

the Bloomingdale gazette

Official Publication of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

Volume XXIV, Number 8

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YMCA CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

(See story
on page 27)

\$3.8 million "stolen" in Bloomingdale!

A message from Bloomingdale Homeowners Association President Ted Grable

*I*f the above headline were true it would make big news in our community. Every major newspaper in the country would converge on Bloomingdale and CNN and the other major networks would have live satellite feeds to their evening news, because \$3.8 million stolen in one place at one time is a lot of money. Well, what if it was true?

It is very possible that all of us in Bloomingdale have had that much money (or more) "stolen" from us. Not all at one time, but in an insidious way. A little at a time that all adds up. You see, \$3.8 million dollars is just 1% of the total value of all our homes and property. If we do not continue to maintain our community it is very easy to see the value of our homes and neighborhoods lose 1 or 2 percent of their financial value. On a personal level, every 1 percent of loss to the value of a \$100,000 home is equal to a thousand dollars.

Monetary loss is not the only loss that a community suffers if it begins to deteriorate. The overall quality of

life declines. Residents feel less secure, less content and eventually loose pride in their neighborhoods, leading to more decline.

I hope that by now you're wondering what we can do to keep Bloomingdale a vibrant and desirable community, one that appreciates to its full value, not only in dollars but also in the lives of our families and friends.

The answer is simple. In the same way the value of our 4000 homes adds up to one whopping big number, the effort of every member of the community can add up to a great quality of life.

Not everyone can add value to his or her community in the same way. In some families there are Little League or Soccer moms and dads that spend untold hours in support of their children's athletic programs. Other parents volunteer scores of hours at school or church. Many families have both parents working to have the lifestyle that Bloomingdale represents.

We must however begin in our own homes. We must be sure that we

(Continued on page 4)

"\$3.8 million is just 1% of the total value of all our homes and property."

What's cool for school?

See our Back to School Fashion Report, page 6-7.



Your Inside Connections

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

3509 Bell Shoals Rd. • Valrico, FL 33594
(813) 681-2051 • E-mail: BHA-INC@ALTAVISTA.NET

- President** Ted Grable
Treasurer Pam Liguori
Directors Patricia Radel
..... LaWayne Wyatt
..... Ann Underwood
..... Rodney Biddle
..... Rick Pitrowski



Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

- Coordinator/Scheduler**
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Treasurer, Paul Kelmer 681-9701
Equipment Manager, Tony Diolosa 681-1146
Membership Chairman, Steven Heckel .. 654-4266
David Guy 681-5943
Paul Warr 685-7883



Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District

- P.O. Box 3132, Brandon, FL 33509-3132
President Bill Grace, 685-2817
Treasurer Fred Englehart
Meetings .. Second Tuesday each month at 7:30 pm,
3419 Cade Lane, Bloomingdale Oaks



Share your news with the community!

Write to Editor, 3509 Bell Shoals Rd., Valrico, FL 33594
Phone (813) 681-2051
E-mail LauraFrazier@Prodigy.net
Fax (813) 651-1129

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

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Recording Secretary, Alice Burleson 685-1076
Trustee, Tim Golden 653-1337
Trustee, Paul Almeida 661-2018
Property Manager, DPMI 684-6617



Meetings

All meetings take place at the Community Office at 3509 Bell Shoals Rd. These are monthly public meetings and all Bloomingdale residents are invited.

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

Special Taxing District Meetings
Second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.



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JUST NOT
ENOUGH

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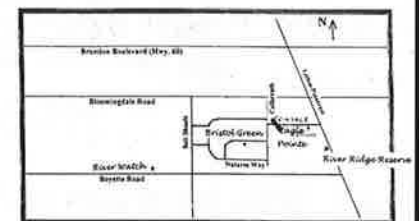
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-Durant High School-

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684-8040
-Bloomingdale High School-

River Watch
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672-8857
-Riverview High School-

Eagle Pointe
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661-9896
-Bloomingdale High School-



Broker Participation Welcome.

REAL ESTATE UPDATE



By Luana Russell

Finance Contingency Clause

Question: I want to be sure I can get the necessary financing before going ahead with my home purchase. How can I handle this?

Answer: The answer is in a contingent offer and is common. You can agree to purchase the house contingent upon your obtaining a specified amount of financing on specified terms.

You will normally be asked to meet the terms or eliminate it within a relatively short period of time. If the seller grants you thirty days to obtain a mortgage commitment and you can't obtain it, the contingency may require you to decide between purchasing the property for cash or voiding the transaction.

Hippopotamus syndrome

Question: The price is right on a house I want to buy but the location and number of rooms is all wrong. What do you advise?

Answer: No matter how great a bargain a house may be - it is not the right house if your family will be unhappy or uncomfortable there. If you have no car, why buy a house where there is no public transportation nearby? Why buy a house when there are not enough bedrooms for the size of your family or a yard for the size of your family dog, or a downstairs bedroom for an invalid family member. Buying an unsuitable house at any price is like buying a hippopotamus because it's a bargain.

Luana
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Welcome to Bloomingdale

The Bloomingdale Gazette and Brandon Regional Hospital are pleased to announce the following new arrivals to our community.



Alexandria Morgan Wilson

Born May 20 to Frank and Sandy Wilson

Jada Allyson Borgen

Born June 2 to Gayle and Jeffrey Borgen

Aaron Trey Sicberi

Born June 2 to Susie and Steve Sicberi

Briana Marie Wright

Born June 4 to Angela and David Wright

Ethan James Young

Born June 6 to Laura and Edward Young

Myles Brandon Routh

Born June 9 to Jeanelle and Kevin Routh

Olivia L'lene Martin

Born June 18 to Donna and David Martin

Cory Michael Taylor

Born June 22 to Candi and Michael Taylor

Jillian Truschel Brown

Born July 3 to Stephanie and Jeffrey Brown

Congratulations to all from the staff and friends of The Bloomingdale Gazette!

Do you know of a "new addition" to our community? Please call us at 681-2051 or write to The Bloomingdale Gazette, 3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico, FL 33594. We would be pleased to publish your birth announcement!

(\$3.8 Million "stolen" - Continued from page 1) maintain the value of our community by maintaining the value of our homes. Regular yard and lawn care adds much to the beauty and appeal of a street. Complying with housing codes and deed restrictions are imperative. While we all have a right to enjoy our homes and property without interference from others, we need to do so with reasonable consideration of our neighbors.

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association exists for one reason alone. The BHA was founded in 1980 to promote the value and common good of the community. It is a non-profit organization run strictly by non-paid volunteers who live in the community, and is funded solely by our membership dues.

Let's not allow the above headline to become true. Let's do our part in our own homes, our own neighborhoods and in our community. One way for us to help out is to continue to support the BHA with our membership and our time. The BHA has openings for board members and committee members to lead our important programs. For more information, please contact the BHA at 681-2051, e-mail BHA-INC@Altavista.net or write to The BHA at our Community Office, 3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico, FL 33594. BHA Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Office and all residents are invited to attend. We hope to hear from you soon. ☺

Bloomingdale Community Substation Notes

By Deputy Pete Maurer

With summer vacation ending and school starting this month, there are many items requiring our special attention.

Speeding on Nature's Way - In a letter to County Commissioner Ronda Storms, Sheriff Henderson stated that a "Directed Patrol Activity" has been ordered for Natures Way. This means that deputies have been assigned to concentrate on speeders and other traffic violators on Natures Way.

Seat Belts - the phrase "Please buckle up!" has been echoed many times since a Bloomingdale High School student was involved in a tragic accident this summer. In her memory, "BUCKLE UP!"

Bike Riders - A reminder that all bike riders are required to obey the same rules as motor vehicle drivers. Ride single file with the traffic and wear your bike helmets. Only one person should be riding on each bike.

