems like a pristine spot for a summer camp. Despite the topographical challenges, however, members of the German-American Vocational League (DAB), an affiliate of the German-American Bund, succeeded in building a substantial facility that served as a youth camp during the week and a family retreat on weekends. Their hard work resulted in the creation of a lake for swimming, a large gemeinschafts haus or community house that also served as a dining hall, and more than twenty cabins. Camp Bergwald (mountain forest) was one of sixteen camps established by the Bund and its affiliates from New York to California. Camp Siegfried on Long Island and Camp Nordland in Sussex County, New Jersey were the largest.

For years, some local historians said they never saw anything suspicious going on at the camp on Federal Hill. They labeled the campers as nature-loving German city-people, who enjoyed the outdoors. Others, like long-time editor of the *Suburban Trends,* Howard Ball, were disturbed at the sight of uniformed, flag waving, Germans, marching from the Riverdale Railroad Station up Hamburg Turnpike to the bridge behind Slater's Mill. This was confirmed by Riverdale's Fred Di Angles who said his family would sit on their front porch and watch the Germans march past.

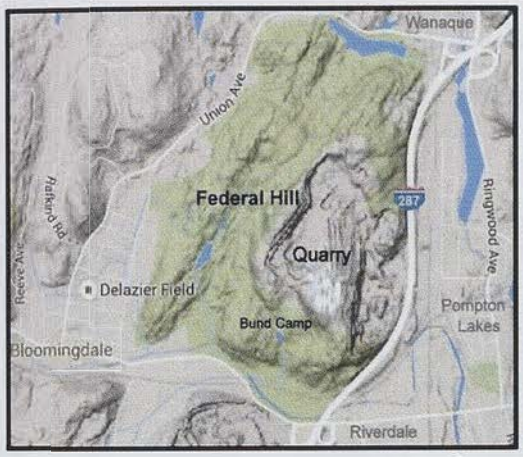
A deed search showed that most of the 180 acres that would become Camp Bergwald were purchased from the American Homes Company in late 1937. From the very beginning there were local concerns about the purpose of the camp. Camp officials even attended a meeting of the Bloomingdale Town Council to quell rumors and assure them of the wholesome nature of the camp. The truth was much more sinister.

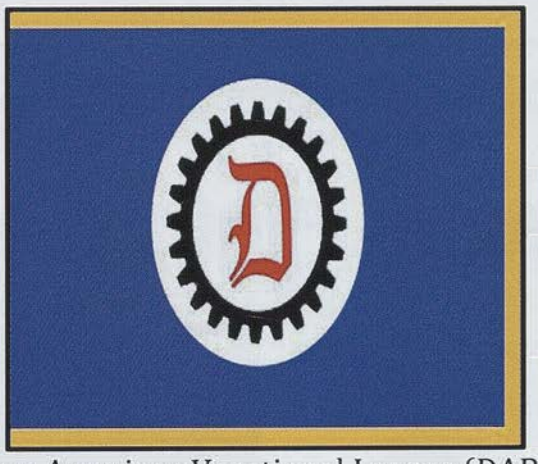
It was later discovered that the same theories of hate and racial superiority that were being used to create Nazi Germany were being preached right here. Young people of German descent that attended the camp were being exposed to the same propaganda and indoctrination that produced a whole generation ready to charge into machine guns for the *Fuehrer.* One camp leader expressed the goals of the camps in this way:

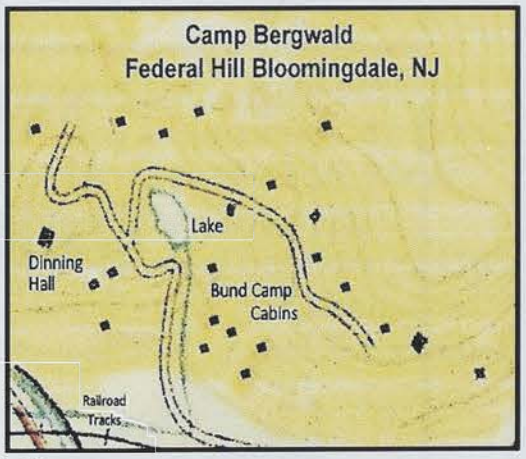
"Our camps are designed to be places that breath the spirit of the New Germany. Here we build camaraderie and a feeling of belonging to one community dedicated to the principals of National Socialism. Here our children learn the role that has been assigned to them as the carriers of German ideals in America. American schools are polluters of young impressionable minds. At our camps a new generation blossoms, young people destined to carry forward Nazi ideals. Here our children learn the true meaning of our cause and that it is the responsibility of all Germans, no matter where they live, to carry that cause forward."

Fortunately, Bergwald was infiltrated by informants, resulting in a number of raids by the FBI and State Police. The end of the camp came four days after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and the declaration of war on the United States by Nazi Germany. Most Bund members were sent to internment camps, deported, or like the director of Camp Bergwald, imprisoned.

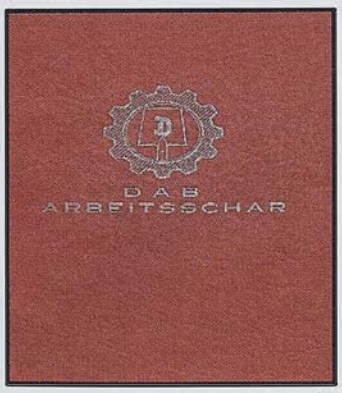
Camp Bergwald



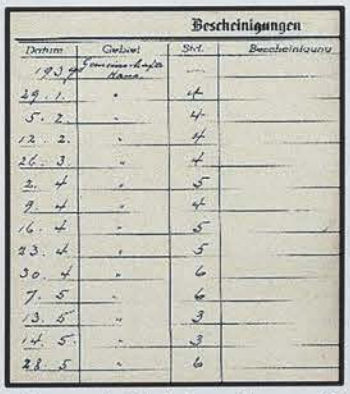




German American Vocational League (DAB) Flag




Arbeitsbuch
der DAB Arbeitsschar
Name
Adresse
Beruf Schreiner
Alter 11.7.1907
Eingetreten am 1.5.1938
In Natzo Nr.
O.G. Hudson County N.J.
New-York den 29.7. 1939


Bescheinigungen

Datum	Gebiet	Std.	Bescheinigung
193	Gemeinschafts Haus	—	
29.1.	"	4	
5.2.	"	4	
12.2.	"	4	
26.3.	"	4	
2.4.	"	5	
9.4.	"	4	
16.4.	"	5	
23.4.	"	5	
30.4.	"	6	
7.5.	"	6	
13.5.	"	3	
14.5.	"	3	
28.5.	"	6	



Steve Daum and Ken Dorsett Found Hidden Camp Records in 1983







Gemeinschafts Haus (Community House)

BUND PARADE CURB SOUGHT
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
New York Times (1857-Current file); Jul 7, 1940; pg. 7

BUND PARADE CURB SOUGHT

Bloomingdale Sets Hearing on Final Passage of Law

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BLOOMINGDALE, N. J., July 6—A public hearing for final passage of an ordinance prohibiting parades and public demonstrations without a permit will be held at 8 P. M. Tuesday in the Municipal Building. The bill is aimed at curbing activities at the German-American Vocational League camp atop the historic Federal Hill here.

D.A.B. Camp Built With German Money

A government witness testified in Federal Court today that Camp Bergwald at Bloomingdale, was financed through a $13,000 rebate from the labor front movement of Germany.

The identity of the witness, other than that he was a former director of the German-American Vocational League, was withheld at the direction of Judge Thomas F. Meaney after Assistant United States Attorney Richard J. Hughes said the government feared possible reprisals against his relatives in Germany.

The $13,000, the witness said, represented dues collected in the United States from members of the vocational league, which is on trial with a subsidiary, the D.A.B. Recreational Resort, Inc., and 19 individuals on charges of conspiring to act as unregistered agents of Germany.

Bloomingdale Bund Camp Members Are Indicted

Twenty-Seven Found Guilty by Federal Grand Jury

IF CONVICTED

Face 2 Years in Jail and $1,000 Fine

With indictment of the German-American Vocational League, one of its subsidiaries and 27 officers and members, the Federal Grand Jury in Newark Wednesday placed the label of "instrument and tool" of the Nazi party upon the group which operated the DAB Recreation Camp on Federal Hill, Bloomingdale.

7 ARE CONVICTED IN NAZI PLOT CASE
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
New York Times (1857-Current file); May 19, 1944; pg. 8

7 ARE CONVICTED IN NAZI PLOT CASE

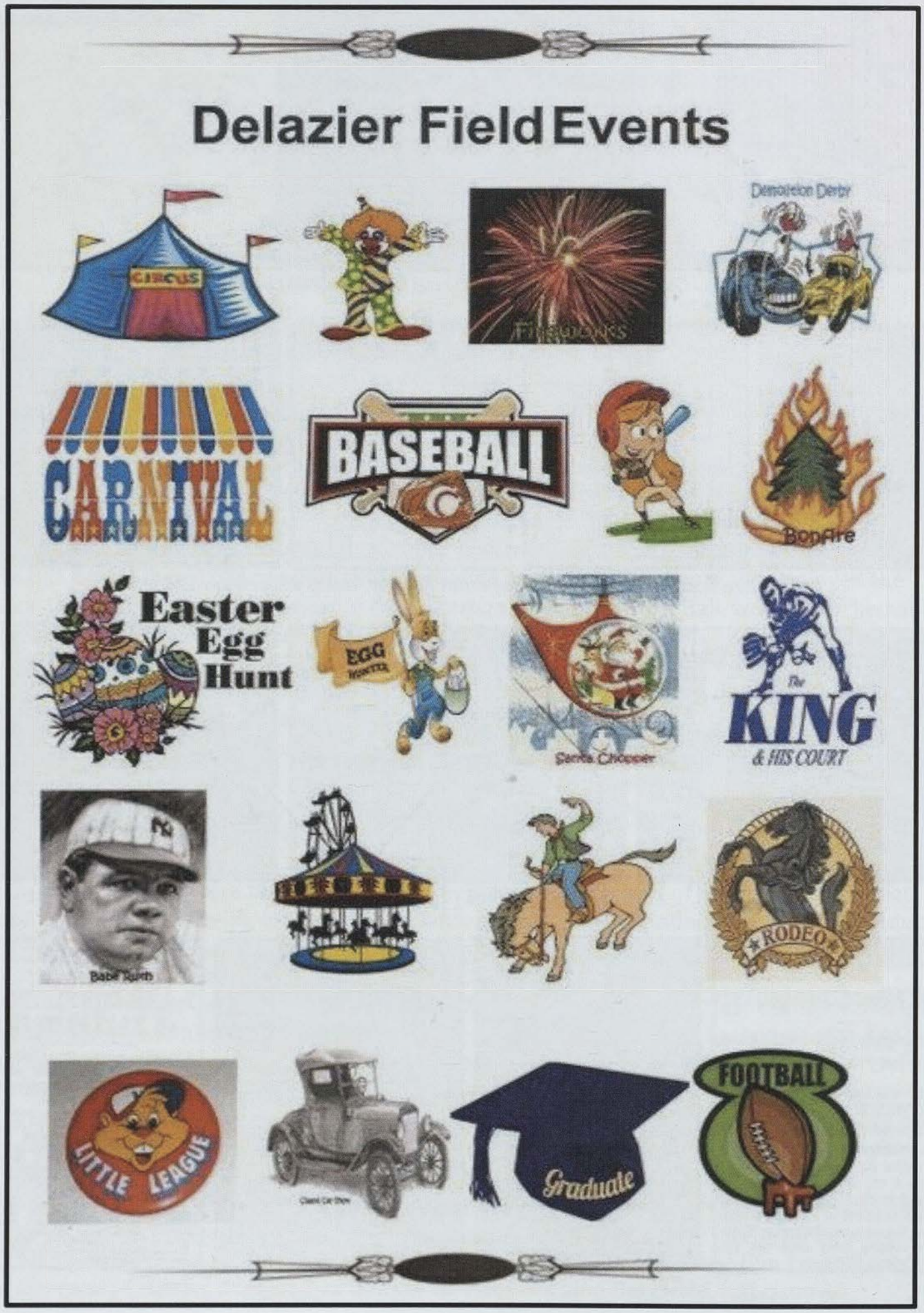
2 Corporations Also Guilty, 5 Acquitted—Newark Jury Disagrees on 3 Others

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NEWARK, N. J., May 18

Found guilty of the alleged pre-Pearl Harbor conspiracy to avoid registration while spreading propaganda to harm the nation's preparedness program were the German-American Vocational League, Inc., a New York corporation also known as DAB, accused by the Government of being directly linked with the German Labor Front; its subsidiary, the DAB Recreational Resort, Inc., owner of Camp Bergwald

For the first few decades of its existence, DeLazier Field was much more than a ballfield. It was the only large open space in town and all major events, from graduations, to carnivals, to a Demolition Derby, took place there.

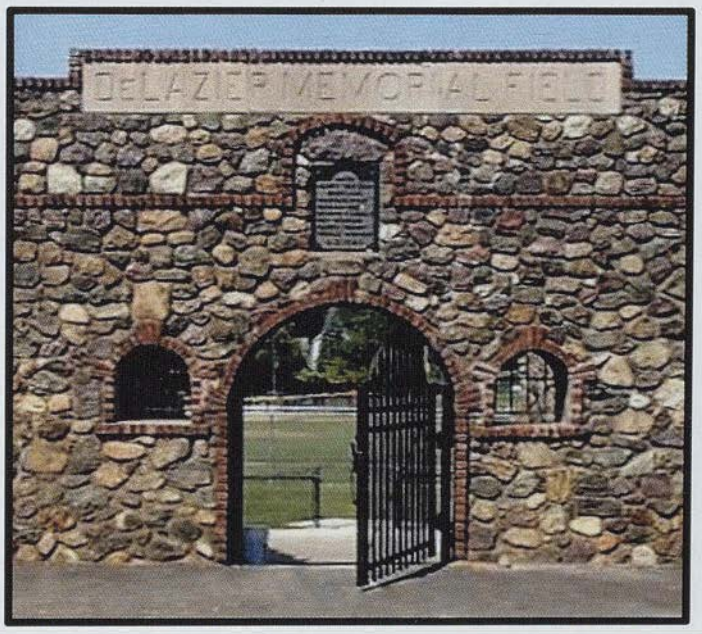


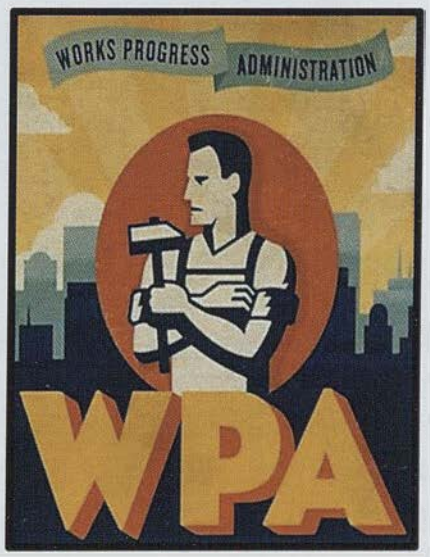
Bloomingdale and Baseball

The following is an excerpt from Tom Riley's Book, "*DeLazier Field and the Bloomingdale Troopers.*"

Bloomingdale and baseball go back a long way. Before the construction of our current fields, as early as the late 1800s, organized teams were playing at a number of fields around town. By 1936 the Bloomingdale Athletic Club and Crum's Athletic Association were playing teams from Butler, Paterson and Sussex County. Glendwild Oval and Crum's Oval were popular baseball fields. According to local historian Rodger Crum, the area near Bailey Brook (location of DeLazier Field's current infield) was too wet for a ballfield. The infield of the original Crum's Oval was located on what is now the Park Avenue end of the meadow. Informal ballfields were also located at a number of other areas on the "flats."







DeLazier Field

DeLazier Field was once part of the farm owned by the Crum family, for many years after the stadium was built in the late 1930s, Walt Crum's large barn could be seen on the far side of the brook on the west side of the field. During the hard times of the Depression the meadow ended up owned by the ARGO Company, who leased the land to the town for a recreation field. The price of the lease equaled the amount owed by the company to the town for taxes on the property. Evidently it was a lease/buy agreement because town council minutes note making the last payment on the field and acquiring the deed.

It's not clear whether DeLazier Field is considered one of the 2,302 stadiums built by the WPA (Works Progress Administration) during the Great Depression, or if it's counted as one of the 3,026 athletic fields they built. Perhaps it's included in both categories. The purpose of the WPA, the largest of the "New Deal" programs, was to build roads, bridges, sewers, schools, hospitals, parks and other public works. In the process it also created almost eight million jobs. Practically every community in the country benefited from its projects. At one time, eighty-eight local workers were employed to work on WPA projects in Bloomingdale. The "make-work" program boosted the town's economy and helped put food on the table for many Bloomingdale families.

Bloomingdale Troopers

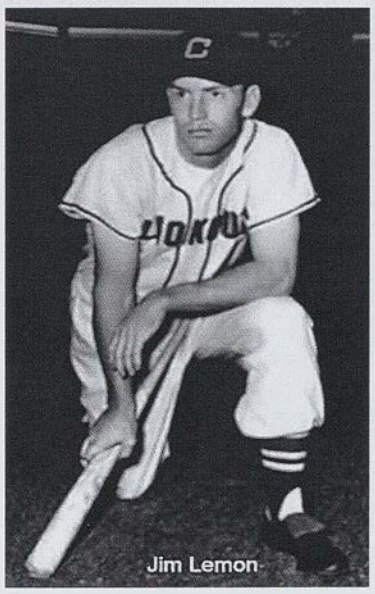


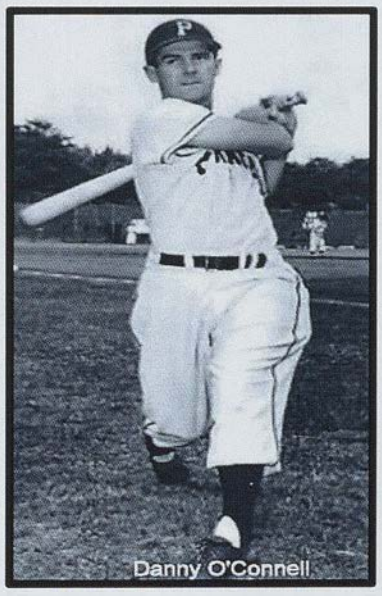
The idea of bringing a professional minor league baseball team to DeLazier Field was the brainchild of the team's first franchise owner, Timothy Doolan. Under his leadership, Bloomingdale became one of the initial eight teams of the newly formed North Atlantic Professional Baseball League, a Class D affiliate of Major League Baseball. Before the start of their first season, however, Doolan sold the team to a group of investors made up of Lou Haneles, Milton Weintraub, and Gabe Mauro. Tim Doolan named the team in honor of his son who was killed in the line of duty with the NJ State Police. The new owners agreed to retain the name "Troopers" in honor of his son. They also pledged to turn DeLazier Field into a "Big League" stadium. They offered a $20,000 investment over a two-year period. Initial plans called for a new infield, lights, new restrooms, a scoreboard, and a fence. A roof to cover the grandstand and a clubhouse were also planned. In late April 1946, scores of players arrived at DeLazier Field to show their talent. Two try-outs were also held for out-of-state players at Van Cortlandt Park in New York City.

The Troopers opened their 126-game season on May 8, 1946 against the Peekskill, NY Highlands. The following day Bloomingdale played its home opener against the same team with Ed Lenthe of Riverdale on the mound for the Troopers. The other teams in the league were the Nyack Rocklanders and Newburgh Hummingbirds in New York, and the Stroudsburg Poconos, Nazareth Cement Dusters, Carbondale Pioneers, and Mahanoy City Bluebirds in Pennsylvania. Peekskill was the only team with an official major league sponsor, the NY Giants. All the other teams in 1946 played as independents. World War II was over, tens of thousands of young servicemen were home, and baseball fever was sweeping the country. The North Atlantic League was formed to ride this wave of enthusiasm.

Leading the list of local players was Bloomindale's Richard "Piker" DeGraw. Piker had "made quite a name for himself at Butler High School" and was a natural choice to play centerfield and bat clean-up for the Troopers. His skill with a bat and speed in the outfield were evident during the team's pre-season exhibition games and practices.

At the time, Class D was the lowest level of professional baseball. Most players never even got a shot at playing in the major leagues, but a few, like the Trooper's Danny O'Connell, Jack Daniels, Carl Sawatski, and all-star big-league slugger, Jim Lemon, worked their way through the minor league maze all the way to the top.


Jim Lemon

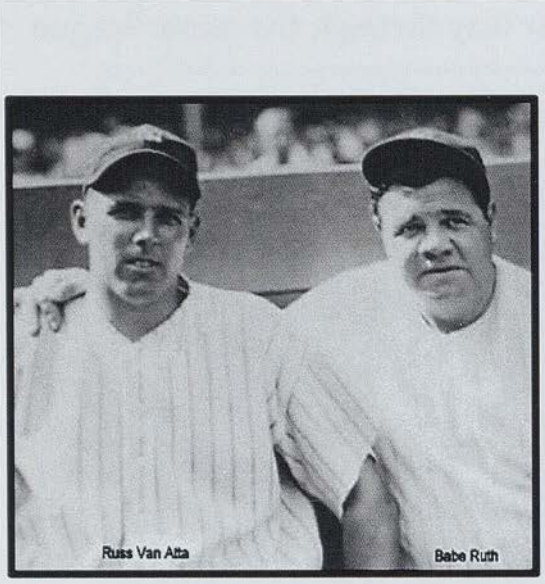

Danny O'Connell


Carl Sawatski

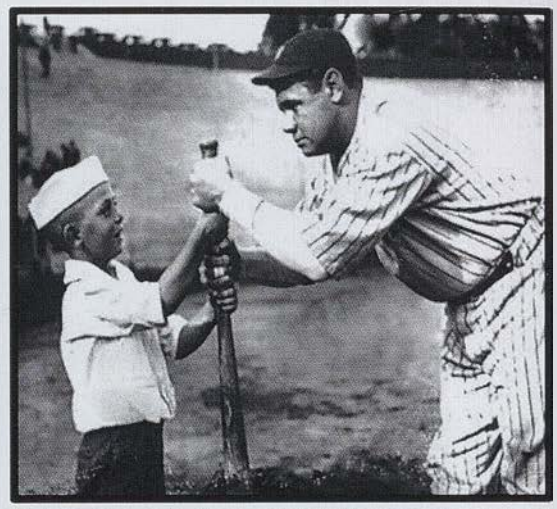
Just when things were looking up, the team was hit with a financial crisis. Of the $4,500 pre-season ticket purchase pledges, only $1,900 had been raised by opening day. Business manager, Gabe Mauro, stated that the team had lived up to its end of the bargain by bringing professional baseball to Bloomingdale, but if the remaining pledges could not be raised by July 4th, the owners would be forced to move the franchise to another location. The deadline was extended to July 6th, but when that date came and went without a resolution of the problem, the club announced that all future Trooper games would be played at Memory Park in Newton, NJ.

Just when professional baseball in Bloomingdale seemed doomed, a "shocker" of a resolution to the financial crisis was found. A headline on the sports page of the Paterson Morning Call read: "BLOOMINGDALE RESIDENTS BUY BASEBALL ENTRY." Local resident William Van Kirk announced that the group of businessmen and residents had joined together to keep the team in Bloomingdale. He went on to say that all scheduled games would continue to be played at DeLazier Field and all obligations made by the former owners would be honored. Fans were overjoyed by the announcement; the locals had come through for "their team." Well, almost everyone was thrilled that the Troopers were staying. Councilman Fred Temby said he had received complaints that the noise and lights were keeping peoples' chickens awake and that gardens were being trampled by youths looking for foul balls.

