

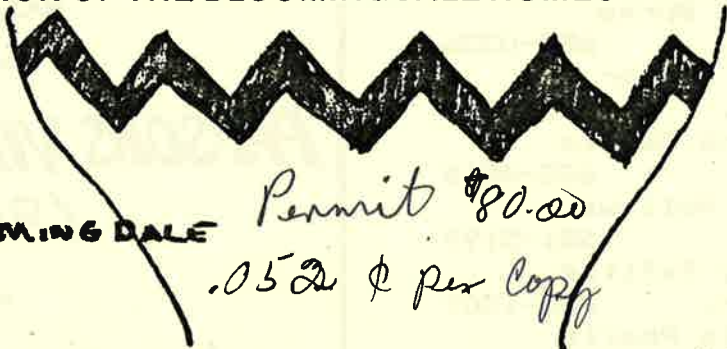
DONT FORGET BHA
MEETING
22 AUGUST
SPEAKER FROM
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AUG 89 **THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE** Vol. V. No. 10

A PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

AT
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LES



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27 AUGUST*



**BRANDON BALLOON RALLY
SCHEDULE**

FRIDAY AUGUST 31 5:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT
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BREAK DANCE CONTEST
BATTLE OF THE BANDS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1 10:00 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT
BALLOONS ARRIVE BETWEEN 9 AND 10 A.M.

OPENING CEREMONY 10:00 A.M.
GREEN BERETS PARACHUTE JUMP

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2 1:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT
OLD FASHIONED COSTUME CONTEST 2:00 P.M.
BEARD CONTEST 2:30 P.M.
BALLOON LIFT-OFF 5:00 P.M.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3 7:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.
BALLOON LIFT-OFF 7:30 A.M.
RUNNING EVENTS 7:45 A.M.
QUEEN PAGEANT 9:00 A.M.
POLITICAL RALLY 1:00 P.M.

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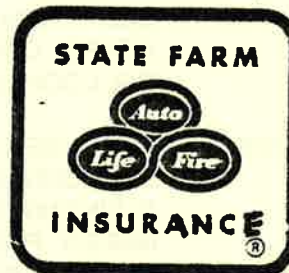
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NIPIC REPAIRS PARK WEST

In response to BHA's request for materiel to repaint Park West using "volunteer" labor, NIPIC, the landowner in Bloomingdale contracted with a local firm to rehabilitate the park at no expense to Bloomingdale residents. NIPIC also stated that the residents should not have to furnish labor to maintain the parks. NIPIC has also completed resurfacing the tennis courts at Park East and installed new windscreens. NIPIC also pointed out that less than two weeks after the basketball courts at Park East were completed, two nets had been stolen and one rim was broken. NIPIC does not intend to repair damage caused by vandalism. NIPIC will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law, and will protect the identity of bona-fide informants. Other incidents of vandalism at the parks have been reported. Someone drove through the fence at Park West. If you see vandals in our community please call the mobile watch base station or the Sheriff.

RESIDENTS SAVE \$35.00 A MONTH

At July's BHA general membership meeting Mr. Steve Balough from TECO explained how Bloomingdale residents could save up to \$35.00 on their electric bill. To reduce demand during Peak time periods,

TECO wants to install a remote control switch on your pool pump, central air or heating system, and water heater. If you agree they will give you a discount on your electric bill. The amount of the discount depends on the appliances and the amount of time you allow TECO to shut off the power. Most BHA members who signed up in July already have their switches installed and will enjoy their first savings this month. One of the many benefits of joining BHA and going to meetings. R. "Sonny" Palomino, Hillsborough County School Board will speak at next BHA general membership meeting. Mr. Palomino will also answer your questions about County School Policy. The meeting will be on August 22 at Circle M Nursery, 1200 E. Bloomingdale at 7:30 p.m. This is also your chance to let the School Board know how you feel. Don't miss it!



