The Official Publication of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

Volume XVII, Number 4

# Rick Petrowski: Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

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Rick Petrowski

The Bloomingdale special Taxing District (BSTD) has re-elected Rick Pitrowski to his fourth term as President. The BSTD manages approximately eight linear miles of common area in the Bloomingdale East and West Communities with an annual budget of nearly \$350,000.

The BSTD board is made up of seven elected trustees who are all volunteers. According to BSTD Treasurer Joe Liguori, "Rick has helped turn Bloomingdale into a premier community in the Tampa Bay are. His planning and management skills have allowed us to continue to improve

Bloomingdale." Liguori added, "Many communities in time start to show their age. Rick makes sure that does not happen in Bloomingdale and the residents are thankful."

Pitrowski oversees a contingent of sub- contractors that handle the maintenance needs of the district. Pitrowski stated, We do our best to make sure our residents are proud of living in Bloomingdale; we try to accomplish as much as we can with our limited resources." After driving through Bloomingdale it is quite obvious the residents get their money's worth. Each homeowner pays an annual assessment of eighty dollars a year.

Another member of the community that Pitrowski has worked closely with is local attorney and President of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Randy Wolfe. Mr. Wolfe commented, "The BSTD board is continually improving the aesthetics of our community. As I travel around Bloomingdale I routinely receive compliments about the way our community is looking better than it ever has."

When asked what he is most proud of in his tenure as President, Pitrowski answers, "When I joined this board nearly six years ago, our grounds were made up of eight miles of grass—nothing but grass. We have added nearly six hundred trees, thousands of shrubs and bushes, and those beautiful wrought iron benches where our residents rest and admire the landscaping, all without increasing our assessment. Pitrowski confided that they are currently planning the renovation and construction of eight new entryways that are the main entrances to Bloomingdale. "When this project is completed it is time to retire from public life", joked the President. That will be an unfortunate day in Bloomingdale.

# Your inside connections

# The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

3240 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 103 Valrico, FL 33594

Voice Mail: 681-2051

E-mail: bloomingdale@juno.com

BHA Web Site: http://members.aol.com/bhainc/

Randy Wolfe, President	681-2051
Ted Grable, Comptroller	685-7193
Walter Glenn, Secretary	681-2051
Patricia Radel, Director	651-0210
Luana Russell, Director	662-1610
LaWayne Wyatt, Director	685-2072
Ann Underwood, Director	621-4293
Pam Liguori, Director	681-9655

### Bloomingdale Special Taxing District 684-6667

Rick Pitrowski, President	684-6667
Tom Mackiewicz, Vice President	653-4145
Joe Liguori, Treasurer	681-9655
T. Szabo, Corresponding Secretary	684-2547
Fred Uphoff, Recording Secretary	685-3013
Tom Snelling, Trustee	681-9186
Sue Meyers, Trustee	689-1514
Alan Devney, Administrator	684-6617

#### Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

685-2072
681-9701
681-1146
654-4266
681-5943
685-7883

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District PO Box 3132 Brandon, FL 33509-3132

Bill Grace, President 685-2817 Fred Englehart, Treasurer 685-3638

#### 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 7:00 p.m.

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

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District Second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at 3419 Cade Lane, Bloomingdale Oaks

Mobile Watch & Neighborhood Watch meetings are held when special concerns arise





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220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102 Brandon, FL 33511

