



# THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1980

VOLUME XXXVIII 🌿 ISSUE 10 🌿 OCTOBER 2018 🌿 [www.BloomingtondaleHOA.com](http://www.BloomingtondaleHOA.com)

## Bloomingtondale's Fall Fest is Almost Here!

See the story on p. 4.



Photo: Dan Boisselle

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Those who don't believe in magic will never find it." *Roald Dahl*

## This Month



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# THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

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**Bloomington Homeowners Association, Inc.**  
 3509 Bell Shoals Road - Valrico, Florida 33596 - (813) 681-2051  
 Email: [Bloomington.Homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:Bloomington.Homeowners@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.BloomingtonHOA.com](http://www.BloomingtonHOA.com)

BHA Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Bloomington Community Office.

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**Vice President:** *Suzy Watts*  
**Secretary:** *Joanie Wilson*  
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## YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



### JOY BOISSELLE

**Editor - The Bloomington Gazette**

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The official publication of the BHA since 1980

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



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 Program Manager, Advertising**

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## Yard of the Month



Photo: Wendy Knipp



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

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# Bloomingtondale Fall Fest 2018 = Free Family Fun!

By Wendy Knipp



Gazette File Photo

October has arrived and around here, that means one thing – it's time for Fall Fest 2018! Grab the kiddos, the pets, the family-friendly Halloween costumes and come on down to this fun event sponsored by your Bloomingtondale Homeowners Association! This year's Fall Fest will take place at Bloomingtondale High School's stadium on Saturday October 20 from 10am – 2pm, rain or shine.

The first 300 guests/families will receive a complimentary goody bag. Kids can enjoy age-related bounce houses, crafts, a balloon artist, and face painting. Get there early so you don't miss the pet costume contest followed by the kids' costume contests. Generous local vendors help us sponsor this event and their booths will fill the stadium offering spooky trick-or-treat opportunities for the kids.

A wide variety of mouth-watering food will be available for purchase through food trucks including Sarge's Smokehouse BBQ (premium barbeque), In The Middle (Mediterranean) and Jazzy B. Grille (American). There's also an opportunity to support Bloomingtondale High School's cross-country team which will be selling bottled water and their band which will be selling delicious baked goods.

Additional highlights include music by DJ Rick Mondelli of Rhythm Makers and a performance by the talented Bloomingtondale High School Drumline. New this year will be an Art Contest and Exhibition featuring local middle and high school artists. Diana Speedy, an Art teacher from Bloomingtondale High School says, "I am excited to provide our students with the opportunity to display their work and help to promote the arts within our community."

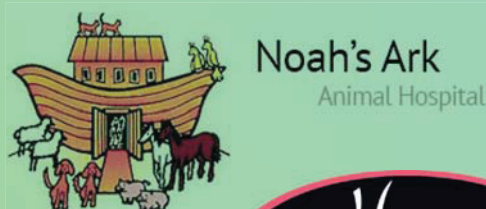
Suzy Watts is proud to be the Event Chair and says, "At the Fall Fest, there's something for everyone to enjoy. It's a great opportunity to have fun in Bloomingtondale and meet your neighbors."

With over 2000 guests last year and so much to do, you'll want to get there early! This event is free and open to the public. Bloomingtondale High School is located at 1700 East Bloomingtondale Avenue, Valrico. For more information, visit [www.bloomingtondalehoa.com](http://www.bloomingtondalehoa.com).

*A very special thank you to our nearly 60 Sponsors!*



Gazette File Photo



## Schedule of Activities

- 10:00 am Welcome and General Announcements
- 11:00 am Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest
- 11:30 am Costume Contest Children 6 and Under
- 12:00 pm Costume Contest 7 and Older
- 12:30 pm Sponsor Booth Contest Winner Awarded
- 1:00 pm Bloomingtondale High School Drumline Performs
- 2:00 pm Event Ends

# BHA COMMUNITY CORNER

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

## 2018 Membership Drive Ends in December

With our final two large events, Fall Festival and our Santa visit and food drive, looming, this is the last big push to get members for the 2018 year. These are just two reasons we need you to join the BHA. Membership is not pro-rated and your \$35 membership is returned 100 percent to the community. **Your \$35 supports** The Fall Festival, Annual Clean-Up Days, Advocacy for community improvements to county officials, The Award-Winning Bloomingdale Gazette, The HOA website, Facebook and Twitter Pages, Community-Wide Garage Sale, Santa Visit and Charity Food Drive, Yard of the Month and a Scholarship and Community Service Hour Program.

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 payment. An easier method is to use our PayPal option. Go to [www.bloomingdalehoa.com](http://www.bloomingdalehoa.com), look for the PayPal link and follow the simple instructions.

The BHA is an IRC 501(c) (4) non-profit organization, run entirely by unpaid 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](mailto:bloomingdale.homeowners@gmail.com), or call 813-681-2051. We will help you promote your event on our Facebook page.

**Monday, Oct 8, 6:30 p.m. / Bloomingdale Special Taxing District Monthly Trustee Meeting**, Bloomingdale Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Road. Call 813-684-6667 for information.

**Tuesday, Oct 9, 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, Oct 18, NEW TIME: 6 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

Several residents attended the September meeting to discuss a variance proposed at a home off Springvale Drive. The BHA provided advice to residents on preparing for and attending the variance meeting, but could not offer legal support to the non-mandated neighborhood.

## Saladino Dog Park is open!

"Uncle" Dann Berkowitz and his "niece" Sage enjoy the new dog park at Saladino Park on Bryan Road.