Runners - Wear light colored clothing. Run on the sidewalks as much as possible. Run with the traffic so that if you fall, you won't fall into the traffic flow. Run single file.

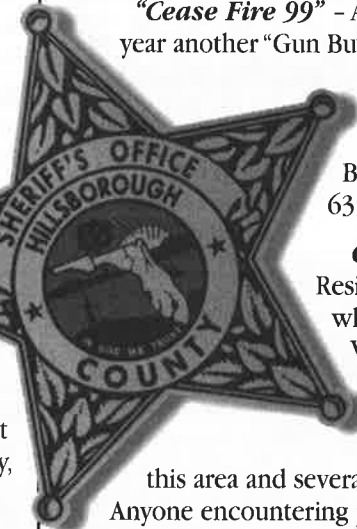
Kids on Walls - Parents, talk with your kids about the dangers of walking on the perimeter block walls. A fall can not only cause serious injury but, as one young man recently found out, can put you face to face with an angry dog!

Signs and Ads Everywhere - On every corner in the Bloomingdale area you can find signs and ads of every shape and size, from the weekly Garage sale signs to the many ads for services or opportunities. There are county codes that allow the placing of temporary signs such as those used for special community events, home sales or garage sales. Guidelines for such signage include removing the signs as soon as the event is

The Bloomingdale Gazette wishes to express the heartfelt condolences of the entire Bloomingdale community to the family and friends of Bloomingdale High School student and cheerleader Stephanie Culbertson. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

over, not stapling or nailing these signs to poles or trees or lacing them in the right-of-way in a position to cause a traffic hazard. Signs placed on poles present additional danger to workers who climb the poles and cut their hands or legs on nails or staples that were never removed. Nails in trees can cause harm to the trees.

"Cease Fire 99" - After the outstanding response last year another "Gun Buy Back" will be held on September 19 at the Bloomingdale and Apollo Beach Community Substations. For further details, please call the Bloomingdale Substation at 635-8040.



Culbreath Road "Dark Zone" - Residents of the Bloomingdale area who like to jog, walk or bike Natures Way should pay special attention to the area around the intersection of Natures Way and Culbreath Road. There are no streetlights in

this area and several dogs run loose in the area. Anyone encountering problems in this area should con-



Culbreath Road "Dark Zone" Photo by Mack Austin

tact the Community Station at 247-8200 during evenings or weekends.

Special Note from Community Service Officer Sandy Capitano - "Thank you to everyone who has brought in suitcases and travel bags for the "Cases for Kids" program. The response has been great. This program is continuing and cases may be dropped off at the Community Substation on Bell Shoals Road from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Also, magazines are still needed for the Bloomingdale High School Special Reading Program and can be dropped off at the Substation for delivery to the school. Please remove any mailing labels." ☺

Editor's Note: To date \$1,000 has been contributed by Bloomingdale business owners and our Homeowners Association towards the purchase of a "speed monitor" to be used by deputies patrolling our community. The total cost is \$3000. Anyone interested in contributing to this special project can contact Tom Karpenske of CB Richard Ellis at 273-8437.

Back to school fashion report 1999-2000

By Laura Frazier, Editor

It's that time again. Time to check the mailbox daily for teacher assignments and bus schedules, time to stock up on pencils and composition books, for the kids to start the "Who did you get?!" phone chain and, much to the excitement of children and financial angst of parents, time to go shopping for back to school apparel.

Our balmy central Florida autumns and mild winters thankfully don't require a total revamping of summer wardrobes. The traditional northern back to school shopping excursions for sweaters, jeans, coats and boots are nothing more than a childhood memory or a storybook myth for most of us. Shorts and comfortable shirts take the kids through most of the year in our neck of the woods. A good deal of their favorite summer apparel will fit in just fine with the casual, comfortable style of dress preferred in Bloomingdale area schools.



Camp shirts and purses and Capris, oh my! "gotta-have-it" fashion trends, to be cool (or is it awesome, radical or dudical?).

One current trend sure to be a big hit with Bloomingdale middle and high school girls is the cropped pant. Varying in style from "clam digger" to "pedal pusher" types, cropped or "Capri" pants are a perfect, fashionable alternative to the full-length pants

or jeans worn by students who reportedly feel "just too dorky" wearing regulation length shorts. Hillsborough County's school dress code requirements state "Hemlines shall be no shorter than mid-thigh". Shown in khaki and denim in many local stores, Capri pants should prove to be a popular, cooler (temperature wise) alternative to wearing jeans in 95 degree weather, and cooler (fashion wise) than sporting the longer length, not currently in style shorts.

And what to top the Capri pants with? Screen printed tee shirts, notably those with butterflies or the Japanese animation inspired big-eyed cartoon characters continue to be popular with the younger girls. Dress codes prohibit the middle and high school students from wearing summer's bare tank style shirts, but don't abandon those little spaghetti-strap tops the girls have accumulated over the summer. Area stores are carrying a wide selection of "camp shirts", lightweight button down short sleeved shirts, that can be worn over summer's skimpy tops. If you choose a mostly cotton camp shirt, this bit of light layering should prove to be very comfortable.

When it comes to girl's accessories, butterflies have emerged in a big way. Hair adornments are the rage. Bobby pins festooned with bouncy, glittering butterflies and tiny, plastic butterfly shaped claw clips (fastened to twisted sections of hair) have been a major local summer trend that is sure to continue into the school year.

Bloomingdale area boys, while perhaps not as excitable about fashion trends as their sisters and girlfriends, definitely have their preferences. The wide legged, baggy jeans and shorts trend continues this school year. Parents are advised to check the umm, "level of bagginess" due to these dress code require-



Will, Griffin, Drew and Lucas are decked out and ready for school.

ments, "Clothing not properly fastened... shall not be worn", "All pants and shorts shall be secured at the waist" and most notably, "Underwear shall not be visible". That said, there are many styles of loose fitting shorts and jeans available locally, many sporting the details (cargo pockets, embroidered logos, and leather trim) the boys are clamoring for.

Tee shirts are naturally the tops of choice for the young men. The youngest back-to-schoolers are sure to be seen decked out in Star Wars apparel. The older boys have a great selection of screen-printed tees to choose from and this year's gender neutral trend, the camp shirt, to top them with. The lightweight plaid styles are in demand. For a dressier more urban look, "bowling style" shirts are also popular. Like the camp shirts they are short sleeved button down shirts with collars, but with a little more attitude. Bright shiny fabrics with geometric patterns and luminous colors that appear to change as the lighting changes are a slightly more "in your face" alternative to the tamer camp shirts. For less adventurous types, the standard tee shirt, baseball and football jerseys are perennial staples.

Alas, the lug bottom leather sandals that were so popular this summer and coordinate so well with both girls and boys casual clothing, will have to be relegated to after school and weekend use. School dress codes state, "Thongs, backless or similar type shoes are unacceptable". Smirk if you will, but open toed shoes are a safety hazard in the school environment, and slides or flip-flops won't make the grade. Bloomingdale area parents will no doubt purchase name brand athletic shoes by the truckload this fall, the everyday shoe preferred by most students. For non-sneaker days, boys can choose from lug-bottom lace up shoes and boots, and girls will find a trendy selection of casual and dressy platform shoes and the more traditional Keds-type lace up canvas or leather shoes.



Caitlin and Emily delight in the butterfly craze.


