

# BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

# YOUR INSIDE CONNECTIONS

Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

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

Email: Bloomingdale.Homeowners@gmail.com

Website: www.BloomingdaleHOA.com

BHA Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Bloomingdale 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**

Editor - The Bloomingdale Gazette

3509 Bell Shoals Rd.

Valrico, FL 33596 - (813) 681-2051

Email: InBloomingdaleNews@gmail.com Website: www.BloomingdaleHOA.com

Design/Layout: Chris Pascucci, NTZ Studios Staff Writers: Wendy Knipp, Deidre Morgan, Jessica Hinson and Student Reporter: Jon Alfano

The official publication of the BHA since 1980

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



# ANDREA DALY

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# **BHA COMMUNITY CORNER**

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

#### BHA Membership: What do you get for \$35 a Year?

Join the BHA! Your \$35 membership fees are returned 100 percent to the community. And, every member and dollar matter. As a united community, we can make our neighborhood better.

#### Your \$35 includes:

- The Fall Festival
- Annual Clean-Up Days
- A Dedicated Board that advocates for community improvements to government officials
- The Award-Winning Bloomingdale Gazette
- A Neighborhood Standards Program to help maintain our property standards and quality of life. We do not enforce deed restrictions, rather we work with county code officers to report code violations. See the standards list on our website at www.bloomingdalehoa.com.
- The HOA website, Facebook and Twitter Pages
- An Office with Part-Time Staff to assist with inquiries.
- Community-Wide Garage Sale
- Santa Visit and Charity Food Drive
- Scholarship and Community Service Hour Opportunities
- Yard of the Month



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.

Tuesday, May 8, 6:30 p.m. / BHA Monthly Board Meeting, Bloomingdale Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Road. Residents always welcome. Call 813-681-2051 for information.

Monday, May 14, 6:30 p.m. / Bloomingdale Special Taxing District Monthly Trustee Meeting, Bloomingdale Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Road. Call 813-684-6667 for information.

Thursday, May 17, 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**

#### Follow us on Facebook for East and West Park Updates, coming Soon!

#### **Scholarship Winner Announced!**

The BHA selected Bethany Gallagher as the 2018 Community Scholarship Winner. As in previous years, the competition for the scholarship was fierce. The board will present the award at the May board meeting and an article will follow in the June Gazette. Congratulations Bethany!

#### **Board Meeting Highlights and Other Board News**

The April meeting saw a discussion of neighborhood standards. Board members have been assigned neighborhoods to check on a monthly basis for county code violations. These violations will be reported to county for processing. Standards receiving priority reporting are located on the BHA's website.

#### **Under Construction!**

The new dog park at Saladino Park on Bryan Road is under construction with a summer opening anticipated. While not in our Bloomingdale area, the park will still be close enough for residents to enjoy with Fido and Fifi. The board will continue to press for a park in our community based on resident feedback.



#### **Calling All 2018 Graduates, Parents and Friends!**

We want your graduation photos for our July issue!

The Gazette wants to help you celebrate your upcoming graduation moments, including pre-k hrough college graduations, Alafia and Cimino clap outs, formal pictures, parties,

and more! Send your graduation photos or selfies to inbloomingalenews@ gmail.com by June 20. At a minimum, identify those in the photo from left to right, the school graduating from, and the plans of the graduate. Photos need to be no less than 600x600 resolution, but preferably 1 mb or better for best results. We will do the rest! Don't forget to provide contact information just in case there are questions.





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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.)

#### Curb appeal can sell your home faster and at a higher price

Spring has sprung and buyers are out looking for the best home for their money! If a buyer likes the curb appeal of your house, they will want to call their Realtor to get a look at the inside. Whether you are selling or not, know that curb appeal can easily be achieved and can make your home the best on your Bloomingdale block.

#### Here are my curb appeal recommendations:

- 1. Freshly washed windows
- 2. Well maintained lawn, mulched gardens and colorful plants
- 3. Trimmed hedges
- 4. Updated outdoor lighting and modern address numbers
- 5. Power washed house, driveway, and sidewalks

Ask a family member or friend to stop by and take a fresh look at your home's curb appeal. They can help point out areas that can use enhancing. I stopped by Bloomingdale Ace Hardware this past weekend – they have lots of different color mulch to choose from in their parking lot.

Loropetalum, known as Chinese Witch Hazel, is a common landscape plant in our area. The curb appeal-enhancing plant features burgundy-colored foliage in the spring and pink flowers in the spring and fall. The professionals at Kiwi Tropical Plants and Nursey on Lithia Pinecrest say this flowering plant is great for sun and cold weather.





## By Ronnie McLaughlin

The Chadderton Real Estate Group Keller Williams Realty

813-601-5659 ronniemclaughlin@kw.com www.chaddertongroup.com

In any case, getting a buyer from outside your home to inside is key to getting your home sold. So, put a little effort and hard work into your home's curb appeal – and get ready for buyers.

#### **Neighborhood Snapshot - The Greens**

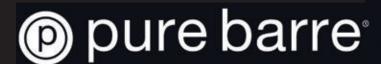


The Greens located between the Bloomingdale Golf Course and Culbreath Road includes Aspen Leaf Way, Eagle Bluff Drive, Eagles Nest Drive, Hidden Pines Place, Marseille Court, Panther Creek Place, Shadowhill Lane, Timbergrove Drive and Woods Point Way. Forty of the homes in this mandatory HOA neighborhood line the 5th, 6th, 15th and 16th fairways. The average square footage is approximately 2,600, all onestory homes. Twelve 4 bedroom, 3 or 2 ½ bathroom homes built between 1989-1995 sold over the past year at a median sales price of \$331,000. Homes in this neighborhood with updated kitchens and flooring sold for much higher.



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# 🜂 May Community Calendar

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

Compiled by Miriam Leech

# TODAY!

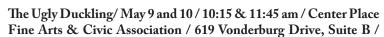
Picker Place - 4 Day Vintage Market / Plant City / May 5 and 6 / 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. / 709 N Park Rd, Plant City / http://pickerplace.com/ / Come browse the unique, eclectic, one of a kind vintage treasures that our amazing Pickers have for you to discover at the 13,000 sq feet Market! Whether you are treasure hunting for vintage, upcycled, industrial, shabby chic, Old Florida, Americana, pop culture of yesteryear or just have an all-around love of all things old, you are sure to find something that piques your interest. This is a twice-monthly 4-Day Vintage Market open Thursday through Sunday on the 1st and 3rd weekend of each month. Phone - 813-952-4672.



The Tacos & Tequila Party + Social at The Ritz Ybor / May 5 / 7-10 p.m. / 1503 E 7th AveTampa / http://theritzybor.com/Calendar/ / Cinco de Mayo Street Taco Stations + Tequila Tastings + Signature Margaritas.

FUNDRAISER! 2018 WALK TO END LUPUS NOW, SUPPORT BLOOMINGDALE TEAM - CRUZIN FOR A CURE / May 6 / 4 p.m. Checkin, 5:30 p.m. start, 1 mi or 3 mi walk / AL Lopez Park, 4810 N. Himes Ave., Tampa / Bloomingdale's Cruz family asks for your support to end lupus. For five years, the family has raised money for the Lupus Foundation of America reaching over \$10,000 in donated funds to date. 1.5 million Americans living with the disease are females, including this family's daughter, Olivia. How can you help? Donate, Join the Team, Be a Virtual Walker, and Spread the Word! To join the fight and Olivia's team, go to http://support.lupus.org/site/TR/WTELN/General?team\_id=5811&pg=team&fr\_id=1312. Or email Carlos Cruz at eboxcruz@gmail.com.