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# October Community Calendar

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

**Veterans & First Responders Appreciation Days / Bloomingdale Golfers Club, 4113 Great Golfers Pl / Offer valid Monday - Friday, Oct. 6-31; excludes Saturdays & Sundays // Price includes 18 holes of golf, cart, 1 slice of cheese pizza & a domestic beer, excludes sales tax. ONLY \$28! Must show valid ID. Call 813-685-4105 to Reserve your Tee Time Today! Must mention applicable "October Special" at time of booking.**



**Holiday Cards for Troops / Oct. 6 / 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. / Center Place, 619 Vonderburg Dr // Show your support by making hand-made Holiday Cards for our Troops! The decorated cards (blank inside) are sent to our deployed service members. The soldiers will be able to write a sentiment to their loved ones inside each card. This is a free community event! Donations appreciated! Ages 16 & up! NO childcare provided. For information, call 813-685-8888.**

**Fox Squirrel Corn Maze / Weekends only Oct. 6-28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. / 3002 Charlie Taylor Rd, Plant City // Cost: Adults: \$11 + tax (18 & older) Youth: \$10 + tax (3 - 17) 2 & under: Free Cash, Visa, Master Card and Discover for admission. NO ATM ON SITE. Most vendors are cash only. Admission price includes unlimited maze, hayride games, Pumpkins for sale and more. Website: <http://futchentertainment.com/>. NO PETS ALLOWED (except service animals). FREE Parking.**

**Creatures of the Night at ZooTampa at Lowry Park / Fridays and Saturdays from October 6-27 / 1101 W Sligh Ave, Tampa / Tickets at [zootampa.org](http://zootampa.org) // The Zoo stays open late and animals lurk in the night until 10 p.m. with a haunting array of eerie and immersive Halloween adventures for the whole family. Don't worry, Mom and Dad - there's no horror or gore, just an impressive lineup of endless scares and startles for all! Enjoy up-close animal mingles, enrichment and chats throughout the night, including the returning favorite Bat Chat.**



**Busch Gardens' Howl-O-Scream / Dates and Times throughout the Month / 3000 E Busch Blvd, Tampa / Tickets at [buschgardens.com](http://buschgardens.com) // There is nowhere to hide at Howl-O-Scream 2018. Designed to terrify, Busch Gardens' haunted houses return with a vengeance, but the scares don't stop there. Unspeakable horror lives in every dark corner, including on Busch Gardens' pulse-pounding thrill rides and new, gruesome realm recommended for guest over the age of 17. Howl-O-Scream 2018 is bringing fear to the next level and once you're in there's nothing to fear but everything. Howl-O-Scream is a separately ticketed event.**

**Fall Shabby Chic Vintage Market & Artisan Days / Oct. 7, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. / Westfield Brandon Mall, 459 Brandon Town Center Dr // Tampa Bay's most unique shopping experience returns! With over 80 local artisans, the Shabby Chic Market offers shabby chic items, original art, painted furniture, antique and vintage items, pallet art and signs, boutique clothing, live entertainment and DIY Shabby Chic craft workshops and so much more! Free to attend and free to park.**



**"Symphony of Colors" Quilt Show / Oct. 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. / The Regent, 6437 Watson Road, Riverview // Symphony of Colors is this year's theme. Features judged quilts made by members of Piecemakers Quilt Guild of Brandon; basket drawing with proceeds to Brandon Outreach Clinic; Food Truck (Philly Phlava); Upbeat Boutique (over \$9000. of inventory) for your shopping pleasure; Silent Auction; Beethoven's Bookstore with quilt patterns, books and magazines; Mozart's Vendor Marketplace; Electric Dresden Opportunity Quilt raffle and drawing. Admission \$8 daily, \$12 for both days. Free parking. For information, contact [RNRYAN@verizon.net](mailto:RNRYAN@verizon.net).**



**7th Annual Gifts & Crafts Fair at The Bridges Retirement Community / Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. / 11350 Bloomingdale Ave., Riverview // Whether it is handcrafted decorations or personalized gifts, such as jewelry and handbags, pottery, candles, soaps, home décor and more, shopping for unique gifts could not be easier at the 7th annual Gifts & Crafts Fair. This one-stop holiday shopping event features over 30 vendors. FREE and Open to the Public.**

**Holly & Jolly Christmas Wonderland / Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. / 6028 Winthrop Towne Center Ave, Riverview // Hosted by Chic Vintage, Join in the fun and refreshments at our annual Christmas Gala. Our theme is Holly & Jolly Christmas showcasing handcrafted items including angels, snowmen and trees. Hand sewn bags and lavender hearts, and wooden and vintage tin ornaments. Many Trees, stockings and vintage linens to enhance your holiday table. Large Santas and snowmen will adorn our free refreshment table. With weather permitting, the garage door will be open for more displays on the sidewalk. Come gather some new SPARKLE!**

**Riverview Chamber of Commerce Trick or Treat Street / Oct. 27, 2-6 p.m. / Riverview High School, 11311 Boyette Rd // The 30th Annual Trick or Treat Street will create a safe place for children of all ages to have fun and share in the tradition of trick or treating while meeting local businesses, churches and other local organizations.**



Thousands of local residents flock to get candy, play games, enjoy bounce houses, eat food and win prizes. There are many fun FREE activities. There are also extended activities and food available at nominal costs. The Kids Costume Contest will provide great prizes for a \$5 registration at the event. Dog owners are encouraged to bring their canine friends in costume. For a \$10 donation to benefit C.A.R.E., the dog contest will kick off at 4 p.m. for all size dogs. For information, visit [www.RiverviewChamber.com](http://www.RiverviewChamber.com).

**Monster Mash at Congregation Beth Shalom / Oct. 27, 7-10 p.m. / 706 Bryan Road, Brandon // We are hosting a frightfully fun evening with a costume dance party. Many contests will be awarded great prizes. Free to congregation members, \$5 for others. All are welcome. Preceding the party, an adults only wine tasting event will take place at 6 p.m., \$10. Call 813-681-6547 for information.**

**Harvest Dinner & Auction / GFWC Valrico Service League, Inc. / Nov. 4, 5:30 p.m., catered dinner at 6 p.m. and live auction at 7 p.m. // Center Place, 650 Vonderburg Dr // Let's make a difference - is the goal of the VSL ladies. The group's main fundraiser for the year is the Harvest Dinner & Auction. Purchase tickets at Center Place through Oct. 26 at \$30. Proceeds help ECHO, Brandon Outreach Clinic, Center Place, Family Promise of Brandon, A Kid's Place, Real Hope Ministry, Hacienda Girls Ranch, and Canine Companions among others. For information, call Claudia Yake at 685-7998 or Sue Hadden at 685-6160.**

