

The Bloomingdale Gazette

Volume XIV, Number 4

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April 1994

Bypassers Not Welcomed On Paddlewheel

by Rozel Sculli

One street's traffic solution has turned into another street's traffic nightmare. Residents on Paddlewheel Drive in Bloomingdale West did not foresee that speed humps installed on Bloomingfield would detour motorists to their quiet street.

Now, a group of residents wants the county to consider installing speed humps on Paddlewheel, and in late March, they aired their concerns to Hillsborough's Board of County Commissioners.

The problem, says Chuck Schramm, is that residents living south of Bloomingfield and Sweetleaf use Paddlewheel as their through street to avoid two speed humps in the long line of humps that runs at intervals along Bloomingfield from John Moore to Canoga Park.

Schramm and fellow residents may have to be content with sitting tight until May when a new county policy dealing with traffic controls goes into effect. The new policy allows for emergency installation of traffic control devices, bypassing the previously lengthy process of petitions and site studies.

A self-appointed traffic monitor, Schramm has erected



Chuck Schramm attempts to slow down traffic on Paddlewheel Drive in West.

a homemade sign reminding drivers that the speed limit is 25 mph on Paddlewheel. He said that since the speed humps were installed, there have been two accidents involving parked cars on Paddlewheel. In addition, he points out through a survey he conducted, there are 28 children under the age of 13 residing on the street, and there have been a couple of near misses where children were involved.

At their meeting, commissioners promised to look into the problem. The Sheriff's office has also offered to provide regular patrols until satisfactory action can be taken. In addition, Bob Gordon, director of county road engineering services, has indicated that additional speed limit signs will be placed on the street, and a stop sign will be placed on Paddlewheel at the Sweetleaf intersection.

It's A Spring Fest In Bloomingdale

by Rozel Sculli

Don't be alarmed by the glow beaming out from behind BSHS. It's not a UFO or even an elaborate science project - it's the bright lights of Spring Fest '94, going on this weekend to raise needed funds for the All Sports Athletic Booster Organization.

According to booster spokesperson, Becky Wilson, the money raised will be used for scholarships and athletic needs above what is provided by the county.

In the past, the club has held many smaller fund raisers, so this year they decided to try one big event. It took the approval of the Hillsborough County School Board and a time when the school's parking

lots would be empty to stage the festival.

Featured are carnival rides, concessions, and entertainment. Besides the 90-foot ferris wheel coming straight from the Florida State Fair, festival patrons will experience 11 other adult-style rides and 12 to 15 kiddie rides.

On Thursday night, high school students enjoyed a dance. Friday night a movie will be featured in the stadium, and on Saturday, an antique car show.

Ride tickets are 20 for \$9, and the festival will remain open through Easter Sunday. Friday's hours are 3 p.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday, all day until 11 p.m., and Sunday, during the afternoon only.



STD Project

Work has begun on the wall in Bloomingdale West along Canoga Park Drive. The project is expected to be completed this month.

Holcombs Make West Point A Family Tradition

by Rozel Sculli

Setting goals and achieving them has been a way of life for Bloomingdale High senior Robert Holcomb, Jr. So, naturally when he set out to follow in his father's, uncle's and grandfather's footsteps by applying to the United States Military Academy at West Point, it was no surprise to his parents.

What they did not know is that Bob has wanted to attend West Point since he was five years old. That's

believable coming from a young man, who at the age of 11, piloted his first airplane.

In June, his father and grandfather will return to their alma mater, this time to let the third generation Holcomb begin his military career.

The son of Bloomingdale East residents retired Army Lt. Col. Robert

Holcomb, Sr. and his wife Kathy, Bob is a BSHS honors student who participates in the band, is a pole vaulter on the track team, and recently became the newest Eagle Scout of Troop 110 in Brandon.

"Bobby is a well-balanced individual; he has a track record in the three areas - academics, athletics, and extra-curricular activities," said his proud father, who added that he placed no pressures on his son to attend West Point. As his father had done, the senior Holcomb and his wife surrounded Bob with a supportive, yet strict upbringing.

"We let him choose his interests, then supported him in his choices," said Kathy, who is credited most with her son's upbringing.

"I think Bob will do great because he has always set goals for himself," she said.

"I learned how to do that from watching my mom," the younger Holcomb was quick to add.

Scouting has been an important part of Bob's life, providing him with leadership opportunities. Again, the

goal-oriented program gave him an opportunity to see almost immediately the positive results of his work.

As the son of a regular Army officer, Bobby received a Presidential appointment to West Point, one of only 100 across the country. The application process began in October of his junior year with a mound of paper work.

"Many young men and women are weeded out as a result of not following through with the application process," said the elder Holcomb.

"Again, this is a goal setting process."

First seeing who had the desire to achieve, the academy's screening continued with interviews, physical aptitude tests, and a physical examination.

"I've always thought it's one of the greatest things I could do," said



Robert Holcomb, Jr. (far right) is the third generation in his family to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Here at his father's retirement ceremony are grandparents Lt. Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. James F. Holcomb, Sr., parents Lt. Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. Robert Holcomb, Sr., and sister Becky.

Bob, who adds that he feels the education he has received at Bloomingdale has prepared him for the tough academic expectations at West Point, where he will also be required to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Unlike his father's West Point experience, Bob will have a choice of electives and majors which he believes will be in computer science. Also unlike his father, he is attending during peace time.

His grandfather's class was only one of two in West Point history to be cut short due to war and the need for soldiers.

His father's class, during the Viet Nam era, remained in school the full term but attended in a time of civil and political unrest.

"It never affected me," said Holcomb. "After my father retired, he went back on active duty and went to Viet Nam in 1969. He felt he owed it to his country. That meant more to me than what was on the nightly news."

"I want to be just like my dad," said Bob. In the Holcomb family, history tends to repeat itself.

The Bloomingdale Gazette

Dear Readers,

Now that spring is here, it is time for the growing season to begin again. The growing season in our communities will mean changes. The positive changes that are occurring in our communities will make our lives safer and richer. The STD and the BHA are both working on projects to beautify and protect our community. As you can see, new walls are being built in West by the STD, and recently the BHA assisted two local homeowner groups with their specific concerns.

Being involved and understanding changes will not solve all of our problems, nor can it ensure community peace and prosperity. However, with the combined efforts of more residents to understand and use change it will reinforce the desire for cooperation, which is the reason for living in a community such as ours. By being committed to the community and its changes you can make your life safer, more comfortable, and more satisfying. You will also be able to plan the future.

These changes should not bewilder you, but challenge you. Understanding change will reduce the fear it holds and increase the hope it brings. Being involved with the changes, you can ensure that our community will continue to be in a never-ending spring.

Sincerely



Rick Oros
President

Writer Leaves Legacy Of Laughter

Normally reserved for community commentary, my column this month takes on a very personal note. On Sunday, March 20, Southern humorist Lewis Grizzard died from complications following heart surgery.

Lewis Grizzard was my mentor.

His down-home style made people laugh, often cry, and sometimes angry with his opinion on life and current social issues from a point of view that was three decades old. He shared his musings with millions of addicted readers through his syndicated column, 20 books, and personal appearances.

For anyone in Bloomingdale who ever lived in the Atlanta area, you are surely familiar with his columns that ran four times a week in the Atlanta Constitution, that bastion of print journalism in the south.

Lewis Grizzard loved women; he married four of them. But he never found one he loved as much as his momma.

He loved the University of Georgia and was a fierce defender of them Dawgs of the gridiron and he cast aspersions upon their SEC foes. "Do you know what you get when you cross a pig with a Florida Gator," he once wrote. "Nothin'. There's just some things a pig ain't gonna do."

He loved the South. Once, he took a job in Chicago where he claimed to be in exile. "There are only two seasons in Chicago," he would later say. "Winter and the 4th of July." I have localized that line often, "There are only two seasons in Tampa, summer and the last week of January."

He disliked Yankees, often telling them "if you don't like the way we do things down here - Delta's ready when you are."

