Bloomingdale Area Community Council Discusses Traffic Problems, Yard Waste

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The BACC July meeting was held on July 16, 1998 at the Bloomingdale Community Station, 4342 Bell Shoals Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Deputy Pete Maurer.

The grand opening of the station took place on Wednesday, July 15th at 10:00 a.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Sheriff Cal Henderson cut the ribbon that officially opened our local Sheriff's Community Station.

Under old business, Community Resource Deputy Maurer and Community Service Officer Sandy Capitano reviewed the traffic and speeding problems on Natures Way and on Bell Shoals. The traffic barricades on Bell Shoals have created a new problem for those cutting into the Wal-Mart parking lot to go to the bank or to McDonalds. Deputy Maurer assured the council members that they are taking an aggressive look into helping with the traffic flow in and out of Bloomingdale Square and on and off Bell Shoals. The ongoing problem with Alafia Elementary School parking, problems with PTA meetings and parents waiting to drop off and pick up their children were discussed. The parents are subject to citations or towing if parked on the right of way on Natures Way Blvd. and Culbreath Rd.

Under new business, Deputy Maurer indicated that Wal-Mart is sponsoring a Bike Rodeo on August 15, 1998. This is going to be a family oriented program to show the kids the importance of bike

continued on page 4



Turn To Page 6 For Our Substation Dedication Photo story

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/

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Tony Diolosa, Equipment Manager	681-1146
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David Guy	681-5943
Paul Warr	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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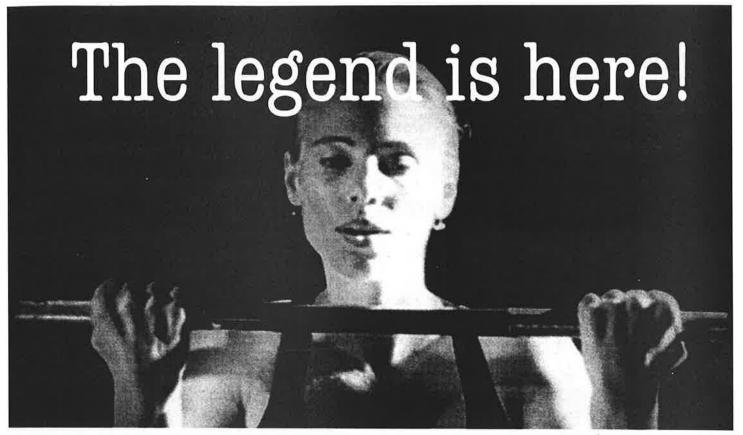
220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102 Brandon, FL 33511

Eric Robinson Anissa Camp Suzy Dixon President & Publisher

Editor Production

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

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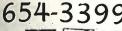
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Council Discusses Traffic Problems, Yard Waste, Continued

safety. The event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the parking lot of the Bloomingdale Wal-Mart, 949 Bloomingdale Ave. in Brandon.

The featured speaker was Mr. Barney Taylor, Code Investigator for Hillsborough County Solid Waste Management Department. During Mr. Taylor's question and answer period, he told the council members that his department monitors the yard waste pick-up, the recyclables and the "normal" trash. Although Friday pick-ups for yard-waste such as grass clippings is inconvenient, it is not county wide. Unfortunately someone has to have Fridays, but it is a very legitimate situation. Mr. Taylor also indicated that pick-ups should not be make after 6:00 p.m. under normal circumstances. In the case of move-ins or move-outs, Mr. Taylor said to just call your contracted company and tell them of your move-in or out and let them know when you will have the additional material ready for pick-up.

If you do have a problem of complaint about the Solid Waste pick-up program please follow these simple steps. First, call the company that is picking up your trash and tell them about your concern. Then call Mr. Taylor's office at 272-5680 (touch 0) and tell them about your problem, when you called your contracted company and who you talked to.

In the case of "blow down" that is material that is blown into the street or right of way by wind, rain hurricane etc. please call the County Road and Street Department. They have been very responsive in coming out to clear the problem.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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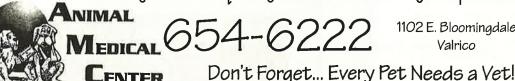


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A Channel 10 News

Highlights From Our Substation Dedication

Photos courtesy of Tim Golden



Sheriff Cal Henderson (center), with CSO Sandy Capitano to his left and Deputy Pete Maurer to his right, prepare to dedicate the station.

> Sharon Shepard, Deputy Pete Maurer and Donna Holloway, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Secretary socialize at the ceremony.





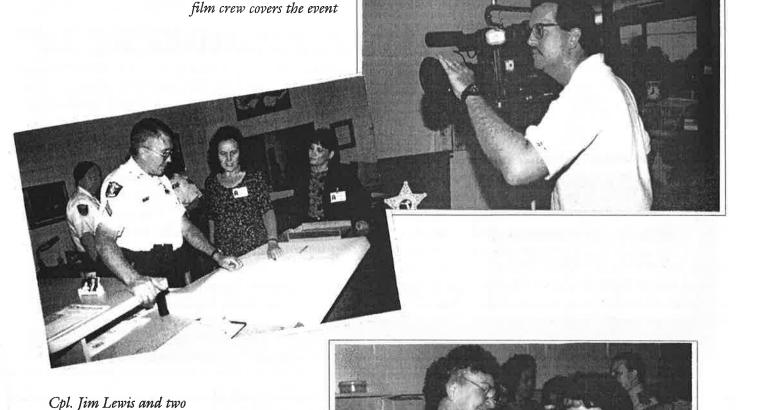


Sheriff Cal Henderson and Joe Liguori shake hands



Hillsborough County Sheriff's

Department employees discuss the station.