**Vendors needed for Grace Community United Methodist Church Holiday Market / Nov 10, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. / 5708 Lithia Pinecrest Road // Organizers are seeking a variety of products, including arts and crafts, jewelry, clothing and children's items. The fee for a 10 x 10 foot space is \$25, and proceeds help support missions in the community. The bazaar will be outdoors, and vendors are asked to provide their own tent, table and chairs. For information and a vendor application, visit [www.graceholidaymarket.com](http://www.graceholidaymarket.com), or contact event organizer Susan Ferraro at [bosefer11@yahoo.com](mailto:bosefer11@yahoo.com) or 813-361-1724.**

## DON'T FORGET THE FAIR!

The Hillsborough County Fair is October 18-21 and 25-28 at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds located at 215 Sydney Washer Road, Dover. Admission for adults is \$7, students \$5, seniors \$4, and children 4 and under are free. Ride armbands are \$20 and arena events are \$10. Parking is free. In addition to the usual fun rides, concessions, and competitions, there is a new area for STEAM projects, competitions, and exhibits. For information, visit [www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com](http://www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com).

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# BLOOMINGDALE Special Taxing District

## THE COMMUNITY'S COMMON AREA CONNECTION

By Miriam Leech, BSTD Staff

*(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](mailto:bstd@verizon.net).)*

### New Fiscal Year

October 1 marked the beginning of fiscal year 2019 (FY19) for the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District (BSTD). At the first regular board meeting of the Trustees for the new fiscal year, officers will be elected for a term of 2 years, and any members of the public interested in filling the trustee vacancy will be considered for appointment to the Board.

For consideration to become a trustee, residents must reside within the boundaries of the taxing district, be registered voters in Hillsborough County, and submit a financial disclosure statement to the State. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in joining the Board, please attend the October meeting (see below)!

### Auto Accident Claims

Since March 25, six auto accidents have racked up over \$58,000 in wall repairs throughout the District. Every time there is an accident that results in property damage, the BSTD submits insurance claims—as long as the incident is not a hit and run. **To date, the BSTD has received \$29,873 in claim settlements for three of the six accidents.**

In some cases, drivers may be insured but do not carry enough coverage for the District to receive a settlement for the entire amount of repairs. However, the trustees continue to make every effort to make sure as little taxpayer money as possible goes toward accident repairs.

### New Website!!

The BSTD has launched a new website! To meet State requirements in Statute 218.32(1)(g), known as the Special District Accountability Program, the District has teamed with its property management company, Merit, Inc., to provide a fully accessible website to meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1, which defines how to make web content more accessible to people with disabilities.

To access the new website, visit [mydistrictwebsite.com](http://mydistrictwebsite.com) and search "Bloomingdale." There visitors will find information regarding the District as well as meeting schedules, budget and financial audit documents, and meeting minutes. Visitors to the old website will be directed to the new one.

## BLOOMINGDALE Special Taxing District

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

[www.bloomingdaletaxingdistrict.org](http://www.bloomingdaletaxingdistrict.org)  
Hours: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

David P. West, President  
Tom Leech, Vice President  
Mark Horst, Treasurer  
Jay Kittle, Secretary  
Russell Jones, Trustee  
Bob Meginnis, Trustee  
Vacancy

### Monthly Meeting

The residents of Bloomingdale, as always, are invited to attend the next meeting of the BSTD on October 8, 2018, 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!*

Save the date for...

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# BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY STATION NOTES

By Community Resource Deputy Clifford Fletcher and CSO Debbie Vijil

## Bloomingtondale Community! Please READ This!

We need your help. We need your children's help. There have been over 138 vehicle crashes within the Bloomingtondale community this past year. You can see signs on all the trees – Old scar marks on almost every tree and several walls have had to be rebuilt. You know, only you (vehicle operators) can prevent these crashes from happening. We need you to slow down, stop driving distracted, and watch where you are going.

Texting and driving distracted is not just a teenage problem. It seems that everyone is getting in on the act these days. Did you know that just last month vehicles hit two pedestrians? When you text while driving it is just as dangerous as drinking and driving. The reason it so dangerous is that you lose complete focus on the road while looking at your phone. It only takes a moment for a child to step-out in front of you.

Parents, take the time to teach your teens to drive, but also set a good example. Remember, they have been watching you drive for the past sixteen years.

## Area Law and Order

Between Aug. 13 and Sept.13, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office conducted 22 traffic stops in the Bloomingtondale area. Those traffic stops resulted in five citations, two verbal warnings and 11 written warnings. Six arrests were made for DUI. There was one business burglary and seven reported vehicle burglaries. We had one incident of criminal mischief and three thefts.

## Halloween Tips

Halloween will be here soon! Here are some suggestions for a safe night. Travel in groups and include adults. Wear light color costumes or use reflective tape or stickers. Instead of a mask that may obstruct your view, try using nontoxic face paint. Don't cross the road between parked vehicles. Instead, always use the crosswalk. Drivers when backing out of your driveway be aware of pedestrians. Watch for children attempting to cross the roadways. AS always slow down and don't drive distracted.

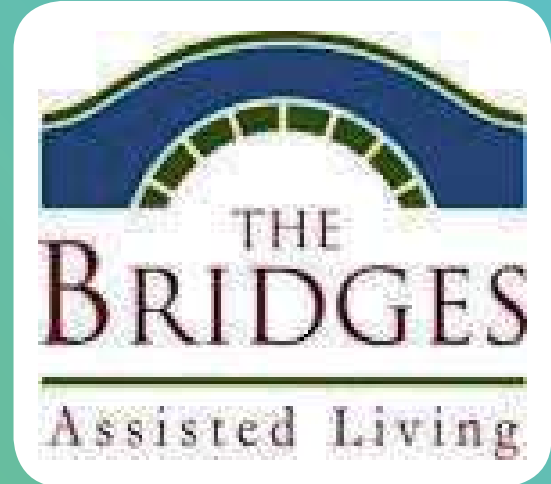


## Next Bloomingtondale Area Community Council Meeting (BACC)! New time!

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 Oct. 18 at 6 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 Bloomingtondale Community Station at 635-8040, or come by the station.

