

the *B*loomingtondale gazette

Official Publication of the Bloomingtondale Homeowners Association

Volume XXVII, Number 12

Santa Claus is coming to town!

In This Issue

<i>Brandon Bears</i>	4
<i>Letters</i>	5
<i>Bloomingtondale Births</i>	6
<i>One gift</i>	7
<i>Christmas Parade</i>	8
<i>Bloomingtondale Buzz</i>	10
<i>Rec Center News</i>	10
<i>High School News</i>	12
<i>Committee of '99</i>	14
<i>Speed Monitor</i>	15
<i>BSHS Band</i>	17
<i>Restaurant Review</i>	18
<i>Gift of time</i>	20
<i>Mobile Watch</i>	20
<i>Community Investment</i>	
<i>Tax Projects</i>	21
<i>Substation Notes</i>	22
<i>Property Manager's</i>	
<i>Report</i>	24
<i>Michael Davis Realty</i>	24
<i>Springvale Const.</i>	25
<i>Free Classifieds</i>	27



Invitation

To: The Children of Bloomingtondale

From: Santa Claus

Event: Visit and photos* with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Date: Saturday, December 18, 1999

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Place: Bloomingtondale Community Offices, 3509 Bell Shoals Road
(Sun Trust Plaza behind the Citgo station)

*This free event is sponsored by the Bloomingtondale Homeowners Association. A donation of one non-perishable food item to be distributed to local charities entitles each family to a free photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Dear Moms, Dads and children,

Bloomingtondale is very special to me, since I have many wonderful friends in the community! Please join Mrs. Claus and I on our eleventh consecutive visit to Bloomingtondale. If you require directions or further information please call 681-2051. I personally guarantee that a representative of the North Pole will contact you promptly.

We hope to see you there!
Santa and Mrs. Claus

BLOOMINGDALE HOLIDAY DECORATIONS CONTEST

*(see story
page 9)*

ONE VERY SPECIAL GIFT, SEE STORY PAGE 7

Your Inside Connections

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

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

Web site: www.CyberRails.com/BHA/

- President Ted Grable
- Treasurer Pam Liguori
- Directors Patricia Radel
..... LaWayne Wyatt
..... Ann Underwood
..... Rodney Biddle
..... Len Jaszczak



Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

- Coordinator/Scheduler
LaWayne Wyatt, 685-2072
- 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 684-6667
- President, Thom Snelling 681-9186
- Vice President, Tom Mackiewicz 653-4145
- Treasurer, Don Cassels 681-8855
- Corresponding Secretary, R. Dickey 689-2177
- Recording Secretary, Alice Burleson 685-1076
- Trustee, Tim Golden 653-1337
- Trustee, Paul Almeida 661-2018
- Property Manager, DPPI 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.



the *B*loomingdale gazette

The official publication of the BHA
3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico, FL 33594
Phone: (813) 681-2051 Fax: (813) 651-1129
E-mail: LauraFrazier@prodigy.net

- Executive Director Joe Liguori
- Editor Laura Frazier
- Photojournalist Mack Austin
- Feature Writer Paul Almeida
- Restaurant Critic Elton Dumont

Published by Manatee Media, Inc.
P.O. Box 271880 Tampa, FL 33688-1880
Phone: (813) 964-1919 Fax: (813) 963-5876

- Advertising Director Diane Mathes
- Publisher Mark Mathes
- Advertising Sales Kathy Tidler
- Advertising Sales Arlene Jacobs
- Managing Editor Anissa Camp
- Design & Production Publisher's Support

CUSTOMIZED HOME LOANS

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MORE ROOMS, I CAN BE VERY ACCOMMODATING.



Trace L. Kuhn
Loan Consultant

173 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
Brandon, FL 33511
(813) 913-9268

I specialize in getting you into your next home.



Programs subject to change. Certain restrictions apply. Interest rate/APR may be higher than when these costs are paid by borrower. Some programs may not be combined with others. We have loan offices and accept applications in: Washington Mutual Bank, FA - many states; Washington Mutual Bank - ID, OR, UT, WA; and Washington Mutual Bank fsb - ID, MT, UT.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

- *Gift Certificates Available for the Golf Shop and Legends Grill
- *Open to the public
- *Memberships available

655-GOLF

4113 Great Golfers Place, Valrico, FL

FREE GREEN FEES

2 For 1 Special

Pay for a round of Golf and get FREE Green Fees on your next visit. Must bring in coupon. Expires 12/31/99



First Union Gives You Free Checking!

Corner of Bloomingdale and John Moore

Plus you get \$10 to open your account!



Jennifer Lynn Murphy
V.P. - Financial
Consultant

Whether it's a **personal** or **business** account, First Union offers checking with no monthly maintenance fee for the first year.* You'll also get:

- \$10 credit to your account when you open a new checking or savings account**
- VISA® Check Card with no monthly fee***
- First order of checks free****

Bloomingdale's Personal Banker

Jennifer Murphy is proud to assist Bloomingdale residents with their banking needs. She is waiting to hear from you. Call Jennifer today at 276-3800

*No monthly maintenance fee will apply for one year following opening date. Other applicable fees will be assessed. New money required. Not valid with any other offer. Offer valid on personal Customized checking accounts, or Flexible Business checking account. **\$10 will be credited to your new account within 30 days of account inception. *** Subject to credit approval. Other fees may apply. ****Limit 200 standard First union stock checks. Offers expire 12/31/99. Member FDIC. Equal opportunity lender. ©1999 First Union Corp.



REAL ESTATE UPDATE

By Luana Russell

Be Smart From The Start

QUESTION: I have a pretty good reputation as a salesman in the garment business. Why shouldn't I sell my own home?

ANSWER: Salesmanship is a very small part of the Realtor's value. It's his or her knowledge in the intricate field of property and financing and the ability to bring qualified prospects to see your home that really counts.

If pocketing a broker's commission tempts you, ask yourself if you can afford to let an amateur manage a transaction that involves thousands of dollars - your dollars! When you want a job done well, you call a specialist. This is standard for successful businessmen. Why buck success?

Importance of Location

QUESTION: How important is location to the value of real estate?

ANSWER: The three most important factors affecting the value of real estate are: "Location, Location and Location." Unfortunately, most home buyers ignore this important advice.

Location is especially vital when buying a house for maximum resale value (and who doesn't want that?). Therefore, take a long, hard, look -- not only at the present -- but the future prospects of the community and immediate neighborhood. Select a location where home values have an increasing trend. You can replace or remodel a house -- but you can never change a location.

Luana
RUSSELL

Five-Star Service

889 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
Brandon, FL 33511

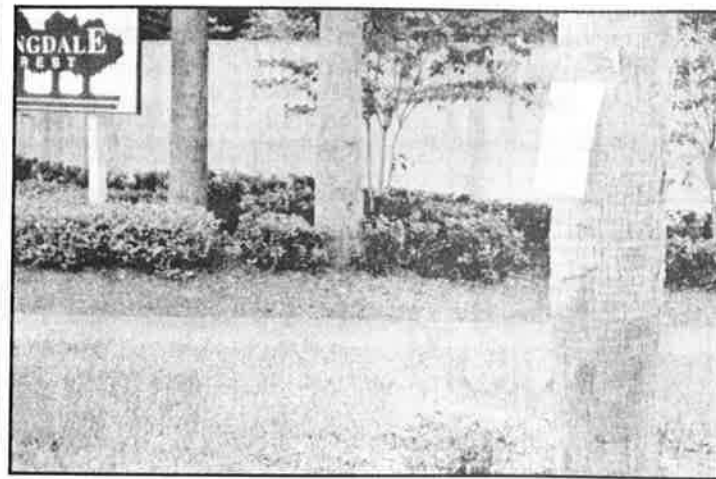
662-1610 or 685-8545



Brandon Bears Seeks Volunteers

The Brandon Bears Youth Football and Cheerleading League, Inc. is currently seeking volunteers for the 2000 season.

Applications are now being accepted for the positions of Football Athletic Director and coaches, Cheerleading Director and coaches and Board of Directors members. For more information, please call Mr. Matthews at 685-3057 or 684-1068. ©



Nailing or stapling signs to trees is a County Codes violation and destroys our trees by opening the bark to insects and disease. Putting signs on telephone poles is also a violation, and presents a danger to TECO workers. The County Codes Department will remove the signs and charge fines accordingly. Photo by Mack Austin.

Memo

To: Bloomingdale residents

From: Al Devney, DPPI Property Management, Inc.

I would like to thank the residents that call me at home or stop me in the area to let me know when our irrigation system needs some attention. This service helps me a great deal to maintain our extensive irrigation system. Please keep the calls coming! I can be reached at 684-6617. Al Devney

Letters to the Gazette

Bloomingfield Drive Speed bumps

A Bloomingdale West resident writes:

"Since the speed bumps on Bloomingfield Drive were replaced, the thru-traffic on Paddlewheel Drive and Van Reed Manor has more than doubled. I would like to inquire about the possible installation of one or two speed bumps on these streets before an accident occurs. There are quite a few children who play in the area. Thanks for allowing me to voice my opinion."

Editor's reply: Any Hillsborough County resident or group of residents can contact the County in order to nominate a street for evaluation under the Residential Traffic Control (RTC) Program. However, as Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) President Ted Grable says, "The speed bump issue can create considerable polarity in a community. Bloomingdale residents responding to surveys and attending county hearings have indicated that, although they would allow speed bumps in severe circumstances, a clear majority would object to them. For these reasons, the BHA has been very cautious about supporting new speed bumps in Bloomingdale." The County offers free information on the RTC program by e-mailing infor@hillsboroughcounty.org, calling (813) 272-5912 or writing to Engineering Department, RTC Program, 601 East Kennedy Blvd., 23rd Floor, P.O. Box 1110, Tampa, FL 33601.