And let's not forget the one indispensable accessory worn by nearly every Hillsborough County student-the backpack. This is one item that seems to retain a traditional, basic appearance each year. Bold colors and patterns are available, but solid, dark colors and simple styles seem to rule the pack. Black, navy blue and denim varieties are widely available. Students report wide, comfortable straps are a must for this daily used item, since many of them at times carry books and materials more than 1/4 of their own body weight in the packs. Durability is a must, as the packs are flung, dragged, squashed, thrown around and occasionally used as impromptu pillows or seats. We must report that everyone we asked from store managers to students and parents, indicated one particular brand of backpack as having the best quality, style, value and durability; JanSport. The JanSport packs are available at many area stores and offer a lifetime warranty. The company will repair any damaged JanSport backpack at no

charge. Some stores include a mailing return envelope for this purpose at the time of sale, but you are not likely to ever use it. Your child will more likely tire of having to use the same backpack year after year long before it wears out or the straps break. Audrey Smith, Area Manager for Bealls Department Store in Bloomingdale Square, is one of the many JanSport proponents we spoke with. "My daughter is attending the University of South Florida with the same JanSport backpack she took to high school!" says Smith. Now if only their shoes lasted that long... ☺

Special thanks to Audrey Smith and Julie Taylor of Bealls Department Store, home of "Outlooks" for juniors and young men and our area's largest selection of private and public school uniforms, and Daisy and Jerry Matos of In-Stylz, Brandon's 1st Urban/Hip Hop Apparel Store in Valrico Square, for their contributions to this story. Clothing and accessories courtesy of Bealls at Bloomingdale Square.

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Kid-proof the kitchen before accidents happen

To spot potential dangers to small children in the kitchen, consider the space from their point of view. Commonsense measures can lessen potential perils in the kitchen — one of the most hazardous rooms in your home. Here are some simple steps that can make your home safer for all.

Storage

- ◆ Store liquor, chemicals, cleaners and medicines in upper cabinets out of children's sight. Because kids can climb, outfit the cabinet with a lock. Buy potentially lethal products in child proof packaging only.
- ◆ Latch cabinets where you keep garbage and garbage bags.
- ◆ Equip all cabinet doors and drawers with safety stops. Knobs should be too large for a child to swallow.
- ◆ Provide safe storage for sharp objects, such as knives, files and any tools you may keep in the kitchen.

Material Choices

- ◆ Install slip-resistant flooring, and make sure scatter rugs have nonslip backings.
- ◆ Eliminate or cover sharp corners, such as on counters, tables and hearths.
- ◆ Buy hardware that limits how far windows can open.
- ◆ Keep cords for draperies and miniblinds out of reach.


Utilities

- ◆ Place all electrical outlets, or at least those near water sources, on ground-fault circuit interrupters (devices that instantly shut off the flow of electricity if they sense any leakage of current).
- ◆ Cover electrical outlets.
- ◆ Stay away from water sources when using small appliances.
- ◆ Set the water-heater temperature no higher than 120 degrees.

Appliances

- ◆ Buy a stove with controls on top, not on the side.
- ◆ Turn handles of pots away from the edge of the stove when cooking.
- ◆ Keep small appliances stored in latched upper cabinets or in an appliance garage.
- ◆ Don't let appliance cords dangle from counters when in use.
- ◆ Always install a latch on a deep freezer. Latches are also available for refrigerator doors.

In case of fire

- ◆ Install smoke detectors, and place a fire extinguisher near the exit. When you build or remodel consider installing a sprinkler system. 

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Teresa (Terry) Curry - Administrator

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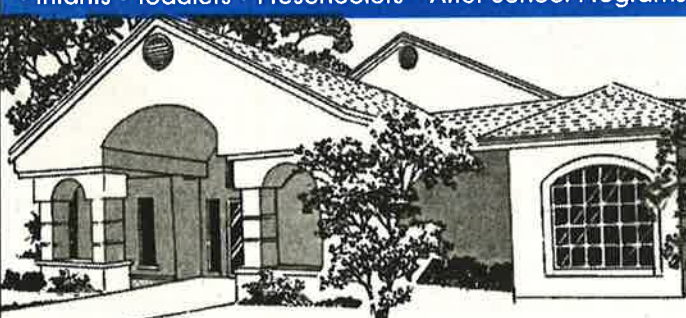
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Ron Mallon Bloomingdale Community Volunteer

By Mack Austin

Bloomingdale is blessed with many residents who volunteer their time and talents to various organizations such as Little League, Red Cross, hospitals and schools.

One such individual has chosen to voluntarily support the efforts of several area organizations, and is most recently

a member of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Parking Enforcement Specialist Team (P.E.S.T.). His name is Ron Mallon.

Ron has lived in the Bloomingdale area for over eight years. He moved here from Ohio where he had

worked for 28 years at Xomox Corporation, a manufacturer of chemical processing valves. After relocating here, Ron decided he wanted to do "something worthwhile" with his time. He had spent some time in a hospital in Ohio and remembered how the volunteers there had made his stay "that much more bearable" with their kindness and caring. He sought and accepted a volunteer position at Brandon Hospital in several departments doing whatever was needed, and accumulated over 1700 volunteer hours. He also worked at the Brandon Chamber of Commerce for five years as a volunteer, again doing whatever tasks it took to get the job done.

Ron is currently a member of the Hillsborough

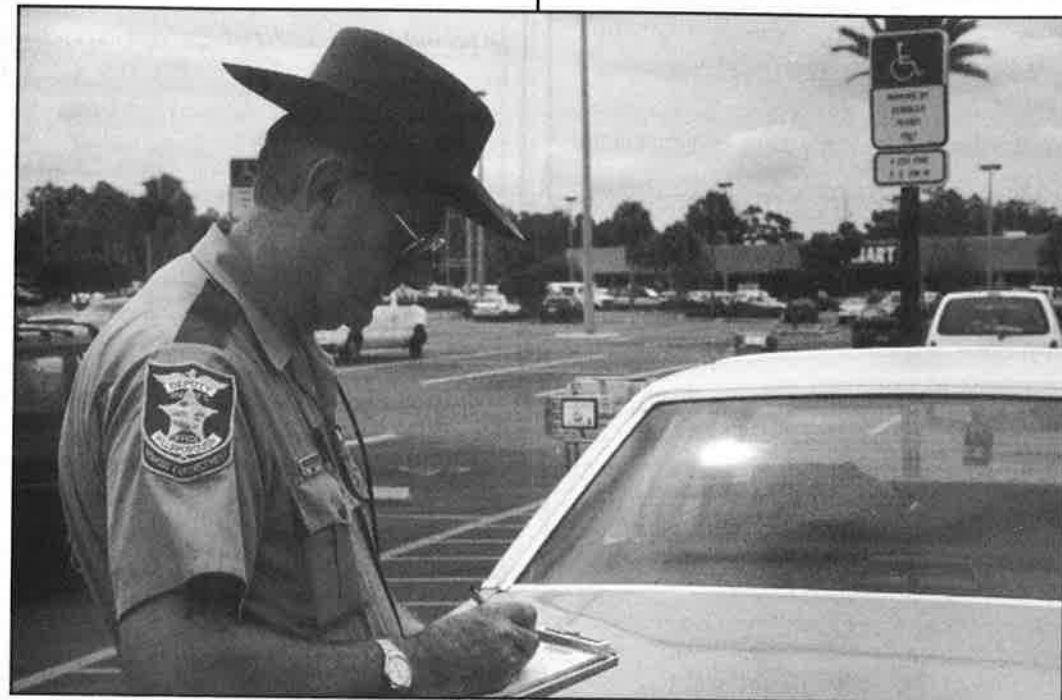
County Sheriff's Office Parking Enforcement Specialist Team, better known as the "P.E.S.T. Patrol." Patrol members identify and ticket cars parked in disabled parking areas, fire lanes and areas designated "no parking", and take photos of illegally parked vehicles for use in court if necessary. Prospective P.E.S.T. team members are required to attend a series of training courses including 16 hours of first aid, 10 hours of parking regulation enforcement, 6 hours

of judicial and regulatory system familiarization and 8 hours of administrative and public relations skill training.