I'll take the credit for introducing Lewis Grizzard to this area. I first brought Lewis Grizzard's column to Brandon 15 years ago when I was editor of The Brandon News. By then I had collected his first three books, with titles like Don't Sit Under The Grits Tree With Anyone Else But Me.

Each week, on Tuesdays, as I recall, the syndicate packet would arrive, and a co-worker and I would take turns reading its contents aloud, bursting into uproarious

laughter right in the middle of the news-room.

From my husband's point of view, Lewis Grizzard meant getting little sleep at night as I would, and still do, lie awake reading and re-reading his books in bed and laughing so hard that the bed shakes.

Lewis Grizzard fought heart disease since 1982 when a faulty valve in his heart was replaced with a pig's valve. After that he said, "I can never pass a barbeque place without getting tears in my eyes."

His bestselling book, They Tore Out My Heart And Stomped That Sucker Flat, told about his first heart surgery. "There's some country clubs you can't get into unless you've had your heart surgery," he said, adding that "heart surgery will give you a whole new attitude about drugs."

Always the cynic about change of any kind, Lewis was a baby boomer who had a yearning

for life to return to simpler days. He attacked gays, crooked politicians, greedy athletes, and feminists. "I'm not against women's lib," he used to say. "I've given three of them their freedom myself."

He was colorful in a way that only a Southerner could appreciate, with his turns on words such as "nekkid". Everyone familiar with his writing knows that does not mean "naked." "Naked," he said, "is when you haven't got any clothes on. 'Nekkid, N-e-double k-by God-id' is when you ain't got no clothes on, and you up to somethin'."

From his Bubba and Earl anecdotes, to heartfelt stories about his school-teacher mother and war veteran father, to tales of his boyhood friend and idol Wayman C. Wannamaker, Jr., a great American, his fans were familiar with most every part of his life. He shared it all.

I've never written about Lewis Grizzard, and I felt I owed him this space.

I'm glad that I spent enough time in Atlanta to get to know him. I'm fortunate to have every book he ever wrote. He influenced my sense of humor and my style of writing. I will miss him more than words can express.

I just wanted you to know that.

Our Times

by Rozel Sciuili

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Valrico, Florida 33594
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The Bloomingdale Gazette

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MEETINGS

All meetings take place at the Bloomingdale Community Office. These are monthly public meetings and all Bloomingdale residents are invited.

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

Second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

BHA Board of Directors

Second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District

First Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Mobile Watch & Neighborhood Watch

Watch this listing for dates & times. The meetings are held on a per need basis.

Mobile Watch Report

by LaWayne Wyatt

During the past two months there have been several serious events in the Bloomingdale community.

On Jan. 29, a woman was walking along Natures Way between the water plant and Alafia School when a brown pickup stopped and the occupants began asking questions. When the woman approached the truck to answer the questions, the occupants attempted to pull her inside. She broke free and fled the scene. As the pickup pulled off, an occupant allegedly hurled a piece of cement at the woman striking her in the face. The occupants of the pickup have not been caught.

On Feb. 5, one a Mobile Watch patrol may have interrupted a possible construction site theft in the OakCrest area. A description and tag number of the vehicle were provided to deputies. The same patrol also observed a male walking in the Erin Arbor area late at night. A description of the individual, as well as a description and tag number of his car were obtained and provided to deputies. It was later learned a peeping tom had been working the same area for several weeks.

On Feb. 9, a car drove into the Estates area and stopped in the middle of an intersection. The passenger fired five shots into the air and the car sped away. No one was injured and the occupants were not caught.

On Feb. 16, a woman in The Greens was assaulted when she arrived home and apparently surprised a male who was outside her home. The assailant fled into the wooded area at the corner of Culbreath Road and Erindale Drive. Four to five uniformed deputies, several detectives, a K-9, the Sheriff's helicopter and two Mobile Watch patrols searched the area between Culbreath Road and Lithia-Pinecrest, but the suspect could not be located.

During the last week of February and

the first week of March, a series of home burglaries occurred on Calista Ave. Apparently some of the burglaries were during daylight and may have been carried out by young teens. None of the suspects have been caught.

On March 6, several young males poured and splashed muriatic acid on the playground equipment in Park West. Luckily several adults were nearby to take control of the situation and keep other kids from being hurt.

Finally, on March 13, there was an attempted breaking and entering in the 3800 block of Bell Grande Drive at approximately 10 a.m. Again, several deputies and the helicopter were looking for suspects. Results of the search were unknown at the time of this writing.

As most residents know, speed humps were installed on Bloomingfield Drive to reduce the speed and volume of traffic. They have been effective, although many residents dislike them. Unfortunately, there have been some undesirable side effects. Shortly after the humps were installed, several residents reported traffic was bypassing the humps and speeding on Bayfield Drive.

On March 8, the residents of Paddlewheel Drive reported to the BHA Board of Directors that traffic was also bypassing the humps by using their street. The people using Paddlewheel as a bypass could only be residents on Emberwood Drive, Sweetleaf Drive, Cedar Grove Drive or other streets in that general vicinity.

Unfortunately, there have been two accidents and several near misses caused by residents speeding on Paddlewheel. The Sheriff's Office was notified of the

See WATCH, pg 4

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From Valrico To Oslo, It Was A Golden Gift

by Rozel Sciulli

There are two things Bloomingdale resident Bill Wilson will always remember about Oslo, Norway - the hospitality of its people and that a person can never put on enough clothes to stay warm in temperatures 23 degrees below zero.

Wilson, vice president and general manager of Brandon Chrysler-Plymouth, and his wife Becky were recent guests of CBS television at the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer. It was the second Olympics attended by the local couple, who won a similar trip to Albertville, France for the 1992 event.

"We were treated like royalty," said a still-beaming Becky. "We had better seats than Hillary Clinton." The first lady was seated behind the Wilsons at one of the hockey games at which she was interviewed by David Letterman's mother.

As Becky displayed her scarf covered by 100 of the nearly 300 pins she has collected and traded for, she reflected on the Norwegian setting and its people.

"It's just indescribable, the most beautiful place I have ever seen," she said. "Everything is kept immaculate - not just for the Olympics; it's like that all the time.

"The people are so gracious and respectful," she added.

While there, Becky told a Norwegian woman who had inquired about her pin collection that she wished she had been able to trade for a figure skating pin. One week after returning to her home in Valrico, a surprise package arrived in the mail. It contained the figure skating pin she was lacking.

Becky's mementos from Olympic trips include a pin from the only athlete representing the island of Fiji. It's



Bill and Becky Wilson of Bloomingdale East were guests at the recent Winter Olympics in Lillehammer.

tiny compared to the autographed hockey stick she brought back from Albertville.

Unlike their trip to Albertville, where both Wilsons agreed the French people were not very courteous, this trip makes the couple want to return to Norway someday.

Guests of CBS, Wilson was one of twelve representatives of the Chrysler-Plymouth division of Chrysler Corporation, a major sponsor of the Winter Olympics, to win the trip.

The Brandon business is a Pacesetter Dealership, one of 53 top producers in the country. All the Pacesetter members participated in a 90-day contest with the top 12 winning the gift of a golden trip to Norway.

Headquartered in Oslo, the Wilsons and other CBS guests were shuttled to Olympic events daily. During their sometimes two to three-hour ride to the various event sites, the Wilsons captured the white Norwegian landscape on film. "It was a winter wonderland," said Becky.

They attended opening ceremonies, luge and mogul competitions, three hockey games, the pairs figure skating finals and the men's speed skating event, which ranks as the highlight of Wilson's trip.

"Watching the Norwegian (Koss) break the world record in speed skating is something I'll never forget," he said, adding that the spirit of the fans crossed international lines.

"Being there was such an honor," Becky added. "We were there when a lot of families of the athletes could not go. It made me realize that we really need to support our Olympic athletes."

Wilson will again have an opportunity to compete in a contest for a trip to the summer Olympics in Atlanta in 1996. That's a trip they hope to be able to share with their son, Brian.

Although she took and held up a sign reading Valrico, Florida, it was missed by the cameras' eyes. Becky's mother, however, said she spotted her son-in-law in one of the camera shots of the opening ceremonies.