Kitty Smaller and CSO Sandy Capitano share a laugh

Deputy Pete Maurer, Community Resource Deputy was on hand for the event which took place on July 15 and officially opened the station.

Solving the Speed Problem

The following is a response letter dated June 24, 1998 to Mack Austin of the Bloomingdale Area Community Council from Bernardo Garcia, Director, Public Works Department in the office of Commissioner Dottie Berger.

Dear Mr. Austin:

This is a follow up response to our previous letter dated May 18, 1998, regarding your inquiry to Commissioner Dottie Berger concerning the need to lower the posted speed limit on Bloomingdale Avenue, between Lithia Pinecrest Road and Bell Shoals Road.

The Traffic Section reviewed all reported crash records for 1997 for the subject section of roadway and we have determined that approximately 88% of the vehicles involved in crashes, on the subject section of Bloomingdale Avenue, were traveling at 40 miles per hour or less (all below the posted 45 miles per hour speed limit).

The most common type of reported crash, within the study area were rear end type, involving vehicles traveling 10 miles per hour or less. The intersections of Bell Shoals Road, Cade Lane and Lithia-Pinecrest Road are all signalized intersections. It is very common that signalized intersections experience more rear end type crashes that any other type. The basic cause for this is motorists following too closely and not paying attention.

As a result of your recent crash record review and the results of our previous vehicle spot speed studies, the lowering of the posted 45 miles per hour speed limit on Bloomingdale Avenue cannot be justified.

> Sincerely, Bernardo Garcia, Director Public Works Department

Response: Austin said he plans to continue pursuing a speed reduction along Bloomingdale Avenue.



Hillsborough County Public Schools 1998-1999 School Calendar

Pre-Planning Days Aug 10,11& 12, 1998	Half-Day
First Day of School &	Conference
Half Day Planning Aug 13, 1998	Spring Ho
Half-Day of Planning Aug 14, 1998	Half-Day
Labor Day Sept 7, 1998	Half-Day
Half-Day of Planning Oct 15, 1998	Last Day o
Professional Planning Day Oct 16, 1998	Post Plann
Veterans Day Nov 11, 1998	for Tea
Conference Day Nov 25, 1998	Memorial
Thanksgiving Holidays Nov 26 & 27, 1998	
Winter Holidays Dec 21, 1998 - Jan 1, 1999	
Teacher Work Day Jan 4, 1999	
Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Jan 18, 1999	Pre-Planni
Professional Planning Day Feb 15, 1999	First Day
Strawberry Festival March 1, 1999	Last Day f

Half-Day of Planning	March 19, 1999
Conference Day	April 2, 1999
Spring Holidays	April 5-9, 1999
Half-Day of Planning	. April 23, 1999
Half-Day of Planning	May 21, 1999
Last Day of School	
Post Planning Days	
for Teachers	May 28 & June 1
Memorial Day	

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Bring The World to Your Door, One Friendship at a Time

(NU) - How often in our lives do we have the opportunity to really touch the life of another person?

Imagine the profound effect it would have on your life to be immersed in a new and different culture on the other side of the world.

Now, imagine having the opportunity to provide such an experience to someone from another country.

American Intercultural Student Exchange (AISE) is a nonprofit educational foundation whose purpose is to encourage world peace through student exchange. By opening your home to a student from another country, your family is enriched in many ways.

Hosting a student allows your family a firsthand look into another culture, and gives you an opportunity to make a personal contribution to the ultimate goal of world peace.

"I know that my life will never be the same after this," says Ellen Mariettoff, a Norwegian student in Utah.

AISE is looking for host families for international students coming from Scandinavia, Europe, Russia, South America and Asia. One of these bright 16- or 17-year-old students can provide your family with an exciting and unforgettable international experience. Whether as a member of your family for one semester or for one year, this experience lasts a lifetime.

"I won't ever forget my wonderful host family and all my great new friends and great moments," says Jenni Hiltunen, a student from Finland who stayed in Iowa.

All students are English speaking and arrive in America in August with medical insurance and spending money. The host family provides the



An international student is greeted by her American host family.

student with room, board and a supportive family atmosphere. The student provides the host family with a window into a new and exciting culture, giving everyone the opportunity to experience their own culture from a new perspective.

"I have learned about the real America, its unique people and their friendliness," says Engloglio Sana of Spain, who lived in North Dakota. "I also see more clearly some good values of my own county that I didn't notice before."

Students attend local schools for one year and return to their country the following June. All AISE students are carefully screened by AISE representatives and are placed with the family that best matches the desires of both the host family and the student.