## How to Protect Yourself from Cybercrime

Cybercrime is the fastest growing area of crime. Learn how to avoid being a victim when you attend Cybercrime – The Crime of the 21st Century” held on Thursday, Nov. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Debbie Brown, Consumer Protection Investigator from the Hillsborough County Consumer and Veterans Services, will bring the latest information on consumer fraud trends perpetrated over the Internet. Education and information is considered the first line of defense in the battle to protect consumers from victimization. In addition to a power-packed program, she will provide numerous take-home materials to help you avoid losing your hard-earned money to these schemes.



The workshop, held at The Bridges, 11350 Bloomingtondale Ave., Riverview, is free to attend and includes lunch. Space is limited. Call Janet at 813.413.8900 to reserve your seat.

## Are you ready to start a new career with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office?

Come meet our Recruiters on Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. at HCSO District II (2310 Falkenburg Road, Tampa, FL 33619). Learn about our law enforcement, detention and civilian career opportunities. If you are unable to make it, we will be LIVE on our Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Facebook page to answer your questions. If you have any questions about this event, please contact our Recruiting Unit at 813 318-5320.



*We are "One Team, One Family, One Community"*

# AS OUR COMMUNITY EXPANDS, SO DO WE.

You may have noticed a few new faces in the neighborhood. It seems Riverview and the South Shore area is growing at a record pace. The area has added new developments, shopping centers, restaurants and a new hospital. Well, kind of. To meet the needs of this growing community, BayCare's St. Joseph's Hospital-South is growing too. We're currently investing in a two-phased expansion that will be completed in mid 2020. Once completed, we'll have an expanded emergency department with 55 exam rooms, including 14 dedicated to pediatric patients. We'll also have added a five-story patient tower with an 18-bed observation unit, 36 additional private patient rooms, 12 progressive care rooms, a dedicated 12-bed pediatric unit and space for a future neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). As a community-based hospital, we're doing all this because we believe that a growing community needs a hospital that's doing the same. To learn more: [StJosephsSouth.org](http://StJosephsSouth.org). **Humanity at Work™**.



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## Bell Shoals Road Widening Project Update; Public Meeting Oct. 23

By Joe Harless

Bell Shoals Road will start seeing heavy roadwork in October 2018 as workers start transforming the two-lane road into a four-lane road.

According to the County website, the project will extend approximately 3.1 miles from just south of the Alafia River to north of Bloomingdale Avenue. Once started, planners expect the \$65 million project to last 42 months.

During that time, area residents can expect heavy equipment usage and excavation, traffic lane closures, and general noise.

The new design aims to increase the level of service along Bell Shoals Road by accommodating higher traffic volumes while increasing safety precautions along the corridor. The right of way and utility construction will start at Boyette Road and move north towards Bloomingdale Avenue. The corridor will also feature two 12-foot lanes for vehicles, a four-foot bike lane, and sidewalks in both directions.

The proposed design also includes widening the existing bridge over the Alafia River and improving the traffic signals at Glenhaven Drive, Rosemead Lane, and Bloomingdale Avenue.

Phase 1 of the project includes a 20-month bridge widening project north of Boyette Road, while Phase 2 will focus on the widening of Bell Shoals Road and additional features including bike paths, irrigated/landscaped medians, and improved stoplights.

Project manager Tommy Rawls said he expects at least two lanes of Bell Shoals will remain open at all times during the widening efforts.

A public meeting on the project will take place on October 23, 2018, at the Bloomingdale High School cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. For more information on the meeting or the project, contact Public Works at 813-635-5400.



Phase One of the Bell Shoals widening project is the complete overhaul of the bridge north of the Bell Shoals-Boyette intersection.

## Bloomingdale Park Renovations Underway

By Joe Harless

While Bell Shoals Road undergoes a dramatic reworking effort, plans have also begun to repair and refurbish the Bloomingdale East and West Parks.

Serving as the centers of activity for both neighborhoods, the parks have been in regular use for decades. And now, thanks to new efforts by Parks and Recreation, the parks will be updated to accommodate future usage.

Kyla Booher, planning and development manager for Parks and Recreation, recently confirmed work orders for the racquetball courts had been approved for both parks and contractor Taborelli Construction has started planning a construction schedule for the work.

Booher added proposals were being solicited for the demolition and reconstruction of the quad tennis courts at both parks. Booher also supplied drawings for the new courts, shelters, picnic tables, benches, and trash cans the parks will receive.

While no project timetable exists, Bloomingdale Gazette will share the information as we learn more.



Benches and trash receptacles will be part of Bloomingdale East and West Parks renovations. Courtesy: Hillsborough County



These gazebos are in place now at the BL East Park. Photo: Jessica Hinson

## For Our Schools - Vote YES on ½ Penny Sales Tax Referendum

By Wendy Knipp

Photos: Wendy Knipp

We all know that awful feeling when the air conditioner breaks. Whether it was a devastating hurricane, a power surge, or just an aging unit, we've all been there and we've all had to decide what we can afford to fix. Sometimes it's just so expensive that we "put a Band-aid on it" and hope that it lasts a few more years.

Sadly, something similar is going on in our schools. Buildings are aging, a/c units are breaking, and some classroom temperatures are climbing toward 90 degrees. Students are getting sick from the heat and teachers are doing their best to open doors and bring in fans. There's not enough money in the School District's budget to properly fix or replace these units so they get a Band-Aid, which is just not enough.

It's become a crisis. Burns Middle School is 32 years old and Principal Matthew DiPrima is constantly dealing with a/c issues and said, "I have an aging system and it needs maintenance almost on a daily basis."



Over just the next five years, 63 schools need major A/C repairs or full replacements, 28 are in need of new roofs, and other schools have urgent needs to provide the right environment for teaching and learning.

You might think that a school could just move those students to cooler areas, but that's not an option. Principal Sue Burkett from 31-year-old Bloomingdale High School stated, "When a system goes down, it affects so many rooms that there's just not enough space to relocate those students and teachers."

On Nov. 6, voters can solve this crisis by voting YES on the Referendum to increase the sales tax from 1/8 penny to ½ penny for 10 years, resulting in \$131 million/year. This money would be used exclusively for a/c repairs and other necessities including maintenance, technology, security, and new schools.

