

## BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY PAGE

## from the editor ...

Dec. 12. Are your presents wrapped? Your holiday cards sent? Your home brightly decorated? The holidays are here and the stores are inviting last minute shoppers to view their merchandise.

During this time of the year, I always get excited about all the hustle and bustle. I know that I will be wrapping presents on Christmas Eve. Some years I'm still making presents on Christmas Eve. But every year I enjoy the busy-ness of the season. It is a whirlwind of sights, sounds, smells, and feelings. It isn't Christmas if cookies aren't baking in my oven, if the kids haven't added a few more homemade bread dough decorations to our collection, if we haven't checked out a stack of Christmas stories from the library, if we haven't seen Charlie Brown pick out his lonely Christmas tree, or if we haven't penned our lists to Santa. But doing these activities does not make a Christmas. Christmas happens in our hearts. It is the recollection of nights spent as a child listening to stories while drinking hot chocolate in a mug shaped like Santa. It is the togetherness that makes Christmas. It seems almost impossible to imagine a Christmas alone.

Yet there are many who spend their Christmas alone; who do not share the activities and joys of Christmas. This year as I called churches and organizations throughout Tampa for an article about charitable gift-giving, I realized the needs are great. There are many families who will not share a large meal together, or gather around a tree opening presents. Take a moment to peruse the charities listed in this month's issue. Maybe one will touch your heart and the experience will create a new tradition for you and your children. May your family share a joyous holiday.

Happy Holidays, Mary Karcher

## Help us help you.

In the upcoming issues The Bloomingdale Gazette wants your input. In January we will be conducting a survey of the Bloomingdale residents to discover their needs and interests for the newspaper. It will help us get to know our audience by giving us facts and statistics about the citizens of Bloomingdale. Before we compile the questions for this survey, we would appreciate any suggestions from our readers. What would you like to include in our survey? Please call The Bloomingdale Gazette at 651-2051, or write to us at: 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Rd., Suite 101, Valrico, FL, 33594.

If you are not receiving your newspaper, please call The Bloomingdale Gazette office.

In the January edition look for exercise tips and New Year's Resolutions. We will explore the many ways to volunteer your time in the community. Even if it is not a proven fact that volunteering increases your life expectancy, it will at least make you feel better!

In February, education will be the focus. What would you like to know about our schools? If you are a teacher or parent (or both), would you like to write an article? How about a letter to the editor?

In March, we will highlight artists in the Brandon area. Let us know how the Brandon community has grown into an art-friendly community. How can others get involved in art? How can our children, who often do not receive consistent art instruction due to budget restrictions. discover the world of art and imagination? Let us know your ideas.

Our newspaper is looking for volunteers for neighborhood contacts. If you would like to be a representative to inform us of happenings in your neighborhood, please give us a call.

Keep our number and address handy for quick reference by making the do-it-yourself-

BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE 3232 LITHIA PINECREST RD. SUITE 101 VALRICO, FL 33594

#### OFFICERS

#### BLOOMINGDALE **HOMEOWNERS** ASSOCIATION, INC.

3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road Suite 101 Valrico, FL 33594

681-2051

689-2829 685-7193 Russ Lembke Treasurer Jim Wiley Directors

654-6651 Walter Schaffe 681-3999 651-0879 David Lees Steve Rose Randy Wolfe 684-0079 685-0866

BLOOMINGDALE SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT

Thomas Brophy IV Patrick Tracy Vice President Treasurer Recording Secretary Joe Liguori Ron Mabe Corresponding Secretary
Trustee John Gunn Ron Delavan Temporary Trustee Peter Aluotto Wingfield Hugher Temporary Trustee Administrator Bob Stalker BLOOMINGDALE Core Committee Coordinator/Scheduler LaWayne Wyatt Treasurer Equipment Manager Steve Schneider

David Guy Paul Kelmer Rick Borling

William Grace

Ed Holzman BLOOMINGDALE OAKS SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT P.O.Box 3132

Brandon, FL 33509-3132

681-5943

681-9701

653-3201

685-7338

681-9655 684-8924

689-1017

685-0727

685-1946

685-8378

### RLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road Suite 101 Valrico, FL 33594 Telephone (813) 681-2051 **Hours of Operation:** Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

omingdale Homeowners Publisher Association, Inc. Janine B. Nickerson Editor Mary Karcher Colleen Rose June Oros Graphics

Advertising representatives: Colleen Rose, Ronda Paramoure Distribution manager: Anita Thompson Circulation assistants: Rent-A-Kid

delivery system.

Accounting services provided by: James Laughlin,
CPA, Bloomingdale Resident; 710 Oakfield Dr., Suite
101, Brandon 33511; 651-1740

Statement of Operation

The Bloomingdale Gazette is also available free of charge at area newsstands; Publix, Nations Bank, Mail Boxes Etc., Bell Shoals Citgo and Rainbow Mart (Bloomingdale) and Farm Store (Erindale).

The content of The Bloomingdale Gazette is the property of The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc., and is not reproducible in any manner without express written permission from the President of The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc.

#### MEETINGS

ngdale Community Office. These All meetings take place at the Blo are monthly public meetings and all Bloomingdale resider

> SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT ond Monday of the month at 7:30 PM.

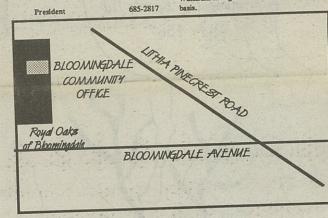
BHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

BLOOMINGDALE OAKS SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT

MEETINGS FOR MOBILE WATCH & NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Watch this listing for dates & times. The meetings are held on a per need



### Letters welcomed

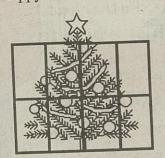
Letters to the editor on topics of genral interest, or in response to news and photographs appearing in The Bloomingdale Gazette are welcomed and encouraged. Please submit signed letters to:

Editor - The Bloomingdale Gazette 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101 Valrico, FL 33594

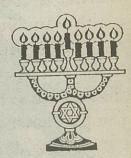


## To All Our Patients and

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.



As we count our blessings, we thank you for your support





**FAMILY** DENTISTRY

Dr. & Mrs. Sandy Schwartz, our Family and Staff

684-7888



## Citizens against crime Crime prevention techniques may reduce criminal attacks

by Mary Karcher

The holiday season brings"tidings of comfort and joy" as the wellknown Christmas carol suggests. Yet, all too often, along with the tinsel and festivities comes a greater opportunity for crime. At the Dec. 15 Bloomingdale Homeowners Association meeting the "Citizens Against Crime" group will present their program: "Living Safely in a Dangerous World."

The crime fighting group aims to make people of aware surroundings and to use that awareness to lessen the odds of an attack. The program discusses how victims are chosen by exploring the criminal's perspective,. Armed with this knowledge, potential victims can take steps to avoid a possible attack.

The organization will demonstrate crimefighting techniques to be used in actual situations, such as rape and mugging, and discuss the pro's and con's of guns and tear gas.