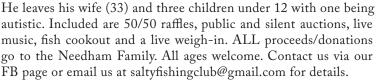
Art Therapy for Special Needs Adults / May 7, 14, June 4, 11, 18, 25 and July 9, 16 / 5:30-6:30 p.m. / Center Place Fine Arts & Civic Association / 619 Vonderburg Drive, Suite B / www. CenterPlaceBrandon.org / Join Instructor Greg Manley as he teaches participants to use ART as a therapeutic resource to express, communicate, heal and grow. Projects will be based on individual needs. Art helps express hidden emotions, reduces stress, fear and anxiety. Classes require advance registration and payment. Call 813-685-8888 for information.



www.CenterPlaceBrandon.org / For over two centuries, Hans Christian Andersen's, "The Ugly Duckling", has been a childhood favorite all over the world. Now Stages Productions revives the classic tale in a brand new musical. For grades PK-3rd Grade. For information, call 813-685-8888.

Impact's Got Talent / May 11 / 6:30-9 p.m. / Bloomingdale High School / 1700 East Bloomingdale Ave / Attend Impact's Got Talent Competition as vocalists, actors, dancers (solos, duets & groups), musicians, etc. compete against the finest talent in town for incredible prizes including a \$250 GRAND PRIZE! Ticket sales benefit the Impact program. Tickets are \$10 per person. Doors open at 6 p.m. There are 50-50 raffles and silent auction baskets. For information about Impact, visit www.whatisimpact.com/.

Salty Mack-Attack Mackerel and Kingfish Benefit Tournament / May 12, 7 a.m.-8 p.m. / The Salty Fishing Club at the Salty Shamrock / 6186 HWY 41, Apollo Beach, Florida 33572 / Join us this year to raise funds to support the Needham Family. Justin Needham, who passed April 10 at 35 years of age, was a retired Sheriff of 13 years in Hillsborough County.



Tampa Bay AirFest / May 12 / 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. / MacDill AFB / 3108 N Boundary Blvd / www.macdill.af.mil/AirFest-2018/ / MacDill AFB once again rolls out the red carpet for friends and neighbors through a showcase of extreme aviation capabilities. A two-time "Best Military Air Show" winner, this year's fest will be the best ever. The headlining U.S. Navy Blue Angels are joined this year by the F-22 Demo team and the A-10 Demo Team (flying airshows for the first time in 7 years). Come ready to feel the thunder while touring an amazing array of aviation assets from all of our amazing military services. Free admission and free parking.





Create Workshop / May 12 / 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. / Bloomingdale Library, Rm 8 / 1906 Bloomingdale Avenue / Come to a free Create Workshop and learn how to make a mixed media art tag. Artist and instructor Judith Henry will demonstrate how to create a tag for use as a bookmark, a gift label or keepsake. Bring copies of small family photos, magazines and newspaper clippings of words that illustrate feelings. Register online at www.HCPLC.org.

James Taylor & His All-Star Band with special guest Bonnie Raitt / May 12 / 7:30-9:30 p.m. / Amalie Arena / 401 Channelside Dr / www.amaliearena.com/events/detail/james-taylor / Grammy-award winning artist James Taylor has touched people with his warm baritone voice and distinctive style of guitar-playing for more than 40 years. Joining him is the incomparable Bonnie Raitt, a ten-time Grammy winner. This is a must-see show.

Bloomingdale HS Graduation / May 24 / 4-6 p.m. / Florida State Fairgrounds / 4800 N US Highway 301, Tampa / Come celebrate with the Class of 2018. No tickets necessary as there is plenty of seating, but there is a parking fee.



Tampa Bay Margarita Festival / May 26-27 / Noon / 600 N Ashley Dr, Tampa / www. TampaMargaritaFest.com / The Margarita Festival is now two days! Spend Memorial Day weekend at the best festival in Tampa Bay! Enjoy over 50 kinds of margaritas, live bands, games, pop-up food concepts, a tequila tasting, a margarita run, and end the night with the biggest fireworks show! Limited amount of Presale 2 Day General Admission and VIP experiences are now available.

Tampa Bay Rays vs Baltimore Orioles / May 27 / 1:10 p.m. / Tropicana Field / One Tropicana Dr, St. Petersburg / http://tampabay.rays.mlb.com / Take me out to the ball game!





THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

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# **Wanted: A Forever Home and Family!**

Source: Hillsborough County

Hillsborough County's Pet Resource Center (PRC) has many cats and dogs looking for their "forever" homes. The PRC is the only open-admission facility in the county, meaning it accepts dogs and cats regardless of breed, size or medical condition. Residents can visit the center or search online to view hundreds of adoptable animals. All pets are microchipped, vaccinated, registered, and spayed or neutered before adoption.

The PRC, located at 440 N. Falkenburg Rd., is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For information, call 813-744-5660 or visit www.hcflgov.net/pets.

Here are just a few fabulous faces to choose from:







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MAY 2018

# BL@MINGDALE Special Taxing District

(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.)

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

#### **Off-Duty Deputy Program**

Per Florida Statute 30.2905, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) administers a program for the employment of sheriff's deputies during off-duty hours for public and private services. These services can include security and traffic enforcement.

The Trustees of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District are considering hiring off-duty officers as part of this program to enhance prevention of vandalism and crime, and deter speeding on our Bloomingdale roadways, with increased funds from the proposed tax assessment increase should the Referendum pass on Aug. 28.



Courteey HCSO

The BSTD Trustees are authorized under Section 15(9) of the District's creating ordinance (85-38) "... to employ and pay necessary costs associated with security officers." Many other communities, including several other special taxing districts, take advantage of the HCSO off-duty program.

"Without a doubt, these deputies have made Northdale a safer place to live. I am sure this action helps to maintain the popularity of our community, and the resale values of our homes remain high," said Nancy Stearns of the Northdale Special Tax District Board of Directors.

The cost of the program is approximately \$46 per hour, which includes \$30 per hour to the Deputy, \$4 per hour to the HCSO, and \$12 per hour for insurance/payroll service and the employer's side of payroll taxes.

Bloomingdale is one of the safest communities in Hillsborough County. Despite that, vandalism, burglary, and most significantly, speeding continue to be issues. Vandalism and property damage incurred because of auto accidents in our community directly affect BSTD spending, and ultimately the residents' tax dollars. With the passage of the tax assessment increase, the BSTD will be able to take advantage of the HCSO off-duty program and provide an added layer of safety and crime prevention.

According to Corporal Brendan Fitzgerald, coordinator of the Northdale program, five off-duty deputies performed 591 vehicles stops and responded to, or

initiated, 1,007 calls for service (area checks, suspicious person, suspicious vehicle, etc.) from Jan. 1, 2017, to March 1, 2018. This is for an off-duty presence of 130 hours per month.

