



THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1980

VOLUME XXXVIII 🍁 ISSUE 11 🍁 NOVEMBER 2018 🍁 www.BloomingtondaleHOA.com

Bloomingtondale's Fall Fest is a Scorching Success!

See the story on p. 8.



Photo: Dan Boisselle

Face painter Gabrielle Ray delights a young fest-goer.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Time is what we want most, but what we use worst." *William Penn*

This Month



BHA COMMUNITY CORNER
Page 4

BELL SHOALS PUBLIC MEETING
Page 6

FALL FESTIVAL
Pages 8-13

BSTD: THE COMMUNITY'S COMMON AREA CONNECTION
Page 16

SCHOOL NEWS
Homecoming
Cimino Paints
Golf Winner
Athletes of the Week
Pages 18-23

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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

Website: www.BloomingtonHOA.com

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

President: *George T. May IV*

Vice President: *Suzy Watts*

Secretary: *Joanie Wilson*

Treasurer: *Grace Lewis*



Directors at Large:

Daniel Berkowitz

Sean Donahue

Bobbi Ferraro

Carl Hallinan

Billy Hightower

Beth Smedley

Charlie Woodcock

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



JOY BOISSELLE

Editor - The Bloomington Gazette

3509 Bell Shoals Rd.

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



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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:
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BHA COMMUNITY CORNER



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HEY BLOOMINGDALE, SANTA IS COMING!



Santa Visit and Charity Food Drive, Saturday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Village Early Learning Center, 3741 Canoga Park Drive / The Santa pictured to the right is the BHA's actual Santa. He is terrific! Bring the kids, both two- and four-legged, for a photo, crafts and a gift from Santa! Glenn Paulsen, our balloon artist, will also be on hand to delight young and old. Volunteers are needed. Contact bloomingtonale.homeowners@gmail.com.



Gazette File Photo

BHA EVENT CALENDAR

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

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

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

THANK YOU!

Thanks to the Fall Fest Committee and Board of Directors for your hard work and dedication to our community.

The BHA board works hard to promote community harmony through events like the fall fest and other services. Pictured are George May, seated, and left to right Bobbi Ferraro, Billy Hightower, Suzy Watts and Grace Lewis. Not pictured Charlie Woodcock, Sean Donahue, Carl Halinan and Beth Smedley.



Photo: Joy Boisselle



Photo: Wendy Knipp

Fall festival volunteers numbered over 65. Students earned community service hours. This event would not happen without them!



Photo: Dan Boisselle

BHA President George May and Commissioner Stacy White

November Community Calendar

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

Master Gardener Plant Clinic / Nov. 7, 6:30-8 p.m. / Bloomingdale Library, 1906 Bloomingdale Ave. // Turn your brown thumb green! Join master gardeners on the first Wednesday of every month through May 19. This month's topic presented by Master Gardener Verna Dickey is "The Beauty of Bromeliads." It is a hands-on presentation with many beautiful plants and free raffle plants. Don't forget to bring a plant or other gardening item for our fun Plant Swap. Many free UF/IFAS publications will be available as well as information on other clinics and workshops offered from your Hillsborough County Extension Office. <http://sfl.ifas.ufl.edu/hillsborough>.



Grace Community United Methodist Church Holiday Market / Nov 10, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. / 5708 Lithia Pinecrest Road // Shop for all your Christmas gifts – or for yourself! Products for sale include jewelry, handcrafted home décor, wood signs, furniture renovations, glitter cups, candles, wreaths and handmade hair bows. The market is sponsored by the Women of Grace, and booth rental fees support missions in the community. Deadline for reserving a booth is Nov. 7. For information, visit www.graceholidaymarket.com.



34th Annual Festival of Trees / Nov 16-18, Times: Nov. 16: 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Nov. 17: 9 a.m.- 8 p.m., *Festival Access Night 5-8 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 18: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. / The Arc Tampa Bay Foundation / The Long Center, 1501 N Belcher Rd, Ste 244, Clearwater, Florida 33765 / Tickets: theartctbfoundation.org // Kick off the holiday season with the whole family at the Festival of Trees. Guests will enjoy an indoor display of community-decorated trees and wreaths, all available for purchase. There will also be a variety of vendor booths and daily performances to benefit people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Kids will enjoy arts & crafts and face painting in the Children's Village and a visit with Santa! \$5 General Admission, (Free for Children 5 & Under). For information: 727-797-8712, www.theartctbfoundation.org and for@theartctbfoundation.org.