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Elyse Bekiempis
Suzy Dixon

President & Publisher
Managing Editor
Production

Phone: (813) 654-1919 Fax: (813) 654-4745

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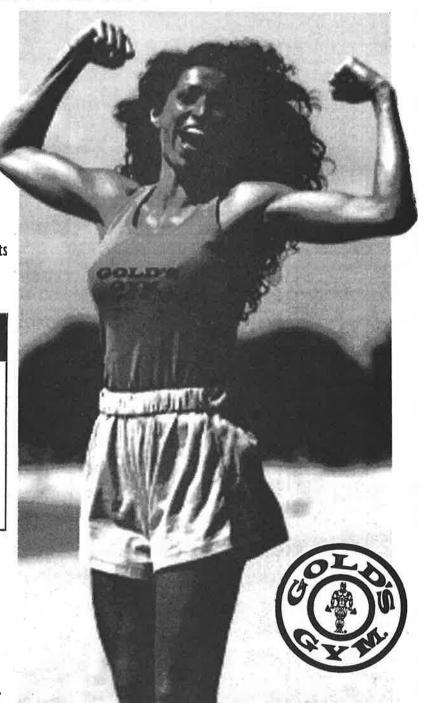
Month	Enrollment Fee	Monthly Dues*
March	\$90	\$20
NAFON CH		
April	<b>32</b>	<b>*32</b>
May	\$35	35
June	<b>\$79</b>	\$39
i i	* See Club for Details	,

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#### Record Number of Consumers Join "No Call" List

A record 61,000 Floridians have taken steps to prevent unwanted telephone calls by having their home numbers placed on the state's "No Sales Solicitation Calls" list, Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Bob Crawford stated.

Crawford's Department administers the Florida Telephonic Sales Act, a 1987 law that prohibits most commercial marketers from calling any telephone numbers on the list. The law also requires solicitors to accurately identify themselves and their business so anyone receiving such a call will know who is calling.

"Complaints about telephone solicitation calls are among the top consumers complaints received by our office," Crawford said. "Florida consumers can help insure their privacy and avoid many unwanted calls by joining our program."

Consumers can have their home telephone number placed on the list by paying \$10. A \$5 renewal fee is required each year thereafter. Residents who wish to join the program can do so by sending their name, mailing address and telephone number with area code, along with a check, to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P.O.Box 6700, Tallahassee, Fl. 32314-6700. They can also call the Department's help line - 1-800 HELP FLA (1-800-435-7352) - to obtain more information about the program.

The list is updated quarterly and sent to telemarketers throughout the country.

While being on the list spares residents from most telephone sales calls, some telemarketers are exempt from the no-call law. Solicitors may still call in response to a request of the person being called, to enforce a contract or collect a debt, or to sell newspaper subscriptions. Solicitors may also call any person with whom the solicitor has an existing or previous business relationship, and to raise money for a charitable organization.

Crawford encourages anyone who is on the list and receives calls from non-exempt telemarketers to obtain as much information as possible from the caller and report it to his Department on pre-printed postcards provided to all subscribers to help them report this information.

The Department has the authority to seek civil penalties against any person or company that violates the law. During the past 18 months, the Department has collected nearly \$235,000 in penalties from some 25 companies.

"We have and will continue to enforce this law aggressively," Crawford said. "Floridians who wish to avoid these calls have the right to be spared from those intrusions,"

#### Bloomingdale Avenue Designation as a Truck Route

The following letter was submitted to Daniel Kleman on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association in response to Bloomingdale Avenue being designated a truck route.

County Administrator Daniel Kleman P.O.Box 1110

Tampa, Florida 33601

RE: Bloomingdale Avenue Designation as a Truck Route Dear Mr. Kleman:

I am authorized by the Board of Directors of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association to inform you that we are strongly opposed to having Bloomingdale Avenue designated as a truck route. Our opposition is based on several

There are single family homes, apartments, a high school, a park, athletic fields and a day care along Bloomingdale Avenue. Soon there will be a YMCA in close proximity.

The volume of traffic on Bloomingdale Avenue continues to increase and has become very congested at certain times. Large trucks make this situation worse.

'The section of Bloomingdale Avenue between Bell Shoals and

Lithia-Pinecrest is scheduled for major construction to widen it in the near future. The construction will be difficult enough for the community even without many trucks using

We are not concerned about the normal delivery trucks that have to use the road. We are concerned about the large trucks commonly called "rock haulers". These trucks carry phosphate and anhydrous ammonia to the Port of Tampa. If involved in an accident, the consequences could be serious.