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BHA MEETING NOTES

At the July general membership meeting, a number of questions were raised and answered which may be of interest to the entire community. Several of our builders are leaving Burn Piles unattended at night. Large fires should be reported to the Fire Department, the smoldering variety to the County environmental office for investigation. None of the burn permits issued by the county allow burning after 6:00 p.m. without someone being present. Several residents complained about the condition of Canoga Park Drive and Sand Pebble Dr. Both of these roads are maintained by the county. According to BHA President Bob Knott, Canoga Park must be completely replaced and Criterion has offered to put in a new road bed if the county will pay for the surface. So far, the county has been unwilling to do this. Residents will probably have to live with "patch" jobs. Within a development, roads are constructed by the developer and accepted by the county after inspection. Once accepted by the county the developer has no more responsibility. We plan to invite the candidates for County Commissioner to the September meeting for you to meet and discuss these and other concerns. During the spring and summer, parking along Bloomingfield and Canoga Park by people using the ballfield caused problems. We asked Criterion to supply "NO PARKING" signs which we would install. Criterion initially agreed, but now has is not interested! Residents in our new areas would like to know when streetlights are going to be installed. Your editor is working on that and will let you know. Right now I'm confused about who is really responsible for streetlights. Deed restriction violations should be referred to Lucy Whitmer at Criterion for investigation. Criterion and NIPIC has informed the BHA that swimming pool contractors are dumping "fill" in Bloomingdale. Disposition of pool fill dirt is the homeowner's responsibility, and the developer will sue the homeowner not the pool contractor.

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BHA MEETING: 7:30 P.M. AUG 22

R. SONNY PALOMINO

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

GUEST SPEAKER

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1200 E. BLOOMINGDALE AVE.

BHA GENERAL ELECTION

The BHA general election will be held in November 1984. Six board members' terms expire. They are Brenda Manning, Bob Knott, Gloria Dyke, Wynella Wilson, Errol Whitfield, Andy Pafitis. Nominations for the Board should be submitted to Wynella prior to the October meeting. The Gazette will run short biographies on each candidate in November. Wynella's phone number is 681-6011.

BLOOMINGDALE AT LARGE

by Gloria Dyke

Congratulations to Joyce Uphoff, new member of the Board of Directors for Center Place in Brandon. This is your community newsletter and we want you to let us know if you've been promoted, received an award, earned a scholarship or anything deserving of recognition. We also want to use this space to announce the new babies to the community. Call me at 681-1713 and give me the sex, weight, birthdate and parents' names. And next month we are going to renew Wynella's recipe column so send your favorites to the Editor.

KNOTT RESIGNS

At July's General Membership meeting, BHA President Bob Knott resigned, effective 31 August 1984. Bob was elected president in November 1981, and saw Bloomingdale grow from a few homes to the bustling community it is today. His leadership and initiative made the BHA into what it is now. Bob will continue to serve as a Board member until his term expires in November. Brenda Manning will assume the duties of president until the new board is elected in November. Never one to shrink from controversy, Bob has guided the organization through the Buffer Zone issue, the attempts to establish an Special Taxing District, frequent bouts with Criterion and a "musical chairs" Board of Directors. During his tenure, three BHA Vice-Presidents resigned amidst controversy and strife. Bob has dedicated a good deal of his time and energy to this community and now intends to devote his energies to incorporating Brandon. Thanks to both Bob and Carolyn for being leaders in this community. The Board of Directors voted to accept his resignation on August 7, 1984.

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gs and grass. These develop into adults

uality dip, available from your vet.
the label.

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MOBILE WATCH NEWS

by C.F. "Skip" Mowery, Jr.