The BSTD Trustees will include this service as part of its Fiscal Year 2020 budget should the \$40 annual tax assessment increase Referendum pass on Aug. 28. For information on the off-duty program or the Referendum, please contact the BSTD office at 813-684-6667.



Courtesy: Gulfport PD

# 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 Jay Kittle, Trustee Bob Meginnis, Trustee

#### **Monthly Meeting**

The residents of Bloomingdale, as always, are invited to attend the next meeting of the BSTD on May 14 at 6:30 p.m., at the Bloomingdale Community Offices, 3509 Bell Shoals Rd. 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!

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

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# **Village ELC Celebrates Cultural Diversity**

Brief/Photos by Wendy Knipp

Teaching children about cultural diversity and embracing differences in others is very important at The Village Early Learning Center (The Village). Students range in age from infants through 5th graders and they come from all backgrounds, as do the teachers.

Each year The Village, along with The Village Family Foundation and generous sponsors, holds an International Festival, which is free, open to the public, and showcases many different countries. Each classroom focuses on one or two countries and students have an

opportunity to immerse themselves in that culture by creating arts and crafts.

ZAMBIA

Teacher Ms. Lyon proudly poses with students Emily Woolheater (left) and Sophie Pleshkewych (right).

Owners Susan and Joe Miller said, "The children, families, and staff of The Village have worked together over the past several weeks to create a unique experience in each classroom as they study the culture, language, cuisine, and environment of their chosen countries."

Tami Howell, Coordinator of Community Life, enjoys this annual event. "During International Week, we celebrate cultural diversity in our school and community, and we are proud to bring this event to the community for the seventh year."

This year's festival was April 7. Families were greeted by teachers and parents dressed in each classroom's native dress. Children received "passports" which were stamped after visiting classrooms/countries. There were also arts and crafts, international food/drink tastings, and live entertainment including martial artists, cloggers, and belly dancers.

"It's amazing seeing all the different cultures represented with their food, their dancing, their flags, and their culture and it's a neat way to travel the world in our own backyard," fest-goer Christine Pleshkewych said.

The Village is NAYEC accredited and located at 3741 Canoga Park Drive, Brandon, FL 33511 (www.VillageELC.com, www.facebook.com/IHeartTheVillage).



Stallion Thunder, drummers from Sessums Elementary School, entertained Fest-goers.



Kids love dancing along with Eric Zawalich, a German accordion player.

## **FACT:**

High-quality after school programs are associated with better peer relationships.

## **BALANCED LEARNING® WAY:**

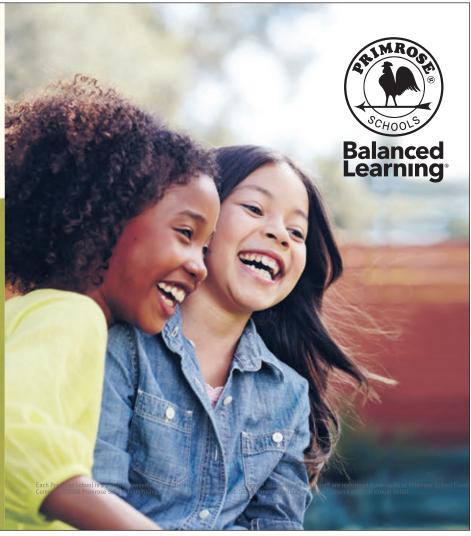
No wonder so many BFFs get their start here.

REGISTER FOR THE 2018-2019 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR. CALL FOR A TOUR TODAY.

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**Primrose School of Bloomingdale** 

1280 Bloomingdale Avenue | Valrico, FL 33596 813.438.5980 | PrimroseBloomingdale.com



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# BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY STATION NOTES By Community Resource Deputy Clifford Fletcher and CSO Debbie Vijil

#### **Area Law and Order**

Between March 13 and April 12, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) conducted fifty-one traffic stops, one more than last month, in Bloomingdale East and Bloomingdale West. Those traffic stops resulted in 11 verbal warnings, 31 written warnings, eight citations and one traffic arrest.

There were eight non-injury traffic crashes and nine injury traffic crashes. There were no vehicle burglaries during this period. Remember to stay proactive and remove your valuables from your vehicle to prevent burglaries.

Also reported were two business burglaries and two residential burglaries. Arrest made were two warrant arrests, three arrests for battery, one for theft and one for road rage.



### Be on the Lookout!

Daylight saving time brings longer periods of daylight and foot traffic. Remember to contact the Sheriff's Office if you view any suspicious activity at 813-247-8200.

### Be in the Know!

Did you know it is illegal to ride any type of off-road vehicle, motor scooter, golf cart, or fourwheeler on the roadway? The roadway is the area from the rear of the sidewalk to the other side. If you don't have a DMV tag displayed, you cannot drive on the road. It is illegal. It can also get you or someone else hurt or worse. There are much better places you could be riding these



Don't drive illegally? The consequences can be deadly. Courtesy: www.newstalkflorida.com

toys. You could also be looking at a \$153citation. We get these violations often. If you are riding illegally, don't be surprised if someone calls and reports you riding down the road. For info, visit www.leg.state.fl.us/.

Did you know the HCSO has a bicycle registration program designed to help citizens recover their bikes when stolen or lost? Residents complete a registration form and turn it in to the Sheriff's Office. In turn, HCSO provides a sticker for your bike and tracks the bike's identifying information. Help us, help you – keep your bicycle in a locked garage, or when out use a bike lock. By registering your bike, we have a better chance of identifying that it belongs to you and ultimately returning it. Visit our site www.hcso.tampa.fl.us for the registration form.



Did you know you can turn in unwanted/outdated medicine at the HCSO District Office? If disposed of improperly, for example the trash or sewer system, drugs can end up polluting our water system. We also have an Operation Medicine Cabinet program at different times throughout the year.

Did you know we have a "Move Over" law that requires drivers to move over one lane when they approach an emergency vehicle or a wrecker actively assisting motorist? It is also a violation to follow behind an emergency vehicle within 500 feet. So, when you see a fire truck or ambulance get out of the way and give them some room. They are trying to go help someone. The choice to follow too closely could cost you \$153. See section 316.126, Florida Statutes for information.



# **Next Bloomingdale Area Community Council Meeting** (BACC)

Get involved; attend our monthly meeting as a neighborhood representative. Our meetings are on the third Thursday of each month - this month's meeting is May 17 at 7 p.m. at 3622 Erindale Drive. The BACC works directly with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office to identify community concerns and find solutions to all types of problems. For information, call the Bloomingdale Community Station at 635-8040, or come by the station.

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

# Welcome to the Neighborhood, Bullfrog Creek Brewing Company!

By Jessica Hinson



Mascot Sir Hopticon, named after an online contest, proudly displays a craft beer offering. Photo: Jessica Hinson

Many have noticed that a brewery and taproom has popped up right in our own backyard - Bullfrog Creek Brewing Company. Local beer lovers with a common interest bringing fresh craft beer and a relaxing atmosphere closer to home - opened the brewery in March. Crowds since then have been non-stop mission accomplished.

One of the founders and local resident Jamie Ratcliff remarked, "Many people don't realize they like craft beer till they try it."