Does reclaimed water proposal stink?

A Bloomingdale East resident writes:

"In reference to "The Bloomingdale Buzz" column in the October issue of the Gazette (in which several residents polled supported bringing reclaimed water to our community), I would like to make a comment. Don't we now have reclaimed water on Glenhaven? It certainly smells like it and it isn't pleasant."

Editor's reply: The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District (STD) maintains over 20 wells (not reclaimed water) providing irrigation to our common areas. The well water's iron and mineral content are responsible for the odors and the rust stains on some of our perimeter walls. Reclaimed water, currently in use at Alafia Elementary School and Bloomingdale Golfer's Club, reportedly has no odor. The STD is currently evaluating the potential use of reclaimed water in our community, as reported in the November 1999 issue of the Gazette (accessible at the BHA web site at www.cybertrails.com/bha/). All residents are encour-

aged to submit their comments, concerns and questions about this proposed project by contacting the STD or attending the monthly STD meetings. For further information and meeting dates/times, please call the STD at 684-6667.

Deed Restriction violations

A Bloomingdale West resident writes:

"I would like to know why my neighbor has been allowed to keep a major appliance in his driveway for over two months now. I have previously stored smaller items on the side of my house temporarily, and was promptly notified by the Homeowners Association to remove them. It seems the Association is kind of "hit and miss" in the enforcement of deed restrictions."

Editor's reply: Leaving junk or trash on display is both a deed restriction and County codes violation. We checked with BHA President Ted Grable who informs us that this matter has been resolved. When a complaint is received, volunteer members of our Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) conduct a curbside inspection of the property. If an apparent code violation is found, the NIP volunteer will mail a notice of violation to the homeowner. The BHA reports an extremely high rate of voluntary compliance through the NIP team's efforts. If the apparent violation is not corrected within one week, NIP will file a formal complaint with the County's Code Enforcement Office. If a homeowner has received a NIP notice and fails to correct the problem, the only course is to work directly with the County's Code Enforcement Office. Detailed information about Deed Restrictions is available at the BHA web site at www.CyberRails.com/bha/. Deed restriction violation complaints may be submitted to the BHA voice mail (681-2051) or e-mail (BHA@cybertrails.com). All information regarding complaints is kept strictly confidential.

Lornewood Drive facelift?

A Bloomingdale East resident writes:

"Can you please tell me what the status of re-paving the roads is? I live on Lornewood Drive. When (the adjacent) Ellenville Road was repaved, Lornewood was left a mess. Do they intend to do all the streets?"

Editor's reply: Ellenville Drive was on a County list of streets scheduled for resurfacing this year, as reported in the July 1999 issue of the Gazette (accessible at the BHA web site at www.CyberRails.com/bha/). County officials indicate that Lornewood Drive was evaluated and reported to be "oxidized, with minor rav-

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

eling and minor block cracking", a condition that does not warrant leveling and resurfacing. The Public Works Department is currently performing an evaluation of all County maintained roadways. Lornewood and other Bloomingdale streets may qualify for various other surface treatments. The streets identified will be prioritized for treatments beginning in October 2000. For further information, please call the County's Community Relations hotline at 272-5275 or e-mail infor@hillsboroughcounty.org.

Bloomingdale residents, the Gazette welcomes your questions, comments and suggestions on community issues. Letters should include the writer's name, address, phone number and e-mail address, and will be published anonymously if so requested. Write to: The Bloomingdale Gazette, 3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico, FL 33594, Fax (813) 651-1129, E-Mail LauraFrazier@prodigy.net.

All letters are subject to editing for clarity and length. Due to space limits not all letters can be printed, but our staff will make every effort to respond to all letters received.

Welcome to Bloomingdale

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

Jonah Alexander and Noah Christopher Daniel
Born October 10, 1999 to Lisa and Christopher Daniel

Molly Elizabeth Klaeren
Born October 14, 1999 to Michele and Daniel Klaeren

Brendan Michael Matthews
Born October 18, 1999 to Angela and Michael Matthews

Lindsay Taylor Houston
Born October 20, 1999 to Cyndi and John Houston

Stacey Ann DiJulio
Born October 23, 1999 to Stephanie Little and Jason DiJulio

Congratulations from the staff and friends of The Bloomingdale Gazette!

Do you know of a "new addition" to our community? Please call the Gazette at 681-2051, write to Editor, 3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico, FL 33594 or E-Mail LauraFrazier@prodigy.net. We would be pleased to publish your birth announcement!

One gift

A Gazette special feature

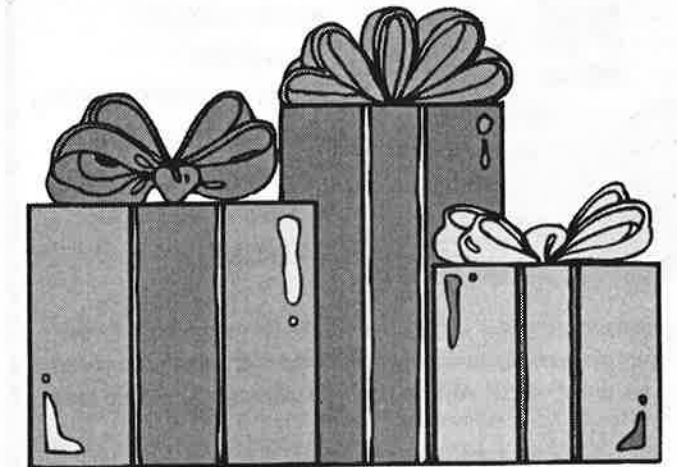
We asked students in Mrs. Gifford's combination 4th and 5th grade class at Alafia Elementary to share their thoughts with us in the form of an essay addressing the following question: "If you could give one special gift to anyone in the world, what would the gift be and to whom would you give it?" As we anticipated the silly, outrageous and decadent responses (of which we received quite a few!), imagine our bitter-sweet surprise as we came across the following essay, submitted by a 10-year-old boy who had clearly contemplated our question before we ever asked it.

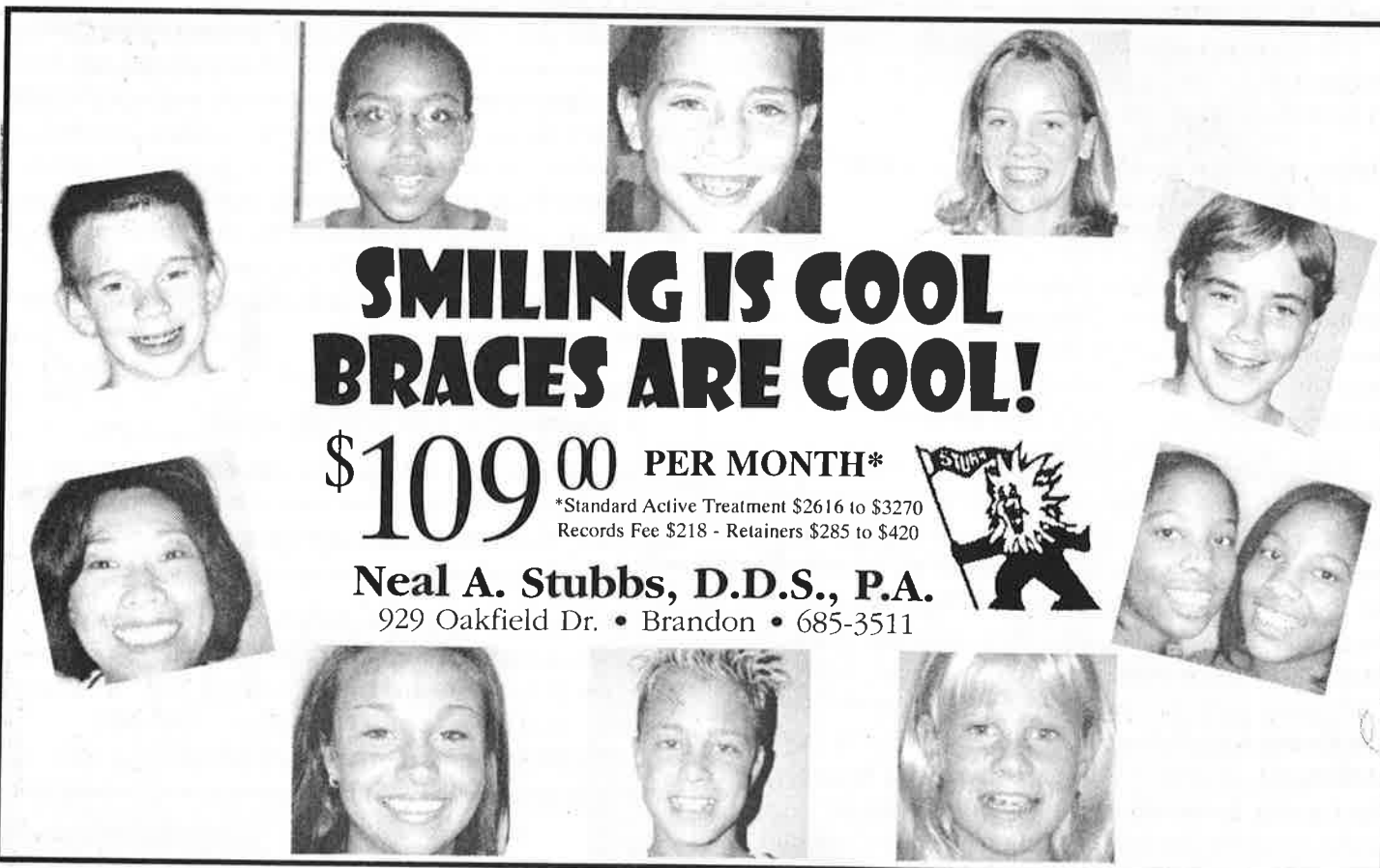
"If I could give a gift to anybody, I would give it to my sister, Alyssa. She is handicapt. She cannot tell us



what she is feeling. I would give her one day to be a normal person. We would have lots of fun. We would go anywhere she wanted. We would eat anywhere. We would do everything she wanted to do. But we can't. So I like her the way she is. So that is who I would give my gift to if I could give it to anybody."