·The fact that the county might post caution signs along Bloomingdale Avenue is not considered an adequate preventative measure since signs are often ignored.

trucks have significantly increased the road noise that has become a nuisance to people living near the road.

According to Commissioner Scott's office this topic will be discussed by the County Commissioners at a meeting in March. We respectfully request that you reconsider this matter and remove the Truck Route designation from Bloomingdale Avenue. Sincerely,

> Board of Directors Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

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# Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

Regular Monthly Meeting 3240 Lithia Pinecrest, #103 Valrico, FL 33594 February 9, 1998

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE:, Fred Uphoff, A. Szabo, Sue Mallon, Rick Pitrowski, Joe Liguori Tom Mackiewicz, Thom Snelling. PUBLIC: Leonard Washuleski, A&W Landscaping

#### CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District was convened by President Rick Pitrowski at 7:00 pm. There were enough trustees present to establish a quorum.

#### APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

MOTION: Trustee Mallon moved to accept the January minutes as read. Trustee Szabo seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

#### CORRESPONDENCE None.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Vince stated that the Emerald account balance is \$316,057. The money market account at Barnett Bank has \$1,374. Total assets are \$320,593. We have received (under special assessments) \$288,000 of the \$294,000.

Total Expenditures -- \$79,000 has been spent out of \$294,000.

Vince pointed out these accounts:

Utilities/Electric - the amount of \$1,087 is a two month payment due to the fact that check were written at the first and end of the month.

Maintenance/Shrubs- checks to TruGreen Chemlawn for \$3098 and A&W for \$3867.89. trustee Pitrowski stated that they needed to be re-classified to Lawn Maintenance/Clean-Up/ Fertilizer (#30462).

Pressure washing has been spent with a budget of \$1,500. Trustee Liguori stated that this line is one to be amended. Trustee Pitrowski stated that the proposed budget amendment addresses most of these problem line items. He stated that \$90,000 is unallocated money. He stated that we would advertise a meeting for next month at 6:55 pm to amend the

Trustee Liguori made the motion to accept the Financial Report. Trustee Mackiewicz seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

FY 98 Budget - Trustee Pitrowski stated that Chris spoke to Mary Mahoney and that the budget that was presented is approved but the actual paperwork is still waiting to be copied and sent to the special taxing districts.

Entryways - Trustee Uphoff stated that the specs were complete with he exception of some minor forms. He stated that the specifications for the bids are part of the plans and are detailed on the plans. He stated that the contractor should have all the information needed to bid from these two items. He stated that the specs needed to be reviewed by legal. He stated that pre-bid and bid meetings need to be scheduled. Trustee Snelling stated that he is interested in seeing the specs and the scope of work. Trustee Uphoff stated that the instruction sheet is one part that is not included in the specs packet. Trustee Uphoff had to leave the meeting. Trustee Pitrowski stated that the only decision that needs to be made is which entryway. He stated that letters were sent out to residents whom would be affected by entryway changes. He stated that he had a meeting with four or five of them and they were happy with the change. He asked from legal what we need from residents to begin work. Trustee Snelling is concerned why we have not gotten off homeowner's property. He stated that the BSTD shouldn't keep building walls on the homeowners property. He stated that we need to make sure that we have access to

continued on page 10

### Children Have A Natural Affinity for The Arts

Children have a natural affinity for drawing, painting, music and dance. This artistic ability can be viewed in developmental stages that all children pass through. Give a one year old a crayon and paper, and the scribbling will begin, though the sweeping motion of the arm and the way the crayon is held is still immature. The crayon may not be confined to the paper, but there is great enjoyment in scribbling.

The lack of voluntary control belongs to the "early scribbling stage" - the first stage of artistic development. Of course, the child has to get beyond the stage of eating crayons first! Later hand/ eye coordination and small muscle control will improve, so that the child can better control the crayon or pencil.