The

"Citizens

AgainstCrime" group was founded by Jerry Aris in Nashville, Tennesseee. The program is presented schools, civic organizations, corporations free of charge. Their poster quotes an FBI Uniform Crime Report: "Every 2 seconds a crime is committed." This holiday season add a safety program to your list; join us at the BHA meeting, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m., at 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Rd., Suite 101. For more information, call the Bloomingdale Gazette office at 681-2051.

## **Bloomingdale student Washington-bound**

Student to attend presidential inauguration by Mary Karcher

President-elect Bill Clinton and Bloomingdale senior Nichole Veatch have at least one thing in common; next month they will both be inaugurated: Clinton to the Presidency and Veatch to the world of Washington politics. Veatch is one of a select few chosen to attend The Washington Workshops during inauguration week, Jan.

Over 800 high school students nationwide applied for the series of intensive Congressional study seminars. Students will be given the opportunity to meet congressmen and other dignitaries, to attend the inaugural parade, to witness the swearing-in ceremony on Capitol Hill, and to go to a Youth Ball. Veatch is excited because the students 'will be able to talk to people we ordinarily wouldn't be able to talk to . . . the 'big league' people in Washington."

If Veatch could talk to President Clinton, what would she say? With a big smile as her imagination actually envisions the moment, she responds that she would encourage him to "stay true to his values." Nichole would tell Clinton to be patient because his goals will not be attained overnight; "I have confidence in him; I heard him speak in Tampa before the election." She would also express support for his college plan for students to work off their student loans. Veatch says that this issue affects her fellow Bloomingdale students whose "families won't qualify for aid, yet can't afford the high cost of tuition for the top schools they want to attend."

Veatch believes she was chosen because of her interest in politics and her extensive experience in debate, student Congress, and her strong academic record. As a member of the speech and debate club for 3 years, she has won numerous awards in school, county, state, and even nationwide oratorical competitions. Nichole has twice attended the Student Congress in Tallahassee where students hold actual debates in the Senate and House Chambers.

And what does the future hold for Nichole Veatch? She hopes to combine her political interests with her journalism and communication skills. This year's editor of the Minotaur, Bloomingdale Senior High School's awardwinning yearbook, and a member of the journalism honor society Quill and Scroll, Nichole aspires to work for a Washington-based magazine like U.S. News and World Report.



Photo by Steve Allen

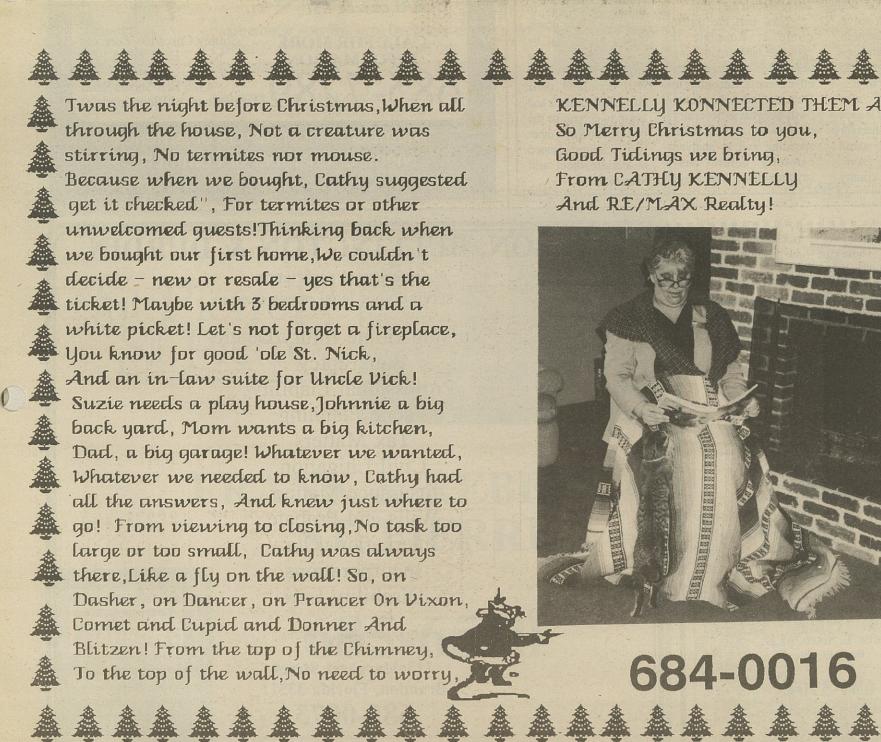
奉奉奉奉奉

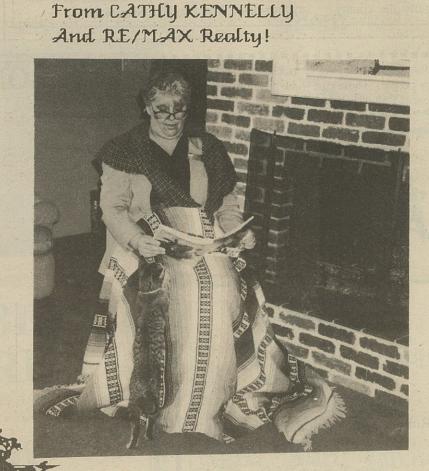
\*\*\*

Nichole Veatch's interest in politics has prepared her for The Washington Workshops and a seat at the presidential inauguration in January.

Although Veatch has lived in Bloomingdale for the past 10 years, she has also lived in London while her father, Marshall, was in the Navy. Her father retired from the Navy and now works for Group Technologies. Her mother, Dianne, is a LaMaze coordinator for Humana Hospital -Brandon. Of Nichole's selection to attend the Washington Workshops, Dianne says, "We are very excited for her particularly since the political realm is something she wants to get in to."

Nichole has two brothers, Brian, 21, and Kyle, 7. Her secret to success is apparent in the advice she has for younger brother, Kyle: "Explore your options. Find out what you're good at and go with it.. Also know your limitations; no one person can do everything."





KENNELLY KONNECTED THEM ALL!

So Merry Christmas to you,

Good Tidings we bring,

684-0016

# Bloomingfield traffic circle faces test

#### by Mary Karcher

Hillsborough County recently constructed a traffic circle near the intersection of Rosedale Ave. and Bloomingfield Dr. Its purpose: to force motorists to slow down to the posted 25 mph speed limit. completion marks a 2 1/2 year effort by residents the County engineering services.

In May 1990 Bloomingdale West resident Bryan Newcomb spearheaded the residents' effort to install speed control measures on Bloomingfield Dr. Over 400 homeowners signed a petition requesting a solution to the problem. Additionally, residents hoped to cut down on the volume of traffic on the street. According to a 1991 county survey, 4,700 vehicles traveled east and west on Bloomingfield Dr. withina 24 hour period and speeds were excessive. According to Newcomb, many cars drive in excess of 40 mph through the 25

mph speed limit zone.

Newcomb also believes the road is used as a cut-through street for traffic trying to avoid Bloomingdale Ave.

