

The Bloomingdale Gazette

Vol. IX No. 4

Published by The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

APRIL 1987

FLEA MARKET: MAY 2

THERE'S STILL TIME . . .
reserve a booth for the

BLOOMINGDALE FLEA MARKET

It's more than a garage sale. It's a bake sale, flea market, white elephant sale, and fund raiser all rolled into one. And **YOU** get to keep the money!

To raise funds for the new computer, the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association and Bloomingdale Gazette, are holding a Flea Market for Bloomingdale Residents to sell their wares. Whether it's treasures from your closets too good to throw

away, plants you've grown, items you've baked, crafts you've made, or products from your business, you are welcome to purchase booth space to sell them. Any monies you make from their sale is yours to keep.

To participate, you do so by purchasing booth space for **\$5 by April 24th** or \$7 at the entrance.

In return, we will: 1) provide the advertising throughout the entire county, 2) provide traffic control via the Mobile Watch, and 3) keep out the "early birds." The aggravation and trouble is on us--not in **YOUR** garage.

DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

WHO: Bloomingdale Residents only may purchase booth space 10 x 10 ft large (approx)

DATE: Saturday, May 2

TIMES: Set up --
7:30-8:30 a.m. **ONLY**
OPEN -- 9 to 2 pm

WHERE: Park East in
Bloomingdale East

COST: \$5 by April 24
\$7 at the door

MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Bloomingdale Gazette
Flea Market
P. O. Box 918
Brandon, FL 33511

ALREADY PAID? First of all--Thank you! Secondly, your name will be on a list at the entrance when you sign in on May 2 at 7:30 a.m.

RAINDATE: May 9

Beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, **PETER COTTONTAIL** will make a pre-Easter appearance with prizes, candy, and fun for the youngsters. Chairman Janet Holzman and other volunteers have planned a very nice outing, but of course, would welcome any other volunteers who wish to help. If you would like to assist or need more information, call Janet at 681-2548.

DETAILS:

WHO: Bloomingdale Resident
Children ages 3-8 yrs

DATE: Saturday, April 18

TIME: 1 p.m.

WHERE: Park East in
Bloomingdale East

BHA REQUESTS WIDENING OF BLOOMINGDALE AVE.

On March 26 the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association was present at the Zoning Hearing for the Arvida Corporation. Arvida has purchased and plans to develop the land on the southeast corner of Lithia Pinecrest and Bloomingdale Avenue into a 1,200+ residential complex. The BHA did not attend the Hearing to object to this rezoning, but rather to impart information to the Zoning Board to assist them

See ARVIDA, Page 18

HERE COMES PETER COTTONTAIL



Squeals of delight and shouts of "Look what I found!" will be heard all over Park East as youngsters aged 3 to 8 are invited to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt.

The Bloomingdale Gazette
P. O. Box 918
Brandon, FL 33511

INSIDE -- Walkathon to be In Bloomingdale -- See page 26

The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc.
P. O. Box 918 -- Brandon, Florida 33511
Telephone (813) 681-2051
(Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Published 12 times per year by the
Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

Established November 1979.

Resident Door-Knob Distribution.....	1,979
Mail, Free, and Subscriptions.....	117
Total Distribution.....	2,096
Rent-A-Kid Distribution.....	2,085

Delivered FREE to all homes in Bloomingdale.

Editor.....	Susan L. DeLuca
Assistant Editor.....	Colleen P. Anderson
Advertising.....	Sharon Minor
Graphics Editor.....	Kathy Watkins
Circulation.....	Swifty and Kathy Watkins
Reporters.....	Sherry Hardin
	Cheryl Ledford
	Jackie Tuckey
Printer.....	The Bay Area Money Saver, 223-9711
	Kent Roberts, Bloomingdale Resident

DEADLINE: the 20th of the month.

BLOOMINGDALE SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT
P. O. Box 902 -- Brandon, Florida 33511

Board of Trustees

President.....	Fred G. Uphoff, Jr.	685-3013
Vice President.....	J. Christopher Deem	684-2491
Treasurer.....	Thomas M. Calcaterra	685-3097
Recording Secretary.....	Russell D. Thompson	681-2957
Corresponding Secretary.....	Christopher L. Pheils	681-9026
Trustee.....	Joseph D. DeLuca, Jr.	681-2051
Trustee.....	Errol Whitfield	681-7462
PROPERTY MANAGER.....	Mr. Lynn Wagner	681-7308

Please be courteous to them as they are the backbone of the association.
Bloomington Drive and Seventh

Board of Directors

President.....	Henry A. Brosnahan	681-7396
Vice President.....	Jim Weiss	689-0254
Treasurer.....	Janet Holzman	681-2548
Secretary.....	Susan L. DeLuca	681-2051
Directors.....	Bill Armstrong	684-5809
	George Ball	689-8913
	Steve Briggs	681-5303
	Ted A. Keiser	689-4842
	Michael S. Kelly	681-7338
	Shelly Oakes	685-9492
	Ron Thompson	685-5028
	Jerry Underwood	684-5413
Alternates.....	Joe Liguori	681-9655
	Mark Chapman	689-2725

STANDING COMMITTEES

Park Committee.....	Chairman, Russ Thompson, 681-2957
Lighting Districts.....	Chairman, Jerry Underwood, 684-5413
Fire and Disaster Fund.....	Chairman, BHA Treasurer
Special Taxing District Committee	

THE BLOOMINGDALE MOBILE WATCH
c/o The Mail Room

1939 W. Brandon Blvd. -- Brandon, Florida 33511

Core Committee

George Ball.....	689-8913	Hal Labkon.....	681-6853
David Guy.....	681-5943	Paul Kelmer.....	681-9701
Chris Pheils.....	681-9026	Dan Ledford.....	684-6511
Jim Godfrey.....	685-9637		

WATCH FOR THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE TO BE DELIVERED ON YOUR DOOR ON THE FOLLOWING WEEKENDS:

May 9/10	June 13/14	July 11/12
August 8/9	September 12/13	October 10/11
November 7/8	December 12/13	

is only a small part of the association's efforts to provide you with the best possible service. Please contact Mike Kelly at 681-7308 for more information.

SPECIAL EDITION

by Colleen P. Anderson
Assistant Editor

The **Bloomingtondale Gazette** will be publishing two **extra** editions this year besides our normal 12 issues. The first will be May 23 and the second will be November 28.

Summer Fun!

The May 23 issue will be geared to activities for the children of Bloomingtondale throughout the summer months. As this is a **special** edition, it will not have our regular news features like the May 11 issue will, but rather it will contain articles, advertising, and general information all centered around summer activities and children.

It will also be a different color--it will be white instead of our usual green.

To assist us with this edition, the Bloomingtondale Gazette will pay you...

\$5 for Your Ideas!

We want to know how your children (all ages) spend their summer free time, what type of activities and games they play, where do they go, what do they do, tips on handling summertime boredom, etc. etc. etc....

Ten (10) ideas will be chosen, published in this edition, and **their authors will receive \$5 for their contributions!**

ALL IDEAS SUBMITTED MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 30.

AND THERE'S STILL MORE...

We will provide **FREE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING** to any employer who is looking to hire summertime help of all ages.

ALSO...If you are a Bloomingtondale youngster (all ages) looking for work (dog walking, plant watering, grass mowing, yardwork, babysitting, house sitting, pet sitting, etc.) we will print your **HELP AVAILABLE** ad for free also.

(Interested in placing an advertisement in this special edition? Our rates for this issue are very reasonable -- \$15 per 1/8 page increment. Call us at 681-2051 (Monday to Friday, 9-4 p.m.) for more details.)

THE BLOOMINGTONDALE GAZETTE
April 1987 -- Page 3

DEADLINE FOR ALL CLASSIFIEDS, HELP WANTED, HELP AVAILABLE, AND WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS IS APRIL 30.

Include your Name, Address, and Telephone Number and mail to:

Summer Fun
The Bloomingtondale Gazette
P. O. Box 918
Brandon, FL 33511

HOMEOWNERS NETWORK

The **Homeowner's Network** is the brainchild of BHA Director **Mike Kelly** and is quickly becoming very popular throughout the County.

As Task Force Chairman, Mike saw that the speeding problem on Bloomington Drive is not an isolated incident. In fact, an article appeared in the Tribune regarding a similar problem in the Carrollwood area. "It doesn't make sense to keep re-inventing the wheel when someone else has already done so," said Mike. "The homeowners in northwest Hillsborough County have faced the same speeding and traffic problems and are solving it. Why not utilize their experience to solve our own problem?" And to carry that another step further, why not utilize the experience of **ALL** homeowners associations throughout the County to solve the problems that other associations face? Thus, the idea of **The Homeowner's Network**.