Bullfrog Creek offers unique beer flavors not available anywhere else. "Beertenders" serve multiple brewed on-site craft beers with names locals would recognize like "Alafia Wheat" and "The Diddy." Don't ask for domestic or imported beer, they are

not offered. However, Head Brewer Matt Morrow explained that for each beer created he replicates a water profile similar to the origin it hails from. By doing this, each beer has a significant flavor that patrons recognize, whether domestic or imported.

Assistant Brewer Dan Castanera pointed out that the craft beer menu changes daily, according to availability. There are approximately 16 taps flowing with 9 guest taps and 7 brewed in house, ranging in price from \$6-8 per beer.

Food purchases at Bullfrog are limited to grab and go salads, Cuban sandwiches, and sliders all from Alessi's and snack foods including bags of chips and gourmet popcorn for \$1-5 each. Food trucks make appearances on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

Adding to the fun atmosphere are weekly events including Bingo on Mondays, Board Game Night on Tuesdays, Trivia on Wednesdays and Service Industry Night on Thursdays. Live music is offered as well.

On your way home from work or have a Sunday afternoon open? Consider stopping in and trying out our area's newest staple. Bullfrog Creek Brewing Company is located at 3632 Lithia Pinecrest Rd. just south of Erindale Road. Hours are noon till closing time, usually 10 p.m. on weeknights, 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 9 p.m. on Sundays. Check out the brewery Facebook page for up-to-date beer offerings and events, www.facebook.com/bullfrogcreekbrewing/ or call 813-703-8835 for information.



Beer lovers packed the brewery on Founders Night. Courtesy: Bull Frog Creek Brewery

# What Can I Recycle in the Blue Cart?

Recyclables need to be empty and dry. Go bagless, place items loose in the cart.

# Yes. Toss These In:



Clean Plastic Bottles and Containers (caps on)



**Paperboard Boxes** 



Dry Paper, Newspaper, and Junk Mail



Clean Aluminum Cans



Clean Milk and **Juice Cartons** 



Dry Flattened Cardboard



Clean Glass Bottles and Jars



Clean Steel and Tin Metal Containers

# When In Doubt - Leave It Out



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**MAY 2018** 



# Summer Camps Provide Something for all Ages!

Complied By Wendy Knipp

Keeping kids occupied, safe and engaged is a great goal this summer. We have compiled an extensive list of camp offerings organized by interest. These camps are sure to please even the fussiest kid.



#### **BUSCH GARDENS**

(813-884-4FUN)

Grades K-12

What: Day and Overnight Resident Camps May 30 – August 3

varies

#### CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM

Contact: www.seewinter.com/education/camps (727-441-1790 x270)
Ages: 5 - 18

What: Animals and nature

June 4 – August 17 @ 7am – 5pm (core hours 8:30am – 4pm) When: varies

#### FLORIDA AQUARIUM

Contact: www.flaquarium.org (813-273-4015)

3 - 18 What: animals and nature

May 29 - August 9 9am – 4pm (1/2 days available)

#### FLORIDA FANTASY FISHING CAMP

Contact: www.fantasyfishingcamp.com

June 3 – August 10

varies - Day Camp \$695 and Overnight Camp \$1595

#### **LOWRY PARK ZOO**

www.zootampa.org/camps

Grades K – 8th Animals and nature

When: May 29 - August 3 @ 7am - 6pm - (core hours 9am - 4pm

#### **R&RRANCH**

Contact: www.rrranchlithia.com (813-653-3819)

6 - 12

Daily trail rides and hay rides, bounces houses, horse What:

education, and more

May 29 – August 3, 9am – 5pm \$225/week or \$50/day



www.artandicecream.com/summer-camp (813-315-9803) 5 – 7 (Junior Art Camp, Mon – Wed 9am – 11am, \$90/day) 8 and up (Art Camp, Mon – Fri 10am – 2pm, \$240/week)

When:

#### ARTSY ACADEMY IN FISHHAWK

Contact: subhadraraju08@gmail.com (813-817-9037)

4 - 14

What: watercolors, acrylics, pastels, drawing, clay, and more

When: June 11 – 28 @ 9am – 1pm

#### BRICKS4KIDZ, BRANDON @ WE ROCK THE SPECTRUM KIDS GYM

Contact: www.bricks4kidz.com/florida-tampa/ brandonfishhawkriverview-summer-camps

5 - 12

What: Lego Camps

June 18 – 22, July 9 – 13, July 30 - August 3 When:

(full and ½ days available) varies

CONTEMPO SCHOOL OF DANCE Contact: www.contempodance.com/Schedule.html (813) 948-3262

Dance, performing arts June 18 – 22, July 16 – 20, July 23 – 27 (1/2 day camps) When:

#### DANCE BOX STUDIO

www.danceboxtampa.com/summer-program (813-515-7993)

3 - 16 What: Dance When varies starts at \$165/week

#### **ELITE ANIMATION ACADEMY**

8 and up

drawing/creative animation or digital animation When: June 4 – August 10 @ 10am – 3pm

## FIREHOUSE CULTURAL CENTER AND PATEL

**CONSERVATORY** 

ulturalcenter.org (813-645-7651) Art, Music, Theater & Robotics, car

June 4 – August 3 @ 8:30am – 3:30pm starting at \$135/week (open to Members and Non-Members) When:

#### FLORIDA ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS/MUSIC SHOWCASE

Contact: www.FAOPA.org (813-490-2787)

5 and up Music and theater

May 29 – August 8 @ 9am – 5pm \$175/week

**ROCKATAR MUSIC ACADEMY** Contact: rockataracademy.com/summer-camp (813-404-9194)

What: Music, singing, songwri June 4 – August 3 @ 8:30am – 1pm When:

\$135/week

#### STRAZ CENTER/PATEL CONSERVATORY

www.strazcenter.org/Arts-Education/Patel-Con

Dance, Theater, Music

What: When: starts week of May 29 varies

## WINTHROP ARTS, INC.

www.winthroparts.org (813-758-5161)

nting, mixed media, sewing, fabrics, printmaking When: June 4 – 8, June 11 – 15, June 18 – 22 @ 8:30am – 12:30pm

# ATHLETIC/SPORTS

#### ACE GOLF RANGE AND PRO SHOP

Contact: www.ace-golf.com (Brandon 813-651-4653) (Riverview: 813-672-7750)

5 - 15

Golf Practice/Mini-Golf Program\* - Receive a free small bucket of balls each day or one round of mini-golf

June 1 – August 31

Free (club rental extra); summer golf camps, clinics, and private/group lessons are available for an additional cost

\*Kids may play golf for free when accompanied by a paying parent after noon each day

#### **BRANDON SWIM AND AQUATIC CENTER**

Contact: www.mybsac.org (813-689-0908) 3 (must be potty trained) through 14 (rising 8th grade) Day Camps (weekly themes)

May 28 – August 9 @ 7am – 6:30 (full and ½ days available) When: Starting at \$40/day (drop in) and \$90 for ½ day per week;

**CASEY POWELL LACROSSE** 

Contact: laxcamps.com/lax-camps/tampa-boys-lacrosse-camp/

(800-944-7112) boys 8 - 17 What: hovs lacrosse When: Iune 11 - 14

\$425/extended day and \$595/overnight

**CLEARWATER COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER** Contact: clearwatercommunitysailing.org (727-517-7776)