Originally the county

disputed this theory, but the current director of engineering services, Jeff Yoder, agrees that the street could be a cut-through route, despite county studies which indicate otherwise.

Bloomingfield
Drive has a traffic problem.
Hillsborough County is trying to solve it.
The residents are trying to solve it.
Neither group is claiming success . . .

To remedy the traffic problem, the traffic engineering division designed a 15 1/2 foot traffic circle to be installed in 3 locations of Bloomingfield Dr.: at the intersections of Rosedale, Paddlewheel, and Sweet Leaf. The circle's size allowed room for larger vehicles, such as buses and garbage trucks to drive safely around the circle.

Now that the traffic circle at Rosedale is complete, the engineering service is analyzing its effectiveness. According to Director Yoder, the county "will do what is necessary to provide relief from speeding and to analyze carefully before constructing more." Yoder says

the other two proposed circle locations depend on the analysis, "We have to consider carefully whether to keep the same design, to change the design, or to [install] speed bumps."

Several residents already believe the circle is ineffective in controlling speed. Newcomb watched one car properly drive around one side of the circle while another car raced around the other side of the circle driving in excess of 40 mph to pass the first car. The second car passed a few feet shy of where Newcomb was raking his yard. Homeowner Mark Vargo calls the circle a "barricade in the middle of the road" which is especially dangerous for drivers turning on to Bloom-ingfield from Rosedale.

Yet all parties involved are hoping for a successful way to make cars slow down. Yoder hopes that by mid-December the engineering division will conclude their analysis of the circle and begin to determine the best method for the other two locations planned at Paddlewheel and Sweet Leaf.

## Mobile watch report

by LaWayne Wyatt

Mobile Watch logged 27 events during the month of October. Included were cars and people in the parks after closing, vandalism of a vacant house, activity at The Spot, several reports of suspicious activity, vandalism, a possible construction theft, speeding/reckless driving, cars and people in partially developed areas late at night, several abandoned cars, one accident, car windows shot with BB guns and teens in a wooded party site.

The November log had 16 events throughout the 19th. Included were cars and people in the Parks after closing, cars and people in partially developed areas late at night, cars' windows shot with BB guns, speeding/reckless driving, activity at The Spot and breaking and entering of cars and garages.

There has been a significant increase in the use of BB guns to shoot car windows. All residents should be alert for any activity which might lead to the identification of these individuals.

There has also been an increase in the number of car break-ins. An unknown number occurred in the Fox Run area on the night of November 18th.

No one needs to be reminded that Christmas is approaching. Unfortunately, this is also a prime season for car and home burglaries. Everyone should take the appropriate precautions to preclude such thefts. Lock your car, don't leave items openly displayed in cars, park in lighted areas at malls and close your garage doors. The removal of temptations should improve your chances of not being victimized.

## Shirley's Dance Studio

### **ENROLL NOW!**

- \* TAP
- \* JAZZ
- \*BALLET/ POINTE
- \* ACRO/ GYMNASTICS
- \* KINDERDANCE
- \*CLOGGING & AEROBICS
- \*COMBO CLASSES: BALLET & TAP

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

Shirley Cuscaden, *Director* Established 1971

685-7289 (1 mile South of Bloomingdale)

Member Dancemasters of America Member Chamber of Commerce

The Bloomingdale Gazette is looking for ad reps and delivery people. These part -time positions require no experience. Call 681-2051.

## SPORTS MEDICINE ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY



BRANDON ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATES

Laser • Arthroscopic Surgery
Hip & Knee Joint Replacements
Knee • Hand • Foot • Back Surgery
Mini-Incision Carpal Tunnel Release
Sports Medicine

John D. Okun, M.D. Board Certified

Robert J. Maddalon, M.D., M.S.
Board Certified

Lance T. Sisco, M.D.

Board Eligible

684-3707

Hours By Appointment 721 Robertson Street Brandon, FL 33511

## WILSON, BULLINGTON & DURDIN

A professional association serving your legal needs in

Nursing Home Injury/Death
Bankruptcy
Professional Liability
Estate Planning
Tax Matters
Civil Litigation
Insurance Matters
Wills and Probate
International Law
Incorporations
Disability Law

Initial consultation is free.

113 Margaret Street
Brandon, Florida 33511
685-0073

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



Photo by Steve Allen

Troop 11 Boy Scouts John Plant and Adam Stine prepare a tree for Bea and Byron Bruch who are visiting the Bloomingdale area from Germany.

## TROOP 11 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ST. ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE EVENINGS AND WEEKENDS

BLOOMINGDALE AND BRYAN ROADS

Douglas, Nobles & Frasiers

SAVE \$5 with this coupon

#### We Apologize

The Bloomingdale Gazette neglected to print the coupon for the Christmas tree sale held by Boy Scout Troop 11 of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church. We regret the error. The coupon is included in this month's paper.

# Kids Gorner

Happy Holidays, Kids! This month *The Bloomingdale Gazette* has a holiday activity which you may give as a gift or use to decorate your home. This idea is from local Bloomingdale resident Robbie Dickherber and her book *Just For Fun*. (Dickherber, R., McMinn, J., and Stargel, A. *Just For Fun*. Minnesota: T.S. Denison & Co., Inc., 1992.)

#### Stained Glass Window

Materials:

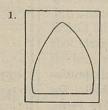
5" x 7" colored posterboard 5" x 7" white paper

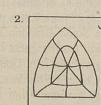
felt tip pens cotton balls Directions: cooking oil yarn or ribbon glue hole punch

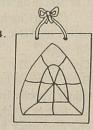
hole pi

1. Cut window frame out of the stiff posterboard.

- Place poster frame on top of white paper and trace window shape onto the white paper. Draw stained glass dividers with black marking pen. Color each section with a bright colored marker. Retrace black lines for more definition.
- 3. Rub cooking oil on the reverse side of drawing with cotton balls.
- 4. Glue window to the back of the posterboard. Punch hole in top at center and add ribbon to hang.
- 5. Hang in window.









Diane Wright, D.M.D.

All performed in a safe, comfortable, gentle setting.

Delta Dental Insurance

SMILE WRIGHT 653-1455

Cosmetic and General Dentistry

- Porcelain Veneers
- · Bleaching
- Cosmetic Bonding
- Crown & Bridge

Dr. Joan Lynch has joined Dr. Diane Wright at Smile Wright Dental Center.

Together we will enhance services, creating

BEAUTIFUL SMILES!

710 Oakfield Drive, Suite 251 Brandon, FL 33511



Joan Lynch, D.D.S.