In this season of so many "wants", let us remember that it is more than enough to have everything we need. Special thanks to the author and to all the children who shared their essays with us.






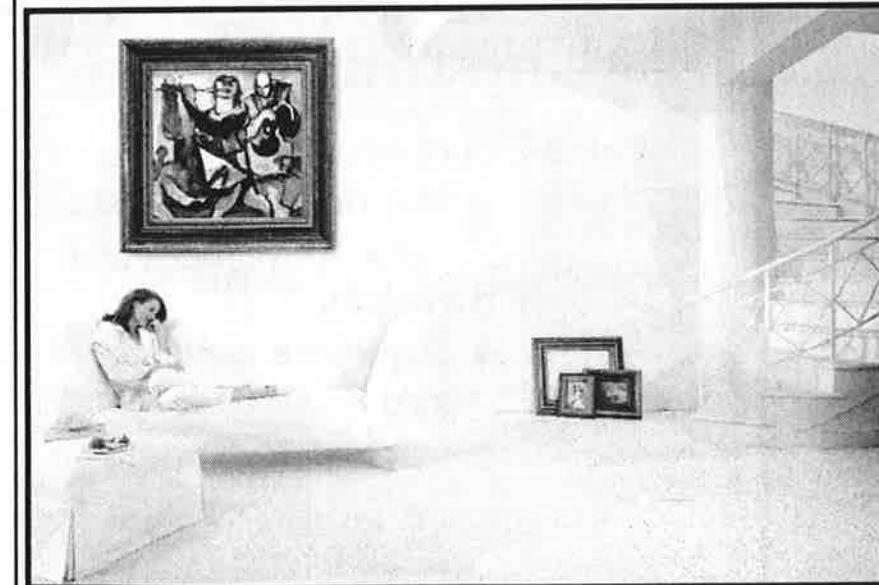
SMILING IS COOL BRACES ARE COOL!

\$109⁰⁰ PER MONTH*

*Standard Active Treatment \$2616 to \$3270
Records Fee \$218 - Retainers \$285 to \$420

Neal A. Stubbs, D.D.S., P.A.
929 Oakfield Dr. • Brandon • 685-3511





- Exclusive Preservation Plus™ framing. The methods & materials used to protect your fine artwork.
- To control quality, all framing is done on the premises using state of the art equipment.
- Commercial Accounts Welcome.

- We stock a vast variety of high quality materials and pass on our volume savings.
- We provide the fastest turnaround & highest quality in the industry!
- 100% "No Problem" Design & Craftsmanship Guarantee!

FASTFRAME®

EXPERT PICTURE FRAMING

IF IT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU,
IT'S IMPORTANT TO US.™

OPENING SOON!

Brandon

857 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
(813) 655-6400

Shops individually owned and operated • Visit us at www.fastframe.com

\$25 off

Custom Picture Framing
Order of \$100 or more

Must present certificate when ordering. Limit one coupon per household. Offer good for custom framing orders only. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount or offer. Not applicable with work in progress.

Beautiful Holiday Wishes from The Beautiful Life



- ◆ Holiday Shopping without the hassle
- ◆ Delivery within days
- ◆ All items in stock
- ◆ Gift Wrapping available
- ◆ Secure online ordering
- ◆ Visa, Mastercard, American Express
- ◆ Phone orders also accepted

Experience Holidays without the hassle! Relax and shop for the perfect gift from the comfort of your home with a fresh cup of coffee, tea or hot cocoa! We'll be happy to giftwrap your unique finds.

www.thebeautifulife.com

Brandon Christmas Parade Holiday Decorations Contest



The eighth annual Brandon Christmas Parade, sponsored by the President's Roundtable of Greater Brandon, will be held on Saturday, December 11 at 10:00 am. In honor of the millennium, the theme of this year's parade is "The Century Remembered." Dozens of clubs, bands, businesses, vehicles and floats will join the hundreds of spectators anticipated to celebrate the season. A special appearance by Santa Claus is planned. The parade will begin at Parsons Avenue and Lumsden Road, proceeding north on Parsons to Robertson Street, turning west and ending on Buckingham Place. Spectators should plan to arrive early for convenient parking and the best vantage points. Many churches and businesses along the route offer the use of their parking lots for parade goers. ☺

Dazzling icicles, grapevine reindeer, rooftop Santas... Bloomingdale residents have been known to deck the halls in grand style. This year, The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association is sponsoring a Best Bloomingdale Holiday Decorations contest. We have enlisted the help of several elves to patrol our community this month in search of the most impressive holiday displays. Gift certificate prizes will be awarded in three categories: Most Elegant Display, Most Charming Display and the esteemed Most Delightfully Excessive Display. If you would like to call our attention to your home or one that has caught your eye, please call the BHA at 681-2051 or E-Mail LauraFrazier@prodigy.net. Get out those extension cords and let the lighting begin!



What do you give your Mom for Christmas?
Give her a gift certificate from
Picture this... photography

She'll use it to create memories for your Grandchildren. Emagin that!
www.Emagin.com



1961 W. Lumsden By Appointment
(Prudence & Lumsden) 653-9020

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season From Your friends at



Face Lift Pressure Cleaning Let Us Spruce Up Your Home For The Holidays

Cleaning Services Include...

Roof Cleaning

(We Can Rid Your Roof Of That Ugly Black Fungus)

Brick, Aluminum, Vinyl Siding, Stucco, Decks, Patios,

Screens, Deck Sealing and Staining, Driveways,

Sidewalks and Fencing

P.M.B. #135, 1971 W. Lumsden Rd., Brandon, FL 33510

Call Today For A Free Estimate
661-7446

The Chestnut Tree

Festive Gourmet Gift Baskets



- ◆ The finest chocolates - milk, white, dark and regular
- ◆ Sugarfree candies and chocolates
- ◆ Gourmet food items

Unique Holiday Luncheons

- ◆ Light Breakfasts
- ◆ Luncheon specials begin under \$5
- ◆ Quaint restaurant for small group luncheons (20 or less)

689-3798

Mon.-Sat. 9am -3pm

796 W. Lumsden Rd. (LaViva Plaza)

We pack and ship your gifts as carefully as you choose them.



Brandon's Premier Packing & Shipping Centers

Two locations to serve you

813 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
689-4998

M-F 8-7, Sat 9-5, Sun 12-4

235 W. Brandon Blvd.

681-3136

M-F 9-6, Sat 9-5



Season Greeting from Jim and Sue Harbridge

\$2.00 OFF One UPS/FED-EX Shipping With coupon
10% OFF One Packing With coupon



Happiest of Holidays from your friends at



EAT, DRINK AND BE CHERRY!

FUN - GREAT FOOD - SPIRITS

PARTY PLATTERS TO GO!

100 Wings,

Celery & Blue Cheese

\$29.95



903 EAST BLOOMINGDALE AVE.

662-1500

SAT-SUN 11:30 am - 3:00 am

FREE LUNCH Buy 1 Lunch Get 1 1/2 Price (of Equal or Lesser Value) Valid 11:30 am to 4 pm	FREE APPETIZER Buy Any 2 Entrees Get 1 FREE Appetizer (of Equal or Lesser Value) Valid 11:30 am to 4 pm	TAKE OUT SPECIAL 20 WINGS \$7.95
--	---	---

The Bloomingdale Buzz

By Mason Meehan

We took a random survey of five Bloomingdale residents, asking the following question, "Are you concerned about the speculated Y2K problems, and are you doing anything special to prepare for Y2K?"

Mike Green, Bristol Green

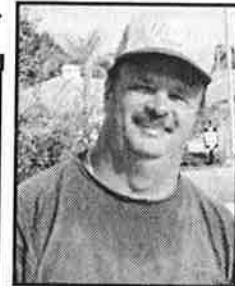
"I don't believe there will be any serious breakdowns in service. I plan to stay home with my family and rent a movie. As far as I can tell, everything will work just fine with no major shut downs or interruptions. I don't have any special concerns about the banks or utility companies."



Diane King, The Cove

"We moved here recently from rural Indiana. Because it was rural, I had a mental checklist such as food, water, electric, etc. I'm hoping that here in the Tampa area, service providers are already Y2K compliant. I don't think we should experience any problems."

Farrell Matthews, Bloomingdale Villas



"I'm not overly concerned at all. I think everyone should stay balanced and maybe take some minor precautions like keeping your gas tank full. I don't plan on stocking up on food or pulling out extra money. I think the 21st century will come in without any special fanfare, just as the 19th century gave way to the 20th."

David Jones, Estates at River Crossing



"Everything is going to be okay! I don't have any special plans except a few extra dollars. I'm not worried about any service providers like phones or electricity. I've been watching how hard the Y2K techs have been working in various areas and I'm satisfied that there will be no major problems."

Mike Frazier, Stratford Trace



"I think it's all a bunch of hype. I'm confident that service providers and major businesses have everything in order. We did an extensive analysis of our systems at the office and found no major problems. I don't think there will be any effect on our lives from banking to grocery stores and air travel. I did, however, buy a few cans of Spam!"