Thanksgiving Fair and Food Drive / Nov. 18, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon, 706 Bryan Rd / 813-681-6547 // This free outdoor event will feature a wide variety of vendors selling unique gift items. Bring non-perishable food to be collected and distributed through the local food bank to ensure everyone has a hearty Thanksgiving Day. The fair will also have plenty of food, music and fun surprises for the entire family.

The 4th Annual Goody Goody Turkey Gobble, Tampa's Thanksgiving Day 8K, 5K & 1 Mile Walk / Nov. 22, Show at 7 a.m. / Start/finish at Amalie Arena, 401 Channelside Drive // Hosted by Tampa Turkey Gobble and Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA. Get tickets at www.runsignup.com.




Christmas Lane / Open Nov. 23 - Dec. 24, each Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 6-10 p.m. / Charlie Grimes Ag Building at Plant City's Florida Strawberry Festival // Christmas is coming to the Florida Strawberry Festival! There are many Christmas displays, food, carnival rides, and a Kidzone, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for photos every night! Enjoy Living Nativities on select nights with live music, live animals, an outdoor set and an angel! There is live entertainment and Fritzzy Brothers One Man Circus nearly every night. Check our website at www.ChristmasLane.com and our Facebook page for more info and photos from last year's event.



Holiday Lights in the Gardens / Nov. 23 - Dec. 30, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. / FL Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Rd., Largo // The annual "Holiday Lights in the Gardens" is a seasonal escape into a wonderland of over 1 million LED twinkling lights and fun entertainment. This is a family-friendly event with nightly entertainment, including visits with Santa. Refreshments are available, as well as Holiday-themed gifts at the Botanical Bounty Gift Shop. The event begins at 5:30 pm and donations support the ongoing maintenance, upkeep and expansion of the Florida Botanical Gardens. For information, visit <https://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com/event/holiday-lights-gardens/5412>.



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**18 MONTHS SAME AS CASH
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Large Turnout at Bell Shoals Meeting

By Joe Harless

On Oct. 23, Hillsborough County representatives gave area residents a chance to learn more about the Bell Shoals Road widening project. The meeting, hosted at Bloomingdale Senior High School, provided a project overview to area residents in a public forum setting. Curiosity about the project's details led to a big turnout, with residents able to see the work plan diagrams and ask questions of the project staff.

After thanking everyone for coming out to the meeting, project manager Thomas F. Rawls, Hillsborough County Public Works, stepped aside for a quick presentation highlighting the project's scope, estimated cost, and expected changes.

As previously reported, the project will widen the segment of Bell Shoals Road between Bloomingdale Avenue and Boyette Road from a two-lane, undivided rural road, to a four-lane, divided urban facility complete with bicycle lanes and stronger emphasis on pedestrian safety. The project will also widen the bridge over the Alafia River, and replace the traffic signals at Glenhaven Drive, Rosemead Lane, and Bloomingdale Avenue.

The presentation also included several new details: Some neighborhood entrances, including Shoals Landing Drive, Emerald Creek Drive, and Tomahawk Trail, would experience access changes at some point due to the work being done on Bell Shoals.

Additionally, the project start date is now spring 2019. Once a contractor is selected, a second public hearing will occur in early 2019.

The presentation also confirmed that Newland Communities and Hillsborough County are funding the estimated \$65 million construction project. Rawls also encouraged anyone with comments and questions about the project to share the information with staff by phone or e-mail.

For more information on this project, contact Public Works at (813) 635-5400. Rawls also encouraged anyone seeking more information on the project to ask for him directly.



The Lago Family in Bloomingfield Estates love Halloween. Each year, they raise spirits with a visit from their extended skeleton family.

Photos: Wendy Knipp



Bloomingdale Real Estate Update

(Editor's Note: Real estate columnist Ronnie has lived in Bloomingdale for eight 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 Girl Scouts.)

How's the Market?

When I'm out and about, people always ask me, "Ronnie, how's the market?" This is my current answer. "The market is good!"

Listings are experiencing more competition. According to the Greater Tampa Association of Realtors Market Statistics for single-family homes for the month of August 2018, the number of new listings is up 10 percent year over year. The number of months of availability is up 7.7 percent year over year and pricing was only up by 2.5 percent, which is the second smallest rise since December 2014.