Sail, windsurf, paddle When: June 4 – August 10 @ 9am – 3pm

Starting \$270/week (1/2 days available) (Members and Non-Members welcome)

#### JAMEIS WINSTON FOOTBALL PROCAMP

www.procamps.com/jameiswinston (aland@procamps.com)

football with Jameis Winston When: June 2 – 3 @ 9am – 12:30pm

**JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL** 

Contact: www.jesuittampa.org/page.cfm?p=590 (813-877-5344) Ages: elementary and middle school-aged

June 4 – August 2, 9am – 2pm When:

starting at \$160/week

## LAFLUER GYMNASTICS

Contact: www.lafleurstampa.com/camps (813-264-5000)

4 and up

gymnastics and physical fitness May 28 - August 10 @ 9am – 3:30pm (1/2 days available) \$225/week for full days (1/2 day and daily rates available)

**OSTINGERS BASEBALL** 

Contact: ostingbaseball.com/baseball-summer-camp (813-737-3000)

June 4 – July 27 @ 8:30am - 12:30pm When: \$175/week Cost:

Contact: pinchasers.net/summer-camp/ (813-291-3310)

bowling

When: June 4 – 8, June 11 – 15, July 9 – 13 @ 9:30am – 3:30pm \$199/week

#### SKY ZONE TRAMPOLINE PARK

www.skyzone.com/tampa/programs/skycamp

(813-833-1740) 5 - 14 trampolin 8:30am – 5pm

\$35/1/2 day and \$45 full day Cost:

#### SPARTANS BASEBALL, UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA Contact: www.tampabaseballcamps.com (813-257-3673)

boys 5 - 14

basebal1 June 4 – July 27 @ Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm and Fri 9am-12pm When: \$250/week or \$60/day

Contact: topgolf.com/us/play/kidzone/ (813-298-1811)

May 28 - August 10 @ 8:30am - 12:15pm (core hours 9am – 12pm)

starting at \$199/week

**USF BASEBALL** 

Contact: collegebaseballcamps.com/usfbaseball (813-974-2995)

Grades K-8

12pm

Cost:

baseball When: June 11 – July 27 @ Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm and Fri 9am-

starting at \$175/week

**USF COLOR GUARD** Contact: music.arts.usf.edu/color-guard-camp/ (813-361-4657)

high school color guard

When: June 25 - 29 starting at \$380/week for commuters (resident and commuter rates)

#### WILSON COLLEGIATE TENNIS

www.wilsontenniscamps.com/univ-of-south-florida/

(330-333-2267) Ages: What: 7 - 18

July 9 – 13 (overnight also available) Day camp - 465/week for a full day and 325/week for ½ day



#### **ROLLING PIN KITCHEN EMPORIUM**

Contact: www.cookingschoolsofamerica.com/rollingpin

(813-653-2418) 6 - 15

What: Cooking classes When:

May 29 – August 2 (times vary) \$220/week (4 days)

# **VARIOUS INTERESTS**

#### **BULLSEYE LEARNING**

Contact: www.bullseyelearning.com/camp (813-413-4998)

Ages: 5 - 12 What: Summer Camp

When: May 29 – August 3 @ 7:30am – 6pm

\$95/week

## **CEDARKIRK CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER**

SUMMER CAMP

Contact: cedarkirk.org/summer/ Grades 1 – 12 completed

Traditional and specialty camps with spiritual foundation When: June 3 – August 3 (day camp and overnight)

starting at \$230/week Cost:

**CITY OF TAMPA PARKS AND RECREATION** Contact: www.tampagov.net/parks-and-recreation/youth-programs/

summer-camp (813-274-3345) 4 ½ - 17 What: Traditional and specialty camps (fine arts, sports, aquatics)

## ½ day starts at \$40/week (Full and ½ days available)

June 4 – August 10

**COLLEGE NANNIES, SITTERS, AND TUTORS** Contact: www.collegenanniesandtutors.com (813-704-2487) What: Nanny service after school, date night, part time, full time, anytime

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION** Contact: www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/recreation-andculture/kids/action-folder/register-for-summer-camp

Full - \$76/2 weeks, Reduced Lunch \$60/2 weeks

(813-744-5595)

6-17 Traditional Camp, Teen Camp, Special Needs Camp June 4 – August 3

**KIDS R KIDS, VALRICO** Contact: www.krkvalrico.com/programs/2018-summer-camp

5 - 12 What: Summer Camp (theme: travel and science)

(813-657-6200)

May 28 – August 10 \$165/week (daily rates available)

YMCA - CAMPO AND CAMP CRISTINA

Free Lunch \$40/2 weeks

Contact: www.tampaymca.org/summer-camp2018 Rising 1st Grade – 10th Grade

Day Camps and Specialty Camps May 29 – August 10 @ 7am – 6pm (core 9am – 4pm) When: Varies, starting at \$145/week

(open to Members & Non-Members)

## SCIENCE/S.T.E.A.M./LEARNING

Carrollwood Day School Contact: www.carrollwooddayschool.org/page.cfm?p=1068

When: varies, June 4 – July 27 @ 8:30am – 4pm

3 (potty trained) – 12th Grade Academic, athletic and S.T.E.A.M.

Cost: varies, full time starts at \$185/week (1/2 or full day available)

**CORBETT PREPARATORY SCHOOL OF IDS** 

Contact: www.corbettprep.com/community/camp-ids (813-961-3087) Grades K – 12

Sports, academics, recreation, S.T.E.A.M. What:

June 11 – July 27 @ 7:15am – 3pm (1/2 or full day) Starting at \$100/week

## **GLAZER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

Contact: glazermuseum.org/camps (813-443-3861) 5 - 10

What: Camp Imagination

When: June 4 – August 3 @ 8:30am – 5pm Cost: \$265/week

# MATHNASIUM

What:

Contact: 813-655-6284 Ages: 1st – 5th Grade

Math S.T.E.M. Camp June 11 – 15 or July 16 – 20 / Mon - Thurs @ 12:30 – 2:30 When:

& Friday 11:30 - 1:30 Cost: \$125/week

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY Contact: www.mosi.org/summer-camp 4 years old – 8th grade

STEAM camp

When: 7am – 6pm (core hours 10am – 5pm) varies (Members and Non-Members welcome)

THE VILLAGE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Contact: www.villageelc.com (813-651-0779) Completed Kindergarten – 5th Grade A.N.T.S. Summer Camp (Arts, Nature, Technology, Spanish)

May 29 – August 3 @ 6:30am – 6:30pm (core hours 8:30am – 4pm)

\$155/week or \$35 per day; field trips extra

# 类

# **Celebrating Mom: A Long-Standing Tradition**

By Jon Alfano

Mother's Day is a beloved holiday around the world. After all, who doesn't love their mother?

Even though everybody knows the holiday nowadays, not many know the origin of the celebration. That begs the question, how did Mother's Day get its start, and what else goes into its history?

The story of Mother's Day starts in 1908, when Anna Jarvis, a woman from West Virginia, held a memorial service for her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis. Ann was an activist who helped heal Civil War soldiers, and she created Mother's Day Work Clubs to bring attention to health issues at the time.

When Ann died in 1905, Anna began her campaign to make Mother's Day a national holiday. Her reasoning, a mother is "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world."

