



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1980

# THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE



## HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



VOLUME XXXV    ISSUE 10    OCTOBER 2015    [www.BloomingtondaleHOA.com](http://www.BloomingtondaleHOA.com)

It's Bigger! It's Better! It's Back!



BLOOMINGDALE

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association  
& the Bloomingdale Golfer's Club  
are proud to present

## Fall Festival

Saturday, October 24, 2015

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bloomingtondale Golfers Club

4113 Great Golfers Place, Valrico



File Photos

Come One, Come All... Bring your kids and your pets for a day of fun and games at the annual Fall Festival.

SEE PAGES 10-13 AND PAGE 24 FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

There he is! There he is! It's the great pumpkin! *Linus*



### This Month



BHA COMMUNITY CORNER  
Page 4

COMMUNITY CALENDAR  
Pages 6

HALLOWEEN SAFETY  
Page 9

FALL FESTIVAL  
Pages 10-13 & 24

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS  
Pages 16 & 17

LA DODGERS DRAFT CROUSE  
Page 18

SCHOOL NEWS  
Pages 21 - 22

BEST OF THE BEST  
Page 23

PLEASE RECYCLE

### WINNER

2013 & 2014

Hillsborough County  
Neighborhood  
Recognition Award

Best Communications  
Newsletter Category



# THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

## YOUR INSIDE CONNECTIONS

### Bloomington Homeowners Association, Inc.

3509 Bell Shoals Road - Valrico, Florida 33596 - (813) 681-2051

Email: Bloomington.Homeowners@gmail.com

Website: www.BloomingtonHOA.com

BHA Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Offices of Bloomington Special Taxing District:

3509 Bell Shoals Road

Valrico, Florida 33596

### Directors at Large:

*Billy Hightower*

*Bobbi Ferraro*

*Beth Smedley*

*Joanie Wilson*

*Charlie Woodcock*

**President:** *George T. May IV*

**Vice President:** *Daniel Berkowitz*

**Secretary:** *Suzy Watts*

**Treasurer:** *Mary Galin*

## YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



### JOY BOISSELLE

#### Editor - The Bloomington Gazette

3509 Bell Shoals Rd.

Valrico, FL 33596 - (813) 681-2051

Email: InBloomingtonNews@gmail.com

Website: www.BloomingtonHOA.com

Senior Staff Writers: Miriam Leech and Mack Austin

Staff Writer: Deidre Morgan



### TONY DEL CASTILLO

#### General Manager

#### Brandon & Southshore Times

11268 Winthrop Main Street, Suite 101

Riverview, Florida 33578 - (813) 661-2438

Email: tdelcastillo@tampabay.com

# Tampa Bay Times

The official publication of the BHA since 1980

The Gazette is delivered free to Bloomington residents on the first Saturday of each month.

## Kids R Kids Learning Academy

- 6 Weeks Through 12 Years
- Full & Part Time Options
- Open: M-F 6am to 6:30pm
- APPLE Accreditation and CITA Approved Curriculum
- Security Code Access Entry
- FREE Internet Viewing of Your Child's Day
- Outdoor Playgrounds with Water Park
- Extracurricular Programs

- Nutritious Meals & Snacks: Low Salt & Sugar
- Spanish & Music Included
- Brainwaves Curriculum
- ABC Mouse Computer Technology
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics)
- Trained Professional Staff, Certified in First Aid & CPR

### Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten 2015-2016

Top-rated Program in Lithia and FishHawk –  
Preparation for National Common Core Kindergarten Standards  
Accelerated Pre-K Curriculum with Math, Science, Spanish, Music, Sign Language, APPLE & Gold Seal, Technology & Field Trips.

**Register Now For Fall And Receive**  
**TWO WEEKS FREE**  
**and FREE REGISTRATION**  
After 8 weeks continuous attendance. Limit 1 per family. Expires 10/31/15.

**813-657-6200**  
**www.krkvalrico.com**  
**4321 Lynx Paw Trail**  
Located across from Lithia Springs Elementary

Pick up and drop off  
at Stowers, Valrico Academy,  
Bevis, Fishhawk Creek, Lithia Springs,  
Foundation Christian,  
Alafia and Cimino.

**813-526-7000**  
**www.krkcirca.com**  
**5815 Kids Crossing Drive**  
Located between Stowers Elementary and Mosaic



## Yard of the Month



Photo: Joy Boisselle



Yard of the Month is sponsored by Ace Hardware of Bloomingdale. Send your Yard of the Month nominations to:  
InBloomingdaleNews@gmail.com or call  
(813) 681-2051

Winners will receive a \$25 gift card redeemable at Ace Hardware of Bloomingdale



**Jack & Mary Serio** 4037 Eagles Nest Drive Valrico, FL 33596 (The Greens)

## Wanted: A Forever Home and Family

**Hillsborough County's Pet Resource Center has the Right Pet for You: October is National Adopt-a-Shelter Dog Month**

Hillsborough County's Pet Resource Center (PRC), the county's animal shelter has many cats and dogs looking for their "forever" homes. At your County shelter, dogs and cats are surprisingly affordable – at one location – open seven days a week. Each comes fully vetted with a complement of services (adding up to a savings of hundreds of dollars). While some fees may apply, PRC adoption packages can save "prospective parents" anywhere from \$250 - \$400.

For information on adoptions and foster care, lost pets or spay/neuter vouchers, contact the PRC at 813-744-5660 or visit [www.HillsboroughCounty.org/Pets](http://www.HillsboroughCounty.org/Pets). Located at 440 N. Falkenburg Rd., the center is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Buddy** →

**Everybody needs a buddy!**

Larger pals like Buddy wait an average of four times longer than the little guys in need of a home. Buddy (ID#29531516) is a gentle, happy and housetrained 4-year old mix of Retriever/Hound/Australian Shepherd. He gets along with others and adores rolling around on the grass on his back. Loveable "mutts" like Buddy tend to have the fewest health problems, too. Meet and adopt him today at the Pet Resource Center's First Saturday Celebration featuring a name-your-own-price special on big pooches. He is fully vaccinated, neutered, microchipped and more. Buddy is ready to be your buddy!



Photo: PRC

**Provided By The Pet Resource Center**

**TODAY!**

**Today's First Saturday Celebration  
Features an Adopt-a-Dog Month Party!**

Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center (PRC), the County animal shelter and The First Place for Pets, invites the community for free family fun and an Adopt-a-Dog Month Party at today's First Saturday Celebration event. October is national Adopt-a-Shelter-Dog Month with 'name your own price' adoptions on all dogs 30 pounds or more (plus half-price fees on cats one year and older). Adoptions include spay/neutering, vaccinations, license tag, microchip and more. Free family fun includes a bounce house, balloons, popcorn/cotton candy, hot dogs, lemonade, music, exhibitors and giveaways. The tailgate takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the PRC located at 440 N. Falkenburg Road. As always, admission and parking are free.







# BHA COMMUNITY CORNER



**DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**



## 2015 Membership Drive

Please join today! For \$25 a year (less than 50 cents a week), you can help us continue to keep Bloomingdale a great community in which to raise a family, and a great place to call home. With only four months to go, we need your support. Two large-scale events – the annual Fall Festival followed by our Santa visit and food drive – will close out our year and every member matters.

Your \$25 contribution funds all services and programs of the BHA. The BHA is the only community organization representing Bloomingdale's nearly 5,000 residences and over 40 neighborhoods in mandatory and voluntary Homeowner Associations. The BHA is an IRC 501(c) (4) non-profit organization, run entirely by volunteers who live in your neighborhoods.

Make checks payable to the BHA and mail to 3509 Bell Shoals Rd., Valrico, FL 33596. An easier method is to use our PayPal option. Go to [www.bloomingdalehoa.com](http://www.bloomingdalehoa.com), look for the PayPal link and follow the simple instructions. All membership money collected goes back to our community, and all residents are welcome at our monthly board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Bell Shoals office.

**Note: The BHA no longer has an active post office box address. Please update your automatic bill pay if applicable.**



## BHA BRIEFS

### September Board Meeting Highlights

The BHA board is still waiting for the final deed restriction document to return from the attorney. Once received, individual neighborhood meetings will be scheduled for residents. In addition, the final document will be posted on the BHA homepage at [www.BloomingdaleHOA.com](http://www.BloomingdaleHOA.com). The vote process will begin with Chadd's ford, Windsor Woods, and Bloomingdale Estates. Like us on Facebook to receive important updates about this and other important community information

Gazette distribution will be closely monitored this issue. Contact the BHA if you do not receive it in your driveway. The BHA is always looking for new board members. This month, the board welcomed Bobbi Ferraro as the newest addition to "Team Bloomingdale." Call 813-681-2051 for information about how to get involved.

**Daylight  
Saving Time:**

**Don't forget to  
fall back one  
hour on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>!**



## BHA EVENT CALENDAR

If you have events pending in our community, email [bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com), or call 813-681-2051. We want to help you promote your event.

**Wednesday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m. / Bloomingdale Roundtable,** A closed meeting of community leaders to discuss Bloomingdale issues.

**Thursday, Oct. 8, 7 p.m. / Bloomingdale Area Community Council,** Bloomingdale Community Station, 3622 Erindale Drive, 813-635-8040. Learn about safety and security issues affecting our community.

**Monday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. / Bloomingdale Special Taxing District Monthly Trustee Meeting,** Bloomingdale Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Road. Call 813-684-6667 for information.

**Tuesday, Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m. / BHA Monthly Board Meeting,** Bloomingdale Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Road. Residents always welcome. Call 813-681-2051 for information.

**Saturday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. / Fall Festival,** This community event is fun-filled with activities for all ages – a Halloween Pet Costume Contest and Children's Costume Contest, music, and a "Trick or Treat" Street are just a few highlights. See complete details this issue.



## Bloomington Real Estate & Housing Update

The month of September saw a slow-down in the housing market but not as much of a decline characteristic for this time of year. In fact, according to Florida Realtor's Andrew Barber, closed sales of single-family homes statewide were up 8.6 percent from this time last year. In Bloomington, there was not much of a change from September to October. There were 21 properties sold in September compared to 22 in August and 18 new listings, just one less than last month.

A more substantial decline in new listings is expected over the next couple of months before picking up slightly during the holiday season. This could be a great time to start getting your home ready to sell during the holidays. Many buyers would prefer to purchase during the holiday season to either be settled before the new year or take advantage of the school break. Not to mention, it's much more pleasurable moving during the winter months than in the dead heat of summer.



By Ryan Brantley

The Chadderton Real Estate Group  
Keller Williams Realty

813-924-8187

Ryan@RyanBrantley.org  
www.chaddertongroup.com



If you are thinking of selling, don't let that deter you from holiday decorating. Buyers tend to view properties as more "homey" when they have a holiday touch. With temperatures still scorching hot, it may be difficult to get in the fall spirit but even placing a few decorative pumpkins outside or filling the home with a cinnamon aroma can do wonders for capturing the pseudo fall feel.

\* MLS statistics include Bloomington East and West valid Sept. 1-22. Sales not entered into the MLS did not count in these statistics.