The highlight of the 1946 season was the personal appearance of George Herman "Babe" Ruth, the "Sultan of Swat" himself. On Thursday, July 18th, Babe Ruth attended the Trooper game against the Carbondale Pioneers. The team was averaging about 600 spectators a game, but on the night of Ruth's appearance, a record setting, jam packed crowd of 1,467 fans filled the stadium. The Babe, baseball's greatest hero, put on an exhibition of his batting prowess. Russ Van Atta, Ruth's old hunting and fishing buddy from Sparta, NJ, a former Yankee pitcher, tossed balls over the plate so the fans could watch Babe hit them over the houses in right field on Park Avenue. A table was set up behind home plate, so fans could get Babe's autograph. Sixty-seven years later, Ed Dathe remembered standing in awe as he handed a ball to Ruth to sign, "he looked like a giant" to the young boy. Babe handed the ball back and "said, "So you want to be a ballplayer, huh kid? Speechless, Eddy could only shake his head. Phyllis Burt also remembers that day "like it was yesterday." She remembers how exciting it was standing on line with her girlfriend to get Babe's autograph. "For a young baseball fan, it didn't get much better than that."







As their season drew to a close, many changes had taken place on the team. Players had come and gone, their manager, Micky Weintraub, was replaced and Carl Sawatski, a hard-hitting catcher, and future star, joined the team. Their best players, Ed Lenthe and Jack Daniels were sold to the Boston Braves, and Danny O'Connell moved up to a Class C team in the Brooklyn Dodger organization. Such are the perils of minor league baseball. They attracted only 15,000 fans in their first season, second lowest in the league. Finishing in sixth place in the eight-team league, with a miserable record of 41 wins and 78 losses, the Troopers looked forward to a new start in the 1947 season.

It wasn't lost to the other North Atlantic teams that league champion Peekskill was the only ballclub with an affiliation agreement with a major league team. Sponsorship meant financial support, and most importantly, access to players that had already been recognized by the best scouts in baseball. During the off-season business manager Gabe Mauro confirmed that he was in contact with John Quinn, vice-president of the Boston Braves. The player sending part of a deal was agreed on, Ed Lenthe and Jack Daniels had already been sold to Boston, but unfortunately, the receiving part of an agreement could not be worked out to the satisfaction of the Trooper management. Attendance almost doubled from 15,000 to 29,000 fans in their second season. Everybody wanted to see one of Butch Sawatski's long range rocket homeruns fly out of DeLazier Field. He led the league in homeruns with 34 and was being called a young Babe Ruth. Despite Sawatski's hitting exploits, the Troopers ended the 1947 season in seventh place (next to last) with a record of 57 wins and 74 losses.

A major breakthrough for the team was recognition as an official minor league farm team of the Cleveland Indians. Mid-way through 1948 season, just about the entire Trooper starting line-up was the product of the Cleveland farm system. The result was a dramatic improvement in the team's performance on the playing field, and they remained in second place for most the season. Jim Lemon was a member of that team. He would go on to hit 39 homeruns in 1960, and more than 20 homers a season four times for the Washington Senators. The troopers played outstanding baseball in 1948 finishing with 77 wins and 52 loses. They made the playoffs for the first time and lost to league champion Peekskill by only one run in a seven-game series. At the end of the 1948 season, however, the team was forced to disband, and the franchise was sold to promoters in Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

After three years, the era of professional baseball in Bloomingdale came to an end. They were playing good ball. One can only imagine what a 1949 season might have been like. The bottom line is that despite the community's noble effort to rescue the team, baseball is a business. Professional baseball in Bloomindale proved to be economically unfeasible. They just couldn't attract enough fans.

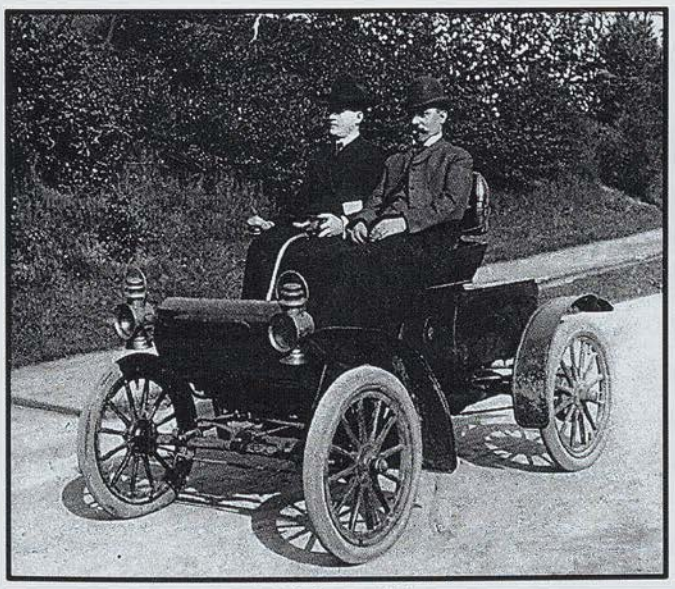
Transportation



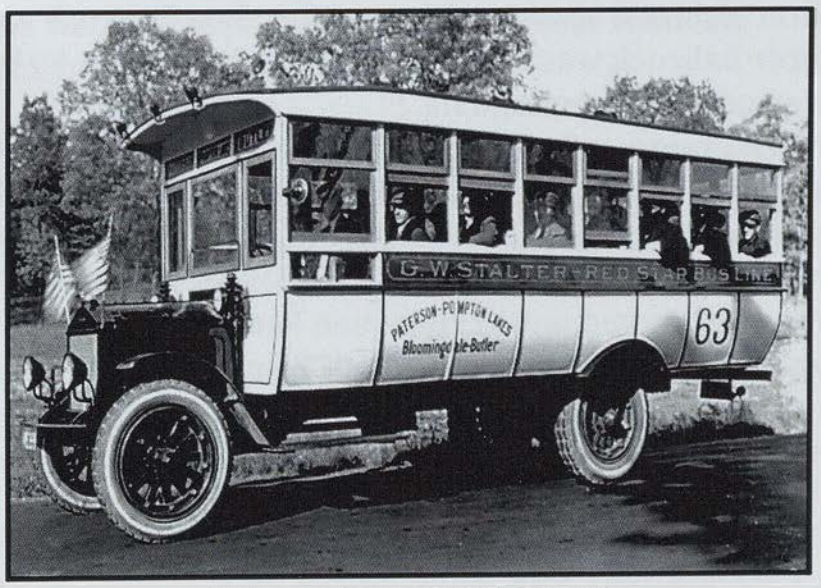
Pequannock River Bridge



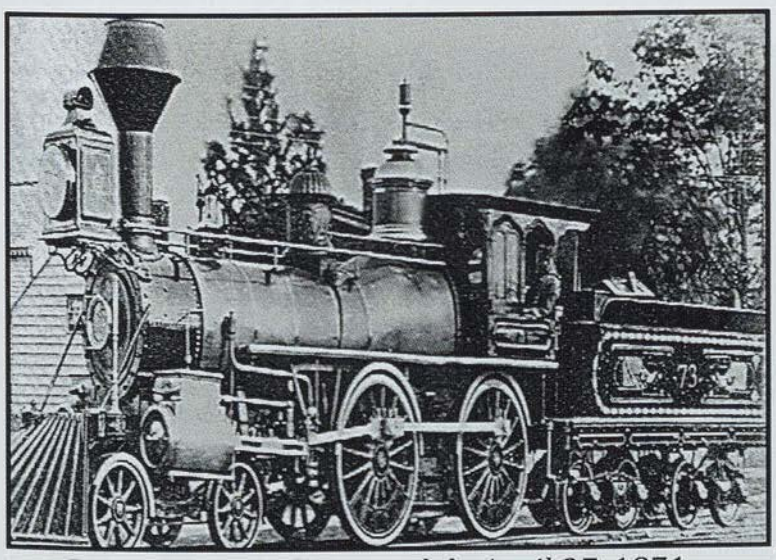
Main Street Bloomingdale



1903 Oldsmobile
One of Bloomingdale's First Automobiles.



Paterson to Butler Bus Line
(Paterson, Pompton Lakes, Bloomingdale, Butler)



First Train To Bloomingdale April 27, 1871
New Jersey Midland Railway



Indian Motocycles (Arnold Riley on Right)
White's Paper Mill in Background

Bloomingdale Police Department

Before the incorporation of the Borough of Bloomingdale in 1918, the law was enforced by the elected Constables and Justices of the Peace of Pompton Township, which at the time consisted of Bloomingdale, Wanaque, and Ringwood. In 1914 Auburn Taylor was Bloomingdale's Constable. He patrolled the streets seven nights a week, from 4:00 p.m. to midnight. In 1915 Samuel Babcock was appointed as a special policeman to assist Officer Taylor. In late 1915 Officer Taylor resigned, and Officer Babcock assumed his position. Sam Babcock was assisted by Forster Hargraves until Officer Babcock was transferred to Haskell in late 1916, and Officer Hargraves took over patrolling the streets of Bloomingdale.

When Pompton Township dissolved, and the Borough of Bloomingdale was created, Forster Hargraves was appointed the first Chief of Police and Samuel Babcock was appointed Lieutenant. The Bloomindale Police Department was officially created in 1935. It consisted of twelve members with Irving Tallman serving as Chief. In 1938 Charles "Scotty" Van Duyne was appointed Chief of Police and served until 1966 when Peter Mosier was promoted to that position, with Edward Fletcher serving as Captain. In 1972 Captain Fletcher was promoted to Chief and served until 1994. Upon Chief Fletcher's retirement, William Alexander became Chief and served until July 2006. On January 3, 2007, Joseph Borell was promoted to the Position of Police Chief and is currently serving in that capacity.

The Bloomindale Police Department of the 1970s was known for its professionalism, dedication, and attention to detail. These ideals were carried on throughout the 1980s and 1990s under the administrations of Chiefs Fletcher and Alexander. Chief Fletcher instilled a 'team first' culture that still exists in the Department today.



Bob DeVorney, Bill Gleason, Bill Van Kirk, Chief Scotty Van Duyne, Jim Phillips, Pete Mosier, Clarence Cook, Bob DeLazier.

In 1984 Chief Fletcher was tasked by the NJ State Police to form an Office of Emergency Management. As a result, a town-wide emergency operation plan was created. OEM's purpose is to coordinate all emergency activities need to respond to large-scale emergencies and disasters.

The creation of emergency 9-1-1 telephone system was another milestone in Bloomingdale's safety efforts. The Bloomingdale Police worked with the phone company over a two-year period, to map ever street and home in the Borough. When completed, an enhanced 9-1-1 system was available to every Bloomingdale address. Currently, the Borough of Pompton Lakes provides Bloomingdale with 9-1-1 service, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Under the direction of Chief William Alexander, computer system installation and equipment upgrades were a high priority. In 1996, a comprehensive computer system, including computer aided dispatch and computerized record keeping, was developed by Bloomingdale officer Ron Frost. Mobile data terminals, which enabled officers to access motor vehicle files were also installed in the Borough's police cars.

Chief Alexander was also instrumental in forming Bloomingdale's first Neighborhood Watch Program. Alexander helped form neighborhood watch groups that worked together with law enforcement to reduce crime and make neighborhoods safer.

Since the appointment of Chief Joseph Borell in 2007, the last decade has seen many changes in the culture of policing both in our community and nationwide. It has been during this period that the high standards and expectations of our department have enabled us to form a strong bond with our community and grow into the dedicated police force we are today.

In 2010 the department was selected to receive $35,000 in Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Drug Forfeiture Money to up-grade our police radio system. The funds were used to purchase high band car and portable radios which allow officers to communicate much more efficiently in the field.

After receiving a $50,000 grant, the Bloomingdale Police Department worked throughout 2013 to become a New Jersey Law Enforcement Accredited Agency. Under the direction of accreditation manager Captain Ray Muller, compliance with the rigorous series of professional standards was accomplished.



Pete Mosier, Clarence Reardon, Bud Witty, Allen Sisco, Bob DeVourney, Chief Scotty Van Duyne, Bill Gleason, Jim Phillips, Clark Osterhoudt, Bob DeLazier, Clarence Cook

The Bloomingdale Police Department is proud to sponsor community service programs like:

Active Shooter Training – This training is more important than ever before. A major goal of our department is to provide our officers with all the training and equipment necessary to bring such terrible incidents to safe conclusions.

Reverse 9-1-1 – This system can make thousands of calls very quickly to convey vital information throughout our town in the case of a natural disaster or other emergency.

Junior Police Academy – The Junior Police Academy exposes students in grades 6 and 7 to the aspects of community law enforcement. To date, over 200 students have completed the program.

L.E.A.D. Program – The L.E.A.D. is a ten-week anti-drug, anti-bullying, anti-gang and violence program for fifth-graders. Through the Bloomingdale Police Department, students are provided with tools they can use to resist peer pressure and avoid these destructive behaviors

.

Street of the Week – Citizens can request additional police patrols to combat any problems they may be having. Incidents like loud parties, speeding, vandalism, and loitering are often addressed.

On Vacation House Check – Citizens who leave town on vacation are encouraged to stop by the police department and request that the department check their home as time permits.

Project Medicine Drop – Our department has joined the New Jersey Attorney General's "Project Medicine Drop" initiative. A drop box has been installed at headquarters where old, unused, or unwanted prescription drugs can be dropped off.

Child Passenger Safety Officers – Statistics show that 8 out of 10 child safety seats are not installed properly. More than 100,000 children age 12 and under are injured in collisions every year. Serious injuries can be avoided by making sure safety seats are properly installed.

Fundraises - Bloomingdale PBA Local 354 donates funds to a number of benevolent causes, including Butler High School Scholarships, holiday assistance to families, Domestic Violence Response Team fundraisers, and other causes that better serve the Borough of Bloomingdale.



1st Row L to R-Bill Alexander, Frank Mac Namara, Chief Ed Fletcher, Joe Longo, Bob DeLazier
2nd Row L-R-Bud Witty, George VanArsdall, James Phillips, Richard Kuka, and Donald Fagan

As we celebrate our town's 100th Anniversary, the men and women of the Bloomingdale Police Department are grateful for the trust which has been bestowed upon us and are dedicated to expressing our gratitude through commitment, perseverance and exemplary behavior.

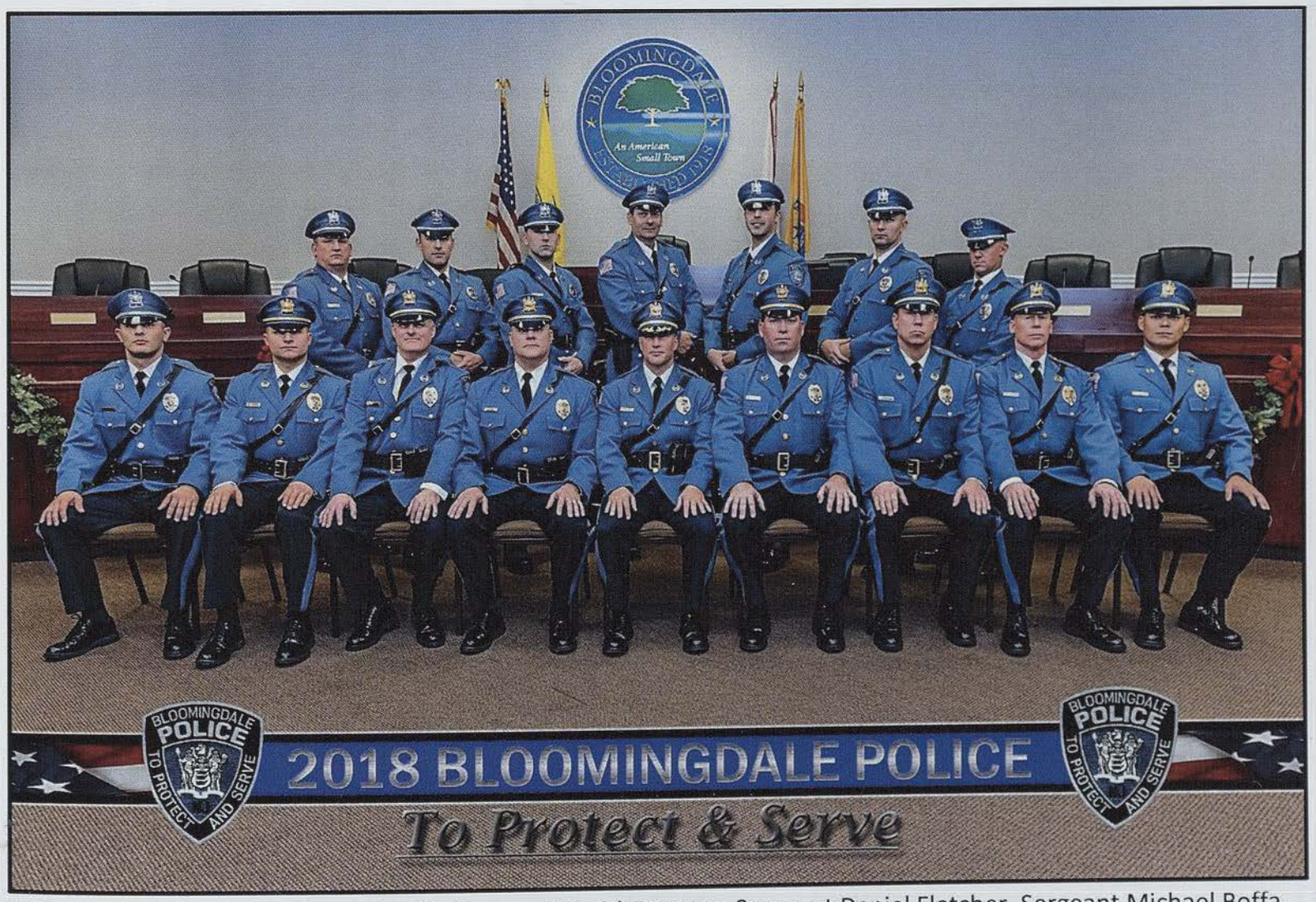
Our Mission Statement

The mission statement of the Bloomingdale Police Department is to prevent crime, preserve order, and protect the rights, lives, and property of the citizens of Bloomingdale.

The success of this mission depends upon a continuous effort to increase awareness and develop higher levels of trust and understanding between police officers and the community.

We shall continuously strive toward attaining excellence by providing our employees with fair and effective leadership, supervision, and training.

In accomplishing these goals, service will be our commitment, honor and integrity our mandate.



1st Row L to R: Detective Steven Smith, Sergeant David Terpstra, Sergeant Daniel Fletcher, Sergeant Michael Boffa, Chief Joseph Borell, Lieutenant Robert Ressland, Sergeant Ron Frost, Detective Daniel Greenwood,
2nd Row L to R: Patrolman Robert Grabowski, Patrolman Conrad Jimenez, Patrolman Anthony Calabro, Patrolman Gary Walker, Patrolman Sami Zeidan, Patrolman Michael Fatzer, Patrolman Vincent Graziosa,
Not pictured: Kevin Peirsel

Bloomingdale Police Department



1940s



1960s



1975



1970s



1976



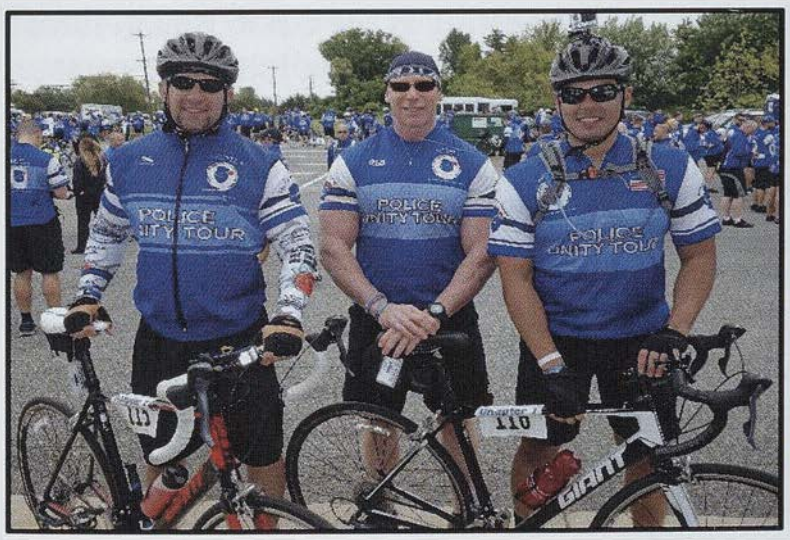
2017

Bloomingdale Police Department





Wildlife Rescue





Police Unity Tour



Junior Police Academy

Bloomingdale Fire Department



When a large fire broke out in the Ball Brothers' barn on Main Street Bloomingdale in 1894, residents quickly formed a bucket brigade to bring water from the Pequannock River. This age-old method of fighting fires proved ineffective in controlling the blaze and a number of homes and businesses were damaged. In 1905, an even larger fire forced an evacuation from Reeve Avenue to Union Square and destroyed almost the entire section of upper Main Street. These two disasters made it perfectly clear. Bloomingdale needed a fire department.

Each section of Pompton Township was responsible for its own fire protection and in response to the recent disasters, on January 10, 1910 Bloomingdale called a meeting at the G.A.R. Hall to form a fire department. Samuel Babcock, William Sisco, Martin Anderson, Frank Wyble, John Ackerman, Frank Reardon, Harry Post, and Roy Haycock volunteered. With the election of Wilson B. Hargreaves as chief, and Robert Mathews and Abram Vreeland as commissioners, the Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department was created.

Their original equipment included two 20-gallon tanks, ladders, and a two-wheeled cart to carry them. Three years later the Department acquired two used automobiles which were remodeled to serve as fire trucks. A Cadillac touring car carried a chemical tank and a Sterns was outfitted with makeshift hook and ladder equipment. Neither car was large enough to carry any firemen. After the purchase of the vehicles, it was necessary to split the original company in two. That arrangement still exists today as Chemical Company #1 and Hook and Ladder Company #1, each with a maximum of 35 members.



Bloomingdale's Fire Fighting Cart
Union Hotel in the Background

The Early Years

In January 1919, the members of the Department met at the new municipal building to organize the Bloomingdale Firemen's Relief Organization. After incorporating on March 3, 1919, they became affiliated with the New Jersey State Firemen's Association. If members attended 60% of all fires, drills, and meeting for a period of seven years, they achieved the status of "Exempt Fireman" which qualified them for a life insurance death benefit. Any member that was killed in the line of duty received double the amount of the benefit.

Important steps were taken to improve the Department after Bloomingdale became an independent borough in 1918. In 1922, the Borough purchased its first new fire truck, a Mack hose and ladder truck which remained in service until 1938. In 1925, a second truck was added, a brand-new Mack 500 gallon per minute pumper. Both trucks were purchased for about $8,500 each and were funded by a loan from the Bloomingdale Bank. These trucks added greatly to the town's fire fighting capability.

The new equipment was put to the test when a fire broke out at the corner of Main Street and Reeve Avenue a few days before July 4th, 1929. A large two-story building was being used for the storage of fireworks. In a matter of minutes, it was engulfed in flames and large fireworks explosions were lighting up the sky.

Ladies Auxiliary Formed

On March 27, 1933, thirty-two borough women met to form the Ladies Auxiliary of the Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department. Originally created to hold fund raisers for the Department, over the years their duties expanded. Whether it's a hot winter cup of coffee, or a cold drink on a hot summer day, the support of the ladies while fighting fires is greatly appreciated.

Butler Soft Rubber Mill Fire.

Shortly after midnight on February 26, 1957, the largest fire the BFD ever fought broke out on the third floor of the Pequanoc Soft Rubber Mill on Main Street in Butler (current site of the River Place Apartments). It is believed the fire started near the ovens where reclaimed sheets of rubber were dried. This was a massive fire, the largest in the country in 1957. Fifty-Five North Jersey fire companies were summoned and hundreds of firefighters responded to fight the blaze. It caused $15 million (over $95 million 2017 dollars) worth of damage. The glow in the night sky could be seen 100 miles away. The Bloomingdale and Butler Fire Departments remained on the scene to fight flare-ups for over a week. There were no fatalities, but hundreds of jobs vital to the local economy went up in flames.



Firemen's Hall

Fireman's Hall was constructed in 1964 on the corner of Hamburg Turnpike and Third Street. The building not only serves as our headquarters for teaching the latest firefighting techniques, it is also used for many social functions like weddings and banquets. The hall is well known as the home of our famous beefsteak dinners and ziti suppers.