He was the one in the crowd wearing the cap with earflaps and the big, bulky CBS ski jacket in an effort to stay warm.

WATCH from Pg. 2

situation and promised to increase patrols on this street. Some of the speed violators may have already encountered one of these deputies.

It is important for residents to remember that the streets of this community are not made for high speed and that our children often use them as play areas. Please slow down and observe the posted speed limits of 20-25 MPH. Please note that even the

posted speed limit may not be appropriate on some narrow streets where children are present.

The Mobile Watch thanks its recent volunteers - Alan Reynolds, West; Michael Watts, West; John Sykes, River Crossings; Joe Thoner, River Crossings; Lou and Vickie Holsenback, South; Gary and Melanie Boehmer, South; Kim Cole, South; Jim and Teresa Masse, OakCrest.

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Runny Nose Can Be Sign Of Something More Serious

by Sonia Ruiz, M.D.

Dear Dr. Ruiz:

My child has a runny nose and a fever. When should I seek medical advice?

Dear Mom:

Uncomplicated viral infections may mimic acute sinusitis at times. The key in differentiating one from the other is the length of time symptoms have been present and the frequency of events leading to those symptoms. Nasal congestion, sneezing, and coughing that appear with a fever below 102 in a child who has been well for at least a month prior to the onset of symptoms, may be the typical onset of a viral, upper respiratory tract infection. Viral illnesses tend to peak in severity by the 5th to 7th day and usually resolves by the 10th day from the onset of symptoms.

The color of the nasal secretions in an uncomplicated viral illness starts out as clear and watery, become later mucoid, then purulent thick, colored, and opaque, then after a few days, reverse by becoming mucoid and then clear. All these changes happen independent of the administration of antibiotics.

Sinusitis, on the other hand, can be suspected when congestion seems to be the most prevailing symptom that happens after the 10th day from the onset of symptoms. It may be accompanied by nasal discharge of any quality, night or early a.m. cough and occasional cough during the

day, plus fever, headaches, and occasional eye swelling. By this time, the watery rhinorrhea has somewhat subsided and has given way to persistent congestion and cough.

In order to confirm the diagnosis of sinusitis, four tests are available - radiograph or sinus X-rays, CT scan, sinus aspiration and transillumination.

Transillumination consists in placing a light source to the midpoint of the inferior orbital rim in a completely darkened room to see if light comes through the palate. This test is more commonly used in children older than 10 years of age because of their ability to cooperate better.

X-rays are the most commonly used method to confirm sinusitis. The radiologist confirms the diagnosis by X-ray when he sees diffuse opacification of sinus areas, mucosal thickening of at least 4 mm, or the presence of an air fluid level.

Computerized tomography or CT scan is being used now to define in detail the extent of sinus disease. In case of chronic sinusitis when antimicrobials fail to eradicate the disease after 8 weeks of treatment, it is sometimes necessary to determine if the exit path to the maxillary sinuses is blocked. This area is called the osteomeatal complex. When this is determined the treatment becomes then surgical by an ENT physician.

Sinus aspiration is performed by ENTs much more commonly than by pediatricians. It consists in passing a trocar through the nasal wall into the maxillary sinus where the secretions are then aspirated into a syringe and sent to the laboratory. The secretions are then placed in a special medium (food for bacteria) where the bacteria will grow large enough to be identified as well as identify the antibi-

otic that will kill it. Because this procedure is an invasive procedure, it is most commonly recommended in cases of intractable or life threatening infections.

The treatment of sinusitis is based on the most commonly found bacteria after culturing the secretions. These bacteria are the same ones that cause ear infection, streptococcus pneumoniae, moraxiella catarrhalis and haemophilus influenza. The antibiotics used against these bacteria in order of frequency are Amoxicillin, Augmentin, Ceclor, Cefdin, Pediazole, Bactrim, Lorabid, and Vantin.

The length of time for treating sinusitis has been debated by many and may vary depending on the severity of the infection. In cases of severe infections with resistant organisms, it may be as long as 4 to 8 weeks most commonly; a minimum of 20 days is widely accepted as appropriate.

Predisposing conditions for the recurrent sinusitis are the following: anatomic problems, allergies, immunodeficiency syndrome, cystic fibrosis, or immotile cilia syndrome.

ENT physicians are generally consulted by pediatricians when current antimicrobial therapy fails or consistent trial has been tried for at least 30 to 60 days or during any complicated condition.

Antihistamines should not be used without medical advice for the treatment of chronic sinusitis because they generally tend to thicken the secretions so much that it makes the drainage very difficult. Unfortunately, the current media advertisement of these products has caused a lot of people to seek medical advice during the chronic sinusitis stage making the treatment longer.

Please consult your pediatrician for further advice.

Church News

Meals on Wheels Marks Anniversary

by Erin Mule

During this season of new life and rebirth, Bloomingdale area churches are full of activity.

St. Andrews United Methodist Church - Meals on Wheels, which was started by St. Andrews and Limona Village Chapel, will celebrate 18 years of service to the community this month. The program now includes 12 area churches and serves over 100 meals each Monday through Friday. St. Andrews workers are Luther and Lorene Brown, Linda Dietz, Cathy Fuller, Ivan Gamet, Marie Gordon, Thea Greer, Norbert Hayden, Helen Shaw, Gerry Tanneberger, Minna Tickner, and Jean Wortman.

The Blood Mobile will make its annual Easter visit at St. Andrews on Sunday, April 3. Blood donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 100 lbs, and never tested positive for HIV or Hepatitis.

South Brandon Baptist Church - A youth group car wash will be held on April 23 at Bell Shoals Cigo. Donations will go to help defray expenses for their summer trip.

The Brandon Crisis Pregnancy Center will hold a "True Love Waits Rally" at 7 p.m. on April 29, at the church located at 4929 S. Bell Shoals.

St. Stephen Catholic Church - The K-5 religious education children will celebrate Earth Day on April 18 by planting a tree on the church grounds.

Many adults and children will receive first sacraments at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. The adults have successfully completed the church's RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program for new Catholics, and the children are older than the traditional second grade age for receiving the sacraments of penance and communion. The adults and children have studied for two years to receive these rites.

Bell Shoals Church of Christ - The members of Bell Shoals Church of Christ welcome new minister Alan D. Watkins. Rev. Watkins moved here from Enterprise, Alabama, and follows Jack McKeown as pastor of the church.

St. Mark United Church - Easter sunrise service will be held at 7:45 on Sunday, April 3. It will be followed by

a continental breakfast and Easter egg hunt at 8:30. Worship services will be held at 9 and 11 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Easter evening services will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, in addition to regular service hours on Easter Sunday.

The church's Ladies

Guild will hold a Rummage Sale on April 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Living Savior Lutheran Church - The church will celebrate its first Easter in their new building located at the corner of Bloomingdale and Lithia Pinecrest Road. The church, started by Pastor Christopher Kruschel, is three years young and met previously at Center Place.

On Friday, April 1, church members will color Easter eggs at 6 p.m. at the church. Admission is one dozen hard-boiled eggs. This will be followed at 7:30 by the Good Friday service.

An Easter brunch will be served at 8:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 3, with the service following at 10 a.m.

Congregation Beth Shalom - The congregation welcomes a new part-time Rabbi. Also serving Beth Shalom Temple in Winter Haven, the Rabbi Fred Natkin, will conduct services one Friday night a month. This month, he will conduct the service on April 29, at 8 p.m.

Presbyterian Church of Bloomingdale - Children in the community are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 2. Children ages two to 11, who are accompanied by an adult, will also enjoy face painting, contests, and goodies rain or shine.

A contest sponsored by the 5th and 6th grade youth group netted over 225 food items for the Beth-El Migrant Mission in Ruskin. Winner was the third-fourth grade Sunday School class. Rewarded with a dinner on the 20th, they delivered the food and joined children there for an afternoon Sunday School class.

Efforts of one teacher, Janet Wylie, inspired anonymous donors to present every child in the church with a hard-back Bible. She also spearheaded the canned food drive.

