



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1980

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

VOLUME XXXVIII 🌿 ISSUE 2 🌿 FEBRUARY 2018 🌿 www.BloomingtondaleHOA.com

Community Garage Sale!
Feb. 24, 8 a.m., See Page 12 for Details



File Photo: Susan DeLuca

GARAGE SALE TIP:

An organized sale
will maximize
your profits.

This Month

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Newsletter Category

"A mind is like a parachute. It doesn't work if it isn't open." *Frank Zappa*

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 Bloomington Community Office.

President: *George T. May IV*

Vice President: *Suzy Watts*

Secretary: *Joanie Wilson*

Treasurer: *Grace Lewis*

Directors at Large:

Daniel Berkowitz

Sean Donahue

Bobbi Ferraro

Carl Hallinan

Billy Hightower

Beth Smedley

Charlie Woodcock



YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



JOY BOISSELLE

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



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Bloomingdale Real Estate Update

(Editor's Note: Real estate columnist Ronnie has lived in Bloomingdale for seven years with her husband and two children, a son attending University of Florida and daughter at Bloomingdale High School. A productive Realtor, she is also active in the Bloomingdale High School PTSA and Girl Scouts.)

Walkable Communities Gain Ground

My girlfriend and I were training for a half marathon a few years ago. It was a Sunday afternoon and time for one of our long runs – 10 miles that day. We headed out onto Culbreath and as we reached Bell Shoals, we decided our bodies weren't up for a long run that afternoon – instead we walked to Chili's for dinner. We were happy that we live in a community where we can walk to a number of great restaurants!

According to a new survey from the National Association of REALTORS®, 53 percent of Americans would prefer to live in communities containing houses with small yards but within easy walking distance of the community's amenities rather than living in communities with houses that have large yards but they have to drive to all amenities. This is the first time a majority of Americans has shown a preference for walkable communities.

When it comes to generational preferences, millennials and the silent generation showed the highest preference for walkable communities and short commutes. Gen-Xers and baby boomers still prefer suburban living, indicating in the survey that they have no problem with having to drive places if it means living in a single-family, detached home.



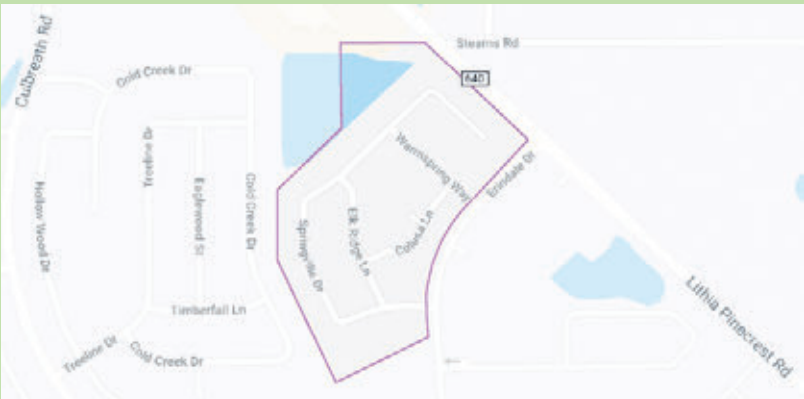
By Ronnie McLaughlin

The Chadderton Real Estate Group
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Neighborhood Snapshot – Erin Arbor

Erin Arbor located between Lithia Pinecrest Road and Erindale Drive was developed between 1989-1994 and is comprised of Colusa Lane, Elk Ridge Lane, Sequoia Way, Springville Drive and Warmspring Way. The average sales price for homes sold in the last year was \$266,000 at an average of \$111 per square foot. Twelve pool homes and two non-pool homes surround a small pond along Springville Drive. The average square foot in this neighborhood is about 2,400, with 3-4 bedroom homes and 2-3 car garages.



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BHA COMMUNITY CORNER



DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

2018 Membership Drive Ongoing! Join Today!

The 2018 membership drive is off to a strong start, but we need your support now more than ever. Act now and join the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association. Established in 1980, this group has steadfastly worked on behalf of our community to provide cohesion-building programs and services aimed at keeping our area a great place to live, work and call home.

Your \$35 membership fees are returned 100 percent to the community. And, every member and dollar matter. You are the backbone of our Association. The programs and services offered are for you! But, they require funding – funding the Association receives from you, the resident, during the annual membership drive. As a united community, we can make our neighborhoods better. See pp.12-13 this issue for just a few programs we provide.

Make checks payable to the BHA and mail to 3509 Bell Shoals Road., Valrico, FL 33596, or stop by the office and drop off your check. An easier method is to use our PayPal option. Go to www.bloomingdalehoa.com, look for the PayPal link and follow the simple instructions.

The BHA is an IRC 501(c) (4) non-profit organization, run entirely by volunteers who live in your neighborhoods. 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.



BHA EVENT CALENDAR

If you have events pending in our community, email bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com, or call 813-681-2051. We will help you promote your event on our Facebook page.

Jan. 1- Dec. 31/2018 Membership drive continues! Don't delay, join today!

Monday, Feb. 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, Feb. 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.

Thursday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. / Bloomingdale Area Community Council chaired by Hillsborough County Deputy Cliff Fletcher, Bloomingdale Community Station, 3622 Erindale Drive, 813-635-8040. Learn about safety and security issues affecting our community.

BHA BRIEFS

Board Meeting Highlights and Other Board News

All committees provided updates of 2018 initiatives. The January board meeting was a stepping stone to the board retreat held Jan. 20 at the Association office. For six hours, the community volunteers discussed ways to improve programs, establish new ones and reach more residents in a positive manner. The guest speaker Ray Chadderton of The Chadderton Real Estate Group provided valuable insight to that end. The 2018 focus is to improve membership numbers and incentives for residents to join and support the community.



BL East and West Park Update

On Jan.16, Hillsborough County's Kyla Booher, Planning & Development Manager, Parks and Recreation provided an email update, see below, on BL east and west parks.

"Prices from contractors will determine how much of this we can actually accomplish. C83277- Central County Park Improvements, Budget - \$600,000 of Central Park Impact Fees.

Bloomingdale West: New small public restroom building, install racquetball lighting with automatic timers, new water fountain/benches/trash cans, install trees (provided by Parks maintenance)

Bloomingdale East: New picnic/shade shelters, new water fountain/benches/trash cans, remove hard volleyball court & sandbox, resurface racquetball courts, install trees (provided by Parks maintenance)"

As for the splash pad initially discussed in the plans, it went to a community that has a Boys and Girls Club. The club agreed to maintain it, most likely the main reason it went there. There was also a consideration by county that Bloomingdale has two parks and a YMCA.

Residents who would still like to weigh in on this matter should contact Booher @ P: (813) 307-1891, M: (813)-734-4907, E: booherk@HCFLGov.net.