## BLOOMINGDALE

### SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT

# BLOOMINGDALE

3509 Bell Shoals Road  
Valrico, Florida 33596  
(813) 684-6667 Office  
(813) 684-2358 Fax  
BSTD@verizon.net

David P. West, President  
Mike Chanen, Vice President  
Mark Horst, Treasurer  
Russell Jones, Trustee  
Chris Papp, Trustee  
Mark Vargo, Trustee  
Tom Leech, Trustee

**SKY ZONE**  
TRAMPOLINE PARK

**JUMP YOURSELF HAPPY**

Sky Zone is the world's first indoor trampoline park, where "FUN FITNESS" was invented!

**\$2 OFF A 30 MINUTE JUMP OR \$50 OFF A BIRTHDAY PACKAGE WITH THIS AD**

Exp. 04/1/2016 - CC816

#IdRatherBe @SkyZoneTAMPA

**WWW.SKYZONE.COM/TAMPA**  
10137 E. Adamo Dr. Tampa, Florida 33619 - (813) 833-1740

Discount limited to 1 per person per day. Not valid with any other offers.

**Your love, Our expertise**

Caring for a loved one with *dementia* can become *overwhelming* and the decision to seek help can feel like giving up. But it's never the wrong choice to get the best care.

Superior Residences offers specialized services for those with Alzheimer's and dementia-related illnesses, from temporary respite care to full-time residency. We give families *peace of mind* knowing their loved one is receiving expert care in a secure, compassionate community.

**SUPERIOR RESIDENCES of Brandon**  
MEMORY CARE

Call to make an appointment today. Visit our community and see how we can work together to give your loved one the best possible care.

**(813) 657-8587 • www.SuperiorALF.com**  
1819 Providence Ridge Blvd • Brandon, FL 33511

**Live the Moment...Love the Moment™**

Assisted Living Facility #9739



PLEASE CHECK THE BHA COMMUNITY CORNER FOR ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS RIGHT HERE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

## TODAY!

**Holiday Cards for Troops / Oct. 3 / 9 a.m.-3 p.m. / Center Place Fine Arts & Civic Association / 619 Vonderburg Drive, Brandon / Make Holiday Cards for Troops.** The decorated cards (blank inside) are sent to our deployed service members, who will be able to write a sentiment and send to their loved ones. Donations appreciated to cover cost of supplies and postage. Ages 16 and up. NO childcare provided. Raffle tickets. Food and refreshments. Arrive early!

Photo: Miriam Leech



**Krista Marie Sellars Foundation 4-Person Scramble Golf Tournament / Oct. 3 / 1 p.m. / River Hills Country Club / 943 New River Hills Parkway, Valrico /** The Krista Marie Sellars Memorial Foundation and the Campo Family YMCA present a 4-Person Scramble Golf Tournament, \$110 per person or \$400 for a team. Registration begins at 11 a.m. Join us for contests, raffles, 50/50, and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Campo Family YMCA scholarships to children for camp, early childhood development and teen programs.

**AARP of Greater Brandon / Oct. 5 / 11:30 a.m. / Brandon Community Center / 502 Sadie Street, Brandon /** The AARP of Greater Brandon meets the first Monday of every month unless it is a holiday, then it meets the second Monday. Meetings include speakers, parties, games, etc. Beverages and dessert are furnished. Anyone over 55 is welcome and may bring a friend. For information call Jean Popovich at 813-689-6590.

**Sports Talk, Going Deeper with the Bucs / Oct. 5 / 6 p.m. / Riverview High School / 1311 Boyette Road, Riverview /** Scheduled to appear are Bucs Defensive Captain and All Pro Defensive Tackle Gerald McCoy, and Offensive Tackle, Demar Dotson. FREE hot dogs, chips, and giveaways begin at 6 p.m.! This free event is being sponsored by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Riverview High School, and Bell Shoals Baptist Church. Visit [www.bellshoals.com](http://www.bellshoals.com) for information.



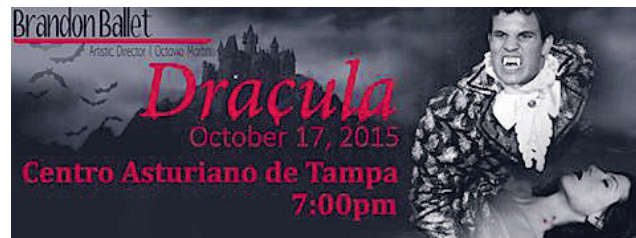
**4th Annual Gifts & Crafts Fair at The Bridges / Oct. 10 / 10 a.m.-3 p.m. / The Bridges Retirement Community / 11350 Bloomingdale Ave., Riverview /** Calling all shoppers! Get ready to shop at this one-stop holiday shopping event! Browse and buy from over 35 vendors presenting unique handcrafted and manufactured products. Open to the public; admission and parking are free.

**Scholar-in-Residence Weekend / Oct. 16-17 / Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon / 706 Bryan Road, Brandon /** Congregation Beth Shalom presents Rabbi Debbie Prinz as our Scholar-in-Residence Oct. 16-

17. Rabbi Prinz will discuss the relationship between Jews and chocolate. This event is open to the community. For information, call 813-681-6547.

- Oct. 16, 7:45 p.m.-Introduction
- Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-What is the Best Chocolate: Our Jewish Values. No charge.
- Oct. 17, 12 p.m.-A catered lunch for sponsors. Donations begin at \$40.
- Oct. 17, 7 p.m.-Jews on the Chocolate Trail, followed by a "sponsors only" wine reception and chocolate tasting. Donations begin at \$80.

**Brandon Ballet Presents Dracula / Oct. 17 / 7 p.m. / Centro Asturiano de Tampa / 1913 N. Nebraska Avenue, Tampa /** Join Brandon for a one-night performance of the classical ballet Dracula. Tickets \$25, Adults; \$20, seniors; \$15, 12 and under. Buy tickets online at [www.tututix.com/brandonballet](http://www.tututix.com/brandonballet). For information, contact the Brandon Ballet at [dance@brandonballet.org](mailto:dance@brandonballet.org) or 813-684-4282.



**Halloween in the Halls at The Village Early Learning Center / Oct. 24 / 5-8 p.m. / 3741 Canoga Park Drive, Brandon /** The Center hosts its 5th Annual Halloween in the Halls with age appropriate activities for all. This year's Egyptian theme will include a haunted pyramid! Decorated hallways and Trick or Treat Street, ages 2-6; Haunted Pyramid, ages 6-11; and bounce house, cakewalk, face painting, and fun for all. Costs are \$5 per family – each child receives a free hot dog and water (\$1 for adults). Free parking and open to the public. Proceeds go to Cure Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). For information call 813-651-0779 or visit [www.villageelc.com](http://www.villageelc.com).

**18th Annual Halloween Horribles Parade / Oct. 25 / 3 p.m. / Center Place Fine Arts & Civic Association / 619 Vonderburg Drive, Brandon /** Who said ghosts and goblins only come out at night? Costumed munchkins are invited to take part in the annual Halloween parade and will enjoy lots of treat stations hosted by civic clubs and businesses along the route. ADVANCE TICKETS are \$2 per child. Children must be between the ages of 3 and 10 years old! Tickets available Oct. 1 at Center Place. For information, call 813-685-8888.



Photo: Center Place

**Costume Crusade for Spinal Muscular Atrophy at The Village Early Learning Center / Oct. 30 / 9 a.m.-12 p.m. /** The Center hosts its 14th Annual Costume Crusade to raise

money and awareness of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). Silent auction and basket raffle. Raffle tickets on sale Oct. 16. Auction and raffle winners announced at noon on Oct. 30; need not be present to win. To donate or purchase raffle tickets, call 813-651-0779 or visit [www.villageelc.com](http://www.villageelc.com).

**Trunk or Treat / Oct. 31 / 11 a.m.-2 p.m. / St. Andrew's United Methodist Church / 3315 Bryan Road, Brandon /** Join us on Oct. 31 for Trunk or Treat! There will be food trucks, games, a few tricks, and lots and lots of candy. The event is free but canned food donations are encouraged. The first 500 registrants will receive a Trunk or Treat tote bag. To register visit [www.saumc.net](http://www.saumc.net) or call 813-689-6849.

**Bloomingdale Golfer's Club / Bloomingdale Golfers Club / 4113 Great Golfers Place, Valrico/Annual Golf Memberships /** Play unlimited golf all year for one low rate. Annual memberships: Single \$1,199; Couple \$1,699. Intermediate (19-34): Single \$899 per year; Couple \$1,199 per year. Senior (65+): Single \$899 per year; Couple \$1,199 per year. Junior (18 and under): \$299 per year. Call 813-685-4105 for more information / FORE! Happy Hour—Join us daily at 4 p.m. for FORE! Happy Hour daily at 4 p.m. for great deals like all beverages FORE ½ price, all appetizers FORE ½ price, contests FORE great prizes, twilight rates FORE unlimited golf, great instruction FORE fixing your swing, and more! Call the Golf Shop for information at 813-685-4105.

## UPCOMING

**Harvest Auction & Dinner / Nov. 1 / 5:30 p.m. / Center Place Fine Arts & Civic Association / 619 Vonderburg Drive, Brandon /** The Valrico Service League, Inc., presents its annual Harvest Auction & Dinner charity event. Help support local children and families by attending. Tickets \$25. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; dinner at 6 p.m.; auction at 6:45 p.m. Cash or checks only. Purchase tickets at Center Place or by contacting Sue Hadden, 813-685-6160, or Claudia Yake, 813-685-7998, by Oct. 17.

**23rd Annual Brandon Seafood Festival / Nov. 7 / 11 a.m. / Brandon '86 Rotary Club's Camp Florida / 1915 Camp Florida Road, Brandon /** ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT fried fish, boiled shrimp, hush puppies, and coleslaw – all day long for the price of admission. Enjoy pie-eating contests, sack races, and Monster Canoe races. Admission: Adults-\$20 before the event, \$25 at the door. Children, 12-17, \$10. 12 and under- \$1 or a canned food donation. The Monster Canoe Challenge is \$35 per person and includes festival admission. Monster Canoe Challenge registration begins at 8 a.m., and the buffet line opens at 11a.m. Proceeds benefit charities including Brandon Outreach Clinic, ECHO, Everyday Blessings, All Person's Playground, Gulf Ridge Council Boy Scouts, Faces of Courage and Rotary's Camp Florida. Tickets can be purchased at [www.brandonseafestival.com](http://www.brandonseafestival.com).





## Dining with Dave



**Name:** The Landing Bar and Grill  
**Cuisine:** Bar Fare and Family Dining  
**Location:** 4351 Lynx Paw Trail, Valrico 33596  
**Phone:** 813-653-0002

After hearing about The Landing Bar and Grill from numerous sources, I decided to try it. I have returned several times since and have enjoyed everything!

First the appetizers... my family and I tried the beer battered

Cajun Fried Pickles with a side of Cajun Ranch dressing. Simply delicious! For beverages, I was happy to see several local micros on draft and my spouse had the Sangria, which, in an unusual twist, had a pineapple juice base.

Specials change daily – on our first Saturday visit, it was Prime Rib roasted to perfection with a homemade 'horsie sauce' and au jus on the side. Garlicky green beans, fresh mashed potatoes and dark gravy rounded out a good meal.

My son enjoyed his usual burger and fries and my spouse tried one of the Flat Bread offerings. Of note, portion size and the freshness of ingredients are a plus.

Dessert changes every night too. We ordered the Bacon Pretzel Peanut Butter Brownie that came to the table as a tower of ice cream scoops and freshly chopped bacon bits over a sizeable peanut-butter brownie. I love it when such an unusual offering can wow me.