New Alerting System

The method of alerting our firefighters to a call has evolved greatly over the years. The original system consisted of the placement of train wheel rims around town that would be struck by a hammer. In the 1930s, the gongs were replaced by the familiar red pull box and siren system which has served the community for many years. Individual portable pagers were added to the system in 1979 and an 'E-Dispatch" system, which sends a message to each fireman's cell phone, was added as a back-up in 2006. The "IAMRESPONDING" system, which allows firefighters to respond through their cell phones, was added in 2017.

First Woman Firefighter

Following in the footsteps of her father Irv and brothers Tom and Neil, Karen Davis became a Bloomingdale firefighter in 1987. Numerous women firefighters have joined the ranks since Karen. Kathleen Wanklin was awarded *Firefighter of the Year* honors in 2016 and became the first woman to become an officer in 2017.

Mutual Aid Agreements

In 1977. Chief William Sondermeyer Sr. met with fire department representatives from Butler, Riverdale, Kinnelon, Pompton Lakes, Wanaque, Ringwood and West Milford. The result was the Lakeland Mutual Aid Agreement. This formal agreement assures the assistance of neighboring towns in situations that are too large for one department to handle.

Bloomingdale also joined with all 16 Passaic County municipalities to form the Passaic County Mutual Aid Association in 1988. A County Fire Coordinator holds monthly meeting to discuss and prepare for county-wide emergencies.

Passaic County Fire Academy

The Passaic County Fire Academy (now the Passaic County Public Safety Academy) was created in 1992 to train firefighters in all aspects of firematics and rescue. Without a permanent home, it soon became evident that a new facility was needed to meet the county's needs. Property was located behind the county technical high school campus and in 2001 a state-of-the-art training facility was completed. Michael Wanklin, who is the Academy Program Coordinator, William Pomeroy, Edward Ball Jr. and Steve Shattls of the Bloomingdale Fire Department, serve as instructors at the Academy.

Training

There is no difference in the training of professional and volunteer firefighters in New Jersey. All members of the Bloomingdale Fire Department are required to take courses at the Academy and meet NFPA Standards for qualification as professional firefighters. All members are required to complete Firefighter I and I-200 National Incident Management Courses. All officers must complete the NJDFS Fire Officers Course and become certified on an I-300 level and Chief Officers I-400 level. NIMS training is also required. All BFD members are trained to perform ice rescues, swift-water (river) rescues, high angle (rope) rescues, vehicle extractions, as well as hazmat decontamination. We also support the Bloomingdale Office of Emergency Management Deep Woods Search Team.

LOSAP Program

The Length of Service Awards Program is a member retention plan that the Borough implemented in 2001. This program rewards firefighters with a cash allotment that is placed in an interest-bearing account that is given to the member when he or she retires from active duty. Every alarm, drill, meeting, officer position, and year of service has a point value. Members must earn a minimum of 100 points to receive the full amount of the yearly allotment.

Fire Headquarters Station One

In late November 2007 a new fire station was built on Union Avenue to replace the antiquated station at DeLazier Field. The new station houses Ladder Truck 664, Engine 662, a utility vehicle used by the Office of Emergency Management, and the Passaic County Mass Decontamination Trailer. The building also provides office space for the Fire Prevention Bureau, Fire Chief, and OEM Coordinator, a communication center, and a workout room for firefighters.

Junior Firefighter Program

In 2003 the Mayor and Town Council established a Junior Firefighter Program for youths aged 14-17. The goal of the program is to promote community service, create interest in firefighting, and stimulate interest in joining the Fire Department.

Fire Police

The Bloomingdale Fire Police were added to the Fire Department in 2008. They respond to all fire alarms, establish necessary road closures, and provide overall scene safety during incidents. They also serve as liaisons with the Police Department and OEM during storms, and assist in traffic control when hazardous road conditions arise.

Grants

In 2004 the Department was the recipient of a $105,000 federally funded F.I.R.E. Grant. The grant was used to replace all the BDF's self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). New air cylinders and a refill system was also purchased. The new acquisitions not only are a cost saving measure, they also allow firefighters to train on live air SCBA's, which makes them better prepared to fight actual fires. The more comfortable and confident they are with the life-saving SCBA equipment, the better they will be able to protect our community.

A second grant was also received in 2008, this one was presented by the United Parcel Service. The $25,000 community service award was used for a variety of equipment upgrades and replacement. The grant came about by the efforts of member Carlos LeDuc, a UPS employee

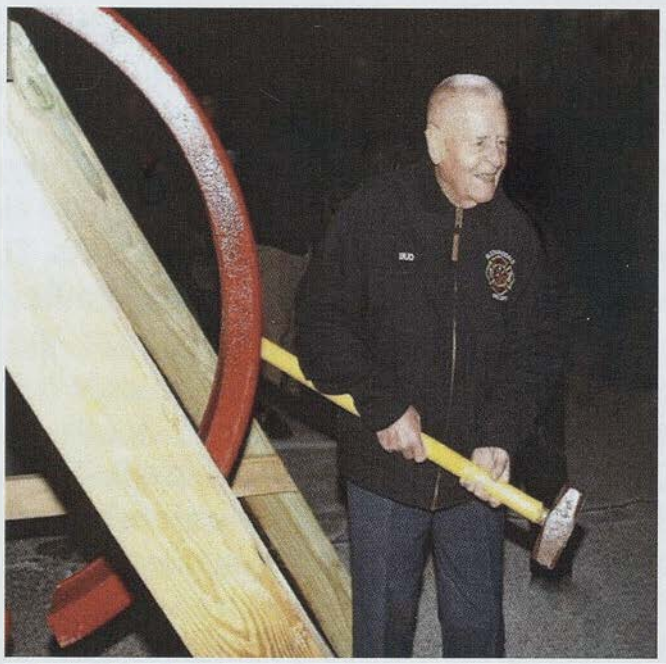
The Big One

Without a doubt, the fire of the decade occurred on June 30, 1986 at 59 Main Street. The building had originally been an Acme Supermarket. Over the years it also housed a fiberglass curtain factory, a roller rink, and a ball point pen factory. It had just been subdivided into a row of stores when a fire broke out in a delicatessen. Upon arrival by the Department, a defensive or outside operation was set up because flames were breaking through the arched bow string truss roof of the building. A roof of this type is known to fail easily and collapse without warning. Fifteen minutes into the fire the roof collapsed engulfing the entire building in flames. The wise decision not to enter the building by First Deputy Chief Robert Sabo surely saved the lives of many firefighters.

100 Years of Service

On January 9, 2010, Fire Department members gathered at Firemen's Hall to celebrate 100 years of service to the Borough of Bloomingdale. In honor of the occasion, one of the original fire alarm gongs was refurbished and presented at the celebration, As the clock moved from midnight to January 10, 2010, Lawrence "Bud" Bennett, the oldest member of the Department at the age of 98, struck the gong with a sledge hammer officially "ringing in" our second century of service. At the same time, all the town sirens, as well as the sirens and air horns on all the Department's vehicles were sounded. Chief John D'Amato struck the gong next, then Mayor William Steenstra, followed by all the members of the Fire Department, Ladies Auxiliary, Fire Police, and the Junior Squad. The gong has since found a permanent home in front of Firemen's Hall.

Two additional celebrations were held to honor the Department's 100th Anniversary. A black-tie affair attended by more than 200 guests was held at the Bethwood in Totowa on March 27, 2010 and a town-wide celebration featuring antique firefighting apparatus, food, live music, and fireworks was held on June 26, 2010.





Passing of a Legend

On April 4, 2013 the Department received word that its long-time member Lawrence "Bud" Bennett had passed away at the age of 101 and a half. Bud served the BFD since 1948 and was still active in Department affairs until a month before his passing. He was given a full honors Fire Department Funeral and was carried to his final resting place on his beloved 1940 USA Pumper. A garden has been planted in front of Firemen's Hall in Bud's memory.

The Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department - 2018

The BFD responds to an average of 150-200 fire and rescue calls per year. Of these calls approximately 35% are vehicle, technical rescue, and brush fire calls. Structural incident calls make up about 5% and the remainder are activated alarm calls and public service calls. In addition, 11 department drills, 22 company drills, and 3 SCBA qualifying drills are held in the course of a year. On average, we annually expend approximately 4,500-5,500 man-hours in responses and training. We also routinely respond to calls outside the Borough to assist our mutual aid agreement partners and have responded to calls from every municipality in Passaic County.

The above information came from Fire Department Historian Michael Wanklin and the 1938 WPA Writer's Project Booklet *The Bloomingdale Volunteers.*

Bloomingdale Fire Department
2018



Front Row L to R–Captain Steve Shattls, Ex-Chief Mike Hudson, Ex-Chief Mark Lime, Ex-Chief Mike Wanklin, Deputy1 Eric Tuason, Chief Tony Marciano, Deputy 2 Frank Neuberger, Ex-Chief John D'Amato, Ex-Chief Pete Croop. Ex Chief Bill Sondermeyer, Captain Jason Hammaker Back Row L to R–Emily Wanklin, Lt. Kate Wanklin Bryan D'Amato, Jason Reynolds, Kevin Miller, Lt. Michael J. Wanklin, Anthony Catalano, Jeff Edelbach Jacob Lime, Lt. Ed Ball, James Luski, Lt. Curtis Chrisler, Tammy Dehaan, Jack Weinberg, Sarah Cochran, Bob Voorman Not Shown–Nick Steenstra, Mike D'Amato, Brian Guinan, Randy McMaster Jr., Carmine Curcio, Carlo LeDuc, Bill Pomeroy, Chris Neuberger, Bob Beek, Keith Rounds, Brian Hoeft, Scott Crum

Bloomingdale Fire Department Auxiliary
2018



First Row L to R–Nancy Disbrow, Nancy Hammaker, Denise Marciano, Krissy Karcher, Kathy Muldoon, Kelly Smits, Jen Shoemaker Back Row L to R–Sheryl Troast, Mary Catalano, Dawn Hudson, Julie LeDuc, Taylor Douglas Not Shown-Sue LaPointe, Chantelle Duffy, Peg Wanklin

Bloomingdale Fire Department Chiefs
1910 – 1992



Wilson B. Hargraves
1910 – 1916

Chiefs Not Shown

Nathan Marion 1917 – 1921

John Francisco 1922 – 1932

Charles Van Dyne 1933 – 1936

Frank Huber 1937 - 1939



James Mabey
1940 - 1964



William Fear
1965 – 1977



William Sondermeyer
1978 – 1980



E. Duane Muldoon Sr.
1981 – 1983



George Bergested
1984 – 1986



Robert Sabo
1987 – 1989



James De Graw
1990 – 1992

Bloomingdale Fire Department Chiefs
1993 – 2018



Richard Boud
1993 – 1995



Michael G Wanklin
1996 – 1998



E. Duane Muldoon Jr.
1999 - 2001



James W. Croop
2002 – 2004



Barry Marciano
2005 – 2007



John D'Amato
2008 – 2010



Michael Hudson
2011 – 2013



Mark Lime
2014 – 2016



Anthony Marciano
2017 – 2019

Bloomingdale Fire Department





Borough's First New Fire Trucks 1922 and 1925 Macks



Chemical Company Fire Trucks 1968

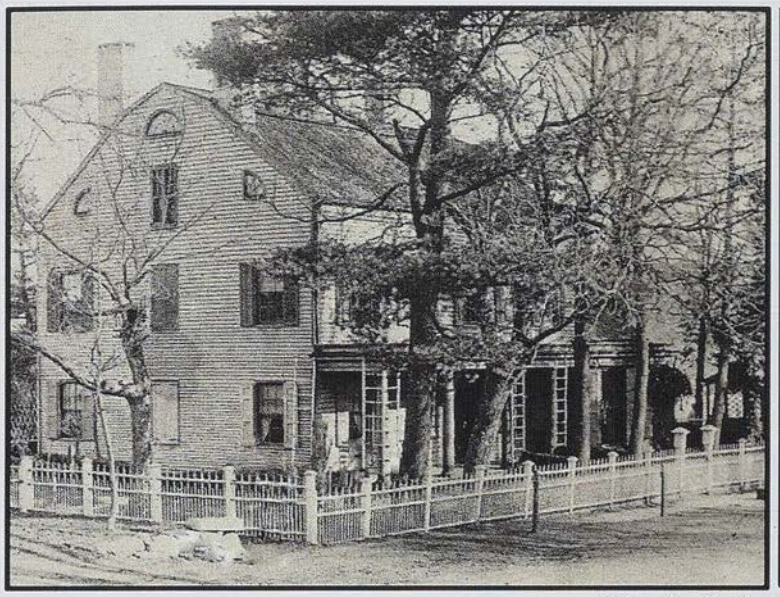


Bud Bennett Driving 1940 USA Military Pumper



Bloomingdale Fire Department 1930s

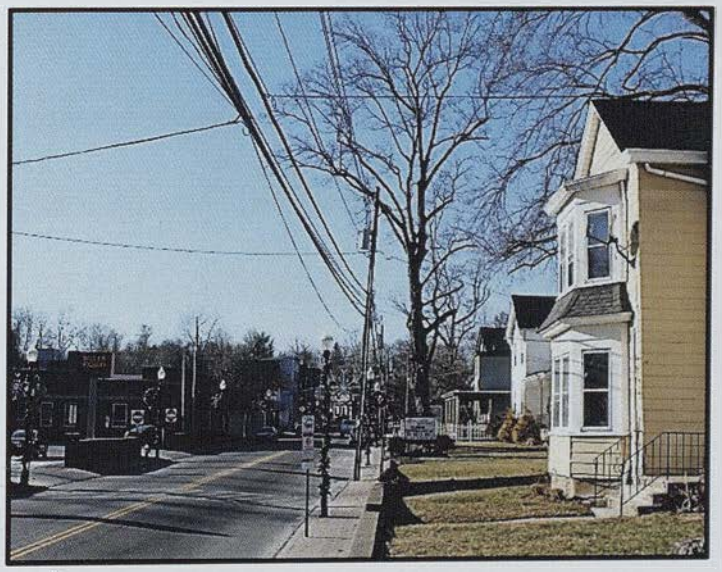
Main Street Bloomingdale



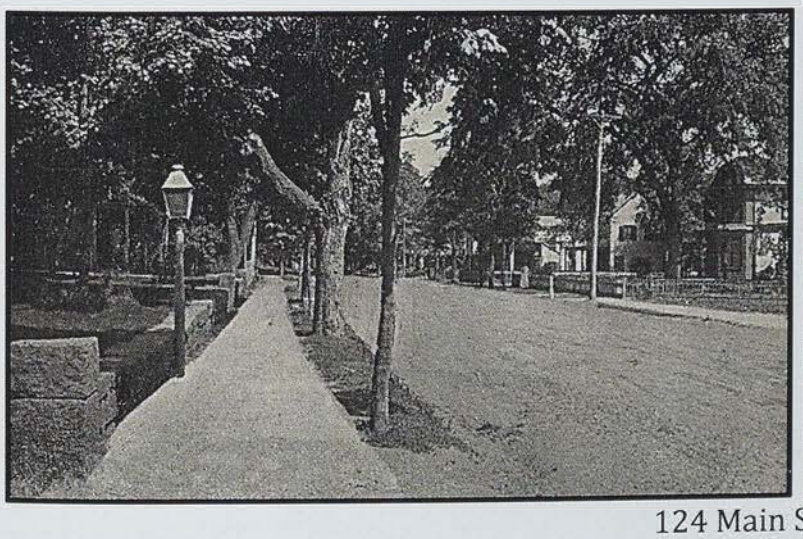


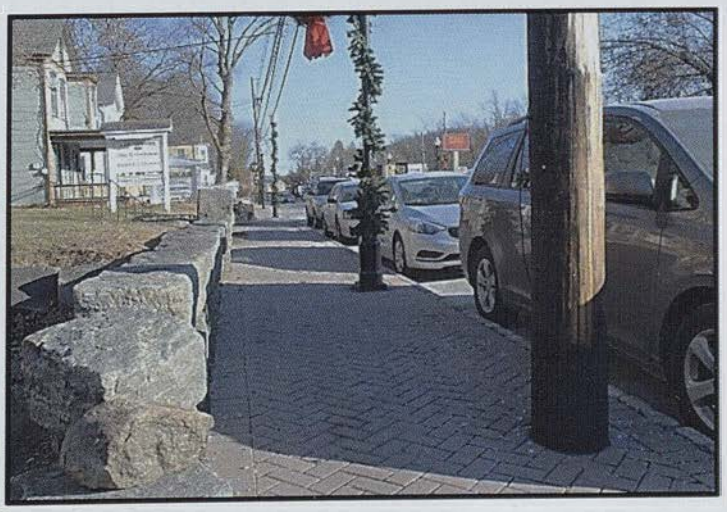
Martin J. Ryerson House
Corner of Union Avenue & Main Street





116 Main Street,
Looking Northwest





124 Main Street
Looking Southeast

Office of Emergency Management

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) traces its origin back to the Office of Civil Defense during World War II. Bloomingdale's OEM was created in 1984 when Police Chief Ed Fletcher was tasked by the New Jersey State Police to create a borough-wide emergency operation plan. The Bloomingdale Police Department bought its first computer in order to read a "floppy disk" containing a model plan from the town of Fairfield, New Jersey. Chief Fletcher became the first OEM coordinator and after two years of planning, and a State Police review, Bloomingdale's plan was approved.

The Local Emergency Planning Council (LEPC) was formed and was immediately put to the test by Hurricane Floyd in September 1999. The town's response to the storm proved that it's *All Hazards* approach to emergency planning worked when needed. A Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was organized in 2005, followed by the creation of a Search and Rescue team (SAR) in 2004.

Several large-scale incidents in recent years have prompted major responses by the OEM. Hurricane Irene in August 2011 caused major flooding on Main Street, Ryerson Avenue and many of the streets around DeLazier Field. Just over twelve months later, Hurricane Sandy struck in October 2012, causing many downed trees and extended power outages, along with other extensive damage throughout the Borough.

In order to be better prepared to respond to emergencies, the OEM acquired a 1992 Ford utility truck from the Water Department in 2007. This year they upgraded to a 2016 Ford F450 enclosed utility vehicle which has been equipped to respond to multi-agency incidents.

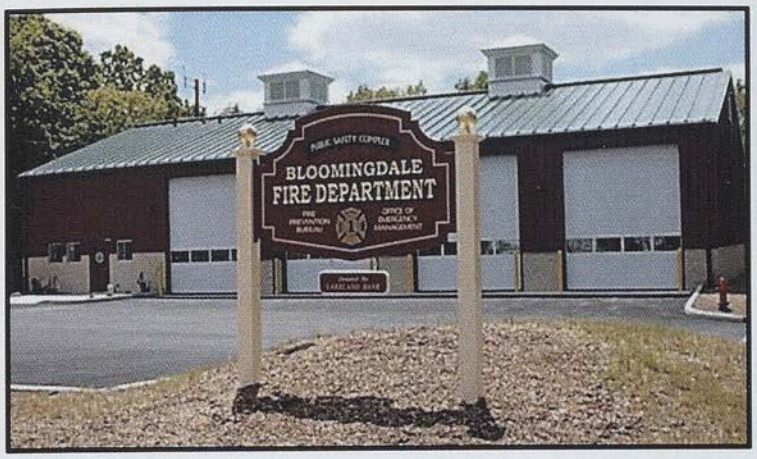
Today's LEPC team, under OEM management, consists of 17 responders from the Police and Fire Departments; the First Aid Squad; the Department of Public Works; and the Board of Education. The OEM reviews the action plans of all the above agencies every four years and submits them to the State Police and Passaic County OEM for approval.

Former OEM Coordinators include, Ed Fletcher, Larry Shafer, Bill Alexander, Michael Wanklin Sr., Barry Marciano, John Riker, and James "Pete" Croop. Mike Hudson is Bloomingdale's current OEM Coordinator. His office is in the Station One Firehouse on Union Avenue.

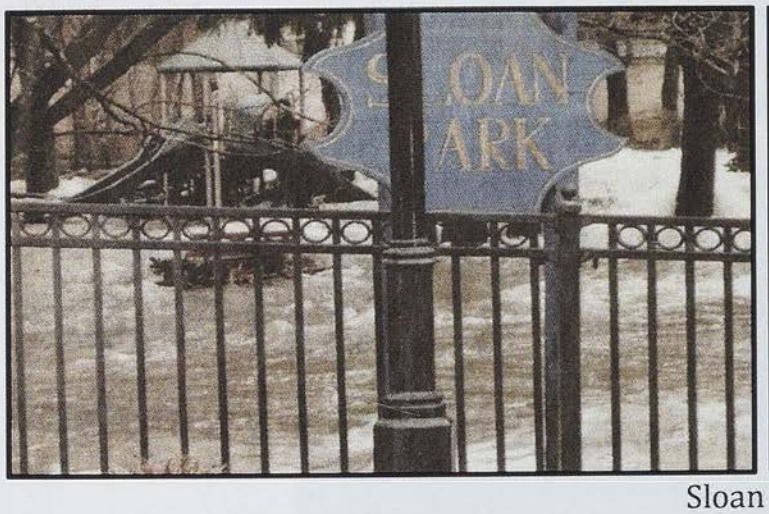


Hurricane Sandy, October 2012

Hurricane Irene 2011







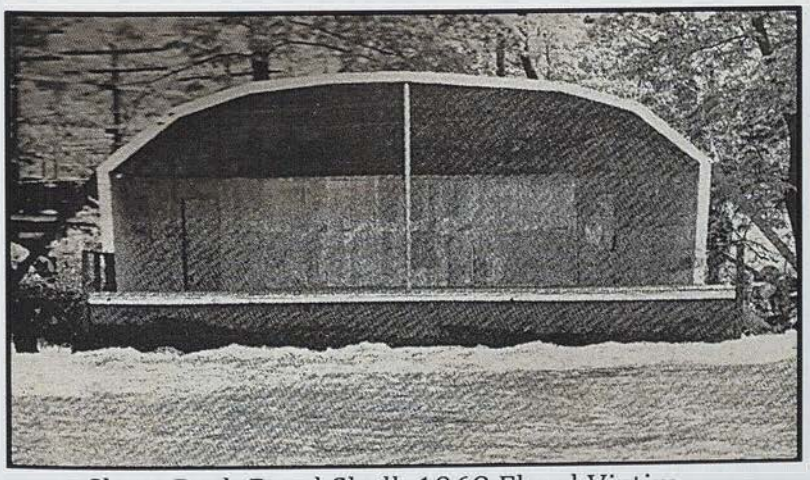


Sloan Park





Main Street



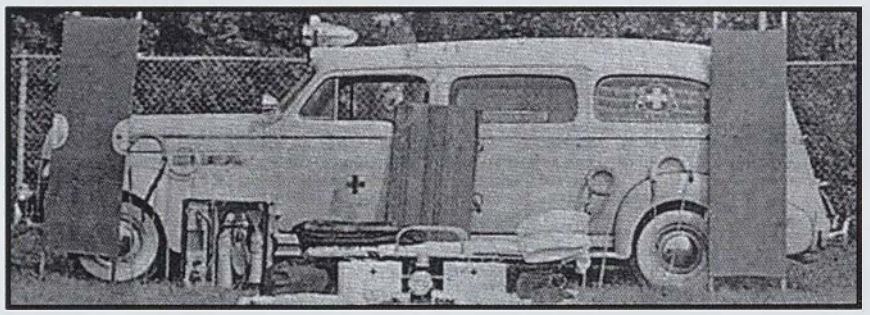
Sloan Park Band Shell, 1968 Flood Victim



Delazier Field

Tri-Boro First Aid Squad

The Tri-Boro First Aid Squad was organized 79 years ago on Sept 25, 1939 as the Butler First Aid Squad. Our first ambulance was a new 1940 Buick that was presented by Butler Councilman Thomas Mace. Charles Kochka also donated a small truck and Floyd Demarest let the squad use a bay in his service station on Route 23 as a headquarters. At that time, we were divided into two separate groups, a men's division and a women's division. The women were not permitted to answer emergency calls at night. They could not vote on rules and financial issues, or become officers. In the 1970s the rules were changed, and women were allowed to answer calls until midnight. It was finally realized that the women were needed 24 hours a day, same as the men. The men and women of the Tri-Boro First Aid Squad have been serving the communities of Bloomingdale, Butler, and Kinnelon together ever since. In 1985 and 1987, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Steinmetz of Kinnelon graciously donated two new ambulances.