If you'd like to be a pilot, you'd love the Mobile Watch. The experience is the same: hours of boredom punctuated by moments of sheer terror. Well, maybe not terror, but we do get some excitement once in a while -- like trying to get the license number of a speeder without speeding ourselves. And we sometimes have a feeling of accomplishment -- like leading a Deputy Sheriff to the address of the person who called. Speaking of calling, the Watch has been receiving its fair share of calls from our residents, asking us to check out suspicious persons or vehicles. That's one of the services we perform: when you're reluctant to call the sheriff because you're not sure if your concern is serious enough to bother him, give one of our bases a call and we'll either check it out or advise you to call the sheriff, or both. We will also provide radio communications during power outages or other emergencies.

The Mobile Watch contact point for the month of August is Skip Mowery, 689-4212, 406 Van Reed Manor Drive.

Things have been fairly quiet during the past month. Our presence throughout the development is having the desired effect. We have noted some vandalized mail boxes again, and someone seems to enjoy driving over other people's lawns -- but we are confident we will be able to identify them soon. The lessened activity in vandalism and suspicious persons and vehicles has allowed us to pay a little more attention to other items. We still don't advise you when your garage door is left open, because some people seem to want to leave the "invitation" open, but we are advising you when your car's lights are on, or when your car has somehow rolled out of the driveway and across the street (you should have seen the astonished look on that owner's face when we told him).

Watch membership rose to 112 this month, including our first members from South Oak. The increased membership has allowed us to put more units on the road at times when they're most needed.

All recommendations

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Gardening

with Eric Wilds

Cycads

In this month's column, I would like to introduce you to the cycad family, a group of plants which are tropical in appearance and hardy in nature. The cycads hail from antiquity and are often pictured in the background of prehistoric scenes. They evolved some 200 million years ago and were at one time the most prominent family of plants on earth. The modern day survivors have changed little. Their leaves are fernlike in appearance and they possess 'flowers' which resemble pine cones and were in fact precursors of conifers. Cycads were the first flowering plants on earth.

The most familiar cycad in our area is the king sago palm which comes from Japan. King sago palms, or *cycas revoluta*, have trunks up to 8 ft. in height and usually form a dense mass because of their suckering habit. It is completely cold hardy in our area and readily available.

Queen sagos, or *cycas circinalis*, are the next most common cycad in our area. In Brandon and environs, they require protection from the frost and freeze but will usually come back well if damage is suffered. The queen sago grows taller and faster than the king and was once considerably more popular, but progressively colder winters have inhibited its use. It differs in appearance from the king sago by being more graceful and weeping as opposed to the stiff, upright fronds of the king.

Zamia floridana is another cycad and the only one native to our state. Commonly called the coontie palm, or dwarf sago, it is versatile in the landscape. It can be used as a tall groundcover, as a low hedge or as an exotic specimen clump. Seldom reaching a height over 3½ feet, its dark green fern-like foliage and cold hardiness make it a very desirable plant. It is a protected plant in the wild, was once nearly extinct, but because of its horticultural value is making a comeback. Any nursery worth its salt should carry this plant and increased popularity is making it more available.

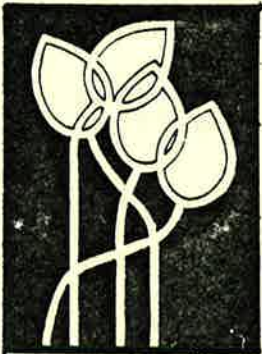
Another *zamia*, *zamia furfuracea*, is still used locally but it is a poor choice for our area because it is tender to the cold. Sold under the name "cardboard palm", it is worthy of purchase only as a collectors item or as a patio plant.

Another group of cycads which are occasionally found in local nurseries are the dioons. *Dioon edulis* has no common name and to me is the most primitive looking of all cycads. It has a stiff rosette of leaves which vary in color from gray-green to silver blue. Very old specimens achieve seven feet in height but this is a slow grower and plants with any trunk are rare. Other dioons hardy to our area are *mejaili*, *spinulosum* and *purpussii*. These are harder to find but worth the search. All dioons are cold-hardy in our area. If frost or freeze damages the leaves, the bulb will remain intact.