On another visit, I tried 'Beef on Weck' a New York roast beef specialty served on a kummelweck roll. It certainly helps that the owners hail from Buffalo, N.Y. so they know their beef. My spouse ordered the Cobb Salad, a literal feast.

The Landing combines family friendly with suburban watering hole. The bar area is separated from the dining room. TVs line the walls with a variety of sports playing at low volume. The service was very good and the price was right – especially for the quality and portion sizes. I can definitely see why this place has become such a popular spot for local diners.



## Here Comes Santa Claus

Mark your calendars!  
 For the 28th consecutive year, Santa will visit the Bloomingdale community December 5. Look for more information in upcoming Gazette issues, on our website at [BloomingdaleHOA.com](http://BloomingdaleHOA.com) and on Facebook at Bloomingdale HOA!



OCTOBER 2015



## Wolfe's Family Halloween Hayrides are BACK!!!

**@ Wolfe's Produce**  
**6005 US Hwy 301 S. Riverview, FL**  
 (corner of 301 and Bloomingdale Ave.)

**Kid Friendly!**



Over 13 acres of  
**NEW HAYRIDE**  
 adventures and trails!

**\$7 per rider**

### October Hayride Dates

Fri 16th • Sat 17th  
 Sun 18th  
 Fri 23rd • Sat 24th  
 Sun 25th  
 6:30pm-9:30pm

Wed 28th • Thur 29th  
 6:00pm-8:30pm

Fri October 30th  
 6:30pm-9:30pm

**Wear your costume  
 for FREE CANDY!**

**Bring the family & enjoy apple  
 cider, candy apples & other fall  
 festivities!**

**Check out our Halloween decor!**

hay bales • corn stalks  
 carving kits • scarecrows  
 Indian corn  
 decorative gourds  
 and more!

**Weekly  
 Pumpkin  
 Raffles!!**

**Come Visit the Area's  
 Largest Pumpkin Patch  
 Huge Selection; All Shapes & Sizes**

**PUMPKIN PATCH  
 OPEN OCT. 1-31  
 8:30am-close**

**Jeff 813-927-2203**

**John 813-927-2204**





# INs & OUTs

## WHAT RESIDENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SEXUAL PREDATORS AND OFFENDERS

With Halloween right around the corner, parents need to look out for more than just tainted candy. Sexual predators and offenders are always a concern. Knowing who they are and where they live in our neighborhoods is important in keeping our kids safe.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is dedicated to educating residents on exactly what a sexual predator or offender is and how to locate them in your neighborhoods.

There are specific laws that help control the activities of predators and offenders. The Sheriff's Office works diligently to ensure these laws are upheld and violators are arrested. Having an informed community is a key factor in controlling these criminals and preventing them from harming our kids.

Understanding the difference between a sexual predator and a sexual offender is the first step to understanding the scope of the problem. Both are serious criminals. So, what is the difference between a sexual offender and a predator?

According to Florida statutes, a sexual offender is a person convicted of (or who has pled no contest or guilty to) a sex offense involving a minor and who is released on or after Oct. 1, 1997 from the sanction (e.g., fine, incarceration, probation, etc.) imposed as a result of the offense. Offenses include, but are not limited to, child pornography, sexual performance by a child under 18 and procuring a person under 18 for purposes of prostitution. Consult the Florida statutes for a complete listing of offenses.

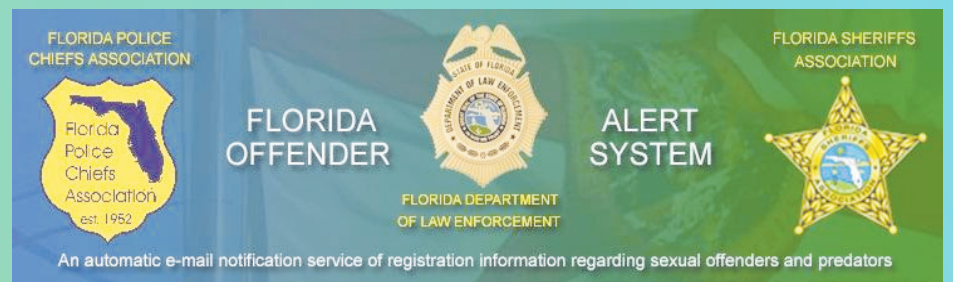
A predator designation requires that a person be convicted of a first-degree felony sex crime, or two second-degree felony sex crimes (with offenses, convictions or release from

court sanctions occurring within 10 years) and which occurred after October 1, 1993. In addition, the court must issue a written order finding for predator status.

Florida law requires sexual offenders and sexual predators to register their address with the FDLE or the local sheriff's office. The FDLE site also has a searchable database of predators and offenders residing in Florida.

Using the site is simple. Go to <https://offender.fdle.state.fl.us>. Select "Offender Search" from the upper left corner. The next webpage will offer a variety of search options including a "Neighborhood Search." Fill in the blanks and select a radius of 5 miles to include all of Bloomingdale. Click search and prepare to be surprised. Results can be in list or map form.

Talk with your children about protecting themselves and "stranger danger." Make sure they understand the dangers around them – it will keep them safe.



INSURANCE



EXPECT  
SOMETHING  
MORE™

## One Package Policy for Your Home & Auto

**Simplify and save with one policy and one payment.**

- Discount when switching both home and auto insurance from the same prior insurer
- AAA members save up to an additional 7%\*
- Receive a **FREE GIFT** with an Insurance Quote\*\*

**Our customers save an average of \$915 annually.\*\*\* Get a quote today!**

AAA Brandon • 415 W. Robertson St.  
813-681-5761 • [AAA.com/Brandon](http://AAA.com/Brandon)

AAA Sun City Center • 717 Cortaro Dr.  
813-633-4880 • [AAA.com/SunCityCenter](http://AAA.com/SunCityCenter)

The insurance Package Policy for Home & Auto is underwritten by Auto Club Insurance Company of Florida (ACICF). Applies to site-built homes only, and availability is subject to meeting underwriting criteria. \*Discount applies to select auto coverages only and is based on number of years as a AAA member. \*\*Receive a free gift with a quote on a Package, Home, Auto, or Flood Insurance. Limit one free gift per customer. \*\*\*As of November 2013, ACICF customers saved an average of \$915 annually. BRA671-0054 LC 12/12



69227-1



## 13 Fright-Free Halloween Safety Tips

Staff Report

Halloween may not be as innocent as some remember, but it can still be a ghoulish good time. Emphasize safety to ensure your Halloween frights are make believe and not of the real variety. With a few precautions, parents, teens and kids will have good scary memories instead of frightening tragedies.

- Depending on the age of your child, go with them or designate a trusted escort.
- Avoid trick-or-treating alone and walk in groups.
- Be seen. Wear reflective or light colored clothing and costumes.
- Choose flame-resistant costumes, avoid lit candles, and open flames.
- Carry flashlights or glow sticks to make sure you can see and drivers can see you.
- Trick or treat only at well-lit homes. Generally, a front porch light on signals a participating Halloween home!
- Look both ways and cross the street at intersections or clear areas. Never cross between parked cars.
- Make sure your costume fits. Falls and trips can send you to the emergency room.
- Check all treats before your kids eat them. When in doubt, throw them out.
- Don't let kids snack while out.
- Consider alternative activities. Many churches and schools have organized Halloween activities. The BHA sponsors a Trick or Treat street at the Fall Festival. See details this issue!
- Control pets. Like thunder, some pets don't handle this evening well.
- Drivers, slow down and be more cautious than normal. Kids are everywhere!

### For Teens ONLY, All of the Above Plus:

- Use seat belts when traveling to and from that neighborhood Halloween party.
- Don't drink if you're underage.
- If you're old enough to drink, don't drink and drive.
- Don't ride with anyone who has been drinking.
- Don't use illegal drugs.
- Carry your cell phone and some form of identification.
- Have fun, but remember that bad "tricks" can be very costly and get both you and your parents into a lot of expensive trouble.



Photo: Party City



**DR. ROBERT A. NORMAN, DO, MPH, MBA**  
CERTIFIED DERMATOLOGIST

- FREE Skin Screenings
- Diagnosis & Treatment for Skin Cancer
- Shingles Vaccine Available
- Treatment for Psoriasis, Eczema
- Chemical Peels & Facial Products
- Botox, Restylane & Latisse
- Specialize in Image Products

**NON-SURGICAL TREATMENT FOR SKIN CANCER AVAILABLE**

Same-Day Appointments  
Accepting MOST Insurances

**CALL TODAY!**  
813.880.SKIN (7546)  
800.488.7336

Tampa Riverview  
8002 Gunn Hwy. 10422 U.S. Hwy. 301

[www.drrobertnorman.com](http://www.drrobertnorman.com)






190179-1

**LUNCH SPECIAL \$6.99**  
Fresh, Never Frozen Burger or All Beef Hot Dog  
Plus choice of Fries or House-made Chips & Fountain Drink  
(Valid Mon-Fri 11am til 3pm)

**Come see Mike Jones the Balloon Guy! Every Tuesday 5:30-8:30**

**Ask What We Have On Draft! Craft & Domestic Selections**

**Kids Eat Free Every Tuesday** with each adult meal. See store for details.

**WAYBACK CLASSIC CHEESEBURGER**

**IRISH NACHOS**  
House-Made Chips, Homestyle Chili, Cheddar Jack Cheese, Jalapenos, Onions

**STRAWBERRY MILKSHAKE**





**WAY-MORE TASTES!**

Competitor coupons accepted! See store for details

**LITHIA, FL**  
5672 FISHHAWK CROSSING BLVD.  
**TAKEOUT ORDERS, CALL (813) 681-2874**

**WAYBACK BURGERS**

**FREE SANDWICH**  
with purchase of any sandwich of equal or greater value, any side & any drink.

**WAYBACK BURGERS**

Limit one per visit. May not be combined with any other offer. Offer excludes Triple Triple Burger. In-store only. Valid at FishHawk Ranch Location only.  
EXP. 12/31/15 BH100315

**\$5.00 OFF**  
\$25 purchase or more.

**WAYBACK BURGERS**

Limit one per visit. May not be combined with any other offer. In-store only. Valid at FishHawk Ranch Location only.  
EXP. 12/31/15 BH100315

**FREE HAND-DIPPED MILK SHAKE**  
with purchase of any milkshake of equal or greater value

**WAYBACK BURGERS**

Limit one per visit. May not be combined with any other offer. In-store only. Valid at FishHawk Ranch Location only.  
EXP. 12/31/15 BH100315



## Fall Fest has Something for Everyone

By Joy Boisselle

This year's Fall Festival promises to be an event to remember. The fest is Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Golfers Club; Rain or shine. The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association has lined up an impressive array of participants and activities to ensure the best event yet.

### What's it all about...

In just a few weeks, over 60 organizations will set up shop at the golf course to spread the word to the community about their companies. In addition, many will have games and activities for children, present demonstrations, and more. Several businesses will be selling their products including jewelry, candles, school spirit ribbons and bows, and offering promotional materials about their companies. (See our sponsor/participant list current as of the Gazette deadline.)

All will participate in a "Trick or Treat" street passing candy and goodies to little ghouls and goblins. Parents, remember to bring a bag for all the treats!