As a P.E.S.T. Patrol member, Ron is required to participate in ongoing training classes, which are conducted

several times a year. Special emphasis is placed on public relations skills since over 90 percent of the work consists of interaction with citizens. The penalty for parking illegally in designated disabled parking areas is \$250 for the county and up to \$500 for the state and, as Ron says, "some folks can get pretty upset when they get a ticket!" One of the major motivating factors in his decision to work with this special team was seeing his disabled Dad's access to "disabled parking only" spaces hindered by cars illegally parked in the specially designated areas.

In his spare time, Ron volunteers his help at the Orient Jail, instructing inmates in employable skills and personal finance and helping them to prepare



Parking Enforcement Specialist Ron Mallon. Photo by Mack Austin.

for the G.E.D. test. He devotes any time left over to assisting Bloomingdale Community Substation Deputy Pete Maurer and Community Service Officer Sandy Capitano with their duties at the Substation. Ron Mallon is one very busy man, his time well spent in service to the community. Next time you see him at the mall or shopping center, say "hi" and "thanks". ☺

Editor's note: The Bloomingdale Gazette would like to acknowledge the efforts and accomplishments of our community volunteers and the organizations they represent in future issues of the Gazette. Residents are invited to call The Gazette office at 681-2051 or e-mail BHA-INC@Altavista.net with their suggestions.

"P.E.S.T. PATROL"

P.E.S.T. Patrol Team Members must be Hillsborough County residents, have their own transportation, exhibit good communications skills and an ability to complete the required administrative duties. A background investigation is conducted. Members of the team must serve a minimum of 4 patrol hours each week and are reimbursed for mileage traveled while on duty. Members are eligible for Workers Compensation benefits. P.E.S.T. Patrol members are not armed and do not have arrest powers. Residents interested in volunteer opportunities or more information about the P.E.S.T. Patrol may call the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office at 247-1885.

Bloomingdale Special Taxing district

Property Manager's Report - June 1999

Submitted by
Devney Property Management, Inc.

Irrigation: Brandon Irrigation located a break in the main line in the Erindale system and re-routed a new main line 200 feet, repaired a broken main line on Canoga Park and repaired an electrical problem in the Glenhaven system. Stewart Associates installed a 2-zone system on the south side of Glenhaven. DPMI inspected the Cambridge Cove system, which required 18 heads to be raised to the correct level and 4 heads to be replaced. DPMI checked the 8.5 miles of irrigation and made the following repairs: 21 spray heads were replaced, two risers and one zone line were repaired. 13 lights and 1 light sensor were replaced.

Landscaping: Pressure King cleaned the walls on Canoga park, Garnet and Bell Shoals. The STD assumed maintenance responsibility for the Cambridge Cove property as of June 1, 1999. A & W Lawn Maintenance installed the St. Augustine grass sod on Natures Way between Greenhollow and Springvale and Bahia grass sod on Bell Shoals north of Greenhollow. Neighborhood Pest Control spread Lesko 23-3-5 with Dursban per contract. The fertilization contract is complete and needs to be re-bid. Planscape, inc. installed 18 Crepe Myrtle trees on Canoga Park and 17 live oaks on Greenhollow and Natures Way. Yardworks installed St. Augustine grass plugs on Natures Way and Canoga Park. DPMI conducted a joint inspection with

Greenturf owner Nelson Martinez.

Other: Chris Wurtzel repaired the damaged wall on Natures Way by Havenstone. Hillsborough County removed a fallen tree on John Moore and dead tree by Culbreath Cove. DPMI hand watered the oak trees on



DPMI requests that residents with trees or shrubbery hanging over the perimeter walls trim them back to prevent injury to workers or residents. Serious damage to neighboring property can be prevented by removing trees before they fall. Photo by Mack Austin

Greenhollow and Natures Way due to a non-functioning irrigation system.

In the land of eat, drink and pitch out the window, DPMI picked up 20 bags of trash, 3 hubcaps, a shirt, a dust pan and 14 cents. As temperatures have risen, so apparently has Bloomingdale's consumption of IceHouse beer, PowerAde and Coke for soft drinks and Vodka for alcohol. ☺



Bloomingdale Yard of the Month

Sponsored by Southern Lawn and Turf

By Paul Almeida

Paul Almeida is on vacation. Our guest writer, Rose E. Trellis, submits the August Yard of the Month feature.

In the heat of the summer the challenge of keeping up with rapidly growing lawns and shrubbery, thriving weeds, insidious pests and fragile ornamentals can be a weekly, if not daily task. This is the time of year when many Bloomingdale homeowners, pressed for time and motivation, consider hiring help to keep up with the seemingly endless yard maintenance chores we are faced with.

But our August Yard of the Month honorees, Andrea and Glenn Wilt of 3801 Hanover Hill in Bloomingdale East's Fairway Manors, seem to have things nicely under control. And the only "professional" help they employ is a good natured 11 year old Burns Middle School student named Kevin (their son) who has happily taken charge of mowing the lawn this summer. At the Wilt's home, yard maintenance is a family affair. "Andrea and I are out here weeding and trimming every week," says Glenn. "Kevin takes care of the mowing and Lauren (the Wilt's 15 year old Bloomingdale High School student) helps out sometimes too."

Aside from the obvious time and attention the family spends keeping things neat and trimmed in their yard, it seems that every plant, hedge and flower on the Wilt's property is at that all too short-lived perfect stage of maturity; well established but not yet overgrown. A live oak shades the right side of the two-story corner lot home, princess and formosa azaleas thriving at its base. On the



The Wilt family of Bloomingdale East.

left side of the property, a gorgeous white crepe myrtle in full bloom provides a partial sunscreen for the day lilies scattered at its' base. Neatly sculpted Indian hawthorn shrubbery provides an elegant back ground for masses of deep crimson red coleus. Variegated pittosporum and giant lariope grass provide lush yet well-groomed edging around the walk leading to the front door. And at the front door Andrea has stationed two enormous, flourishing potted ferns. When asked how she has managed to grow the ferns to such an unusually large and healthy state, she shrugs, "They just really seem to like it here!"



The corner lot home displays neat, tasteful landscaping on every side visible. From the trellis adorned with ivy on the Clarion Rd. side of the home to the society garlic swaying gracefully beneath the mailbox, this yard shows pride of ownership and is surely a pleasure for the neighbors to behold.

We are pleased to present the Wilt family with the August Yard of

the Month sign to display in their lovely yard, along with a home and garden gift certificate and our sincere thanks for their part in keeping Bloomingdale looking good. ☺

Editor's note: Residents are invited to contact Paul Almeida at 661-2018 with their suggestions and nominations for the Bloomingdale Yard of the Month feature.

School is in session – drivers, take care!

By Deputy Chris Adduci, BSBS Resource Officer

Another school year is upon us and with it comes one of our most serious problems - traffic. Construction at Bloomingdale Senior High School is still in progress, and the majority of drivers attending the school have limited experience. Teachers and administrative personnel will be there to assist, and Sheriff's Deputies will be on duty. Please be patient and respectful to them. There are some steps that all drivers can take to improve traffic conditions around the school.

Avoid the rush; get an early start. Allow extra time for school buses and additional traffic.

Students - do not cut through Bloomingdale Oaks!

Enter BSBS by the streetlight on the West side of the side of the school. Turn right only at the stop sign. Proceed to the next stop sign and turn right to exit.

Absolutely no U-turns! They are illegal and dangerous.

The lanes in front of BSBS are "one-way." Don't park and leave the wrong way.

Please do not drop off or pick up students by the school bus area.



Drivers can take many steps to improve traffic conditions around BSBS this year. Photo by Mack Austin.

The school parking lot in back is very crowded with bus traffic and over 500 cars. Buses exit on Guiles Road. Please use extreme caution in this area.

The Honors parking lot is not to be used until decals are issued.