What does all of this mean? There are more houses for sale and interest rates are rising, so homes are on the market longer than what we have experienced for years now. And, even though the number of buyers is up 5.95 percent, the buyers do not have as much purchasing power as they did in past years when interest rates were lower. (GTR Market statistics from MLS)

Neighborhood Snapshot Bloomingdale Estates

Bloomingdale Estates located south of Bloomingdale Avenue along John Moore is comprised of 179 homes averaging 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and 2,320 square feet. The homes were built between 1980-1991. Streets names are: Applegate Circle, Bayfield Drive, Bessemer Circle, 105-109 Bloomingfield Drive, 104-114 Bloomingfield Drive, 111-



By Ronnie McLaughlin

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313 Bloomingfield Drive, Butternut Court, Buttonwood Court, Paddlewheel Court, Rosedale and Sabal Palm Court. Three homes sold over the past year in Bloomingdale Estates. The non-pool homes averaged \$107.73 square feet and an updated pool home sold for \$142.19 square foot.

**MLS statistics were based on rough property lines for individual neighborhoods and included homes sold between October 24, 2017 and October 24, 2018. Sales not entered into the MLS did not count in those statistics.*



Chadderton Group
Attends BHA Fall
Festival, Thank you!

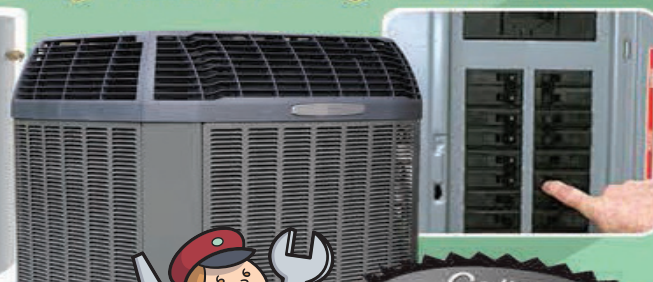
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BHA Fall Fest 2018 - Bigger and Better Than Ever

By Wendy Knipp

Sunny skies and the smell of burgers on the grill greeted over 2000 festival-goers at the annual BHA Fall Festival which took place on Oct. 20. This event is getting bigger and better each year, making Bloomingdale High School's stadium a perfect venue for the community get-together.

This year's Festival brought in more than 75 local sponsors and businesses who in turn provided a great trick-or-treating opportunity. Costumed kids, families, and pets went from business to business trick-or-treating while parents learned more about what area businesses have to offer.

BHA President George May said, "The best part of this event is seeing our families coming out and enjoying themselves, interacting with each other and our vendors."

This year's Festival hosted a new Art Show/Contest, which was a collaboration of efforts between the Brandon League of Fine Arts and the Art Departments at Burns Middle School and Bloomingdale High School. Winners were chosen by esteemed artist and former Hillsborough County Supervisor for K-12 Art Education, Dana Warner. She judged the artwork based on originality and skill. Congratulations to Courtney Nguyen from Burns and Anna McIllece from Bloomingdale for winning First-Place for their respective schools!

Additional highlights of the Festival included a pet costume contest, two children's costume contests, a booth-decorating contest, bouncy houses, and an incredible performance by the BSHS Drumline. Plenty of dedicated volunteer students came out in their bright green shirts to set up and help this event run smoothly while getting in those much-needed volunteer hours.

Water and baked goods were sold to support Bloomingdale High School's cross-country team and band. The Jazzy B. Grille food truck provided delicious American fare while music filled the air thanks to DJ Rick Mondelli of Rhythm Makers.

Thank you to everyone who made this day possible and congratulations to the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association on a successful event!

For all fest photos, check out the Facebook album at: www.facebook.com/BloomingdaleHoa.com.

Art Show talents delight fest-goers!



Bloomingdale
1st place - Anna
McIllece



Bloomingdale 2nd place- Noah Gaffney



Bloomingdale 3rd place - Ben Mearthy



Burns 1st place - Courtney Nguyen



Burns 2nd place - Norah Houston



Burns 3rd place and & Peoples'
Choice - Loryah Wells



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Saturday, Nov. 3rd

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(Vendor Booths & Kids Area will close at 5 p.m.)

LIVE Entertainment

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Rhythm Trail (Steel Drums)

1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Juanjamon & the Sunsetters
(Beach/Reggae)

3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Kozmic Pearl ('60s/'70s)

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Robbie Cockrell Band (Country)

Sunday, Nov. 4th

10a.m.- 5p.m.