A new addition to the festivities are FOOD trucks! Joining us are Kona Shave Ice, South Pacific Grill (Asian Fusion), Sarge's BBQ and Jeremiah's Italian Ice, which will provide free samples to fest-goers. As always, The Bloomingdale Golfers Club will be open serving cold drinks, hot dogs and assorted pub food.

Back this year are the children's costume contest and pet costume contest. First, second, and third place winners will be crowned in both contests with special prizes awarded.

Entertainment and activities include a DJ, bounce houses,

a balloon artist, face painter and craft station, and raffles. Several photo opportunities are available; one is free courtesy of Heather Rose Photography. Static displays include our own Hillsborough County Fire Rescue fire engine 07 and HC Sheriff's Office Citizen Patrol.

### Raffles

Our raffles are fantastic! Sponsors have overwhelmed us with their generosity. Raffles include: a tour of Bayshore Drive and Davis Island, Bowling Fun Passes, a \$250 basic party package, two youth bikes, 1-month memberships to local gyms and health facilities, oil changes, pet grooming, art work, Lightning tickets and more.

New this year, you need not be present to win! Raffle tickets cost \$1 for 1, \$5 for 6, and \$20 for 25. Even better, residents can choose which items to try to win by placing their tickets in plastic pumpkins located with each individual raffle item. Cash and checks are accepted.

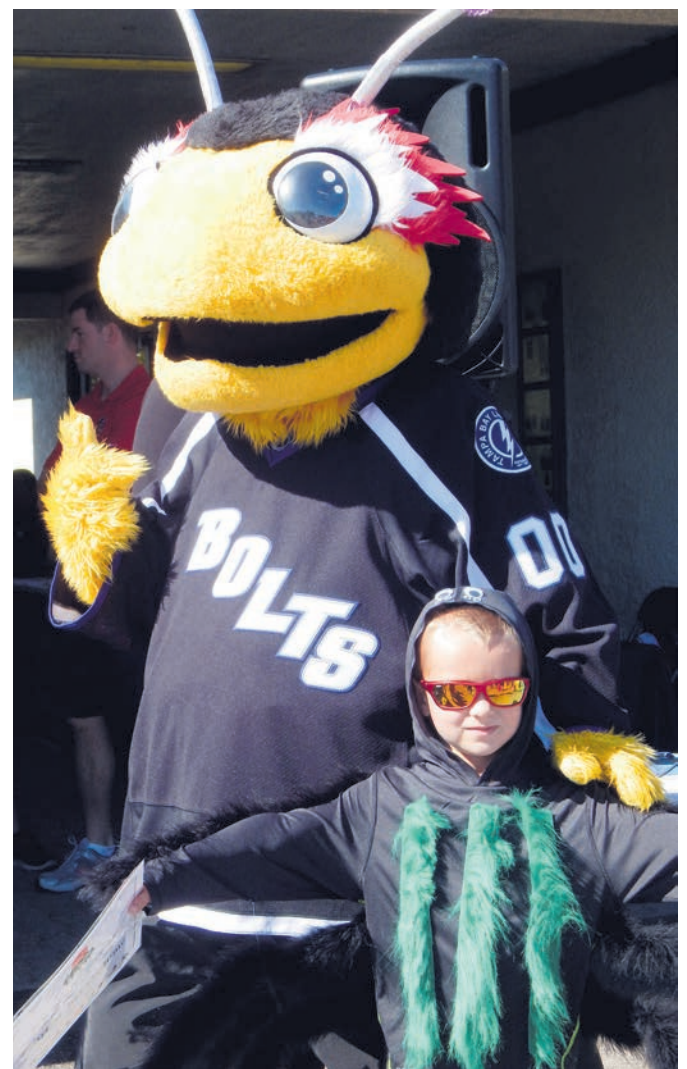
### Parking

Parking is limited. If you live nearby, please consider a short stroll, instead of driving. If you must drive, please consider carpooling. We want as many residents as possible to attend.

Come out, support your community and have a fall-tastic day! For information, contact 813-681-2051 or email [bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com).



Back again is the Fall Festival pet costume contest and children's costume contest. Last year's runner-up strikes a pose with contest judge Lightning Thunderbug.



File Photo

## Pumpkin Artist Scares Up Halloween Fun

By Miriam Leech

It's that time of year when thoughts turn to fall and cooler weather and, of course, PUMPKINS! With Halloween just around the corner, Bloomingdale's own pumpkin artist, Amanda Beebe, is ready to scare up some fun.

Beebe launched her business, Punky Pumpkins, about a year ago with a booth at the Bloomingdale Homeowner's Association (BHA) Fall Festival. Her creations include detailed faces, characters, and even corporate logos sculpted rather than carved into the pumpkins she sells.

The Bloomingdale resident is a self-taught pumpkin artist. Beebe had spent years decorating cakes as a hobby. When she had to come up with an alternative to a cake for her parents' anniversary celebration—her mother was on a strict diet—Beebe got the idea to sculpt a watermelon into a "cake." The melon sculpture was such a success that she decided to try pumpkins.

Creating and challenging herself to perfect her art is something Beebe loves to do. "I feel like it is me being me," she says. To help her make facial features realistic, Beebe serves as her own model by taking "selfies" while making various faces. The artist spends hours perfecting a pumpkin's eyes.

This is the perfect time of year for Beebe's creations. The sculpted pumpkins last about a week, or up to 1 month if kept refrigerated when not on display. Spritzing with lemon or lime juice extends the life of the sculptures. And Beebe continues to carve watermelons as well as cantaloupe, squash, and gourds.

After a move from Las Vegas in 2009, Beebe and her husband, Doug, work at Tampa's Hard Rock Casino. They have three children—Adam, 18, and Jacob, 16, both students at Bloomingdale High School, and Katie, 12, a sixth grader at Progress Village.

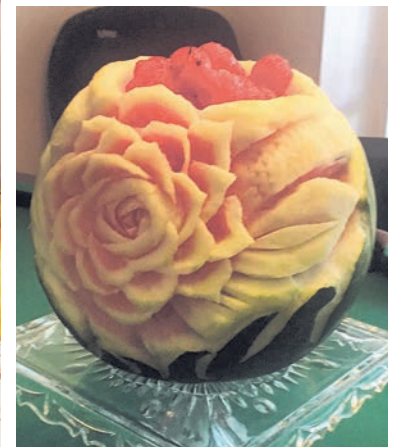
Look for Punky Pumpkins at this year's BHA Fall Festival. For more information visit Beebe's website at [www.punkypumpkins.com](http://www.punkypumpkins.com) or call 813-422-1898.



Photo: Miriam Leech

Pumpkin AmandaBeebe: Bloomingdale resident Amanda Beebe and her Punky Pumpkins will be at the BHA Fall Festival on October 24. Her sculpted creations sell for \$50 to \$100 depending on the detail. She spends hours perfecting the facial features of her pumpkins to make them as realistic as possible.

Photo: Amanda Beebe



Along with her sculpted pumpkins, Amanda Beebe carves watermelons into intricate and beautiful designs.



## Thank you to our Fall Festival sponsors and partners!



The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association would like to thank our sponsors and partners for being a part of our upcoming Fall Festival. Over 60 businesses are participating. Any business not listed in this issue will be acknowledged in the November Gazette. This list is current as of publication deadline.



### **Diamond Sponsors**

Bloomingdale Golfers Club  
Earthwise Pet Supply  
The Chadderton Real Estate Group  
Brandon Crossroads Bowl



### **Platinum Sponsors**

Birthdays to Banquets  
Galin Homes of Tampa Bay, Inc.  
Heather Rose Photography  
Not Your Mother's Taxi  
Magruder Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Kona Ice of Valrico  
Get the Facts Home Inspection  
The Fitness Studio  
DJ Monica Van Liew  
USA Trike Adventures, LLC  
West Coast Landscape and Lawns Inc.  
Pilka & Associates, P.A.



### **Gold Sponsors**

Crunch Fitness  
John E.S. Cochran Golf Schools, J.D. Carino  
Salon Jennifer, Heather Michael  
Storm All Star  
Team K Martial Arts  
Adorable Pets by Dena  
5/3 Bank  
Noah's Ark Animal Hospital  
Jeremiah's Italian ice  
Marshall Pools  
Pinot's Palette  
Outback Steakhouse, Hwy 60, Brandon Location



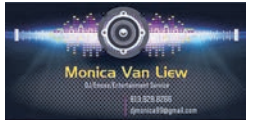
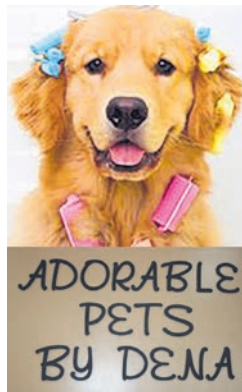
### **Silver Sponsors**

Allegra  
Current Chiropractic  
Title Boxing Club  
Heather's Cheer-up Boutique  
Termite Pest Control  
Mathnasium  
Abdoney Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics  
Today's Thirty-One Bags and More by Tina  
Mary Kay, Christine Rabel  
Alafia Driving Academy



### **Business Partners**

Fresh Market  
Panera Bread  
Origami Owl, Angela Dull  
Brandon Shapes  
DARE: Dachshund Adoption Rescue and Education  
Tampa Bay Lightning Thunderbug  
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Citizen's Patrol  
Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue  
Hillsborough County Library  
Punky Pumpkins  
Campo YMCA  
Beef O'Brady's, Bell Shoals Road  
South Pacific Grill  
Sarge's BBQ  
Sluggers Neighborhood Bar and Grill  
The Outreach Clinic  
Mr. Dan the Balloon Man  
always Bouncin around  
Valrico Chamber of Commerce  
Arbonne International, Janie Hunter  
Movement Mortgage  
Scentsy, Rena Buser  
King Green's Professional Detailing & Hand Wash Service  
Organo Gold  
Costco  
Pampered Chef, Kim Reed  
Thrive  
Express Oil  
Signs by Mineo





## Thank you to our Fall Festival Sponsors!



The BHA thanks the more than 60 businesses and individuals that have generously supported the upcoming fall festival. Generosity defines this year's contributors resulting in the addition of a new sponsor level, the Diamond sponsor. Diamond sponsors are those whose combined donations of cash, goods, and services total more than \$500. Four sponsors reached this new level: Ray Chadderton of Chadderton Realty Group/Keller Williams, Brandon Crossroads Bowl, Earthwise Pets, and the Bloomingdale Golfers Club. See this issue for a complete listing of sponsors and participants.

### Fest Continues to Grow Thanks to Founder Ray Chadderton

By Miriam Leech

## THE CHADDERTON REAL ESTATE GROUP

As the founder of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) Fall Festival, Ray Chadderton has been a top supporter every year since it began. He has lived in Bloomingdale and the surrounding area for the past 27 years.

A Diamond Sponsor of the festival, Chadderton is the owner of The Chadderton Real Estate Group, representing property buyers, sellers, and investors. For more than 13 years, the Group has landed in the top 1 percent of all realtors in Hillsborough County.

His personal motto, "Exceeding Your Expectations," is the foundation of the highly successful agency. Chadderton is the recipient of the Keller Williams Cultural Icon for Florida award. The lifetime achievement award is given to those who exemplify integrity, commitment, teamwork, and trust.

Chadderton's business, celebrating its 15th year, is well rooted in the Bloomingdale area. "Our team lives and works within the community, and our clients are referrals from past clients who have entrusted us to help a friend, neighbor, or family member," said the realtor.