Gardening (cont.)

The appearance of cycads in the landscape lends an undeniable tropicality to the scene. Their handsome looks and natural history make them conversation pieces and worthy of cultivation. Virtually pest-free, they require very little fertilization and are drought-resistant, although they do respond to regular watering and fertilization. Most can be grown in sun or shade, so placement in the landscape is easy. If you desire something unusual for your yard that is easily cared for and at the same time beautiful, consider these living "fossils" when making your next nursery trip.

Till next month, Happy Gardening!



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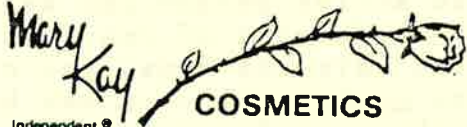
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Ted A. Keiser
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REAL ESTATE FACTS

by: **Ted A. Keiser**



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At some point in your life you are likely to find yourself either buying or selling a home. And, when that time comes, you might want to ask yourself these questions.

Can I figure like an accountant? Can I measure like a surveyor? Do I understand "legal-eze" like an attorney? Can I spot defects like a homebuilder? Can I relate well to people like a successful salesman? Do I understand zoning, building codes and taxes like a city/county employee? Do I understand human motivation like a psychologist? Chances are you will be hard pressed to answer all those questions with a "YES" answer, unless you are a real estate professional.

Why, you ask, would a real estate professional be different? It has to do with "rubbing elbows". The daily routine of an active, highly committed real estate broker or salesman is a sight to behold. During any 24-hour period, such a professional will likely have contact with bank loan officers, lawyers, tax collectors, land surveyors, insurance company representatives, mortgage lending officers, accountants, sales persons, county courthouse personnel, local businessmen and most importantly buyers and sellers.

Working at least six days a week, and many times 7 days, can you imagine how many individual contacts would be made in a year's time? Such an active person can mean the difference between winning or losing at the profession of real estate.

If you have the time, you could act the part of a real estate salesman --- you could sell your own home --- by yourself, without the help of a real estate professional. Or could you?

Here is a partial list of things you will be doing if you go it alone:

- *Obtain details of at least 15 recent home sales in your area to establish a fair price.
- *Measure the square footage of your home accurately.
- *Write at least five different ads for placement on key days in the local paper.
- *Make arrangement to answer telephone calls at least 14 hours a day(no recording devices, please).
- *Be prepared to write binding contracts on the spot, properly prepared for any type financing.
- *Be able to qualify each buyer for financial abilities, needs, motivation, experience and attitude.
- *Negotiate and secure a signed contract from buyer along with a substantial earnest money check.
- *Deposit earnest money in escrow account.
- *Arrange for abstract of title. Arrange for termite inspection.
- *Arrange for appraisal; meet appraiser at his convenience.
- * OR CALL A REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL !

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Reference your July editorial on community involvement, there's another side to that story that deserves a bit of exposure. But first, I'd like to take issue with your choice of words about persons who "range from transient military personnel all the way up to congressional aides." The implications that military personnel are at the bottom of the social ladder and congressional aides are at the top, and that a great distance separates the two categories, are as irritating as the adjective, "transient". If you can identify a transient by how quickly he sells his house, the only ones on my street, where several military personnel reside, are civilians. On the other hand, perhaps we should set aside Bloomingdale for military personnel only, and let the civilians, permanent residents, and other exalted coteries move to Carrollwood with the congressional aides.

As to getting involved, you and the anonymous writer on page 4 (to whom I would say: no guts, no glory, and no credibility, you pusillanimous pettifogger), both make the assumption that the great majority of our community members are apathetic. On the contrary, I suspect that a fairly substantial number of our community members, like me, simply see no point in getting actively involved in the BHA-- at least for the moment.

Some of us are involved in other areas of community support, such as the mobile watch. There are only so many projects and activities that one can reasonably fit into a normal life span, while still leaving a substantial chunk of time for job, family, and recreation.