Before the current 911 service came on-line in 1992, an individual needing an ambulance had to call a special number. The Butler Police would than dispatch the squad by telephone. The current 911 system allows a Police dispatcher to contact squad members immediately by pager.

Officers for 2018 are: Wayne Hammaker, President; Alysha Futcher, Vice President; Joyce Reyes, Treasurer; Mary Hall, Secretary; Dan Tanis, Service Secretary; Patti Tabler. Asst. Service Secretary; John Futcher, Captain; Gayle Dunlap, Chief Instructor; Dianne Boylan, and Hazel Whitty, Day Lieutenants; Jason Hammaker, Brian Tepe, and Gayle Dunlap, Night Lieutenants.

Our all-volunteer squad handles over 1,500 calls annually, on average, almost 400 of them originate from Bloomingdale. We have responded to more than 100,000 emergencies in our 79-year history. The members of the Tri-Boro First Aid Squad extend our congratulations to the Borough of Bloomingdale on its 100th Anniversary.



Today residents are served by three state-of-the-art ambulances and a captain's rig.

Bloomingdale Search & Rescue Team

The Bloomingdale Search and Rescue Team was sworn in for the first time in January 2004. They had their first rescue the following September when two young hikers called for help because they were lost in Norvin Green State Forest. Up until recently, the Team averaged between 5 to 10 calls per year. The recent average has jumped to 10 to 12 calls per year. Calls usually involve lost hikers, but we have also responded to calls regarding missing persons, Alzheimer patients, and others.

The 2018 SAR Team members are Bernie Vroom, Chris Synol, Al Saint Jacques, Kevin Branvall, Harvey Miller, Darrin Miller, Bill Steenstra, and Charles "Butch" Manella. Bruce Bridge is a former member.



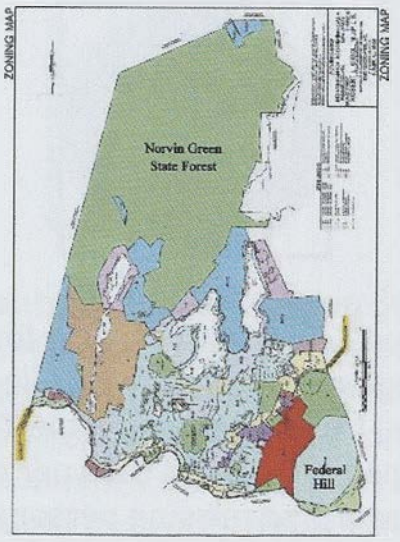
L To R-Al Saint Jacques, Kevin Branvall, Darin Miller, Butch Manella, Chris Synol, Bill Steenstra, Harvey Miller Not Shown-Bernie Vroom



The ribbon cutting ceremony for the North Jersey Community Animal Shelter took place in May 2012. The shelter and animal control services are operated by the Animal Control Office of the Borough of Bloomingdale which is directed by Lisa Perry. The office serves the communities of Bloomingdale, Butler, Riverdale, Kinnelon, Pompton Lakes, Ringwood and Wanaque. We provide a safe haven for lost and unwanted pets until they can be reunited with their owners or adopted by a responsible home.

Adopting a friend is an easy task at the North Jersey Community Animal Shelter. Simply fill out our adoption application and a representative will be in touch with you within a week. Once approved, we will make arrangements to have your family come meet the potential adopted pet. When a correct match is found, we will supply you with all your pet's records and finalize the adoption. Check our website or Facebook page for animal updates. Donations and volunteers welcomed.

The Bloomingdale Planning Board



According to a 1958 history book about the Borough, "although Bloomingdale's growing pains have been less acute than those of many communities, creation of a Planning and Zoning Board is a recent measure taken to safeguard its orderly growth in the future."

Since its founding six decades ago, the Borough's Planning Board has been entrusted with adopting a master plan regulating land use in the Borough, advising the Mayor and Borough Council on zoning ordinances to implement the master plan, and reviewing applications for development in accordance with those ordinances. In 2006, the powers of the Borough's Zoning Board of Adjustment were consolidated into the Planning Board.

During the past quarter century, the Board has adopted new master plans in 1996, 2007, and 2014 to foster the responsible development of our community. Most recently, consistent with the 2007 master plan amendment, the Borough created an overlay zone on Union Avenue to facilitate its commercial development.

Under the excellent leadership of its chairpersons—including Theodore Snure; Chet Decker; Carla DeWitt; William Graf; James Briggs; Alan Gundersen; and Edward Simoni—the Planning Board has faithfully balanced the competing demands of growth and preservation that have consistently challenged our community over the years. The most prominent example of this balancing act involves the proposed development of the Federal Hill Meer Tract.

In 2004, following five years of public hearings, the board voted to deny a 360-unit townhouse project proposed for the 180-acre Federal Hill Meer Tract to satisfy the borough's state-mandated affordable housing obligation. To accommodate that obligation, the Board recommended the rezoning of the Springbrook Acres horse farm on Union Avenue for an active-adult community with an affordable housing component. When that rezoning plan was frustrated by the state's placement of that property into the Highlands Preservation area, builder's remedy lawsuits were successfully waged against the borough. One lawsuit culminated in the board's eventual approval of the 360-unit project, but on a significantly smaller, 34-acre parcel adjacent to Union Avenue. Another lawsuit resulted in the construction of the Avalon Bay apartment complex, also on Union Avenue.

A 1970 profile of the Planning Board could have been written today: "We have an active Planning Board and they are keeping a watchful, but not restrictive, eye on the growth of the Borough. They are always ready to assist anyone interested in housing, commercial or industrial growth."

Planning Board commissioners for 2018 are: Edward Simoni (Chairman); former Mayor William Steenstra (Vice-Chairman); current Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy; Council Member Ray Yazdi; former Fire Chief James "Pete" Croop; Environmental Commission Member Mark Crum; former Mayor Craig Ollenschleger; former Council Member William Graf; Barry Greenberg; and Alternates Robert Lippi, Kevin Luccio, Ken Fioretti, and Brian Guinan.

Bloomingdale Free Public Library

The first record of a library in Bloomingdale is in a letter written on August 27, 1923. It was addressed to Emma A. Justice of New York City, and thanked her for a gift of 300 books. That gift was the beginning of our library. The Fred S. Justice Library was created, and its opening was celebrated by a grand program of local entertainment on November 15, 1923.

The library was reorganized in 1925 and the name was changed to the Bloomingdale Free Public Library. A certificate of incorporation was filed on May 10, 1926 for the 54-member association. Frederick Justice, son of Emma Justice, served as President from 1954 until 1957.

For many years the library occupied a small room on the second floor of the old Municipal Building at 15 Hamburg Turnpike. When an addition was added to the building in 1958, the library moved to a new room next to the tax collector's office. In the minutes of the Library Association in 1968, Association Secretary Maude Cook recorded that the Library was growing so fast that new larger quarters would soon be needed. Those concerns were addressed when a new municipal building was constructed at 101 Hamburg Turnpike in 1971. Early in 1972 the library was moved to its current location on the lower floor of the building.

On November 7, 1972, the residents of Bloomingdale were asked to make a major decision about the library. A referendum was placed on the ballot asking if the library should be put under the full jurisdiction of the Borough Government. The referendum passed in January 1973, the Library Association disbanded, and a new Board of Library Trustees was appointed.

Bloomingdale's Free Public Library continues to grow. We have a circulation of over 30,000 items including books, periodicals, E-books, AV materials, CD's and DVD's. *Overdrive and Hoopla* provide remote access to hundreds of audiobooks, E-books, comics, TV, music and periodicals. As a member of the PALSPlus library consortium we share materials with nineteen neighboring communities.

We offer a multitude of children's programs including *Baby Rhyme Time* for infants up to 24 months and *Alphabet Soup* for two to four-year olds. Linda Bennett, our Children's Programming Coordinator, reads to classes monthly at the Martha B, Day and Samuel R. Donald Schools. We also sponsor *Family Movie Night* once a month and a quarterly *Pajama Party* that includes a story, craft, and short movie. *Bilingual Buddies* and *Homework Help* are scheduled twice a week and *Thatch the Therapy Dog* visits once a month. Barbara Licitra has organized *Blooming Tales, a* book club and *Delicious Reads* a cookbook club. Both clubs meet monthly. Our *Film Festival* features two new movies every month on Thursday afternoons. Language classes for adults who want to learn English or Spanish, as well as computer and E-reader classes are offered on Saturday. The *Bloomingdale Foundation for Literacy* raises money for the library with fundraisers like their Spring Tea, Fish & Chips Dinner, Yankee Candle Sale, Fresh Food Goods Sale, and Designer Handbag Bingo. For the Town's Centennial, they are publishing *A Literary Feast* cookbook in November 2018.

Patricia Perugino, a library employee since 1988, became Library Director in 2012. The 2017 Library Board of Trustees includes, Edward Simoni, President; Robert Bloodgood, Vice President; Karen Kirby, Treasurer; Joann Crawford; Lynn Ferrara; Thomas Kroncke; and Darlene Nowak. Dennis DiLorenzo represents the School Superintendent, Debra Sondermyer is the Mayor's Representative, and Michael Sondermyer is the Town Council Liaison.

Bloomingdale Memorial Golden Age Club

Sometime before1967, former Bloomingdale VFW Post 9458, led by its Commander William Dale, selected as a community service project the formation of a senior citizen club. Cards were mailed to 460 Bloomingdale residents inviting them to attend a senior club organization meeting. The meeting was held on January 6, 1967 at the old Municipal Building at 15 Hamburg Turnpike and at that meeting the Bloomingdale Memorial Golden Age Club was born. The first official meeting took place on January 19, 1967 and the minutes reflect that it was attended by the first 27 charter members of the club. Its first officers were Carl Glenzer, President; his wife Betty Glenzer, Vice President; Mary Dale, Treasurer; Elizabeth Babcock, Recording Secretary; Pansy Deaerid, Corresponding Secretary; and Amanda Brown, Chaplin.

Many notable individuals have served as club president over the years. Carl and Betty Glenzer were followed by: Isabelle Fredericks (4 years); Ned Romain (3 years); Percy DeMerritt; Leona Brenner (2 years); Tillie Parisi (5 years); Jerome Rotsaert (4 years); Nicholas Miele (4 years); Robert Florance (2 years); Millie Bird (2 years); Betty Pursley (3 years); Eileen Fallon (2 years); Jean Sisco (2 years); Joan Taggart (2 years); Eleanor Krapohl (4 years); Lise Callaghan (3 years); and the current president, Carol Steiner, who has served for the last 6 years.

In addition to those who served as officers over the years, many other members have volunteered their time to serve on the host of committees that handle the various functions of the club. Committees like auditing, nominating, membership, hospitality, and others are vital to a smooth-running organization. Club membership has risen from the original 27 in 1967 to 148 in 2017.

Our Constitution and by-Laws provide that: "The purpose of the Club is twofold: first, to cultivate closer friendships among retired citizens, and second, to render socially useful service." Since its inception, membership in The Bloomingdale Memorial Golden Age Club has been open to seniors from all neighboring towns and we extend a warm welcome to all fellow seniors to join our club.



Bloomingdale Department of Public Works
DPW



The Bloomingdale Department of Public works was created in 1962 in response to the rapid growth the town was experiencing at the time. Prior to 1962, a small Road Department addressed most maintenance duties and served in various other capacities. Robert Hudson was appointed the first Superintendent of the Department and served until his retirement in 1985. He was followed by longtime Superintendents Ken Barrett and Joe Luke. Al Gallagher is the current Superintendent.

In 1968 the Borough formed a Sanitation Department within the DPW to provide municipal garbage collection, and two new 20-ton White Motor Company garbage trucks were purchased. An agreement was signed with Sparta Township for the disposal of Bloomingdale's garbage at their landfill for 75 cents per cubic yard. When that landfill was closed by the State of New Jersey, Bloomingdale was directed by the State to Hamm's Landfill in Lafayette, NJ. We were later directed to dispose of our trash at the Hackensack Meadowlands Commission Landfill in Lyndhurst. In 1987 the Passaic County Utility Authority opened a transfer station in Totowa. Since then Passaic County trash has been sent to landfills in Pennsylvania.

The DPW has a total of 17 employees who are responsible for 55 miles of roadway. The Department also handles all garbage/trash collection, recycling and leaf collection, maintenance of all Borough-owned buildings and grounds, maintenance of Borough-owned vehicles and DPW equipment, and assists the Water/Sewer Department when needed.

The Bloomingdale Department of Public Works consists of the following divisions:

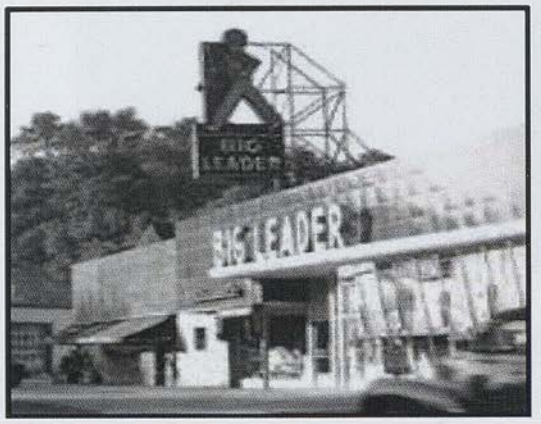
1. Sanitation and Recycling
2. Public buildings and Grounds
3. Roads
4. Equipment Maintenance
5. Municipal Utilities and Sewers



Bloomingdale Supermarkets



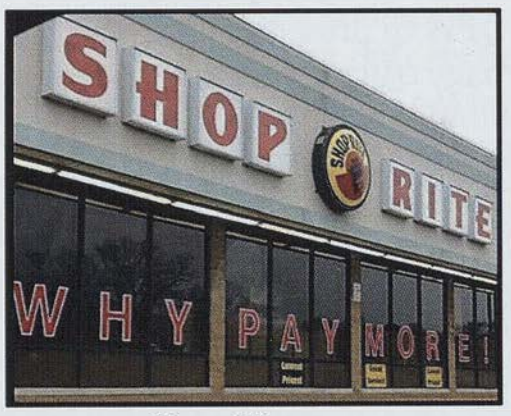
27 Main Street
Site of Wine Traders's Club



78 Main Street
Big Leader



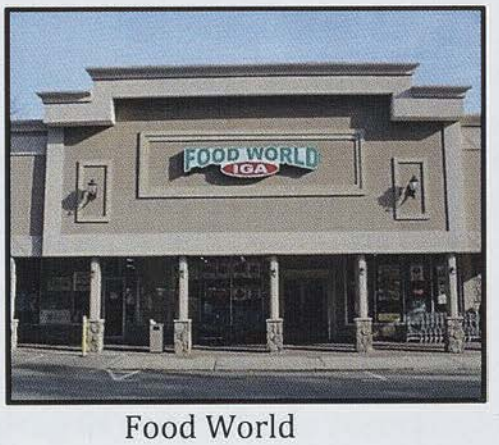
Valley Fair
1958



Shop Rite
1965



Food World
1990



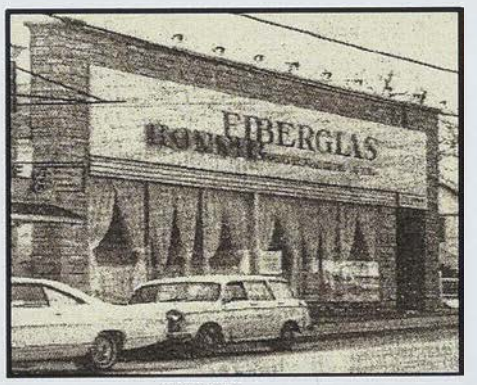
Food World
2017



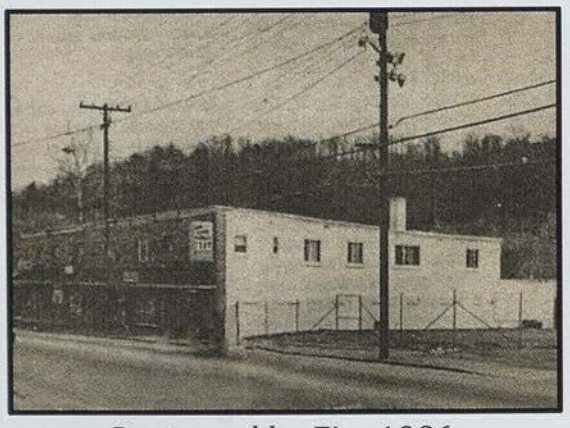
1953



59 Main Street Site of Riverside Square



1968



Destroyed by Fire 1986



Riverside Square 2017

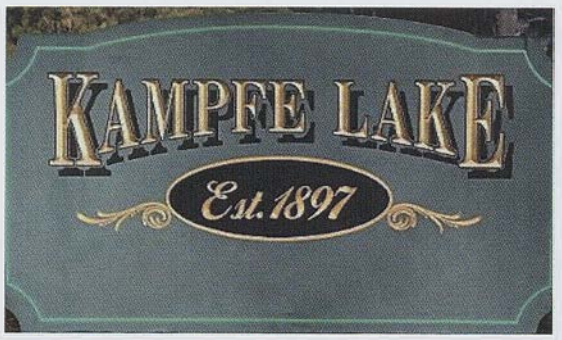


The Glen Wild Lake Company was created on July 16, 1917 by four businessmen from Butler, Paul Witteck, George C. Coates, Samuel K. Owen, and Lewis W. Havens. Their primary reason for creating the summer lake community was their passion for fishing. The construction of the Glen Wild Lake Dam, that flooded the valley and connected Witteck's Pond with Mud Pond, was authorized on September 22, 1917. In early 1918, the Glen Wild Lake Company started issuing leases for lots on which summer cottages began to be built. By 1925 there were 132 leaseholders. Authorization for the construction of a large clubhouse on June 5, 1925 promoted further development. By 1930, there were 158 lease holders and the Glen Wild Lake Community that we know today was created.

Year-round conversion of the summer cottages started in 1940, and by 1950, 20 homes were being occupied all year long. Like many lake communities, residents built their own homes, but they leased the land on which they stood. This changed on March 1, 1978 when the Glen Wild Lake Tenants' Association formed Lake Properties Inc. and created the condominium which is now the Glen Wild Lake Association. With the creation of the condominium, residents were then able to purchase the land on which their houses stood. This spurred an upgrading process and currently almost all of the original small summer bungalows built in the 1920s and 1930s, have been replaced by permanent residences. Up from about 40% not long ago, the lake has experienced a dramatic increase to nearly 80% year-round residency.

Recently, there have been modest improvements to the infrastructure of the community, like better roads and increased concern for the maintenance of the lake and its woodlands. A key part of this development has been the Association's relationship with the Borough, which has grown closer as time has gone by. The Borough participated in the Glen Wild Lake's 100th Anniversary in July 2017, and we are extremely pleased to be returning the favor by participating in Bloomingdale's Anniversary.





Kampfe Lake, located off Glenwild Avenue near the West Milford border, is a community of 26 homeowners who make up the Kampfe Lake Association. All 120 acres of Kampfe Lake property are owned by the association and leased back to the individual landowners in a 99-year lease.

The lake is named after Fredrick Kampfe, who purchased the property in 1896 and constructed a 21-room mansion across Glenwild Avenue from the lake. While the mansion no longer stands, travelers can still see the 840-foot fieldstone wall as well as the 1897 cornerstone Mr. Kampfe constructed all those years ago. Frederick Kampfe's source of wealth came from an invention he and his brother Otto patented in 1880. That invention, was the first safety razor for men. He owned the Star Razor Company, which later became part of the Gillette Razor Company. After Mr. Kampfe's death, the property went to his daughter. In 1921, it was sold to a group of wealthy individuals from the Paterson area and named the Apshawa Manor Association. In 1924 the name was changed to the Kampfe Lake Association.

Today, the lake is a pristine body of water enjoyed by members of the association and their guests. However, that was not always the case. In 1983, the residents of Kampfe Lake realized that the lake was full of weeds and that silt on the bottom made the lake very shallow. With the intention of selling the fill, they undertook the huge project of dredging the lake. There were setbacks along the way, and the lake remained empty for seven years. In 1990, the project was finally completed, and the lake was filled with water once again.

Kampfe Lake is governed by a seven-member board of directors of the homeowners. Members are assessed an annual amount of money for the taxes on lake, roads, and common property maintenance. Kampfe Lake is truly one of North Jersey's most beautiful communities.



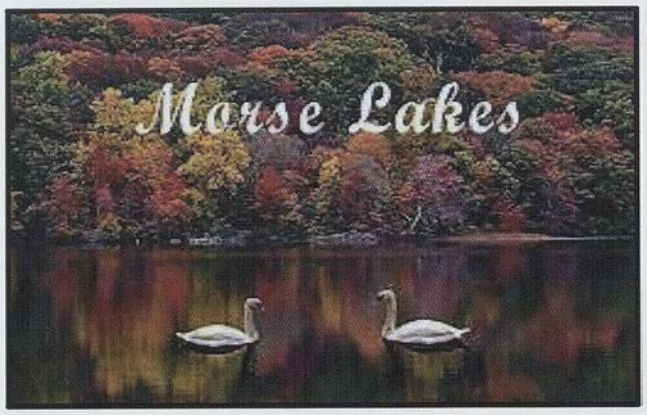
Lake Iosco, located in Bloomingdale, New Jersey, is nestled between the Wanaque Reservoir, Norvin Green State Forest, Glen Wild Lake, Morse Lakes and Rainbow Lake. Originally designed to be a seasonal weekend retreat where one could get away from the thriving city of Paterson and enjoy a pristine, natural haven, the Lake Iosco Company was incorporated on September 24, 1923. Today, forty-three full-time and weekend residences line the shores of more than two miles of lakefront.

Lake Iosco takes its name from a Native American word meaning "Water of Light" or "Shining Water." Beginning in the late 1600's, and in some cases continuing until after the Revolutionary War, three separate peoples claimed title to the lands of Lake Iosco: the Native Americans (Lenape), the Dutch settlers, and the English Crown. Most of the deeds that define the boundaries of Lake Iosco's land today can be traced back to the days of Dutch or English ownership. The Dutch settlers, who were pushed out of New York City (then New Amsterdam) by the British, came to the Wanaque Valley to settle and bartered with the local Native American tribes for the land. During the same time, the British claim to the land was passed to a group of Scottish noblemen and merchants.

In 1705, a family named Van Wagoner obtained a deed on some of the properties that would become Lake Iosco and continued to hold them until they were later purchased by the Lake Company. Several entrepreneurs from Paterson, following a trend at the time for weekend lake getaways, formed the Lake Iosco Company in the early 1920's.

Today, Lake Iosco looks much the same as it did in its early days. Most of the homes are now full-time residences, although some are still second homes for those looking for a peaceful retreat. Canoes, kayaks and paddleboards dot the lake, as no motors are permitted. The surrounding forest provides diverse flora and fauna, as well as all levels of hiking trails. The Iosco community of today is still driven to maintain and protect the vision of the original Lake Company, that is, to preserve the lake and its surroundings as an unspoiled sanctuary.





Joseph Morse probably left Northern New Jersey in the late1850s and moved to Iowa where his son Jerimiah was born in 1860. Joseph and his growing family returned to New Jersey sometime around the turn-of-the-century. Jerimiah settled in Pequannock and was working as a butcher, when he decided to invest in an ice cutting business in Bloomingdale. Jerimiah, his son, Douglas, and Roland Marcus, purchased the ponds that we now know as Morse Lakes from the estate of the late Clarence Romaine in 1918. In 1937, while the land was still owned by the Morse family, the Morse Lakes Corporation was formed to develop the property and subdivide it into individual lots. A year later, Douglas T. Morse and Rolf Hansen sold the lakes and surrounding property to the Morse Lakes Corporation. Many of the original lots were sold to members of the Norwegian community in Brooklyn, New York. A number of Norwegians families came to the area and built bungalows where they could enjoy weekends and summers in a natural setting.

In 1943 the Morse Lakes Corporation was dissolved, and the Morse Lakes Property Owners Association was created. The purpose of the Association is to maintain and improve Morse Lake's properties, such as the clubhouse, beach, playgrounds, roads and lakes. The association promotes social, recreational, and literary activities among its members and safe-guards the interests of property owners. In 1999 the Association installed a Clean Flo aeration system that keeps oxygen levels high, creates very clear water, and supports an outstanding fish population. We are very proud of the fact that in 2004 we were able to rebuild our dam to meet current New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection standards.