Plan ahead. Be patient. Be careful.

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Plan, Prepare and Pursue

Early planning advice for potential military academy students

By Mack Austin

With a new school year about to begin, many students will be making their first plans for college. Some of these students will be considering attending a military academy or military college, goals that require advance planning. Just when should this planning begin?

"A student should begin their preparation and planning as soon as possible," says Major Peter Tseronis, United States Air Force Academy Admissions Liaison Officer. "Their GPAs start in the ninth grade, so their study and time management habits as well as their involvement in team sports must really begin in junior high."

Two 1999 graduates of Bloomingdale High School have watched their early planning and preparation pay off. Scott Austin has been selected to attend both the Air Force Academy and the Coast Guard Academy and has chosen to attend the Coast Guard Academy. Steve Petrizzo has been accepted to attend The

Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Both began their athletic interests. "It's a great stress reliever and you have to learn to manage your personal time," says Steve. "You learn the importance of teamwork and decision making," adds Scott.

Both graduates were members of the Bloomingdale Track Team. Scott and Steve agree that preparing for college or military academy is very much like their preparation for being on the track team. "Both require a lot of self-discipline and personal sacrifice, like training when you just don't feel like it," according to Steve. "You give your best every time you compete since you only get to run each race one time," Scott says, referring to the many hurdles he has had to jump.

Scott and Steve recognize the benefits of pursuing their

athletic interests. "It's a great stress reliever and you have to learn to manage your personal time," says Steve. "You learn the importance of teamwork and decision making," adds Scott.

Both were also very active in other school clubs and groups where they were involved in their community while improving their leadership skills and learning the value of service to others. Both young men recommend that any student with an interest in attending an academy begin their pursuit as early as possible. "Even if you change your mind later, you're very well prepared to be accepted by almost any college or university," says Scott. ☺



Steve Petrizzo begins another of many sprints along his way to The Citadel. Photo by Mack Austin.



Scott Austin clears another hurdle on his way to the United States Coast Guard Academy. Photo by Mack Austin.

Major land use rezoning request delayed

By Mack Austin

For those residents opposing the recent major land use request change, the news is great...for now. The request submitted by developer Catlyn Trustee proposed that the zoning for the 51 acres of land next to Bloomingdale High School (west of Royal Oaks shopping center and north of the Little League Field) be changed to allow the construction of commercial business on Bloomingdale Avenue. Just prior to the Hillsborough County Planning Commission meeting to discuss this issue the application was withdrawn.

The application was reportedly withdrawn due to a display of outstanding community concern and involvement. Many phone calls from and meetings attended by concerned Bloomingdale and Lithia Oaks residents resulted in an organized display of the desire for "what's best for our community." Residents expressed their concerns about increased noise, traffic and other problems that can occur with increased commercial development in primarily residential areas.

As one resident said, "We've won a battle, but not the war." The land is still open for development. Residents opposed to increased commercial development in the Bloomingdale area must continue to assert their objections in order to be involved in the planning process. For further information, please call the Hillsborough County Department of Community Relations at 272-5275. ☺

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Project 1

Interstate 4 - Eastern Hillsborough County — Major reconstruction - For specific project information visit the project on the web at www.i4expansion.org and www.trans4mation.org.

Project 2

U.S. 41 (SR 45) - Pasco County — From Hillsborough County Line to Bell Lake Road. Widening from two to six lanes. Multiple activities ongoing throughout the length of the project. Drivers will encounter traffic shifts and reduced speeds throughout the area, and should be especially watchful for children walking to school bus stops.

Project 3

U.S. 19 - Pinellas County — From Live Oak Ave. to the Pasco County Line. The project consists of widening the road from four to six lanes and replacing the

bridges over the Anclote River and the Pinellas Trail. Drivers will encounter traffic shifts and reduced speed throughout the construction area.

Project 4

SR 584 - Pinellas County — From SR580 to SR586 (Curlew Ave). This project includes widening the roadway from two to six lanes. Multiple activities are ongoing throughout the project limits and may result in lane closures and traffic shifts.

Project 5

U.S. 92 - Hillsborough County — Hillsborough Avenue at the Hillsborough River Bridge. This project includes widening the roadway from four to six lanes, building a new westbound bridge and rehabilitating the existing bridge. Current activities will result in lane closures and reduced speeds.

For more information about roadway construction visit the Florida Department of Transportation on the web at www.dot.state.fl.us.

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Down on the farm in Bloomingdale

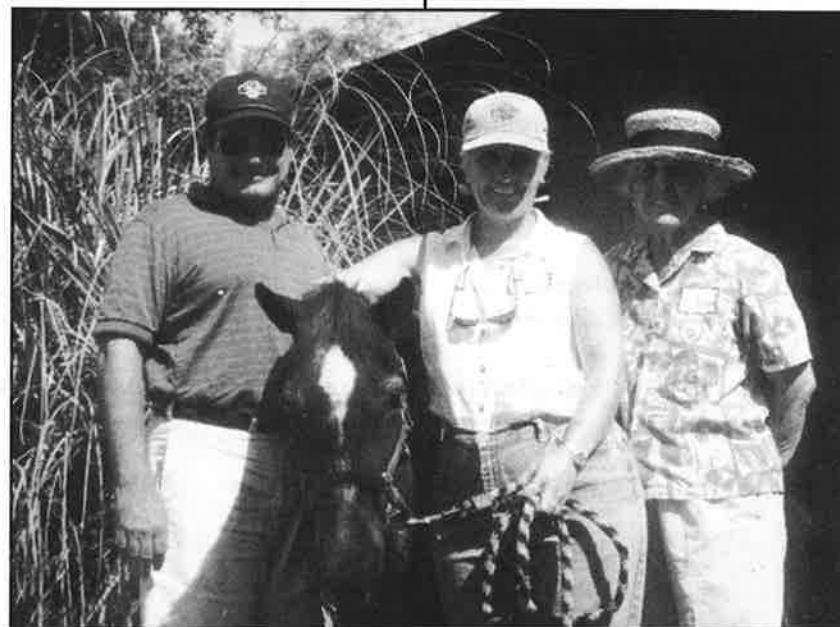
By Laura Frazier, Editor

Andy and Patsy Grim have enjoyed their own little slice of country living down on the farm, right in the middle of the Bloomingdale area's suburban sprawl, for the past 12 years. The Grims, along with Patsy's mother Evelyn Stephens and daughters Whitney and Emily, own and operate Paragrims Farms Stables and Riding School at 1003 Myrtle Road. The 10-acre farm is set back a few hundred yards east of Bell Shoals Road about 1/2 way between Glenhaven and Boyette Roads. The property features a 21-stall concrete block barn, 3 jump fields, a small and large ring, 2 paddocks and 2 fields as well as coops and log jumps. The farm was built in the mid 1980's by local builder Ken Hawk for his wife and daughter. The Grims acquired the property in 1987, set up house and made some changes to the barn to accommodate their customers. They have called the farm home, and work, ever since. The family has seen and enjoyed being part of the tremendous amount of growth in both Brandon and Bloomingdale.

The neighborhood has undergone some changes over the years, viewed positively by the Grims. Although subdivision residents might consider this location remote, "When we arrived in Brandon," says Andy, "there were fields surrounding us. We are now surrounded by beautiful homes and good neighbors." The Grims speak knowledgeably about local change and growth; both Andy and Patsy are Tampa natives. Andy explains, "Patsy's mother, Evelyn Stephens, was the trainer at the Tampa Yacht Club Stables back in its hey day. She had over 125 horses there at one time. My own mother had grown up with Evelyn and they rode together at the Yacht Club. Both women attended Florida State University where they formed a riding club. Years later, my mother kept her horses in training

with Evelyn at the Yacht Club," he reminisces. Andy and Patsy remained family friends through the years but went their separate ways to attend college. After graduating, the two met up again while attending a horse show that both their mothers were involved in. And as they say, the rest is history. The couple married and Andy says, "We both had other jobs for awhile, but we eventually decided that rather than work for a living we'd go into the horse business."