No February Yard of the Month

The Yard of the Month will return next month. With the recent freezing weather, many plants, shrubs and grass need time to recover. As always, resident recommendations are always appreciated.



BHA BRIEFS (CONT.)

Thank you, Miriam Leech!

The BHA and Bloomingdale Gazette thank Miriam Leech for her more than 5-year contribution to the community paper. As the paper's senior reporter, Miriam kept residents in the know on issues including elections, new businesses, fundraising efforts, resident profiles and so much, much more.



As the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District office manager, Miriam will continue to inform residents about the BSTD's efforts to keep our community maintained. Look for her monthly BSTD column in the Gazette. We cannot thank her enough for her involvement in our community.

Part-Time Reporter/Photographer Position Available

Calling all newshounds! The award-winning Bloomingdale Gazette has a part-time position available immediately. What is needed for this fun job: strong writing skills, the ability to interact with people and solid photography skills. No experience is necessary. The Bloomingdale Gazette staff meets monthly and in general, reporters produce 1-3 stories with photos a month. Contact Joy Boisselle at inbloomingdalenews@gmail.com or call 681-2051.



Pat Kemp Hosts Community Conversation: "Planning Growth and Transportation"

Source: HCPR



Hillsborough County Commissioner Pat Kemp, District 6 Countywide, is hosting a Community Conversation to discuss options for improving mobility and safety for the Brandon community. The event is a continuation of conversations Commissioner Kemp holds throughout the county to discuss topics of interest with residents.

Learn about a study recently completed by The Planning Commission and the MPO to refine Hillsborough County's Vision Map. The study considered growth in the area to identify feasible transportation improvements, especially along the congested east-west corridors.

Following a panel discussion, there will be a question and answer session. The event will take place Tuesday, Feb. 6 from 6-8 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Regional Public Library, 1906 Bloomingdale Ave.



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BLOOMINGDALE Special Taxing District

THE COMMUNITY'S COMMON AREA CONNECTION
By Miriam Leech, BSTD Staff

A Trashy Situation

Sometime between Sunday, Jan. 7, and Monday, Jan. 8, household items and debris were strewn throughout Bloomingdale East—creating a very trashy situation!

Residents first reported seeing the trash along Culbreath Road and Natures Way Boulevard on social media, and then to the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District (BSTD) office when it opened on Jan. 8. Upon inspection by property management, more trash was found near the Bloomingdale East Park and along Greenhollow Lane.

Items included a vacuum cleaner, golf bag, trash bags, cans and paper, and a wood pallet. While Merit, Inc., and Buccaneer Landscaping routinely pick up trash throughout the District, both dispatched quickly to remove the large, unsightly items—property manager Rick Pitrowski even drove the area and loaded trash into his pickup truck!

Vandalism costs you, the residents, tax dollars. Whether it is sprinkler heads that have been kicked and broken, irrigation timers being turned off, lights that are broken, or walls that have been spray painted, these items increase costs to the District and ultimately to YOU!

The Trustees thank the residents who report the acts of vandalism. This helps them keep our community looking clean and beautiful.

(Editor's Note: The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District's (BSTD) monthly column will inform readers about the BSTD, its mission and ongoing and new initiatives. The BSTD meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at the Bloomingdale Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Rd. Questions? Call 813-684-6667 or email bstd@verizon.net.)

Monthly Meeting

The residents of Bloomingdale, as always, are invited to attend the next meeting of the BSTD on Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bloomingdale Community Offices, 3509 Bell Shoals Road. If you would like to speak at the meeting, members of the public are allotted 3 minutes to make comment or ask questions per Hillsborough County policy. Hope to see you there!

BLOOMINGDALE Special Taxing District

3509 Bell Shoals Road

Valrico, Florida 33596

(813) 684-6667 Office

(813) 684-2358 Fax

BSTD@verizon.net

www.bloomingdaletaxingdistrict.org

Hours: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

David P. West, President
Tom Leech, Vice President
Mark Horst, Treasurer
Dann Berkowitz, Trustee
Russell Jones, Trustee
Mark Vargo, Trustee
Jay Kittle, Trustee



The person or persons responsible for throwing out trash throughout Bloomingdale East, including this chair, have not been identified, but it is being considered an act of vandalism.

BSTD (CONT.)

Keep an Eye Out!

Soon you will see signs throughout the District pointing out “*Your Assessment Dollars at Work*,” to highlight large projects undertaken by the BSTD. These will include wall repairs, landscape plantings, and turf replacement! The Trustees want to keep residents in the know!

BLOOMINGDALE

Special Taxing District

Your Assessment
Dollars at Work

BloomingtonTaxingDistrict.org



Hillsborough County Extension Service Offering Free Tax Preparation Assistance:

Source: HCPR



The Hillsborough County Extension Service is now scheduling appointments for residents who need expert help in preparing their federal income tax returns. The Extension Service also will be offering several free tax-related and personal finance online classes.

Income Tax Assistance

The free service is available to individuals and families whose Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is no more than \$66,000. AGI does not include money contributed to tax-deductible retirement plans, or certain other adjustments. IRS-certified volunteers can provide access to a self-guided tax preparation program, as well as one-on-one assistance.

Appointments are required, and are available:

Tuesdays and Thursdays from Feb. 6 through April 5, between 2 and 6:30 p.m.
On the following Saturdays: Feb. 17, March 3, and March 17, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, contact Denise Katak at 813-744-5519 ext. 54141, or katak@HCFLGov.net. The Extension Service is located at 5339 County Road 579 in Seffner.

Online Classes

All one-hour classes are free. Registration is required in order to log on.

The New Federal Income Tax Law, Wednesday, Feb. 7 at noon

Learn about changes in the federal income tax law and how it may affect an individual's tax liability. Register at attendee.gototraining.com/r/4538726112848999426

PowerPay Debt Away, Wednesday, Feb. 15 at noon

Get an overview of a free debt analysis tool, debt management strategies, and the “America Saves” challenge. Register at attendee.gototraining.com/r/4240064669884599042

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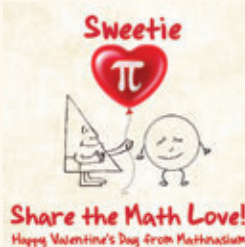


The fall semester is well underway, and it's time for a math checkup! Can your child answer these mental math questions? The results may surprise you! If they can solve questions at and above grade level, they could be ready for a challenge! If they are unable to answer questions at their grade level or below, they may be in need of extra help.

Whether your child is far behind, performing at grade level, or eager to get ahead, Mathnasium's personalized programs can help. Contact us today to get started!