The 49ers (plus) treated the congregation of more than 100 to a sandwich luncheon followed by "Little Nell", a melodrama in Ragtime.



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Send your social news to *The Bloomingdale Gazette* 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101, Valrico, FL 33594, or stop by our office in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza. Please be sure to include a phone number. Photographs are also welcomed.

Bits N Pieces

Around Bloomington



Why Eggs Are An Easter Symbol

by Marcy MacKenzie

Easter has many religious and traditional symbols, but perhaps one of the most recognized is colored eggs.

From the earliest of time eggs have been a symbol of birth and resurrection. Egyptians buried eggs in their tombs and the Greeks put eggs on top of the tombs and coined a proverb: "Omne vivum ex ove", meaning that all life comes from an egg.

But how did we come to celebrate Easter by painting or dyeing eggs? Legend has it that Simone of Cyrene, who was the man who carried Christ's cross to Calvary was an egg merchant. When he returned to his farm following the crucifixion, he discovered that all his eggs had miraculously turned a rainbow of beautiful colors. So when the church in the second century started to celebrate the resurrection of

Christ, it wasn't hard to find a popular and recognized symbol for their holiday.

In the 20th Century, we still carry on the tradition of decorating eggs in celebration of the resurrection of Christ. Today sharing decorated eggs with your family, you can express to them what Easter means to you.

Spending the Easter Holiday With Your Family

Finding time this spring amidst the chores and yard work is definitely hard to do. However, a special holiday is about to arrive and spending time with your family this Easter holiday will mean a lot. Make the celebration of Easter a whole weekend long celebration. Set aside Saturday for the fun part of Easter and leave Sunday for worship and reflection.

On Easter Saturday, have a family Easter egg hunt. All that is needed are some plastic eggs and some prizes or coins. Hide the eggs in your backyard or around the house. Give each child a specially decorated paper bag with their name on it and let them search. This is also a good time to have them search for their Easter Baskets, too.

After the hunt, decorate your table with an Easter theme and serve refreshments, an Easter cake decorated with pink and yellow frosting or bunny shaped cookies are very festive.

Easter Sunday, a time of worship and reflection, what better time to appreciate the true meaning of Easter than sharing breakfast with your family and watching the sunrise. Pack a simple breakfast for each family member. Boiled eggs, muffins, rolls, fruit, and juice are easily packed items. Use your children's Easter baskets from your celebration on Easter Saturday and at the bottom pack an Easter card and a small treasure or gift, and top with their breakfast.

Choose a quiet place, where the sunrise can be viewed. A spot along the river or in your own back yard is good. Spread a blanket and before you dive into your meals read aloud the Easter story found in the Bible in chapters Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-19; Luke 24:1-27; and John 20:1-18. Choose a version, sing, and celebrate the sunrise as you enjoy your breakfast.

Remember that Easter is a time of rebirth, for the flowers, the plants and the trees. It is also a time to celebrate the resurrection of Christ by worship and reflection and through decorating eggs.

"Eggs are the epitome of promised life - life sealed away for a time before new life literally bursts forth!" - Shirley Dobson.

Military

Review

First-Year Program Flies High At BSHS

by Yolanda Boronell

The 9313th Air Force Junior ROTC Squadron at Bloomington Senior High School is off to a high flying start. The new program is a joint venture funded by Hillsborough County Schools and the U.S. Armed Forces. Teachers from the course are retired military officers recruited through the U.S. Armed Forces, but employed by the school system as Aerospace Instructors.

Last fall, Col. C. A. "Doc" Holladay and Chief Master Sgt. Gary Mosby opened the doors to a classroom with Air Force blue floors and the latest in computer technology. It is there they began to teach young men and women aerospace sciences, physical sciences, aviation technology, history of flight, military customs, and leadership education.

Right now, there are 54 cadets in the program and enrollment is expected to double by next year. Students enroll in the JROTC program for a variety of reasons. Some because they are interested in a military career, some to enhance their self-esteem, others to improve their discipline, and yet others to follow family tradition.

Whatever the reason, they usually stay once they are there. Junior Cadets are very enthusiastic when speak about their experiences in JROTC.

Although the program has a military foundation, Col. Holladay emphasizes that the JROTC is not a recruiting program, but a place where young men and women learn to become productive citizens. He says for the youth it is different and fun, and as for the adults, they recognize its encouragement in developing responsibility, self-confidence, and respect for others.

JROTC is an elective academic course designed as a three-year program.

Youth spend one class period a day, five days a week, participating in the course. The curriculum consists of 60 percent aerospace sciences and 40 percent leadership education. Drill practices are held after school. Cadets this year have learned and earned responsible positions with sophomores, juniors, and seniors represented.

Once a week, students wear a uniform to school. The military dress and books are provided by the USAF. Surprisingly enough, both students and faculty have responded well to the sharply dressed cadets. Many teachers have complimented the students on their appearance.

The 9313th squadron has excelled in growth and development over the past year, according to Col. Holladay. The first-year group has already won significant awards in drill exercises and color guard demonstrations. The drill teams and color guard corps practice with uncompromising drive to master their

drills to perfection. In their first event, they brought home two second place trophies, and in another, they won a second place and a third place trophy. Among their individual achievements, three cadets have earned JROTC college scholarships and many accolades within the ranks.

The cadets have been invited to and have participated in many community events. They presented the color guard ceremony at a MADD program, the Brandon Balloon Festival, and a local carnival. The youths look forward to much more community involvement.

Administrators, faculty, students, and parents are all pleased with the presence of the 9313th Air Force Junior ROTC Squadron at Bloomington. It has had a great first year and all indicators point towards success. Congratulations 9313th!

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Alafia Students Are Math Superstars

by Erin Mule'

Do you know what your child is doing in school? Bet you didn't know your child is a superstar! Well, if you're the parent of an Alafia Elementary student, your child may be answering difficult math problems such as this:

"A patch of lily pads doubles its size each day, once it gets started growing in a pond. If a certain pond was completely covered on the 20th day of June, what part of the pond was covered in lily pads on June 18th?" Answer: 1/4 or 25%

Surprised? How did you do? Children are solving this type of problem and others like it as part of a program called Math Superstars. It began as a grade-specific challenge and has been expanded to include all grades.

According to its chairperson, Nancy Spaulding, Math Superstars is designed to challenge students to develop problem solving skills beyond the minimal and for enrichment experiences that expand creativity. The material is

intended to supplement classroom skills and encourage students to use higher-level thought processes, she said.

Since the program is run by adult volunteers, Spaulding said the teacher is free to spend class time on major content skills. Superstars is voluntary and the students work on their own time as a supplement to regular class instruction.

Each Monday, the Superstar worksheets are handed out during math class. The students are given the week to work on them at their own pace. On Friday, the adult volunteer collects the worksheets and checks them over the weekend. Then, on Monday, the papers are handed back to the students and reviewed with the adult assistant. Students earn awards that are posted in the classroom and the new cycle begins.

"A proven result of this program," said Spaulding, "is higher scores on ACT and SAT tests which present similar problem solving skills." Although not the original intent of the program, it is an added benefit, she said.



Students in Kelly Gomolak's 5th grade class confer over a difficult math problem as part of the school's Math Superstars program which challenges children beyond their regular math curriculum.