We follow strict infection control standards

Evening Hours by Appointment





FRANK & REBECCA ST. PIERRE



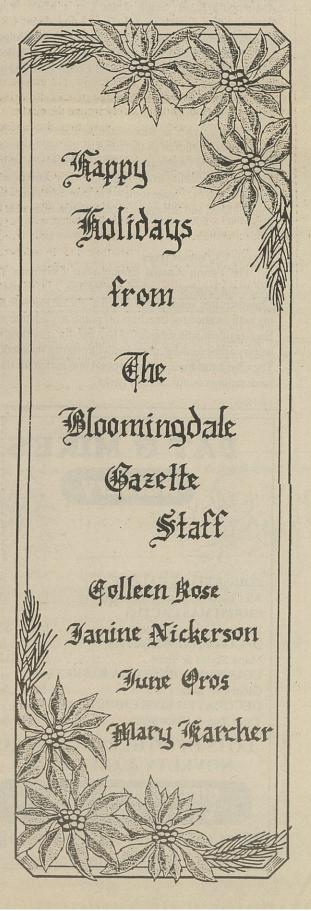
Brandon, FL 33511

(813) 685-6510

R

685-6510

134 127 Sales in Bloomingdale since June 1987





**Upcoming BHA meeting** 

The next meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will be held Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at the Bloomingdale Community Office which is located in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale Shopping Center, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Rd, Suite 101. The meeting will feature a presentation from "Citizens Against Crime", as well as nominations and elections for officers of the BHA board.

#### Principal to retire

Billy M. Pate, principal at Burns Junior High School, will be honored at a reception on Dec. 16 due to his retirement after 33 years in education. The reception will be held from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Burns Cafeteria. The public is encouraged to attend.

#### Christmas baseball camp

Coach Charles Perdomo's Christmas Baseball Camp will be held Dec. 21, 22, & 23 from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. for ages 7 - 16 at the South Brandon Little League Complex. The camp will feature guest speakers Jody Reed, a second baseman with the L.A. Dodgers, and Jeff Carter, a pitcher from the Chicago White Sox; both speakers are former graduates of Brandon High School. The coaching staff includes Brandon High's Greg Parris; Armwood's K. B. Scull; Plant City's Mike Wyatt; Bloomingdale Senior High's Todd Long; Plant City's Richard Humphrey; pitcher with the California Angels, Steve White; Charles Perdomo Jr.; and Charles Perdomo Sr. Tuition is \$50. To register call Coach Perdomo at 681-5428.

#### Caution: Bus Stop

A homeowner in Bloomingdale East is concerned about school children in the street at the intersection of Springvale and Orangepointe Rd. The kids are playing football and walking in the street during morning traffic time at 7:45 a.m. Please review bus stop safety rules with your children and drivers be especially cautious near bus stops.

#### **Recycle Christmas trees**

The Fourth Annual County-wide Christmas Tree Recycling Program is scheduled for Jan. 2, 3, 9, and 10. Christmas tree vendors will attach a "Please Recycle Me" tag with locations of tree drop-off points to each tree sold. Each resident who drops off a live tree for recycling will receive a pine seedling, complete with planting instructions. The Christmas trees will be ground into mulch for use in landscaping county and city parks.

The American Camillia Society presents the Fifth Annual Camellia Flower Show at The Tampa Garden Center at 2629 Bayshore Blvd. on Saturday, Jan 9 from 1:30 - 6 p.m.

#### Holiday happenings:

#### Chanukah Bash at skating rink

Camellia flower show

Congregation Beth Shalom's annual Chanukah Skating Party will be held at the Brandon Skateland, 750 W. Robertson Street, from 7 - 9 p.m. on Dec. 22. Admission will be \$2.50 per person. For information call Judy Schaeffer at 654-6744.

#### **Family Christmas celebration**

"An Old Fashioned Christmas" is at the Florida State Fairgrounds every weekend through Dec. 20, and Dec. 21-23. Highlights feature horse-drawn carriage rides, model trains, church choirs, Santa's workshop and secret shop (for buying inexpensive presents), and storyteller Peggy Smith. Hours are from 6 to 10 nightly. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 6 to 11. Parking is \$3.

#### Walk through Bethlehem

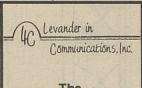
Kings Avenue Baptist Church presents its sixth annual Christmas "gift" to the community, a re-creation of the city of Bethlehem. The 20 minute guided tour through Bethlehem includes live animals, even camels, and costumed

volunteers, and an explanation of the story of Christmas. Visitors can listen to various music performed in the Cheever Family Life Center behind the church while waiting to tour the city. Hours are: Dec. 10, 6-9; Dec. 11, 6-10; Dec. 12 & 13, 4-10. Admission is free.

Tampa Bay Children's Chorus to perform in Brandon

The Tampa Bay Children's Chorus invites the public to attend its Winter Concert on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3:00 p.m. at Center Place, 619 Vonderburg Dr. A donation of \$5 is requested at the door. A non-profit community organization, the chorus is made up of 61 singers, ages 8-16, who are selected by audition. The chorus is directed by its founder, Dr. Averill Summer, a music faculty member at USF. For more information, call Dr. Summer at 974-4767.





# The "OFFICIAL 900# INFORMATION LINE"

Secrets revealed!
Special report on
"How to Make
Money with a
900#"

available to all callers. Call

1-900-737-6663.

PIN I.D. #39. \$1.99 per min. Average cost of call \$6.00. Must be 18+. Touch-tone phones only.

BSI Group, Inc. Tampa, FL 1-800-238-2544



# Experience Counts With the Pet You Love

Harry D. Vildibill, D.V.M. 33 years in Brandon

Full Service Hospital Boarding Grooming

Rabies \$6.50

with other vacinations

AMERICAN ANIMAL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Exercises: In Small Animus Care

3301 John Moore Road 689-4801 • 689-4800

Just north of Bloomingdale Ave.

## Free Consultation For Any Injury Claim

Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Know Your Rights! Call us for immediate free advice about your injury claim.

## NO RECOVERY—NO FEE

Se Habla Español • No Charge For Consultation • Fee Based On Reasonable Percentage of Recovery\*

## **ALL INJURY CLAIMS**

- Auto Accidents
- Uninsured Motorists
- Motorcycle Accidents
- ·Slip and Fall
- •Malpractice
- •Defective Products
- •Death Claims
- Birth Defects
- ·Brain Damage Injuries
- •Parapalegic and Quadrapalegic Injuries

- •Injured Children
- Dog Bites
- ·Spinal Injuries
- ·Railroad
- ·Maritime, Boating
- ·Airplane Accidents
- •Eye Injuries
- ·Burn Injuries

750 West Lumsden Suite C La Viva Professional Center

Sunshine State Bank 2nd Floor 420 West Brandon Blvd.

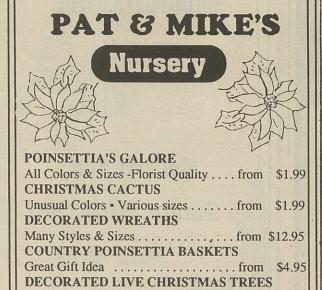
Sun City Center
137 S. Pebble Beach Blvd.

Suite 201

\*The hiring of a lawer is an important decision that should not be based soley upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you for written information about our qualifications and experience.

\*COSTS EXCLUDED

CURRY & ASSOCIATES, P.A.