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Second Grade	$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
Third Grade	How much is 99 plus 99 plus 99?
Fourth Grade	Count by $1\frac{3}{4}$ from 0 to 7.
Fifth Grade	Which is greatest: $\frac{17}{18}$, $\frac{23}{30}$, or $\frac{18}{19}$? (Explain how you got your answer.)
Sixth Grade	Halfway through the second quarter, how much of the game is left?
Seventh Grade	How much is $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ of 250?
Pre-Algebra	On a certain map, 6 inches represents 25 miles. How many miles does 15 inches represent?
Algebra	When you take 3 away from twice a number, the answer is 8. What is the number?
Geometry	What is the Absolute Value of the point (3, 4)?

587058-1



February Community Calendar

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

Compiled by Miriam Leech

EVERY SUNDAY!

T Marie's Valrico Sunday Market / Every Sunday / 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. / T Marie's Fashion & Gifts Boutique / 3407 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Valrico / Shop under the grandfather oaks with 55+ local artisans selling hand crafted, homemade items that will be sure to treat yourself or your loved ones. Fun for the whole family! Free face painting and balloons for the kids, free henna tattoos, live entertainment, delicious food offerings in the food court, and pets are welcome!

EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY IN FEBRUARY!

Free Tax Help from AARP Tax-Aide Foundation / 10 a.m. / Bloomingdale Library / 1906 Bloomingdale Avenue, Valrico / AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. Assistance provided on a first-come, first-served basis in cooperation with the Free Tax Preparation Program of Hillsborough County. If interested, call 813-273-3652 for information and documents needed.



Stretch Your Boundaries: Yoga Workshop / Feb. 4 / 1-3 p.m. / Karma Yoga & Fitness / 4363 Lynx Paw Trail, Valrico / Stretch Your Boundaries: A Workshop to Loosen Tight Hips and Hamstrings lets you safely explore the function of the hips, hamstrings, and psoas muscles, and how they play a key role in your yoga practice. Overcome challenges in intermediate hip openers using props, drills, and hands-on assisting. Artfully instructed by Jaime LaMar RYT-500, this workshop will build confidence, increase range of motion, and ease low back tension. Reserve a space in advance and save \$5! Workshop fee \$30 early bird until TODAY! All levels welcome. Call 813-489-9644.



The Florida State Fair / Feb. 8-19 / Florida State Fairgrounds / 4800 U.S. Highway 301 North, Tampa / Mark your calendars! The Florida State Fair attracts up to 500,000 people in 12 days. Each year Florida residents create exhibits for Aquaculture, Horticulture, Woodcarving, Needlework, and more. Bragging rights are still won for the prized bull, best pie, and the most beautiful quilt. Being an Independent Midway, all rides are selected by the Fair Authority to provide visitors with all the thrills and chills they've come to expect. As the first State Fair of the year, we get all the latest and greatest in fair foods such as the Pizza Cone, Redneck Burger, Bacon Ice Cream, and more! It's affordable family fun at its best! Nobody does it better than the Florida State Fair! Visit www.floridastatefair.com for events, tickets, and details.



Arsenic and Old Lace / Feb. 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 at 8 p.m.; Matinees Feb. 11 and 18 at 3 p.m. / The Village Players / The James McCabe Theater / 506 5th Street, Valrico / Join hero Mortimer Brewster, a New York drama critic who must deal with his crazy, homicidal family and local police as he debates whether to go through with his recent promise to marry the woman he loves. A farcical black comedy for the ages. General Admission, \$18; Seniors, Military, and Students, \$15. For tickets visit www.thevillageplayersvalrico.com.

Mardi Gras Gala for a Cause / Congregation Beth Shalom (CBS) / Feb. 17 / 7 p.m. / River Hills Country Club / 3945 New River Hills Parkway / CBS is proud to partner with Special Olympics Florida Healthy Community Program for our annual fundraiser. This year's event, Mardi Gras, will be especially fun, featuring games, prizes, and silent and live auctions, a buffet dinner and dancing. Auction items include a NASCAR driving experience, a Top Gun flight experience, VIP tickets to Hamilton on Broadway, and tickets to the Country Music Awards in Nashville. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$15 for children 5-12 years, free for children under 5 years. Purchase tickets at www.bethshalom-brandon.org.



Girls on the Run / Beginning Feb. 20 and each Tuesday and Thursday until May 3 / 5:30-6:45 p.m. / Campo Family YMCA / 3414 Culbreath Road, Valrico / Girls on the Run is for ALL Girls! Girls on the Run is a program like no other! Twice per week for 10 weeks, girls will have fun, make friends, increase their physical activity levels, and learn important life skills. Trained and caring coaches lead 3rd-5th grade girls through interactive lessons and running activities. The season ends with a noncompetitive 5K event. Last day for registration is Feb. 16. Price: \$111, Everywhere members; \$150, Here members; \$185, non-members. For information call 813-684-1371.



Daddy-Daughter Dance / Feb. 24 / 7:30 p.m. / Campo Family YMCA / 3414 Culbreath Rd., Valrico / Dads, throw on your favorite tie and come enjoy a special evening of dinner and dancing with your little princess at our Daddy-Daughter Dance! From photo opportunities to moving your two left feet with Daddy's Girl, you and your daughter are sure to create a special memory that will last a lifetime. Price: \$20/pair, \$5/additional daughter, Everywhere members; \$28/pair, \$7/additional daughter, Here members; \$35/pair, \$8.75/additional daughter, Non-members. Call 813-684-1371 for information.

UPCOMING

Florida Strawberry Festival / March 1-11 / Festival Grounds at Alexander and Reynolds Streets, Plant City / Each spring the Florida Strawberry Festival rolls out the red carpet to welcome visitors from all over. Guests enjoy agriculture, commerce, industry, livestock, fine arts, horticulture exhibits, and crafts. And, it's the perfect time to enjoy eating ripe strawberries. Open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission: Adults (ages 13+), \$10; Children (ages 6-12, \$5; Children (ages 5 and under) FREE. Admission: Adults (ages 13+), \$10; Children ages 6-12, \$5; Children ages 5 and under FREE with paid adult admission. Discount tickets are available at Publix. For information, visit www.strawberryfestival.com.



G.F.W.C. Valrico Service League's Putting on the Ritz Bunco / March 6 / 6 p.m. / Center Place Fine Arts Center, 619 Vonderburg Dr. / Come join us for a night of Bunco fun! Dinner starts at 6 p.m. followed by Bunco at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 and include light dinner, drinks and prizes. Purchase at Center Place or contact Claudia Yake at 685-7998. Proceeds support children and families in need in our community via A Kids Place, Brandon Outreach, Campo YMCA, Cards for the Troops, Center Place, Apostles Village and Family Promise.