The Grims have enjoyed the challenge of running their own business and continuing their mothers' tradition of making the horse business a family affair. While Patsy handles the family's scheduling and keeps everyone organized, Andy lends his expertise to the riding school's advanced students, those who are "becoming more performance oriented and competitive."



(L-R) Paragrims Farms' Andy and Patsy Grim and veteran horsewoman Evelyn Stephens.

Daughters Whitney and Emily have many responsibilities on the farm, and both girls help ride and work horses in training. Whitney, 17 and a senior at Tampa Preparatory, plays on the golf team and loves to show horses. Emily, 11 and a 6th grader at St. John's Episcopal, sings in the choir and enjoys showing ponies. The girls' Grandmother, veteran horsewoman Evelyn Stephens, teaches up to 60 lessons a week and trains, works and cares for several

horses.

Mrs. Stephens has been in the family business for over 50 years, training horses and riders alike. She has qualified for national competitions in both hunt and saddle seat divisions. She can often be found at the farm in quiet, confident control of any number of horses and children. She is an intriguing mixture of tough and gentle; at work wrangling horses and instilling discipline in her young charges, and at home busy creating a water garden in the back yard of her Palma Ceia home. Watching Mrs. Stephens work with the animals and her students, her skill with and respect for the horses, and the children, is apparent. Andy marvels at his mother-in-law's untiring ardor of her lifelong profession. "Evelyn has a passion for teaching that is nourished by the diversity of her students, from the most timid to the most exuberant." You get the feeling

that Mrs. Stephens can handle with care any horse or rider that comes her way. She has, after all, many years experience under her well-worn straw hat.

Of choosing the Bloomingdale location to live and work in, Andy says, "We were looking for an area that was upscale and had access to other sections of the Tampa area. It's nice to be so conveniently accessible to the community of Bloomingdale where many of our students live, and now that Fish Hawk Blvd. has opened, River Hills is only 8 minutes away, while our South Tampa customers make it here in under 30 minutes," he says. Both private and group lessons (3-4 students) are offered at Paragrims Farms, as well as weeklong camps held over the summer and during the holidays. "We have produced the camps for 19 years," says Andy, "and have developed a very successful system that teaches students as much as they can absorb in a week's time."

New lesson groups, from beginners through advanced riders, will be forming as the school year begins. Morning hours are available for adults and homeschoolers, and afternoon classes are held daily after school hours until sunset. The Grim family would like to extend an invitation to residents of Bloomingdale interested in learning about horses or riding lessons to visit the farm or call 689-1814 for more information. ☺

Bloomingdale Little League 98/99 Season Ends



Coach Don Dobbie of the Bloomingdale Little League American League Majors directs base running practice as his team prepares for all-star competition. The 98/99 season ended with several divisions from Bloomingdale Little League excelling in the District 13 all-star Tournament. The 9 & 10 year old division champions coached by David Reed, George Kanarr and Elijah Johnson became the first of their division in the history of Bloomingdale Little League to advance to the sectionals. Photo by Mack Austin.

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Another play – another “murder”

The murder mystery play circuit keeps on rolling. This time the scene of the crime was “A Murder at the Class Reunion of St. Cecelia’s All Girl’s School.” The reenactment took place on June 19th at Center Place. This 20th graduation reunion resulted in the “murder” of Gina Bobalini, and brought on the wrath of the family “Godmother” to help find the murderer.

Quite a few Bloomingdale residents and friends were in the audience to assist the Godmother in apprehending the culprit. Among the notables in attendance were Peggy Sue and Bobbie Jo, who flunked out of St. Cecelia’s. The religious staff included Sister Mary Procrastination, Sister Mary Genuflection and Sister Mary Black and Decker, the shop teacher. Fryers (sic) Nomonkaround, Ben Gay and Forgetful were also in attendance. And yes, Fryer Forgetful was not entirely sober.

Yvette the Old Maid was squired to the event by her full time lover, Sherlock Holmes, who offered his help in solving the murder. Longtime Bloomingdale residents Jean Dixon, Kojak, Miss Peacock and Columbo were in the audience, along with Miss Scarlet and Father Dowling. This unusual couple tried to avoid being noticed but since the crime was committed at one of Father

Dowling’s Jesuit Institutions, he was called upon to issue a statement. He requested Fryer Forgetful to administer Last Rites to the deceased. In his stupefied condition, Fryer Forgetful stared down at the corpse and began this memorable prayer, “You have the right to remain silent...”



Miss Scarlet and Father Dowling, a.k.a. Bloomingdale residents Arlene and Dick Stein

In separate statements, both Miss Scarlet and Father Dowling maintained they had met by accident and were seated together because they were the only 2 seats left. However, Sherlock Holmes and Kojak did observe them playing footsie and kneesie under the table. Father Dowling had a flushed look on his face that the detectives determined to be a case of embarrassment.

When it was over, none of the Bloomingdale residents correctly guessed the perpetrator, but Father Dowling did excuse everyone with a liberal amount of Amens and Hosanna’s. Stay tuned (if you dare) to the Gazette for further updates on the adventures of this madcap group from Bloomingdale. ☺

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Making Sense of A-b Medications

*In The Season of Itch,
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When you get the seasonal itches — from bees, insects or sunburn — think before you scratch. While scratching an itch is a normal response that provides instant relief, Dr. Stephen Pennisi, itch expert “extraordinaire” and director of the Lanacane Itch Information Center(SM), says, “Better than scratching, we now have a wide range of over-the-counter (OTC) products with various types of ingredients to relieve itch and break the ‘itch/scratch/itch cycle.’ The relief we get from scratching is only temporary and can damage the skin, lead to infection and actually increase the itch sensation.”

According to Dr. Pennisi, who is also a board-certified toxicologist and product safety specialist known to many as “Dr. Itch,” most topical anti-pruritic (anti-itch) products fall into three major categories. “The choice becomes easier once you understand the different ‘mechanisms of action.’”

Here’s how the three major categories of anti-itch products do their work:

—Local anesthetics. These can be recognized by the ingredients benzocaine, dibucaine, lidocaine, pramoxi-

and butamben. They work at the site of itching — the itch nerves — interfering with the generation and transmission of nerve impulses in the skin to the brain.

—Hydrocortisones. These work at the level of the epidermis (outer layer of skin), dermis (deeper layer) and blood vessels by slowing the release of cells and chemicals that aggravate the itch nerves. Hydrocortisone only provides relief from inflammation — not the cause of it — and does not directly affect the itch nerves.

—Antihistamines. The most common one is diphenhydramine. Antihistamines reach the cells deep in the skin to prevent the release of a chemical known as “histamine.” They are most effective when taken orally before the start of an allergic attack. In topical form, they are slower to act on the itch than benzocaine and hydrocortisone. Taken orally, antihistamines can cause drowsiness.

According to Dr. Pennisi, “When you have a painful bee sting, you don’t want to wait for a remedy to start working — you want immediate pain relief. The best way to get that is with an ice pack and a topical anesthetic cream with an ingredient like benzocaine, such as Lanacane(R) Anti-Itch Creme or Spray.”