LOTS OF OTHER CHRISTMAS NOVELTY & GIFT ITEMS

Table Top & Floor Sizes ..... from \$4.99

GIFT CERTIFICATES & LAYAWAY AVAILABLE

214 S. Valrico Rd. • 689-2560 Open 7 Days 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

# Charities in great need

#### Bloomingdale community can help

by Mary Karcher

M

M

There are many ways to be charitable and "honor Christmas in your heart" this year. Churches and organizations are eager for the Bloomingdale community's

Organizations are concerned that funds and donations are lower this year, in part due to the relief effort for

The state of the s M M M Sonia M. Ruiz, M.D. Pediatrician Featuring the finest medical care for: o Infants o Children Adolescents Most health plans accepted.

**684-1881** 

4316 Bell Shoals Road

Village Center

Hurricane Andrew victims. Gunnery Sergeant David Kennedy, coordinator for the local U.S. Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" program, states, "This year will be the hardest ever. For the first time the success of providing toys to 60-70,000 needy children in the Bay Area depends entirely on the support of the community." In past years the program received outside support from a company which is now unable to provide financial help. Last year the National Toys for Tots Foundation also filled the gap, but this year the Foundation will be purchasing toys for the areas devastated by Hurricane Andrew and the Los Angeles riots.

Here are a few of the many organizations in need in the Tampa Bay area. Many churches and stores also make charitable donations convenient by providing drop-

• The Bloomingdale Gazette is accepting donations of nonperishable food and unwrapped, new toys for charity. The charity will be determined at the Dec. 15 meeting at 7:30. Charity suggestions are welcome. Items may be brought to the community office Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. until Dec. 18.

• The Spring of Tampa Bay is an organization which helps victims of domestic violence. Urgent needs include diapers, curling irons, hairbrushes, deodorant, sample size toiletries, teething medicine, diaper rash medicine, generic aspirin, baby wipes, and Band-aids™. Gifts include: Gift certificates for services, clothing, movies; Toys, games, craft kits, radios, electronic games, books, crayons, backpacks. Holiday drop-off point: the Holiday Giving Center at 5118 N. 56 St, suite 103, Tampa. Call Jan Witmer at 626-0005.

• The Divine Providence Food Bank is collecting donations to distribute to non-profit organizations that feed the needy. Winn Dixie, Kash N' Karry, and Publix grocery stores are accepting non-perishable food donations through Dec. 28.

•U.S. Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" program is accepting new toys. Drop-off locations: Byron Stores, Winn

Dixie, Allied Tire, Hungry Howies, Taco Bell, or Opti-World. Donation checks should be made out to USMCR TOYS FOR TOTS and mailed to: Toys for Tots, 5121 Gandy Blvd., Tampa FL 33611-3099.

·Metropolitan Ministries, which cares for homeless families, needs nonperishable food, leftover prepared or catered food, unwrapped toys and gifts, volunteers for sorting and distributing, and monetary gifts. Call 229-1578.

·Children's Home, a residential treatment center for children who have been abused or abandoned, has Christmas wish lists available for donations. Call Ms. Jessica at 855-4435.

•The Salvation Army is accepting non-perishable

"'Good Spirit,' he pursued,, as down upon the ground he fell before it, 'your nature intercedes for me, and pities me. Assure me that I may yet change these shadows you have shown me, by an altered life!' "The kind hand trembled. "I will honour Christmas

in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirit of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons they teach."

Charles Dickens in A Christmas Carol

food baskets and monetary contributions. Bring food to: The Salvation Army at 1603 N. Florida Ave. Mail donations in an enveloped marked "Christmas Cheer" to: PO Box 2839, Tampa, FL 33601.

·Sincerely Santa is a corporate-sponsored group which receives letters via the Hillsborough County Schools from children who are truly needy. Sincerely Santa booths, located at University Square Mall and Tampa Bay Center, have children's letters expressing their Christmas wishes. Sponsors may select a child's letter, buy gifts for the child, and return them to the booths where the gifts will be tagged for the children. This year Sincerely Santa received over 5,200 letters.

•ECHO: Emergency Care Help Organization: accepts food, clothing, and household items, but no furniture. 426 Brandon Blvd. 685-0935.

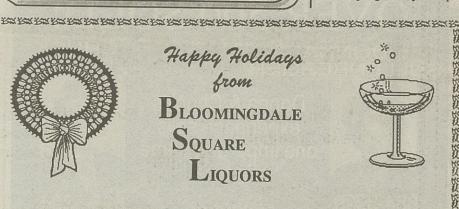
•Bell Shoals Church of Christ has an ongoing benevolent program for the needy. Every Monday night between 6:30 and 8 p.m. the Church accepts donations of food and clothing for the needy. Call 685-0750.

•Brandon Christian Church: accepting donations for adopta-family program, 689-4021.

•Bloomingdale Brethren Church is accepting donations for Metropolitan Ministries (for the homeless), 1310 Bloomingdale Ave, East, 681-2790.

•St. Andrew's United Methodist Church is collecting underwear for children: socks, panties, and t-shirts. Bring your contributions to 3315 Bryan Rd. at Bloomingdale Ave. 689-

•Immanuel Lutheran collects food and clothing for ECHO or. a regular basis. The church is accepting donations for food baskets, 689-1787.



'Celebrate in style with a bottle of fine wine or champagne"

· great gift ideas for family, friends & co-workers

· special Christmas gift sets now available for many items ( gift bags also available)

• surprise your party hosts with a bottle of premium liquor from our "top shelf"

• ring in the New Year with a bottle of champagne from our wide selection (from Cooks to Dom Perignon)

883 East Bloomingdale Avenue

以以及 医过程 医过程 医过程 医过程 医过程 医过程 医过程 医过程 医过度 医过度



Brandon Wallcovering & Decorating

"The Savingo You Expect, The Service You Deserve"

#### "Come See Us for Our Holiday Specials"

- In-stock Wallcoverings: Selected Closeout Patterns, Single Roll - \$2.99
- Special Order Library
- · Window Treatments: Mini-blinds, Vertical, Pleated Shades, Draperies and Toppers Bedding Ensembles
- We Refer Installation Services
- · Consult with One of Our Staff Decorators
- · Featuring: Waverly, Robert Allen & Many More

Visit our Skowroom 654-1003

Oak Park Plaza 721 West Lumsden Road Brandon, FL (corner of Kings & Lumsden)



PERSONALIZED SERVICE IS OUR TRADEMARK

5.00 or 10% OFF

Any In-stock Purchase over \$20,00 (whichever is greater) with coupon only please expires 1/31/93 BG



Are You

- Does your preschooler wake you at 4 a.m., anxious to get to preschool?
- · Do they come home happy and stimulated, talking about their day?
- · Do they talk about their friends they play with at preschool?
- · Are they reluctant to leave when you go to pick them up?

If you've answered no to two or more of these questions, it's time to make a change!

Primary Prep has been in operation for over 5 years now and is full of preschoolers whose parents answer yes to all the above questions! Come see for yourself. Drop in on us and observe our happy, stimulated children and take advantage of our New Year Enrollment Special.

It's time for you to feel good about your preschool. And what better time to make the change than in a fresh new year.