Some of us provide financial support, but prefer not to extend our involvement beyond that level. For example, I paid \$20 for my BHA membership last November, for which I received nothing in return: no membership card or acknowledgement of receipt; and the lengthy letter I sent introducing myself and my family and offering to help Bloomingdale secede from Hillsborough County, was neither acknowledged nor published.

Also, some of us are reluctant to be involved in an organization that we perceive to have more than the normal share of internal conflicts, many of which seem to involve pettiness, paranoia, and personal vindictiveness.

Some of us subscribe to the theory that there will always be a sufficient number of activists to champion a just cause without our adding to their number. Anticipating your response that, if everyone felt that way, nothing would get done, I would suggest that there are as many people in this community whom wild horses couldn't deter from getting involved as there are those of us who wouldn't go to a meeting of any kind even if you paid us.

Many of us observe that things seem to be being accomplished quite nicely without us, and that whatever is not being accomplished may not be worth the effort. We note that the last two BHA meetings failed to generate a quorum but that the organization has not gone down the tubes -- and as you pointed out, the walls still got painted.

For that reason, many of us are not persuaded by the argument that, unless we band together, our property values will go to hell in a handbasket along with the common areas. Besides, we know in our heart-of-hearts that, if push comes to shove and if the normal cadre of activists can't handle it, we will ultimately come through with the needed effort or funds. Finally, there are those of us who do not subscribe to the theory that "no man is an island" -- at least not in this context. Just look at all the fences we've built!

Just because someone doesn't choose to go to a BHA meeting doesn't mean he or she is apathetic or uninvolved in community support. There are many of us who don't deserve the criticism being dished out with such alacrity. Yet some very conscientious members of our community may feel guilty after reading the comments in the Gazette. To them, and to the others like me who just enjoy rabble-raising, this diatribe (which was a lot longer until Les limited me to two pages) is dedicated.

C. F. Mowery, Jr.

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LETTERS to the EDITOR-12-

(continued)

Dear Editor,

The 1984 political bombardment of the nation's electorate is well underway, and our heritage in this democratic process will culminate in November's election of thousands of federal, state and local representatives. We in the Bloomingdale community certainly must take note this fall of two particular elections -- that for District 62 State Representative and the Hillsborough County Commissioner from District 4. Let's face it, 1983 marked a low but typical profile of local officials in terms of political insincerity, influence from special interest groups, and a seemingly endless series of "politicos for hire" scandals. Even the Tampa Tribune in a July 29, 1984 front page feature trumpeted the role of special interest groups in local elections in that "it appears campaign contributions from land developers will play a major role in the upcoming Hillsborough County Commission races." We in Bloomingdale have certainly witnessed the strength of Criterion in its attempt to dictate the community's choice of the upkeep of its common grounds and facilities.

We, the Bloomingdale residents, so divided and uncommitted in our community involvement, led by the dedicated but often misguided Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, must take notice this fall and insure that all candidates who want to represent our community must take our concerns to heart. Let's ensure the candidates understand that we expect and demand that our interests be heard and to receive fair support for local issues that are the concern of the majority. I say enough of the back-room decisions by the "good-ol' boy" network of state representatives like "Spud" Clements who feebly and ineffectually supported an overwhelming community desire to implement the Special Taxing District. Lets ask Spud and any other candidates like him who receive a majority of campaign funds from special interest groups including RPAC, a real estate political action group and the phosphate industry's political action group, who they really inted to represent this fall. Let's ask David Jones, candidate for our district's seat on the Hillsborough County Commission, why a third of his political contributions come from real estate developers and builders and the phosphate industry. This is not a plea for partisan politics but rather a request for all residents to become involved with the political process and elect officials who will represent us, the electorate, and not the special interests. Let's not have a repeat of the STD debacle. A united, concerned Bloomingdale can make a difference at the polls this fall.