LIVE Entertainment

10 a.m. - 11:15 p.m. Jesse Byers
(Country/ Beach)

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Someday Honey
(Americana/Old Jimmy Buffett)

1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Carly Burruss (Country)

3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Bus Full of Monkeys
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Fall Fest (continued)



The BSHS Rajun' Bull Band Drumline braved the blazing sun to provide fest-goers with entertainment.

Photos: Dan Boisselle



Costume Contests Highlight Community Creativity!

Photos: Dan Boisselle



Winners of the 6 and under costume contest - First Place - Twins Madilyn (Maui) and Adilyne (Moana) Tennison, Second Place - Mom and baby ladybugs and Third Place - Baby Shark



Second Place Pet - Up, Up and Away! Fynn, 5 mths, owner Isabella Nelson



Third Place Pet - Beware, Watch Dog onsite! Sunny



Winners of the 7 and older costume contest - First Place - Greatest Show "wo"man Leah Holler (9), Second Place - Lorelai Tennison as Te Fiti from Moana and Third Place - Fionnuala Hallinan (9) as Rey from The Last Jedi



First Place Pets - From The Wizard of Oz, Cora As The Flying Monkey King and Jackson as the Cowardly Lion. Also pictured Amy and Cecil Stevens (Wicked Witch of the West and the scarecrow) and Aubrey and Nina Mabry (Glenda and Dorothy)

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Fall Fest - Our guests are the reason we put this event on each year! Thanks for coming!

Photos: Wendy Knipp, unless otherwise credited



Visitors Create a Bloomingdale Fall Masterpiece!
Thank you, Pinot's Palette!
Photo: Dan Boisselle



Photo: Dan Boisselle



Photo: Dan Boisselle



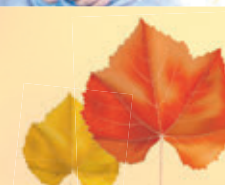
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Gold Sponsor Advanced Oral Surgery/Tampa Wins Best Booth Contest! Thank you, Dr. Jason Edwards and team!
Photo: Dan Boisselle



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Photo: Dan Boisselle



Our Silver Sponsors! Thank you!





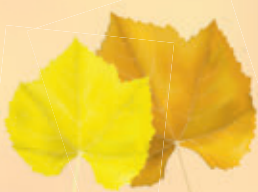
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Photo: Dan Boisselle



Photo: Joy Boisselle



Gold Sponsor Advanced Oral Surgery Tampa Wins Best Booth Contest! Thank you, Dr. Jason Edwards and team!
Photo: Dan Boisselle

Our Silver Sponsors! Thank you!





BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY STATION NOTES

By Community Resource Deputy Clifford Fletcher and CSO Debbie Vijil

"One Team, One Family, One Community"
From all of us at the Sheriff's Office, have a safe Thanksgiving!

Area Law and Order

Between Sept.12 and Oct.12, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office conducted 55 traffic stops in the Bloomingdale area. These resulted in 17 citations and 38 traffic warnings. Three arrests were made for DUI. Other incidents included two petty thefts, four shoplifting calls, five drug violations, one vehicle burglary and seven calls for battery.

Holiday Tips

Be safe and secure! The Holiday Season is here... many of us will be busy shopping, traveling and celebrating. The HCSO wants all of our residents to have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.



Runners and Bikers: Don't get hit!

Residents who run or bike in our area can protect themselves by wearing light colored clothing and reflective vests or clothing. Runners should run on the sidewalks, not in the street! I have seen people running early in the morning in the roadway barely visible. If you can't be seen you will get hit.

Citizens Patrol: Join Today

The Sheriff's Citizens on Patrol Program is very successful. Residents should work together with these dedicated volunteers to make our neighborhoods more secure. Consider becoming a part of this great team.

Remember if you see something say something. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office non-emergency number is (813) 247-8200.



D5 Community Resource Deputy Breanna Rodriguez and Master Deputy Cliff Fletcher on the job at the BHA Fall Festival!

Photo: Dan Boisselle

**Next
Bloomingdale
Area Community
Council Meeting
(BACC) is in
January!**

**Stay Tuned for
Details!**



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.



Celebrating Thanksgiving

Oooooooo... Thanksgiving! One of my favorite holidays of the year for a variety of reasons.