Chadderton loves reconnecting with friends and neighbors at the Fall Festival. "We think it is important, now more than ever, to bring the community together each year given the tremendous growth in our area."

Chadderton's fest support is not limited to the goods and services he provides. He also assists organizers with marketing and advertising the event through the connections uniquely available to him.

The Bloomingdale area resident also has been a top supporter of the Bloomingdale Gazette. Chadderton sponsors the Student of the Month award given to the community's best of the best from area schools. Additionally, Ryan Brantley, a realtor with the Chadderton Group, contributes the monthly real estate and housing update.

The Chadderton Real Estate Group, Keller Williams Realty, is located at 2211 Lithia Center Lane, Valrico. For information, call 813-601-0597, email to ray@chaddertongroup.com, or visit the website at www.chaddertongroup.com.

The Chadderton Real Estate Group is a top supporter of the Bloomingdale community with the 2015 Fall Festival no exception. Pictured are the Chadderton Team: front row, left to right: Becky Jordan, Ray Chadderton, and Vicki Charles; back row, left to right: Ronnie McLaughlin, Ryan Brantley, Paige Smith, and Kim Stromberg.

Photo: Chadderton Group



A founder and supporter of the Fall Festival since its beginning, Ray Chadderton is again a top-level diamond sponsor. Pictured are Chadderton and Mary Galin, BHA festival chairperson, enjoying last year's event.



### EarthWise Pet Supply Supports Bloomingdale Community

By Miriam Leech

## EARTHWISE Pet SUPPLY • GROOMING • WASH

EarthWise Pet Supply is generously supporting the Bloomingdale Homeowner's Association (BHA) Fall Festival this year as the sponsor of the pet costume contest, complete with treat bags for all the participants and prizes for best costumes. Owned by Bloomingdale residents Chris and Christy Klecic, and Christy's parents Mark and Susan Renfrow, Earthwise is about to celebrate its one-year anniversary on Nov. 14.

The family owned and operated business sells all-natural pet supplies, including food, toys, and treats. EarthWise also offers grooming services and self-wash amenities seven days a week. Contributing to its success are a loyalty bag program for pet food savings, and an in-store reward program that offers \$10 off a future purchase when customers spend \$250. These services have earned the store high ratings on Google and Facebook. Additionally, 13 pets have been adopted out of the store through EarthWise's rescue partners.

The owners love the quiet and friendly Bloomingdale community, and look forward to taking part in their second Fall Festival. "Our family believes that if you support your community, they will support you. We have seen tremendous support and we want to do our part!"

The Klecics and Renfrows especially look forward to letting the community know who they are and what they do. Said Chris Klecic, "We stand for the best prices, best grooming, and best customer service in town."

EarthWise Pet Supply is located at 3454 Lithia Pinecrest Road in the Lithia Crossing Shopping Center, and is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Call 813-999-0858 or visit valrico@earthwise.com for more information.

EarthWise Pet Supply owners Chris Klecic and his father-in-law, Mark Renfrow, are Bloomingdale residents and supporters of the BHA Fall Festival for the second year in a row.

Photo: Miriam Leech



File Photo



### Strike! BCB Celebrates 25 Years



Brandon Crossroads Bowl

Festival – this year, as a Diamond sponsor.

A place for the young and "young at heart," BCB is a state of the art bowling facility offering 40 lanes, a variety of youth and adult leagues, an arcade, pub and grill, pool and party packages. Perhaps more importantly, BCB prides itself on being a place to go to after a long day at work or just a place to hang out with family and friends.

"People come in as customers, but leave as [part of] our bowling family," Manager Andy White said. Borrowing from an old television series, "BCB," he remarked, "wants to be the place 'where everyone knows your name'."

At the upcoming festival, BCB will be bringing mascot "King Pin," a bowling game for kids, and supplying four family fun package raffles. All were huge hits last year.

Reaching a business milestone, 25 years in operation, is no small feat. Brandon Crossroads Bowl (BCB) has achieved this anniversary and garnered numerous "Business of the Year" awards along the way. For the second year, BCB will join the community's Fall

Of BCB's participation, White said, "It's great to see families come out, have fun and come together to take part in this awesome event. We had so many people come to our bowling center after the event; it was a no brainer to do it again." Owners, Bill and Jeff Boje, have been Bloomingdale residents for 23 years further solidifying BCB's community connection.

BCB is located at 609 Crater Lane off Hwy. 301. Hours are Sunday - Thursday 9 a.m. to Midnight and Friday - Saturday 9 a.m.-2:30 a.m. For information, visit BCB's website at www.bcbrocks.com or check out their Facebook page at www.facebook/funatBCB. Phone number is 813-621-2363.



Photo: www.facebook/funatBCB



By Joy Boisselle



File Photo

BCB's King Pin strikes a pose at last year's Fall Festival. Come see him again this year on Oct. 24.

At Brandon Crossroad Bowl, customers enjoy a friendly staff, a clean environment, and many special events. Plan a party or join a league, call BCB for information at 813-621-2363.

### Bloomingdale Golfers Club Offers Great Golf on a Great Course



Since 1984, the Bloomingdale Golfers Course (BGC) has been a community landmark. Few can remember the days when the land in the community's center was little more than 200-plus acres of overgrown forest, ponds and a variety of wildlife.

Today, the BGC is a bustling 18-hole, par 72, championship course designed by Ron Garl, a renowned golf course architect whose design philosophy is "make courses enjoyable, traditional, challenging, and memorable." By all accounts, Garl succeeded as the BGC has been named Tampa Bay's #1 course ten years in a row.

While challenging, the course's beauty is undeniable – golfers enjoy rolling landscape lined with mature oak trees, sky-high pines, natural marshes and 13 ponds. Complementing the scenery is the newly added Champion Dwarf Bermudagrass greens.

The BGC's latest change occurred last month when new General Manager Scout Miller stepped up to the tee. PGA member since 2000, Miller has an extensive golf background including a professional golf management degree from Penn

State University, experience at the Long Boat Key Club, Gator Creek Golf Course, Serenoa Golf Course in Sarasota, and most recently, Patuxent Greens located in Laurel Maryland.

"I am excited about the opportunity here at Bloomingdale [BGC]," he said, adding, "I look forward to continue to grow the relationship between the club and the community."

Besides an opportunity for great golf, the BGC features a practice facility, golf lessons with Cochrane Golf School's professional golfer J.D. Carino, and a restaurant and bar at the traditional 19th hole. Among several new specials is the club's Happy Hour where from 4 to 7 p.m., golfers can enjoy half price drinks and appetizers.

The BGC is located at 4113 Great Golfers Way. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. For information, check out the club's website at www.bloomingdalegolf.com, the Facebook page at www.facebook/bloomingdalegolf, or on Twitter @BloomingdaleGC, or just call (813) 685-4105.

As a Fall Festival Diamond sponsor, the Bloomingdale Golfers Club has a long tradition of supporting community events, including annual fall festivals, Santa visits and charity golf tournaments. This year, the BGC is donating the fall fest venue and several raffle items. J.D. Carino, Cochrane Golf Schools, hosted a putting contest during last year's festival and will again this year, too.

File Photo



By Joy Boisselle

Photo: Joy Boisselle

The Bloomingdale Golfers Club welcomed new general manager Scout Miller (r.) last month. As part of this year's fest, Miller is looking forward to strengthening connections with the community. Also pictured is assistant general manager Mike Giglio.





# BLOOMING IN BLOOMINGDALE

Photo Provided By: Peter and Eileen Kadzielewski

## ...HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

*Editor's Note: A column for our green and brown thumb gardeners penned by local garden experts and amateurs from the Valrico Garden Club (VGC). To learn about the VGC, contact Mary Kay McMahan at 813-684-6323, email danmcmahan@aol.com or visit Facebook/Valrico Garden Club.*

### Container Gardening – Home Sweet Home for Plants

By Patti Philipsen and Gwen Graverson

Container gardening is a popular addition to a home's landscape. It is portable, perfect for small spaces or for displaying plants around your home or for seasonal displays. The best part – anyone can do it!

There are many reasons why people choose container gardening:

1. You can give potted plants individual care based on their specific care guidelines. These include specific soil mixtures, watering requirements and feeding needs. Their portability makes the issue of “shade or no shade” a moot point and in colder temperatures or inclement weather, you can move container plants to a safer location.
2. Container planting can mean having plants in your home or not having them. This is particularly true for renters, apartment and condo dwellers, and even college students. Container plants can make a stunning addition to balconies, lanais, courtyards, decks and areas where grass or plants just don't seem to grow. A side benefit – when you move, your plants can move with you.
3. Most important – anyone can have a wonderful container garden. All you really need to get started is a container, some potting soil and either seeds or plants. There are a great variety of containers to suit anyone's taste and creativity. A few options include:
  - Plastic- Plastic pots are durable and lightweight. Just remember, don't plant anything too tall in them, as they will blow over in high winds.
  - Terracotta (clay) – Clay pots were used by the Romans. Advantages to terra cotta are that it is porous helping to keep soil moist with less watering required over plastic pots. In addition, they offer more protection from colder temperatures than plastic. One big disadvantage is these pots can break.
  - Porcelain - Glazed Earthenware and porcelain are also popular options. They are quite decorative and available in a wide range of colors and designs. They can be more fragile than other options.
  - Wood - Wood is traditional for containers. It keeps roots cooler no matter how hot the summer becomes. Choose wood containers like teak, cedar and redwood. This will deter Florida's diverse termite population.

Whatever you decide, make sure there is adequate drainage. Nothing will kill your plants faster than wet feet. Put a window screen piece and rocks or pottery shards in the bottom of your container. This will help keep soil from slipping through drainage holes. No drainage holes in your container? Drill one, but be careful as drilling can cause the pot to crack.

Container plants are utterly dependent on you for water, fertilizing, and attention from time to time – wouldn't it be somewhat boring if they didn't. Remember, there is no right way to make a garden... there is only the one that works for you. Happy gardening!

Photo: Gwen Graverson



An array of containers adorn a Bloomingdale lanai.



Photo: www.mostbeautifulgardens.com



The University of Florida and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) located in Hillsborough County

provides a valuable monthly tool for the budding nature lover. Visit their website at [http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/lawn\\_and\\_garden/calendar](http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/lawn_and_garden/calendar).

### School Gardens, Starting One at Your School:

School Gardens can go beyond the scope of the classroom, serving as opportunities for students, teachers, and even members of the community to interact. While this interaction may help improve interpersonal social skills, it can also teach students how to work cooperatively. If your school doesn't have a program in place already, the first step is funding. Determine a budget. Second, funding can come from a variety of sources: the school, Parent/teacher organizations and fundraisers. Local businesses, such as garden and landscaping centers, and garden clubs may donate plants and soil or offer expert advice. For information, visit the School Gardens section of the Florida School Garden Competition website at [http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot\\_topics/lawn\\_and\\_garden/school\\_gardens.shtml](http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot_topics/lawn_and_garden/school_gardens.shtml).