Morse Lakes remains a private home owners association where its members enjoy boating, swimming, fishing, ice skating, and many social activities. We are proud to be part of the Bloomingdale Community.



Cutting Ice



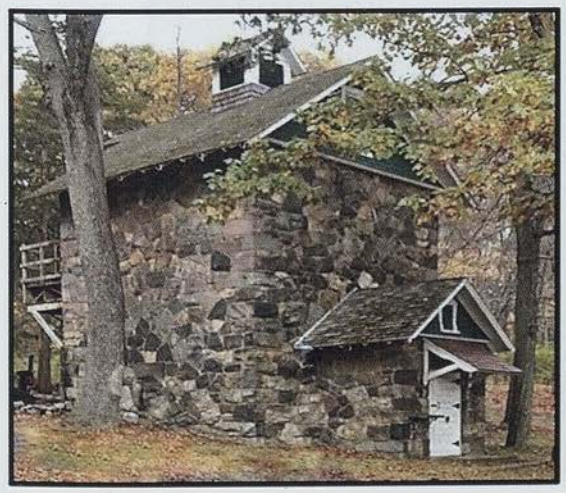
Before the advent of mechanical refrigeration, the use of ice was the primary way to keep perishable goods fresh. At the turn of the 20th Century, most families had an insulated icebox which was usually made of wood and lined with tin or zinc. A large block of ice was kept inside to keep things cool and the iceman would arrive every few days to keep the icebox filled.

Ice harvesting was a cold, hard, labor intensive, and sometimes dangerous job. There was always a chance of being crushed by large blocks of ice, or falling into frigid water in sub-freezing weather. Ice houses were a common part of the landscape next to every lake and pond in the region. Ice houses were double-walled with the void in the middle filled with sawdust or straw. Kampfe Lake's ice house still exists, and the Morse Lakes clubhouse sits on the site of a former ice house.

Labor was usually supplied by local farmers who, despite the hardships of the job, welcomed the opportunity to earn some money during the idle winter months. Ten hours a day, seven days a week, was the norm until all the ice had been harvested. Cutting ice was a major seasonal occupation in our area. Scores of men found work at the giant commercial ice harvesting operations at Greenwood Lake and Echo Lake in West Milford. A special railroad spur was built from Echo Lake to the Susquehanna Railroad, so ice could be carried by train to Newark and Jersey City.

Ice was not only an important for domestic consumption, tons of ice were supplied to commercial businesses every day. Restaurants, dairies, markets, meat packing plants, and hospitals needed ice year-round to ensure even temperatures. In 1850 New York City consumed 300,000 tons of ice. It's estimated that by 1900, the United States was using over 10 million tons of ice annually.

The demand for natural ice was greatly diminished by the invention of artificial ice making machines. The first process utilized a vaporization process, then ammonia was used, and finally, large quantities of artificial ice were produced using compressed gas. Natural ice continued to be harvested, but on a much smaller scale for local markets.



Kampfe Lake Ice House



Icebox



Large Commercial Ice House

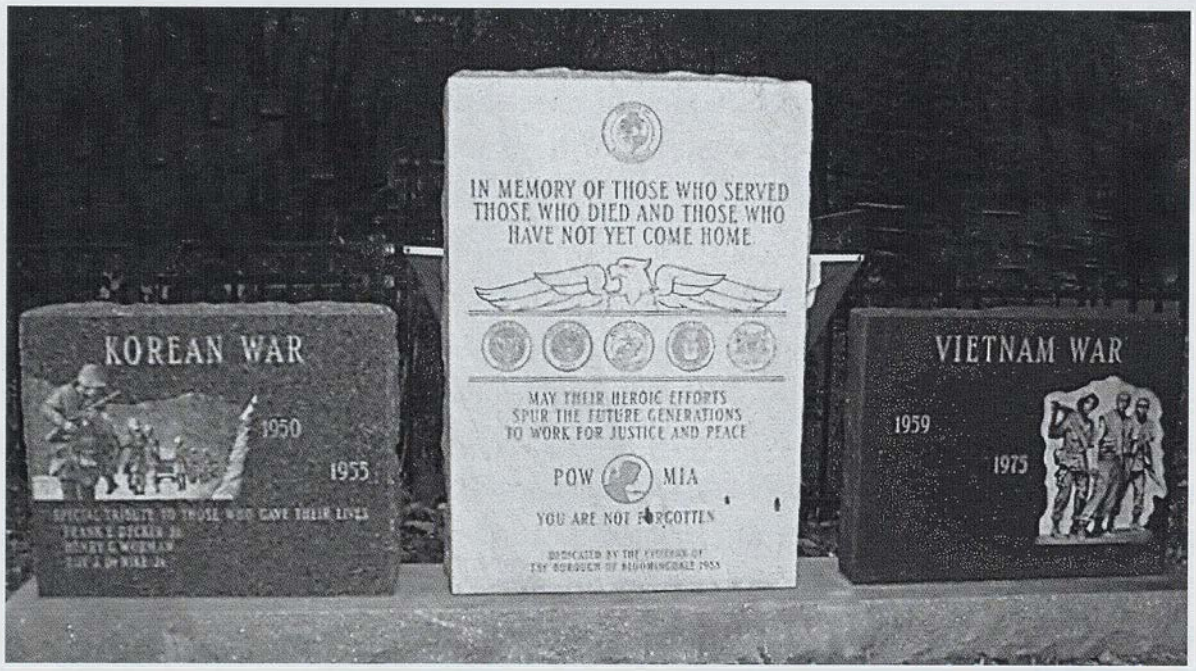
Bloomingdale Veterans' Memorials







World War I









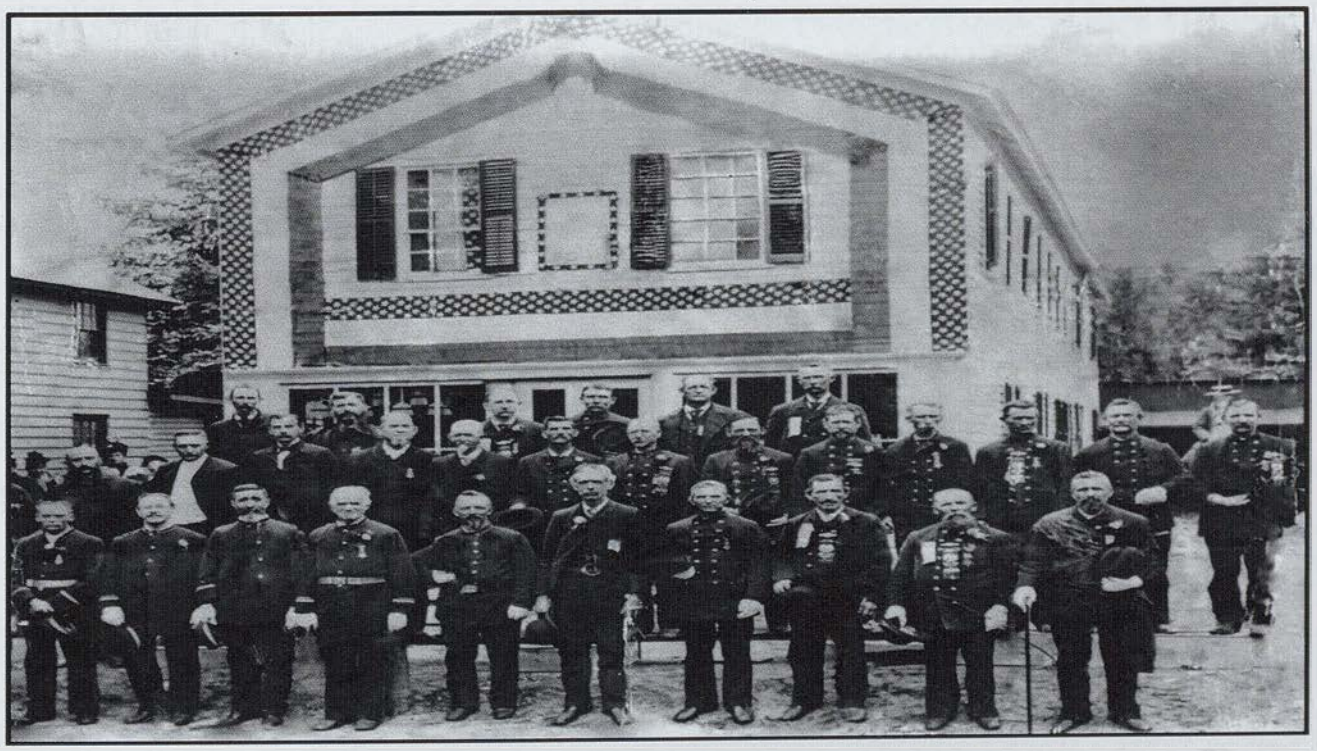
World War II

John E. Beam Post No. 92
Grand Army of The Republic
Civil War Veterans

The Grand Army of the Republic was the largest Civil War Veteran's organization. The John E. Beam G.A.R. Post No. 92 was chartered in Bloomingdale, New Jersey in 1885. The post's meeting hall was on the second floor of the building at 101 Main Street in Bloomingdale. (approx. location of the car wash). This building was Bloomingdale's original school and when the hilltop school (S.R.D.) was built, the G.A.R. moved in. For many years the G.A.R. Hall was the town's main meeting hall. Religious groups met there before their churches were built, lodge groups met there, it was also used for community suppers and other social events like weddings and receptions. The Bloomingdale Fire Department was organized at the G.A.R. Hall on January 10, 1910.

The Post was named in honor of John E. Beam who was the Captain of Battery B of the First New Jersey Artillery during the Civil War. He was killed at the Battle of Malvern Hill, VA in 1962. Capt. Beam was well respected by his men, many of whom were from northern New Jersey, including members of Post No. 92.

The Post's first officers were Augustus Spencer, Commander; John Shippee, Senior Vice Commander; Albert Van Voorhees, Adjunct; Martin Cook, Sergeant Major; Levi Brown, Surgeon; William Davenport, Chaplain; John Ogden, Quartermaster; David Ricker, Quartermaster Sergeant; George Hennion, Delegate; William Taylor, Alternate Delegate; William Hosking, Officer of the Day.; Cornelius Van Voorhees, Officer of the Guard.



The American Legion
John A. Dean Post 154

The John A. Dean Post 154 was chartered on September 7, 1919. It is named in honor of one of the area's first soldiers killed in action in World War I. Membership increased significantly in 1958 when members of the Sylvester G. Whritenour Post 320 in Bloomingdale joined the Butler Post. Since 1924 the poppy flower has been the American Legion's way of memorializing the soldiers who fought and died for their country. The program started after World War I when the poppies of Flanders Field in France became the living symbol of their fallen comrades' sacrifices. On Memorial Day Post members place American Flags on the graves of service men and women in honor of their service to their country. This year approximately 1,800 flags were placed in 9 local cemeteries. Wreaths are also placed at the veteran memorials in Butler and Bloomingdale. The tradition started by the Bloomingdale Post of awarding a scholarship to an outstanding Bloomingdale student at Butler High School is still carried on today. Other annual activities include the Pumpkins for Vets Program, which distributes hundreds of pumpkins at Halloween to the Lyons Veterans Hospital and other institutions, reminding veterans they are not forgotten. At Christmas, the Post has participated in the Toys for Tots Program, which collects donated toys and distributes them to disadvantaged children. Awards are also given to local Boys Scouts who have achieved Scouting's highest rank of Eagle.

The Auxiliary of Post 154 is one of the oldest and most active posts in Morris County. It has played an important part in all Post activities since it was chartered in 1922. Their fund raisers support many worthy causes, as well as needy veterans and their families. They participate in the Girls State Program and have sent three representatives from Butler High School since 1947. Auxiliary Post 154 has a long history of service to the community dating back to World War II when its members folded bandages and volunteered as civil defense aircraft spotters. In the past year, in addition to its annual projects, the Auxiliary has participated in a Thanksgiving food outreach program and Operation Chillout to assist homeless veterans. They also helped with a new initiative to place stickers on the graves of veterans to assist in their location. We congratulate Bloomingdale on its 100th Anniversary.

American Legion Post 154 Officers 2017
- Commander – John Turko, Jr.
- 1st Vice Commander – Ed Lewis
- 2nd Vice Commander – Nick Tedeschi
- 3rd Vice Commander – Mike Menger
- Adjutant/Finance Officer – Elmer Bott
- Chaplain – Adam Charman
- Judge Advocate – David Emmetts
- Historian – Bob Ackerman
- Sgt. at Arms – Rory Lovelace

Post 154 Auxiliary Officers 2017
- President – Lisa Ackerman
- Vice Present – Marilyn Bott
- Vice Present – Margaret Ensley
- Secretary – Laurie Veith
- Treasurer – Jean Gormley
- Sgt. At Arms – Erika Preziosi

Veterans of Foreign Wars
George P. Siek Tri-Boro Post 8096

VFW Tri-Boro Post 8096 is a non-profit veterans service organization comprised of members from a broad geographic area that includes Bloomingdale, Butler, Kinnelon, Pequannock Township, and Riverdale. We foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts and serve all veterans, the military, and our communities. Among our many contributions to our communities is the donation of the use of our building to Scouting groups, school groups, and first responders. We participate in many patriotic events such as ceremonies on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, POW/MIA Recognition Day, the Flag of Freedom Memorial Celebration where a flag is dedicated to each veteran, and most recently, the Butler High School Mission of Honor Memorial. We continue to honor the tradition started in 1947 of honoring the heroes of our communities with an Annual Citizenship Award. This award is presented to an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to better their community and to help the cause of veterans. We also recognize outstanding individuals with awards like: Scout of the Year, Public Servant Awards, Education Awards, and scholarships through the Education Teachers Award. Long standing programs supported by the Post are; the Voice of Democracy, Patriotic Pen Project, and our Buddy Poppy Distribution Program which helps raise funds for veterans in need. We are planning a number of future fund-raising events to help those less fortunate and non-veterans.

The VFW traces its roots back to veterans who served in the Philippine Insurrection, the Boxer Rebellion in China, and the Spanish American War. In 1899 a number of veterans' groups from those conflicts joined together to form the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The organization was consolidated in 1913 with the addition of more groups to the organization. In 1946 the George P. Siek Tri-Boro Post 8096 was chartered, and 104 members took the oath allegiance. Also in that year the Haycock's Municipal Band property at 69 Carey Avenue was purchased, and work began on the Post's permanent home in 1948.

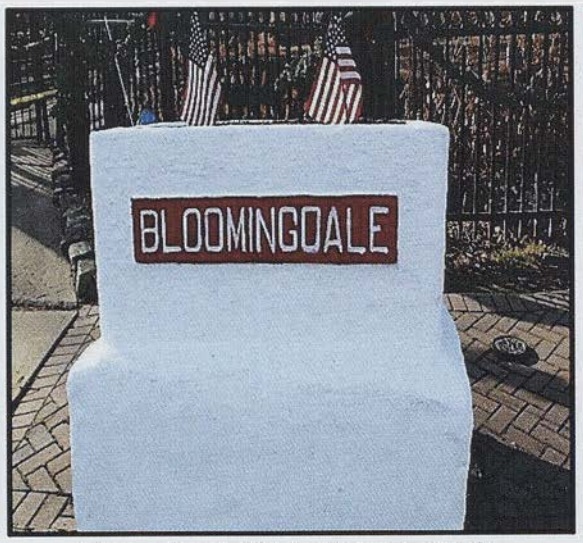
VFW Post 8096 2017 officers are Roger Fields, Commander; Wayne Stein, Vice Commander; Joe Christiano, Junior Vice Commander; Dan O'Doughtery, Quartermaster; Tom McDonald, Surgeon; Dough Fritsch, Trustee, and Ray Strohl, Trustee.



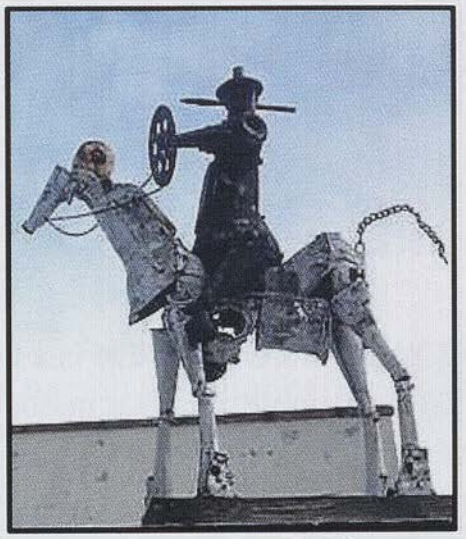
Landmarks



Ed Bitten's



Sloan Park Watering Trough



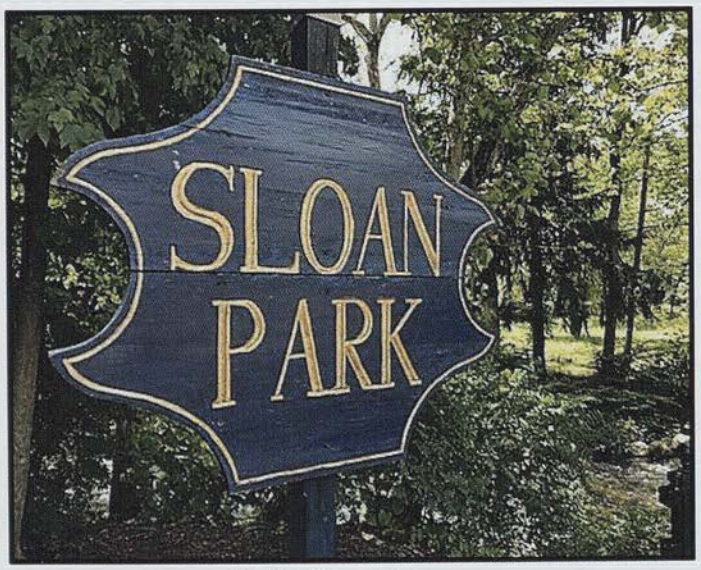
Transmission Knights



Veteran Memorial



Sept. 11th Memorial



Main Street



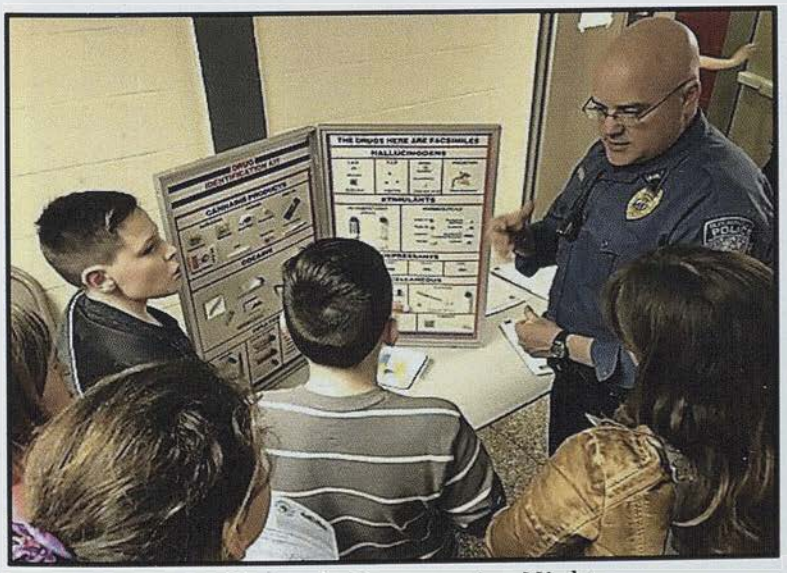
Glenwild Avenue

The Municipal Alliance program began in Passaic County in 1989 with the creation of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA). The Alliance to Prevent Alcohol and Drug Abuse is the largest network of community-based anti-drug collations in the nation. It is committed to the improvement of wellness here in New Jersey and around the country. The Bloomingdale Municipal Drug Alliance is a non-profit member of the GCADA. Membership in the Alliance is open to all Bloomingdale residents.

The Alliance was formed to provide a forum for residents and interested parties to communicate and work together toward a drug, alcohol, and violence free community. Our goal is to educate and raise anti-drug and alcohol awareness among children, youths, teens, and adults.

Many family strengthening events are planed by the Alliance throughout the year. They include: Drug and Alcohol Awareness programs, a Halloween Dance, the BABES Program, the Flower Program, Support for the L.E.A.D. Program, the Unity Through Community Event, the Mother/Son Dance, the Father/Daughter Dance, Family Night Bingo, and the Summer Chance Program.

We would like to thank our past and present members who have willingly volunteered their time and talents to our family fun events. We greatly appreciate their efforts to help educate our children about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. We extend a very special thank you to our Coordinator, Cyndy Hopper, for all her hard work and dedication. We also thank all our current members, Kim Buscher, Debbie DuHaime, Lauren Grecco, Kim Juhlin, Rachel Milward, Mary Wescott, Christine Spicuzzo, Christine Spencer, Marissa French, Christine Riggio, Police Chief Joe Borell, Officer Dan Greenwood, Councilman Rich Dellaripa, and Mayor Jon Dunleavy.

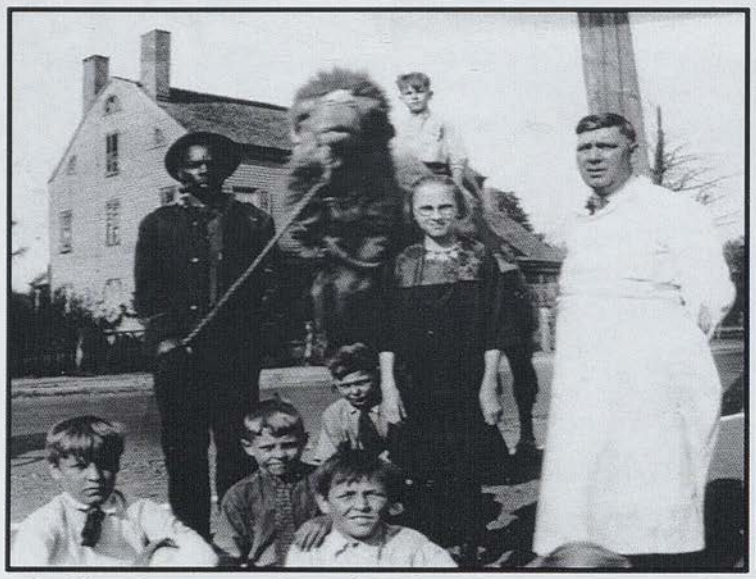


Unity Through Community Night

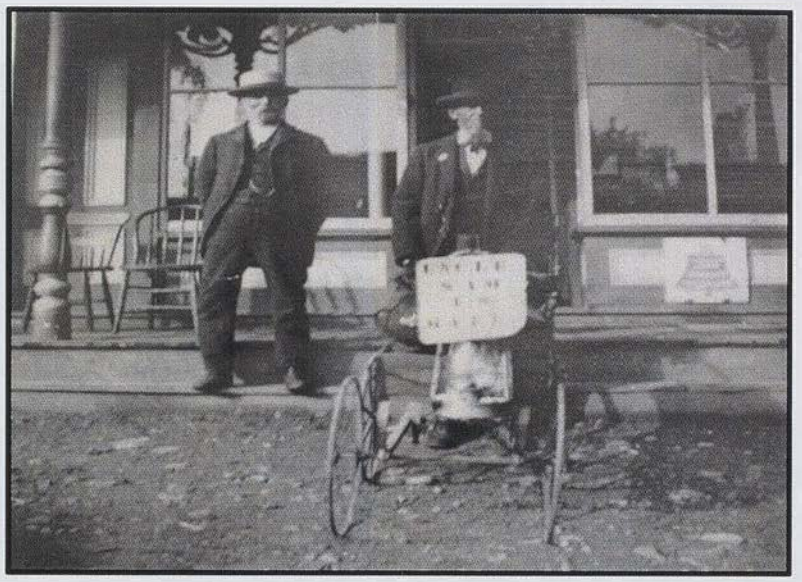


Father/Daughter Dance

Days Gone By



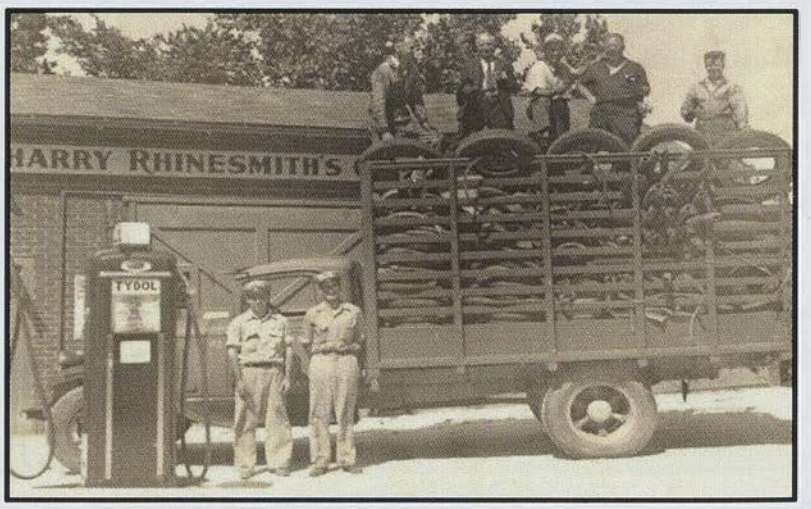
Coffee Company Camel Rides, Ryerson House in background, corner of Union Ave. & Main Street.