To ensure proper spending, an independent Citizen Oversight Committee will watch over the funded projects. Detailed information including a "wish list" of items to be fixed at each school can be found at [www.sdhc.k12.fl.us](http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us).

The time for action is now, Burkett explained. "There's been a lot of debate about who should be responsible for the funding of basic necessities like paying for a/c repair in our schools, but ultimately, these are our kids and they are suffering. We have to take responsibility as adults and voters, for the kids in our own community, and if the only way to do that is to pass this Referendum, then we need to stop debating and pass the Referendum."



On Sept. 17, Principal Matthew DiPrima provided information about the Referendum and answered questions at an information meeting. Air conditioner repairs have become routine at Burns and our other local schools.

## Going, Going, GONE!



Photo: Wendy Knipp

It may have sat vacant for years, but it only took a few short weeks to demolish the old Walmart to the ground.

## Pumpkin Patch

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church's annual Pumpkin Patch is now open Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. - noon and 4 - 7:30 p.m. Weekend hours are 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. St. Andrew's is located at 3315 S Bryan Rd in Brandon and proceeds benefit their Student Ministry.



Photo: Parit Cubeta

# BLOOMING IN BLOOMINGDALE

Photo Provided By: Peter and Eileen Kadzilewski



By Gwen Graverson

## ...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 [inbloomingdalenews@gmail.com](mailto:inbloomingdalenews@gmail.com).)

### Come Join the Riverview Garden Club

The Riverview Garden Club (RGC) would like to extend an open invitation to anyone who would like to come and join the fun and learn more about gardening. Members consist of men and women of all ages and degrees of expertise. Everyone is welcome, and no one is excluded!

**History** - RGC began in 1954 and currently has around 150 members. From its inception, RGC has been very active with planting trees, hosting flower shows, funding community gardens and promoting legislation to save local natural resources. RGC also supports student education by donating to several schools' butterfly gardens, partnering with Riverview High School, and establishing multiple college scholarships. RGC is also proud to have dedicated a plaque to those who lost their lives in the 9-11 attacks.

**Annual Fundraisers** - In February, there is a plant, rummage and bake sale while in December, a silent auction for beautiful gift baskets.

**Meetings** - The next meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 10 a.m. at the Riverview Park and Civic Center, located at 11020 Park Dr, Riverview. Meetings are typically held on the second Wednesday of each month (September - June) and prospective members are welcome to attend two meetings before deciding to join.

Annual membership dues are \$10. Potluck luncheons and guest speakers are part of every meeting along with garden tours and field trips. Best of all, you can make new friends!

In the two years since I joined this club, I've learned so much about gardening that I truly believe my brown thumbs just might be turning green now. For information, visit the Facebook page for the Riverview Garden Club of Florida.



Fundraisers and field trips are part of what makes the Riverview Garden Club so much fun.



Guest speakers at monthly meetings help members learn more about gardening.

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## Do-it-Yourself Boutique Offers Hands-On Fun

By Miriam Leech

Looking for homemade without the hassle? Want to get crafty but not feel clumsy? Need new décor that is affordable not astronomical? Then look no further than AR Workshop Brandon, a boutique do-it-yourself (DIY) studio offering clients custom, charming home décor made from raw materials.

Owner Stephanie Paxton celebrated the grand opening of the Brandon workshop on April 21. Clients sign up for instructor-led workshops where they can make wood plank signs, framed signs, canvas pillows, round signs, lazy Susans, centerpiece boxes, canvas tote bags—the options and designs are endless!

“I love showing people what they can actually do,” said Paxton. Everything needed to make a project is supplied, including wood, canvas, stencils, stain, paint, and tools. And instructors provide step-by-step instructions to ensure everyone goes home with a décor item to proudly display or give as a gift.

Paxton has a degree in fine arts, and has been making wood signs for about 10 years. When a friend texted her about AR Workshops (there are about 100 franchises around the country), she saw the opportunity to run her own business and share a craft she loves.

“The workshop is my happy place,” says Paxton. The artist has made her new business a family affair, with her husband and three children her greatest supporters. When not busy in the workshop you can find Paxton volunteering in her children’s schools and in the community.

So far the most popular items made are the wood plank signs, porch signs, and lazy Susans. Each category of projects also is available in holiday designs, and these can be made at any time of year. Custom designs, created by Paxton herself, are available upon request.

The workshop also is bring your own bottle or foods. Private parties, and corporate and team-building events are available for booking.

Whether you are a novice or experienced crafter, AR Workshop makes DIY fun and relaxing.

The workshop is located in Plaza Bella, 1046 Bloomingdale Avenue. Visit [www.arworkshop.com/brandon/](http://www.arworkshop.com/brandon/) for a project gallery and schedule of classes.



AR Workshop Brandon owner Stephanie Paxton considers the workshop her happy place. It provides an inviting and relaxing atmosphere for clients to enjoy an evening or afternoon of do-it-yourself fun!



On Sept. 15 article writer, Miriam Leech, and friends, from left, Kim Sharabba and Alisa Anderson, attended a Satur-YAY Night Choose Any Project workshop to create these holiday-themed wood plank signs and lazy Susan.



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*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.*



### Dinner is Served

I overheard the saddest conversation in the grocery store the other day. Two obviously career-oriented women were comparing complaints. It seems that, while they have absolutely no problem juggling a career and family in most instances, they can't seem to get it together when it comes to organizing dinner. One woman said her kids had perfected the art of enlarging their eyes and sucking in their cheeks so that when she arrives home, they look like a UNICEF poster. Another said that her husband greets her at the door, wistfully thumbing through his mother's cookbook. Well, piffle. They're just trying too hard.

As a former working mother and wife, I can tell you right now that it's guilt, pure and simple, that makes women feel that they have to come home from a hard day's work and immediately throw themselves into preparing a five-course meal. We seem to believe that if we can keep a career glued together and still offer our poor, neglected families a dinner featuring all the basic food groups, we can hold the guilt at bay. And our families are more than aware of this. So on the few occasions when we are exhausted to the point of hallucinating and wish to succumb to the delightful temptations of take-out Chinese or a bucket of the Colonel's finest, we can count on at least one voice mumbling, "Oh...well...I was sort of hoping for...you know...a home-cooked meal...but if you're too tired..." It is exactly this sort of cunning blackmail that makes retaliation not only okay, but necessary.