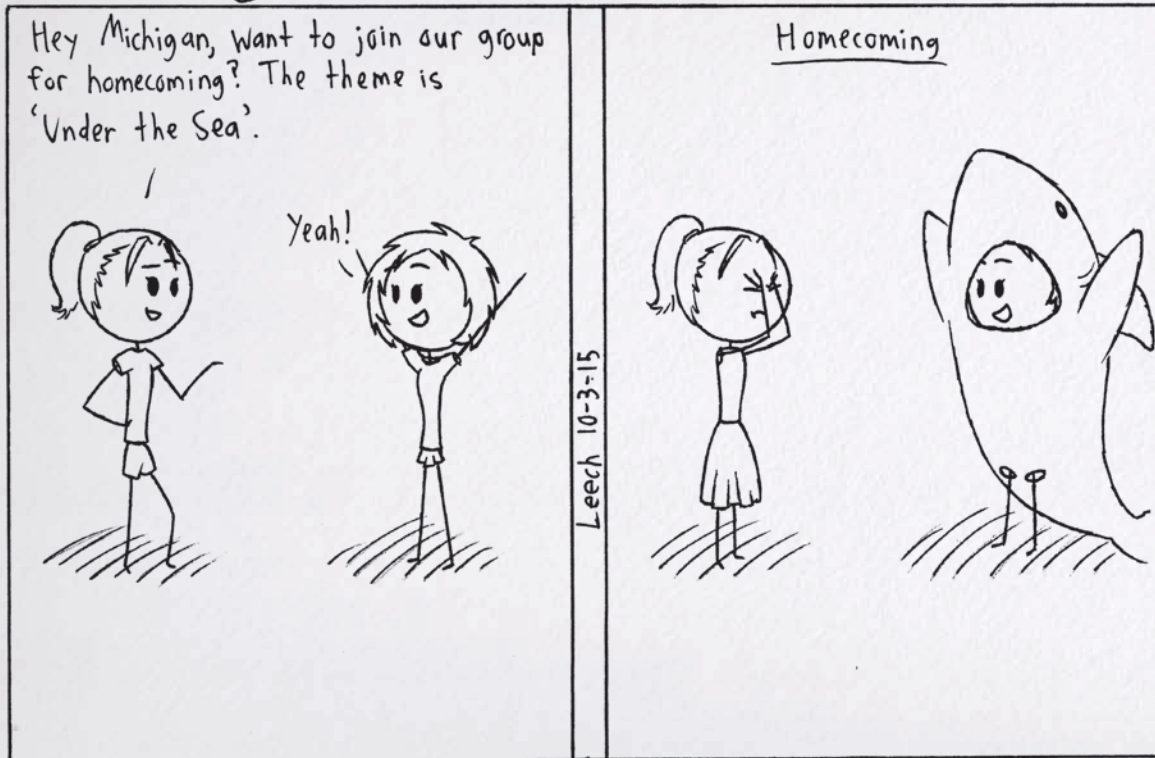
Photo: [gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener](http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener)



## Michigan

Introducing comic strip artist Will Leech and his creation, Michigan. Leech is a Strawberry Crest High School senior.

### Michigan by Will Leech



## One plane versus two plane swing...

By J.D. Carino (Bloomington CC campus)



**John E.S. Cochrane**  
GOLF SCHOOLS

One plane, two plane, hands high, hands low, two flat, two steep – lots of different golf terminology that can cause you to analyze a swing incorrectly. When we talk about swing planes and angles of attack, you need to have a reference point and an understanding of what kind of swing you're working on.

At Cochrane Golf Schools, we prefer a one plane swing. Using the rotation of the body (upper and lower) and less hands to square up of the clubface at impact.

The two plane swing requires more use of the hands for squaring the club face and more correct timing. This brings both sides of the golf course into play.

On a one plane swing, in the back swing, the left arm is even (red line) with your shoulders. On a two plane swing, in the back swing, the left arm is higher (yellow line) above the shoulders.

Next lesson: Knowing the rules can help. Any questions or for lessons, please visit [CochraneGolfSchools.com](http://CochraneGolfSchools.com) or call J.D. at 813-957-3205.



# DON'S BAY AREA PAINTING



## Professional Painting

All Phases ♦ All Applications

- \* Commercial
- \* Residential
- \* Interior
- \* Exterior

Free Estimates

Meet or beat our competitors' prices

813.661.9006

[www.DonsBayAreaPainting.com](http://www.DonsBayAreaPainting.com)

20 years in Bloomington

Re-paint Specialists

Pressure Cleaning

190198-1

License #PA 2653  
Bonded & Insured

## HAS YOUR PET GONE HOLISTIC?

Allergies? Overweight? Diabetes? Itchy Skin? Chronic Ear Infections?

*It's Amazing What You Can **Fix and Prevent** With the **Proper Diet!***

- Over 25 Brands of Natural and Holistic Dog and Cat Foods
- Huge Selection of Natural Treats and Chews, Frozen Raw Diets and Goat's Milk
- Holistic Homeopathic Remedies and Supplements
- Huge Selection of Dog and Cat Supplies
- Custom Pet Tags Engraved in Minutes
- Friendly & Knowledgeable – Come In and Talk to Us!



Mon-Fri 10am-7pm • Sat 10am-6pm

813.651.0842

5620 FishHawk Crossing Blvd.

Located in the FishHawk Ranch Publix Shopping Center

[www.doggoneholistic.biz](http://www.doggoneholistic.biz)







Breast cancer screening is often credited for the early and accurate detection of precancerous and cancerous cells, which, in many cases, are found in women who are asymptomatic and otherwise healthy. When diagnosed and addressed in its initial stages, breast cancer is one of the most treatable forms of cancer. Therefore, it is vitally important for a woman to be screened regularly in the manner and frequency recommended by her physician.

Regular screening from a physician is vital because it can help detect cancer before a lump may be noticeable; however, it is still important for women to perform monthly self-exams in between their doctors' screenings. Self-exams help women to become familiar with how their breasts normally look and feel. Any lumps or physical changes can then be brought to the attention of a health care professional.

## Common Screening Tests

- Clinical breast exam – A manual examination of the breasts and underarm areas by a physician to detect lumps, masses or anything unusual.
- Conventional mammography – The current gold standard in breast cancer screening. Low-dose breast X-rays interpreted by a radiologist. When performed regularly in conjunction with a clinical breast exam and monthly self-exams, a mammogram can be a very effective cancer-screening tool.
- Full-breast tomosynthesis – A three-dimensional mammogram.
- Breast MRI – A large magnet, radio waves and a computer produce detailed images of the breast structure.
- Automated breast ultrasound system (ABUS) – Helpful for screening dense breast tissue.

## Breast Cancer Signs

While the presence of one or more symptoms does not necessarily indicate cancer, it is important to follow up with a health care practitioner with regard to any of the following:

- A lump or thickening in the breast or underarm area
- An inexplicable change in the size or shape of a breast
- Unexplained swelling or shrinkage of one or both breasts
- A recent onset of breast asymmetry
- Dimpling anywhere on a breast surface
- An inverted nipple
- Nipple discharge (other than breast milk)
- Nipple tenderness
- Redness, warmth and a change in breast skin texture
- Breast pain

The most common symptom that women notice is a new lump. These lumps are usually painless, but it is possible for them to be painful to the touch, as well. Malignant, or cancerous, masses are typically hard with irregular edges, but they can also be soft or rounded.

Bottom line: Take charge of your breast health. Do self-exams regularly, and consult your health care provider for the best screening options for you.



Photo: Plaza Bella

**8th Annual Plaza Bella Goes Pink Walk for a Cure / October 17 / 9 a.m. / Plaza Bella / 1078 Bloomingdale Avenue, Brandon**  
Walk to raise funds and awareness for a cure for breast cancer. Pre-register at The Green Boutique now or the day of the event at 8 a.m. Registered walkers will receive a goodie bag and a t-shirt (while supplies last).

Registration fee: \$40 per person

Teams of 5 or more: \$35

Two distances to choose from: The Diva Strut (begin at Plaza Bella, walk to Bloomingdale Library and back) or The 5K Challenge (begin at Plaza Bella, walk to Nature's Way and back).

All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society, the Brandon Outreach Clinic, and the YMCA's LIVESTRONG® Program. For information, call The Green Boutique at 813-685-9494.

# Twisted Cigar

CIGAR, BEER & WINE LOUNGE



Cigars • Pipes • Tobacco

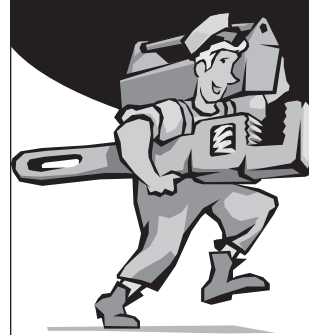
200 sq ft Humidor with 300+ Variety of Cigars • Fine Wine and Beer  
Billiards • Flat Screen TV's • NFL Sunday • Military Discount



**We have moved! Come to our new location.**

3331 Lithia Pinecrest Rd, Valrico, FL 33596 • 813-571-7500  
WWW.TWISTEDCIGAR.COM

190207-1



License # CFC1426917

**Talk to a plumber when you need a plumber!**  
*Call today!*

~ for all your plumbing needs ~  
Licensed / Bonded / Insured

**Repair/Replace:**

Water Heaters • Toilets • Sinks  
Faucets • Water Lines

• Underslab/Mobile Leak Repairs • Repipe Experts • Drain Cleaning

**D & B Plumbing • (813) 365-0340**

181851-1





## October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

*Editor's Note: Thank you to guest writer Stephanie Martin, a holistic health practitioner, and Moffitt Cancer Center for providing information concerning breast cancer screening, signs and prevention. Remember: Health care decisions are between a patient and their health care provider. Have questions? Consult your provider.*

**Practice Prevention: A Holistic View**  
**By Stephanie Martin, BS, NTC**  
**Balanced Nutrition and Wellness Consulting**  
**Board Certified Holistic Health Practitioner**



My favorite health adage is "Preventing illness is easier than reversing illness." Nothing can be truer when it comes to breast cancer. While nothing can guarantee a cancer-free life, it is important to remember that only 10 percent of breast cancers appear related to genetic factors ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)). The remaining 90 percent can be the result of risk factors, including lifestyle choices, race, age, gender and even the environment.

Nutrition is the frontline defense against all cancers. Eating an organic, high fiber, plant-based diet that is diverse and colorful will ensure that the body is receiving the antioxidants that it needs to reduce cellular damage. Cut out processed convenience foods and avoid sugar as much as possible. Cancer voraciously feeds on sugar in order to survive so removing it from your diet will definitely reduce your chance of developing disease.

Excessive protein consumption has proven to increase cancer risks. It is important to reduce the quantity of meat eaten and increase the quality. Choose pasture-raised organic meats, dairy, and eggs to reduce your exposure to artificial growth hormones and antibiotics. In conjunction with diet, maintaining a lean body composition is critical because fat produces extra estrogen which drives up cancer risks.

Funny as it may sound, wear a properly fitted bra and do not carry your cell phone inside of it. Poor lymphatic drainage around the armpits and direct exposure to electromagnetic radiation can create unfavorable conditions. Switch to an aluminum-free deodorant and get your Vitamin D levels checked for deficiency. All of these factors influence breast health.

Finally, do monthly self-exams. Preventing breast cancer requires time and effort but it's not nearly as inconvenient as dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

For information on holistic health practices, contact Stephanie Martin at 813-789-8302 or view her website at [www.balancednutritionandwellness.com](http://www.balancednutritionandwellness.com).



**IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY BUT OUR GUESTS GET THE GIFTS!**  
[GLAZERMUSEUM.ORG/COUPON](http://GLAZERMUSEUM.ORG/COUPON)

110 W Gasparilla Plaza  
Downtown Tampa  
Open M-F 10am-5pm  
Sat 10am-6pm | Sun 1-6pm

**MONDAY-FRIDAY  
BUY ONE GET ONE  
FREE ADMISSION**

**Still Honoring...  
One Family At A Time**

*Locally Owned & Operated*

**Traditional, Trusted and Personalized Funeral Services. Committed to arranging a service that is most befitting to your loved one, striving to celebrate their life in a meaningful way.**

**813-677-9494 ext. 222**  
[www.serenitymeadows.com](http://www.serenitymeadows.com)  
6919 Providence Road, Riverview, FL 33578

For more about Serenity Meadows like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/serenitymeadowsriverview>



As a standout athlete at Bloomingdale Senior High School (BSHS), Logan Crouse was a triple threat, playing football, basketball, and baseball. As a senior, he received Male Athlete of the Year for 2014-15. However, his true love was always baseball, and after graduation, Crouse packed up and headed to Florida State University (FSU) to play the sport of his dreams on a full scholarship. Little did he know his time there would be short. On July 17 the 6-foot 5-inch, 240 pound pitcher was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The first call from the Dodgers came just two weeks after Crouse arrived at FSU – and the brand new Seminole turned them down. Two more times calls would come from the Dodgers organization, but Crouse continued to say no because he felt the offers did not compare to his scholarship at FSU. Then on the final day of the draft and a half hour before the 5 p.m. deadline, the Dodgers made Crouse an offer he could not refuse.

“For five days we could not say anything [about the draft] until I could fly to Arizona and sign the contract,” said Crouse. Added mother Melanie, “It was so hard, especially on his dad [Terry].” However, Crouse was able to notify FSU, and on July 21 flew to Glendale, Arizona, to sign on with the Dodgers Rookie League.

Now, Crouse lives in a hotel with other rookies and practices every day from 1 to 11:30 p.m. in the hot Arizona climate. All players drafted out of high school play in the Rookie League, and his advancement with the organization is completely dependent on his performance. The next step, Rookie Advanced League in Ogden, Utah, is not something Crouse is focused on. “I am just taking it day-by-day, trying to get better, and letting the front office worry about my advancement.”

As part of Crouse’s contract, Major League Baseball will pay for four years of education at a Florida university should he be released or eventually retire from the Dodgers. Said Crouse, “So far my experience has been fun and challenging.” He continued, “I believe we [Dodger players] are treated the best out of any organization in baseball.”

The Bloomingdale athlete comes from a large family. In addition to parents Melanie and Terry, there is Nathan, who attends the University of Central Missouri; Cody, a junior and baseball player at Florida International University who goes into the draft next year; Carson, a senior at BSHS who plays football and baseball; and MacKenzie, a freshman at BSHS who is on the cheerleading squad.

Said mom Melanie, “We are so proud of Logan. He has done this all on his own.”



Photos: Crouse Family

A baseball player since age 3, Bloomingdale resident Logan Crouse has achieved his dream of playing Major League Baseball as a rookie pitcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers.



Bloomingdale Senior High School alumnus, Logan Crouse received the Athlete of the Year Award for 2014-2015.



## Make Your Financial Future a Priority.



Unlike other chores that pile up in the driveway, clutter the garage or run wild in the front yard, your financial situation is a little less obvious. That's why it's so important to take advantage of our complimentary financial review at least once a year.

We will discuss the different strategies available to help put your finances in line with both your short- and long-term goals.

**To schedule your complimentary financial review, call or visit today.**

**Dan Sammons, CLU®, ChFC®**

Financial Advisor  
3616 Erindale Drive, Valrico, FL 33596  
Office 813-681-1462  
dan.sammons@edwardjones.com

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

190219-1

[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

Member SIPC

## BLOOMINGDALE PAINTING

“A Brush Of Quality”

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR  
PRESSURE WASHING  
RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL

Bloomingdale Resident-Tod Howard

FREE ESTIMATES, EXPERIENCED and RELIABLE

**(813)654-5646 | (813)966-3601**

**[www.BloomingdalePainting.com](http://www.BloomingdalePainting.com)**

License#PA3694 Bonded & Insured

190196-1



# CONSTRUCTION *Update*

## Bell Shoals Road Widening Project Update



Hillsborough County Public Works project managers are finalizing details for a pre-construction public meeting with a primary focus on private utilities' relocation. Meeting dates and times will be publicized. Once these issues are resolved the actual construction start date can be better determined. This photo shows the first "segment" of the project – the bridge on Bell Shoals Road.



## Bloomingdale Avenue and Culbreath Road Intersection Improvement

County Project Managers have met with the project contractor and they are currently preparing their construction schedule. An onsite meeting with TECO and the contractor was completed last month to work out the street lighting coordination. Current plans call for the Bloomingdale Avenue/Culbreath Road Intersection Improvement project to begin in November. This project is expected to take at least a year. Drivers should adjust their driving plans to minimize delays.



Live weather alerts.

Breaking news notifications.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalism.



Introducing the  
**Tampa Bay Times App**  
Download now.

Available for







# BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY STATION NOTES

By Community Resource Master Deputy Curtis Warren



## IMPORTANT CRIME INFORMATION FOR ALL RESIDENTS!

The good news is that crime in our area has remained low. The bad news is that too many burglaries are still occurring and most of the crimes could have been prevented!

At the September Bloomingdale Community Council (BACC), Detective James Howell and I briefed three major cases and one serious incident in the community. These cases illustrate the need for resident action to prevent crimes. Should you have information about the following incidents, call 635-8040.

### Case 1: Location - Eagles Nest Drive

#### Type of Crime - Residential burglary

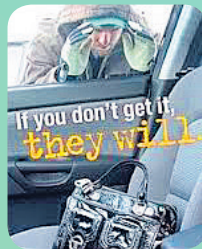
Details of Burglary - This burglary occurred in the daytime. Criminals entered the residence through a back patio door. They easily pried open the door. It did not have any additional security measures taken to secure it. The criminals, three black males, were seen on a neighbor's security camera taking a large TV. They were driving a red Ford Fusion. Note: To help prevent this type of crime, add additional security measures to any patio doors – drill a hole in the top corner of the door and add a long screw or pin and also put a metal bar or long strip of wood in the door's lower track! In addition, maintain lists of all serial numbers on valuables and take photos for proof of ownership.



### Case 2: Location - Hollow Wood Drive/Lyncrest Court/Portobello Circle

#### Type of Crime - Vehicle burglary

Details of Burglary - These burglaries occurred at night. Criminals were car hopping and broke out windows of three vehicles that contained purses lying on the seats of the vehicles. Note: Prevent these crimes simply by not leaving valuables in vehicles.



### Case 3: Location - Sandy Creek Drive

#### Type of Crime - Vehicle burglary

Details of Burglary - Two white males were seen using their cell phone lights to check vehicles. They found one unlocked and searched it for personal info and valuables. Note: Lock vehicles to prevent this type of crime.

### Incident 1: Location - Bloomingdale West

#### Type of Incident - Armed confrontation

Details of Incident - A new resident was completing landscaping in his yard and placed debris by the curb. A neighbor stopped by and complained about the debris. Heated words were exchanged resulting in one resident grabbing a machete and the other going to his vehicle and pulling out a gun. Fortunately, HCSO deputies arrived and ended the confrontation. Note: If you are in any confrontation, do not let it escalate. Leave the area and call HCSO if necessary!

## IMPORTANT TIPS:

Don't make it easy for criminals! Home security is a full time commitment. The one time you get in a hurry or forget to lock your vehicle, take your valuables inside or close your garage door is all it takes.

Any resident who witnesses a crime should use caution. Do not confront the criminals. They may be armed. Observe them and take down any critical information – detailed description, description of any vehicles along with the license number.

Install security cameras – one area resident was able to carefully video criminals in his area.

Lock up your vehicles. Take your valuables inside your home or business. And close your garage doors! It is that simple. Motion sensor lights can be very effective! Finally, report suspicious activity, call 247-8200 or in an emergency, call 911.



Present:

Home Instead Senior Care

## Operation Medicine Cabinet



Bring your EXPIRED or UNUSED MEDICATIONS and HELP SAVE HILLSBOROUGH WATERWAYS

### Where:

Hawthorne Village  
859 West Lumsden Road  
Brandon, Florida 33511

### When:

Thursday, Oct. 8 from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Expired or unwanted prescriptions and over-the-counter medications from households should never be disposed of by flushing them down the toilet or a drain. Although this method of disposal prevents accidental ingestion, it can cause contamination of Florida's aquatic environment because wastewater treatment systems are not designed to remove many of these medications.

*Information provided by Florida Department of Environmental Safety*



For more information, please contact Kristi Campbell at Home Instead Senior Care at 813-684-1972





Events listed may be subject to change. Check with your school to confirm event dates and times prior to attending.



### OCT. 26 - NON-STUDENT DAY

#### ALAFIA ALLIGATOR ALLEY

- Oct. 5 - Walk -a-Thon Assembly, 8 a.m.
- Oct. 7 - International Walk to School Day
- Oct. 12 - Flu Vaccine Day - Contact the school at 813-744-8190 for information.
- Oct. 19 - 23 - Red Ribbon Week
- Oct. 21 - Chipotle Dinner Night
- Oct. 23 - Walk-a-Thon
- Oct. 23 - 30 - Book Fair

#### Alafia Mint

Every Wednesday the Mint book swap and spirit store is open in Rm. 208 from 7:30- 7:55 a.m.

#### School Spirit Day

Every Friday wear your Alafia shirt to school.

#### Guidance News

The Alafia guidance program supports the mission of the school by promoting and enhancing the learning process of every student through integration of academic, career and personal/social development. Some programs that may be available: Grades K-5 - Bullying Prevention Program, Red Ribbon Week - Why I stay drug free, Veteran's Day Program, Great American Teach-In. Third Grade and Fourth Grade - Champions for Children's Kids-on-the-Block. For information, contact the Guidance Counselor at 813-744-8190.



#### CIMINO COUGAR CENTRAL

- Oct. 5 - Flu Mist Vaccine Program, 8-10 a.m.
- Oct. 8 - Conference Night, 3-8 p.m., Sign up for time with your student's teacher
- Oct. 9 - Cougar Challenge Fundraiser, for information, visit <http://ciminopta.com>
- Oct. 16 - All Pro Dads, Multi-Purpose Room, at 7 a.m.
- Oct. 16 - General Assembly and Painting Night - PTA Paint Night from 6-7:30 p.m.  
Space is limited to the first 200 people that sign up and you must be a PTA member to attend.
- Oct. 30 - School Fall Festival

#### BURNS BRUINS BANTER

- Oct. 5 - Conference Night, 4:30 - 7:30, p.m.
- Oct. 6 - Flu Shots starting at 12:55 p.m.
- Oct. 8 - Bruins Orchestra Fall Concert at Bloomingdale High School, 6:30p.m.
- Oct. 13 - Fall Chorus Concert, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 15 - Burns Basketball vs Randall, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - Track practice begins - 4:15 p.m.
- Oct. 21 - Spirit Night at Causeway Chik-Fil-A, 5- 6 p.m.
- Oct. 21 - Burns Bruin's Dads meeting, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 22 - Band Parent meeting, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 23 - PE Halloween Scare Run, 9 a.m.
- Oct. 23 - Burns Band at Bloomingdale Football game, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 2 - Music Department Poinsettia Sale begins, 9 a.m.
- Nov. 5 - Track meet at Bloomingdale High, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 6 - Symphonic & Chamber Strings Veteran's Day Assembly, 9 a.m.