Paul Freeberg



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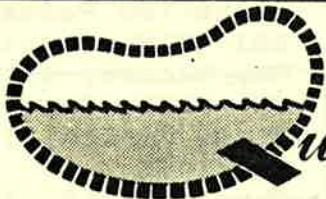
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Quality Pools

INTRODUCES

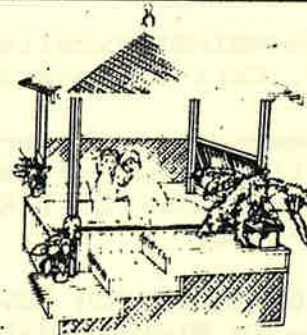
AFFORDABLE PARADISE

ALL UNDER \$6995 COMPLETE
(Starting at \$4995)



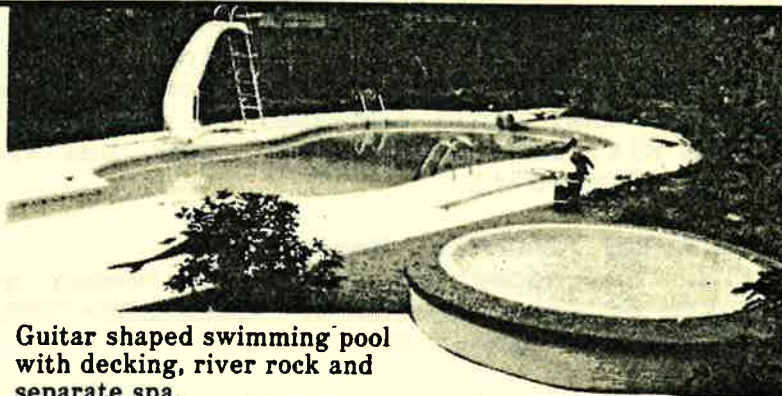
Shown here are 5 of our most popular shapes. Seven other designs are also available. All of these pools are built with totally non-corrosive materials carrying a lifetime warranty.

AFFORDABLE SPA'S and GAZEBO'S



AFFORDABLE "Custom Built" CONCRETE POOLS

Stop In and See the Largest Collection of Swimming Pools on Display in the Brandon Area



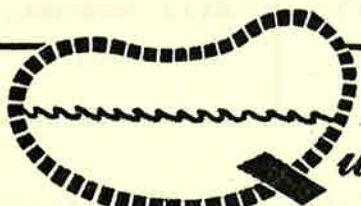
Guitar shaped swimming pool with decking, river rock and separate spa.

ASK ABOUT OUR SOLAR HEATED SWIMMING POOLS

MEMBER



NATIONAL SPA & POOL INSTITUTE



Quality Pools & Spas

PACIFIC POOLS
The Affordable Paradise



1500. N. PARSONS AVE. • BRANDON • 689-8111

CLASSIFIED

WELCOME NEIGHBOR: Newcomers to the area receive free gift packet from our local merchants. We would like to meet you and welcome you to your new neighborhood. Please call "WELCOME NEIGHBOR" 645-3153 or 681-6853.

FOR SALE: AKC SHIH TZU Puppies. Elegant and devoted pets, reasonable. 689-7686

MUSIC LESSONS: Piano and Trumpet, reasonable rates. Call Carol or Robert Romanski, 689-5114.

DOTTIE D's CAKES AND DECORATING: for all occasions-Birthdays to Weddings, etc. Just Call 685-4818.

QUILTED ITEMS: Quilts, wallhangings, placemats, napkins, vests, pillows, tablecloths, Christmas items, etc. Makes great gifts. All are made to your specifications. Call Mitzi at 685-7430.

WALLPAPER HANGING: Excellent wallpaper hanging. References. Call Carlene at 689-1496.

WANTED: Someone with references to babysit 6 mo old. Starting late September. FOR SALE: Child's swing set, \$40.00. Call Karen Rosener, 743 Sandy Creek, 684-2105.