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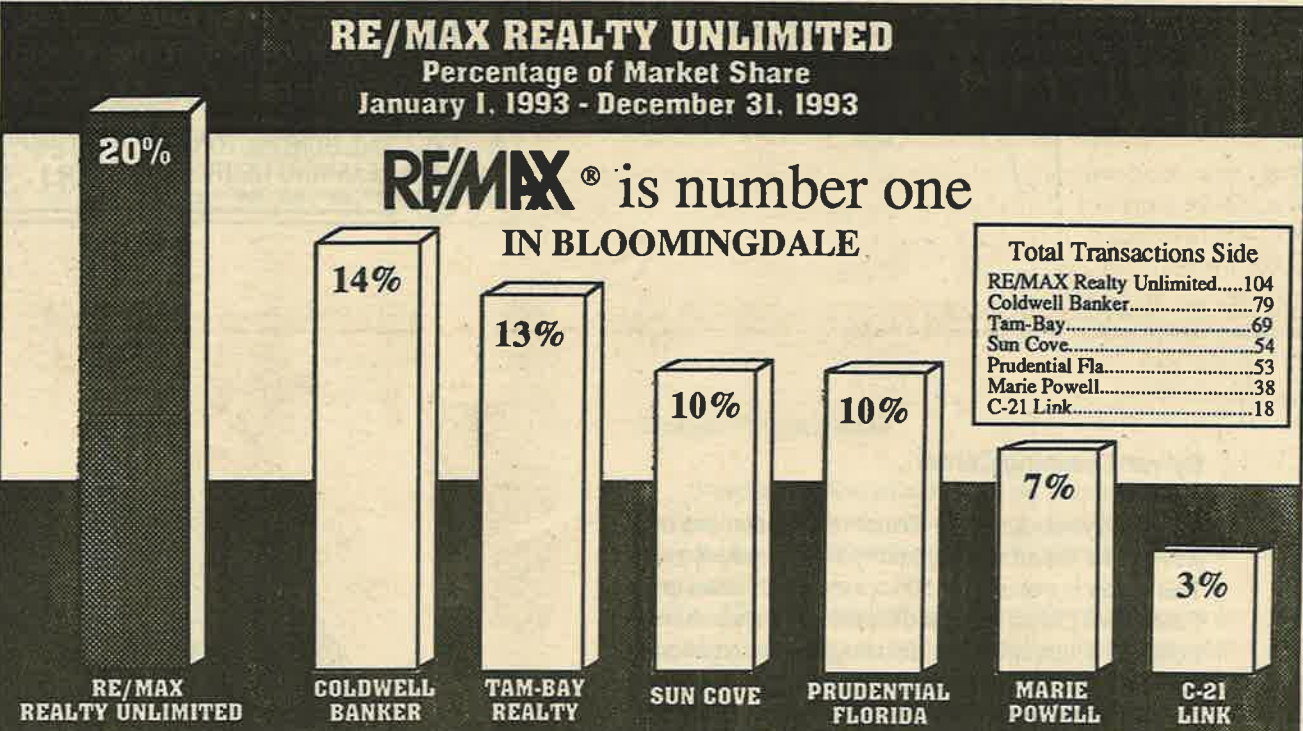
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Classes include Art Camp I for ages 5 - 7; Art Camp II for ages 8 - 10; and Art Camp III for ages 11 and up. The younger children will primarily do crafts, taking home a project each week; the 8 - 10 year olds will do both crafts and drawing; and the oldest group will do pencil drawing, pen & ink, calligraphy and watercolor. No prior art experience is necessary.

The Art Place also offers an Oil Painting Class three times a week - Thurs., Sat. mornings, and Mon. evenings, a Pastel/Color Pencil/Drawing Class - Tues. evenings, and a Watercolor/Acrylic Class.

Wet on wet artist Bonnie Philips will feature units on both drawing and a paint-along class.



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There are programs in Readiness, Reading, Phonics, Writing, Math, Algebra, Geometry, College Algebra, Trig., Calculus, Study Skills, and P.S.A.T., S.A.T., and A.C.T. prep.

Special summer programs are available. Call or stop by Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. or call 684-2400 for more information.

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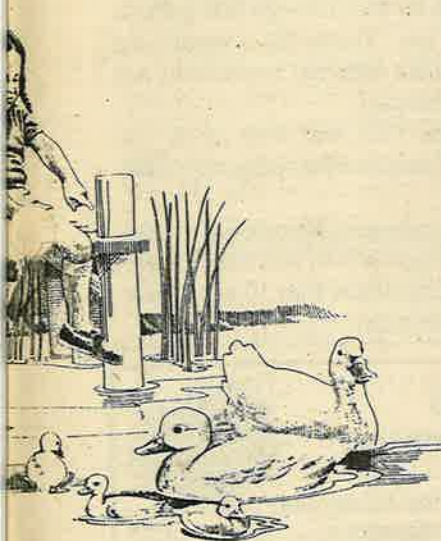
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The school is owned and operated by Christine Terrell, and directed by her daughter, Gail Bjornson. Both are Bloomingdale residents who will be celebrating the school's 7th birthday this summer.

Primary Prep serves infants through after schoolers and offers a multitude of full and part-time programs. Stop in or call 654-1942 for all the details. Do the right thing for your child this summer!



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Lithia Springs PTA Programs Win State Award

by Gail Turner

Parent volunteers and teachers of the Lithia Springs Elementary School PTA were recently awarded the 1993-94 Advocates for Children Award for the state of Florida.

Designed to recognize local units that demonstrate a commitment to PTA objectives such as encouraging and strengthening parent education and advocacy for all children, the award is presented to only one unit in each state.

Lithia's PTA is now in the running for the National PTA award if they are selected as one of the eight top units in the country. If selected, the president and school principal would be guests at the 1994 National PTA Convention.

Some of the programs sponsored this school year by the local group include a bicycle rodeo and safety fair, the Reflections program promoting the cultural arts, voter registration at every meeting, a camera club, and a campaign entitled "Not In Our Neighborhood" that stressed self-control and mutual respect.

In other PTA news, Lithia parents will sponsor a spaghetti dinner on April 7, from 5:30 to 7:30 in the cafeteria. This coincides with conference night, and tickets



Winners of the PTA-sponsored Reflections contest were Ashley Dusnik, Aspen Slinghuff, and Rebecca Slimak.

Winners of the PTA-sponsored Reflections Contest were Rebecca Slimack in literature, Ashley Dusnik in visual art, and Aspen Slinghuff in photography. In addition, Rebecca won a first place award in Hillsborough County and Ashley took a second place in the county. The two students will continue on to state competition and possibly on to the national level.

Lithia parent Tim Golden has started a photography club for third through fifth graders. The club meets one Wednesday a month and students learn about lighting, movement, and photographic techniques.

The Lithia PTA will wrap up its year with a fifth grade banquet and kindergarten round-up in May.

May's regular monthly meeting will feature the topic "What to do with your children over the summer". The meeting is May 10, at 7:15 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

for the dinner are \$5 for adults and \$3.50 for children to age 12. Dinner will include spaghetti and sauce, salad, bread sticks, and a beverage.

Hornet's Pride



Student members of the Mathcounts Team at Booker T. Washington Junior High captured two notable awards in the recent regional competition.

The first honor was the team's second place finish in the overall competition among 7th and 8th grade teams, while placing first among the 7th grade schools.

Composed of 23 private, parochial, and public schools from Hillsborough and Pasco counties, the competition judged students' ability to decipher difficult mathematical problems.

Only Berkley Preparatory School, represented by 8th graders, placed above Washington. The next closest 7th grade finisher was Oak Grove Junior High School in 5th place.

Sponsored by math instructor and BTW teacher of the Year Bruce Koontz, the team members are Raymond Fermo, Jonathan Rodriguez, Frank Perales, Brian Allen, and Megan Roworth.

Book Fair

The Washington PTA will sponsor a Book Fair at the school from April 6-12. Parents are invited to view the materials on Thursday evening, April 7, which is also the school's conference night. After previewing the selections, students may turn in their purchases in the cafeteria each morning and they will be filled by parent volunteers.

Principal's Honor Roll

7th graders named to the Principal's Honor Roll for the second quarter were Vanessa Ayer, Tyffany Brittain, Jessica Brooks, Roxanne Buffano, Cheryl Carpenter, Rebecca Collier, Jennifer Dean, Carrie Doss, Lance Elrod, Raymond Fermo, Kristin Frinkley, Emily Gambrell, Monica Gray, Leah Hardcastle, Philip Hart, Amy Hawkins, Erica Henry, Blanca Iglesias, Kade Kangas,

Also Brigette Kelly, Aida Kuri, Shih-Shan Lang, Jennifer Lemar, Latosha Littles, Ashley Mann, Brenda McSpadden, Paul Michalak, David Newton, Marykate Owens, Ameesh Patel, Ingrid Pfaffman, Jonathan Pirkl, Orlando Ramirez, Kimberley Robinson, Candice Schlappo, Kristen Shaffer, Kunal Sharma, Nicole Smith, John Tanner, Jessica Thornton, Christy Williams, and Paul Wilson.