First of all, we often get to visit with people we might not have seen for awhile. Of course, there may be a very good reason for not seeing these people. If, for instance, you have an uncle whose table manners are best demonstrated within the confines of a prison mess hall. Or a cousin who prefers to drink his dinner and then proceed to challenge the other guests to a belching competition. Or a sibling who regales everyone with lurid, colorful tales of the host's misspent youth. Yes, there may well be good reason to limit one's exposure to these particular people. And, yes, I'm talking to YOU, brother mine.

It's a time for quiet reflection. "Did I *really* need to eat all of the left over Halloween candy?" "Should I tell my sister that if she gets one more facelift, she'll be breathing through a blow hole in the back of her head?" "Why are my kids glaring at me like that? Do they know I ate all of the left over Halloween candy?" Yes, Thanksgiving is a time for quiet reflection. And the quieter, the better.

Best of all, we break out the once-a-year recipes and prepare to munch ourselves into a near coma.

Since my husband and I both love to cook, this is a fun time for us and we split the

cooking into our individual areas of expertise. Take the pumpkin pies, for instance. Now, he makes a soufflé filling so light and delicate it almost floats out of the dish. I, on the other hand, make a pastry crust that is richer and flakier than Britney Spears and Kim Kardashian **COMBINED**. Together, we create a dessert that can make the angels weep for joy and dinner guests come to blows over the last piece. Yet another reason to reconsider that whole guest thing.



Then there's the dressing. No, not "stuffing." **Dressing**. The idea of upending a turkey and cramming its nether regions full of bread, celery, onions and spices quite frankly makes me a little queasy. I mean, let's face it: Do you really want to eat something that has literally been "shoved where the sun don't shine?" Yeah. Me neither. Much better to just gently spoon it into the Corningware and bake it separately.

And the gravy. Mmmmmmm. As the current spokesperson for a family to whom gravy is considered a beverage, I contend that it is the gravy, not the bird that should be the centerpiece of any Thanksgiving dinner. Redolent with delicate herbs, chopped giblets and mushrooms gently bobbing in the thickened sauce, perfect gravy is truly the pièce de résistance of any Thanksgiving dinner.

Pumpkin pie. Turkey. Dressing. Gravy. Great. Now I'm hungry. Hmmmm...I wonder if I really ate *all* of that candy...

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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.)

New Fiscal Year, New Officers, New Trustees

The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District began its new fiscal year on October 1, and at the October 8 meeting welcomed two new trustees, and elected new officers for 2-year terms. Your new Board of Trustees and their positions:



Tom Leech, President
Bob Meginnis, Vice President
Charlie Woodcock, Treasurer
Jay Kittle, Secretary
Rusty Jones, Trustee
Randy Kehrmeier, Trustee
Dave West, Trustee



New Trustee Charlie Woodcock has lived in Bloomingdale for 29 years and also serves as a Director-At-Large on the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) Board. New Trustee Randy Kehrmeier has lived in Bloomingdale for 19 years. He and his family have been active volunteers in the Bloomingdale community, serving the schools, BHA, and Campo Family YMCA, among other organizations.

Newly-elected President Tom Leech has been on the Board since January 2015, and served as Vice President for 2 years. He has lived in Bloomingdale for 11 years. Vice President Bob Meginnis has lived in the community for 15 years, and has been a Trustee since April of this year. Trustee Jay Kittle has served as Secretary since April of this year, and has been a Trustee since November of 2016.

Trustee Rusty Jones and Trustee Dave West both have served on the BSTD Board for 18 years and have held a variety of offices and responsibilities, bringing a wealth of experience and historic knowledge to the rest of the trustees.

From the BSTD President

By Tom Leech

I appealed to the community in August to approve the assessment referendum and you responded favorably. Thank you for providing the resources to improve and maintain a higher standard for Bloomingdale.

Now what? For starters, the trustees will embark on an ambitious planning approach to incorporate new resources into the community. We will consider ways to broaden existing programs such as landscaping, maintenance and holiday decorations. We will contemplate implementing new programs such as hiring off-duty sheriff's deputies to improve safety and security. The District will also review new landscaping obligations associated with the Bell Shoals widening project. And in recognition of the community's support, the trustees have freed up some funds for Christmas decorations this year.

The new assessment funds will become available for fiscal year 2020 (beginning in Oct 2019), and our budget must be in place by next summer. Our planning process will include reviewing, prioritizing, and budgeting our options for the community. You will have a chance to comment at the public hearing next July. Residents can and should become involved in this process. Tell us what you think and want.