This network is for the purpose of interconnecting all homeowners associations throughout the county to be able to access information as needed. This

non-dues, and non-political organization would meet 1-2 times per year for a day of seminars. From this meeting, the President's (or their representatives) can learn how to set up a STD, begin a community newspaper, find out what services are available, and learn whatever information they need to successfully run their homeowner's associations from the other associations that attend. A first meeting date has yet to be set, but it would probably be no earlier than September of this year.

BHA President **Henry Brosnahan** recently sent out letters to each of the County Commissioners stating the purpose of the network and asking for the names and addresses of each homeowner's association they know of. The response from each of the Commissioners and the County Administrator has been extremely good.

Anyone wishing to become involved with this organization should contact Mike Kelly at 681-7338.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We will always make an attempt to print any **Letters to the Editor**. All letters will have the author's name printed with their letter. Initials will be used at the writer's request. The Editor reserves the right to reject any letters which are deemed inappropriate. Before discarding inappropriate letters, we will try to contact the writer first as to the reason.

* * * *

Dear Editor:
This letter represents many Park East residents...

With spring already here and summer not far behind, once again, residents who live on Park East are faced with the ever-present problem of people (children and adults) cutting through their yards to get to the park. The steady flow of bicycles and foot traffic, not to mention wagons, skateboards, etc., can quickly ruin an otherwise healthy lawn.

Please be courteous to them and respect their privacy. They do not want to put up fences which

would eliminate their view. Thank you!

S.H., Park East Resident

(Editor's Note: The following contains three segments prepared by Gazette Reporter **Cheryl Ledford** regarding school bus laws and the safety of our children. The first is a letter from school bus driver, Louise Overcash and her personal experiences and concerns. The second is a copy of the State Traffic Law from Lt. Fred Wheeler of the Sheriff's Department. And thirdly, Cheryl Ledford's article. Please take the time to read all three segments as they are important.)

Dear Editor:

Please feel free to use this letter in whatever manner you may in your efforts to stop the speeding through your subdivision.

I do not live in the subdivision, however, I drive a school bus for Hillsborough County and I know how real the problem is. I pick up elementary children on Bloomington Drive and seventh grade children on Bloomington

See **LETTERS**, Page 24



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Dominic Fracasso & Tom Knisley, Owners



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**YOUR BHA MEMBERSHIP CARD
CAN BE WORTH \$500 !**

That's absolutely true thanks to a new advertiser this month with the **Gazette**. **Ed's Quality Discount Furniture Warehouse** will take 10% off all in-stock merchandise to BHA Members. **BUT YOU HAVE TO HAVE YOUR CARD!** According to Al (a Bloomingdale Resident and the Manager) they carry beautiful new furniture all the way up to \$5,000 for a bedroom suite. **That can mean a savings of \$500 for BHA Members.**

Lost your card? Call Janet Holzman, BHA Treasurer, in the evening at 681-2548 to replace it. The cost is \$1 for a duplicate card.

Haven't mailed in your dues yet? Or maybe you are new to the area...

Take a moment now to fill out the form and mail it with your \$5 check. This will pay your dues through October 31, 1987.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
P. O. Box 918 -- Brandon, Florida 33511

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

DUES: \$5 Per Year
November 1 to October 31

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• Locally Owned & Operated

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---	--	--	---	---

Mon.-Sat.
9:00-5:00 Bloomingdale Resident

124 Edwards Avenue, Brandon
(Behind Burger King)

We will never be undersold.

FREE DELIVERY TO BLOOMINGDALE

685-0288



SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA ESTABLISHED

Applications Now Being Accepted

The Scholarship Committee of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association has established the criteria by which it will award this year's \$250 College Scholarship. Any high school senior living in Bloomingdale who meets the stated guidelines below can apply by providing the following information to the Scholarship Committee:

1. The student must live within the stated boundaries of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.
2. The student must provide verification of acceptance or

enrollment in an accredited Junior College or University.

3. The student must provide a short (not more than two typed pages) essay on the student's community involvement, school activities, and demonstrated leadership skills.

4. The student must provide two letters of character reference from school or community leaders.

5. The student must provide a letter of senior-year grade-point average and subjects from the school counselor.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS APRIL 30, 1987.

The above information is to be sent to:

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 918
Brandon, FL 33511

WANT MORE INFORMATION?
Contact Committee Chairman, George Ball, at 689-8913.

It only took us three months to find it, but we've had an OOPS in an advertisement we run in the Gazette. Baird's Custom Picture Framing is open Tuesday to **Saturday**. (We had incorrectly stated that they were only open Tuesday to Friday.) We're sorry!

BAIRD'S Custom Framing

WE FRAME ANYTHING!!!

You will find in our Gallery...

Fine Art, Limited Edition Prints, Original Oils, and Posters

We frame...
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We also block...
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10% OFF WITH THIS AD

3218 Lithia Pinecrest Road
at Bloomingdale

681-7133

Tues - Sat 9 to 5
Evenings by appt.

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CLASSIC WATER SYSTEMS, INC. 684-2227

IRA MINOR - President
Bloomingdale Resident





WATCH LOG

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN DONATED BY THE BHA.
ALL AD PROCEEDS GO TO THE BLOOMINGDALE MOBILE WATCH.

Stage 1 of our long range plan went into effect April 1st. Persons living in the East will patrol the East. Persons living in the West will patrol the West. There are enough volunteers in the East for a car every night. That is not the case in the West. There will be at least 2 nights per week without coverage.

A simple solution exists. We need more Volunteers from the West. For every 10-12 volunteers we can add an extra night. There are over 1800 people living in the West, yet we have only 64 volunteers. THAT IS TERRIBLE. All we need is a committment of 3 hours per month. To volunteer - call any of the Core Committee members listed on page 2 of the Gazette. We would like to schedule a car every night in May in the West. THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

NEWS OF NOTE

A flyer about the Mobile Watch was distributed to Bloomingdale Oaks with the last Gazette. As of 3/25/87 we have 6 volunteers. We will keep you informed of the number and when we have enough to put a car out in their area.

The following are 1986 crime statistics for grid #798, an area bounded by Bloomingdale, Culbreath, the Alafia, and John Moore. We make up the bulk of this area. There were 195 crimes in 1986. They were:

Murder - 0	Rape - 2
Robbery - 3	Vehicle theft - 16
Aggravated Assault - 5	Larceny - 95
Breaking & Entering - 74	

According to Mr. James Hargan of the Sheriff's Dept. this makes our area a "very low crime area". The average crime rate for our area is 28 per 1000 of population. The average for unincorporated Hillsborough County is 65 per 1000 & for the State of Florida it is 82 per 1000.

"One of the factors contributing to the low crime rate is the Neighborhood Watch and Mobile Watch crime groups in the area," stated Lt. Fred Wheeler of the Sheriff's Dist. 2 Office. He has backed us since the day we started.

Lt. Wheeler stated that "due to a number of persons recently arrested and kept incarcerated, I feel we are ahead of the game."

"As a result of recent traffic problems, there is greater coverage of the area than ever before," Lt. Wheeler said.

Don't let the low crime rate lull you into a false sense of security, We must keep our cars on the street if we hope to keep the crime rate low. Do your part. VOLUNTEER!

Hal

TO PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT IN
SUPPORT OF THE BLOOMINGDALE
MOBILE WATCH -----
PLEASE PHONE ALMA AT 681-5943.

Fred G. Guida
ACCOUNTANT

TELEPHONE
813/681-5072

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**Report
from
the
Commissioner's Desk**

Beginning with this issue of **The Bloomingdale Gazette**, we will be bringing you information that is pertinent to the Bloomingdale area from County Commissioner James Selvey (District 4). These items will be a combination of news, basic information from the **Gazette** staff, and letters and input from the Commissioner himself.

NEW OFFICE IN BRANDON

Commissioner Selvey will be holding office hours in Brandon beginning on Monday, April 13. Every second Monday from 9 to 1 p.m. the Commissioner will be available to hear your concerns, share information, and meet with

you. The Leisure Hall in the TECO building at 137 South Parsons (the corner of Parsons and Robertson) will serve as his Brandon office. Call 272-5740 for an appointment.

BLOOMINGDALE AVENUE

April 9, BHA Director Susan DeLuca met with Commissioner Selvey, Bob Buschman (Director of Public Works), and others involved with roads and transportation in an effort to facilitate the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue. They discussed each aspect of the widening process and what can be done to quicken the improvement. The May issue of the **Gazette** will carry this meeting in greater detail.

**NEW STOPLIGHT AT
BLOOMINGDALE HIGH
SCHOOL**

With as many as 1,900 vehicles a possibility within two years at the new Bloomingdale High School, it will make a bad situation worse on Bloomingdale

Avenue. Recognizing this, Commissioner Selvey has requested that a stop light be placed at the entrance to the high school. A

memo from Bob Buschman indicates "signing will be provided prior to the 1987 opening date."

**DEED RESTRICTIONS:
QUESTIONS AND VIOLATIONS**

If you have a question about deed restrictions in the Bloomingdale Subdivision, you should address them to the Property Manager, Mr. Lynn Wagner, at 681-7308.