After initially denied by Congress in 1908, President Woodrow Wilson declared Mother's Day a national holiday in 1914, with the designated day being the second Sunday of May. This year's celebration is May 13.

Ironically, Jarvis would go on to fight against the commercialization of the holiday. In the 1920s, Jarvis threatened to sue companies such as Hallmark who took advantage of the holiday to make profit. She also organized boycotts of the holiday which she helped to create. She was eventually arrested for disturbing the peace.

While Americans celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May, other countries deviate from that day and set their own. Some countries, like Spain, celebrate one week earlier, while others, such as the United Kingdom, celebrate on the fourth Sunday of Lent, which is also known as Mothering Sunday.

Whatever the reason for celebrating our Mothers, don't forget your Mom this Mother's Day.



Flowers are one special gift many Moms receive on Mother's Day. Carnations are the number one given flower followed closely by roses. Pink carnations denote gratitude and love while red carnations indicate admiration. White carnations are given or worn in remembrance of a mother who is no longer living.

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- Outdoor Playgrounds w/Water Park
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813-657-6200 www.krkvalrico.com 4321 Lynx Paw Trail Located across from Lithia Springs Elementary CHC431024 813-654-7000 www.krkcirca.com 5815 Kids Crossing Drive Located between Stowers Elementary & Mosaic CHC432384

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# 🔾 Celebrate Mother's Day In Style

**Events In Our Area** 

Beyond the flowers and candy, there are many great ways to make your Mom feel special this Mother's Day. The list below is just a small selection of local area offerings!

Mother's Day at Pinot's Palette / May 12 and 13, Different Classes on Both Days / Pinot's Palette / 2086 Badlands Dr., Brandon / Celebrate Mother's Day with us! On May 12, one featured class is "Owl Love You to the Moon." With these sweet owls, everyone will love painting this. Painters can customize one of the owls with a bow tie instead of a hair bow. Class is 2-4 p.m at \$35. Bottomless cranberry or orange juice mimosas or sangria- \$12 per person. Guests enjoy a no-experience-required art class—all supplies included—directed by trained, local artists, who guide guests step-by-step through a featured painting. For information, www.pinotspalette.com/brandon/event/233386.



Mother's Day at The Florida Aquarium / Start May 12, 9:30 a.m. to May 13, 5 p.m. / 701 Channelside Drive, Tampa / This Mother's Day treat mom to an unforgettable sea of memories! Moms enjoy FREE

AQUARIUM TAMPA

admission with the purchase of any full paid admission. For information, call 813-273-4000 or visit flaquarium.org.

The Landing Bar & Grill / May 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. / 4351 Lynx Paw Trl, Valrico / Treat Mom to a delicious meal on Mother's Day. Let The Landing do all the work for you and your family. Complimentary sangria or mimosas for all Moms. Featuring Chef's Special Menu &

Endless Bloody Mary Bar, Mimosas & Mango Bellinis. Historically Mother's Day is the BUSIEST restaurant day for the entire year. Make your reservations today! Space is filling up fast. Call 813-653-0002.

Brandon All About Women Expo / May 13, Noon to 5 p.m. / Westfield Brandon Mall, Brandon / Bring your mothers and girlfriends for a day of pampering at Westfield Mall. Each expo has four featured areas that host Beauty, Wellness, Fashion and Girls Wanting to Have Fun. Come out and enjoy make-up & hair care techniques, massages, sample products, talk to doctors and health professionals, watch a fashion show and more ... All for free.



Register for VIP access with wine tastings, a painting class, photo booth, appetizers and a glam-swag bag. VIP Registration is FREE but only 250 slots are available. Note: registration will automatically close when the 250 limit is reached. Contact Simply Events by phone or email. 727-674-1464 or simplyeventsfl@yahoo.com. For tickets, go to www.eventbrite. com/e/brandon-all-about-women-expo-tickets.

Mother's Day Skate / May 13, 1-5 p.m. / Astro Skate Family Fun Center – Brandon / 750 W Robertson St., Brandon / http://brandon.astroskatingcenter.com / Come

celebrate Mother's Day! Moms get in for \$6, and bring up to 6 guests for free (skate rental extra)! Moms will also eat and drink all day for free! Call 813-681-3635.







# **Bloomingdale Bandits Head to Cooperstown; Fundraising Efforts Ongoing**

By Jessica Hinson

Cooperstown, NY – home to the Baseball Hall of Fame and Dreams Park – is where thousands of youth baseball teams head each summer to compete against the best teams in the country. Joining that elite group this June is the Bloomingdale Bandits Black 12U baseball team representing the Bloomingdale Youth Sports Association (BYSA). Once there, this team of 11 local players and their 3 coaches will stay on-site at Dreams Park and embark on the adventure of a lifetime.

Manager Nic Hinson stated, "These boys are what Baseball is all about. Heart, integrity and a true love of the game."

Every week of the summer, approximately 104 teams attend Dreams Park to compete. Each team plays in 1-2 games a day, with plenty of time off to tour the town, make new friends, trade pins, and enjoy being a kid. On the fifth day, single elimination rounds begin, narrowing the teams down to two that play in the championship game under the stars on the last night they are there.

A once in a lifetime trip like this comes with a hefty price tag. The starting price begins around \$15,000, depending on how many players and coaches attend per team. This cost does not include travel expenses or parent expenses.

Teams fundraise for up to two years for the opportunity to participate in this prestigious event. The Bandits have hosted a charity golf tournament, charity bingo events, worked hat drops, hosted multiple spirit nights, and collaborated with local companies and small businesses to defer the cost of their upcoming trip. Along with the cost, the team practices 2-3 times a week and competes in local tournaments 2-3 times a month to be physically and mentally prepared for competition.

Coach Joe Arnold stated, "It's a privilege to join these young men on this great adventure. Watching their hard work turn into personal successes for each of them has shown me what being a coach is about. Everything we do as a team is to help them become future leaders."

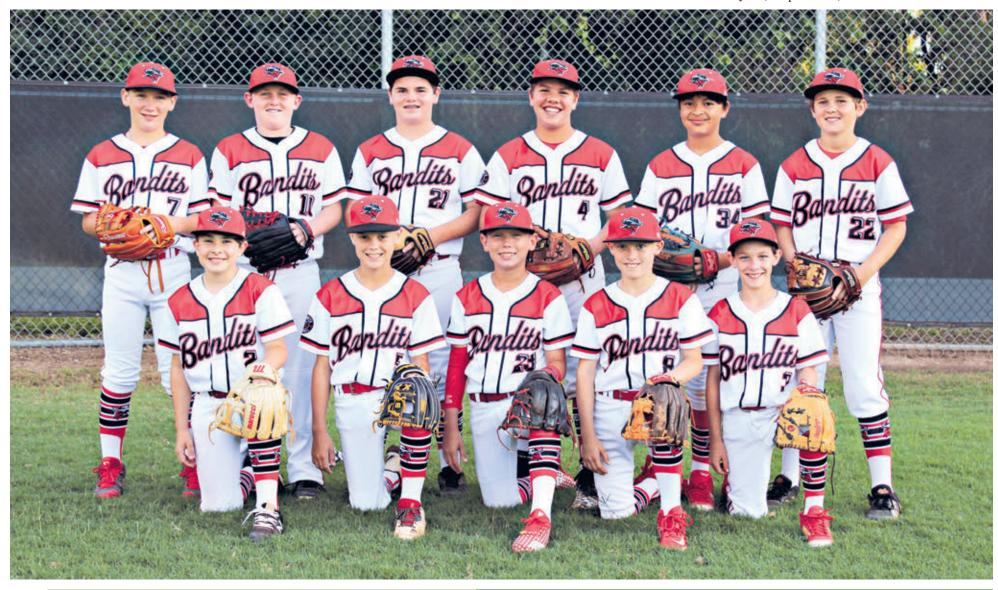
The Bandits are still fundraising selling \$10 PDQ gift cards for the price of \$6 apiece. If you are interested in purchasing PDQ cards or sponsoring the team, contact Brandee Wilson at 334-315-2653 or email banditsblack12u@gmail.com.