For information on hosting an international student, call 1-800-SIBLING (1-800-742-5464).

Restoration Tips For Family Photos.

(NU) - Your mother's baby picture; your father in uniform; your grandmother's wedding -- these pictures can never be taken again. They are priceless and you'll cherish them forever. Unfortunately, they can become damaged through improper care, neglect or a natural disaster.

The Professional Photographers of America, a nonprofit organization of 14,000 image makers, wants to help. Here are some ideas and suggestions on what can be done, and how to locate and select a photographic artist to restore cherished photographs.

Possible Solutions

Here are ways that photographic artists can help preserve and restore old or damaged photographs:

- *Rips and tears can be eliminated.
- *Faded prints can be enhanced.
- *Stains can be removed.
- *Spots and scratches can be repaired.
- *Black and white photos can be colorized.
- *A photo can be copied if the negative is lost. Where to Find an Artist

*Check the Yellow Pages. Artists will be listed under Photographic Restoration.

*Call local portrait studios. Some offer in-house restoration services.

*Call Professional Photographers of America, The World's Great Storytellers, toll-free at 1-888-97 STORY (1-888-977-8679), Ext. 333, for a free list of photographic artists in your area. You will also receive a free brochure with additional information about restoration and enhancement.

Selecting an Artist

As you select a photographic artist, consider this advice:

*Look at samples. PPA advises asking to see "before and after" samples to give you an idea of the quality of the artist's work.

*Communicate. Take time to explain your expectations to the artist, and discuss all the fees involved to avoid any misunderstandings.

*Check references. PPA members abide by a code of ethics and have access to the association's year-round continuing education programs.







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Planning A Home D-I-Y Project? Take This Test!

(NU) - Question One: Do you want your home to project a certain feeling that you can't quite describe?

Question Two: Would you like to think of your home as the place where your heart lives?

Question Three: Do you have a function for the design of your home that you can't decide how to accomplish?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, it makes sense to consult with a professional interior designer. Many home improvements can be made with only small changes and doing it yourself (D-I-Y) is tempting. For example, windows do more than frame the outside view. They also frame a room's interior by providing accents and character. Changing your window treatments may be the only thing you need to do. But to help you decide how to achieve the look that will best express the feeling you want your rooms to project, it's best to get some expert help.

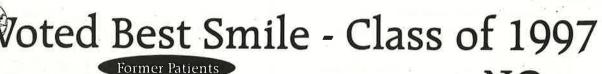
Charles Gandy, FASID, president of Gandy/Peace

Inc., in Atlanta says, "Do-it-yourselfers who want to change the look of their homes can avoid numerous dangers by turning to a professional interior designer for design consulting and professional project management. Interior designers offer suggestions to help do-it-yourselfers avoid design pitfalls and succeed with their design projects."

Melinda Sechrist, ASID, owner of Sechrist Design Associates in Seattle says, "Do-it-yourselfers often fail to create a sense of style when they change the look of their homes. Due to lack of planning or lack of knowledge, do-it-yourselfers make mistakes in many different areas."

How can you find the right designer?

Be sure to choose a designer who is a member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). Call ASID's Worldwide Referral Service at 1-800-775-ASID, or by visiting the Web site www.interiors.org.





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Baby Boomers' Pets Getting Older, Too

(NU) - It's not just baby boomers who are getting older these days. Their pets are, too.

"A significant percentage of my callers are worried about pets who are beginning to experience the aches and pains of aging." says Jon Patch, host of the national radio show "Talkin' Pets" broadcast from Florida's Sea World.

"Better veterinary care is allowing pets to live longer, but owners want to be sure that even older animals can climb stairs comfortably, take a walk on the beach, and catch a Frisbee or two."

With owners increasingly choosing natural products in their own health care, it's hardly surprising they're looking for similar solutions for their animal friends. Hot products for geriatric pets now include such items as arthritis remedies for pets made with glucosamine -- the same natural ingredient owners often use to soothe their own stiff joints. A natural nutraceutical, glucosamine helps maintain connective tissue and cartilage -- without the side effects associated with steroids and NSAIDs such as aspirin.

When choosing any nutritional product for your elderly pet, look for the words "guaranteed analysis" on the label, advises Patch. "If the manufacturer doesn't stand behind its product by guaranteeing its nutritional analysis, you can't be assured of the purity of the active ingredients," he says.

Other steps that can make an older pet more comfortable include raising their food dishes and adding extra padding to bedding material to help cradle aching joints. But the most important ingredient in caring for an aging pet may be the easiest of all. "Just show them the love you always have." Patch says.

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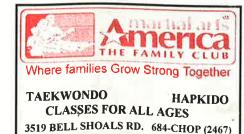
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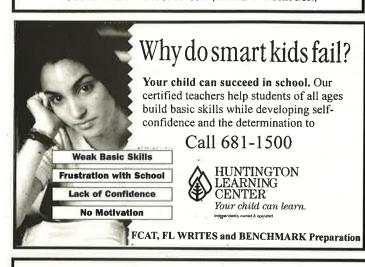
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http://www.dep.state.fl.us/psm/



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