TRAVEL NETWORK

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Let Your Neighbor Help You Make Your Travel Plans

Next Day Service With Tickets Delivered
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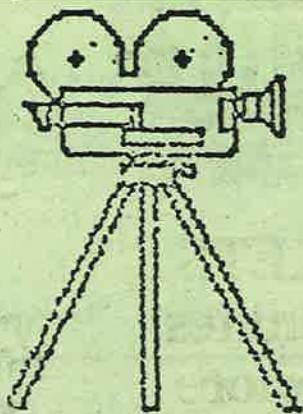
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GAZETTE NEWS
by Susan L. DeLuca
Gazette Editor

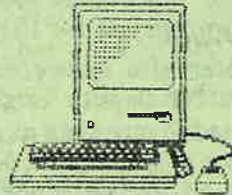
Everytime we think we have it all figured out, everything changes again. Specifically, in terms of personnel. Colleen Anderson had wanted to seek full-time employment, but like the rest of us, once you add in daycare costs, you might as well stay home. She asked if she could stay with the Gazette. Not only did I jump at her offer, but she is now the Assistant Editor of The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc. (I made her a deal she couldn't refuse--less pay and more hours.) Colleen's forte is organization, and we can certainly use that. She is learning all the ins and outs of our paper so she would be able to run it if necessary.

Part of Colleen's new function will be to serve as Editor of two special issues the Gazette be printing on May 23 and Novem-

ber 28. These two issues (a children's summer activities issue and a Christmas issue) will be her responsibility totally.

Another part of Colleen's function will be to assist Sharon Minor, Advertising Manager, with the unbelievable growth in this department.

Another new face to the Gazette staff is Jackie Tuckey. Jackie is a seasoned newspaper reporter and photographic journalist whose husband's military transfer brought her to us. For now she will be covering all STD meetings and functions. The first of her reports appear in this issue. As to the future, Jackie's responsibilities will grow as the Gazette grows.



The picture above is that of a Macintosh 512K Enhanced computer. With the \$1,400+ that

was collected during the Computer Fund Drive, the Gazette purchased this piece of equipment. Using a bank loan from NCNB, we have also purchased a Hard Disk Drive and the LaserWriter (a laser printer). We are using the main computer for this paper and a borrowed dot matrix printer, as the laser printer and the hard disk drive won't arrive until after April 11. You can tell there is a difference

already. If you take a look at the Pike & Curd ad in this paper, you'll see what the type from the laser printer is going to look like. We still need to acquire other software programs compatible with the Macintosh.

(The only problem with new computer equipment is that you spend more time playing with it at one in the morning than you do getting your work done!)



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Gazania Daisies, Salvia (Red & Blue), Alyssum, Dianthus, Dusty Miller, & more!



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On March 10, 1987, the BHA Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting. In attendance were the following Directors: Henry Brosnahan, Jim Weiss, Janet Holzman, Susan DeLuca, Bill Armstrong, George Ball, Steve Briggs, Ted Keiser, Mike Kelly, Joe Liguori, Ron Thompson, Jerry Underwood, and Errol Whitfield.

The Board will seek a volunteer Stenographer to record the minutes of meetings as they are becoming too detailed for just simple notes.

The agenda of the General Membership meeting was discussed.

Jim Weiss will get with Russ Thompson, Parks Chairman, to get a copy of the five-year plan for our Bloomingdale Parks. There was discussion and some concern that the Parks Department may be pushing back the improvements they had originally promised to a later date. Mention was also made that the basketball equipment had been torn down in Park East.

Committee Reports:

Health & Safety (Janet Holzman)
Individuals volunteering to help with this committee are experienced in the health field. Janet would like to have a blood pressure checking clinic at the next General Membership Meeting.

Scholarship (George Ball) Would be meeting March 16 to establish criteria.

Neighborhood Watch (Jim Weiss and Sharon Norwood) The response of volunteers has been very slow. Need a lot of people to make it work.

Easter Egg Hunt (Janet Holzman) Will be April 18. Pam Liguori will be assisting. Rental of a costume was discussed versus the offer of a resident to make an Easter Bunny outfit.

July 4 Fun Run (Bill Armstrong) Bill will be getting with Couch's Corner and getting costs on T-shirts.

Teen Function (Janet Holzman) Will be meeting March 16. Teen volunteers are needed to organize the dance/activity, etc.

Lt. Fred Wheeler of the Brandon office of the Sheriff's

Department was present at this meeting regarding the speeding on Bloomingfield Drive. He presented the following information:

A. From 6-9 a.m., 700+ vehicles traveled Bloomingfield Drive. (A count from Gary Tait of the Traffic Engineering Department, shows that a total of 3,997 vehicles traveled this road within a 24-hour period.)

B. Another severe auto accident occurred at the intersection of John Moore and Bloomingfield on March 10.

C. The Sheriff's Department is doing directed patrolling in an attempt to reduce the speeding. 26 moving violation tickets were issued on Bloomingfield Drive (85% of these were local residents). The speed limit of 30 mph is appropriate for this road.

Lt. Wheeler also answered other questions: A Deputy is going to be assigned to our area as soon as his training is completed. They are splitting up the current zone and putting one here. Currently this area is called a "Charlie 3." This means that anytime there is an extra deputy, he is assigned

here. On illegal dumping: Call the Sheriff's Department with the tag number of the car and a description of the person doing the dumping.


Leash Law: Yes, a leash law is in effect here in Bloomingdale. It is handled through Animal Control. Citations can be issued for dogs that are loose or violate noise ordinances.

Mark Chapman, a resident of Bloomingdale Oaks, was appointed to the Board of Directors.

Susan DeLuca and Mike Kelly will appear at the Arvida rezoning hearing as "objective" speakers representing Bloomingdale. The purpose will be to bring to the County's attention the need to widen Bloomingdale Avenue on a timely basis.

A \$100 donation will be given to Bloomingdale Community Church out of Gazette funds as a small token of appreciation. Pam Liguori was approved in the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the Gazette corporation.


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RESTAURANT REVIEW

by Elton Dumont

As a service to our new residents (as well as some of the veterans), we are planning periodically to have our restaurant critic (who shall remain anonymous) review some of the area's restaurants. The basic rating will be in three areas: **FOOD, SERVICE, and ATMOSPHERE.** The highest rating is 4 ✓'s.

Romano's Restaurant
706 Brandon Blvd., E.
Brandon 685-6422

Food: ✓✓ 1/2
Service: ✓✓✓
Atmosphere: ✓

This restaurant bills itself as Greek-Italian; and after one meal you will understand why and appreciate the authenticity. The appetizers included a Greek Salad that was superbly prepared with crisp lettuce and Feta cheese as well as a delicious salad dressing. The entrees included mousaka, another Greek Specialty made of layered egg plant, ground beef, and potatoes. Although we didn't order it this time, in the past it has always been very good.

Our party of four ordered the salmon entree and the veal marsala. (Incidentally, you must pay close attention to your server as he explains the specials. These are not always on the menu, such as the salmon, and are always special.) The veal was fresh,

and the wine sauce was just right, not too heavy a flavor. The salmon was served butterflied and boneless with butter and lemon juice. The herbs were also tantalizing. We were disappointed by the vegetables. The string beans were very dry and very salty.

The low rating for atmosphere was that it was one large room with a divider and the tables and booths didn't lend itself to much privacy. However, the food and service made up for it. We are definitely planning to go again.

The bill (not including gratuity) for four with two glasses of white wine was

\$41. We thought this was very reasonable. On our next visit we will save room for the Greek desserts.

Elton Dumont is a fictitious name. Mr. Dumont visits eating establishments anonymously for this column. His opinions are his own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Bloomingdale Gazette or its staff.

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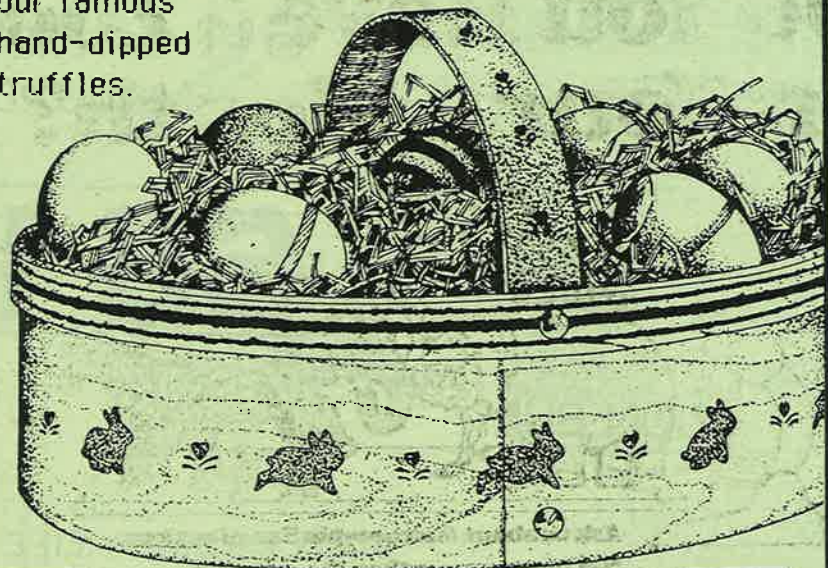
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BHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will take place on Tuesday, April 14, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). Vice President Jim Weiss will call the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Interested observers are invited to attend.