Editor's note: Does anyone have any good Spam recipes?!

January 10, 2000 and are held from 5:45 - 6:45 pm on the following days:

- Age 3 and 4 Tuesdays
- Age 5 and 6 Tuesdays
- Age 7, 8 and 9 Mondays
- Age 10, 11 and 12 Thursdays
- Age 13 and 14 Thursdays

Help Needed! Parent volunteer coaches, assistants and team mothers/fathers are needed to make this season a success. For more information, please stop by the rec center or contact Donna Clouse, Recreation Director, at 744-5907 weekdays 6:30 - 9:00 pm.

Bloomingdale West Rec Center News

Activity: Basketball

Ages: Boys and Girls age 3-14 (age 3-9 play modified, age 10 and up play regulation)

Registration: December 1-17, 1999

Cost: \$20 donation payable to "Friends of the Park" includes t-shirt, shorts, mouthpiece and award

Season: Weekly practice and games through the week of February 28. Awards presentation week of March 6. Practice sessions/games begin the week of



The Balmoral II
3345 sq. ft. model home in Bristol Green.

www.macrileyhomes.com

Broker Participation Welcome.

"We think cookie cutters belong in the kitchen."
Riley Tucker, President

Eagle Pointe
Exclusive gated community in Bloomingdale from the \$220s.
661-9896

Riverwatch
Gated community in Riverview from the \$160s. 672-8857

Bristol Green
Final phase, only 3 golf course lots left in Bloomingdale from the \$180s.
684-8040

Riley Homes
TUCKER DIVISION, INC.
Together - Your Dream. Our Experience.

MAJIK TOUCH CLEANERS

"EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE"

Apollo Beach 220 Apollo Beach Blvd. 645-1499	Bloomingdale Royal Oaks Shopping Ctr. Lithia Pinecrest Rd. 654-8113	Bloomingdale 3509 Bell Shoals Rd. Just S. of Bloomingdale 654-9292	Brandon Oak Park Plaza 717 W. Lumsden 654-9541	Brandon 913 W. Brandon Blvd. Builders Square Plaza 684-4499
Brandon Lake Brandon Village 11393 Causeway Blvd. 643-6944	Seffner North Grove Plaza 1515 S. Parsons 684-5897	Valrico Valrico Square 1985 E. Brandon Blvd. 654-2324	North Brandon Kingsway Plaza 1213 Kingsway Ave. 653-4535	

\$1.10 EACH SHIRTS LAUNDERED
With \$5.00 Minimum Dry Cleaning Order, No exceptions, Limit 10.
Blouses, Polo & Boxed Shirts extra
COUPON EXPIRES 12/31/99

\$5.00 OFF ANY DRYCLEANING ORDER OVER \$25.00
Valid on Incoming Orders Only - No exceptions. Valid only with coupon. Not valid with other coupons.
COUPON EXPIRES 12/31/99

20% OFF WEDDING GOWN DRAPERY CLEANING, BEDSPREADS COMFORTERS, BLANKETS
Valid on Incoming Orders Only - No exceptions. Valid only with coupon. Not valid with other coupons or on sale items.
COUPON EXPIRES 12/31/99

\$3.00 OFF ANY DRYCLEANING ORDER OVER \$15.00
Valid on Incoming Orders Only - No exceptions. Valid only with coupon. Not valid with other coupons.
COUPON EXPIRES 12/31/99

Bloomingdale Senior High School News

By Mack Austin

Special Thanks

The PTSA, school administration, parents and students who attended the "Providing a Safer School Environment" program in October wish to extend a special thanks to the many outstanding agencies who participated in the program, to the panelists who provided critical information to parents and students, and to Steve Otto for doing a great job of moderating the discussions. One of the most important points presented was the need for positive communication between parents, students and teachers during this high-pressure time in all of their lives.



Pictured left to right, Counselor Toni Brown, PTSA President Ted Grable, School Psychologist Iris Vosteen, Program Moderator and Tampa Tribune columnist Steve Otto and Pediatrician Dr. Gerry Hough at BSHS's "Providing a Safer School Environment" program. Photo by Ellen Gates.

PTSA makes "Carnibull" sweet

The PTSA provided one of the sweetest booths at the November Carnibull. Under the guidance and experienced leadership of Kathy Steed, Volunteer Coordinator for the PTSA, a group of volunteers produced, sold and sometime ate the best cotton candy available. They proved that the PTSA is not all meetings and planning; you can actually have fun! Several key positions are vacant and need to be filled to make this group as effective as it can be. If you would like to become a member of this group of parents who want to make a positive difference at Bloomingdale High, please call the PTSA at 744-8018, extension 563.

Games needed

Several students at Bloomingdale High have started an old-fashioned "Game Club." These are the games we remember from years ago like Chinese checkers, Checkers, Dominoes and Monopoly; games that really challenged your skills. Anyone with games they would like to donate can leave them at the school office. It's great to see students interested in something other than video games! (C)



Holiday Ornament Sale

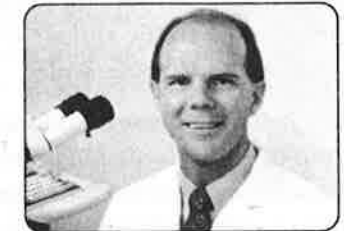
The Bloomingdale Rajun' Bull Marching Band is selling Limited Edition Millennium Bloomingdale High School Holiday ornaments. The ornament, a clear ball with red and black mylar inside, has a white Rajun' Bull on one side and "Seasons Greetings - Year 2000" printed in white on the other side. Students may purchase the ornament for \$5 in the Band Room or during 4th period lunch beginning the first week of December. The Green Boutique and the Center Place Gift Shop will also be selling the ornaments. For more information, call Lisa Rodriguez at 685-5472.



A doctor's eyes are very important

"I had concerns about the LASIK procedure because my eyes are my livelihood. Then I met Dr. Shriver."

- Rudy Liddell, DDS
Brandon Dental Care



Dr. Peter Shriver
The Doctors LASIK Choice

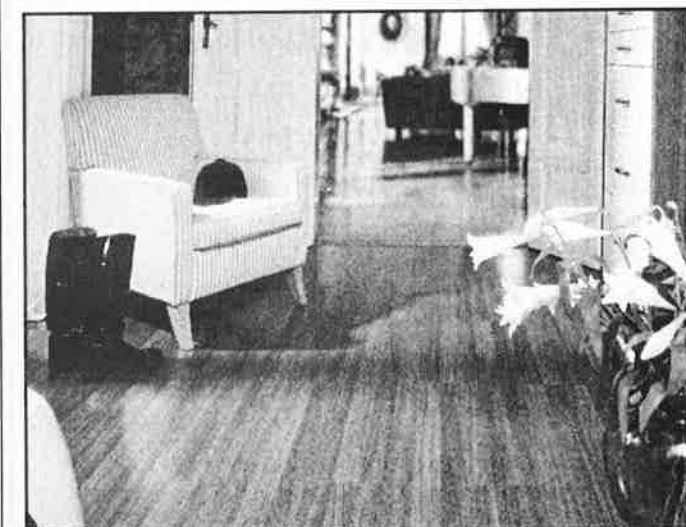
Come to our FREE SEMINAR

Attend a free seminar on Lasik and separate the facts from the hype. Meet Dr. Peter Shriver and discover what LASIK can do for you.

When: Please call for our seminar schedule.

Where: Brandon Eye Associates
1463 Oakfield Suite 113

Call today seating is limited (813)684-2211



Mr. Tom Wagner,

owner of Floors n' Floors, is the only Armstrong Master Floor Layer in Hillsborough County. No other floor covering store offers such a high level of professional service. Mr. Wagner is also endorsed by Perstorp Flooring, Inc.

With Tom's 44 years of on-the-job training and a family member professionally responsible to him for each job, you can rely on Floors N' Floors to take care of your flooring needs.

FLOORS N' FLOORS



Pergo, The Family Floor For Children & Pets

- PERGO We install genuine Pergo flooring for \$6.00 per sq. ft.
- Ceramic Tile
- Vinyl by Armstrong
- Carpet

(813) 689-8663

124 E. Brandon Blvd., Brandon
Estimates anytime, 6 am to 6 pm



Seen any transportation problems lately?

By Mack Austin

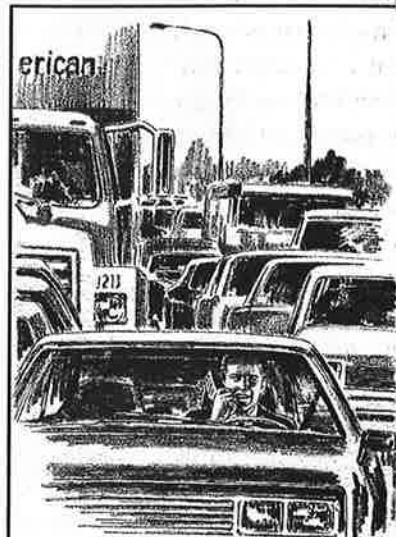
Do you think Bloomingdale and the surrounding areas have any transportation problems? How much extra time do you find it necessary to allow due to traffic to get your errands run? Know of any roads that need widening or are in need of resurfacing or repair? Have you tried to find a bus route that fits your needs? Just where are the bike trails for our area? Seen any intersections that need a traffic signal? Try imagining these problems on a countywide scale.