Photos: Jessica Hinson



Catcher Pierce Collins gets the final out of a game at home plate.

The Bloomingdale Bandits Black 12U baseball team head to Cooperstown this summer. Back row (L-R): Ethan Frame, Reed Wilson, Andrew Martin, Colin Pellicer, Louis Guy III and Vince Diballa. Front row (L-R): Tony Marrero, Sam LeJeune, Cooper Hinson, Pierce Collins and Trevan Arnold.

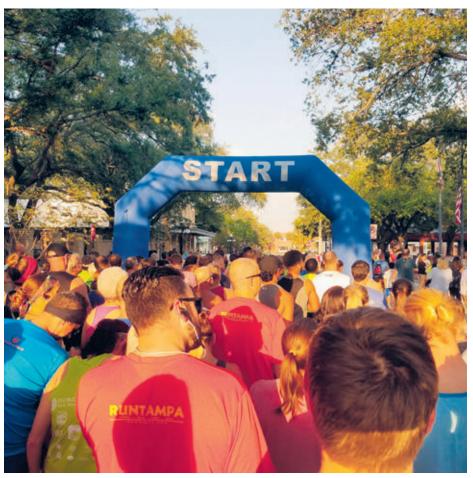


THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

# 💐 Local Race Raises Money for Corneal Transplants

**Brief/Photos By Wendy Knipp** 

The Lions Eye Institute for Transplant and Research held its annual "Roar through Ybor Race for Sight" on April 20 raising over \$25,000 to help those needing corneal transplants. Community support soared from just 170 registrants last year to over 1,115 registrants this year. Thanks to all who came out to support the cause. Donations can still be made at https://runsignup.com/Race/Donate/FL/Tampa/RaceforSight.



Runners took their mark to race through the streets of Ybor City while raising money for a worthy cause.



It was a beautiful evening for runners in Ybor City. The Knipps enjoyed running together in this familyfriendly event (from left, Wendy, Michael, Jason, and Mark).

# **MAJIK TOUCH CLEANERS**

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**BLOOMINGDALE** 

**654-8113** 3248 Lithia Pinecrest Rd.

**BLOOMINGDALE 654-9292** 1025 E. Bloomingdale Ave

**BRANDON MALL** 

**684-4499** 913 Brandon Blvd.

BRANDON **643-6944** 1836 W. Lumsden Rd.

**FISHHAWK 654-7991** 16707 FishHawk Blvd.

PLANT CITY 752-6631 2621 Thonotosassa Rd. (Plant City Crossings)

RIVERVIEW **672-4022** 11444 Hwy. 301 S.

RIVERVIEW 672-1832 11697 Boyette Rd.

RIVERVIEW **671-4156** 13196 Hwy. 301 S.

**SEFFNER 684-5897** 1515 N. Parsons Ave.

**VALRICO 654-2324** 1999 E. Brandon Blvd. (SR 60)

> **VALRICO 643-4825** 2511 S.R. 60 E.

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**MAY 2018** 

# BULLieve There is Hope for a Cure

Brief/Photos by Deidre Morgan

Charley Harris Stadium was the site as Bloomingdale High School hosted this year's Relay for Life, an annual event held on April 6 and 7. The event was hugely successful as teams raised more than \$72,000 at last report. Relay for Life is a team fundraising event where team members take turns walking around a track or designated path. Each event is 6-24 hours in length and each team is asked to have a member on the track at all times to signify that cancer never sleeps. Each team sets up a themed campsite at the event and continues their fundraising efforts by collecting donations for food, goods, games, and activities. This money will count towards their overall team fundraising goal. This is a worthwhile event for a worthy cause – to find an end to cancer.



Brooker Elementary student Mia flips for a cure to cancer.



Teachers representing Alafia Elementary School are from left, Corinne Sanders, Chrissy Hester, Liz Pletcher and Courtney Hatcher. Team Gold raised \$6,000 of their \$6,500 goal before the start of the event.



Bloomingdale Sophomore Steering members raise money and use their superhero powers to put a "ka-pow" on cancer at Relay for Life.



As the sun sets, walkers take the track to honor and remember those affected by cancer.



Cheri Pignataro (far right), whose husband Paul is co-owner of Apollo pools, is a 5-year cancer survivor and is currently cancer-free. Team Apollo marched for family members affected by breast, colon, bladder and pancreatic cancer.

18

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# **Campo YMCA Focuses On Healthy Kids**

Brief/Photos By Wendy Knipp

On April 21, Campo YMCA, along with over 1600 YMCAs across the country, hosted Healthy Kids Day, a free community event meant to focus parents on ways to keep kids active over the summer. Highlights included bounces houses, vendor stations, raffles, and games. Alicia Bentley, Campo Y Family Activities Coordinator, said, "Healthy Kids Day is a great way to get our community involved. Not only do we want to show the programs that we offer at the Y, we want to make sure that people are plugged into our community."









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# 🕮 May 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

May 24 - Bloomingdale High School Graduation, 4 p.m., Florida State Fairgrounds

May 24 - Strawberry Crest High School Graduation, 8 p.m., Florida State Fairgrounds

May 25 - Last Day of School!!





#### **ALAFIA ALLIGATOR ALLEY**

May 25 - 5th Grade Clap Out, Report Cards, Last Day of School and 2 1/2 hour early release

#### Congratulations!

Alafia's Relay for Life team raised nearly \$7,700 towards Cancer Research. Team Captains were Courtney Hatcher and Corinne Sanders, both third grade teachers. Raising the money was a team effort with support from staff members, family, students and members of the community. Way to Go!





# RINS WIDDLE SCHOOL **BURNS BRUINS BANTER**

May 7 - Chorus Final Concert, 7 p.m. at Bloomingdale High School

May 8 – 7th and 8th Grade Awards Night Ceremony, 7 p.m. in the Gym

May 9 – Burns Band End-of-the-Year Concert, 7 p.m. at Burns

May 15 – Orchestra Final Concert, 6:30 p.m. at Bloomingdale High School

May 18 - General PTSA Meeting, 8 a.m. in the Media Center

May 21-25 – End of Year/ Semester Exams

May 25 - Last Day of School and 2 ½ hour early release



#### **BULL BRIEFS**

Bulls Basketball Day Camps / Monday-Thursday, June 4-7, June 11-14, June 18-21 / 1700 E. Bloomingdale Ave. / \$85.00 per session / For boys and girls of all skill levels, and each session is limited to 40 campers. For information or for the registration form, contact Head Coach Joel Bower via phone 813-299-5072 or emai to joel.bower@sdhc.k12.fl.us, Phone. Make Checks Payable to: Bloomingdale High School, Attn: Joel Bower and mail to the address above.