The next meeting of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District will take place on Monday, April 13, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). President Fred Uphoff will call the meeting to order at 8 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend.

The next General Membership Meeting will be held in May on May 14 at the Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). The doors will open at 7:30 p.m. for coffee and talk with the call to order by President Henry Brosnaham at 8 p.m. All residents of Bloomingdale are encouraged to attend.



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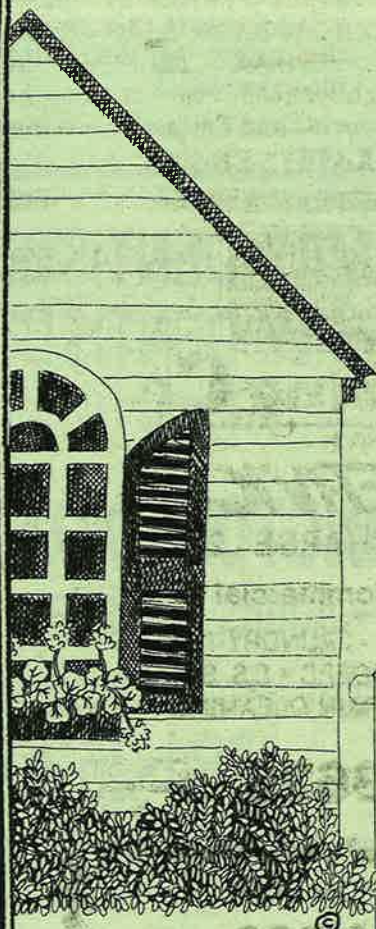
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The Tree Sale on March 14 was a tremendous success as many residents purchased 100 beautiful, healthy trees at a fantastic savings. The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association held this sale as a Community Improvement project for Bloomingdale.



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SIDEWALKS, THE ALAFIA, AND OUR CHILDREN

During the January General Membership Meeting of The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, concern was expressed regarding the walking and bicycling safety of young children going to the new Alafia Elementary School.

Alafia, opening in Fall of 1987 with grades K-5, is located on Nature's Way at Culbreath Road in the far northeast corner of Bloomingdale East. Most of Bloomingdale East and the Oaks fall under the 2-mile radius for busing of students on county-provided buses, thereby, not being eligible for bus service under normal circumstances. Parents expressed concern due to the lack of sidewalks, open retention ponds, construction areas, and generally unsafe conditions for children to walk to Alafia.

Acting on behalf of the BHA, resident Susan Gill contacted Larry Martin of the School Board. Mr. Martin offered to meet with

Mrs. Gill to discuss the community's concerns. He stated that the "Safety Board" would be meeting sometime this summer to make the decision as to busing of children. He also stated that the County Commissioners and the builders are responsible for sidewalk construction to and from the school. Mr. Martin said that if hazards exist that are detrimental to the safety of the children, all children of Bloomingdale--regardless of how close they live to the school--would receive County bus transportation to the school. In the future, when it is safe for children to walk to school, crossing guards and patrols will assist the children as they travel to school.

Mrs. Gill will be keeping in touch with Mr. Martin and will report to the BHA as warranted. (Thank you to Susan Gill for being so willing to take this project on for the safety of the children of Bloomingdale.)

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KATHY'S KIDS

by Kathy Watkins, Distribution Manager

Ever wonder who is putting the Bloomingdale Gazette on your door every month? It's a Rent-A-Kid, the system set up to deliver papers to the more than 2,100 families in Bloomingdale.

They deliver the papers all kinds of ways. Some use bikes, some skateboards, some are even old enough to drive to their routes. Some just walk. But Johnny and his mother deliver their 155 homes on roller skates. We've had a broken arm, a dog bite, and an occasional missed house; but for the most part, the kids are doing an excellent job.

There are 20 kids in the system now and range from 4 to 17 years old. They average at least 100 homes with Jeremy, at age 10, delivering the largest amount -- 218 homes.

Amada, Diana, Laura, Katie, and April have routes that grow every month. They are responsible for keeping us up to date on the ever-growing Bloomingdale

population. A new mail box goes up and we know about it right away through our "kids."

The "kids" have done such a good job that they are kept busy almost every weekend with our advertisers using them to distribute their flyers. They are extremely reliable and very seldom can't make a delivery. Some weekends they may handle as many as 1,000 pieces of paper. This sometimes makes it a family affair with mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters joining in to stuff plastic bags.

We have several brothers and sister teams: Peter and Shannon, Marc and Carl, and Tracy and Trent. Shawn also uses his sister as a backup when he is unable to make his deliveries himself. There are some who do two routes like Brad and Mike, and then there's Jeff who has 197 homes just on one route. Andrea travels the farthest out of her neighborhood to make her deliveries and Erica and Matthew
See KATHY'S KIDS Page 23

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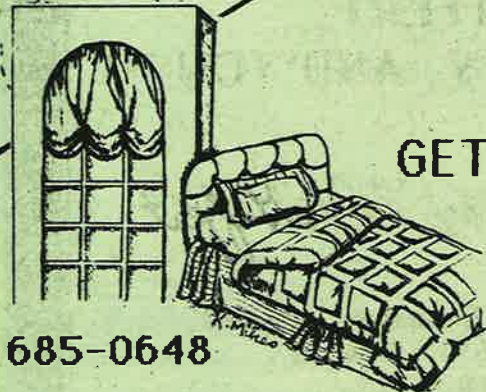
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WHERE DOES ALL THE MONEY GO? A Special Taxing District Monthly Report

by Jackie Tuckey, Gazette Staff Reporter

The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District Board of Trustees met on March 9 at the Bloomingdale Community Church for the monthly, public meeting. Attending were Fred Uphoff, Chris Deem, Russ Thompson, Chris Pheils, Joe DeLuca, and Errol Whitfield. The following items were on the agenda:

WALL PAINTING:

Three contractors submitted bids for the wall painting that is needed primarily in the West. Only one of these also provided the paint specifications requested by the Board. A unanimous vote in favor of rejecting all bids and beginning the bidding procedure again concluded the discussion.

CORPORATE LANDSCAPE:

Chris Deem sent letters to Glen

Haven Associates and Home America asking about their plans to landscape and maintain entrance corners to Bloomingdale that they own. Glen Haven Associates responded that they will maintain their corner (at Glen Haven and Bell Shoals). Home America had not responded yet and Chris will contact them about the maintenance of their property at Rosemead and Bell Shoals.

WALL REPAIR:

A portion of the wall on Springvale was knocked down when hit by a car. The STD Board has a contractor's estimate of \$1,250 to repair the wall according to the standards of the original wall, while the responsible party has an estimate for \$750. It was agreed that if the responsible party did not contact the STD Board (which had been

requested) that the wall would be repaired for the \$1,250 estimate and the individual would be billed.

GRASS EDGING:

Quality Mowing, the company presently mowing the public areas of Bloomingdale, submitted a bid to edge the curbs along the entire length of Nature's Way and Canoga Park Drive. The bid was \$850 per

mowing, which is approximately once a month. Discussion centered around whether the entire area needs edging or to keep the work to populated sections of Bloomingdale. A motion to pay \$850 per mowing for edging was defeated 3-2. The Board will ask the contractor for a new price on edging that excludes the undeveloped land.

See MONEY, Page 17

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TRASH:

Concern about trash from the construction workers in the area of the new apartments was expressed. The Property Manager will check on it.

DEED RESTRICTIONS:

The Board advised the Property Manager that his involvement with complaints that may or may not follow the deed restrictions did not include settling neighbor squabbles or enforcing county

laws. Homeowners filing complaints may be identified due to the sunshine laws surrounding Board operations.

PROPERTY MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. Lynn Wagner answered three calls on deed restrictions which were settled, collected trash, and will call the company to spray weeds and fertilize medians. Also, he has contacted the bus company, and they will change their route to avoid turning around on Green Hollow

and leaving ruts. The bus will travel down Springvale to Nature's Way and make a right turn up Green Hollow.

LANDSCAPING PLAN:

Russ Thompson and Chris Pheils will continue work on a proposal to hire a landscape architect. It is hoped he will draw up a five year (five stage) plan to landscape all the entrances to Bloomingdale. Fred Uphoff expressed concern over committing uncollected tax dollars for stages 2-5 (this year would be stage 1). Chris Deem suggested that if there was a plan, bids for actual plantings could be solicited each year. Mike Kelly, a homeowner in attendance, submitted a newspaper article about a similar landscaping project in Northdale. Russ and Chris will call them to find out how they hired their architect. They intend to have a prepared proposal for the April meeting.