We'll be waiting . . . to make you and your preschooler happy.

Owner: Christine Terrell Director: Gail Bjornson Asst. Dir.: Linda St. Clair

Brandon, Fiorida

Hours 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Primary Prep Pre-School Bloomingdale Avenue 3720 Canoga Park Drive

654-1942

Enrollment Special 5(1/2, (0))

first time enrollments now through Jan. 1993

## Festival of lights commemorates Jewish history

by Judy Schaeffer

Hanukkah, the eightday Festival of Lights, is perhaps the most joyous festival of the Jewish calendar year and has become among the most widely observed. The customs associated with Hanukkah have made it a particular favorite of children: the ceremonial week-long candle lighting. the traditional gift-giving, and the special foods (potato latkes) and games (dreidel - tops).

Hanukkah commemorates not only the

successful fight for survival which was led by Judah of the Jewish state, but also Maccabee. They defeated for freedom of religion. The them out of Jerusalem and Antiochus Epiphanes, the flask of oil, the only oil they king of Syria. Jewish women could find amid the and children were torn from destruction, they re-lit the the Temple's sanctuary, to Eternal Lamp, which Antiochus desecrated the celebration is known as the temple.

forward to form an army holiday.

the first triumphant struggle the Syrian Greeks and drove Jewish people remained from the other cities. On the steadfast in the faith of their twenty-fifth day of the fathers refusing to accept the Hebrew month of Kislev in idol-worship of the Greeks 165 B.C. the Temple was during the reign of rededicated. With a little which they had fled in terror, miraculously burned for and were sold into slavery. eight days. Thus the Festival of Lights, a Many Jews came symbolic and joyful Jewish

## **Holiday Credit Tips**



It's not too early to start thinking about the holidays and holiday budgets. And one key to avoiding the urge to overspend is simple. Plan ahead so that you won't face the New Year with a bleak mountain of bills.

Begin by making a careful list.

If you've had a tough year financially, shrink the gift list. Talk with those you exchange gifts with and suggest either not exchanging gifts or observing lower dollar limits on gifts.

Separate shopping trips (when comparing prices, quality, value, etc.) from spending trips (when making a purchase). Don't take cash, credit cards, etc. on shopping trips.

Visit craft shows, fairs, and bazaars for unique one-of-a-kind items, often with very reasonable prices.

Hold a family gift exchange. Draw names for large families. And practice gift pooling, where everyone contributes to the purchase of one large gift.

Give of yourself. Offer gift certificates for babysitting services, word processing, car repair, or cake baking.

Think about making gifts. Ideas are limitless, with everything from needlepoint pillows to cross stitch samplers. Festively wrap a gift of homemade cookies or bread. You'll have fun working on these projects

Try to avoid using credit cards to make Christmas purchases unless you can pay for it within a month. If you do use a credit card, use only one. This makes it easier to limit spending.

Stay within your budget.

Think about others. Encourage your office to "adopt" a family for Christmas instead of exchanging gifts, volunteer at a soup kitchen or shelter. Helping others who are in need is the true spirit of the holidays. Information provided by the Consumer Credit Counseling Service.

### Ornament party adds to holiday fun

by Robbie Dickherber

Each year my friends and I gather our children together 2 to 3 weeks before Christmas to make a variety of Christmas ornaments. The twist on this tradition is the way we arrange the party. We call it a "Progressive Ornament-Making Party" because we travel from home to home to make different ornaments.

Here is how it works. Prior to the party day (this year we are using Dec. 16), each parent finds at least 3 simple ornaments that their children will be able to master. The parents can create their own ornament ideas or draw from the wealth of ideas in books or magazines. We have found that the simpler the ornament, the more fun everyone has.

Planning and preparation are the keys to a successful party. Parents meet prior to the party day to present their ideas and to make sure that there are no duplicates. Work together with the other parents and share supplies. For example, if you need fruit juice can lids for a tin punch ornament, have everyone save prior to the day. Perhaps one person has lots of markers, paints, or scissors; share the wealth. Each person is responsible for all the supplies for the ornaments that will be made at their home. If you need to have something traced, make sure there are enough patterns precut so that no one is standing around waiting to start their ornaments.

Plan for the age of the children and the number of children who will attend the party. It is best to try to keep the groups to 10 children if they are under 8-years old. With older children the group can be larger because they will need fewer instructions and they would prefer to do it themselves. If your group is larger than this you may decide to split them up and have two adults working together.

On the day of the party, 3 to 4 families are prepared to make ornaments, with at least two adults at each home. At the first house each child decorates a special bag in which to carry their ornaments. They will keep this bag with them as they go from house to house. In this home, they also make cookies. We make simple candy canes and painted stained glass cookies (see procedure below). As the cookies go in the oven, the party proceeds to the next home.

Children walk or are carpooled to the next homes, depending on the distance between homes. At the second house, they make the ornaments selected prior to party day, place them in their bag and move on to the remaining houses. Once all the ornaments have been made, the children return to the first house and have a "Cookies and Punch Party and Singalong" with Christmas tunes.

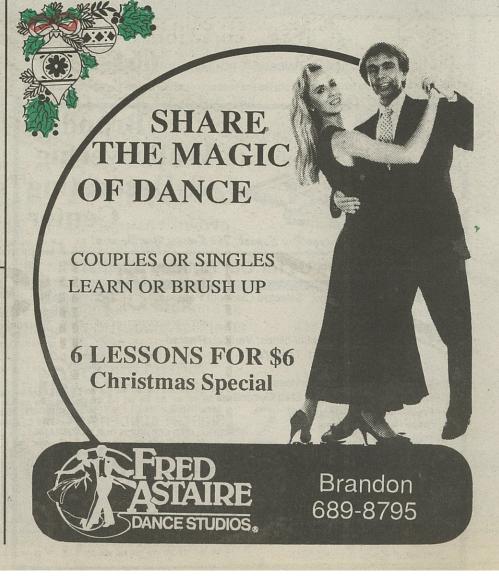
This holiday activity takes very little time and can be adapted by classrooms by simply going room to room and making a different ornament in each classroom. These ornaments may be sent to needy families, or given to organizations which donate wrapped presents to the needy as a special ornament to adorn the packages. Scouting groups or church groups may also participate in this project. Have fun and happy holidays!

#### Cookies

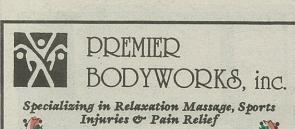
- Make the sugar cookie dough ahead of time.
- · For candy canes roll out "snake" shapes with both white and red sugar cookie dough, then twist them together to make candy cane shapes.
- · For stained glass cookies, have the sugar cookie dough rolled out and sandwiched between waxed paper so that the children only have to choose a cookie cutter and cut. Paint the shaped sugar cookie with colored egg yolk paint and a clean paint brush. (Egg yolk paint: 1 egg yolk, beaten; 1/4 tsp. water; food coloring).