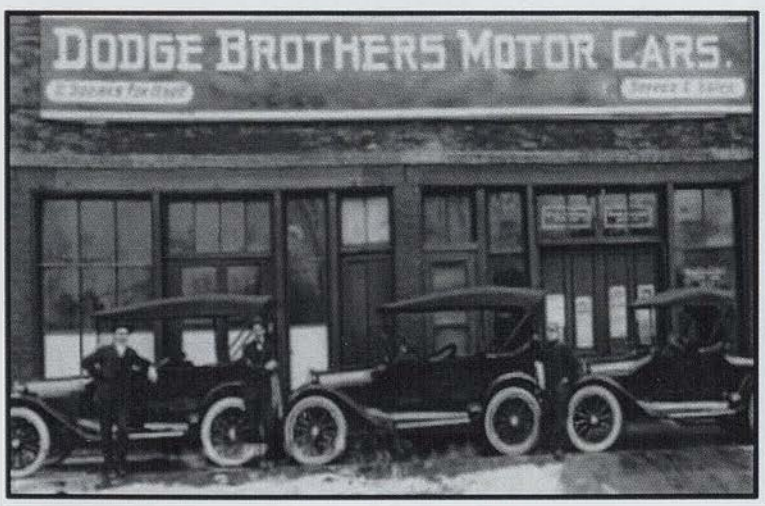
Uncle Sam's U.S. Mail
Henry Witty carried mail from the Bloomingdale Post Office to West Bloomingdale (Butler).

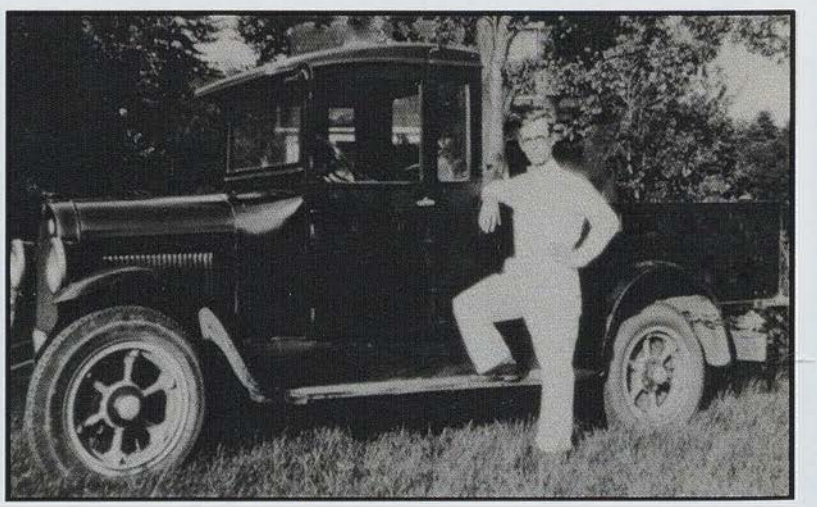


Bloomingdale Rabbit Hunting
Hanky's Woods



World War II Tire Recycling
39 Hamburg Turnpike





Maxie Roach Sold Dodge Automobiles and Graham Trucks
78 Main Street - Site of Food World

Bloomingdale Butler Youth Club

Originally known as the Bloomingdale Youth Organization (BYO), the Bloomingdale Butler Youth Club (BBYC) was formed in 2011 when Bloomingdale and Butler merged their youth football and cheering programs.

The BYO was formed in 1967 with the objectives of firmly implanting in participating youth, the ideals of good sportsmanship through competitive football and cheerleading. Also emphasized is the fact that the attainment of exceptional skill or winning of games, is secondary to the all-important objective molding future men and women.

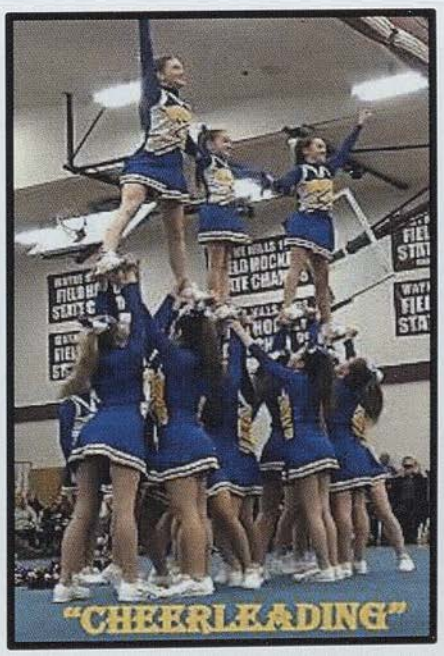
The BBYC is a non-profit organization and is autonomous from any other group or organizations within the boroughs of Bloomingdale and Butler. The organization is totally dependent on its fundraisers and donations for financial support.

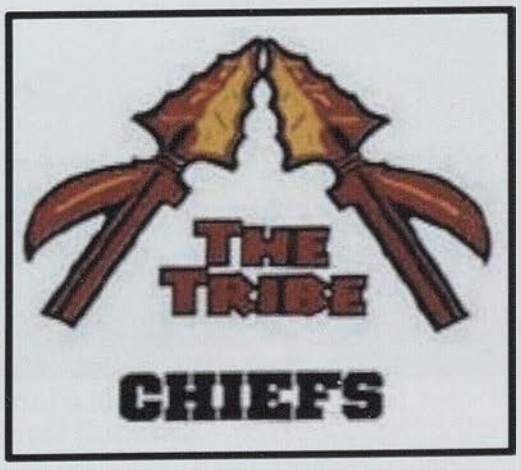
Youth activities include four levels of football and cheerleading, as well as wrestling for children ages 5 – 15. These programs have had their share of success over the years resulting in a number of playoff appearances and Super Bowl victories. The Cheerleading squads have won numerous State Championships.

The merger of the Bloomingdale and Butler athletic programs has proven to be a great success not only for the BBYC, but for Butler High School (BHS) as well. The merger was a logical union because athletes from both towns play together on the same teams at Butler High. The merger not only strengthened BBYC programs, but also the programs at BHS.

BBYC is fortunate to be served by many generous volunteers and coaches who are committed to providing a fun and safe environment for all participants. BBYC is proud of its years of service to the youth of our communities, and with continued unselfish devotion of these volunteers, looks forward to serving for many years in the future.





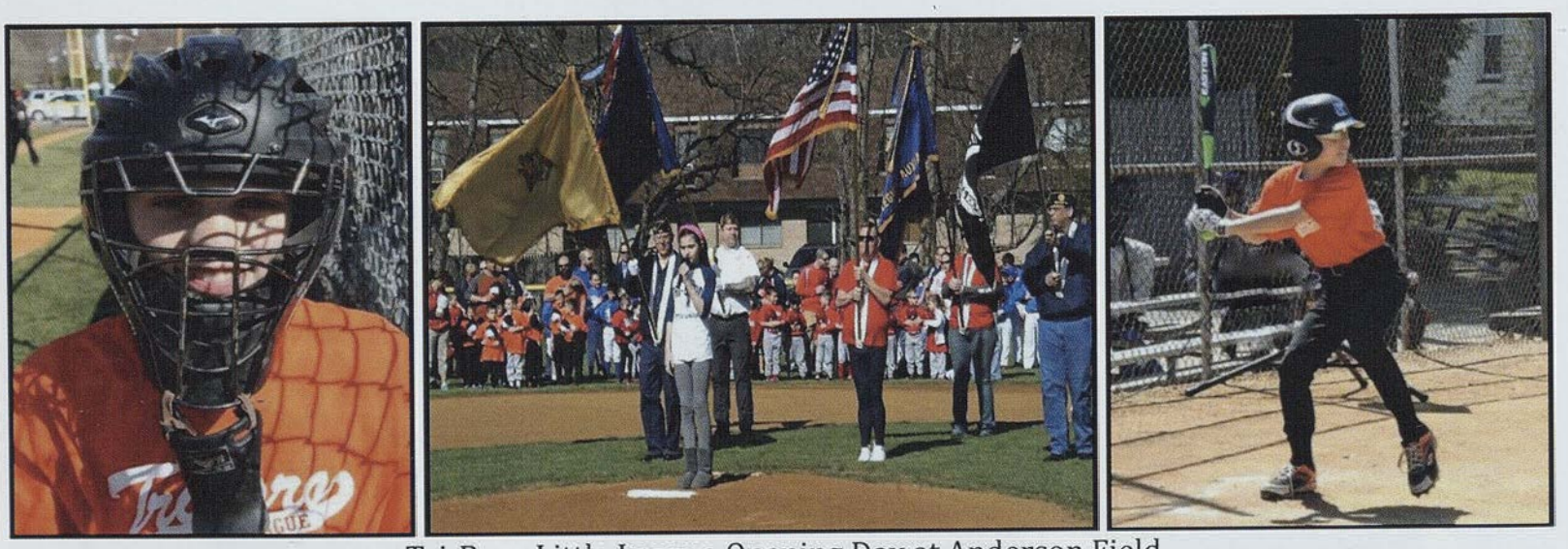


Tri-Boro Little League

Tri-Boro Little League of Bloomingdale, Butler and Kinnelon was formed 66 years ago in February 1952. Games were originally played at DeLazier field until George B. Anderson of Bloomingdale donated a piece of property for a ballfield on Star Lake Road in December 1954. After a great amount of work by Little League supporters, the field was named and dedicated in 1957 as Anderson Field. Today Tri-Boro Little League games are played on many ballfields throughout the area and Anderson Field is still used by hundreds of local children every season. Originally consisting of only a hand-full of teams, Tri-Boro Little League now provides baseball and softball to more than 400 local children ages 5-16.

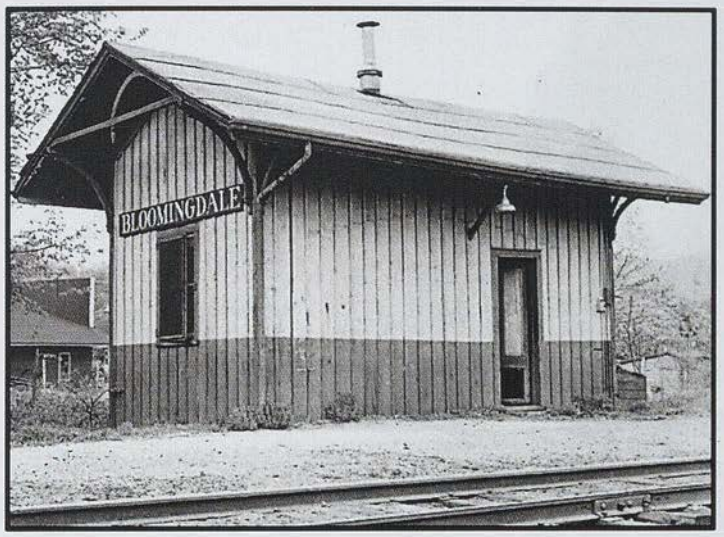
Through the generosity of the residents of all three towns and local merchants, Tri-Boro Little League has been able to develop an outstanding athletic program that is recognized as one the best organizations in Little League's District 2 and the region. Past presidents include Bloomingdale Councilman John D'Amato who led a full field restoration and instillation of a new lighting system in 2010, and the current President is James Derosa who continues to lead the league in a positive direction. The current Board of Directors recently obtained a grant from Passaic County which will enable the installation of a new backstop and fencing at Anderson Field. Tri-Boro has a long history of success on the field. In 2017, our Senior All-Star team won the District 2 tournament and advanced to the state finals coming up short against a strong East Vinland team.

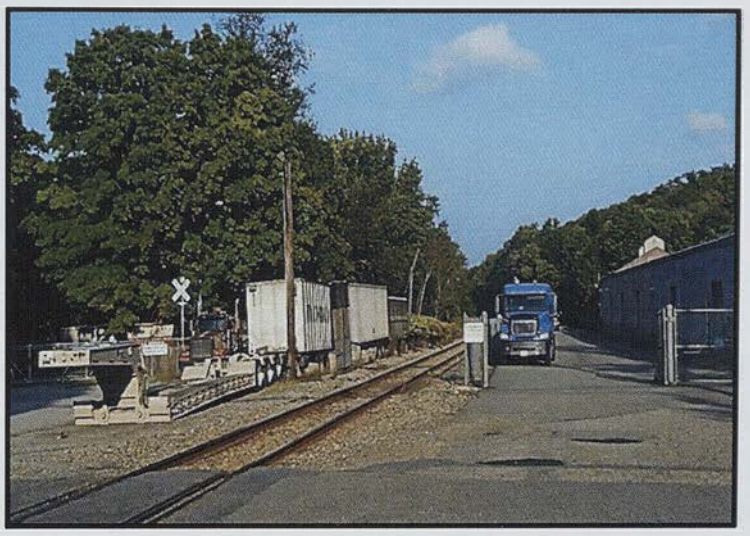
The Tri-Boro Little League would like to thank all of the dedicated volunteers and coaches, past and present, that have helped to make our organization a success.



Tri-Boro Little League Opening Day at Anderson Field

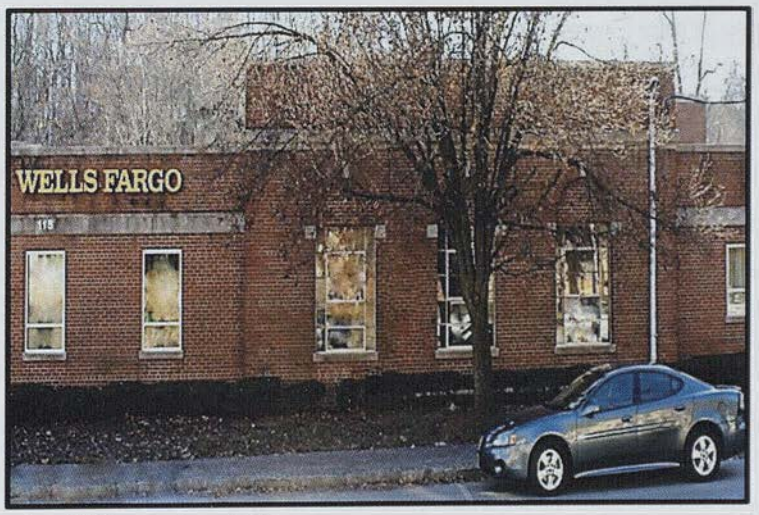
Days Gone By



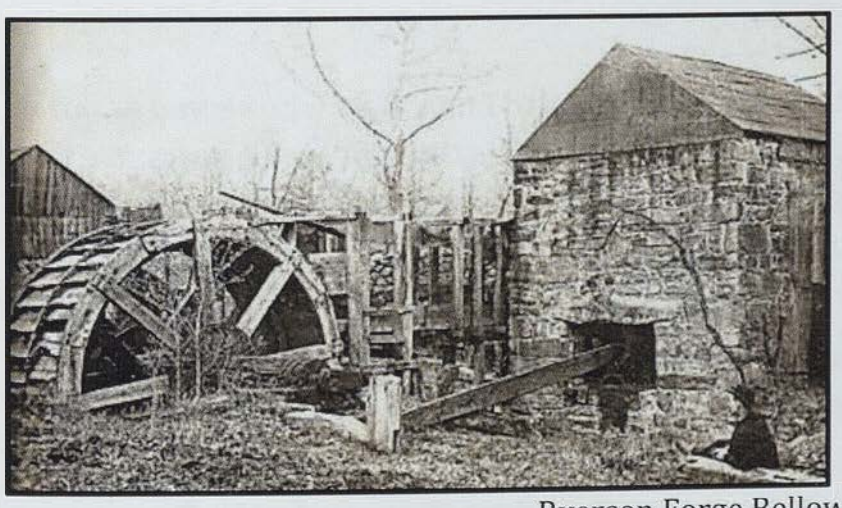


Bloomingdale Railroad Station
Mathews Avenue, East Bloomingdale (Riverdale)





First National Bank of Bloomingdale
115 Main Street





Ryerson Forge Bellows House
Behind 63 Main Street, Bloomingdale's Oldest Building

Bloomingdale Recreation Commission

The Bloomingdale Recreation commission was created by the Borough Council on May 11, 1972. The Recreation Commission is a seven-member board that employs a director whose duties include the supervision of recreational programs for the residents of Bloomingdale and surrounding towns. We sponsor programs for adults and children of all ages and serve approximately 500 participants annually. Bloomingdale Day Camp, Youth Basketball. Gymnastics, and Adult Badminton are our most popular programs.

In 2001 Bloomingdale residents approved a referendum to establish a dedicated tax for the creation and maintenance of recreation projects. The ROSE Fund, a grant from Passaic County, and efforts by the Recreation Commission, the Mayor, and the Borough Council, have resulted in improvements to all our parks, fields, and playgrounds. This funding has made possible improvements to the basketball courts, playing fields, scoreboard, and restoration of the historic grandstands at DeLazier Field.

The Walter T. Bergan School fields now have a restroom, a walking track, exercise equipment, and improved drainage. The ROSE Fund has also made possible a playground at Oakwood Lake and has supported a resident volunteer playground at Sloan Park.

The Recreation Commission also sponsors a number of public activities throughout the year. The Holiday Event in December, the Spring Easter Egg Hunt, and the Trout Fishing Contest, are popular annual events.

In 2017, the Bloomingdale Recreation Commission welcomed back our summer Bloomingdale Day Camp program. We offer families 9 weeks of unplugged summer camp fun for children from kindergarten through 8th grade! Families can pick a 5-day, or 3-day option and we offer CIT counselor training for 9th and 10th graders. The Bloomingdale Day Camp program provides a supportive environment that encourages campers to set new goals and develop self-confidence, responsibility, and leadership skills. Last summer, our first one back, Bloomingdale Day Camp was able to share our summer with over 150 campers!

The Recreation Commission would like to extend a big thank you to Linda Daly who served as our Director of Recreation for many years and Gail Galbraith who served as Director for 11 years. We thank Cyndy Hopper for her many years leading various recreation programs and her work with the Bloomingdale Day Camp. We would also like to extend our gratitude to our previous Recreation Commission Presidents, (listed from most recent) Brian Brenkert; Mike Sondermeyer; Ray Yazdi; and Jon Dunleavy.

Current Bloomingdale Recreation Commission Members

Rachel Bodor, Recreation Director; Mary Wescott, Recreation President; Theresa Merino, Treasurer; Kim Buscher, Secretary; Meg Gray; Drew Juhlin; John Timpanaro; Matthew Zaccone; Barbi Gnecco; and Roberto Alvarado.

Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey

The Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey have a long-standing tradition in Bloomingdale. The first Girl Scout Troop in Bloomingdale was started in the 1920s. In 2007, the councils in New Jersey were reorganized and we became the Bloomingdale/Butler Service Unit of the Girls Scouts of Northern New Jersey. Our Service Unit currently has 19 troops and over 250 girls and adult volunteers.

The Bloomingdale/Butler Service Unit takes part in many community service events including Pride Day, Town Clean Up Day and the Senior Thanksgiving in Butler. Our Girl Scouts also run and maintain an annual food drive for the Bloomingdale Methodist Church each fall. Girl Scouts have taken on several community service projects, including cleaning the ballfields after games and implementing and updating safety regulations on streets near our schools. For the past two holiday seasons, Girl Scouts have worked with the Bloomingdale Police Department and Lakeland Bank to provide gifts for a borough family in need. The Girl Scouts of Bloomingdale are always happy to help their community in every way they can!

We are a worldwide family of 2.6 million girls and adult volunteers. We're the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. With programs from coast to coast and across the globe, Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

We would like to thank Mayor Dunleavy and the Council for their support of our troops every year. Our girls appreciate the opportunities afforded to them to help the community.

Happy Birthday Bloomingdale!
Theresa Merino SUM/Treasurer Bloomingdale/Butler Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey
Cindy Keegan SUM Bloomingdale/Butler Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey

G.I.R.L.
go-getter innovator risk-taker leader

G.I.R.L. AGENDA
POWERED BY GIRL SCOUTS

Bloomingdale Boy Scouts

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. We provide programs for young people that build character, trains them in the responsibilities of citizenship, and develops personal fitness. For more than 100 years, Boy Scouts have helped build future leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun.

Today's Troop 86 continues a long tradition of Scouting in Bloomingdale. The town's first Boy Scout Troop was chartered in the 1920s. For a time, two troops, Troop 86 and Troop 286, co-existed. After more than half a century of outstanding service, and producing Eagle Scouts like, Ed Rodda, Chuck Heine, Ken Klem, Ed Bird, Bill Sondermyer. Chris Winkler, Michael Yuhas, Mark Warner and many others, Troop 86 disbanded.

Troop 286, which was sponsored by the Bloomingdale Methodist Church, continued operation until approximately 2006. Keith Rounds was the last Scoutmaster. Other leaders and volunteers of Troop 286 included Tom Fuchs, Ed and Raimee Ball, Wayne and Nancy Hammaker, and Peggy Wanklin,. A number of Troop 286 members achieved scouting's highest rank of Eagle, they include: John Sinkie, Bernard Vroom IV, Thomas Fuchs, Edward and Brian Ball, and Jason Hammaker.

In 2005, a new Troop 86 was charted by the Bloomingdale Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). The troop's first leaders included Scoutmaster Alfred Saint Jacques, Committee Chair Chris Synol, Charter Representative Rich Briggs, and committee members Tom Tracey, James Klingman, Michael Sondermyer, Todd Hillmer, and James Ameye. Troop meeting were initially held at the VFW Hall in Butler. Meetings were later held at various locations until Alan Gunderson of the Bloomingdale Methodist Church offered to charter Troop 86 and provide a permanent home. The church's ongoing support and dedication is greatly appreciated.

Among the activities that the troop participated in were a camping and hiking trip to Gettysburg National Historical Park; hikes on both legs of the Palisades Historical Trail; camping at the Rhinebeck Aerodrome in upstate New York; and a number of other trips.

In 2013, Troop 86 welcomed a new leadership team including, Scoutmaster Chris Winkler; Assistant Scoutmasters Keith Ermilio, Alfred Saint Jacques, and Bob Shoemaker; Committee Chair Bob Bloodgood, and Charter Representative Rich Briggs.

The current Troop 86 Scoutmasters are James Mirabella and Keith Ermilio; the Assistant Scoutmaster is Bob Shoemaker; the Committee Chair is Alfred Saint Jacques; and the Charter Representative is Rich Briggs. Scott Kruger, Rachel and Dan Piekarz, Rosemary Russo, Anthony and Mary Catalano, Paul Thompson, and Mark Spuhler are the 2018 committee members.

In addition to serving our community with an outstanding scouting program, Troop 86 has nine members who have earned the rank of Eagle. They include, James, Erik, and David Synol: Thomas Tracey Jr. Sean Saint Jacques; Conner and Liam Klingman; Nick Vitone; and Spencer Winkler. The troop currently has a roster of 21 scouts and is working with Pack 86 to graduate a number of Cub Scouts into Boy Scouts in February 2018.