In the first place, only a demented fool would bring home prepared food in full view of the family. Why run the risk of having them issue tickets for your guilt trip when it's so easy to keep them believing that you are Emeril, Julia Child and Jacques Pepin all rolled into one? Back in the day, it was nothing for me to wander into the house with a dozen pieces of chicken, eight biscuits and a quart of mashed potatoes and gravy tucked into my briefcase and a strawberry cheesecake perched under my hat.

The grocery stores are now carrying several different types of dinner-in-a-bag which claim to be "gourmet" this and that. Well, of course we know they're not gourmet, but what they are is quick, easy and almost edible. The trick to this one lies again in stealth and subterfuge. All you have to do is (1) Prepare the meal, which takes about a grand total of 10 minutes, (2) Refuse any offers of assistance (not that it's likely to happen) by saying "it's a surprise", (3) Since they know your "surprises" can't be produced in under an hour and a half, sit down, put your feet up and enjoy a well-deserved glass of wine, (4) Serve it to your family with tears of pride coursing down your cheeks and, of course, (5) Bury the evidence in the backyard. Nothin' to it.

See? You really can have your cake and eat it, too. And it's even better if someone else bakes it.

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## Bloomington Real Estate Update

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

### Are the millennials moving in?

According to a recent report from the National Association of REALTORS®, millennials (age 37 years and younger) accounted for more than a third, 36 percent, of all home purchases in the past year. The millennial buyers that I've worked with this past year wanted move-in ready homes with a backyard entertainment area and a pet-friendly green space. The length of commute to work and/or childcare also influenced their home purchasing decisions.

The report mentions that tight inventory and higher housing costs have kept many young



By Ronnie McLaughlin

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potential buyers out of the market and student loan debt is making saving for a down payment difficult. The report stated that 46 percent of these millennial age buyers had a median amount student loan debt of \$27,000. Because of higher housing costs and debt to income ratios, in general, I have found that millennials ask for some closing cost assistance from the seller. *Welcome to Bloomington, Millennials!*

### Neighborhood Snapshot - Bloomington West

Bloomington West is a voluntary HOA neighborhood located south of Bloomington Avenue and west of Bell Shoals Road. The community consists of over 600 one and two story homes mostly built from 1981-87, averaging 1,800 square feet. The homes are typically three bedrooms with two full bathrooms and two car garages. The streets consist of 314-714 Bloomington Drive, 401-423 Bloomington Drive, Caliente Drive, Cedar Grove Drive, Cloverhill Court, Denage Court, Emberwood Drive, 4101 to 4109 Encina Drive, Fallon Court, Fenner Court, Fieldstone Drive, Fortuna Drive, Herlong Court, Hollister Place, Isleton Drive, Oak Moss Drive, Paddlewheel Drive, Redondo Drive, Shady Nook Drive, Sweetleaf Drive, Sweetleaf Court, Van Reed Manor, Wasco Court and Windtree Court. Over the past year, 42 homes sold in Bloomington West. The pool homes sold at an average of \$125 per square foot and the non-pool homes sold at an average of \$123 per square foot.

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# October 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



## November 15 - The Great American Teach-In

Come talk about your job or hobby and ... set a good example. Speakers are needed for Kindergarten through 12th grade and Technical Colleges. Register by November 9.



### ALAFIA ALLIGATOR ALLEY

October 9-23 - Fall School-Wide Fundraiser, Get your Christmas shopping done early with everything from cookies, popcorn, wrapping paper, kitchen and home décor. Online link will be set up on October 9. Orders will be delivered the week after Thanksgiving.

October 16 - Mathnasium night with Chick-Fil-A - look for registrations to be sent home with students

October 22-26 - Red Ribbon Week

October 29 - Report cards go home

### Business Partners Wanted

We are looking for Business Partners with a wide range of sponsorships available, if interested or know a business that is, please send an email by mid-October to AlafiaPTAFundraising@gmail.com.

### Remember to wear your Alafia shirts on Spirit Fridays

Shirts are sold in "The Mint" Wednesday mornings from 7:30-8 a.m.

### Tuesday Folders

Each year students receive an Alafia folder on the first day of school. These folders then serve as "Tuesday Folders" for the remainder of the year. Every Tuesday these folders will be sent home with pertinent information, forms, newsletters, etc. from the school, the PTA, and sometimes from the county. By sending home all informational fliers only on Tuesdays, we hope to eliminate confusion about when information is coming home. Your child will STILL get papers from teachers on any day of the week, but those will be academic. Please send BACK the folders every Wednesday.



### CIMINO COUGAR CENTRAL

October 12 - Paint Night and General PTA Assembly, 6-8 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room

October 19 - All Pro Dad's, 6:30 a.m., Multi-Purpose Room

October 22-26 - Red Ribbon Week, Theme: Dance Out Drugs

October 26 - Fall Festival, 4-7 p.m.

October 29 - Report Cards go home

October 31 - Storybook Parade 8-9 a.m., Bring your favorite book and dress up as your favorite story book character.

November 9 - Veterans Day Program, 8-9 a.m.



### Cimino Elementary Fall Festival

October 26, 4-7 p.m.  
On the school grounds  
All welcome!



Please come join us for an evening of Fun, Games, Food & Live Entertainment! Tickets will be sold at the door.

(Cash only) \*Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times\*

### BURNS BRUINS BANTER

October 8 - Volleyball Practice Begins

October 8 - Band Booster Meeting, 7 p.m., Rm 146

October 12 - PTSA Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Media Center

October 12 - Band Night at Bloomingdale High School, 6 p.m.

October 16 - Dad Group Meeting, 7 p.m., Beef O'Bradys (Bell Shoals Rd)

October 18 - Fall Picture Retakes

October 18 - Fall Chorus Concert, 6:30 p.m., Bloomingdale High School

October 22 - Volleyball vs. Eisenhower, 5:30 p.m.