This was the challenge presented four months ago to the Committee of 99, ninety-nine residents from Hillsborough County who were challenged to identify the transportation needs of Hillsborough County, find ways to pay for those needs, and present their recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). With outstanding planning, coordination and dedication from the Hillsborough County Administration and staff, the first phase of this enormous undertaking has been completed. Now the

tremendous task of effectively using those recommendations is in the hands of the BOCC, our state Legislators and the voters of Hillsborough County.

Meetings and public hearings were held throughout the county, and were video taped and relayed to the public. Residents throughout the county presented their opinions and concerns directly to the Committee. They knew that this critical subject affects each one of us every time we travel the highways and roads of Hillsborough County.

The Committee's final recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners included \$197 million to build new roads and widen existing ones, \$176 mil-



(continued on page 15)

(continued from page 14)

lion to improve intersections, \$263 million for more, smaller busses with better county routes, \$50 million for sidewalks and ramps, \$34 million for bicycle lanes, \$35 million for street resurfacing, \$35 million for bridge repairs and \$51 million to improve safety. Committee members recommended that funding for these improvements should come from a specific schedule that requires the Board of County Commissioners to pass a 5-cent gas tax, raise impact fees to a 30% recovery rate and have residents vote on a half-cent sales tax increase next fall. These costs would be spread over the next ten years. The recommendations incorporate strict check and balance requirements to insure funds are spent as recommended, and for the BOCC to actively find ways to decrease property taxes. Rail was not recommended.

Improving transportation is one of the most important areas controlled by the BOCC. Everyone is affected by it, every day. A final public hearing is scheduled for December 7 at 6:00 pm at the County Center. Up to date information on this project can be seen on Hillsborough County TV or accessed at the Committee of 99 web site at www.hillsboroughcounty.org/committee99/home.html. ©

Speed monitor fund drive

By Mack Austin

The fund drive for the speed monitor is very close to being completed. Coordination in process should produce enough funds to purchase the monitor, to be used by our community deputies to reduce speeding in Bloomingdale. Funds will be needed to maintain the monitor. All contributions are welcome from businesses, school PTAs, Homeowners Associations or individuals wanting to help improve safety in our community. Donations can be sent to C. B. Richard Ellis, Attn: Tom Karpenske, 201 East Kennedy Blvd., Suite 1121, Tampa, FL 33602. Please make checks payable to Mailboxes, Etc., F.B.O. Radar Display, or contact the BHA at 681-2051 for more information. Thanks to those who have contributed to this special project.



C. Cole Jeffries, Jr., Daniel W. King,
Frank J. Nivert, Clifton C. Curry, Jr.

LAW OFFICES

CURRY & ASSOCIATES, P.A.

A Full Service Law Firm

(813) 653-2500

La Viva Professional Center, 750 W. Lumsden Rd., Brandon, FL 33511

The Hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

FAMILY LAW
BUSINESS LAW
REAL ESTATE
CONSTRUCTION
WILLS & PROBATE
LITIGATION
PERSONAL INJURY &
WRONGFUL DEATH



Ed Rahal, DMD

GENTLE DENTAL CARE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Dr. Rahal, practicing in Valrico for 11 years, performs all phases of dentistry on adults and children.

654-3399

12-month interest free financing available
3646 Lithia Pinecrest Rd., Valrico, FL



Two Weeks FREE

MEMBERSHIP AT

BRANDON'S BEST

FITNESS CLUB



Now Open
24 Hours!

1998-1999
Small Business
of the year

654-6568
1903 W. Lumsden Rd.
Brandon



2 Week FREE
Trial Membership

654-6568
1903 W. Lumsden Rd.

Must be 18 years or older. Introductory offer.
May apply to initiation. No obligations.

Bloomingtondale High Ice Hockey Team to play at the "Rink of Dreams"

The Tampa Bay Lightning is sponsoring a game night at the Ice Palace for four local High School ice hockey teams. Bloomingtondale, Durant, Riverview and Gaither High Schools have formed a High School Ice Hockey Club with the support of Fred Eaton of the Brandon Ice Sports Forum. The players are eager to play on the "Rink of Dreams," and hope to gain support from the community that will enable them to participate in competition with other teams in Southern Florida. The games take place on January 15, 2000 at The Ice Palace, 401 Channelside Drive in Tampa. The 1st game begins at 2:30 pm, the 2nd game starts at 4:00. Tickets are only \$16 for both High School Club games and the following 7:30 pm Lighting game. All proceeds will be used to support the club teams. For ticket information, please call Leo Grossman at 651-9077 or Paula Smith at 684-6010.

Christmas tree recycling

We know, we know... the shopping isn't done and the tree may not even be up yet, but here's a bit of information to mentally file away for use after the hub bub (and the tree) has died down. Once again, Hillsborough County residential solid waste collection customers will have two options to recycle their live Christmas trees this year - curbside collection or self delivery to a County Yard Waste Processing Facility.

Here's what we need to do:

Curbside collection: Remove all tinsel and ornaments. Cut your tree into four 4-foot sections and place out on your normal yard waste collection service day.

Self-delivery: Remove all tinsel and ornaments and deliver your tree to the nearest County Yard Waste Processing facility. Bring a copy of your property tax bill (which lists the Solid Waste Disposal Assessment) and some form of identification. The Faulkenburg Yard Waste Facility at 350 Faulkenburg Rd. in Brandon is open from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 272-5680.

The show must go on!

By Laura Frazier

The cancellation of the Bloomingtondale Bulls football game on November 5 did not pre-empt the game's scheduled entertainment. Band Directors from Bloomingtondale High School and Burns and Rodgers Middle Schools smoothly switched gears, turning the planned half time show into an opulent, full-fledged Band Night. Approximately 1,000 band members, family and friends attended the performance.

Incredibly, the middle schools performed together as one band for the first time, playing under the direction of Kevin Lewis (Burns) and Evan Ziegler (Rodgers). Following the middle school performance, The Bloomingtondale High School Jazz Band giggered to the delight of the toe-tapping, cheering crowd.

Under the direction of Ted Hope, Scott Rudes and Willie Lawson, The Rajun' Bulls performed their marching program, Gypsy, three times. During the second performance, parents, friends and family took to the field, shadowing band members and The Crimson Dolls auxiliary performance team through the entire program. The parent's efforts to keep up with the students'

precision moves resulted in nothing short of hilarity. The third rendition was in full uniform, a glorious performance that earned a standing ovation.



Members of Bloomingtondale High School's Rajun' Bulls Marching Band.

For the grand finale, all three bands performed together as one, then exited the field in the Rajun' Bulls traditional "snake" formation, maneuvering in a snaking fashion from the field back to the band room. Middle school students commented that, "the snake was the best part!"

The Rajun' Bull Marching Band performed the Gypsy program at the 1999 Florida Bandmasters Association Marching Festival on November 13, and received the highest rating possible. To those who witnessed the band's stellar performance at Band Night, the superior rating surely comes as no surprise.






No Money Down & Same-As-Cash Until April 1, 2000

Southern Lawn & Turf Equipment

BRANDON/PLANT CITY
2805 S.R. 60 West
813-737-1660

* Subject to approved credit. If the balance is not paid in full by the end of Same-As-Cash promotional period, interest will be assumed from original date of purchase. Other special rates and terms may be available, including installment financing for commercial use.

That's right, stop by any of the four Bay area Southern Lawn and Turf locations, make your selection and make no payments until APRIL 2000. Choose from the full line of John Deere residential equipment, from walk-behind mowers to powerful Lawn and Garden tractors.

Hurry though - offers like this don't last forever.



EMERGENCY PLUMBING REPAIRS

\$10⁰⁰ OFF

Any Service Call With Ad

We Charge By The Job... Not The Hour!

(You know the price before we start)*

- Better, Cleaner, Faster
- Sewer & Drain Cleaning
- Ultrasonic Leak Detection
- Repipe Specialists
- All Plumbing Repairs Guaranteed
- Same Day Water Heater Repair/Replacement
- High Pressure Sewer Jetting/Video Taping

INSTANT FINANCING AVAILABLE



Grable

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE!

Plumbing Co.

FAST SERVICE

* A minimum Diagnostic Fee Applies

BLOOMINGDALE 685-3636

24 HOUR 7 DAY PLUMBING REPAIR

STATE CERTIFIED PLUMBING CONTRACTOR #CFC 032581 LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED

Restaurant Review

By Elton Dumont

New City Diner
 1002 N. Himes Avenue
 Tampa
 (813) 877-2088

I apologize to the loyal readers of my column. I try to stay as close to the greater Bloomingdale area as possible but in this case, the additional drive was well worth it. After an early movie on a recent Saturday, four of us decided to try out the New City Diner. This is not your ordinary diner. It is an actual replica of a 50's style diner complete with Formica tables, vinyl and aluminum chairs, vinyl booths, stainless steel drawers and cupboards, tile floors and Fiesta (ask your mom) dinnerware. According to our server Sue, the original diner came from Pennsylvania in the 1940's and has been in the current location for 8 years. But that's where the nostalgic similarity ends. The dinner menu and daily specials are extensive and definitely contemporary. I agree with the St. Pete Times review that said, "...service and wine list beats many white tablecloth restaurants and shames the staff of big buck places."

Appetizers on the regular menu included beef tenderloin and mushrooms quesadilla (\$6.95) and baked artichoke hearts (\$5.95). The artichokes are sautéed in a butter, mushroom and garlic base, topped with provolone and Parmesan, then baked and served with



grilled focaccia. The daily special menu had an additional 5 appetizers including escargot with garlic and asiago stuffed mushrooms (\$5.95).

On the Saturday night our foursome was there, they had run out of the soup de jour, a creamy tomato and pancetta with crumbled bleu cheese. As an alternative, they served a homemade black bean and pork soup. It was so good that we were glad they offered it. This was no mere substitute, but a top quality, rich, thick soup.