Campo YMCA Welcomes New Visionary Leadership

Source: Campo YMCA PR

The Campo Family YMCA is pleased to welcome Jarrod Williams and Kym Wallace to its leadership team as it continues to provide a safe place where Greater Brandon area community members can go to feel supported, improve their well-being and create meaningful experiences in their lives.

Jarrold serves as the center executive director where he provides management and oversight to the Campo Y's operations/programs, advisory board, annual campaign and community relationships. Jarrod has been in the Y movement for more than seven years, the last five at the YMCA of Greater Cleveland. There, Jarrod served as the executive director for the Sandusky Area YMCA. He also served in as association executive director of youth sports and development where he was responsible for creating a nationally recognized youth basketball partnership with the Cleveland Cavaliers. Jarrod currently serves as an adviser for YMCA of the USA, helping to recreate the YMCA Youth Sports model.

As membership experience director, Kym leads staff in providing a superior member experience at the Y. Originally from Decatur, GA, Kym learned how to swim at the Y and also served as Y summer camp counselor during college. She has held membership, wellness and development leadership roles in both the Atlanta and Dallas YMCA associations. Her experience with IBM and First American Title Lending give her just the right balance of sales and service skills to help make an already great Campo Y experience even better.

With both Jarrod and Kym onboard, the Campo Y team is confident it can follow through on its promise to members and guests: "We promise a great experience at the Y, every day. If we ever fail to meet your expectations let us know...we'll make it right. Guaranteed! Because we care."

For information about the Campo Y, go to www.tampaymca.org/locations/campo/ or call 813-684-1371.

Jarrold Williams and Kym Wallace join the leadership team at The Campo Family YMCA. Both bring a wealth of experience and ideas to the Y. Stop by and say, "Hello!"
Courtesy Photo: Lalita Llerena



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BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY STATION NOTES

By Community Resource Deputy Clifford Fletcher
and C.S.O. Sandy Capitano

Area Law and Order

Between Dec. 19, 2017 and Jan. 21, 2018, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office conducted 23 traffic stops in Bloomingdale East and Bloomingdale West. Those traffic stops resulted in four verbal warnings, 15 written warnings and six citations.

At community entrances and within subdivisions, there were no crashes with injuries, two without injuries and two hit and run. There were no DUI's, which is a wonderful statistic!

Remember to slow down, stop at all stop signs and above all be a courteous driver. And, wear your seat belt at all times.

There was one vehicle burglary, which is the same number as last month, but residential burglaries doubled to four. There was one drug law violation, which is better than the two we had last month.

Finally, there were 13 arrests made for various crimes in the Bloomingdale area between Dec. 19, 2017 and Jan. 21, 2018.

Be on the Lookout!



Remember to watch out for what is happening in your neighborhoods. If you see something, make sure to call Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency number at 813-247-8200.

Mail theft has become an issue again in the Bloomingdale area. Watch your mailbox when you put outgoing mail in it and watch out for your neighbor's mailbox.

The people who steal mail are hoping for gift cards or checks where they can use your routing and account number. Thieves use the checks to create a new check and use it in a location that is usually out of county. You either find out when the check posts on your account or you receive a past due notice on the check that you sent.

It is also **tax season** and some folks still have W-2 forms mailed to their home. W-2's have a lot of personal information including your entire social security number! It is best to drop outgoing mail into the slot inside of local post office.

The holidays are now over and residents are enjoying the nice gifts they received, everything from new bikes to new cars. Each of you must take the time to insure these new gifts are kept safe and secure and not let criminals take them. Please remember to **lock** the doors to your home, **secure** your garage doors, **secure** your guns and **lock** up your vehicles. This will significantly reduce the opportunity for you to become a victim. When you do leave your home, ensure it is secured. If you will be away for any length of time, always arrange with a friend or neighbor to get your mail and paper or have them stopped until you return. Do your part; don't become a victim!

Good Advice: Stop Accidents

Let's work together and get cooperation from every family in our community to stop life-changing accidents. Several roads in our area continue to be at the top of the county's top accident list. Take a moment to have discussions with your teen drivers and passengers about wearing their seat belts. The solution is just too easy. Every driver and passenger must wear seat belts, and stay off phones while driving.

The major key to improving safety, traffic flow and congestion in our communities does not just come from widening more roads, but from you, the driver. When you

slow down and obey the traffic laws, you prevent accidents that can cause deaths and serious injuries and tie up traffic. You also save a lot of money on expensive citations and increases in auto insurance.

Getting Involved

The deputies at the Sheriff's Office strive to provide Bloomingdale and surrounding areas with a safer place to live and raise our families. That is our reason for being here – to make your lives safer and provide a more secure place to live.

We work directly with concerned residents through groups like the Bloomingdale Area Community Council (BACC). You are invited to attend our monthly meeting as a representative for your neighborhood. Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month: this month's meeting is Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. This group works directly with the HCSO to identify community concerns and to find solutions to all types of problems. Interested residents can call the Bloomingdale Community Station at 635-8040, or come by the station located at 3622 Erindale Drive.

Operation Medicine Cabinet Joins BHA Clean-Up



Bring Your **EXPIRED** or **UNUSED MEDICATIONS**
and **HELP SAVE HILLSBOROUGH WATERWAYS**

1626 Nature's Way Blvd, Valrico FL
Saturday, March 3, 2018
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Expired or unwanted prescription 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.

- Florida Dept of Environmental Safety



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

Bloomingtondale Community Station Notes (continued)

CSA Capitano Set to Retire

At the January community council meeting, members celebrated the career of retiring Community Service Aide Sandy Capitano. For 20 years, Capitano served the Bloomingtondale community and on March 1, she will retire after 21 years of service. The community offers a heartfelt thank you to Sandy and a warm welcome to her replacement, Ava Garrett. Pictured l. to r. are Master Deputy Cliff Fletcher, BHA board member Billy Hightower, C.S.O. Capitano, "honorary deputy" Terry Ward and new Bloomingtondale C.S.O. Garrett. Photo: Charlie Woodcock

Q and A with Sandy

Q. What are some of your best memories of working in our community?

A. All of the car seat checks that I have done. I am very proud of that because I really felt I was doing a small part in protecting children. To this day, I have Bloomingtondale residents who come up to me and thank me for that service. That is one small part of my time here at HCSO when I truly felt I was pretty good at something.

Q. What will you miss?

A. The people. As odd as this sounds, I am not comfortable speaking to a large group with the exception of the Bloomingtondale Community Council. I always felt that I was meeting with friends. The deputies that I have worked with in the office were always so helpful and supportive, the deputies on the street were always just a phone call away and I have been blessed with wonderful supervisors.

Q. Anything you want to say to our residents and the people you have worked with in your career?

A. The Bloomingtondale area has been a wonderful place to work. I can also say that without a doubt that the Bloomingtondale area is a safe place to live.