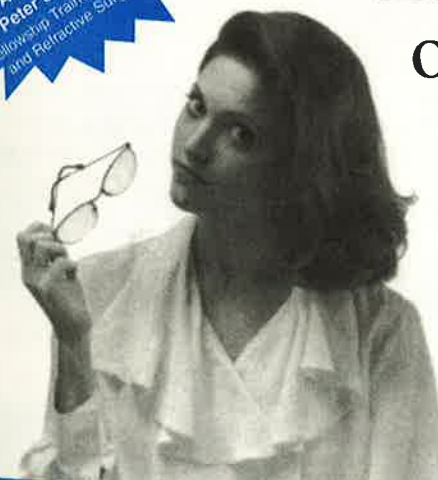
Where to get the Gazette

We are continuing the process of updating our mailing list in an effort to deliver the Gazette to every home in Bloomingdale. Copies are also available at area grocery stores including the Bloomingdale Square Publix and the Royal Oaks Plaza Winn Dixie, and area convenient stores including the Village Center Radiant Food Mart and the Citgo station on Bell Shoals Road.

You can get on the mailing list by contacting us in one of four ways:

- 1-You can call the Gazette at 681-2051 and leave your name and address. Do NOT call the Gazette’s alternate number.
- 2-You can drop us a note at The Gazette, 3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico 33594.
- 3-You can fax your name and address to (813) 651-1129, or
- 4-You can contact us via e-mail: LauraFrazier@prodigy.net

And lastly, we welcome your comments and letters. Please write, fax or e-mail us at any of the addresses or numbers listed above.



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Sparks (and beads) fly at Brandon's 41st Annual Fourth of July Parade

Brandon area residents turned out in red white and blue masses for the 41st Annual Fourth of July Parade, sponsored by The Presidents Roundtable of Brandon. Over 150 parade entries from local civic organizations, businesses, schools and political camps dazzled the thousands of spectators seated on blankets and folding chairs along the 1.7 mile parade route, from the starting point at the corner of Lumsden Road and Parsons Avenue to the Builders Square parking lot on Buckingham Place. The spirited crowd cheered on the procession of revelers as floats, cars, horses, motorcycles and those



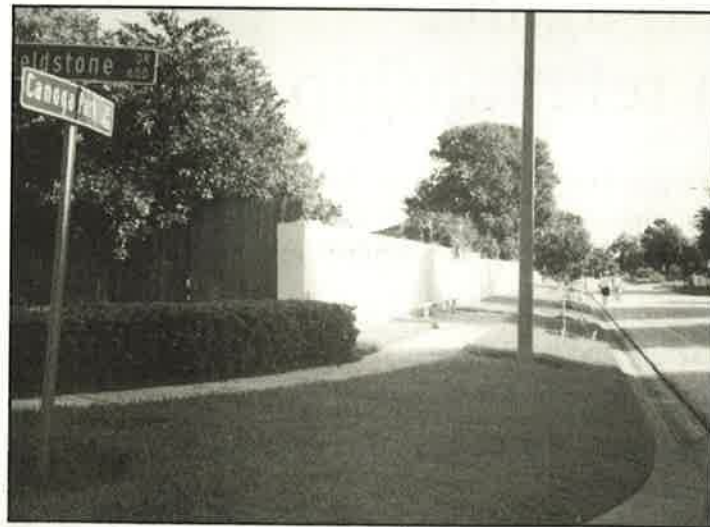
The Bloomingdale Bulls Cheerleaders pumped up the crowd with Bull Pride.

on foot showered the onlookers with candy, flags, whistles and the much sought after plastic bead necklaces. As children prompted by their elders yelled thank-you's to the candy and bead tossers, many adults waved and yelled genuine thank you's of their own to the hundreds of military veterans and service organization volunteers marching by. A grand old time was had by all. ☺



County Commissioner Ronda Storms, our Bloomingdale area representative, takes some time off from the joys of new motherhood to join the parade.

Canoga Park Sidewalks



In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Ronda Storms concerning the much needed sidewalks on Canoga park Drive in Bloomingdale West, Hillsborough County Department of Public Works Director Bernardo Garcia reports, "The sidewalks are part of a TEA-21 project being funded by the Florida Department of Transportation. Design is in progress, with construction expected in Fiscal Year 2000".

Photo by Mack Austin.

Bloomingdale Truck Route



Many residents are concerned about Bloomingdale Avenue being a designated truck route. Bill McCall, Hillsborough County Senior Professional Engineer, reports a review of the matter is currently scheduled for April of 2002, unless special circumstances warrant an earlier analysis. Photo by Mack Austin.

Do-it-yourself help for your lawn and pest problems

During one of my recent lawn cuts (I do it myself), I noticed nearly a dozen patches of dry, brown grass in my once lush St. Augustine lawn. Was it mole crickets, chinch bugs, a fungus or some other problem? The patches were growing almost hourly and destroying my lawn, the lawn that I worked so hard on! The lawn that my neighbor John gave me invaluable advice for! The lawn that visitors complimented me on! I didn't know what to do or where to go. Suddenly, it came to me. Bug Busters!

An a.m. coffee klatch buddy of mine had suggested Bug Busters (located at 528 East Brandon Blvd. Highway 60) for a previous lawn problem that I had, so I went back to see Bob Kennedy, the manager. Bug Busters sells professional strength chemical pest control products for both indoor and outdoor use at tremendous savings compared to the cost of hiring an exterminator. The store offers free literature that even the professional landscapers use.

If you are doing your own yard maintenance and suspect you may need to have a professional look at a lawn sample, if you want to know what chemical to use, how often, what strength, etc., Bug Busters can help you do it yourself.

If you are acting as your own interior exterminator, Bob at Bug Busters is the man to see. He'll tell you what chemicals are available, what's legal and how to properly get the mixture right for your hand lamp.

Ah yes, my problem? I explained my dilemma to Bob and he suggested I bring him a sample of my dying and dead grass. After a careful examination, he administered the prognosis. I had used a "weed and feed" application too often this season. The herbicide was too strong for the high ambient temperature and it actually burned my lawn. The remedy is a lot of rain, water and prayer. I am now using liberal amounts of each when I can. I will let you know if I was able to save my lawn in an upcoming issue. In the meantime, stop in and see Bob at Bug Busters. He is one of those guys that really wants to help and will spend the time with you necessary to get your lawn and pest problems solved. ☺

YMCA construction begins

By Mack Austin

The long awaited beginning of construction on the Campo Family YMCA at the corner of Bloomingdale Avenue and Culbreath Road is finally underway after the reevaluation of potentially necessary tree removals at the site. Special site construction techniques will be used to preserve many of the trees. The site promises to be one of the most beautiful in the country.

The \$6 million dollar YMCA joint project combines cooperation and coordination between Hillsborough County and the Bloomingdale Little League. The result of this partnership will be a complex Bloomingdale residents can be proud of and enjoy using. It will include a fitness center, basketball court, two swimming pools, a nursery and play area, a computer lab and a conference center. Additional parking and three ball fields are

Hillsborough County's Committee of 99 to study transportation issues

Bloomingdale resident Mack Austin appointed to committee

The Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has assembled a "Committee of 99" to involve the citizens of Hillsborough County in identifying, prioritizing and recommending funding allocations for future transportation programs and projects. The Committee of 99 has been asked by the BOCC to assist in setting a course to meet our community's transportation needs and to formulate a transportation referendum for the November 2000 ballot.

The residents of Bloomingdale will be represented on this special committee thanks to the efforts of Bloomingdale Homeowners Association President Ted Grable and Senator Tom Lee. Mack Austin, a 15 year Bloomingdale resident, Project Coordinator for the Bloomingdale Area Community Council (BACC) and Associate Editor of the Bloomingdale Gazette has been selected to serve on the Committee of 99.

The committee will meet for the first time this month to organize efforts to make this project a success. Bloomingdale residents who wish to submit information or express their concerns on transportation issues that involve our community can call the BACC at 635-8040. ☺

included in the project.

Special traffic safety concerns are being monitored by County

Commissioner Ronda Storms and the Bloomingdale Area Community Council, including the need for special traffic control measures to protect pedestrians crossing Culbreath Road between the YMCA and Little League fields.