The Board of Trustees is committed to persistent communications with you, our neighbors. Help make this communication two-way: call, email, or stop by the office and offer your thoughts. Come to a monthly meeting and see how the process unfolds.

Allow me to reiterate the District's appreciation for your vote of confidence. Now, your trustees will get to work revitalizing the community we all call home. This is only the beginning. Come and join us as we embark on a new direction.

Sidewalk Repairs Phase I Completed

Be aware that Phase I of the 3-year sidewalk repair project has been completed. Hillsborough County had their contractor complete repairs on what were deemed the worst areas of sidewalks with regard to unevenness. *Look for repairs to resume in 2019.*

Holiday Decorations Return

Holiday decorations are returning! As a recognition of the community's support of the tax assessment increase, the Trustees voted to free up funds to decorate **THIS** year rather than wait until next year when the increased tax dollars become available. *Look for banners as well as entrance lights and garlands to be installed the first week in November!*

BLOOMINGDALE

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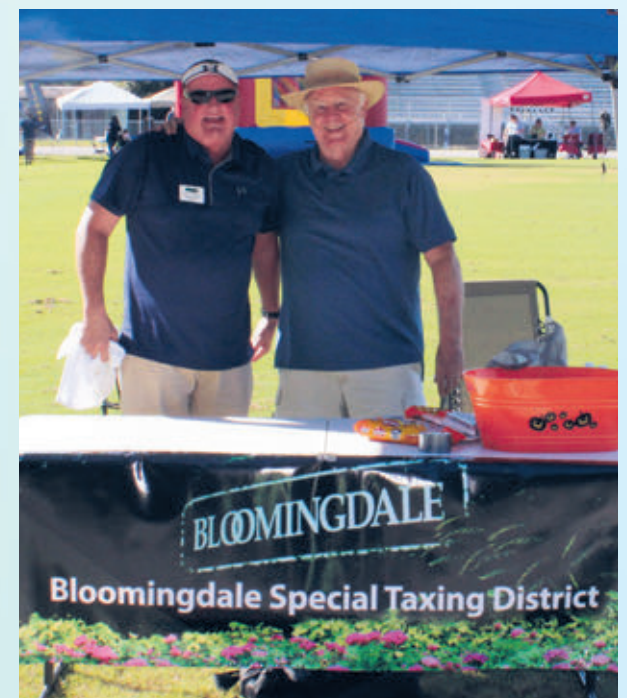
BSTD@verizon.net

www.bloomingdaletaxingdistrict.org

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

Monthly Meeting

The residents of Bloomingdale, as always, are invited to attend the next meeting of the BSTD on November 12, 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!*



The BSTD attended the Fall Festival last month in support of the BHA.



NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Novemberfest



Photo Credit: Terry Fisher

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- Carnival Grand Opening
- Youth Ministry Night

Thu., Nov. 15 • 4pm-10pm

- Law Enforcement and First Responders Appreciation Day
- Classix—7:30pm

Fri., Nov. 16 • 4pm-Midnight

- Soul Circus Cowboys Band—8pm

Sat., Nov. 17 • 11 am-Midnight

- Craft Beer Tasting—5-7pm
- Daniel Sprouse—8:30 pm

Sun., Nov. 18 • 12pm-8pm

- Military Appreciation Day
- Reverend Barry and the Funk—12:15pm
- Nativity Alumni Homecoming Day
- The Easy Button—4pm



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November 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 12 - Veteran's Day Observed - No School

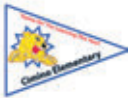
November 15 - Great American Teach-In, Register by November 9

November 19-23 - Fall Break, No School



ALAFIA ALLIGATOR ALLEY

Nov 9 - Veteran's Day Program, Presentation from USS Alafia and the Gator Chorus
Nov 9 - Mrs. Doud (Music Teacher) will perform with two students for the Young Songwriters Symposium Project, 7 p.m. at USF
Nov 30 - Terrific Kid Assembly, Character Trait - Determination



CIMINO COUGAR CENTRAL

Nov 9 - Veterans Day Program, 8-9 a.m.
Nov 15 - Ciccio Cali Spirit Night
Nov 16 - Fall Picture Retakes
Nov 27 - Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night
Nov 27 - PTA Board Meeting, 6-8 p.m.
Nov 30 - All Pro Dads @ Multi-Purpose Room, 6:30 a.m.