Q. What will you do in your retirement?

A. My daughter and I are planning a trip to Scotland. My husband and I want to travel to some places that we have never had the time do. Other than that, I want to enjoy the rocking chair on my back porch and really for the first time enjoy life and not be rushed to do all that needs to be done.

Thanks, Sandy! You will be missed!



Photo: Charlie Woodcock

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Spring Cleaning Begins with BHA's Upcoming Event Line-Up

2018 Membership Drive Continues

BLOOMINGDALE HOA DUES PROVIDE THESE SERVICES AND MUCH MORE:

- The Bloomingdale Gazette: look for it in your driveway on the first Saturday of the month
- Website, Facebook and Email Alert System: providing news, information and event announcements
- Public Works & Public Safety: The BHA works with Hillsborough County officials to implement traffic and roadway improvements in and around our community
- Bloomingdale Community Garage Sale: Promotion of garage sales in our neighborhoods
- Fall Festival: Free family event featuring local businesses, contests and food
- Santa Visit & Charity Food Drive: Free photo opportunity with Santa and collection of food donations for local charity



Let's get selling, Bloomingdale! Community Garage Sale

Let the treasure hunt begin – This year's community garage sale takes place Feb. 24, 8 a.m. until... Residents are encouraged to sell at least until noon.

Want to participate? Contact the BHA at 813-681-2051 or by email at bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com by Feb. 22.

Residents need only provide the BHA with your garage sale address, post signage inside your community to your sale and conduct the sale. If you are doing a fundraiser, identify your group!

On the day of the sale, put signage from your neighborhood entrance to your home. The BHA will advertise in multiple media outlets and post signage throughout the community. Too easy, right?



Declutter, Bloomingdale!

March 3: Annual Community Clean-Up, Volunteers Needed!

The BHA's ever-popular annual community clean-up will be Saturday, March 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ten commercial trash roll-offs will be on site as well as our returning partners the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Operation Medicine Cabinet program accepting outdated medicines and UrbanErecycling accepting electronics. The BHA is hoping to provide free document shredding again this year. Details will be updated on our Facebook page and in the March Gazette.

Event made possible, in part, through the Board of County Commissioners and the Office of Neighborhood Relations.

Items Accepted:



The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office "Operation Medicine Cabinet" will accept: Pill bottles, Boxes and/or packaged drug items, Patches, Powders, Liquids (properly sealed), Inhalers, and Veterinarian Prescription Drugs.

Not Accepted: Box-style older televisions, microwaves, computers or radios (UrbanErecycling will take flat screen TVs and computers as noted above.), yard waste, hazardous materials including paint, batteries, propane tanks, household chemicals and waste from commercials activities.

2018 Annual Clean-Up Day

March 3, 2018
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **OR** until bins are full



Hillsborough County Parks Maintenance Facility
1629 Natures Way (behind Alafia Elementary School)



Hillsborough County Florida



UrbanErecycling will accept the following: computer keyboards, laptops, desktop computers, tower computers and servers, scrap computers, telecom equipment, rack servers, cell phones, laser printers, flat screen monitors and flat screen TVs (only), battery backups, ion lithium batteries, circuit boards, and computer cables.

Make More Room In Your House; Send Your Student to School!

The BHA Scholarship Can Help! April 1: Scholarship Application Due

For information on these upcoming events, contact the BHA at 813-681-2051 or via email at bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com.

Attention Bloomingdale Seniors!

IMPORTANT DATES

January 15 - April 1
Applications accepted.
April 1
Application deadline (firm).
May 8
BHA Board meeting and announcement of scholarship winner.



The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association is proud to sponsor the

\$2,000 Community Education Scholarship

REQUIREMENTS:

Candidate

- Must be a resident of the Bloomingdale community.
- Must be a graduating senior accepted at a 2 or 4-year college or university. Proof of acceptance is required.
- Weighted 3.2 GPA

Candidate's Parent/Guardian

- Must be a resident of the Bloomingdale community.
- Bloomingdale Homeowners Association 2018 membership dues must be paid prior to the scholarship application deadline. Membership drive begins January 2018. **Deadline is April 1, 2018.**
- Proof of residency is required.

Selection Criteria

- Community service
- Extra-curricular activities
- Well-written essay
- Academic Standing
- Reference letters

Scholarship information is available online at BloomingdaleHOA.com, at Bloomingdale High School and at the Bloomingdale Community Office.

Flyers: Beth Smedley





Ellen Bess has been writing for nearly as long as she can remember. Her humor columns have appeared in newspapers and periodicals in North Carolina, Georgia and central Florida. She lives with her husband, Frazier, a retired high school Chemistry teacher, in Bloomingdale West.



La, la, la, la, laaaaa...I can't hear you.

I really should count myself among the fortunate. After all, I was blessed with the gift of Selective Deafness. You see, there's this wonderful warning device that goes off in my head anytime someone starts saying something I don't really want to hear. Bells go off, buzzers rage, an imaginary gate crashes down and I go completely deaf. It's sort of like a Pavlovian railroad crossing that kicks into gear at the sound of key phrases.

It really started many years ago when my kids were teens and would begin a sentence with, "Now, Mom, before you get mad..." This prologue has introduced the destruction of my car, a Math grade that would guarantee a career as a shepherd, a set of keys that apparently jettisoned itself into The Twilight Zone and many more equally memorable events. It got to the point that by the time I heard, "Now, Mom...", I'd tuned completely out and just stood there nodding and smiling. I looked a lot like I should be placed in the rear window of an old Chevy, but at least I was happy in my ignorance.

Another key phrase is, "I'm going to be honest with you," which automatically turns my ears to stone. I've heard those exact words from car sales reps, repair people, home warranty reps and Presidential candidates, all of whom turned out to be direct descendants of Pinocchio. If you ever want to experience the singular thrill of talking to a wall, just hit me with those seven words.

"You're not going to like this, but..." is another one that not only makes my ears shut down and my eyes glaze over, but also confuses me. If you know enough about me to know that what you say next may well send me into a spin, why say it? And if you have to say it, why warn me? Why chance it? Just skip the preamble and get on with it, for God's sake. Let me decide if I'm going to slug you.

I also have a tendency to power out whenever anyone offers me the sage advice, "Just be yourself." That's because right after they tell me to "be me," they start

describing how they interpret me and it becomes painfully obvious they don't have the foggiest notion of who or what I am. Apparently, they've either been dabbling in some serious chemicals or are easily deluded, because I always wanted to end the conversation by introducing myself. Obviously, they had me confused with someone else and I felt it my duty to correct the situation. Now, I don't even hear them and I'm much happier. I'm sure they are, too, since I also stopped arguing.