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Easter Sunday Services

Sunday Morning, April 3,
7:30, 9:00, & 10:30 a.m.

Meeting at Bloomingdale Senior High School
1700 Bloomingdale Ave.

Call **653-0422** for information.

Calvary Kids

Easter Celebration

2 years - 5th grade 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. services
Nursery (infants - 24 mos.) each service

Calvary Church

Easter Sunday, April 3, is daylight savings time. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.

Bulls Eye



by Brian Bergren

Defending their state title, the Bloomingdale softball team's 1994 season is on a championship pace once again and there is no sign of slowing down. Coach Mike Clamon's team has suffered only one loss thanks to a powerful offense and championship quality pitching.

Amanda Dittebrand, who leads the Lady Bulls in hitting, is second in the county with a .549 average.

Led by Amanda Dittebrand, whose .549 average is second in the county, the Lady Bulls opened the season with big wins over Brandon and Plant City, then embar-

assed Leto in a 13-0 blowout. They showed no mercy to King on March 4 when they destroyed the Lions 13-0, then Gaither fell to the local team 5-2. While Chamberlain was rumored to be the team's first real test, Coach Clamon's squad passed with flying colors in a 5-1 win.

The game of the season pitted Bloomingdale against arch rival Brandon who was looking for revenge after their 4-2 loss to the Bulls on Feb. 18. With the score tied at 5 in the seventh inning, the Bulls shattered any hope the Eagles might have had of winning. With two outs and bases loaded, Shannon Krause delivered the game winning base hit.

Bloomingdale's first heartbreaker was a surprising loss to Hillsborough. The Bulls were up 2-0 in the fifth when a Terrier player laid down a bunt on which the Bulls committed an error. Now, with the runner on first, the Hillsborough batter cranked a deep fly ball over the left fielder's head and beat the throw home for an in-the-park homerun. Hillsborough scored late in the game and handed the Lady Bulls their only loss so far this season.

"We need to learn from our loss to Hillsborough and concentrate on winning one game at a time," said junior Tanya Miguel.

The team bounced back from their loss to demolish Jefferson 16-0. Dittebrand added to the scoring fest with her first triple of the season.

With the softball season almost over, the Bulls are hungrily eyeing a second state title. If Bloomingdale continues winning big then the school may have another championship trophy in the case by the end of the year.

Library Month Activities

Bloomingdale's media center will host a student media money campaign from April 4-29. Students will have opportunities to earn "media dollars" and then spend this money to clear library fines. One way students were able to earn play bucks was during last month's Win, Lose, or Draw competition conducted through the English department.

A selection of posters will be available for students to purchase through April 15 in the media center, which will benefit from the proceeds.

Ending the month-long celebration of National Library Month, the media center will feature the works of Bloomingdale art students. Attendance to the exhibit will be conducted through math classes.

anchors and three cameramen, plus their producers Mrs. Sink, Mrs. Driver, and occupational specialist, Mrs. Johnson, first took a tour of the popular television in Tampa. Among the features they saw were the control rooms, paint rooms, weather station, news room, and the actual studio where Eyewitness News is taped. They also received a briefing on the history of the station.

After the tour, the morning show staff participated in the studio audience of the live, half-hour Kathy Fountain Show. Crew member Jehan Gliksmann said, "I thought the trip was a good experience for all of us, and we had a great time."

April Calendar

- 4 - FFA Alumni Meeting
- 5 - 9th Grade Assemblies
- 7 - Conference night
- 8 - School Holiday
- 11- SAT testing
- 12- SAT testing
- 13- SAT testing
- 14- SAT testing
- 15- SAT testing
- Jr. High Choral Festival
- 16- Jr. High Choral Festival
- 18- FHA field trip
- Social Studies Fund raiser
- 26- Math League at King
- 27- NJHS Induction
- Early Dismissal - Club Day
- 28- Orchestra Festival
- 29- Orchestra Festival

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Bruin Beat



by Erika Wilson

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Students, parents and teachers from Brooker Elementary School held a walk-a-thon to raise money to purchase new computers and software for their school.

Kids Kalendar Rated G

Players Present Pigs' Tale

The Patchwork Players will present "three Little Pigs" on Wednesday, April 6, at 9:30 a.m. at Center Place in Brandon. Tickets at \$2.50 per person are required for the performance which is being sponsored in part by Tampa Electric of Brandon. Recommended for children ages four and up, the show features three magnetic and zany little pigs dancing and singing their way through their adventures with the big, bad wolf.

Young Actors Present 'Birdie'

Children of the Brandon Youth Theatre will close their third season of performances at Center Place with a production of the 60's musical, "Bye, Bye Birdie". Two shows will be presented on Friday, April 22, and Saturday, April 23, at 8 p.m. Tickets may be obtained at Center Place for \$5 for adults and \$4 for children and senior citizens.

Youth Summer Camp Set

Mary Help of Christians School will hold its annual Summer Camp for boys and girls, ages five to 14, from June 25 to July 29..

The school will offer a summer academic program during the same weeks. Open to boys and girls in 6th through 8th grades, the program offers lessons in English, science, math, and history.

On Exhibit For Kids

Honoring the talented young artists in the community, Center Place will present the "Youth In Art Show" during the month of April. Art students from Eastern Hillsborough County in grades 8 through 12, will have two and three dimensional work on display. The show will be judged and ribbons and cash awards will be presented at an Art Reception on Tuesday, April 12 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Women's Service League, the event is open to the public.

Living 'Dolls' Win Contest



Bloomingtondale residents Danielle Virtue, left, and Britni Colgan were winners of the Barbie look-alike contest held recently at Wal-Mart.

Two local little ladies won in their age groups when Wal-Mart sponsored a Barbie Look-Alike contest in conjunction with Matel Toys last month.

Danielle Virtue, age seven, and Britni Colgan, 3 1/2, are friends who have participated in and won local and state beauty pageants. Both are members of the Hillsborough County Twirlettes and appear in local parades.

Dressed as Barbie Super Star, Danielle is the daughter of David and Darlene Virtue, who live in The Greens. She is a second grader at Alafia Elementary School. Britni, dressed as Western Wear Barbie, is the daughter of Mari and Donnie Colgan of Bloomingtondale East.

The girls were presented with Romantic Bride Barbies as their prize.

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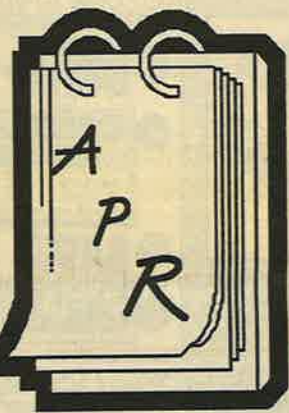


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Business Notes



BSHS To Host Realtors

The annual Realtors Orientation, sponsored by the education committee of Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce, will be held at Bloomingdale High School on Monday, April 25, from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Open to all realtors, the orientation is held to familiarize them with new information regarding the schools in their areas. The cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

Guest speakers this year include Ken Allen, supervisor of student placement for Hillsborough County Public Schools, representatives from the International Baccalaureate Program at King High School and magnet schools such as the one for medical vocations, and Shirley Trujillo, principal of Boyette Elementary School, who will speak on the topic of the modified school year calendar.

Realtors usually are the first people to be asked about school communities by home buyers, and according to Chamber spokesperson Barbara Baroni, the orientation is a great opportunity for realtors to learn about the most recent changes in the public school system.

Columbia Bank Honored

Columbia Bank has received the Blue Ribbon commendation by Veribanc, Inc. According to Christina Ford, spokesperson for the locally owned bank, the award is the nation's oldest and most prestigious form of national recognition. It is presented to banks for their

Students Get A Business 'Workout'

by Rozel Sciulli

Merchants and business men and women have been concerned for years that students entering the work force are lacking needed skills for job performance and interpersonal relations in the workplace.