Up to 20% **AUTO·HOME·LIFE·BUSINESS** Discount off DRASTIC REDUCTIONS FOR your auto VALRICO RESIDENTS insurance when REMEMBER: your home is YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH insured with us, too!!! Phone us today for a quote 681-5303 611 E. Bloomingdale Ave., (Next to Bloomingdale Square) Allstate Insurance Co. and Allstate Life Insurance





#### वस्ति । इति । इति



654-8909

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

3644 Lithia Pinecrest Rd • Valrico, FL 33594 • Erindale Plaza (just south of Bloomingdale Avenue) MA#0013343

1 hour massage (\$40. value)

1/2 hour massage (\$25. value)

# Saving



Pools - Spas - Domestic Hot Water Solar Insurance Claims Solar Freeze Repairs

FREE SOLAR BLANKET INCLUDED PLUS 10% DISCOUNT ON SOLAR SYSTEM

685-4419

DISCOUNT

Licensed • Bonded • Insured

Lic#RX0056046 Lic#RP0060692

**Excluding Liquid Chlorine & Muratic Acid** 

**IN-STORE** 

Weekly SERVICE Chemical SERVICE Pump/Filter/Screen Solar/Pool REPAIRS • Pool REFINISHING Pool/Spa/Dom.SOLAR

**FREE WATER ANALYSIS** 

653-3022 819 E. BLOOMINGDALE AVE. (Bloomingdale Square)



M-F Sat. Sun. 10-5

SAVD \$1.00

reg. \$8 WENT 

reg. \$13-\$15 SHAMP(0.0) CUIT & STYLE

Brandon, FL 33511

654-1900

with this coupon/exp. 1-1-93 with this coupon/exp. 1-1-93

684-4499

NORTH BRANDON KINGSWAY PLAZA 1213 KINGSWAY AVE. 653-4535

BLOOMINGDALE 3507 BELL SHOALS RD. 654-9292

NEW LOCATION APOLLO BEACH 10 APOLLO BEACH BLVD. 645- 1499

BRANDON OAK PARK PLAZA 709 W. LUMSDEN RD. 654-9541

VALRICO VALRICO SQUARE 1985 E. BRANDON BLVD. 654-2324

BLOOMINGDALE ROYAL OAKS PLAZA LITHIA PINECREST RD. 654-8113



CARPET CLEANING **Holiday Special** 

> (Y49)450 Full House

per room. up to 1500 sq. ft. | Two room minimum

call Tom Bratton:

654-8970



Distinctive Floral Design

Kings Row Shopping Ctr. 829 W. Bloomingdale Brandon, FL 33511

(813) 689-0436 (800) 771-1146

No Wire

No Coupon Necessary \$2X(II)(0) OLD Service Charge ALL WIRE ORDERS

for the Holiday through Dec. 1992



MAJIK TOUCH CLEANERS MAJIK TOUCH CLEANERS

SHIRTS LAUNDERED DRY CLEANING HOUSEHOLD

B 

.

VALID ON INCOMING ORDERS ONLY. LIMIT 10. BLOUSES AND POLO SHIRTS EXTRA.

VALID ONLY WITH COUPON, NOT VALID WITH OTHER COUPONS OR ON SALE ITEMS.

**EXPIRES JAN. 23, 1992** 

VALID ON INCOMING ORDERS

ONLY

VALID ONLY WITH COUPON, NOT VALID WITH OTHER COUPONS OR ON SALE ITEMS.

**EXPIRES JAN. 23, 1992** 





### BLOOMINGDALE SEW 'N VAC CENTER

807 W. Bloomingdale Avenue

654-0182 Comer of Bloomingdale & Kings

**FREE Serger Classes** 

Discover the many wonders of a serger. If you've ever thought about owning a serger ... now is the time. Call or come in today to sign up for your FREE serger class. A \$30.00 Value

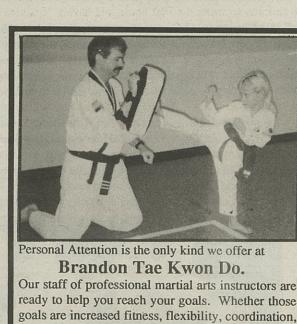
New Machines **Starting at \$149.00** 

Lay-away now for Christmas (90 days)

Wide Variety of Used Machines in Stock Starting at \$49.95







Our staff of professional martial arts instructors are ready to help you reach your goals. Whether those goals are increased fitness, flexibility, coordination, self confidence or self defense skills; our programs are individually tailored to your needs so you get results quickly!

> 815 West Bloomingdale corner of Kings & Bloomingdale

#### FREE Trial Lesson

Just bring this coupon with you to Brandon Tae Kwon Do. Come in to see our facilities and you'll get a lesson in martial arts absolutely FREE!

For faster service, call today and make an appointment for your lesson. Either way, you'll experience the enjoyment known as "Martial Arts". Make your appointment today!

689-2255

#### Packing and shipping tips provided by Mail Boxes, Etc.

Preparing packages for mailing or shipping by UPS is easy once you know the basic rules. Take special precaution when packing breakable items for shipping during the holiday season.

UPS suggests the "boxin-a-box" packing method for shipping valuable breakable items. To use this method, center the item in a box with a 2 inch clearance on top, bottom, and all sides. Stuff the box with Styrofoam packing peanuts or wadded up paper. Bubble wrap placed around the item itself is an added assurance that it will arrive safely. Take this box, seal it, and insert it in another box which has Styrofoam packing peanuts or wadded up paper in it. This box must allow 2 inches

on all sides also. Packaged this way, a breakable item is protected from shock, compression, and vibration, which are the main causes of damage to packages. It is also important to use new corrugated boxes because used boxes are not strong enough to adequately protect your valuables.

Due to the humid Florida climate, do not use scotch tape or masking tape to secure your packages. The tape will not adhere properly and your package could become orphaned. Use a good quality 2 inch packing tape, either vinyl tape or tape which must be wet to adhere. It is a good idea to cover your shipping label with clear tape so that it does not get smudged from rain or

snow.

Do not wrap your boxes with brown paper. This is not necessary or desirable anymore because it tends to get torn off on the conveyor belts. For the same reason, string is not allowed. Putting your name and address inside the package is also a good idea.

Ship early and avoid the crowds. Your package will receive more careful handling before the rush than during the rush. Mail Boxes, Etc. at Bloomingdale Square will provide complimentary "Do not open this until Christmas" labels. Stop by to see their free packing brochures, to get something professionally packed, or to pick up a frequent shipper card.



Educational signs are posted along the trail.

brings "Awareness enlightenment and enlightenment is the seed of concern."

Charles Tommelleo, Nature Trail Director



Photos by Daniel Taphorn

#### Surviving the holidays

by Bobbi Davis, MS, MA

The holiday season is upon us once again. That means plenty of family, fun, food, and unfortunately, fat, for many of us. But this year can be different - you can still enjoy your festivities without an extra five pounds or a return of a bulging belly, double chin, or saggy tricep. Below are several hints to set you on the road to a fit start for 1993.