BURNS BRUINS BANTER

Nov 1-22 - Band Booster Fundraiser (poinsettia sales begin), 11 a.m.
Nov 6 - Fall Picture Retakes
Nov 6 - Burns Dads Meeting @ Beef O'Brady's on Bell Shoals, 7 p.m.
Nov 13 - Conference Night, 5-7 p.m.
Nov 29 - Orchestra Winter Concert at Bloomingdale HS, 6:30 p.m.



BLOOMINGDALE HIGH BULL BUSINESS

Nov 6 - Senior Class Cap and Gown Meeting @ Auditorium, 9:30 a.m.
Nov 6-8 - Pre-Season Soccer, 5 p.m.

Nov 7 - National Honor Society Applications are due
Nov 8 - Music Department Veteran's Day Concert @ Auditorium, 7 p.m.
Nov 13 - Mr. and Mrs. Bloomingdale @ Auditorium, 6 p.m.
Nov 13 - Boys & Girls Soccer @ Newsome, 6 p.m.
Nov 15-16 - Cap and Gown Ordering, During All Lunches
Nov 15 - NEHS Induction @ Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.
Nov 16 - Girls Soccer vs Plant City, 7 p.m.
Nov 27 - Financial Aid Night @ Brandon HS, 6 p.m.
Nov 29 - Cheer Competition @ Durant, 6:30 p.m.
Nov 30 - Boys and Girls Basketball vs Newsome, 6:30 p.m.



BULL BRIEFS

Running of the Bulls 5k

The second annual Running of the Bulls 5k is at Bloomingdale High School on Jan. 19, 2019. Date: Saturday, January 19, 2019. Time: 8:00 a.m. Location: Bloomingdale Senior High School. Cost: \$30. Register today: <https://fitniche.com/event/running-bulls-5k-2/>. Like the Bulls 5k Facebook page for the latest information: <https://www.facebook.com/bloomingdalebulls5k/>.



Senior Yard Sign Lacrosse Fundraiser

For details, go to [https://docs.google.com/senior signs](https://docs.google.com/senior%20signs).



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Cimino Cougars Get Colorful

Brief/Photos: Deidre Morgan

The PTSA at Cimino Elementary held a Paint Night at the school on Oct. 12. The free event was a thank you to the parents and students for a successful year of membership. The PTSA provided pizza and drinks while Pinot's Palette of Brandon provided instructions on how to create masterpieces. The multi-purpose room was filled with eager kids ready to paint and parents joining in the fun!



Alexis Stromquist and her son Landon are ready to put their painting skills to the test

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Bloomington Celebrates Homecoming Week

By Deidre Morgan

Photos: Deidre Morgan

Bloomington High School's Homecoming festivities began with Spirit Week from Oct. 1 – 5. Dress up days included Merica Monday, Rappers vs Rock Stars, Character Day, MEME Day (a meme is a humorous image that is copied), and Black Out Day. On Friday was the much-anticipated pep rally, which got everyone amped up for the 7:30 p.m. football game against Strawberry Crest.

During the game, a few Homecoming traditions took place. After the first quarter, the 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees were recognized. During half time, the Homecoming Court was introduced and led by this year's King Jacob McDonald and Queen Bre Jenkins.

The game was thrilling to watch. One of the most exciting plays of the night was from 6'8", 335-pound, Offensive Lineman Ethan Carde, whose 35-yard trick play pass, to an open Terrel Ferrell in the end zone, resulted in a touchdown. The video of Carde's play has gained attention on USA Today's High School Highlights show, YouTube, Max Preps, Facebook and Twitter. The Bulls went on to beat the Chargers 51 – 0!

Homecoming week ended on Oct. 6 with the Homecoming Dance which took place at The Regent. This year's theme was "Bienvenido a Miami," which translates to "Welcome to Miami."

What a fun week of Homecoming festivities! Congratulations to the football team, the Hall of Fame inductees and all those chosen to be on this year's Homecoming Court!

Bloomington's 2018 Homecoming Queen and King, Bre Jenkins and Jacob McDonald

The cheerleaders got the Black Out Day crowd pumped at the Pep Rally.



The 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees pictured with (from left) Donny Peek, Assistant Principal for Administration and Sue Burkett, Principal (far right). Kathy Hancock accepted in honor of her son, Justin Hancock. Justin was drafted to the Minor League Los Angeles Angels Baseball team and was a former Hillsborough County Deputy before he passed away in 2013 of bone cancer (Justin's niece, Charley, is also pictured with her grandmother), David Mason (Wrestling), Molly Keaton (Track & Field and Cheer), David "Coach Hutch" Hutcherson (Football). Coach Hutch has been with the football program for over 23 years.