At the age of two, multiple and single line crossings are developed. At about the age of three, basic forms of circles, ovals and crosses may appear over and over again in drawings. Children will often draw mandala (a circle or

square with one or more lines going through it or within it). Crude houses are drawn around the age of four or five and human figures emerge too. By five animals and trees appear in drawings and more refined buildings, houses, cars and airplanes are drawn. It is not until about the age of nine that three-dimensional and geometric figures are drawn. Perhaps around the age of ten or eleven perspective is seen. It is fun to bring out old pictures that you have kept throughout the years to see how your child has progressed through each stage.

Although it is difficult to avoid interpreting a child's art, it is wise not to tell a child what you think she has drawn. What do you say when your child asks you what he thinks his picture is? The best response is to deflect the question so that the child tells you what the drawing is. Most of the time children are so excited by what they have drawn this strategy works. Writing a title at the top of the drawing when the child explains it to you shows the child

continued on page 12

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### Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

# Minutes – February 10, 1998 Meeting of the Board of Directors

#### **GUESTS**

State Representative Johnnie Byrd Joe Liguori Tim Golden Eric Robinson

**DIRECTORS** 

Ted Grable LaWayne Wyatt Ann Underwood Pat Radel Pam Liguori Luana Russell

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm.

Reading of the minutes from January was deferred.

Treasurers report of January was presented.

Representative Byrd spoke on Homeowners Association issues and challenges.

Mobile Watch - Mr. Wyatt updated the board on Mobile Watch activities. There was a discussion of trespassing and vandalism in Heritage Park.

NIP Report was presented.

Eric Robinson, President and Publisher of USAd, Inc., discussed the Bloomingdale Gazette. He spoke of circulation, content and packaging. There was a discussion on the possibility of appointing a Bloomingdale Resident as a coordinator of news stories within the neighborhood.

Motion made by L. Wyatt, seconded by Pam Liguori; the board approved an allocation of \$100 for the donation of items needed for the Bloomingdale sub-station of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.

Discussion on research of the 4 month trial program to turn the roller blade court back into a tennis

Discussion by Ted Grable on printing labels for dues drive.

Board authorized Ann Underwood to write a letter to county officials opposing Bloomingdale Avenue as a truck route.

Tim Golden spoke on school boundaries, sidewalk issues, publicity and communications.

Meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

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# Taxing District, cont.

these walls for maintenance. Trustee Pitrowski stated that he would pursue easements through Curry and Associates. Trustee Snelling made a motion to start the entryway project on Garnet. Trustee Liguori seconded the motion. Motion was a tie, three to three.

Trustee Liguori made a motion that the entryway project start on Greenhollow as well as pursue the Garnet residents. Trustee Mallon seconded the motion. Motion passed with Trustee Snelling and Trustee Mackiewicz voting "no".

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Read File – Trustee Pitrowski stated that a new file has been established for the trustees. Memos that are received from the county or state will be filed in one notebook and available for any trustee to read at their convenience.

Wall Stain/ Calgon System – Trustee Pitrowski stated that Mr. Devney has found a treatment system that Mr. Devney suggests will solve the problem of iron in the water in the sprinkler system. Mr. Devney stated that the product is injected into the water system. The initial fee is \$800 per well and \$150 per year thereafter. He stated that within two to three months of the treatment that the iron stains should disappear from the walls.

Trustee Mallon made a motion to use the Calgon system on one well as a test (Greenhollow). Trustee Szabo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Wall Painting Money – Trustee Pitrowski stated that many walls are in need of painting. He stated that approximately \$28,000 worth of wall painting needs to be done. He stated that this is probably double the cost from previous jobs due to the fact that both sides of the wall are going to be painted. He stated that we have \$90,000 in undesignated funds which is not budgeted. He stated that we have to hold a special meeting to amend the budget but he would like the board to consider this project. The board agreed to start the painting project.