Now that I've managed to perfect selective hearing, I want to work on selective sight. I'm looking forward to the day I can look in my mirror and see Kate Middleton grinning back at me. Heaven. Hallucinatory, but heaven, nay the less.



Visit Our Recycled Yard Art Booth at the Florida State Fair

Paula Staples, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County
Public Education Program Coordinator

Visit the UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County 2018 RECYCLED YARD ART booth at the Florida State Fair at 4800 US Hwy. 301 North from Feb. 9-20.

Stop by our display and vote for your favorite piece of recycled yard art. Pick up information about our workshops and other upcoming events while you're voting.

Go to <http://hillsborough.ifas.ufl.edu/#news6> to learn more about this year's contest.



Photos: L. Meredith

Volunteers are Prized at The Florida State Fair

By Wendy Knipp



The Florida State Fair attracts close to 500,000 guests each year. Each day of its 12-day run not only offers thrilling rides and mouth-watering food, but multiple arenas with nonstop shows, demonstrations, and competitions. With so many daily activities and pre-Fair work that needs to be done, volunteers work like a well-oiled machine to assist staff and help everything run smoothly.

Each year, the Fair utilizes between 200-250 volunteers and shifts begin 2 weeks before it opens. Bloomingdale resident Daniel Berkowitz is the Volunteer Coordinator and oversees students as young as 16 to retirees and snowbirds who return each year to donate their time. Says Berkowitz, "A lot of volunteers have been doing this for years and love it."

Volunteers are spread across the Fairgrounds working on anything from administrative work and hospitality to light maintenance and crowd control. And since it's the Fair, of course that includes animal control. Volunteers can choose to work just one shift or multiples throughout the day and they can work one day or every day. Among other things, perks can include free admission, food, prizes, a t-shirt, and raffle tickets for a drawing just for volunteers.

Cliff and Cheryl Lee are Bloomingdale residents and are excited to be volunteering at the Fair and making new friends. Cheryl says, "Helping out with even the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people, animals, and organizations involved in the Fair. There are jobs for everyone regardless of your age or abilities."

Volunteers are still needed, especially on weekends, and must be 16 or over. Volunteer hours are eligible for fulfilling the Bright Futures Scholarship requirements. If you're interested, apply online at www.floridastatefair.com, stop by the Volunteer Office in the Florida Center, or contact Daniel Berkowitz at Daniel.Berkowitz@FloridaStateFair.com.



Dann Berkowitz (left) enjoys working with Fair volunteers Cheryl and Cliff Lee.
Photo: Cathey Conte



Volunteers are needed to assist in many areas, including the livestock exhibition area.

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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 enthusiast Gwen Graverson. Have a gardening question? Contact Gwen at inbloominglenews@gmail.com.)

Some See Weeds... Others See Wishes...

By Gwen Graverson

During early spring, you may see the arrival of yellow dandelion flowers in your yard and landscape beds. For many, the flowers evoke childhood memories. Others grimace and prepare for the New Year's weed war. Try not to look at dandelions as a nuisance, but more as a beneficial contributor to our gardens, health and environment.

In our gardens, the dandelion plant is a beneficial weed, with a wide range of uses, and is even a good companion plant for gardening. Its taproot will bring up nutrients for shallower-rooting plants, and add minerals and nitrogen to soil. It is also known to attract pollinating insects and release ethylene gas, which helps fruit to ripen (Source: Wikipedia).

For our health, the dandelion is a rich source of beta-carotene, which we convert into vitamin A. The plant is also rich in vitamin C, fiber, potassium, iron, calcium, magnesium, zinc, and phosphorus. And, it's a good place to get B-complex vitamins, trace minerals, organic sodium, and even some vitamin D. Finally, dandelions contain more protein than spinach and has been used as a digestive aid, for high blood pressure and lowering cholesterol. **Caution:** For some, dandelion pollen may cause allergic reactions.

Try cooking dandelion greens as a side dish or learn how to make dandelion wine. Check with your local grocery store or Asian market, to see if it's in stock. Then, look online for recipes.

Finally, the dandelion is an important part of the environment. From bees to birds to butterflies, the little powerhouse provides seeds, nectar, pollen and greens.

The next time you see a dandelion, take a moment, and enjoy its natural beauty... then close your eyes, make a wish or two, blow gently and cherish the sight as your wishes float away.



UF/IFAS EXTENSION FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Compost, Micro-Irrigation, Rainwater Harvesting Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents

Saturday, March 10, 8:30-11:30 a.m., at the extension office located at 5339 County Road 579 in Seffner, 813-744-5519. Pre-registration is required and register early, as the classes fills up fast. www.eventbrite.com/e/compost-water-wise-and-rainwater-harvesting-non-hillsborough-county-residents-tickets-19800924097

8:30 a.m. - Attend a Composting Workshop and learn to turn trash to treasure. You'll receive a free compost bin and thermometer too (1 per household and the representative of the household must be an adult).

9:30 a.m. - The Microirrigation workshop will teach you how you can have a healthy and attractive lawn and landscape while conserving water. Tips on installing and using micro-irrigation are also presented. This irrigation method not only conserves water, but is not as restricted by current water restrictions as traditional in-ground irrigation systems! Hillsborough County residents may receive 1 free micro-irrigation kit* (per household and the representative of the household must be an adult) when they attend a workshop.

10:30 a.m. - Learn how Rain Barrels are useful for collecting rainwater for irrigation while reducing erosion and storm water runoff and how to make your own barrel using a 55-gallon plastic food-grade drum. Hillsborough County residents may receive 1 free rain barrel (per household and the representative of the household must be an adult) when they attend a workshop.



SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR LIFE

New GM Says Changes Coming to Bloomingdale Golfers Club

By Wendy Knipp



What do you do when you have a successful award-winning golf course with loyal members and it's your job to make it even better? That's a question that Bloomingdale resident Tim McLaughlin recently had to ask himself as he walked into Bloomingdale Golfers Club (BGC) as the new General Manager. After managing at hotels and casinos such as the Hard Rock Hotel and Atlantis for more than 37 years, he knew the solution right away, improve the customer experience.

"This is one of the best golf courses in the Tampa area. If we focus on improving the customer experience, that will improve our success," said McLaughlin.

Local resident and long-time BGC golfer Tom Brophy has seen many changes over the years and believes that improvements will be welcomed. He stated, "As area golfers begin to take more pride in their home course, things can only get better. The constant has been what a joy it is to play Bloomingdale's challenging layout every week."

The biggest change coming is the expansion of food and drink menu. McLaughlin explained, "At most public golf courses, you're getting a hamburger, hotdog or cold sandwich." BGC is bringing in a top-notch chef and new pizza oven so they will soon offer fresh artisan bread, gourmet pizzas, and craft beer. Once the menu is expanded, the clubhouse will hold more catered events and parties.