Bulls Defeat Tampa Bay Titans!

By Deidre Morgan

Photos: Deidre Morgan

On Oct. 12, Charley Harris Stadium was bursting with over 3,000 excited spectators to watch the Bloomingdale Bulls play the Tampa Bay Tech Titans, both at the time were undefeated, 6-0. Besides being the biggest game of the year, it was also Military Appreciation Night, Junior Bulls Cheer Night and Middle School Band Night. Bands from Dowdell Middle School and Burns Middle School joined Bloomingdale's Rajun Bull Band and played for the crowd. The Junior Bull Cheerleaders wore matching t-shirts and held light sabers while cheering on the team. Members of the military received free admission and were asked to stand and be recognized.

Colonel David Haight, Commander of MacDill's Special Operations Command Central had the honor of participating in the coin toss. The game was nonstop action. Although the Titans were up 17 - 6 in the first quarter, the Bulls pulled it together and won the game 33 - 24! The atmosphere was electric as Head Coach Max Warner said that game was the best home environment that he'd ever seen in high school.

Even with such an amazing season so far, the team's ego remains grounded. Sophomore Running Back Charles Montgomery said, "We are more than just a football team, we are family, we are brothers."

The season's not over, but regardless of how it ends, we are so proud. Go Bulls!



Bands from Dowdell and Burns provided music before the game along with the Rajun Bull Band.

Colonel David Haight, Commander from the Special Operations Command Central at MacDill Air Force Base does the coin toss.



Junior Bull Cheerleaders who participated in the Jr. Bull Camp last month cheer on the Bulls from the stands.

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Way to Keep it on the Greens!

Sydney McLaughlin, junior, won the 2018 FHSAA Districts Girls Golf Tournament played at Bloomingdale Golfer's Club. Sydney (l.) and Alli Peters, senior, represented Bloomingdale High School at Regionals played at Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club, Sarasota. This is Coach Cristina Coca's second year coaching girls golf.



Burns Orchestra Fall Concert Highlights Accomplished Musicians

Photos: Jessica Hinson



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Bloomingdale High School Seniors Receive Athlete of the Week Honors

Courtesy Article Provided By Florida Orthopaedic Institute

Florida Orthopaedic Institute (FOI) is proud to announce its Athlete of the Week award winners for the week ending Oct. 19. Winners recognized by their respective Head Coaches for their leadership and commitment to their teams are Bloomingdale's Jonathan Owen, a team cross country captain, and Tessa Pignataro, a leading member of the school's volleyball team. Both students have outstanding goals for their senior year. Owen wants to make it to the state finals and Pignataro hopes to lead her team to win a district championship.

Owen, nominated by Head Coach Jennifer Beach, earned this week's award for displaying leadership qualities. Beach had high praise for this young runner.

"Jon is an amazing team player and leader! He is one of our team captains this year. He leads the team on and off the race course. He supports everyone on the team and encourages our new and younger runners," said Beach. "He just recently won the <https://zurl.co/leU0> Invitational and led the team to a close 2nd overall finish. He has worked since his first year with us to set the best example and his hard work has paid off!"

"I first started running in my freshman year and was really inspired by the juniors and seniors, mainly Bo Benik and Colin Boutin. Not only was I inspired by how well they did but I was also inspired by their dedication and how well they led the team. I really want to go to States one time before I graduate and this is the last chance I have," said Owen.

Head Volleyball Coach Justeen Coulson nominated Tessa Pignataro for her efforts in leading her volleyball squad.

"Tessa is one of the hardest working kids I have ever coached. Tessa shows up every day committed to excellence and committed to her team. She is a selfless athlete that understands the true concept of the word teammate. I am so impressed with Tessa on a daily basis and I know she will succeed in anything she sets her mind to because she already does that every day as a high school student," Coulson said.

"As a Senior, I would like to carry on the legacy of winning districts. It would make it the third year in a row of winning the championship. I want my team to accomplish this goal. If we play to our full potential, we are more than capable of winning," said Pignataro.

Florida Orthopaedic Institute's Athlete of the Week campaign was designed to focus the attention on student-athletes, recognizing them for their hard work and dedication both on and off the field.

For more information, please visit: <https://zurl.co/YT1a> and 'like' us on Facebook: <https://zurl.co/WTMX>.



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