#### Burns Wins District Clean Sweep Award

Congratulations to Manual Salmeron and his custodial crew for winning the District Clean Sweep Award for secondary schools! We beat out all high schools and middle schools in the district! This is the 2nd time we have won the award. We also won it in 2010-11. Check out the trophy in the front office!

#### Help Burns earn Microsoft Surface Tablets

Would you please help us win tablets for our school? All you need to do is use Bing as your search engine. Sign up for an account. (You will need to install the Bing Toolbar on your computer.) Next - donate the points that you earn to Burns Middle School (just look for the link that says, "Donate.") Thanks for helping Burns be the Best Leading the Rest!



### Calling all Math enthusiasts in Grades 2, 3, 4, and 5!

**5th Annual TriMathlon / Oct. 17 / 2-5 p.m. / Mathnasium of Brandon / 1048 Bloomingdale Ave. Brandon / The TriMathlon** is a fun-filled math event for kids grades 2 through 5 held over the course of one weekend at Mathnasium locations across the United States and Canada. Students of all math skill levels will compete in three exciting math challenges to support local schools and earn great prizes. Math is always more fun with friends, so tell your pals to register! Call 813- 655-6284 for more information, or visit our TriMathlon website at [www.mathnasium.com/trimathlon](http://www.mathnasium.com/trimathlon), select the Brandon center, and complete the form to register.



The Best Leading The Rest!







## BLOOMINGDALE HIGH BULL BUSINESS

Oct. 5-9 – Homecoming Ticket Sales  
 Oct. 6 – Volleyball at Plant City, 6:15 p.m.  
 Oct. 9 – Varsity Football vs Plant City, Homecoming Night, 7 p.m.  
 Oct. 10 – Homecoming Dance, Cafeteria, 8-11 p.m.  
 Oct. 12 – Chorus Fall Concert, Auditorium, 7 p.m.  
 Oct. 13 – Cross Country Championship at Al Lopez, 4 p.m.  
 Oct. 14 – PSAT (grades 9 – 11)  
 Oct. 16 – Varsity Football at East Bay, 7:30 p.m.  
 Oct. 19 – Orchestra Fall Concert, 7 p.m.  
 Oct. 20 – Volleyball District Semi-Finals at Durant, 5 p.m.  
 Oct. 22 – Cross Country Districts at Newsome, 4 p.m.  
 Oct. 22 – JV Football at Plant, 7 p.m.  
 Oct. 22 – Volleyball District Finals at Durant, 7 p.m.  
 Oct. 23 – Varsity Football vs Lennard, 7:30 p.m.  
 Oct. 24 – ACT Testing, 7 a.m.  
 Oct. 27 - 28 – Senior Cap and Gown Orders, Cafeteria, 10:30 a.m.  
 Oct. 30 – Varsity Football vs Strawberry Crest, 7:30 p.m.  
 Nov. 3 – Boys & Girls Soccer vs Durant, 6 p.m.  
 Nov. 5 – Freshman/Sophomore Parent Night, Auditorium, 5:30 p.m.  
 Nov. 6 – Varsity Football at Brandon, 7:30 p.m.  
 Nov. 7 – SAT Testing, 7 a.m.

## BULL BRIEFS



### Rajun' Bull Homecoming BBQ

The Rajun' Bull Homecoming BBQ is just around the corner! Oct. 9 from 4-7 p.m., the Bloomingdale High School Rajun' Bull Band will host the annual Homecoming pre-game tradition in the school's cafeteria complete with live jazz. The BBQ features a pulled pork sandwich, beans, chips and a drink for \$10. Carryout is available. All meals must be pre-ordered. Purchase tickets from a band member or by contacting the Band Boosters [rajunbullfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:rajunbullfundraising@gmail.com).



## Spring Break Trip to England

Enjoy a trip of a lifetime with an Education First Tour over the 2016 Spring Break. The "Science and Innovation in England" Tour features a visit to Stonehenge, the Eden Project and more. Students can even earn college credit! For information, visit [bloomingdale.mysdhc.org](http://bloomingdale.mysdhc.org) and click on the newsletter link.



## Support Bloomingdale

Donations come back to Bloomingdale when you use these services: Amazon Smile, Bing Search, MidFlorida Credit Union Extra Credit, and Red Robin.

## Bloomingdale

**High School App** →  
 Download the App to get weekly updated information.



## Social Media

Remember to follow all the latest news and updates of Bloomingdale on Facebook, Instagram, Snap Chat and You Tube by using @ BloomingdaleSHS.



# BSHS Cross Country Takes 2nd Place

By Deidre Morgan



Photos: Pete Snow

Running with the Bulls took on a completely new meaning when Bloomingdale High School Varsity Boys and Girls Cross Country teams ran away with matching second place finishes at the North Port XC Invitational held Sept. 19 at North Port High School. Of 180 female runners, BSHS girls placed three runners in the top 20. Leading the pack for Bloomingdale were Christi Hernandez, Kali Clemmer and Lindsay McKishnie.

The boys' team faced a strong field of 245 runners, and placed three runners in the top 20. Bo Benik paced the team with a third place finish, followed by Kyle Perry and Colin Boutin. The teams are trained by Coaches Jennifer Beach, Steve Littleton and Dale Bateman.

Varsity Boys and Girls Cross Country take home 2nd Place honors at the North Port Cross Country Invitational.

Sophomore Tori Robertson heads to the finish line. She finished 58th in a strong field of 180 runners.







*The Best of the Best Student of the Month Program (BOB) recognizes outstanding students in our community. If selected, the student receives a \$25 gift card provided by our sponsor, Ray Chadderton of The Chadderton Group of Keller Williams Realty. Send your nominations to [bloomington.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:bloomington.homeowners@gmail.com) or call 813-681-2051. Nominees must be in home, public, or private school and residents of Bloomington. Include the nominee's name, address, phone number, email and school attending. In addition, provide a short paragraph detailing why he/she should receive the award.*

## Congratulations to Tim Wyatt October's Best of the Best Student of the Month!

Tim Wyatt is a Burns Middle School seventh grader with a bright future. Nominated for Best of the Best honors by a family friend, he is described as well-rounded, friendly, and simply a "nice young man."

"What I enjoy most about Tim is his witty sense of humor, his smile, and how much he loves his little sister, Cameron," the friend wrote.

Academics are a strength. This young man is an Honor Roll student with mostly A's and a few B's who participates in the school's robotics club and math league.

Science is a favorite school subject. At last year's school science fair, he with science partner Jude Delikat presented a project testing a Lego mindstorm robot on different terrains. The project won at school level and advanced to the county science fair.

When asked what he likes most about school, Tim, with the innocence of the young, responded, "I am able to see friends in between classes, [my] elective choices, and lunch!"

A Bloomington resident for 10 years, Tim spends his out-of-school hours playing Little League baseball, shooting hoops with neighborhood friends, and playing video games. "The best thing about the neighborhood are there are many kids to play with," he stated.

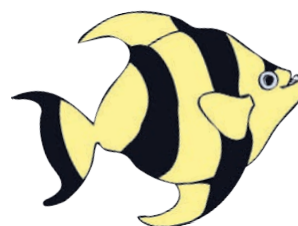
While for many, sports figures, super heroes and the like are typically awarded hero status, Tim calls his Grandpa John Wyatt, who passed away a few years ago, his hero. "He taught me a ton of cool things including how to play chess." Michael, Tim's Dad, added, "He was a Korean War vet while in the Air Force and they were best friends."

Tim and his deservedly proud parents Mike and Heather live in Bloomington Trace with his sister Cameron (4).

With clear goals set, the sky is the limit for Tim. "When I grow up, I want to be a lawyer," he said. "I'm good at arguing my case!"

Keep up the great work, Tim!

Photos: The Wyatt Family



A visit to the White House is a great start to Best of the Best student Tim Wyatt's journey to become a lawyer. Pictures with Tim is his mother, Heather.

RAY CHADDERTON  
REALTOR® / PARTNER  
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

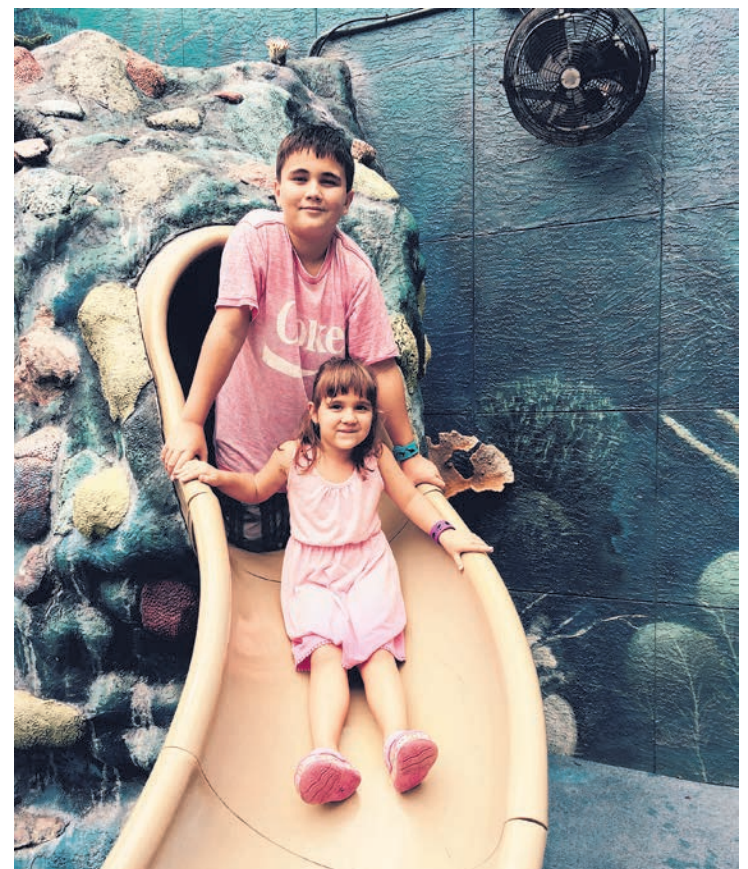
[www.ChaddertonGroup.com](http://www.ChaddertonGroup.com) | 813.601.0597 | [Ray@ChaddertonGroup.com](mailto:Ray@ChaddertonGroup.com)



Tim Wyatt, October's Best of the Best, enjoys playing Little League baseball on our community fields. Never one to shy away from a challenge, Tim is his team's catcher.



"Great big brother" is how a family friend described Tim's relationship with his sister, Cameron. At the Florida Aquarium, Tim keeps a close eye on his sister.







### 2015 Fall Festival Schedule of Events

Note: All events are subject to change on event day.

10:00	Welcome/Thunderbug arrives
10:30 - 10:45	Storm Cheerleading Demo
11:00	Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest & Children's Costume Contest
12:00 - 12:15	Crunch Demo/ Crowd Participation
12:30 - 12:45	Team K Martial Arts Demo
1:00	Thunderbug Departs/Raffles
2:00	Close





THE BLOOMINGDALE FALL FESTIVAL  
IS BACK & BETTER THAN EVER!