TruGreen Chemlawn – Trustee Pitrowski stated that TruGreen came up with suggested changes to specs for new contract. He stated that they gave us a proposal for the same amount. Trustee Uphoff stated that if any changes are to be made that it should go out for bid again. Trustee Pitrowski suggested we accept the changes at the same price to avoid a large increase during a re-bid.

Trustee Uphoff made a motion to apply one application for January/February at the old contract price and go out for bids on an annual contract. Trustee Mallon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT Mr. Devney gave no report.

PUBLIC No comments

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Submitted by Recording Secretary Sue Mallon.

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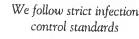


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# Children, cont.

that words may be used to describe a work of art. If we insist though, that every picture have a name, we can damage their urge to create.

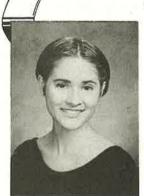
Parents can help children express their artistic abilities by providing a variety of materials that allow for a lot of freedom to experiment with color, texture, sound and movement. Children are proud of their artistic creations, so be sure to pay special attention to the new dance or play they want to show you. Display their work on a bulletin board or refrigerator or in their own rooms. When it comes time to weed through all the paper that your child brings home, allow her to decide which ones to keep and then have a special box to store them away in – being sure to record your child's age on the back.

The nature of children's artistic work will depend on the child's physical and cognitive development as well as on any experience with artistic expression and materials. Children enjoy these experiences if they receive positive feedback or if their expression is not restricted. To encourage creativity, it is important to remember not to judge children's art by adult standards. In a child's world hippos can be purple and dogs can be green.

For more information, contact Diana Converse, Family Life Educator with the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Florida at (813) 744-5519. All functions of the Hillsborough County Cooperative Extension Service are available to all persons, regardless of race, religion, sex or national origin.

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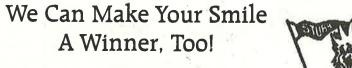


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# At The Water's Edge – at The Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center

As diverse as the community that reflects it, the cast of the Community Arts Ensemble once again takes the stage in a poignant family presentation, "At the Water's Edge", Tuesday and Wednesday, April 14 and 15 in the Playhouse.

"This year's winter production tells a story which touches the lives of everyone in our community and throughout the world," said Fred Johnson, the Center for Community Arts coordinator, and the author and director of the production. "It shares the feelings and emotions of family life and underscores the importance of communication."

"At the Water's Edge" is a journey into the lives of four families and a community. Together they gain an understanding that communication is the key whereby unanswered questions can be resolved and solutions found.

Made up of 140 local community members, many of the actors in the show are making their show debuts, and have discovered important things about themselves and each other during the process. Some may even have aspirations for performing on the stage in the future.

"The essence of the Community Arts Ensemble program is to offer an educational and artistically enriching experience to our community, creating positive impacts on their understanding of the art of theater and working together", added Johnson.

Performance dates and times for "At the Water's Edge" are Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, and Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 and 7 pm.

Tickets are available at no charge at The Center Box Office. Call 229-STAR or Ticketmaster at 287-8844.

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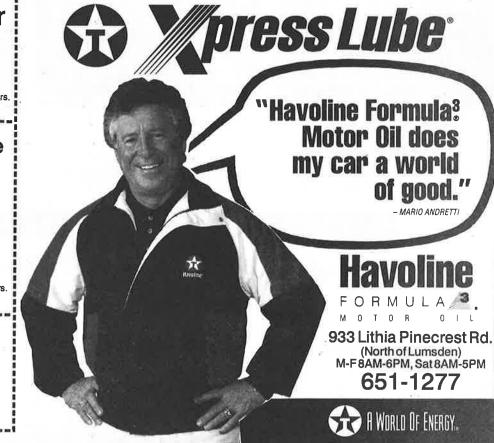
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