The special entrees included Szechwan pepper seared tuna (\$13.95), grilled rack of lamb with smoked bacon (\$15.95) or BBQ grilled smoked center cut pork chops with sweet potato au gratin (\$10.95). I had the New Orleans crab cakes that were grilled, not fried. There were three hearty cakes sautéed in butter with a roasted red pepper remoulade sauce, served with basmati rice (\$12.95). My wife had the grilled boneless pork chops, also served as a "hat trick" with three delicious chops marinated in olive oil, garlic, herbs and a balsamic sauce and served with garlic mashed potatoes (\$9.95).

Our friends had the sautéed chicken with asparagus and mushrooms in a light asparagus cream over linguine (\$9.95) and the cracked cumin grilled pork tenderloin with a warm tomatillo salsa and jalapeno cheddar corn cakes (\$12.95). All the entrees, whether from the regular or special menu, include soup or salad. The salad, incidentally, met all my criteria for freshness, choice of dressings and chilled ingredients.

And dessert? By far, one of the most extensive dessert menus in Tampa with 14 solid choices. You can choose from Mango orange or banana coconut crême brulee, warm apple brioche bread pudding, chocolate truffle mousse torte or the New Orleans bourbon pecan torte. We ordered two desserts and naturally spread them around.

Other miscellaneous notes; the iced tea was a tropical flavor, they served delicious garlic and butter rolls, they used cloth napkins (a concession to the 90's), and the table hot sauce is not of the Louisiana variety. It is called Cholula Hot Sauce and is imported from Mexico. It is a 4 alarm, so be careful.

Our bill, including tax and tip, was under \$40. The Emperor's tab was also under \$40. As an added benefit, our Gusto card was welcome.

Until we eat again,
Elton Dumont

Keeping Brandon kids
 healthy for over 20 years



The staff of
Nadal Pediatrics
 Proudly welcomes all new &
 established patients

Pediatrics/adolescents • Board certified
 Accepting most insurances
 Please stop by and see our new office.
 We are open Monday - Friday 8am to 5pm
500 Vonderburg Dr.,
Suite 212, West
Brandon, Florida 33511
813-655-0292



Culligan. Water for life.
 Rusty Water? White Spots? Bad Taste? Bad Odor?

RENT
A Culligan® Water Conditioner or
Good Water Machine™

Rent a
 Culligan
 Water System
\$349
 A Month
 limited time only



Limited time offer.
 Since Culligan Dealers are independently operated, offers and participation may vary.
 Not valid with any other offer. Applies to normal installations.
 1998 Culligan International Co.

Culligan
 Brandon 759-6060 is Water®

New Student Testing - Call For Application 689-1952

Brandon Academy
 PRIVATE SCHOOL

FULLY ACCREDITED BY THE FLORIDA COUNCIL OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS AND THE FLORIDA KINDERGARTEN COUNCIL

- 28 years of Academic Excellence
- Kindergarten Through Eighth Grade
- Enrichment Curriculum
- Low Student-Teacher Ratio
- Before and After School Care



801 Limona Road • Brandon, FL 33510

689-1952 CALL FOR APPLICATION

Teresa (Terry) Curry - Administrator

The Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.



Diane Wright, D.M.D.



SMILEWRIGHT
 COSMETIC & RESTORATIVE
Dentistry

- Tooth Whitening • Porcelain Veneers
- Cosmetic Bonding • Crown & Bridge
- Routine Dental Care

*All performed in a safe,
 comfortable, gentle setting*

12 Month Interest Free Financing Available

(813) 653-1455

1202 Millennium Parkway • Brandon, Florida

The gift of time

By Mack Austin

During "National Make a Difference Day", a group of volunteers came together to make a difference in the lives of a very special Bloomingdale family. Bloomingdale resident and Tampa Police Department Community Service Officer Mary Anne Hunsberger organized the group to help ready the home that the Sampson family, the Adoption Council of Tampa Bay's Adoptive Family of the Year, was preparing to move into. The Sampson family includes ten children, eight of whom are adopted, ranging in age from four to fifteen. Skip Sampson is retired Navy and teaches Algebra at Progress Village Middle School. Susan, with two sets of washers and dryers, is obviously a full-time homemaker.

The project was funded with a \$1,000 prize from Walmart Corporation that was awarded to Officer Hunsberger. The volunteers assembled from all over the Tampa Bay area including the Tampa Police Department, DEFY (Drug Education For Youth), the



TPD Chief Jane Siling, CSO Mary Anne Hunsberger and Parole and Probation volunteer Brian Haberan help Susan Sampson assemble a play gym. Photo by Mack Austin.

Department of Corrections, the Public Defenders office, Parole and Probation office, Florida Power, Marines from MacDill's 4th ABN, Bausch & Lomb, Romac International and the Foster Parents Association.

Many people might ask why the Sampsons would take on such a challenge and why so many people would volunteer their day off to help these strangers. One prevailing quality that each and every one of them possessed was a sincere desire to give of their time. The Sampsons have a schedule that takes a computer to track, with little time for themselves. The volunteers gave of their time to make a difference in the lives of others.

With the holiday season upon us, perhaps we all need to take a moment and realize that the gift of time is one of the most precious gifts we can give to our spouses, our kids, our parents, our friends, our community and to others in

need. It doesn't require expensive gift-wrapping or a lot of money. It is the most personal gift you can give, and the rewards you get in return are priceless. So, as the sayings go, let's make each day count, use our time wisely and, when the opportunity comes, let's make a positive difference in the lives of others. ☺

Volunteers drive through their assigned area for three hours, one night per month to observe and report any suspicious activity they may see or are notified of by residents. In reporting illegal or suspicious activity, residents are asked to call the Sheriff's Department first, and then feel free to contact Mobile Watch to observe the situation until Deputies arrive on the scene. Mobile Watch Coordinator LaWayne Wyatt says, "Patrol members are not asked or authorized to stop or apprehend anyone. Our function is to observe and report in a totally non-confrontational manner."

For more information, please contact Mobile Watch Coordinator LaWayne Wyatt at 685-2072 or by E-Mail at BHA@CyberRails.com. ☺

Bloomingdale Mobile Watch seeks volunteers

A Gazette Report

Bloomingdale Mobile Watch is an organization of resident volunteers whose objective is to work with our Community Substation and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department as a deterrent to crime in our community. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department has recognized the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch team as a model that can be used by other communities who wish to establish similar organizations. Volunteers are currently needed in several areas to expand the existing schedule to three patrols per night, seven nights a week.

Community Investment Tax Dollars at work in Bloomingdale

A Gazette report

Hillsborough County has published a Community Investment Tax (CIT) report, outlining the status of capital improvement projects funded by our CIT dollars. Several projects listed on the report will directly benefit the residents of Bloomingdale.

- The road improvements at the intersection of Bell Shoals Road and Rosemead have been completed as part of the \$4.7 million allocated for transportation improvements.

- The Bell Shoals Road water main extension, budgeted at \$47,000, is in the design phase.

- The Public School Reclaimed Water project will

bring reclaimed water to three area high schools, including Bloomingdale High School. The project is in the design phase and is budgeted at \$231,000.

- The CIT Utilities Program has earmarked \$19,000 for the in-design Rosemead water main project.

- Improvements at the Brandon Main Branch Library have been completed at a cost of \$40,000.

For further information on CIT projects and other county construction, call The Hillsborough County 24-hour hotline at 272-5275 or write to CIT Project, County Center, P.O. Box 1101, 601 East Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33601. ☺



"I ONLY TAKE MY KITTY TO ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER

...because it has the most advanced tests."



My kitty deserves the best. That's why my family goes to Animal Medical Center and Dr. Jim Antunano for our veterinarian care. Animal Medical Center is a certified American Animal Hospital with all the services necessary to keep my cat a healthy, happy pet.

Our services include:

- Hearing test equipment
- Glaucoma testing
- Complete in-house lab
- Complete surgical suite with isoflurane anesthesia
- High-tech monitoring equipment: Surgical pulse oximeter, Doppler unit, Electro surgery

Don't forget...Every pet needs a vet!



ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER

1102 E. Bloomingdale Ave. ♦ Valrico, Florida
(813) 654-6222



SCARLET O'HAIRA'S

BLOOMINGDALE'S BEST HAIR SALON
Wishing You Happy Holidays!

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

- Custom highlights and colors
- Expert perms
- The latest cuts and styles
- Now in -- Fall nail colors by the O.P.I. Hollywood Collection

Hours: Tuesday 9:00am - 4:00pm
Wednesday/Thursday 9:00am - 8:00pm
Friday/Saturday 9:00am - 6:00pm

681-2060

3507 Bell Shoals Road • Bloomingdale Center

Bloomingdale Community Substation Notes

By Deputy Pete Maurer

Holiday Security and Safety

With the holidays here, it's time for us shoppers and homeowners to take the necessary precautions to insure that our holidays are safe. Don't make it easy for a criminal to ruin your holidays. While out shopping, lock your car and secure purchases in the trunk, not piled in the back seat. Pay attention to your surroundings while walking through store parking lots. Take the time to secure your home before you head out for Christmas vacation, including having a neighbor or friend take care of your yard, paper and mail. These precautions may seem like warnings we've all heard time and again, but believe me, they are worth the time and effort.



(continued on page 23)

(continued from page 22)

It's also time to be reminded again to think about safety during the holidays. Begin with putting up the lights and tree and tending fireplaces carefully. Be sure you and all of your passengers are buckled up. Don't drink and drive or get in a car with someone who has. This New Year's Eve may prove to be very unique with the speculated problems that may occur. Let's not add to the confusion. Have a great, safe holiday season.