Another change – The GolfBoard®. It is the latest trend in golf and, in addition to regular carts, is now available to rent. Not only are they fun and easy to maneuver, but they can speed up the game quite a bit because they can be driven right up to the collar of the green. Per McLaughlin, "Once you try the board, the course speaks for itself."



Bloomingdale Golfers Club is located at 4113 Great Golfers Place, Valrico.
Visit the website at www.bloomingdalegolf.com.

New BGC general manager Tim McLaughlin introduced the GolfBoard® last month as part of ongoing improvements at the community course.

Photo: Wendy Knipp





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Huzzah! The Renaissance Festival is Here!

By Wendy Knipp

The Renaissance Festival – It's a time of Kings, Queens, Lords, Ladies and fools. It's a place where you can wander through 20 acres of woods interacting with artisans and performers while gnawing on a turkey leg or sampling the mead. A short drive to the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) in Tampa and you are transported back in time to a charming 16th century village complete with all the fantasy and fun but without the pestilence and poverty.

The Bay Area Renaissance Festival is a family-friendly event that runs weekends rain or shine Feb. 10-March 25 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. with a special Festival Friday on March 23. Each weekend carries a special theme including favorites such as Chocolate Fantasy, Highland Fling, and Time Travelers. And, visitors can dress up or come casual.

There are 12 stages with shows all day, themed experiences, and over 100 artisans selling everything from fairy costumes and swords to kettle corn and apple pie. Food and drinks choices are in abundance and you'll be completely immersed because, according to Marketing Coordinator Morgan Waier, "[There are] about 100 cast members who come out and interact with our patrons to give them an awesome experience."

The lineup of performances is nonstop and highlights this year include a new escape room, a Bloody Mary Bar, a Combat Axe Throwing Pub, and the return of the live unicorn and unicorn treats throughout the Festival. Regarding admission, there are several packages and add-ons available to purchase as well as some discounts, but at the gate, you can expect to pay \$21.95 for adults (ages 13+) and \$13.95 for children.

The Bay Area Renaissance Festival is located at 11315 N. 46th Street, Tampa. Visit the website at: bayarearenfest.com.

Photos: Wendy Knipp



Time Travelers themed weekend brings a Steampunk atmosphere to the Festival.



Festival-goers are entertained even when not attending a show.



Jousting matches are a fan-favorite.



Stage shows are fun, interactive, and non-stop throughout the day.

What is Hinging (of the wrist)?

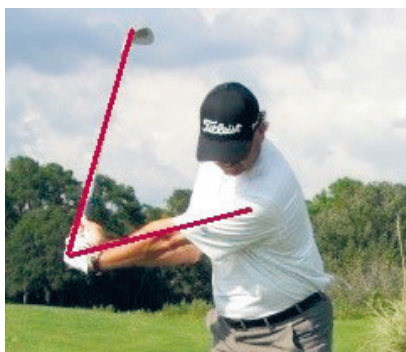
By J.D. Carino (Bloomingdale CC campus)

One of the common errors amongst amateurs is the placement of the club in the left hand. When done incorrectly, it will prevent you from hinging the wrist. Hinging adds a second lever to your swing and increases swing speed tremendously.

The placement of the left hand grip is diagonally across the fingers (red line) and underneath the heel. Most times the grip is held under the thumb pad (blue line), great for putting but disastrous for full swing.

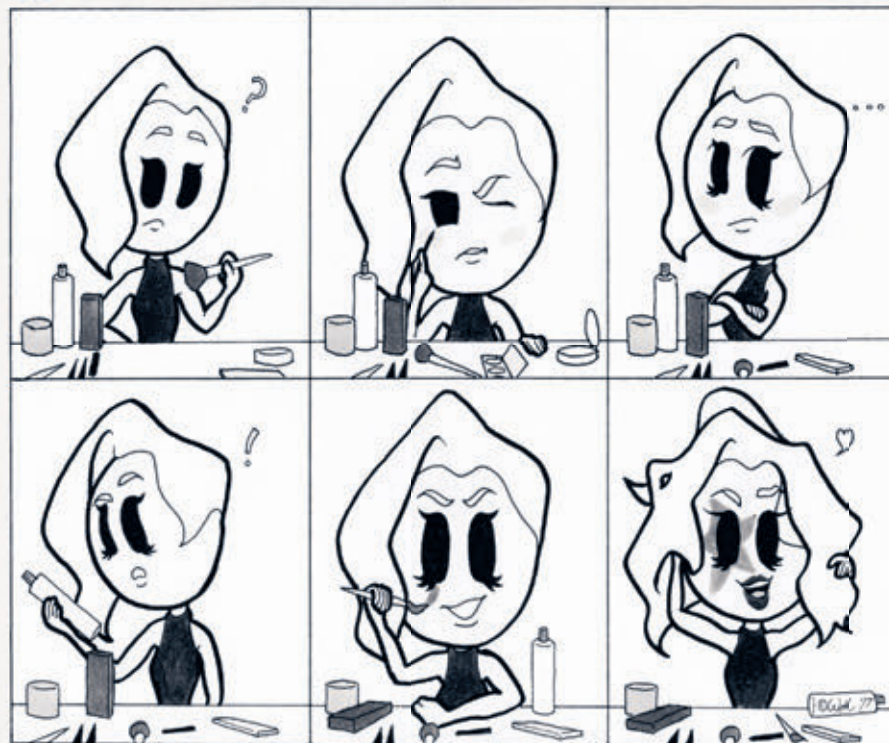
On the back swing, with the left arm at 9 o'clock (even with the ground) the club shaft should be at a right angle (90 degrees) with the correct hinge.

Any questions or for lessons, visit CochraneGolfSchools.com or call J.D. at 813-957-3205.



John E.S. Cochrane
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Gasparilla Pirate Fest: A Swashbuckling Good Time

Photos: Wendy Knipp

This year's Gasparilla Pirate Fest took place on Saturday, Jan. 27 and included over 100 floats and 300,000 parade watchers and bead collectors. Mark and Wendy Knipp, pictured, pulled in a pirate's bounty at this year's event.



Making Our Communities Safer With Vision Zero

By Dayna Lazarus, HC Vision Zero Planning Intern

How many deaths are acceptable on your city streets? Vision Zero is an international movement born from the idea that the right number is “zero.” For a vision of zero deaths to be meaningful, we must look at layers of systemic changes, not only in roadway design, but also in land use and development, public sentiment and behavior.

Our county is unique because we are consistently named one of the most dangerous counties in the nation for walkers and bikers. And, vehicular crashes are the #2 killer of kids in our county under 15. Our citizens are tired of being at the bottom of the barrel.