October 30 - Report Cards go home

November 1-22 - Band Booster Fundraiser, 11 a.m., Poinsettia sales begin

November 1 - Volleyball @ Shields, 6 p.m.

**Morning Tutoring:** Contact Mr. Riley for more information at 813-744-8383 ext. 225. Tutoring offered: Math/Language Arts/History/Science & Reading, 7:55-8:55 a.m.

Language Arts 6-8 Grade: Monday and Wednesday - Ms. Vidi Rm. 233

Math 6-8 Grade: Thursday and Friday - Mr. Seiler Rm. 202

Social Studies 6-8 Grade: Wednesday and Friday - Mr. Mercer Rm. 227

Reading 6-8 Grade: Monday - Mrs. Stevens Rm. 246

Science 6-8 Grade: Thursday - No room # available



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# October 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.



## BLOOMINGDALE HIGH BULL BUSINESS

- October 6 – Homecoming Dance, 7 p.m., The Regent
- October 8 – Chorus Fall Concert, 7 p.m., Auditorium
- October 8 – Volleyball vs Armwood, 7 p.m.
- October 9 – PTSA Meeting, 6 p.m.
- October 10 – PSAT – 9th, 10th and 11th grades
- October 11-12 – Fall Play, 6 p.m., Auditorium
- October 11 – JV Football @ Brandon, 7 p.m.
- October 12 – Football vs TBT, 7:30 p.m.
- October 16 – Faculty/Underclassman Picture Make-Up, 10 a.m., Auditorium
- October 19 – Football @ Plant City, 7:30 p.m.
- October 20 – Bloomington Fall Festival, Charley Harris Stadium. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- October 22-26 – Cross County Districts @ Newsome, 9 a.m.
- October 25 – NEHS Induction Ceremony, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium
- October 26 – Football vs. Durant, 7:30 p.m.
- October 30 – Academic Letter Celebration, 11a.m., All Lunches
- October 31 – Report Cards go home
- November 2 – Football @ Robinson, 7:30 p.m.



## BULL BRIEFS

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following Bloomington High School Teachers and Staff selected for Teacher of the Year, Instructional Support Employee of the Year and the Ida S. Baker Diversity Educator of the Year for the 2019 school year:

# Teacher of the Year



Mr. Patrick Sheehan: Teacher of the Year - Social Studies Department AP World History, World History & Dual Enrollment American History Teacher



Ms. Coleen Petree: Instructional Support Employee of the Year - Principal's Secretary, Crimson Guard & Winter Guard Sponsor



Ms. Irene Canton: Ida S. Baker Diversity Educator of the Year - English Department ESOL Developmental Language & Jr./Sr. FSA/SAT Prep Teacher

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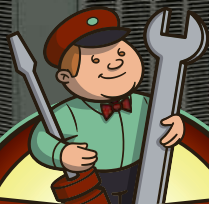
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## “Who’s Got Spirit? We’ve Got Spirit!”

By Deidre Morgan

On Sept. 22, there was a lot of spirit at Bloomingdale High School as the JV and Varsity Cheerleaders held a Junior Bulls Cheer Camp. Kindergarten through 8th grade students learned cheers, sideline chants, dances and met the Bloomingdale Cheerleaders.

This yearly camp is also a fundraiser for the cheerleaders with proceeds going towards cheer expenses and new mats. Nearly 80 girls attended the camp and Coach Tracy DiPrima said that they have received positive feedback from participants. With the registration fee, the junior bulls received a t-shirt, snacks and drinks.

On Oct. 12, the Junior Bulls Camp attendees will get to show what they learned and cheer alongside the Bulls Cheerleaders for the Tampa Bay Tech football game. Come out and watch these future Bulls Cheerleaders shake their pom poms and cheer on our Bulls Football team! Go Bulls!

Coach Tracy DiPrima get the Junior Bull Camp attendees involved with a question and answer session.

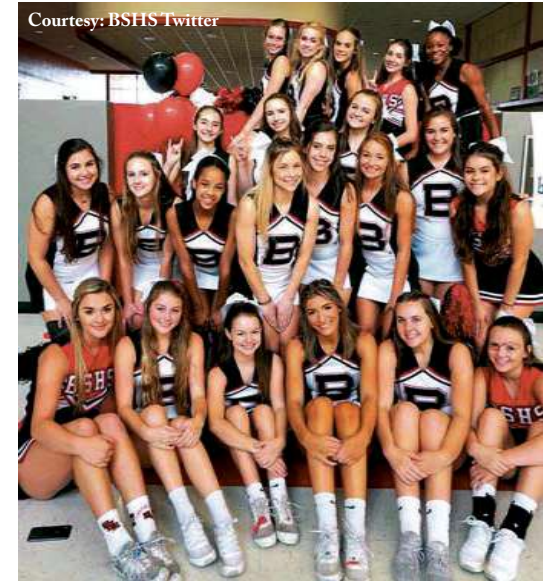
Photo: Deidre Morgan



Members of the JV and Varsity Cheer Squad show campers some routines.  
Photo: Deidre Morgan



Cheerleaders teach campers routines.



BSJS JV and Varsity cheerleaders ready for Junior Bulls Camp.

## Tips to Help with College Applications

By Jon Alfano

For many high school students, the beginning of senior year ranks as one of the most stressful periods in their life. Juggling a rigorous class schedule, dual enrollment classes, a part-time job, and extra-curricular activities like sports and clubs, can be incredibly daunting. If all of that wasn't enough, many students are also applying to college.

Time spent at a university serves as a vital transition from high school into the real world, so it is crucial for students to find a university that is a fit for them. The application process can be intimidating and lengthy, but here are a few tips and tricks to help streamline and ease the process.



If you're applying to multiple colleges, websites like The Common Application ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)) and Coalition for College ([www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org)) are useful because they allow college-bound students to fill out a single application that is then submitted to multiple participating colleges. Be aware that the non-refundable application fee for each college can range from \$30 to

nearly \$100. To save money on application fees, students can choose their top five colleges to apply to and start with completing those applications.

Also, when considering where to apply, students must pay close attention to the application deadlines. For admittance to the fall 2019 term, the deadline for most colleges is November 1. If students have not yet begun the application process, they need to start as soon as possible. It takes time to self-report grades and scores, assemble a resume, write essays, and get letters of recommendation. The earlier an application is completed, the better.