ATTENTION CROSS STITCH LOVERS: Preserve your lovely home in Bloomingdale on counted cross-stitch. Custom kit made from color photo. Kit includes 14 ct. material, floss, and instructions. Also makes cherished gift for a loved one. Order now to sew for Xmas. Call 681-8861 or send \$23.95 to Homestitch Kit, Lori Enterprises, P.O. Box 413, Brandon, Fla. 34299-0413.

EXPERIENCED PIANO TEACHER: Resides in Bloomingdale. Now accepting students. Member of National Guild of Piano Teachers. Call 685-7395, anytime and ask for Dannie Morrison.

CAR POOL: Would like to get established in adult driven car pool from Bloomingdale to and from Tampa Catholic. Please call 689-6982 after Aug 17.

BABYSITTERS

- Kimberlee Ramsley, ^A ~~15~~, 681-3329, Certified
- ~~Amy Barnes, 15, 681-7375, Certified~~
- Missy Carlin, 16, 689-1496
- ~~Chris Carlin, 18, 689-1496~~
- Keri, 15, 689-4842
- Kendra, 14, 689-4842
- Tina Graves, 17, 681-5501
- ~~Pam Greeley, 24, 112 Bloomingfield Dr. 681-9306~~
- Scott Travis, 14, 685-2196, \$.75 @ hr
- Pam Reeves, 13, 681-8861
- Bill Reeves, 16, 681-8861

YARDWORK

- Kevin, 685-0011
- Scott Frey, 681-3739
- Alex Algarin, 689-3127
- Don -- reasonable 685-4273
- Martin, 18, strong will do any work 685-1843
- Matthew -- lawnmowing, reasonable prices, dependable 685-3503
- Shawn -- lawnmowing 685-2635
- Bill Reeves, 16 681-8861

CLASSIFIED AD POLICY

Call Frank DeVito 685-4818 to place an ad

- Classified AD's\$ 1.00
- Business Card Ad's.....\$ 4.00
- Babysitting Listing.....\$ 1.00
- Children under 18 Free
- Lawn Service/Yard Work\$ 1.00
- Children under 18 Free

Classified Ads in the GAZETTE are still t' best bargain. 1100 + homes covered every month.

AUGUST 1984

What's Going On?

SEPTEMBER 1984

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 BHA MEETING 730 CIRCLE M. NURSERY	23	24	25
26	27 School STARTS	28	29	30	31 BALLOON RALLY	SEPT. 1 BALLOON RALLY
2 BALLOON RALLY	3 BALLOON RALLY <hr/> LABOR DAY	4 BHA BOARD MEETS	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

NOTICE! This is not Tuesday



Babe's Pizza

\$2.00 OFF
Double-Decker Pizza

GOOD FOR
or

\$1.00 OFF
Regular Pizza

Eat In or Carry Out Also Available

ALSO SERVING DELICIOUS SANDWICHES AND SALADS

107 NORTH KINGS AVE.
BRANDON
689-2282

U.S 41, 1 MILE S. OF 674
RUSKIN
645-5532

KINGS ROW CENTER
BLOOMINGDALE & KINGS
685-2231

Coupon Good
Sunday-Thursday
THRU 31 AUG.

WHY PAY INFLATED PRICES?

THE NU

Discount Carpet Cleaning

OFFERS EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL,
DEPENDABILITY, AND GUARANTEED SERVICE

- Deep Steam Cleaning from Truck-Mount Unit
- We Move and Replace All Furniture
- Licensed, Bonded and Insured

\$49⁹⁵

WHOLE HOUSE SPECIAL

*Includes 5 Rooms & Halls. Additional Rooms \$8.00

Call **684-1322** For Appointment

MONDAY THRU SATURDAY *** 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM
BLOOMINGDALE RESIDENT AND MEMBER OF HOMEOWNERS ASSOC.

*"THE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE
AT THE MOST REASONABLE PRICE"*