Hillsborough County's Vision Zero Action Plan is being implemented through four programs:

1. **Paint Saves Lives** involves pop-up design interventions such as intersection murals and painting bike lanes green.
2. **One Message, Many Voices** involves outreach and messaging, including a Speaker's Bureau and a Families for Safe Streets team.
3. **Consistent and Fair** involves increased enforcement of traffic laws.
4. **The Future Will Not be Like the Past** involves flexible design standards such as improved lighting, complete streets considerations, and bike lane improvements.

Senior Planner and primary Vision Zero contact Gena Torres led a discussion with the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association board late last year that was deep, meaningful, and focused on finding Vision Zero solutions in the Bloomingdale community. Board members were enthusiastic and had great ideas about how to bring the vision to the Bloomingdale area.

For information, follow the Vision Zero Hillsborough Facebook page, visit the website at planhillsborough.com/vision-zero, or email Gena Torres at torresg@plancome.org.



February School News A Look at What's Happening

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

Compiled by Deidre Morgan

School
News!



February 5 - Early Release Day - students released 1 hour early

**February 9 - Florida State Fair Non Student Day
(West Hillsborough County Schools Only)**



ALAFIA ALLIGATOR ALLEY

Alafia Mint – Every Wednesday in Room 208 from 7:30 to 7:55 a.m., come in, swap a book and visit the Spirit Store.

Spirit Day – Remember to wear your Alafia shirts every Friday to show your school spirit!



CIMINO COUGAR CENTRAL

Feb. 16 – All Pro Dads, 7 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room

Feb. 22 – Conference Night

Feb. 26 – March 2, Spring Book Fair



BURNS BRUINS BANTER

Feb. 8 – Spring Pictures

Feb. 8 – PTSA Dance, 4:30 p.m. in the Gym

Feb. 17 – Parent University, 7 a.m. at Bloomingdale High School

Feb. 19 – Carnival and PTSA Spirit Night, 5 p.m. in the Gym

March 2 – Chorus and Orchestra Picture Day



BLOOMINGDALE HIGH BULL BUSINESS

Feb. 6 - Boys Basketball @ Spoto, 7 p.m.

Feb. 7 – Athletic Signing, 3 p.m., Media Center

Feb. 8 – IncrediBULL Games, an All Day Event at the Stadium

Feb. 8 – Boys Basketball vs Blake, 7 p.m.

Feb. 10 – Yard Sale, 7 a.m. in the Honors parking lot

Feb. 13 – Baseball Pre Season, 4 p.m.

Feb. 13 – Lip Sync Battle Auditions, 3 p.m. in the Auditorium

Feb. 13 – Softball @ Robinson, 7 p.m.

Feb. 15 – Conference Night, 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 15 – Parent to Parent Info Table, 4 p.m. in the Media Center
(This is an opportunity to ask questions about college prep, college applications and military options)

Feb. 16 – Softball vs Lennard, 7 p.m.

Feb. 20 – Baseball/Softball @ Armwood, 7 p.m.

Feb. 21 – Lip Sync Battle, 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Feb. 23 – Boys/Girls Lacrosse vs Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Baseball vs. Lennard, 7 p.m.

Feb. 26 – Boys/Girls Lacrosse @ Jefferson, 5 p.m.

Feb. 27 – Boys/Girls Lacrosse @ Newsome, 5 p.m.

Feb. 27 – Baseball/Softball @ Sickles, 7 p.m.

March 1 – Boys/Girls Lacrosse @ Wesley Chapel, 5 p.m.

March 1 – Baseball/Softball vs Plant, 7 p.m.

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February School News: A Look at What's Happening (cont.)

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

Compiled by Deidre Morgan



BULL BRIEFS

First Annual Family Bingo Night

Support the BSHS Chorus Department at their first-ever bingo night fundraiser. The family-fun event will be held March 2 in the school cafeteria. Doors open at 6 p.m. with games beginning at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 for three games, \$20 for six games, \$25 for nine games. Extra cards are available for purchase. Wonderful prizes are ready for the game winners as well as a silent auction and a raffle. Concessions will be sold.



PERT Math Tutoring

PERT Math tutoring will be available this semester during 4th and 6th periods with Mr. Pennant. This is a great opportunity for students needing to earn a concordant score on the Algebra 1 EOC, and for students needing to earn college ready test scores for dual enrollment. See Mr. Pennant in room 311 for more information.

TeachaBULL Moments

Introducing a new program through the PTSA! TeachaBULL Moments will give parents and students an opportunity to acknowledge a teacher that goes above and beyond. You can email to TeachaBULLmoments@gmail.com or drop a note in the front office of how a teacher has gone the extra mile for a Bloomingdale student or students. We want to take time to acknowledge our teachers for the great work they do. Each month one teacher will be chosen from letters that have been turned in and will receive a gift card. PTSA wants to give Bloomingdale families an opportunity to let our teachers know what great work they do!

Florida State University Symphonic Band Free Concert

The Florida State University Symphonic Band will perform a free concert at Bloomingdale High School on Friday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. This is the last concert of their tour before their Premiere Performance at the University of South Florida, which will host the College Band Director Association conference. The band will perform World premieres by John Mackey and Dr. Kim Archer. For more information, contact the band director at Bloomingdale High School, Jon Sever, at jonsever@sdhc.k12.fl.us.



School News!



BLOOMINGDALE BULLS FOOTBALL BOOSTERS

2ND ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

March 3, 1130 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Advanced Registration Required, Includes Putting Contest, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Raffles and Give Aways, \$10k Hole-In-One Contest

Costs: \$125 per player, \$400 per 4-some, Sponsors Wanted

Practice/Putt: 1130 a.m.

Shotgun Start: 1 p.m.

Dinner/Award Celebration: 6 p.m.

Lunch and dinner Included, Free Beer All Day

Register online at www.facebook.com/events/1991066391217002/?active_tab=about



Hillsborough County Council PTA/PTSA

Scholarship Fund 2017/2018

Know a high school senior looking for college scholarships? Apply by March 1, 2018 for a Hillsborough County PTA/PTSA scholarship! Scholarships are for seniors attending Hillsborough County Public schools. Winners will be selected based on merit and/or financial need. Scholarships are typically one \$1,000 and two \$500 (based on vendor sales at Spring Training each year).

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdeTwdll1eB3bLsBajT-SCB-xKjv10UB95wLIMhmTalz2NkBIQ/viewform>

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Winners!

Photo: Burns Middle School



Congratulations to Burns Middle School Boys' Volleyball Team for winning the Hillsborough County Championship. This is especially impressive since it's their inaugural season. Eighth grader Dylan Zsold said, "As a team we learned and grew a lot from the first practice to the championship game. It was a great experience and a lot of fun. It is something we will remember forever."



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2017 CLOSED LISTINGS



Call Brenda to get your **SOLD** sign in 2018!

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