In response to this concern, members of the education committee of the Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce initiated its first ever Great American Workout, in which 10th grade students were randomly selected and placed with local businesses early last month.

Chairman for the workout was BSHS teacher Charles Tommello, who said that this was not a career day, but rather a visual experience for students to actually see the routine that exists in the workplace on a daily basis.

Two weeks before the workout, students completed a survey on which they listed what they believed to be the most important workforce skills, with selections ranging from creative thinking to respect for authority. After their workout experience, the students were given the same survey and the results were later compared.

Students from Bloomingdale High School who participated were Heather Barton, Robert Buggy, Lisa Colligan, Laura Coyle, Kelly Foster, Chris Friedman,

Joseph Greaser, Katherine Harvell, Stephan Havens, Jacqueline Larson, Matthew Lawson, Sean Odenwald, Lea Oliver, Heather O'Neal, Andrew Penley, Melissa Pomeroy, Barry Pope, Joseph Roberts, Charles Samson, Edward Thompson, Kristen Thornton, Thomas Tomer, Ida Wynn, Scott Zabka,

Also Kimberly Barone, Brandy Bennett, Christine Cacioppo, Tim Calloway, Erin Connelly, Thomas Cummings, Bryan Dempsey, Wendy Dyar, Victor Glasgow, Adam Heist, Seth Hicks, Alex Hoyt, Anwar Joemmankhan, Heather Kocot, Carl Lackner, Tracey Lampe, Kathryn Limebeck, Amber Lindberg, Jed Marcks, Edwin Muniz, Richard Murphy, Cly Myers, Clifton Robinson, Jason Steenis, Layne Walters, Shawn Collister, Gregory Carlisle, Dara DeHart, Keisha Livingston, Shantilly Mobley, Connie Simmons, Melissa Williams, and Anica White.

Businesses that participated locally were Bloomingdale Florist, Little Professor, Barnett, Valrico State, and Nations banks, and Dahlia Insurance. Ten students from BSHS were also guests at Sam's Club for the morning Workout.

Use Reputable, Licensed Contractors For Home Improvements

by Bob Crawford
Commissioner of Agriculture

Many people are taking advantage of current low interest rates to finance improvements to their homes. And while there are many skilled contractors to choose from, there are also those whose primary skills are to separate homeowners from their money. Every year, consumers statewide lose thousands of dollars to con artists posing as legitimate craftsmen, builders and repair men.

Often these unscrupulous people will target the elderly - especially older women living alone. They make promises of quick and inexpensive improvements, pressure the homeowner into paying a large deposit in advance, and then disappear without completing the work. Sometimes no work is performed at all.

Obtaining the trust of the consumer is the key to fraudulent contractors' operation. They act friendly, knowledgeable and sincere, and offer money-back guarantees. Some may even deliver a small supply of materials to the job site. Often these "supplies" are just props - scrap wood, empty buckets and other discarded construction items.

Here are some hints on how to spot a con artist:

- Usually solicits door-to-door and has "just finished a job down the street."
- Arrives in an unmarked car, van or truck.
- May claim to have materials left over from another job and can do the work at a discount.
- Has a post office box or local motel as an address, but no regular street or business address.

- Asks the homeowner to obtain all the necessary building permits.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services advises homeowners to deal only with reputable, licensed contractors. Consumers should observe a few guidelines:

- Check to see if the contractor is properly licensed by your city and county, and by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation at 1-800-342-7940.

- Determine how long a contractor has been in business. Check with local building supply retailers. Ask for and verify local references.

- Obtain more than one written estimate, especially on large jobs. Make sure the estimate contains a complete description of all the work to be done, costs and completion dates.

- Don't automatically select the lowest bid, especially if it is considerably lower than all the others. The "low-ball" contractor may intend to seek more money after the job is under way, and may not be able to meet contractual specifications and obligations.

- After all the work is done, make sure the contractor obtains a "Release of Lien" from all unpaid workers, subcontractors and suppliers before making final payment. For information, write: Construction Lien Law Brochure, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Consumer Services, Mayo Building, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800.

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Local Youths On Winning Soccer Team



by Rozel Sciulli

When local players Ben Bailey, Clint Bowman, and Rio Oros were chosen to the South Hillsborough Stars, a select 13 and under soccer team, they didn't know they were headed for a championship. Neither did their coach, Rick Oros, whose team surpassed even his expectations for their first year, by winning their division in decisive fashion.

Oros had a two-year plan mapped out for his players, who, though young in age, have a combined 51 years of soccer experience. He figured it would take his team two years to be ready for state competition.

"Had I known they would turn out as well as they did, I would have entered them in competition," said the veteran coach, adding that application must be made in the fall.

Oros credits the team's perseverance and tenacity with compiling their 9-2-3 record. Strong defensively - goalie Adrian Washington allowed an average of less than one goal per game - the team is also acknowledged for its speed, endurance, and "coachability," said Oros.

Having coached 11 local soccer teams in the last six years, Oros said that this group jelled as a team, and he points out that this age group understands the game better. He praised the overall commitment of the players and their parents.

With a regular season that stretches from September through March, the post season is reserved for tournament play both by application and by invitation. That means travelling, which is no stranger to the parents of the Stars. During the regular season they played teams from as far south as Sarasota, to Springhill in northern Pasco county, and Auburndale to the east.

"My parents have been terrific. They are probably the best group of supportive parents I have had the pleasure to work with," said Oros.

Just as tournaments end, it will be time to hold try-outs for next year's team which will compete in the 14 and under category. Oros holds his try-outs in May, and already he reports taking phone calls from parents as far away as Springhill who want their sons to play for the Stars.

According to Oros, the true key to the team's success was that the kids "really worked at it." Oros said he provided the positive reinforcement and motivation, but that it was his players who did all the work.

Joining Washington and local players Bailey, Bowman, and Oros were leading goal scorer Peter LaBarbera, Joey LaBarbera, Andrew Peter, Matt Cipriano, Andrew Morris, Justin Lundquist, Joey Belinger, T. J. Rew, David Orvosh, Chris Hopkins, and Fabian Beyer.

The team is sponsored by local business Amore Pizza.

Athletic Calendar

Bulls' Home Schedules

Baseball, Golf, Softball, Tennis

- April 4 Boys Tennis v Plant
- April 7 Girls Tennis v Chamberlain
- April 12 Baseball v Leto 7 p.m.
Softball v Leto 7 p.m.
- April 13 Boys Golf v Lakeland & P.C. at Riverhills
- April 14 Girls Tennis v Leto
- April 15 Baseball v King 7 p.m.
Softball v King 7 p.m.
- April 16 Baseball v East Bay 7 p.m.
- April 18 Boys Tennis v Brandon
- April 21 Girls Golf v Brandon at Buckhorn
- April 21 Boys Tennis v TBT
- April 22 Baseball v Chamberlain 7 pm
Softball v Chamberlain 7 pm
- April 25-29 Distirect Tennis Tourney
- April 29 Baseball v Plant City 7 p.m.



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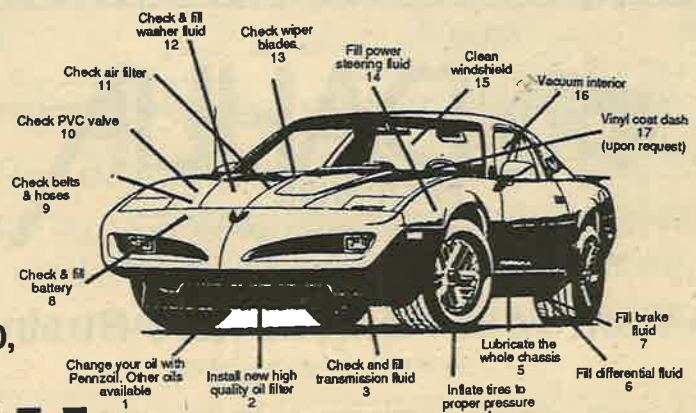


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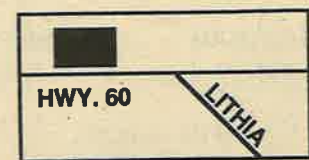
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BHA Meeting

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowner's Association will be Tuesday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Office, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101.