#### **CIMINO COUGAR CENTRAL**

May 18 - All Pro Dads and Moms, Mom gets to join in for a special Mother's Day. All Pro Dad's event, Multi-Purpose room, 7 a.m.

May 18 - Spring Dance and General Assembly, 5:30 to 8 p.m.

May 25 -5th Grade Clap Out, Report Cards, Last Day of School and 2 1/2 hour early release

Get ahead of the rush and pre-order your supplies early! Cimino

PTA has registered with 1st Day School Supplies for your

convenience. This is the BEST way to buy Back-to-School Supplies!

Get the exact school supplies your teacher requested. Brands available

**Back to School Supplies** 

include Crayola, Mead, Avery,

Ticonderoga, and accessories

from Vera Bradley, JanSport and

Under Armour. Pre-order at

www.1stdayschoolsupplies.com.



# **BLOOMINGDALE HIGH BULL BUSINESS**

May 7-18 – AP Exams

May 7-11 - FSA Reading and Spring EOC's

May 8 - Chorus Banquet, 6 p.m. at The Regent

May 8 - Booster Club General Meeting, 7 p.m. - Media Center

May 9-10 – Senior Exams

May 9 – Scholar Athlete Banquet, 7 p.m. at the Doubletree

May 17 – Spring Football Jamboree, 6:30 p.m. at Durant

May 18 – Underclassman locker clean out

May 20 – Graduation Rehearsal, 9 a.m. at the Fairgrounds

May 21-25 – End of Year Exams

May 24 - GRADUATION

May 25 - Cheer Meet and Greet, 6 p.m., Cafeteria

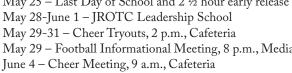
May 25 - Cross Country Meeting, 6 p.m., Cafeteria

May 25 - Last Day of School and 2 1/2 hour early release

May 28-June 1 – JROTC Leadership School

May 29-31 - Cheer Tryouts, 2 p.m., Cafeteria

May 29 - Football Informational Meeting, 8 p.m., Media Center







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# Lady Bulls Lacrosse Finish Strong Season

Brief/Photos: Deidre Morgan

On March 29, members of the Bloomingdale Lady Bulls Lacrosse team took the field for their last regular season home game of the year against Berkley Prep. For the senior members, who were honored at halftime, it was a bittersweet day as they were playing their last high school game. The Lady Bulls finished their season with a 10 win- 5 loss record, the team's best ever record. They also placed 2nd in their district for the first time in the program's young history. Congratulations to Coach Sarah Hayes and the Lady Bulls Lacrosse team on a great season!



Senior members of the Lady Bulls Lacrosse team are honored with their families at halftime.





Goalie Maddie Bertaut (left), with assist from Tori Robertson (center) and Jillian Jordan (right) defend a Berkeley Prep player from scoring.

Coach Sarah Hayes instructs the players on their next play.





**21 MAY 2018** 

# **Bulls and Burritos Make For a Winning Combination**

Brief/Photo By Deidre Morgan

Congratulations to Bloomingdale High School students Tony Alvarez and Gianna Rivera, named 2018 State Champions at the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Fresh from Florida" Student Cook-Off in Tallahassee in January. Each earned a \$1000 scholarship and a session in the kitchen with celebrity Chef Art Smith, a two-time James Beard awardee.

The "Fresh From Florida" Student Chef Cook-Off entry requirements include:

- Applicants must be a Florida student in 9th through 12th grade.
- The recipe must meet National School Lunch meal pattern and nutrition standards.
- The recipe must incorporate at least two Florida ingredients from an approved list.
- The recipe must incorporate at least one USDA commodity item from an approved list.
- The recipe must be prepared in less than two hours.
- The recipe must be replicable by school nutrition professionals.

The team, mentored by Culinary Arts teacher Chef Rene Marquis, won the regional cook-off in Orlando for their original T&G Burrito, named after Tony and Gianna, who is also the 2017 champion. On April 13, Student Nutrition Services prepared the winning T&G Burrito for Bloomingdale H.S. students. In attendance was "Fresh from Florida" Chef Paula Kendrick and Superintendent, Jeff Eakins. The T&G burrito, featuring fresh salsa, pork, beans and a spicy mayo, will be on the menu next year throughout Florida public schools.

The winning duo will move on to the national championships in Louisville, KY where Gianna and Tony have a chance to win scholarships of up to \$55,000. After graduation, Gianna will attend The Culinary Institute of America in New York, while Tony has applied to Sullivan University in Kentucky and is awaiting his acceptance. Good luck to Tony and Gigi!

> Gianna Rivera and Tony Alvarez display the winning "Fresh from Florida" Cook-Off banner with their photos.





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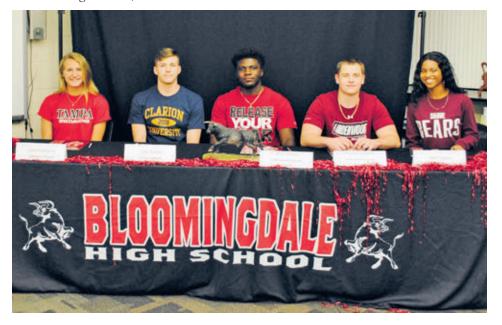
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# **Bloomingdale Student Athletes Sign National Letters of Intent**

Brief/Photos: Deidre Morgan

Surrounded by family, coaches and friends, five Bloomingdale High School student athletes signed National Letters of Intent to play sports at the collegiate level in the school's Media Center on April 11. The students are, from left to right, Isabelle Bularca, University of Tampa Swimming, Tyler Hunter, Clarion University Football, Josh Thomas, Lindenwood University- Belleville Football, Hunter Delones, Lindenwood University-Belleville Football and Jada Flowers, Shaw University - Volleyball. Congratulations to the athletes and good luck, Go Bulls!





# Student Walkouts Honor Victims, **Push For Gun Law Reforms**

By Jon Alfano, Student Reporter

On Friday, April 20, students across the country participated in a walkout to raise awareness about school shootings and push for reform.

The walkout took place on the anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre, a 1999 shooting in Colorado that left 13 people dead and 24 more injured. This shooting was one of the first to raise the controversy about gun control, a debate that gets reignited after every tragedy.

The purpose of the walkout was to remember the 79 school shootings since Columbine, the most

recent being the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, which left 17 dead.

The presentation included a moment of silence that lasted 17 seconds, signifying the number of people killed at Stoneman Douglas. There was also a call to action at the end of the ceremony, urging students to call their congressmen to push for stricter regulations on firearms.

The mass protests have already led to action by legislators. Following the Stoneman Douglas shooting, Florida Governor Rick Scott passed a law that raised the minimum age to purchase firearms to 21, as well as banning bump fire stocks, and provided additional funding to mental health services in public schools. Vermont also passed a similar piece of legislation in the aftermath.

One can only hope that the actions by protesters will help prevent more school shootings in the future.









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