1988 BUDGET:

Each Board member will investigate two or three areas that need budget planning and present their findings at the April meeting. The budget must be ready to present at the annual public meeting tentatively scheduled for May 11.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Homeowner Gene Gardiner expressed his desire to have the Board look into alternatives to painting the walls every few years. He felt that installing an irrigation system for vines would still be less costly in the long run than painting. Fred Uphoff asked Russ Thompson to look into the feasibility of vines for two miles of wall. Russ stated that the Board would like the homeowners to respond to the idea of alternatives to painting, to continue painting, etc. The Board would like more homeowners to respond to other Board matters, either by letter or attendance.

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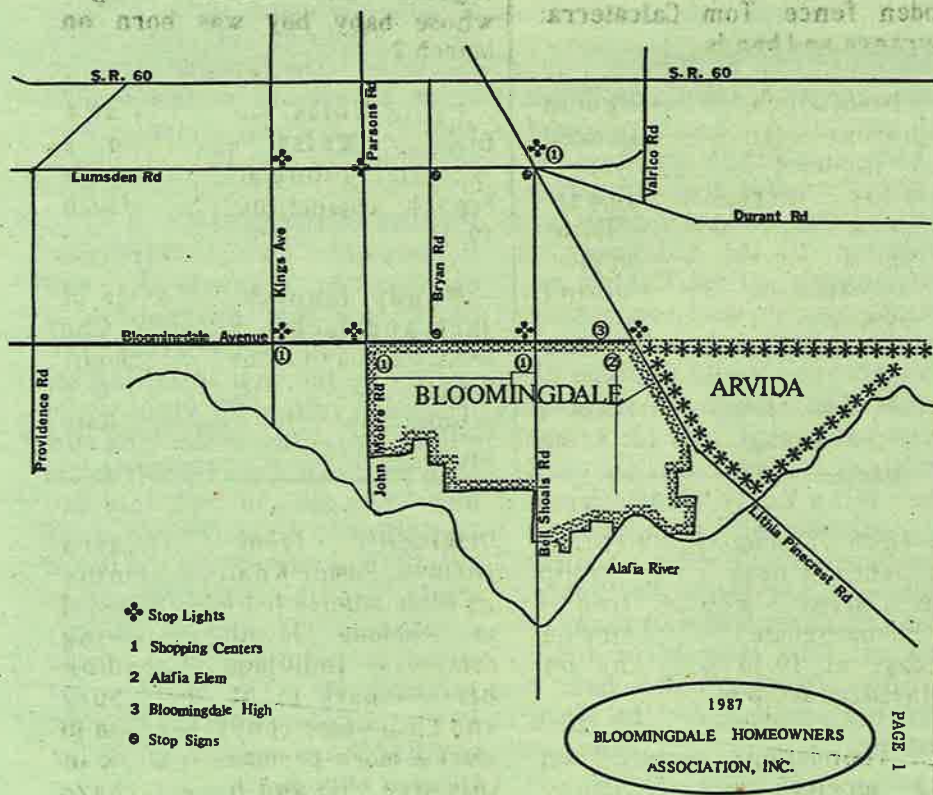
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ARVIDA, From Page 1



in this decision and future decisions about growth and the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue.

The following is a copy of the presentation made by Susan DeLuca and Mike Kelly, Directors of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, at the March 26, 1987, Arvida Rezoning Hearing.

See ARVIDA, Page 28



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...Doug and Nancy Dance who just had a 7+ pound, healthy baby boy named James Douglas.

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STD ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

by Jackie Tuckey
Gazette Staff Reporter

The Special Taxing District Board of Trustees is gearing up for its annual meeting, tentatively set for May 11, when the budget for 1987-88 will be presented. This precedes submitting the budget to the County Budget Planning Office in July.

This month each Board member will be investigating two or three

areas that will be considered for inclusion in the new budget. Chris Pheils: irrigation and utilities; Errol Whitfield: need for a full or part-time Property Manager; Chris Deem: legal fees, secretarial service, office supplies, deed restrictions; Joe DeLuca: debt service, reserves for the future; Russ Thompson: landscaping, mowing, wall re-

pair; Fred Uphoff: building a wall around Pulte houses in Bloomingdale East to replace the wooden fence; Tom Calcaterra: insurance and bonds.

Chris Deem suggested items not in the present budget that may need to be included in next year's. These are: increased landscaping; new wall around Pulte; getting a secretarial service; bidding expenses, and retaining an attorney.

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE
April 1987 -- Page 19

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

...John and Susan Reger whose baby boy was born on March 23.

...David Weiss, son of Jim and Dianne Weiss, who won a "Superior" rating at the statewide French competition on March 19-21.

...Wendy Jaquish, daughter of Jack and Jackie Jaquish, who was awarded the Florida Academic Scholar Award entitling her to a scholarship to any state university.

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NEW CHURCH MEETS

by Jackie Tuckey
Gazette Staff Reporter

The Faith Foundations Christian Fellowship (a new church group in this area) is now meeting at the Bloomingdale Civic Center on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

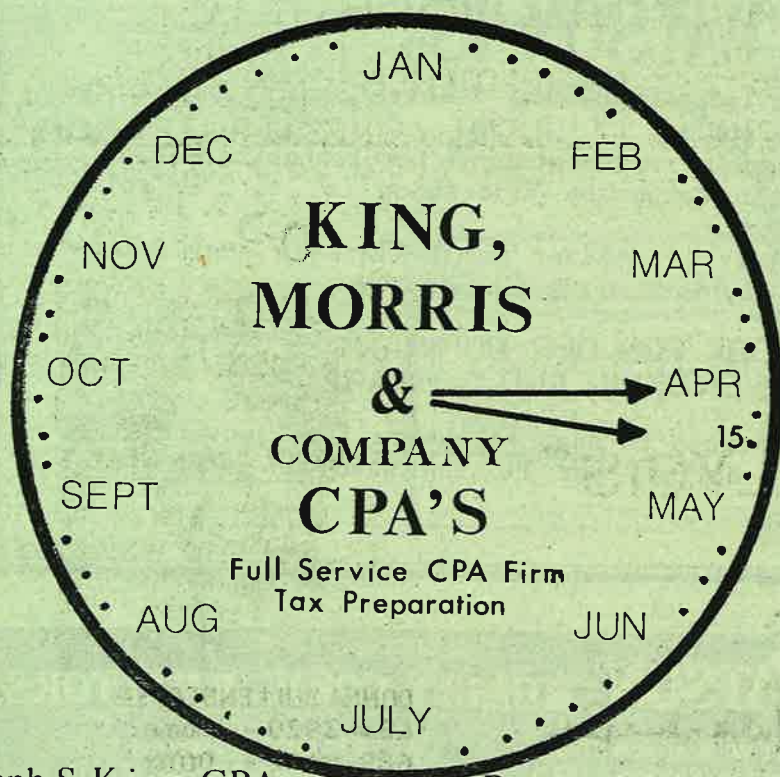
Faith Foundations is based on song services and testimony services, but mainly on teaching the Bible. Pastor Terry Knafel explained that it is a charismatic church whose beliefs center on the Bible as presented. A core of about 50 people from the Tampa area comprise the Fellowship.

Originally from northern Indiana, Pastor Knafel's training in Bible studies led him to travel to various locations giving seminars. Individuals attending his seminars in St. Petersburg and Clearwater convinced him to start a more permanent work in this area. He and his wife have eight children and currently reside in north Brandon.

Pastor Knafel invites any interested individuals to join them at the Bloomingdale Civic Center at the corner of Lithia Pinecrest and Bloomingdale.

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PLAY BALL...

Organizational Meeting Held

With 55+ men signed up and the basic committee organized, the **Men's BHA Softball League** is off to a swinging good start.

Coordinator **Ray House** held an organizational meeting on March 16 and the following individuals were appointed to these positions within the basic committee:

President.....**Ray House**
Vice President.....
 Wayne Anderson
Treasurer.....**Ed Holzman**
Secretary.....**Dave Carson**
Also.....**Armando Machado**
 Jim Reagan

The games will probably be held on Sunday afternoons at Park West, using a 12" softball. Mr. House is in the process of coordinating park use and equipment with the Hillsborough County Parks Department.

Draft for Men's Teams

On March 24 the Committee met again and decided to hold a draft for teams on April 12 at 2 p.m. at Park West. The pre-requirements to play are to be a Bloomingdale Resident (with proof of residency) and be 21 years of age or older.

The basic rules agreed upon by the committee included the use of the Amateur Softball Association Rules, the use of the Blue Dot Restricted Flight Ball, and no metal spikes--only rubber cleats and tennis shoes. If a team is not able to field a full team, the team would be able to play with eight players. All rain outs will be rescheduled following the regular season. Time limits have been set by the committee that no inning may start after the game has been in progress for 90 minutes.