Residents are asked to use extreme caution when driving in this area. Construction will take at least one year to complete. ☺



Site Foreman Calvin Hall monitors the necessary tree removal at the new YMCA site.

Don't forget me!

By Mack Austin

*W*h! My name is "Wishbone." I'm one of the many thousands of family pets residing in Bloomingtondale. Like my many friends in the community I'm concerned about what would happen to me if a hurricane or other natural disaster were to hit our area. I overheard my owner telling our neighbor about what to do if this happened, and I want to share this important information with you.



Special planning is required to care for our pets during the threat of natural disasters.

Photo by Mack Austin.

First of all, public shelters don't allow pets and local animal shelters don't have the room or staff to care for your pets. Don't leave your pets alone at home. Some hotels or motels do allow pets, so check ahead or arrange to go to a relative's or friend's home.

Some of the things you'll need to have ready to take with you if you have to evacuate include a two-week supply of food and medication, a non-electric can opener, a leash or muzzle, a pet carrier, current vaccination records, plastic bags, cat litter and cleansers for pet waste and identification like recent photographs. Put these in a waterproof bag. After the storm, be careful about letting pets go outdoors. There are lots of dangers around and they may get lost.

Make your plans now to take good care of your pets. We are special to you and we need your special care. Thanks. ©

**MacDill Family Services
Receives Land In Bloomingtondale**

A 5-acre piece of property worth at least \$500,000, located on Erindale Drive in Bloomingtondale, has reportedly been donated to MacDill Air Force Base for usage that may include a permanent site for the MacDill Family Outreach Center. A temporary Outreach Center is currently located on Pauls Drive in Brandon. The Gazette will publish details regarding this transaction as they become available. ©

**Let your bad hair days be
"Gone with the Wind" at
Scarlet O'Haira's!**

*W*icki Davis

announces the grand opening of her salon, Scarlet O'Haira's, at 3507 Bell Shoals Road in Bloomingtondale Plaza just north of Sun Trust Bank. The salon is located in the unit previously occupied by Mal Sun Salon. Davis, former longtime Details salon stylist, brings 25 years of cosmetology experience to the shop. Services offered include hairstyling and cuts, perms, color and corrective color, facial waxing, manicures and pedicures, and acrylic nails. Products offered include Redken, Paul Mitchell, Pativa, Trevor Sorbie and Matrix. The shop employs 4 stylists and 2 nail technicians and is open Tuesday through Saturday. For information or appointments please call 681-2060. ©



**BRC offers BBQ propane
tank refills**

*B*loomingtondale East resident Ken Gerena, owner of Bloomingtondale Rental Center (BRC), offers a convenient gas grill propane tank refill source for our community's many backyard chefs. BRC is located in Erindale Plaza, just south of Bloomingtondale



Avenue at 3650 Lithia Pinecrest Road. The charge to refill a 20 lb. Tank is \$9.50. BRC offers a multitude of home and garden equipment rentals from pressure washers, chainsaws and tillers to front loaders and backhoes. Party equipment including tables, chairs and canopies are also offered for rent. Services available include lawn mower and small engine repair. BRC business hours are 7:30 - 5:30 Monday through Saturday. For more information please call Ken at 684-4070. ©



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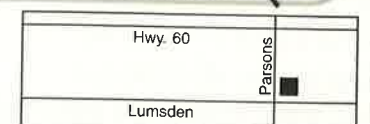
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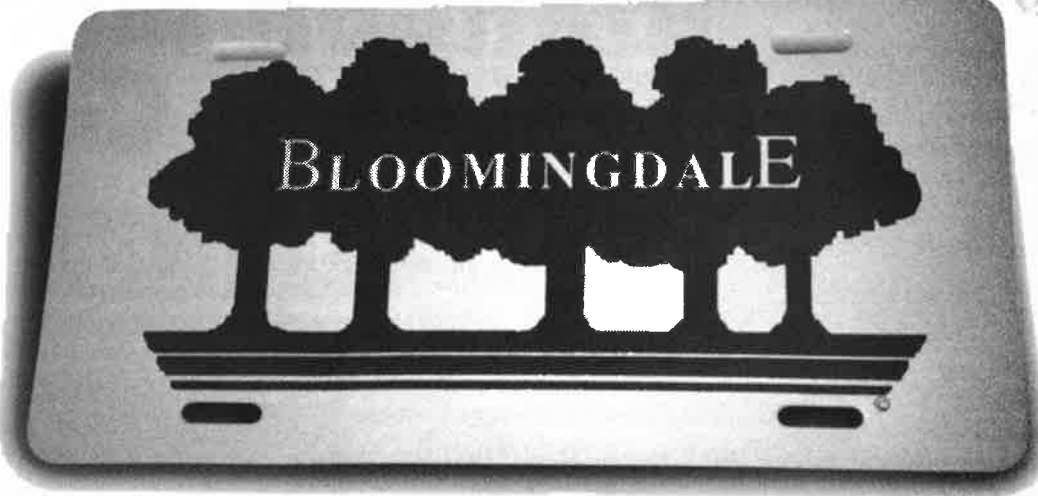
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Bloomingdale License Plates Available - Free!

In the July issue of the Gazette, The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association and the Sheriff's Substation presented a terrific opportunity for residents to show our community pride by displaying the exclusive Bloomingdale license plate on our cars... free of charge! There are still a limited number of plates available.



To take advantage of this offer, bring the completed coupon below to the Bloomingdale Community Substation, located in the Village Center Plaza, corner of Bell Shoals and Glenhaven. The Substation is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 - 5:00, phone 635-8040. This offer is available while supplies last, one free plate per household (a \$2.00 donation is requested for each additional plate).

BHA Free License Plate Offer - Bring this form to the Community Substation, corner Bell Shoals & Glenhaven

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Free Plate Received Additional Plate Received

FREE ADS: Bargains under \$100.

Individuals and private parties may run a 20-word ad free of charge for bargains under \$100. Price must appear in ad. Not available to businesses. Free ads must be submitted in writing, by fax or by e-mail each month. One ad per person per month, on a space available basis.

CLASSIFIED POLICIES: We strive to help.

The Bloomingdale Gazette/Community News reserves the right to reject, edit or reclassify any advertisement. Please check your ad for accuracy on first insertion. We make every effort to be accurate. We are not responsible for failure to publish an ad or for errors beyond the cost of the first insertion. All claims for adjustments must be addressed within 30 days of publication. We take care in the ads accepted; we do not investigate every ad submitted.

RATES/PAYMENTS: 3 lines for \$7.

Classifieds are sold by the line. 3 lines for \$7. Additional lines are \$2 each.

All ads must be paid in advance. Credit is not extended to non-contract advertisers. The Gazette/News accepts checks, money orders and cash orders paid in person. Visa and MasterCard welcome.

DISCOUNTS: You may qualify

You or your business may qualify for special discount plans based on size or frequency. Categories include: small business; real estate; transportation; service directory; recruiting and others. Please call for more information.

DEADLINE: 20th of the month

Ad copy must be in by 5 p.m. on the 20th of each month, as well as cancellations for multiple insertions for publication.

AUDIENCE/DISTRIBUTION: 57,000

Classifieds are published in the Bloomingdale Gazette, distribution 4,600 on the first of each month and in all editions of the Community News, with a combined reach of 52,000 select homes and businesses in Carrollwood, Northdale, Cheval, Villa Rosa, Brandon, Valrico and Riverview. The News is published the 15th of each month.

MAIL IN/FAX /E-MAIL ORDER:

Mail: Bloomingdale Gazette/Community News; PO Box 271880; Tampa, FL 33688

Fax: 813-963-5876

E-mail: communitynews@ibisnet.net

Questions: 813-964-1919, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

Visit: 11406 N. Dale Mabry Hwy., Suite F, Tampa.

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