Federal Hill
Boy Scout Cabin

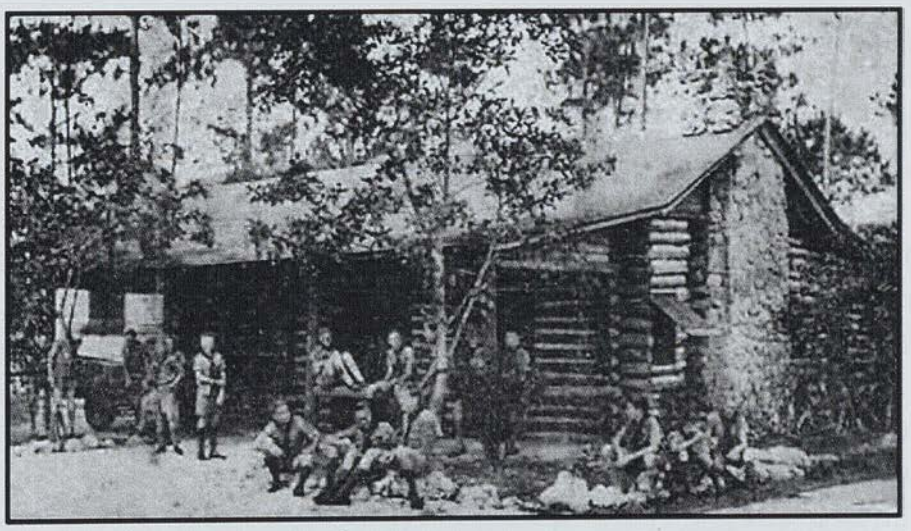
Around 1929, not long after George Woodworth founded the first Bloomingdale Boy Scout Troop, he asked Henry Van Dam if the scouts could build a log cabin in the woods on his property at the base of Federal Hill.

The scouts supplied the labor and carpenter Clyde Struble helped out by providing the technical know-how. Fieldstones were gathered and local mason, Ed Sanders helped them construct a large fireplace and chimney. The cabin was a substantial structure, measuring 30 feet long by 30 feet wide. The Scouts held their meetings there and it was a popular gathering place.

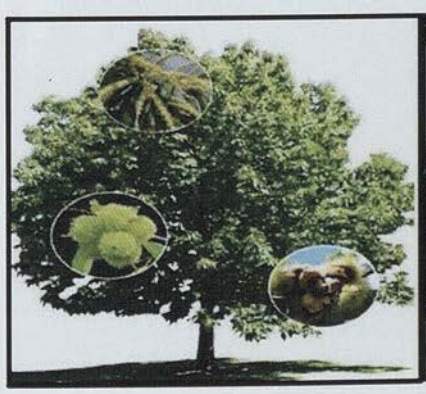
One scout remembered that the only heat came from the fireplace, and when they slept there in the winter, it seemed like it was just as cold on the inside of the cabin, as it was on the outside. When they couldn't sleep, they would sit in front of the fireplace and "cook in the front and freeze in the back." Lester Readon, Gilbert DuBois, and Bob Watt followed Red Woodworth as Scoutmasters.

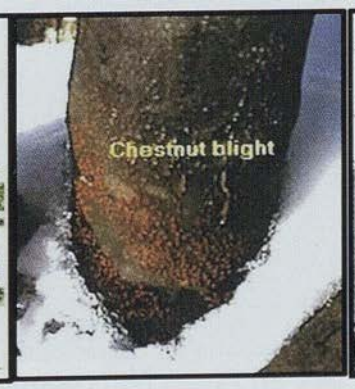
The cabin was used for many years until it accidently burned down. All that's left today are the ruins of the fireplace and a flagpole on the knoll above the mica mine, behind the Animal Shelter on Brandt Lane. It is often mistaken for the remains of one of the German DAB Camp cabins.



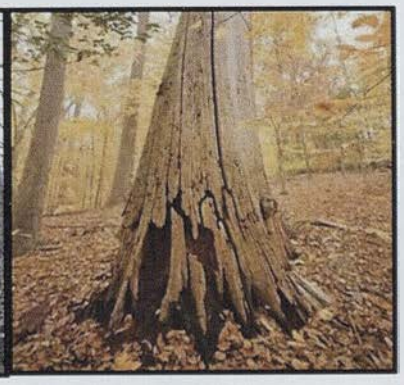


The cabin was made of chestnut logs cut from the surrounding woods. This native species was attacked by the chestnut blight of the early 20th century. In some places on the East Coast, it's estimated that twenty-five percent of the hardwood trees were American chestnut. The fungal infection killed over 40 billion chestnut trees in North America over a forty-year period. Some of the trees were over ten feet in diameter and grew to a hundred feet high. The chestnut's beautiful straight grained wood made excellent building material. As the trees died, their standing trunks were harvested and used for making cabins, barns, furniture, and an unlimited number of other useful objects.

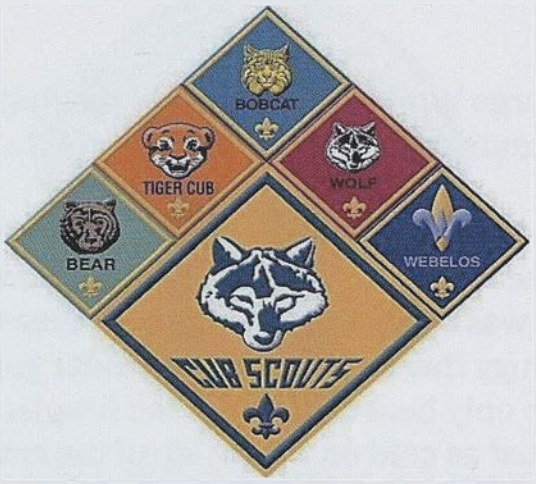








Bloomingdale Cub Scout Pack 86



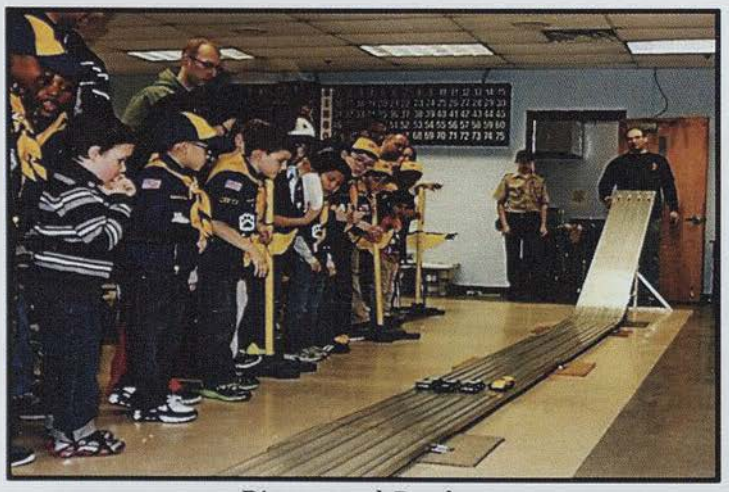
Most Boy Scouts start out as Cub Scouts and Cub Scouting in Bloomingdale probably traces all the way back to the first Boy Scout Troop. Today's Pack 86 has been sponsored by the Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department for many years and their support is greatly appreciated. The firemen provide Firemen's Hall and cook for the Pack's Annual Blue and Gold Dinner, they open the Firehouse, so the scouts can get an up-close look at the fire-fighting equipment, and help the Pack in many other ways.

As the Pack moved into the 2000s, the leadership included Cub Master Christopher Synol, Assistant Cub Master Al Saint Jacques, committee members Wayne and Nancy Hammaker, Crystal Napoleon, and others. Among the activities that the Cub Scouts took part in included a weekend stay on board the Battleship New Jersey, an event the Pack still participates in today, a camping trip to the Philadelphia Zoo; and a hike at Morristown National Historical Park, the site of George Washington's 1779-80 winter encampment at Jockey Hollow.

A few years later, the leadership roles were turned over to Cub Master Todd Hillmer, Assistant Cub Masters Tom Ulrich, Keith Ermilio, Chis Winkler, and others who held important Pack positions like den leaders, bookkeepers and event planners. When Todd Hillmer's son moved up to Boy Scouts, Chris Winkler became Cub Master. He was assisted by Bob Shoemaker and Tom Ulrich.

In 2018, the Pack is led by Cub Master Michael Earle, Assistant Cub Masters Adam Bird, Joe Wild, and Steve Bouchard. Bob Shoemaker serves as Committee Chair and Charter Representative. Joe Wild is the Pack Treasurer. Others involved in the Pack are John Procaccio, Dan and Kay Hawkins, and Christina Earle.

All the Cubs are looking forwarded to their Battleship NJ Trip, this year's Pinewood Derby, and the Webelos can't wait for the Klondike Derby.



Pinewood Derby



Pack 86 Hikes Morristown National Historic Park

Youth Activities



Star Lake Camp



Girls Scout Troop 95419 Helps Animal Shelter



BBYC Football



Boy Scout Troop 86



Tri-Boro Softball



Tri-Boro Senior Division Baseball



Bloomingdale Recreation Day Camp

The United Methodist Church

The first mention of Methodists meeting in Bloomingdale comes from an 1824 note listing it as a "point" or stop, of a circuit riding minister on the Hamburg Circuit. Little other early history is known, except that 20 Methodists made up about half the town's population. They were meeting in an old woolen mill in 1842 when Martin Ryerson donated a lot on upper Main Street for the construction of a church. It was located three-quarters of a mile from the railroad depot on Mathews Avenue in East Bloomingdale (Riverdale). The church, built of wood, was 30 ft. wide and 60 ft. long, and was constructed at a cost $1,000. It was chartered as the Bloomingdale Methodist Episcopal Church, with a membership of 30, in 1848.

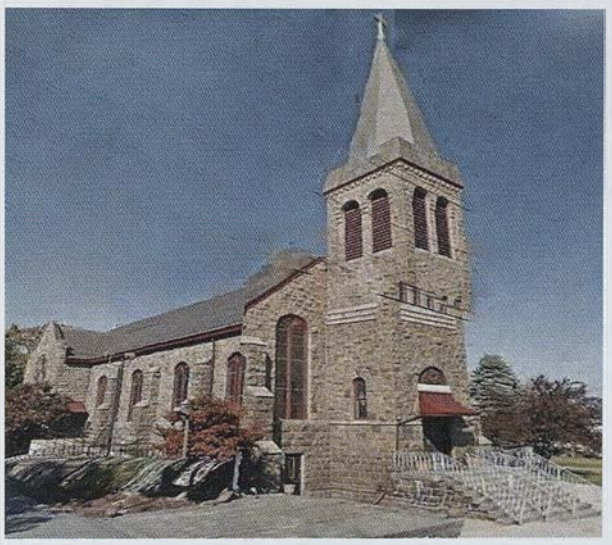
In 1884 a Sunday School mission project was started in West Bloomingdale (Butler). This eventually led to the formation of the Butler Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Bloomingdale church disbanded. Several Bloomingdale families were unwilling, however, to give up their Sunday School and continued to worship in the old school that was then called the GAR Hall (Grand Army of the Republic, Civil War Veterans). On a Sunday in 1898, 56 members had a collection of 86 cents.

A new church was built in 1902 on land donated by Fred Sloan and John Ogden. In that same year, the congregation re-organized as the Methodist Protestant Church of Bloomingdale. In 1920 a large addition was added enlarging the sanctuary to its present size at a cost of $12,000. In 1939 the three branches of the Methodist Church merged and after another merger in 1968, today's United Methodist Church was created. As church membership and the Sunday School grew, additional space was needed. The result was the construction of an educational building, Troxler Hall, adjacent to the church in 1958. Our current Pastor is Rev. Hannah Lee.

We owe much to the dedicated men and women who have given faithful service to our church over the past 170 years. They have given us a strong foundation, it is now our challenge to build on that foundation.



Saint Anthony of Padua RC Church



When Butler was West Bloomingdale the spiritual needs of the few Catholic families were attended to by a visiting Priest from Saint Joseph's Church in Macopin. Mrs. Eleanor Bailey was the driving force to establish a Catholic Church in the Bloomingdale area and after collecting about $400, a congregation was formed. The Rubber Company loaned the use of a house they owned on Maple Street, in what later became Butler, where mass was held from time to time.

The corner stone of a small church at 98 Arch Street was laid in June 1878. On June 13, 1880 the church was dedicated as "Saint Anthony's Church of Bloomingdale." The first school was taught under an apple tree on the church grounds and later, in 1882, a small school was built at 90 Arch Street. In response to the rapid growth of the congregation and school, Richard Butler donated the property on Bartholdi Avenue where the church now stands. The original section of the current church was dedicated on the Feast of St. Anthony in 1893.

At the cost of $40,000, a stone school was built adjacent to the church in 1905. As enrollment at the school grew, and more Sisters were needed as instructors, a suitable residence for them was required. By 1913, a convent and monastery had been built on each side of the church. An expansion of Mt. Calvary Cemetery across from the church, also took place at this time.

In honor of the church building's 100th Anniversary in 1992, a fund drive enabled the replacement of its original slate roof, the painting and carpeting of the church interior, and the installation of a new pipe organ. Much to the disappointment of many area residents who sought a religious education for their children, Saint Anthony's Parochial School closed in 2012 after 131 years of service.

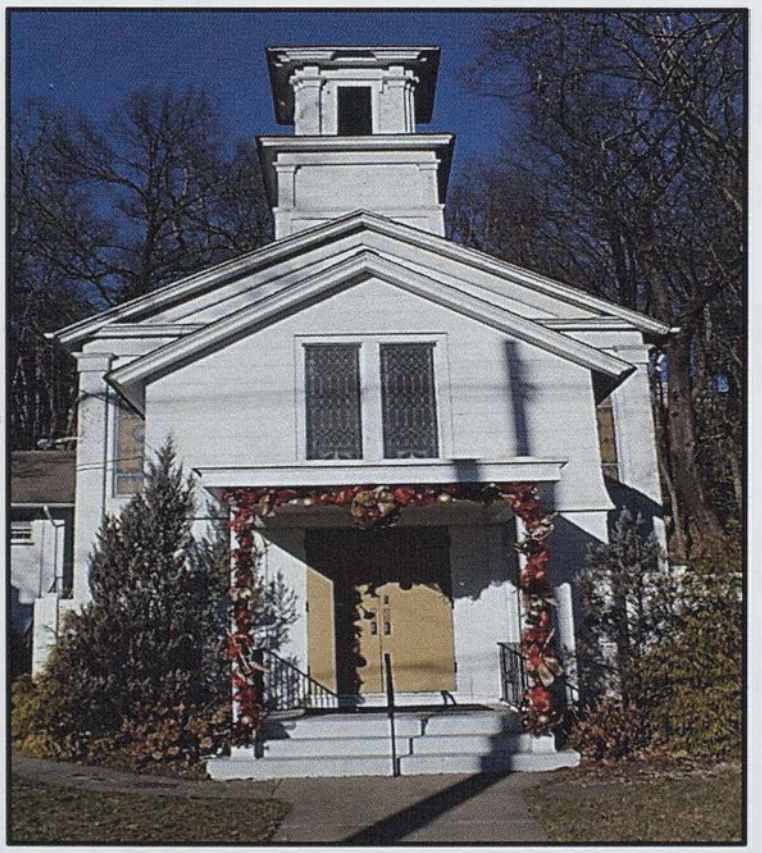
Saint Anthony's Council, Knights of Columbus, was formed on December 18, 1904. The basic principals of the Knights of Columbus are charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. These principles are implemented through programs relating to church, community, social, and youth activities. We are proud of the way our programs have impacted the Tri-Boro and other areas in the last 112 years. The council home at 65 Hamburg Turnpike in Butler not only provides facilities for our membership, it also is equipped to handle any social activity from wedding receptions to banquets.

CENTI
International Center of
Integral Theotherapy

CENTI, the International Center of Integral Theotherapy, is a worldwide Christian Church. It is made up of men and women from all walks of life united by their faith. Started by missionaries in 1963, it has grown from its Latin American roots into an organization with a religious presence in 40 countries around the world. Its headquarters is located in Miami, Florida.

In 1999 the CENTI congregation was meeting in Paramus, NJ and as the church continued to grow, they started searching for larger quarters. In 2008, when they discovered that the former Baptist Church on Main Street in Bloomingdale was vacant, they knew they had found a home. They immediately started a major restoration of the building, and before long their hard work was rewarded, When Pastors Tony Mora and Emilia Gonzalez left to start a new church in Australia, Pastors Orlando Mejia and Rosario Duran continued the work they started. Today the congregation continues to grow under the leadership of Pastors Luis and Deissy Guillen.

The CENTI congregation continues a long tradition of religious observation at 116 Main Street. The Baptists that established the church can trace their history in Bloomingdale all the way back to 1824. They first met in each other's homes, then in an old mill, and finally in the school. In 1843 the lot where the church stands today was purchased for $300 and in 1847 a wooden chapel was built for $1,000. The original building served until 1861 when it was renovated and enlarged. The parsonage next to the church was built in 1888, and the educational building in 1955. The addition connecting the church and the educational building was added in 1967.



Star Lake Camp and Conference Center

In 1923 the Salvation Army acquired 300 acres of land in the Borough of Bloomingdale. They immediately began using it to provide a residential summer camping experience for underprivileged children from New York City. It began a 95-year legacy of changing lives at camp.

The original camp buildings were rustic and included outdoor bathrooms for the children and staff. Over the first few years the facilities improved, and new cabins were built. Star Lake Road which leads from Hamburg Turnpike to the camp's entrance was little more than a footpath when the camp opened. Now it is a major thoroughfare lined with homes.

It didn't take long for the Salvation Army to become an international leader in youth camp programing. Our programs strive to nurture the good in each child and help them realize a relationship to a world larger than their own. We provide our campers with opportunities to learn positive life skills, and to engage in a variety of activities different from those they experience at home or at school.

Star Lake Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association and serves over 1,000 children every summer. We provide camps that focus on music, sports, adventure, and personal development. Over 100 staff members are hired every season as counselors, lifeguards, kitchen staff, and nature specialists. Our staff members learn how to develop their personal strengths to become good leaders and how to help children learn and grow.

Youth Camp Directors in recent years have included Majors Cheriann and Kevin Stoops, Majors Juan and Lydia Mercado, Majors Scott and Susan Kelly, and Captains Rohan and Sheila Gage.

When Mr. John Sisco, owner of the Cold Spring Lake Recreation Area retired in 1975, the Salvation Army successfully negotiated the purchase of his property. This acquisition enabled us to expand our programs to include individuals of all ages. In 1976, the 57 room Star Lake Lodge and Conference Center was constructed on the shores of Cold Spring Lake. During the summer, the lodge is used for Senior Citizen retreats that offer seniors the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, learn new skills, and build their faith. During the conference season the lodge is rented to nonprofits, churches, and other groups for conferences, seminars, and retreats. The complex is also available for weddings, picnics, and other special events.

Gregory Tuck became the director of Star Lake Camp and Conference Center in 2009, and has worked to maintain a positive relationship with the Borough of Bloomingdale. Our camp is used by the Bloomingdale Police and Fire Departments for training and we host school events like Field Day. Our facilities and assistance are also available in times of natural disasters and other emergencies.

The Tuck Family is active in local activities, their three children attend Bloomingdale Schools, and they have strong ties to the community. Karen Tuck is the Camp's Director of Special Services, she oversees Summer Senior Retreats, and coordinates special events.

The Salvation Army and Star Lake and Conference Center, is proud to be part of Bloomingdale and looks forward to many more years of changing the lives of those most in need.

TRI-BORO AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Serving Bloomingdale, Butler, Kinnelon, & Riverdale

The Tri- Boro Chamber of Commerce was originally formed in 1962 as the Bloomingdale Area Chamber of Commerce by John Barret, Al Magurno Frank Wood, Walter Reynolds and John D'Angelo.

The original Chamber of Commerce set out to promote business in the Bloomingdale area in the tradition of its motto of a "Proud Past, Pleasing Present, and Promising Future." Upon its formation in 1962 there were a total of 290 businesses located in the Bloomingdale area.

On October 2, 1984, chamber trustees Eugene Di Orio, Lorraine Gambert, Robert Potter, and Gerald Vinci filed a Certificate of Incorporation with the State of New Jersey under the name of the Bloomingdale Area Chamber of Commerce Charitable Fund, Inc. The Certificate of Incorporation was filed by James La Sala, Attorney at Law who remains today an honorary Chamber of Commerce member with his office in Riverdale, New Jersey.

On August 14, 1987 attorney James La Sala filed with the State of New Jersey a Certificate of Name Change. At that time, the new name of our corporation officially became the Tri-Boro Area Chamber of Commerce Charitable Fund, Inc. We have continued to operate our non-profit corporation under that name since then.

The officers for the year 2018 are: James Certosimo – Present, Lisa Bendel – Vice President, William Stanton – Treasurer, and Matt Jacobs – Secretary. The Trustees for the year 2018 are; Denise Brewster, Lina Pagliarulo, and Gerald Vinci.

Currently, the Chamber of Commerce has over 100 members and we are continually growing. Our area now has in excess of 2,000 businesses and our goal is to have as many businesses as possible join the Chamber and help us support the four communities we serve. Each year the Chamber awards a scholarship to graduating students from Bloomingdale, Butler, Kinnelon and Riverdale. The Chamber also supports our local police, volunteer fire departments, and ambulance squad.

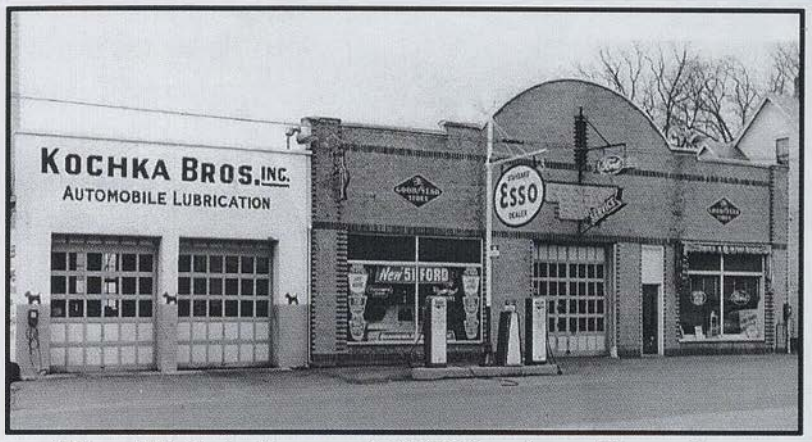
Our monthly meetings, except for July and August, continue to be held as they have for many years, on the second Wednesday of each month at Lina's Restaurant in Bloomingdale, NJ.