Want more information? Call **Ray House** at 681-9678.

Women's Softball

Approximately 25+ women have signed up for the **Ladies BHA Softball League** per Coordinator **Karen Resner**. Men's Coordinator **Ray House** will be serving as overall organizer for both Leagues. It is expected that the Ladies League will play either before or after the Men's games to be able to utilize the same equipment.

Ladies wishing to play softball should call 684-2105 to sign up.

RUDOLPH T. LIDDELL, DMD

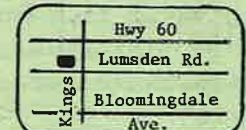
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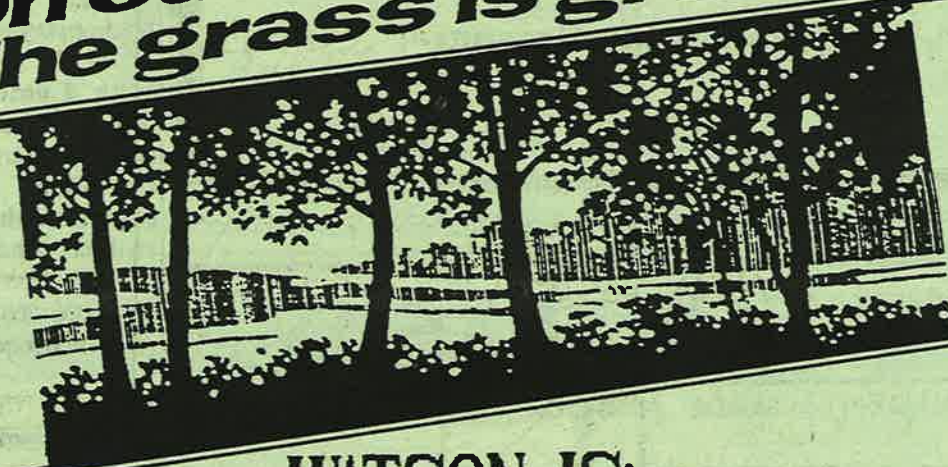
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David Labkon and Mike Bodwell of the newly formed Boy Scout Troup 61 are seen here presenting BHA President Brosnham with a Certificate of Appreciation for a donation that was given to the Troup at the General Membership meeting on March 12.

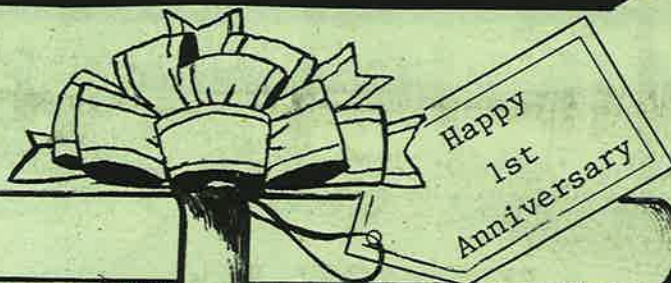
SECRETS OF THE SAT

The argument over whether coaching increases Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) scores has been settled and the answer is a definite YES! Studies by such highly-regarded authorities as the Educational Testing Service, which develops and administers the College Board SAT for The College/Board, and the Federal Trade Commission, have concluded that coaching can increase SAT scores.

Today the debate is over how much of an increase in SAT scores is possible through proper coaching and preparation. Reports indicate that improvements in scores of 100 points are possible after completion of a preparation course. Some students see increases of 150 points or more.

**Anne Kilcline, Director
Huntington Learning Center**

Guessing answers on the SAT can work for some students. There is a very straight-forward rule for guessing that almost every student should follow: If a student has average grades, or has received mediocre scores on a previous PSAT or SAT, it is recommended that he or she should only take occasional educated guesses. However, the below-average student, or the student who has performed poorly on the PSAT or SAT should almost never guess. Finally, the strong student is urged to take more frequent guesses. The development of this strategy requires practice. This is one reason for taking a good-quality preparation course. There are a number of courses offered in the Tampa Bay area.



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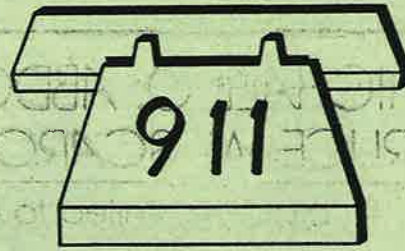
Reprinted with permission from Hillsborough County Newsline

If an emergency happened in your home, could firefighters, sheriff's deputies or paramedics easily and quickly find your location?

Before you answer, take a close look at the street numbers on your house or mailbox. If friends have trouble finding your home, chances are that emergency vehicles will, too.

"It's a very big problem, especially in the unincorporated area where street lighting is poor or non-existent," said Emergency Medical Services Director Jim Algood.

A new county ordinance, implemented in conjunction with the design of the 911 emergency telephone system, requires that street addresses be displayed clearly for every building in Hillsborough.



In addition, all streets, including private roads which serve more than one home, must have signs. In areas where a duplication of street names may cause a problem, the ordinance provides for name changes. However, such changes would be rare and would have to be approved by the County Commission, said 911 Director B.J. Smith.

At the suggestion of county commissioners, the ordinance also calls for block numbers to eventually appear on all street signs.

County emergency officials say they welcome the effort to make their jobs easier.

"You can't overestimate the importance of having buildings marked clearly. Any delay in response time can be crucial," said Col. Charles Fisher of the

Sheriff's Office.

"I think it's an ordinance that's probably long overdue," said Hillsborough County Fire Department Assistant Chief Jim Brady.

The ordinance mandates that street addresses should be clearly legible from the road, of a contrasting color than the building, and made of a durable, weatherproof material.

"Some people put black numbers on their houses," said Algood. "They're big and they look nice, but try to find them at night."

Emergency officials suggest that homeowners display their street num-

ber away from the building, such as on a post or curbside mailbox where the headlights of an emergency vehicle can easily pick out the number.

Although violations of the ordinance are punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 or up to 60 days in jail, Smith cautions residents not to be duped by con artists trying to make quick money from the law.

For instance, Smith said he's aware of one man who has been painting house numbers on curbs, then sending a bill to residents after telling them the service is a requirement of the 911 system.



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12 CHURCH 10:30AM 4:00PM	13 QUILTING SMITH/10-12NOON YOUTH IN ART RECEPTION 7-9PM HCC SELF MGT 7-9PM	14 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING/7-30PM MODELING STEWART/6-8PM	15 DRAWING ALLEN/10:30 NEWCOMERS 10AM	16 WATERCOLOR EVERETT/9:30 ART ENRICHMENT WEBSTER/4:30PM YOUTH DRAWING WEBSTER/5:30PM	17 "I'D RATHER GROW DOWN" 10:00AM CHILDREN'S PLAY AGES 4-9 TADA PROD.	18 RENTED
19 CHURCH 10:30AM 4:00PM	20 WOODWORKING CLAYTON/10-12 HCC/7-9PM BLFA MEETING 7-9PM	21 *****SPRING BREAK WORKSHOPS***** COLLAGE ALLEN/10-12 MODELING STEWART/6-8PM C.P. BOARD MTG. 7:30PM	22 CLAY MASSARO/10-12	23 WOODWORKING LONG/10-12	24 STAMP ART TOBIASON/10-12	25 RENTED
26 CHURCH 10:30AM 4:00PM	27 BLFA WORKSHOP HCC/SELF. MGT. 7-9PM	28 EAST HILLS. REP MEETING 7:30PM FOLK ART ALBERT/7-9:30	29 DRAWING ALLEN/10:30 FOLK ART ALBERT/7-9:30PM	30 WATERCOLOR EVERETT/9:30-12 ART ENRICHMENT WEBSTER/4:30 YOUTH DRAWING WEBSTER/5:30PM	MAY 1	"SWEET SATURDAY" WILKER/10-12NOON
3 CHURCH 10:30AM 4:00PM	4 MODELING STEWART/6-8PM	5 DRAWING FAVONE/7-9PM	6 DRAWING ALLEN/10:30-12:30PM INT. WATERCOLOR ALLEN/7-9PM	7 WATERCOLOR EVERETT/9:30-12	8	9 RENTED
10 CHURCH 10:30 4:00PM	11 MODELING STEWART/6-8PM	12 DRAWING FAVONE/7-9PM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING/7:30PM	13 AGLOW MEETING 9:30AM INT. WATERCOLOR ALLEN/7-9PM PRES. ROUNDTABLE 7:30PM	14 WATERCOLOR EVERETT/9:30-12	15 CENTER PLACE PATRON PARTY HOLIDAY INN-SABAL PARK 7:30-10:30PM "I'LL TAKE WHATEVER"	16 RENTED



KATHY'S KIDS, From Page 15

hardly ever miss a weekend delivery.

The kids have rules they are suppose to follow, too. They have been instructed to use your sidewalks, not your flowerbeds; to use your doorknob, not your door mats; and not to take any chances around unleashed animals. They are also not to deliver if the weather does not permit.