Holiday giving

For some folks, many of them kids, the holidays won't be as cheerful and happy as they would like. Our Substation continues to work with the Tampa Police Department to collect suitcases and sports bags for children being removed from difficult situations, left without anything to put their few belongings in. Suitcases and sports bags can be dropped off at the Substation for delivery to the Tampa Police Department. All donations are greatly appreciated.

The Bloomingdale Community Substation is located in the Village Center Plaza at the corner of Bell Shoals Road and Glenhaven. Hours of operation are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm weekdays. Deputy Maurer can be reached at 635-8040.

\$5 OFF
Any Service*

Brandon's
24-Hour
Plumber

\$5 OFF
Any Service*

Chris's Plumbing Service, Inc.

Chris's Professionals
Specialize in Repairs!

Residential • Commercial • Industrial
Drain Cleaning • Sewer Installation • Leak Detection
Repipes • Lift Stations • Water Heaters • Toilets
Disposals • Remodeling • Faucets



623-6830
671-3993

Brandon's Hotline
License #CFC037168
Bonded • Insured • Licensed

*with this ad • 1 per household



**You Better
Watch Out,
You Better
Not Cry...**

Well you know how it goes. But, here at Primary Prep the children aren't even worried about Santa catching them misbehaving. They're just too busy working with computers, dancing, taking music lessons, tumbling on the Tumblebus, taking karate lessons, horseback riding, play-acting in drama class - who has time to misbehave?!

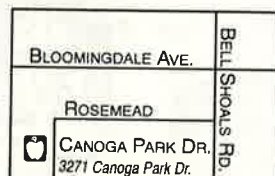
**Come for a visit soon and meet the
children Santa's proud of!**



Robert Terrell
Owner/Operator
Christine Terrell
Owner/Operator
Gail Smallwood
Director

654-1942
3721 Canoga Park Dr.

Lic. # C-HC-193



Tucked away but right near the intersection of Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale.

Affordable Cuts for the Whole Family

Walk-in or by appointment
Cuts, perms and colors
4 experienced hair stylists

Customer Service is Our Specialty

Mr. Willy's
Family Hair Care

685-3361

Hours: 9:00am - 6:00pm (Tues., Wed., & Fri.)
9:00am - 7:00pm (Thurs.)
8:00am to 3:00pm (Sat.)

3634 Lithia Pinecrest Rd.
(Next to the Farm Stores in Erindale Plaza)

**For Information About
Advertising
Call
661-6641**

Why do smart kids fail?



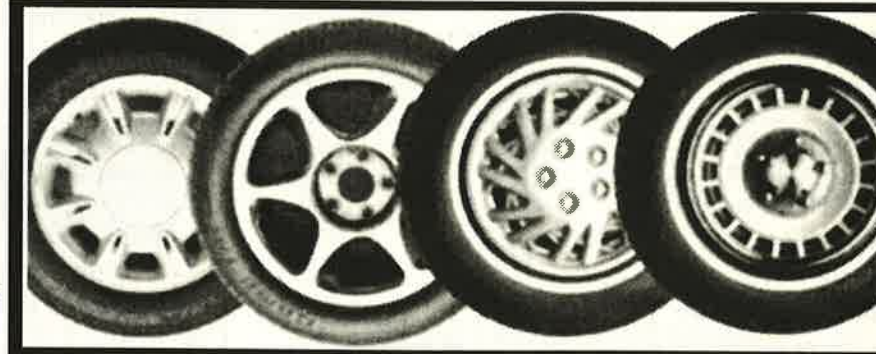
Your child can succeed in school. Our certified teachers help students of all ages build basic skills while developing self-confidence and the determination to succeed.

**HUNTINGTON
LEARNING
CENTER**
Your child can learn.

- Weak Basic Skills
- Frustration with School
- Lack of Confidence
- No Motivation

**Call
681-1500**

FCAT, FL WRITES and
BENCHMARK Preparation



Stephen A. Briggs
Senior Account Agent
LUTC Graduate
Honor Ring

Allstate
You're in good hands.
(813) 681-5303

Allstate Insurance Company
611 E. Bloomingdale Ave., Suite-D
Brandon, FL 33511



Stephen A. Briggs

Being in good hands is the only place to be.™

©1998 Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Indemnity Company, Northbrook, Illinois. Subject to availability and qualifications.

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District Property Manager's Report

October 1999

Submitted by Devney Property Management, Inc.

1. Irrigation: Brandon Irrigation repaired a Rosemead system broken zone line. DPMI replaced 18 spray heads and 7 rotors and repaired a main line, zone line, two valves and 4 risers.
2. Landscaping: A & W Lawn Maintenance replaced

numerous missing/dead Indian hawthorne bushes and installed juniper plants at Culbreath Cove and the Needham entrance. DPMI prepared and obtained STD trustee approval for the minor entrance landscaping program, and mailed notices to several landscaping companies. The pre-bid meeting is November 13, 1999 at 9:30 am at the community office.

3. Other: ZK Construction Company repaired the broken wall on Natures Way by Elton. DPMI cleaned rust stains from the walls on Greenhollow and parts of Natures Way. In the land of eat, drink and pitch out the window, DPMI picked up 20 bags of litter, 2 gallons of paint, 5 gallons of oil, 2 hubcaps, 3 shirts, 2 rolls of toilet paper, a butane bottle, a tennis ball, a golf ball, a hair brush and \$3.05. The beverages of choice were Ice House for beers, Surge for soft drinks and Smirnoff vodka for distilled spirits.

(continued from page 24)

In the public sector, the biggest employer is the Hillsborough County School System at 26,000, followed by County Government at 9,100, USF at 7,900 and TIA at 6,500.

The labor force has increased from 465,143 in 1993 to 530,529 in 1998, reflecting a drop in the unemployment rate from 6.4% to 2.8%.

The University of South Florida and the University of Tampa have a combined enrollment of more than 30,000 students.

These statistics are proof positive that growth in all areas of Hillsborough County, including Bloomingdale, will continue as we enter the next century.

Community News & Bloomingdale Gazette

Kathy Tidler
Brandon-Valrico Advertising Manager

Phone: 661-6641 Fax: 657-8805
Mail: PO Box 271880 - Tampa, FL 33688-1880
E-Mail: communitynews@ibisnet.net

NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS

Alterra
CLARE BRIDGE

Phone Fax
(813) 657-8587 (813) 657-0748
1819 PROVIDENCE RIDGE BLVD., BRANDON, FL 33511

An Alzheimers & Dementia Community

Michael Davis Realty opens new office

Bloomingdale residents Michael and Judy Davis announce the grand opening of Michael Davis Realty at 130 E. Bloomingdale Ave. Davis brings over 18 years of Brandon real estate experience to his new company, and continues to specialize in serving the real estate



needs of families. Judy Davis designed the warm and homelike office interior with families in mind. "We have a section inside where the children can play with toys, watch videos or play video games, allowing the parents to focus on the business at hand." Special features and services offered include state-of-the-art networking, computer, phone and Internet capabilities, and the exclusive "MD2000 Computerized Market Analysis." For more information, please call Michael at (813) 662-2600 or visit his web site at www.michael-davisrealty.com.

Did you know? Hillsborough County Statistics - Y2K Estimates

A Gazette report

A Hillsborough County publication issued recently estimates the 1999 population of Hillsborough County at 958,050 residents. The projection for the year 2020 is 1,202,900. The Y2K estimate indicates 128,178 residents age 65 and older and 295,823 residents age 25-44. Children newborn up to 14 years old are expected to total 201,974.

The largest private sector employers in Hillsborough County as of January 1999 include GTE at 11,000, Publix at over 4,700, Nations Bank at 4,300, TECO at 3,200, Kash N Karry at 3,000 and Time Customer Service at 1,700.

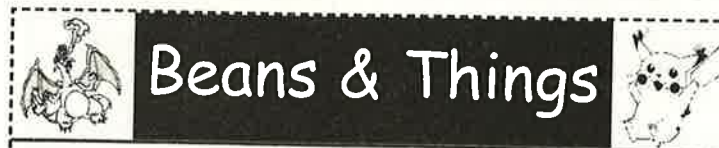


(continued on page 25)

Springvale and Bloomingdale Construction



Look like beachfront property? This area at the corner of Springvale and Bloomingdale Avenues next to Bloomingdale Woods Apartments is soon to be the home of "Savannah Landings," and will feature a day care center, storage facility and 130 townhouses. Photo by Mack Austin



Beans & Things

Instore Gaming & Trading
Wed. 6-8 & Sun. 4-6

Large selection of US & Japanese Pokémon
Over 2000 Singles in stock
Gift Certificates Available

Hours: Noon-8pm
7 Days A Week

(813) 655-1649
1213 North Parsons-Brandon

BRING AD IN FOR \$1 OFF ANY POKÉMON DECK

NOW OPEN

Brandon Physicians Walk-In-Clinic

Monday - Friday 8 am - 8 pm
Saturday - Sunday 8 am - 4 pm
Accessible Affordable Prompt Care

Courteous Staff, Experienced Board
Certified Physicians, Accepting Most Insurances,
No Appointment Necessary, Minimal Wait Time,
Work Related Injuries, Workman's Comp

655-4100

812 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
(Next to Dunkin' Donuts)



Together - Your Dream, Our Experience.

Tom Anderson, C.S.P.
Bristol Green
684-8040

Tom Thurman, C.S.P.
Eagle Pointe
661-9896



Broker Welcome.