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Kiwanis Meeting

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Bloomingdale/Valrico meet every Wednesday for a noon luncheon at Pets Place Restaurant in Bloomingdale Plaza.

BLFA Artfest

The Brandon League of Fine Arts will hold its 18th Annual Artfest on Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Regency Square. Entries will be accepted until April 15 in the following media: oils and acrylics, watercolor, original designed crafts, 3-D art such as sculpture, pottery and glass; and a category called open media to include all other media such as photography, graphics, drawing, and hand made paper.

First through 3rd place awards will be presented in each category, plus Best of Show and the Marge Long Award for the best realistic painting.

For further information, contact festival director June Oros at 689-2087.

Officials Speak At Dinner

Residents will have an opportunity to question their elected and appointed public officials at the annual Presidents' Roundtable Community Service Award Dinner to be held on Monday, April 11, at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza (Sabal Park), beginning at 6:30 p.m. Following dinner, there will be a moderated question and answer session to allow those in attendance to address invited officials including county commissioners, state legislators, school board members, Hillsborough County Sheriff Cal Henderson, Chief Judge Dennis Alvarez, County Administrator Fred Karl, Superintendent of Schools Walter Sickles, Property Appraiser Ron Alderman, Supervisor of Elections Pam Iorio, executives of area planning commissions, and many others.

Tickets and reservations for the dinner may be obtained by calling 685-5472 or from Center Place, 619 Vonderburg Drive. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$45 per couple.



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Hats Off



Robert C. Holcomb, Jr., was recently awarded the distinction of Eagle Scout in ceremonies held at Apostles Lutheran Church. The Bloomingdale High School senior is the son of Robert and Kathy Holcomb of Valrico, and a member of Troop 110.



Robert Holcomb, Jr.

A Scout for 11 years, Bob had to meet stringent criteria in his quest for Scouting's highest honor. Among the requirements was a community service project for which Bob designed and built a series of six exercise stations around the perimeter of Sadie Park in Brandon. Included were stations for sit-ups, push-ups, stretching, pull-ups, a step-up platform, and parallel bars.

Christopher Copeland, a BSHS sophomore, was the proud recipient of a Bronze Congressional Award, presented to him recently by U.S. Rep. Charles Canady during a ceremony in Copeland's honors English class.

The granting of a Congressional Award is based on time spent in four areas - voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness and expedition/exploration. Copeland completed the requirements for the award while he was in the 9th grade.

Hats off to the art students of Mrs. MaryEllen Houghton at Lithia Springs Elementary School. Their "drug free" shields won three awards at the recent Florida State Fair. The students received first place, Best of Show, and the Youth Achievement Award.

Local resident, Maj. Harry M. Austin, was the recipient of a George Washington Honor Medal and U.S. Savings Bond for an essay entitled "The Military Today". The essay was entered in an annual contest sponsored by the Freedoms Foundation At Valley Forge, and it was chosen from thousands of nationwide entries, according to Robert Miller of the Foundation.

Classified

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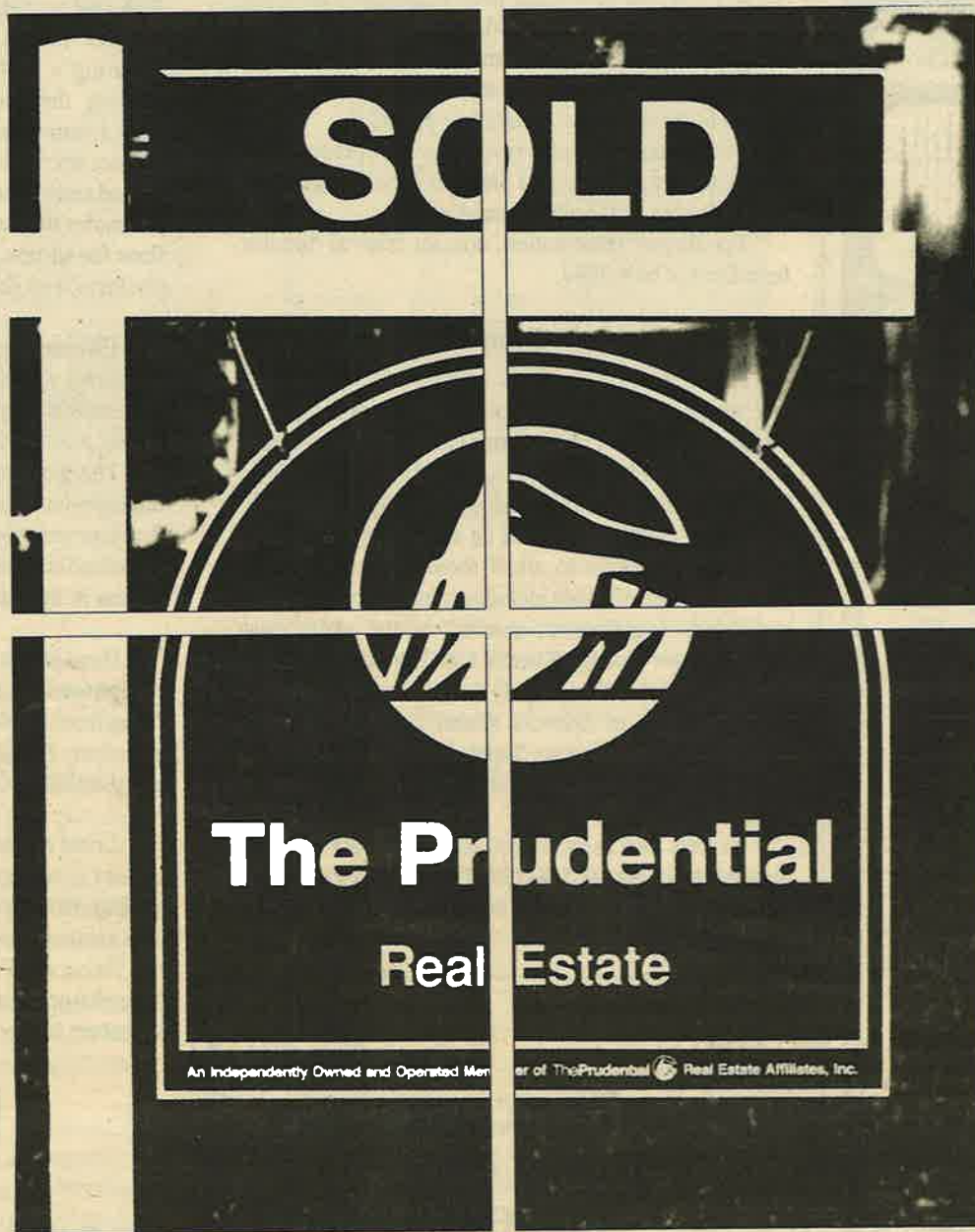
PLAYGROUP WANTED: For older first time mom and 9 1/2 month old. Would like to join existing group. Call Lisa 653-4462

AVON REPRESENTATIVES: Ruth Calandro, 689-0212. 6/94
Marcy Ringdahl, 654-8630

MARY KAY CONSULTANTS: Kathy Holcomb, 681-5130
Carol Williams, 689-8076 12/94
Barbara Borchers, 653-2509

PORTRAIT ARTIST: Children/Adults, Pencil, Pastels, Watercolor. J. Oros, 689-2087

WE LIKE TO KEEP IT SIMPLE . . .



When you're ready to sell, we know how to put the pieces together.

Whether it's painting the front door or setting the right price, it helps to have a sales associate who can present your house in its best light. Even better are two agents who know how to market it most effectively to the right buyer.

Give us a call, because finding the right buyer is what it takes to put a sold sign in your front yard.



CHUCK FRENZ
685-5894



DONNA SULLENBERGER
684-3929