They get a small salary for all their hard work...and they earn it. So next time you see a Rent-A-Kid struggling with his/her papers, remember they are your neighbors involved in community service and doing a great job.

Thanks kids--keep up the good work!

LETTERS, from Page 3

and Canoga Park Drive. After talking to other drivers who pick up in the area, the problem is much worse on Bloomingfield Drive than on other streets. It is not uncommon for cars to pass my bus two or three at a time often side by side. They make no attempt to slow down when I have my amber lights on to let traffic aware I am preparing to stop.

Another increasing problem that goes with speeding is that cars do not stop while my red lights are on and I am loading or unloading children. In the last two weeks five cars have run my stop arm while I was loading or unloading children and twice this happened while the children stood in front of my bus waiting for me to signal them to cross Bloomingfield Drive. I have called the Sheriff's office and was told a deputy would have to witness the incident in order to issue a citation. I realize they cannot be there all the time. It has helped to have a Sheriff's car visible in the mornings lately. I hope it does not take a tragedy involving one of our children to make the community aware of this problem and to find a solution for it.

Louise Overcash
School Bus Driver

State Traffic Law 316.172 Traffic to stop for school bus---

(1) Any person using, operating, or driving a vehicle on or over the roads or highways of this state shall, upon approaching any school bus used in transporting school pupils to or from school which is properly identified in substantial accordance with the provisions of §234.051, and which displays a stop signal, bring such vehicle to a full stop while the bus is stopped, and the vehicle shall not pass the school bus until the signal has been withdrawn.

(2) The driver of a vehicle upon a divided highway where the one-way roadways are separated by an intervening unpaved space of at least 5 feet or physical barrier need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is on a different

roadway.

(3) Every school bus shall stop as far to the right of the street as possible before discharging or loading passengers and, when possible, shall not stop where the visibility is obscured for a distance of 200 feet either way from the bus.

* * * * *

**TO PASS OR NOT TO PASS
by Cheryl Ledford
Gazette Staff Reporter**

Lt. Fred Wheeler, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, District II, reports that the department is aware of the problems residents are having involving speeding vehicles and the passing of school buses in Bloomingdale Subdivision. "The deputies are making every effort to bring this problem under control, especially during peak traffic times and during the hours the school buses are loading and unloading children," he reported.

Lt. Wheeler added that the department has stepped-up patrol activity in Bloomingdale Oaks due to the detour from construction on Bloomingdale Avenue during March, and in Four Winds on Windy Place--where so many Bloomingdale Residents cut through.

He also added--that to further interpret the school bus statute--"The intersection at John Moore Road and Bloomingfield Drive does have a short median, but Bloomingfield Drive is not a divided road. This intersection, where a school bus stop is located, is NOT exempt from the statute. In other words, all traffic from both directions MUST STOP when school buses display the stop arm indicating that children are boarding or unloading. This refers specifically to the bus stop at Bloomingfield Drive and Bessemer."

All residents should be aware that to keep from having a terrible tragedy within our own confines, caution should be taken around the buses that transport our most important commodity--our children. □

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Watch Out For Second Mortgages

Jim Wysolmierski, CLU
Bloomington Resident

Under the new tax law, the interest deduction for personal or consumer borrowing will be phased out. The loss of the interest deduction means that the cost of financing a car, truck, boat, furniture, vacation, or other personal expense will be more costly.

One area which has not changed is the interest paid on the mortgage of your residence. To avoid the loss of the interest deduction for personal indebtedness, some planners and institutions recommend a second mortgage.

The idea is to convert the built-up appreciation of your home into cash. The cash can be used to pay for personal expenditures. The interest paid on the mortgage is deductible, so indirectly the taxpayer is deducting interest for

personal borrowing. Unless there is a real emergency, most homeowners should forget about a second mortgage.

Interest paid on a mortgage is only deductible if the loan does not exceed a homeowner's basis. Basis is equal to the cost of the house at time of purchase plus improvements.

For example, suppose the "Miller's" purchased their home ten years ago for \$50,000. Over the years they added a pool and repaired the roof for \$10,000. Today, the home is worth \$100,000. The Miller's basis is \$60,000. Any interest paid on a first or second mortgage over \$60,000 will not be deductible. (The new law applies to mortgages taken out after August 16, 1986.)

Even if a homeowner can deduct the interest on a second mortgage, it may not make economic sense to increase one's liability. The equity converted into cash usually will be spent quickly. Furniture, cars, and boats are worth very little, or nothing, after several years. Yet, it may

take 10 to 15 years to pay off the note. After the short gratification of buying wears off, most homeowners may resent paying that extra cost.

Some homeowners see the equity in their homes as a source of capital for investment. By converting this equity into cash, it is possible to start a business, or earn high interest by speculating in the market. This course of action is extremely dangerous and risky. Every day businesses fail and speculative investments lose capital. By doing this, a homeowner takes the risk of losing his house.

Second mortgages may make economic sense as a form of debt consolidation. If a homeowner owes over \$7,500 with several creditors and is paying high interest, it may pay to take a second mortgage and pay off the entire debt. Usually a second mortgage will be at a lower interest rate than the rate charged by merchants and companies issuing credit cards. Payments will be lower, because they are spread out over time. However, a homeowner must be careful not to run into debt again. Debts under \$7,500 usually

can be paid off without the need of a mortgage.

A second mortgage should not be confused with a total refinancing of an original mortgage. If a homeowner took out a mortgage several years ago at a high interest rate, it may make economic sense to refinance the entire debt. Mortgage rates are much lower today. Even a few percentage points can make a difference. For example, the Millers' original mortgage for \$50,000 is at 12% interest over 30 years. Their monthly payment for principal and interest is \$514. If they refinance at 9%, the monthly payment drops to \$402. The savings of \$112 may be worth the expense of refinancing. Points, origination fees, and closing costs would have to be considered to make sure the refinancing is worthwhile. If the homeowner is planning to move in the next couple of years, refinancing is probably too costly.

By avoiding the temptation of borrowing on a second mortgage, the worst position a homeowner could be in is owning a house with no mortgage. For most of us, that's not too bad.

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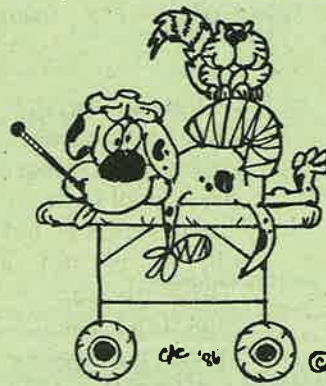
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Walk America Course to be Through Bloomingtondale

The March of Dimes will be holding their "Walk America" on Saturday, April 25, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and they would like Bloomingtondale to make a donation of their subdivision for this worthy cause.

Beginning at 8 a.m. from J.C. Hanley Park in Brandon, 700-1,000 walkers and runners will begin their travels to earn pledge money to help fight birth defects. Due to the attractiveness of the community, the Walk America team is asking Bloomingtondale to allow the walkers to use the main roads of Bloomingtondale as their course.

Walking/running a total of 9.6 miles, the pledgees would begin at J. C. Hanley Park and proceed as follows: South Wind to Oak Hammock to Wild Oak to John Moore to Bloomingtonfield Drive to Canoga Park to Rosemead to Bell Shoals to Greenhollow, around Nature's Way to Greenhollow and then retrace the same path back to J.C. Hanley Park on Kings Avenue. After the walk, there will be a big party at J. C. Hanley Park.

"There will be no road closings and there should be a minimum of traffic interference," according to Coordinator Colleen Scimeca. "Everyone would be off the roads by the latest 2 p.m.," she said. Even though the Boy Scouts will be following up the rear as a clean-up crew, Colleen suggests that residents along the route may wish to put garbage cans out at the street for trash.

Individuals participating in Walk America ask for pledges from businesses and individual sponsors based on the number of miles they successfully complete. This money is then used by the March of Dimes for education and research programs. Last year walkers all over the country

raised \$34 million!

Would you like to participate? Call Colleen Scimeca at 684-3980 or Walk America Secretary Karen Walker at 874-2300 for more information.

Bloomingtondale Ave. Traffic Lights Now in Sync for Smoother Flow

The westbound traffic lights on Bloomingtondale Avenue have faulty sensors, per BHA Director **Bill Armstrong**, and this is causing some of the unsmooth flow of traffic in the area.

Bill has been working with Harvie Granger, Traffic Engineer, to try to smooth out the traffic pattern on Bloomingtondale Avenue. The end result, hopefully, will be that with better timed lights, motorists will use this

route rather than the Bloomingtonfield Drive cut through.

The sensors are in place so that the lights will change according to the number of cars in a line. With them out of sync, traffic gets backed up. Unfortunately, because the lights are too far apart from each other on Bloomingtondale Avenue, they can't time the lights to each other. Hopefully, timely repair of the sensors should help, said Bill.