Congratulations and best of luck to the Class of 2019!

### College Planning for High School Parents

Are you the parent of a college-bound high school student? Do you want to learn more about your options to pay for college? Join Lori Nadglowski, MBA, CFP® at the Bloomingdale Library for an overview of the options to pay for college and how to choose a strategy that fits your family budget and doesn't jeopardize your child's financial future.

Date: October 9

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Bloomingdale Regional Library

Website: <http://hcplc.org>



## Fundraiser brings in big bucks for Burns

Photos: Jessica Hinson, unless otherwise credited

On Sept. 28, Burns Middle School's PTSA brought in fundraising organization Dodgeball2You and held its 2nd annual Dodgeball Tournament. The tournament not only met, but exceeded its fundraising goal and brought in over \$10,000. That's a lot of pencils! Congratulations Burns' PTSA!



Bloomington East resident Emma Voehl winds up to deliver a knockout blow.



Photo: Wendy Knipp



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## Game On! BSHS Student Wins First eSport Championship

By Deidre Morgan

If you have teenagers, then you're bound to know about Fortnite. Fortnite is an online video game that was developed by Epic Games in 2017. It is a shooter survival game, something like a modern day Hunger Games where up to 4 players can form a team and fight off zombie-like creatures. The object is to be the last man standing.

This past spring, Heather Hanks, the Computer and Robotics teacher at Bloomingdale High School pitched an idea to Assistant Principal for Administration Donny Peek about forming an eSports team at the high school. Mr. Peek thought it was a great idea and a way for those students who aren't on a sports team such as football, basketball or baseball to connect to the school and maintain an educational focus. Each member of the eSports team must maintain their GPA to participate in the club. Today, it is the largest club at the school boasting over 100 members.



Over the summer, Bloomingdale High School 11th grader Dan Thomas became the grand prize winner of the first eSports Fortnite competition held in the nation. Dan beat out 99 other gamers to be the last man standing.

Photo: Deidre Morgan

This summer the eSports team from Bloomingdale competed in the High School eSports League Summer Open, for opportunities to win scholarships and to play for college recruiters. The league consisted of 100 players around the nation. Two BSHS students made it to the top 35, Gio DeCarvalho (DAICONEROC) and Dan Thomas (Purrplex). They played every week for the entire summer, one match Monday thru Wednesday and another match on Thursday thru Sunday.

Dan and Gio rose to the top to play each other for the first-ever high school national championship. After five intense matches and a Victory Royale, Dan was the last man standing and the first-ever Fortnite Game Xbox1 Summer Open HS national champion, while Gio was the national runner up!

Dan's grand prize was a Respond Gaming Chair. This is a customized chair that provides comfort and back support for serious gamers. Dan plans to major in Computer Engineering after high school and his major seems to fit him well.

If you have a student who takes his or her gaming seriously, contact Heather Hanks at

Bloomingdale (Room 127) for information. Hanks is also partnering with the Tampa Bay STEM Network to start a local league in our area.

Congratulations to Heather, Dan and Gio for being a part of this exciting and educational opportunity.

The Hillsborough County Public Schools board recognized Bloomingdale's national eSports winners from the High School Esports League on Sept. 25. Photo from left to right: Heather Hanks (Computer Science & Robotics Teacher and Esports Coordinator), Gio DeCarvalho (placed second), Daniel Thomas (placed as the first National HS Champion in Fortnite) and Larry Plank (K-12 STEM Director).

Photo by Nidia DeCarvalho



## Bloomingdale High School's West Wing on Display

By Deidre Morgan

September is American Founders' Month in Florida. The annual observance "encourages public schools to coordinate instruction at all grade levels related to the nation's founding fathers including an in-depth study of the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence."

The last week of the month is "Celebrate Freedom" Week and BSHS's West Wing, also known as the 300 Hallway, was decorated with American Pride. Students had the opportunity to create showpieces and earn community service hours while celebrating our Nation and emphasizing the words of the Declaration of Independence.

Bloomingdale's SGA Sponsor and Social Studies teacher, Amanda LaFoe oversaw the project and helped students to express their creativity. The results were amazing and showed the talent of the students and added a touch of beauty to the halls of Bloomingdale.



Photos: Deidre Morgan



## Back 2 School Shout-out



Grady Duncan, Burns Middle School  
Photo: Jessica Hinson



Oliver, Piper and Riley Leisure from Alafia Elementary  
Photo: Carrie Leisure



# Coach Warner - Creating a New Chapter in Bloomingdale's Football Playbook

By Deidre Morgan

Head Coach Max Warner began coaching football at Bloomingdale High School in 2016 and at that time, his goal was to turn around a distressing 1 - 9 program. After just a few years, not only has he done that, but he's also made a huge impact on his players and in our community.

Since his arrival, the Bulls have finished in the top 4 in Hillsborough County and held a 3.2 team GPA with 4 Scholar Athlete Award winners. Ten of his players now play at the collegiate level and 8 of his current players have been offered scholarships. The team has worked hard and currently enjoys a 5-0 winning season although Warner is very humble and says, "the credit goes solely to the players, their talent and his coaching staff." He appreciates the support from the students, alumni, parents, facility, and the community. Warner has also created a buzz in our community by participating in 2 golf tournaments which helped to raise over \$20,000.

Principal Sue Burkett is proud to have him on her team at Bloomingdale and in fact, she has donated part of the funds she raised as Brandon Honorary Mayor, to the Academic and Athletic Foundation. Using those funds, Warner is working with alumnus Josh Dobbie and team parent Fred McCoy, to convert an unused storage room at the school into a weight room for the players which should be completed this month.

Warner's current goal for his team is to host and win the District Championship. Good Luck to Coach Warner, his staff and players on accomplishing that goal. Go Bulls!



Max Warner, Head Football Coach of Bloomingdale High School is on course to set records for the first time in Bloomingdale football history with a 5 - 0 start to the season.

File Photo

An unused storage room is in the process of becoming the new weight room with a mid-fall completion date.

Photo: Deidre Morgan



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