CRC039350

Business Office: 4403 Merrick Run Lane, Valrico, Florida 33594



Small Business
of the Year



MAIL BOXES ETC.®

• 813 East Bloomingdale - Bloomingdale & Bell Shoals
• 235 West Brandon Blvd. - next to Home Shopping Outlet



Notary
Service

689-4998

OPEN SUNDAY: 12-4pm
M-F 8-7, SAT 9-5

SAT TUTORING

Kathryn Grant

Certified English Teacher

- One-on-One Instruction
- Test Taking Strategies

689-0442

CYBERRAILS.COM

WE'RE PLUGGING IN TO BRANDON

- Businesses on the web
- Neighborhood Information
- Restaurants & Menus
- Free Community Services
- Community Resources
- School Information
- Free Business Listings
- Web Design and Hosting

An Internet Site can be the least expensive way of getting out in front of the public. Check out our site or give us a call for information on our Services.

WWW.CYBERRAILS.COM
(813) 661-8860


Whimsical Walls and Murals
by Susan

specializing in children's rooms and scenic painting
*local artist/Susan Jordan *licensed
*member Brandon League of Fine Arts

813-655-8003

APPLE ROOF CLEANING

The Apple Non-Pressure Cleaning System



BEFORE AFTER

- Make home sell faster.
- Increase property value.
- Satisfaction guaranteed.

(813) 655-8777

At Your Service

Business and services for your home and office.

Call Arlene Jacobs for more information: **(813) 662-1306**

CLEANING SERVICE

Need Holiday Cleaning?

Call **CLEAN ALL**
677-0509

Windows or General Cleaning References

LET ME CLEAN IT ALL!

CLEANING SERVICE

B & C Cleaning

Free Estimates

Homes & Apartments
Move-Ins, Move-Outs
New Customer Discount
Weekly, Bi-Weekly or Monthly

Call **Mike 655-4652**
10 Years Experience
Licensed/Bonded/Insured

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Expertise Home Services

All Phases of Interior & Exterior Improvements

Fencing & Patios

FREE ESTIMATES
933-2843

NO JOB TOO SMALL
In Business Since 1982

INTERNET



INTERNET JUNCTION

- Unlimited Internet Access \$9.95
- ADSL, Modem, ISDN, F/R
- Web Design and Hosting

(813) 855-7793
www.ij.net

LAWN SERVICES



- Licensed & Insured
- Landscaping Design
- Lawn Maintenance

Keith Boegler
(813) 671-4860

PAINTING



Let us color your world!
• Residential & Commercial
• Free Estimates

Phone: **(813) 654-1313**
Fax: **(813) 653-2491**

Licensed, Bonded, Insured
License Numbers:
Pasco: 08456
Hillsborough: 4506

PEST CONTROL



- 28 years experience in FL
 - Certified in all areas of pest control and lawn service
 - Affordable, once a year pest control
 - Trained, uniformed technicians
 - Licenses and insured
- (813) 685-5349**

POOL SERVICES

Pool Deck Restoration
Driveways, Patios & More.

- Acrylic Coatings
- Any Color
- No Fading
- Many Designs



Bosmeny & Associates, Inc.
813-914-0124

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWBORN ANNOUNCEMENTS. Stork deliveries 7 Day Sign Rental and set Up. \$4 off when you mention this ad in Community News. Call 837-5549

WANTED: STUDENTS FOR TAX SCHOOL. Learn a new skill! Learn the new tax laws! Convenient times and locations throughout Hillsborough County. Act now. Call 681-4161. H&R Block.

ASSISTANCE AT HOME

STAY INDEPENDENT We help with errands, communications, chores, security, legalities, home sitting, arrangements, budgeting, problems and MORE. SC/AID (Since 1961) (813) 971-2027

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

LEARN THE INS AND OUTS OF HOME BASED BUSINESS. This is what you need to achieve your goals! Free information. Send a SASE to Del Mar Marketing Co. Dept. N, 203 Larson Ave., Brandon, FL 33510-3410.

RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME = NOW. Sales representatives. Excellent income opportunity. Set your own hours. Leave message. (813) 908-9897.

DENTAL

Dental plan, \$9.00 per month/individual; \$15.00 per month for entire household; includes FREE National Vision Care & Medical Prescription Card!! No age limit! (813) 655-3302.

HEALTH

ASTHMA/ALLERGIES? Needed: 10-15 people who desire immediate relief to try and evaluate a NEW compact state-of-the-art home air purification system. No cost or obligation. Call 963-5947

FOR SALE

10' x 11' Unused beige textured carpet \$100; Light blue brocade drapes 9' wide excellent condition \$50. 269-1161

UPRIGHT GRAND PIANO Built in early 1900s/beautiful. Plays great. Light oak. Must See! \$400. Call 653-3350

DSS Satellite Descrambler 1-800-213-7282 or 1-770569-8085

LOVE SEAT, QUEEN SLEEPER SOFA and RECLINER. Country blue with pillows. Three pieces. Excellent condition. Moving MUST SELL! Only \$250. Call Shelley at 661-9743.

HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT needed part-time in Bloomingdale. Very flexible hours. We need a pleasant, outgoing individual that can handle a variety of tasks at one time. The only requirement is that you be computer literate and own a PC. Please forward a resume or letter of introduction via fax to 813-685-0858 or via e-mail to SpecDist@aol.com Attn: Rick

HAIRSTYLISTS NEEDED for fast-paced upscale salon. No following necessary. Larry Clark Salon. 681-6658.

HELP WANTED BOOKKEEPER. Client write-up, payroll and income taxes. Computer skills required. Carrollwood CPA firm. (813) 969-1995.

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED. Chair rent. Two weeks vacation per year. Busy upscale salon. Valrico area. 681-2060.

LPNs PART-TIME AND PRN, CNAs PRN wait staff PM. Call (813)662-0255 or apply at Park Club or Brandon, 700 S. Kings Ave., Brandon, FL 33511.

ARE YOU HAPPY WITH YOUR CURRENT JOB? If not, call us. NATIONS

STAFFING. (813)889-9675. Warehouse, Clerical, Welders, Electricians, Drivers. Serving all of Hillsborough County.

POOL SERVICES

POOL DECK RESTORATION. Licensed, bonded and insured. Bosmeny and Associates, Inc. Paint and Coating Specialists. (813) 417-0065.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

3 LIFT CHAIR RECLINERS \$100 each. Jazzy electric wheel chair \$500. 3 wheel scooter, electric \$500. OBO Call 651-0329

TABLE PADS

CUSTOM TABLE PADS. Free estimate. In home service. 1-888-441-0046.

REAL ESTATE

VALRICO HOME 3/2/2 car garage. All appliances stay. Five ceiling fans. Fenced backyard. Tile and water softener. Asking \$84,500. (813) 643-2359.

SERVICES

LONG DISTANCE 3.9¢ / min. All day - Everyday - USA Plus ALL the special service features offered anywhere & your own toll free number & Internet access option. All for monthly access fee of \$9.95 which gives you a virtual office (V-Link) communication system anywhere. Interntl rate examples: London - 10¢ / min., Paris- 12¢ / min., Japan 15¢ / min. Two (2) calling cards included at above rates. Distributors Needed! No Inventory & No Collecting. 888-249-9971 Glen Nielsen, I-link Worldwide, LLC.

Music Lessons

Individual Instruction In:

- ◆ Piano, Keyboard, Organ
- ◆ Violin, Mandolin, Guitar
- ◆ Clarinet, Sax
- ◆ Percussion
- ◆ Music Theory, Voice
- ◆ Piano Tuning and Repairs

(813) 645-4112

GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS

Mail, Fax or E-mail Your Classified Ad Order — 3 Lines for \$7

FREE ADS: Bargains under \$300. Individuals and private parties may run a 15 word ad free of charge for bargains under \$300. 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. 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. Community News is 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. The Community News takes 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 Community 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.
AUDIENCE/DISTRIBUTION: 51,000 Community News Classifieds are published in all editions, with a combined reach of 51,000 select homes and businesses in Carrollwood, Northdale, Cheval, Villa Rosa, Brandon, Valrico and Riverview.

MAIL IN/FAX/E-MAIL ORDER

Mail: 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.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
ZIP _____
DAYTIME PHONE _____

★ BLOOMINGDALE'S OWN TOP STAR!

Luana
RUSSELL

Five-★ Service

889 E. BLOOMINGDALE AVENUE
BRANDON, FLORIDA 33511

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE, INC.
Independently Owned and Operated by NRI Incorporated



★ LUANA'S FIVE-STAR SERVICE

- ★ IMPECCABLE, INCREDIBLE SERVICE
- ★ PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR WITH WARMTH AND FRIENDLINESS
- ★ SERIOUS PREPARATION FOLLOWED BY A FUN PRESENTATION
- ★ BEST POSSIBLE VALUE FOR YOUR HOME
- ★ TOTALLY INTEGRATED BUYING OR SELLING EXPERIENCE



3803 BLACKWOOD PLACE
"WINDSOR WOODS" OF
BLOOMINGDALE

\$149,900

FOUR BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS,
2,319 SQ. FT., CUSTOM "SCHMIDT"
BUILT, PEACEFUL CUL-DE-SAC



3827 COLD CREEK DRIVE
"WINDSOR WOODS" OF
BLOOMINGDALE

\$149,900

FOUR BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS,
2,215 SQUARE FEET, LENNAR'S
"OXFORD" FLOOR PLAN

****RESERVED****

"RESERVED
FOR
YOUR HOME"

REACH FOR THE FIVE-STARS ADVANTAGE! CALL LUANA!

662-1610 OR 685-8545

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
ARG