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GORGEOUS GARDENS

by

Rosalind Creager
The Green Boutique

Landscaping can greatly enhance the beauty and value of your home. Give some thought as to what you require from your home or an area in the lawn: privacy, a sound buffer, screening an unsightly area, a play area for children, color, or making your home more attractive. Decide on the amount of time that you plan to spend in your yard. You may want to incorporate annual beds and change plant-

ings for seasonal color. On the other hand, for a low maintenance landscape, you may choose mostly evergreen and slower growing plants.

Accent plants add interest to the landscape. You can use an accent plant to provide some shade, color, or to achieve a certain effect. For example, certain palms can create a lush tropical look; a topiaried plant suggests a more manicured, formal landscape.

The next factor in selecting plants will be the overall height requirements, and whether they will be in full or part sun or shade. Be sure and take accurate measurements and note any low windows. A garden hose is useful in deciding on the contour of the beds. Leave plenty of room for the plants to grow. They may look tiny now but a year or two from now they will reach their mature size. In general, you should plant about two feet out from the wall and space your plants from 2' to 3' apart (center to center).

Take time to ride around and look at some landscapes. You can get a lot of great ideas and see how a plant will actually look when it is grown.

Now you're ready for the hard but rewarding work of installing your plants. A few days of digging and planting will repay you with years of beauty and enjoyment.



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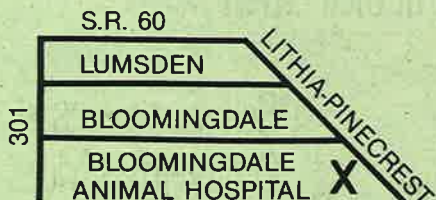
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ARVIDA, from Page 18

My name is Susan DeLuca. The gentleman with me is Mike Kelly. We are on the Board of Directors of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association and have been designated to represent the 2,000 homeowners in Bloomingdale at this public hearing.

Bloomingdale is "FOR" the Arvida rezoning as it represents the quality development we wish to have in our area.

But before you approve the rezoning, we ask that you take a look at the major roadways that feed our two areas and take note of their current and future inadequacies as to how they relate to the projected growth.

At this time we feel it's important to summarize some facts and figures which are pertinent to your decision-making process. You have before you a map of

Arvida, Bloomingdale, and the surrounding areas. Please note that the main artery to reach the Arvida property is Bloomingdale Avenue (a small 2-lane road). Bloomingdale Avenue from Hwy 301 to John Moore Road is not scheduled for widening until 1989 to 1990 per Commissioner Selvey's office. The area from John Moore Road to Lithia Pinecrest is not on the five-year plan as of this date. This road is the main artery for most of the residents in the area and because of that it has become crowded and unpassable. During drivetime, it can take as long as 20 minutes to travel from Bell Shoals Road to Hwy 301 a distance of about 4 miles. With the coming of the Arvida project, the anticipated growth in the area, and the lack of widening of Bloomingdale Avenue, this time element is not likely to decrease anytime soon. I would like to draw your attention to Page 2 of the packet before you...

LOCATION

CURRENT USAGE PROJECTED USAGE SERVICE CATAGORY

Lithia Pinecrest at Bloomingdale Avenue	8,441	9,941	C
Lithia Pinecrest north of Alafia River	5,263	6,763	
Lithia Pinecrest north of Lumsden Road	13,922	15,422	E
Bloomingdale High School on Bloomingdale Avenue	none	1,900	
Alafia Elementary School	none	760	
Culbreath & Bloomingdale Avenue			
Bell Shoals & Bloomingdale Ave Resident Usage a/o 10/1986 with 2,000 homeowners		15,167	F
Bell Shoals & Bloomingdale Ave Resident Usage a/o 1989 with 4,000 homeowners		30,334	F
Bloomingfield Drive as a shortcut	3,997		

Bloomingdale Avenue usage at the intersection of Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale Avenue within 2-3 years will be at least 34,494 vehicles per 24 hour period.

Acceptable Service Level, according to County standards - 12,900 vehicles.

See ARVIDA, Page 29

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use Bloomingdale Avenue as the shortest route, rather than to choose Lumsden Road (with stop signs) as an alternative.

Not only do we have the external problems of traffic due to growth, but inside of Bloomingdale Sub-division the residents are faced with another problem directly related to the congestion of Bloomingdale Avenue.

Within Bloomingdale West there is a street called Bloomingfield Drive which is a residential street on an east/west parallel with Bloomingdale Avenue. It has become such a cutthrough, that it is causing alarm with our local residents. We recently determined that 3,997 cars travelled Bloomingfield Drive within a 24-hour period, most in excess of the acceptable speed limits while only 50 homes border this street. But what will happen two to three years from now when Bloomingdale Avenue is even more unpassable? Will there be 8,000 cars on this small 50 home residential street? We don't want to find out. According to

The acceptable service level of Bloomingdale Avenue according to County standards is 12,900 vehicles. Please note, that as of October 1986, this total was already exceeded by over 2,200. We have an average of 40 families per month moving into just the Bloomingdale Sub-division alone. This means that by 1989 we will double our size to 4,000 families. By then, this 12,900-maximum-count road will be expected to handle 30,334 vehicles, PLUS 2,660 from the schools, PLUS a minimum of 1,500 from Arvida for a total of at least 34,494 vehicles within a 24 hour period at the intersection of Bell Shoals Road and Bloomingdale Avenue. It is also important to note that although Arvida will not be opening their Bloomingdale Avenue entrance for some time, preferring to gain entry via Lithia Pinecrest, shopping and access to other major roadways are gained by going down Bloomingdale Ave. It is only fair to expect that the residents of Arvida will choose to

Lieutenant Fred Wheeler of the Sheriff's Department the solution is to widen Bloomingdale Avenue.

We are faced with the duplication of this problem on Nature's Way Blvd. over in the East side of Bloomingdale. Our experience leads us to believe that the residents of Arvida will cut-through Bloomingdale Sub-division to get to shopping and other road access in their efforts to avoid Bloomingdale Avenue.

The tremendous growth in our area has become a development node. Previous zoning decisions have established this pattern and will bring about additional growth within this node. The infrastructure is now being put into place in terms of sewer, water, schools, and county services. The only aspect that hasn't been addressed is the roadways.

Due to the attractiveness and quality of development in our area, the growth will only double and triple. To provide for the

future is the only way that the County can allow major development to take place in this and any fast-growing area. Waiting until the commercial establishments are in place and the development is complete, is not the answer. The answer is to prepare for the future now. According to Chapter 163 of Florida Statue 1985 the anticipation of growth in terms of infrastructures will be mandatory in the future. Why not accept the spirit of the law and comply with it now and prepare for the growth by anticipating it and bringing the roadways up to a satisfactory level.

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association requests that you as a group take this opportunity to coordinate the rate of growth with the building of roadways and align efforts intragovernmentally to expedite the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue from 301 to Lithia Pinecrest Road.

Thank you.

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SIDEWAYS ???

Some of the residents in the new Fairway Manors area of Bloomingdale East are not real happy with a new home being built on their street. Their reason is simple--it's angled somewhat sideways.

Despite telephone calls to the

Builder, the Developer, the new owners, and even a lawyer, the current residents are still going to have to live with the builder and developer's decision to place the house on the lot in this unusual position. The positioning of the house **did** receive prior approval according to the

residents, but the "catch-22" is that the architectural board who approves architect planning is the builder and the developer (according to Deed Restrictions filed in the Public Records of Hillsborough County).

The residents on the street are not only concerned about the unusual appearance the house projects, but by turning it this way, the driveway of the house now comes fairly close to the Master Bedroom window of it's

neighbors house. Also, the residents are concerned about the effect this will have on their property values.

Why was it turned "sideways?" Evidently for the golf course view, according to individuals who have spoken to the builder and the new owners, this way the view is improved.

In the meantime, residents are pondering what they are going to do next to improve this situation.

STENOGRAPHER NEEDED

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association is looking for a **volunteer stenographer** to take minutes (**not** verbatim) at the Board of Director's meetings.

This individual preferably will be able to take shorthand at a fairly rapid speed (90+ words per minute) and then transcribe them into a typewritten format. Computer and typing equipment would be provided.

Time involvement would be the second Tuesday of the month for approximately three hours plus your transcription time.

Anyone who is willing to donate their time to our community should contact Susan DeLuca at 681-2051 during the day or Jim Weiss at 689-0254 during the evening.

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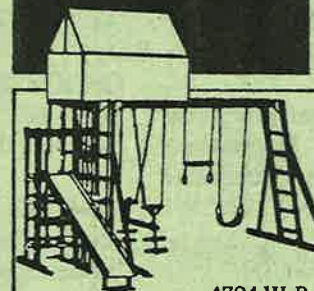
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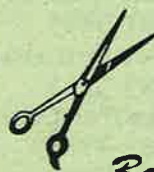


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