Tri-Boro Area Chamber of Commerce 2017 Scholarship Winners

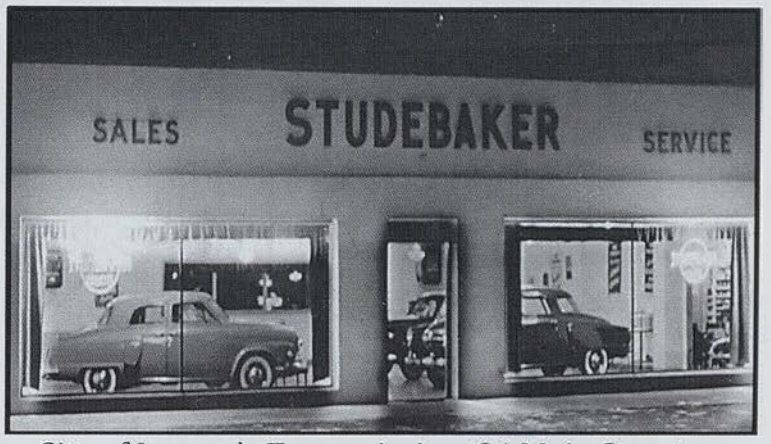


L-R Gerald Vinci, Scholarship Chairman; Natalie Kowalski-Bloomingdale; Perter Franceschi-Riverdale; Jenna Greig-Butler; Julia Balick-Kinnelon; James Certosimo-Chamber President

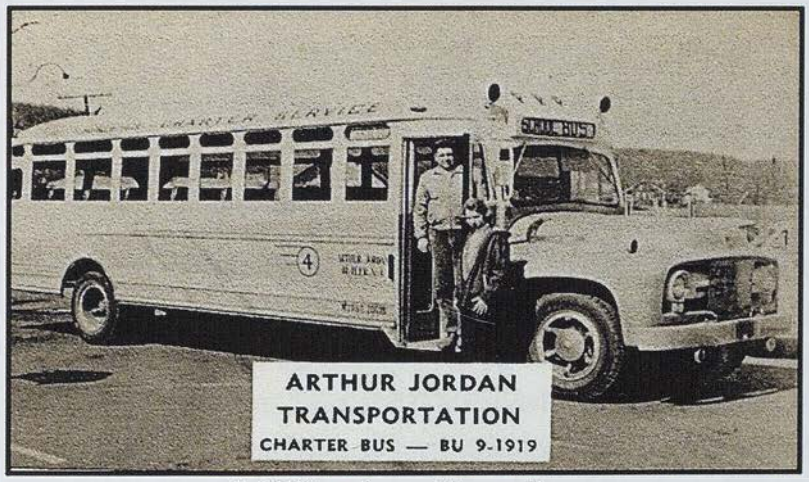
Former Bloomingdale Businesses



Site of Fabric Renewal, 169 Hamburg Turnpike



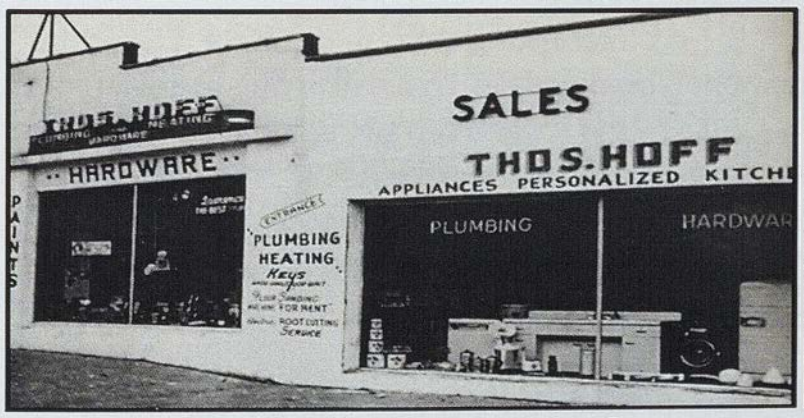
Site of Loreng's Transmission, 84 Main Street



148 Hamburg Turnpike



Site of Wells Fargo Bamk, 115 Main Street



Site of Lakeland Kitchens, 88 Main Street



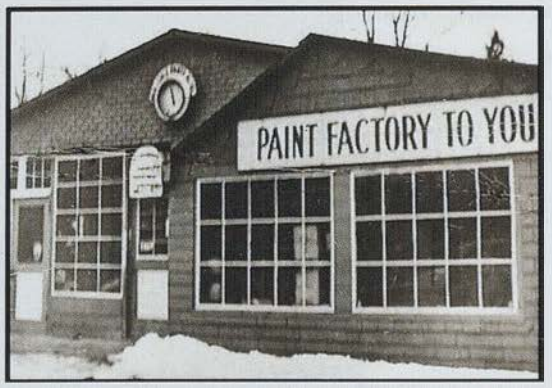
Site of Thai Jasmine Cuisine



Red's Cleaners, 93 Main St.
Site of Oscar's Deli

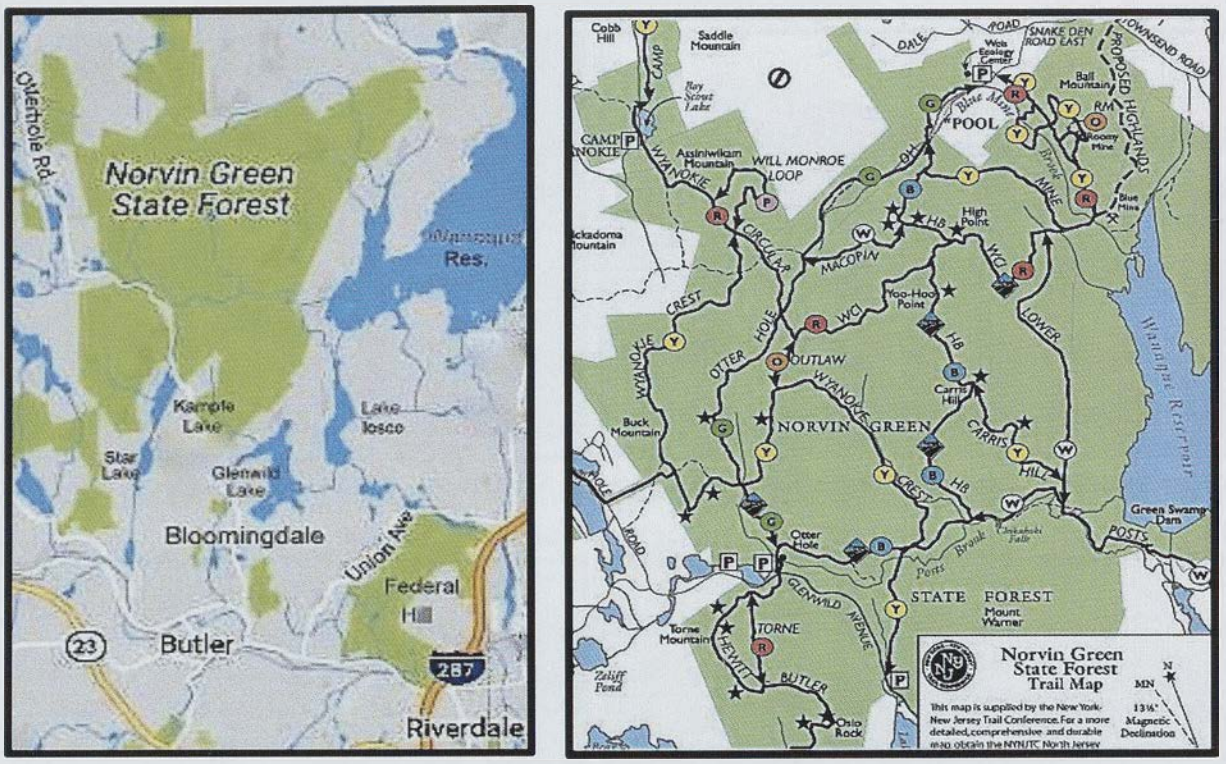


Mary Whritenour's Luncheonette
69 Hamburg Turnpike



P. J. Monahan Paint, 111 Main St.
Site of Payton's Autobody

Norvin Green State Forest

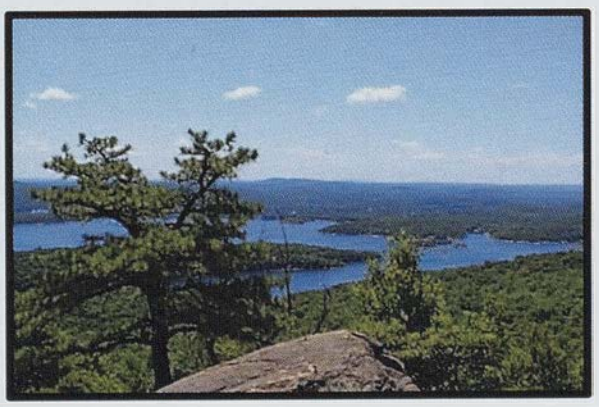


The 5,416 acres of Norvin Green State Forest were originally part of the Martin J. Ryerson's Ringwood property. The extensive woodlands were cut and used to produce charcoal to fuel the iron forges and furnaces. The rugged mountainous area laid dormant until, like Ringwood Manor, it was donated to the state by the Hewitt family. It is named in honor of Norvin H. Green who is best known as a director of the IBM Corporation. It was through his benevolence that most of the land that makes up not only Norvin Green, but also Abram S. Hewitt and Long Pond State Forests, was acquired. His father was James O. Green and his mother was Abram Hewitt's daughter, Amelia.

Today Norvin Green State Forest is considered one of the premier hiking areas in the state. Elevations range from 400 to 1,300 feet, including the highest point in Bloomingdale. Trails from one to seven miles in length, most of which are considered challenging because of the rugged terrain, contain many scenic overlooks. Because of the high concentration of trails, many circular hikes are possible. The 360-degree view from the top of Wyanokie High Point is a popular hiking destination. Other popular destinations include Chikahokie Falls on Posts Brook, Wyanokie Falls on Blue Mine Brook, Osio Rock on Torne Mt., Carris Hill and Roomy Mine. (To protect the endangered bats that hibernate there, Roomy Mine should be avoided during the winter months.)

Access to the forest is off Glenwild Avenue, just past Kampfe Lake at the yellow marked Wyanokie Crest Trail. At the Otter Hole and the blue marked Hewitt/Butler Trail on the top of the hill where Glenwild Avenue in Bloomingdale, changes to Otter Hole Road in West Milford, and at the Weis Ecology Center on Snake Den Road at the border of Bloomingdale and Ringwood.





Butler Museum

The Butler Museum is housed in the former New York Susquehanna and Western Railroad station, constructed in 1888. The land was deeded to the railroad by Benjamin F. Howell and Charles E. Noble for one dollar, with the condition that a train station be constructed on the site within one year. The original structure was remodeled in the 1890's to provide for separate mens' and womens' waiting rooms on either side of the stationmaster's office. In 1907, a freight house was added on the northwestern end of the building. The station was active until passenger service was suspended in 1966. The rail line is still used regularly for transporting freight.

The museum survives as a rare intact example of late Victoria vernacular railroad architecture. It was acquired by Butler Borough in 1975, dedicated on May 8, 1976, and first opened to the public the following year. The building is listed on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

The Butler Museum houses a large collection of artifacts of local and regional significance, featuring the history of the American Hard Rubber Company, the Borough's historic connection to the erection of the Statue of Liberty, and its role as a key transportation hub, contributing to the economic development of the region. The resource room contains a complete collection of more than 100 years of Butler High School yearbooks, an extensive library of books and periodicals related to local history, albums of historic postcards, and genealogical information on many local families.

Beginning in 2008, the Butler Museum and Historical Committee, in cooperation with the Borough of Butler, was awarded grants from the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust to address critical structural deficiencies, including the construction of a new foundation under the sinking south end of the building, the restoration of the rear platform from cement to wood, and installation of an ADA accessible entrance. In January 2011, the Museum was closed to the public to allow construction to begin. Additional grants in 2011 and 2012 provided for siding repair, exterior painting, a new roof, and leaders and gutters. With all major projects completed in 2015, the Museum committee and volunteers, with the continued support of the Borough, began the task of restoring the interior of the building, including cleaning, painting, carpeting, and the redesign and installation of the exhibits.

Thanks to the generous financial support of the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust and the Borough of Butler, and the thousands of hours of service by the Butler Museum and Historical Committee and volunteers, the Museum was rededicated on April 17, 2016, nearly forty years after its establishment, beginning its newest chapter as a cultural and educational resource for the people of Butler and all those committed to preserving and sharing local history.



Planning Board
2018



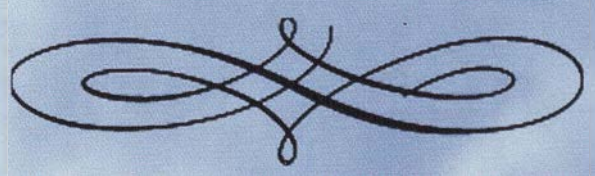
L to R-James Croop, Mark Crum, Barry Greenberg, Ken Fioretti, Bill Steenstra, Craig Ollenschleger, Barbara Neinstedt, Edward Simoni, Bill Graf, Robert Lippi, Tom Boorady, Richard Brigliadoro, Brian Guinan



First Row L to R- Bill Steenstra, Jennifer Ellis, Ed Fletcher, Carolyn Bross, Joe Borell
Back Row L to R- Mike Sondermeyer, Alan Bird, Tom Riley, Dawn Hudson, Mike Hudson, Bill Sondermeyer, Mary Wescott, Lauren Grecco, Craig Ollenschleger, Mary Knight, John D'Amato, Jon Dunleavy. Not Shown-Brian Brenkert, Jennifer Hagin

Epilogue

As we look forward to our second century, the stories of Bloomingdale's first century told in this book illustrate that the Bloomingdale of today is a better, more pleasant place to live because of our citizen's commitment to invest their time, talents, and treasure in our community. It is a testament to their resolve to make our town a home of which we can all be proud. The promise of the Bloomingdale of tomorrow lives on for generations of families yet to come.



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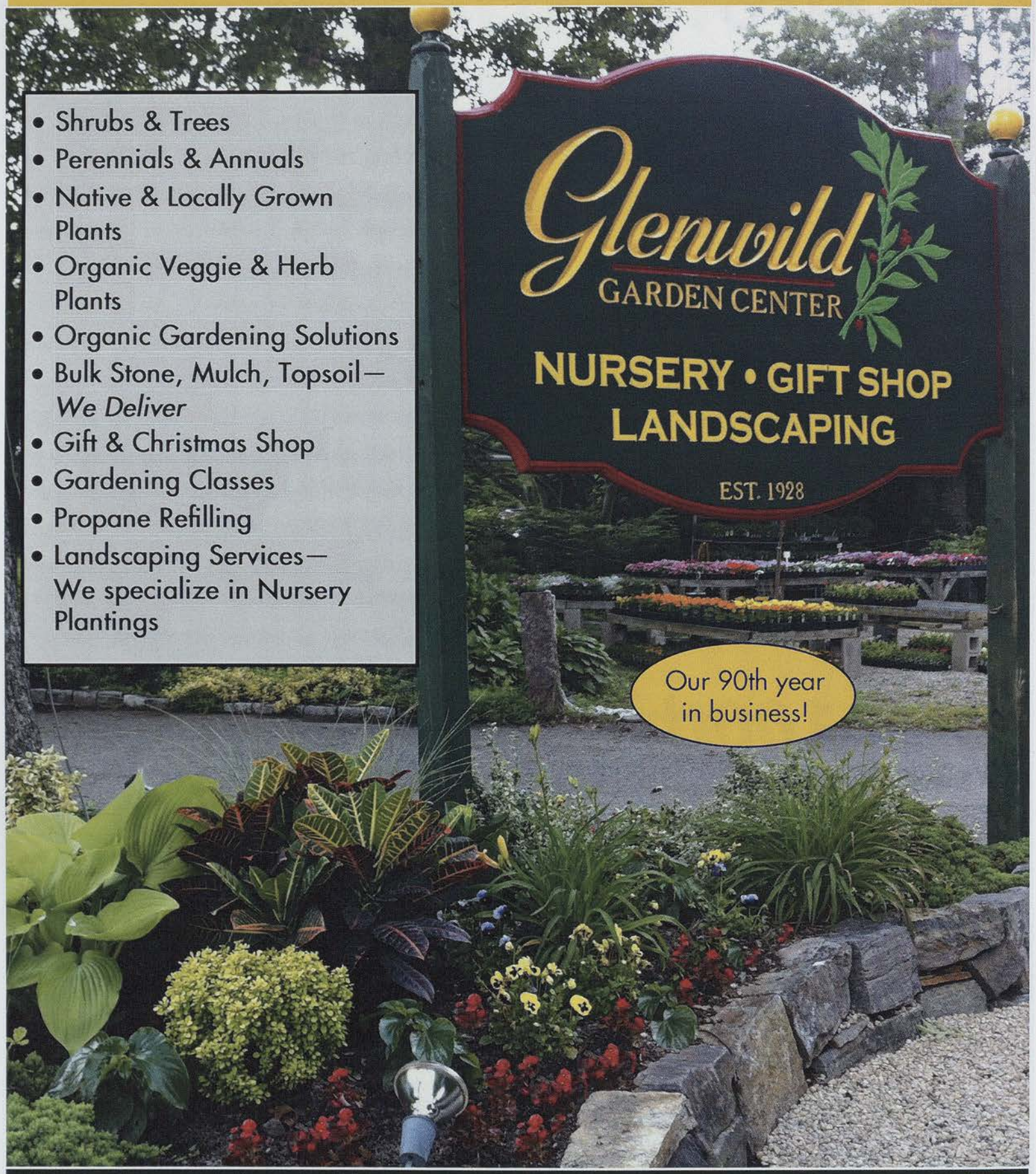
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Please continue to support the Friends of Dennis organization as they continue to provide services to those in need. Donations are greatly appreciated, and checks can be made out to Friends of Dennis and mailed to PO Box 143, Butler NJ 07405.



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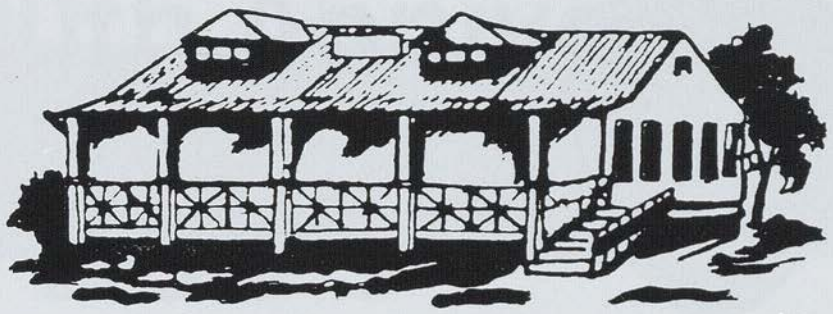
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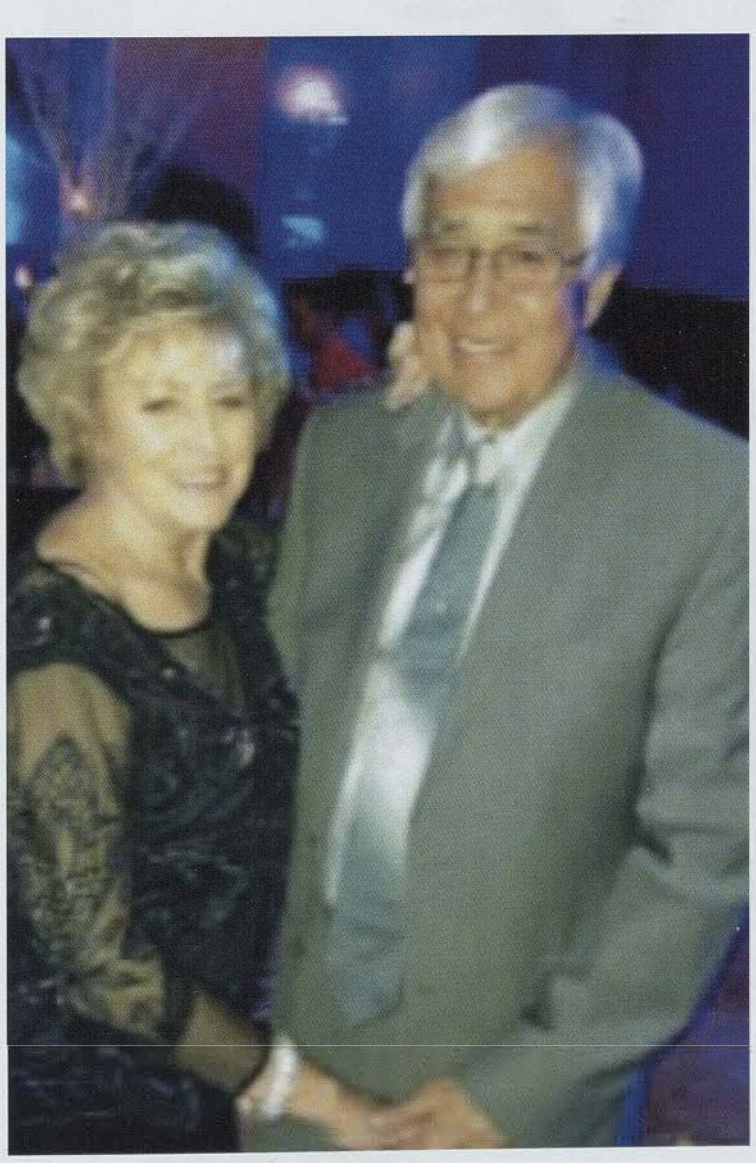
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It was a privilege to represent our town and its citizens some 20 years ago.

It is our hope that Bloomingdale will continue to prosper. We pray her residents will enjoy living and bringing up their families here.



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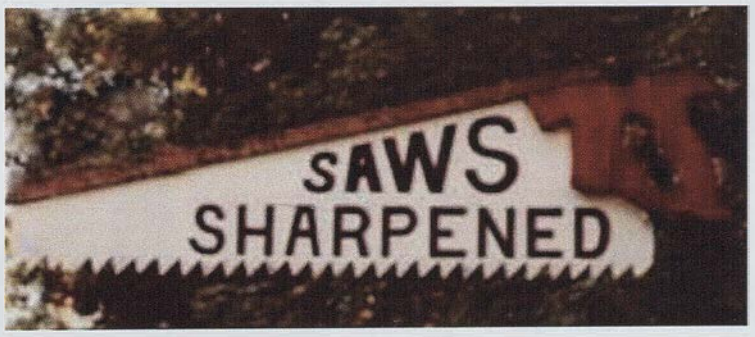
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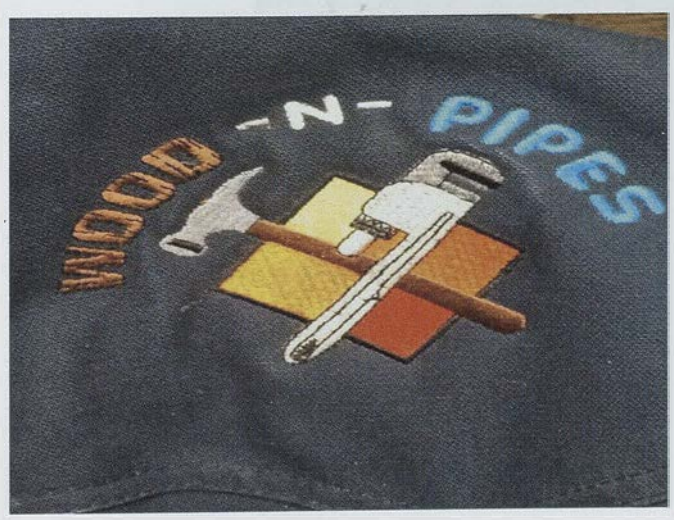
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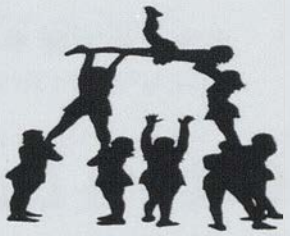
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"Congratulations Bloomingdale" - The DeMarco family

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The Timpanaro Family

The Alexander Family

The Villalobos Family

Lorrie Wienbrock

Herb and Tina Califano

"Congratulations on your
Centennial Anniversary!" The Grecco Family

"Congratulations on 100 wonderful years!"
Best wishes, George, Jennifer & Jackson Ellis

"In memory of Arthur and Doris Roll by their
daughters Beth Roll Smith and Margaret
Leister"

"Happy 100th Anniversary, Bloomingdale!"
The Yazdi Family

DEDICATED TO BLOOMINGDALE'S HISTORIAN:

THOMAS RILEY

The Federal Hill signal beacon
The Pompton Mutiny
The Bloomingdale Troopers

No one knows more and shares more
about the history of Bloomingdale than Tom Riley.

As a young boy growing up on Union Avenue,
Tom learned about how Bloomingdale came of age:
the places that have defined its identity and character,
the events that have shaped its growth and development, and
the personalities who have guided its progress and promise.

For more than forty years, Tom willingly shared
his vast knowledge of the history of our community
with the scores of boys and girls he taught in our schools.

Through his native enthusiasm for his hometown and
his sincere devotion to sharing its history,
Tom was instrumental in the creation of this book
so that the story of Bloomingdale's first 100 years could be told.

In tribute to his indispensable and inspirational participation in this project,
Mayor Jonathan Dunleavy, the members of the borough council,
Chairman John D'Amato, and the members of
the Bloomingdale Centennial Anniversary Committee
hereby dedicate this book to Bloomingdale's hometown historian.

Written by Mayor Craig A. Ollenschleger

Member, 75th & Centennial Anniversary Committees

February, 2018










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