- Alter your workout schedule instead of missing workouts entirely. Most parties are in the evening, so plan ahead to get in a workout at noon or first thing in the morning. A shortened workout is better than none at all!
- Do not go to parties ravenous. Eat something sensible before you leave home, so that all those goodies are not calling out to you.
- Make smart choices at the buffet table. Go for the fruits, vegetables, and other lower fat items. Check the accompanying chart for other suggestions.
- Avoid standing or sitting too close to the food tables. "Out of sight, out of mind" really works.
- Monitor your intake of alcohol. Basically, alcohol has no nutritional value, just calories. Besides, we want to see you arrive safely into 1993!
- Decide on your New Year's resolution now, and stick to it.
- Recruit help from family, friends and co-workers to keep you in line at parties. Make a bet on who can keep on track during holiday times - the loser pays for a couple months of your YMCA membership.
- · Take part in YMCA special events during the holiday season. There are two road races open to all abilities: The Santa Cruise and the Hall of Fame Bowl Runs, and other
- Most importantly, have a safe and happy holiday season. Each one of us has many things to be thankful for; take time out to appreciate them and offer help to others less fortunate.

#### **Business** news

We Care Hair opened its doors in October at 1981 W. Lumsden Rd. in the Brandon Center South. Owner Joy Ridenour says they offer "quality service at a reasonable price for the whole family." The salon is open 7 days a week and offers cuts, styles and perms. Ridenour says," The community has been exceptional. We really do care. We encourage all family members to visit; we even read stories to the children!"

Premiere Bodyworks recently joined the Bloomingdale business community at 3644 Lithia Pinecrest Rd. Co-owners Julie Haynes and Gene Raiford explain that their business specializes in "relaxation massage, treatment of sports injuries and pain relief, and stress reduction." Clients will receive an evaluation on their first visit and Premiere Bodyworks will recommend a plan. Haynes, who has worked with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Tampa Ballet, emphasizes that they also enhance performance for athletes.



SunBank regional president Gus Trahan and branch manager Martha Simmons cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony of the new Bell Shoals location. SunBank held an open house during the week of Nov. 16-20. Chamber of Commerce members and bank officials joined in the celebration; pictured from left to right are Julian Craft, Chuck Bingham, George Anello, David Ellen and, Carl Sciabarra.

## **NEW FOR YOUR POOL & SPA**

CHLORINE FREE SWIMMING

NASA developed technology now makes it possible to swim CHLORINE FREE. Purify your pool the way NASA purifies their drinking water; with minerals instead of chemicals.



- NO MORE bleached out swimwear or red, burning eyes!
- NO MORE damage to skin, hair and pool surfaces!
- NO MORE worries over chemical mixing and safty!
- NO MORE money wasted on toxic chemicals!

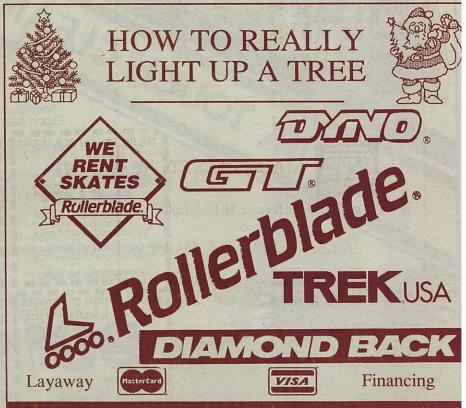
IONIZATION IS SMART: • less expensive than chlorine • safer than chlorine • easier to maintain than chlorine • is safe for you, the environment & for the ecosystem

NO WEEKLY TRIPS TO THE POOL STORE EVER AGAIN!

684-3386 REDUCE POOL **MAINTENANCE BY UP TO 90%** 

Save Hundreds **Dollars Every** 

From International Ionics



BIKE WORKS 654-4636 code 6410 Mon-Fri 9-7, Sat 9-5 ... the lifesport connection

Kings & Bloomingdale Ave. Kings Row Center

## Bloomingdale science department opens ecological preserve

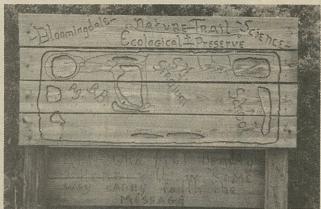


Photo by Daniel Taphorn

by Dave Lingel

November 19 marked the opening of the Bloomingdale Nature Walk and Ecological Preserve located behind Charlie Harris Stadium. In cooperation with school and county administration and the Environmental Protection Agency, the Bloomingdale science department has succeeded in creating an educational setting around some of Florida's unique natural habitats. Numerous organizations contributed to the preserve, including The Boy Scouts of America, Cargill Fertilizer Inc., Shoreline Marine, and

numerous others. The project which had been in planning since Bloomingdale opened five years ago has finally become reality.

The trail consists of three phases, two of which are completed. Within each phase, outdoor classroom amphitheaters are located, which will provide teachers and students with a natural setting for learning, outside of the stuffy classrooms and their pale fluorescent lights. The trail includes areas of swamps, forests, shrubs, ponds, bogs, and meadows. "Awareness brings enlightenment, and enlightenment is the seed of concern," stated Charles Tommelleo, director of the nature trail and head of the science department at Bloomingdale. With nearly a halfmile of trails and six open amphitheaters set in a variety of areas, the preserve is intended to bring greater awareness to Florida's natural habitats.

Since the preserve is a federal reserve, both public and private schools as well as community groups will be welcome to study the trail. Study packets of the area will include maps, worksheets, and other information pertinent to the trail, prior to visiting the preserve. These packets will allow visiting groups for 1 hour, 1/2 day, or full day

Teachers and sponsors can make reservations through the Bloomingdale science department and obtain a key for the trail gate. The trail is to be left as it is found and any violation of the rules may result in revocation of trail privileges.

The primary concern of the preserve is to stress the importance of finding a balance between industrial development and preserving ecosystems. While the Bloomingdale Nature Trail and Ecological Preserve emphasizes environmental responsibility, it also offers natural



The Science and Agriculture departments at Bloomingdale Senior High School unveiled their Nature Trail and Ecological Preserve, an area to teach students and the community about environmental education.

## Mail Boxes Etc. is

### The Post Office

### Alternative®

You can trust the experts at MBE to handle your postal, business or communications needs.







STAMPS



ACKAGING



OVERNIGHT











MAIL BOXES ETC.

We're The Biggest Because We Do It Right!"

**UPS Authorized Shipping Outlet** 



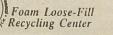






### **Bloomingdale Square**

813 E. Bloomingdale Ave. (Wal-Mart Shopping Center)



689-4998 fax 689-4328

#### CONVENIENT PHARMACY HOURS!

Open Monday Thru Friday 9 a.m. To 9 p.m. And Saturday 9 a.m. To 6 p.m.



**FULL SERVICE**, **HIGH QUALITY AND** LOW PRICES...Winn-Dixie Pharmacy.







#### **HEY KIDS!**

Earn money delivering The Bloomingdale Gazette once a month. For details call 681-2051



STANLEY T. PADGETT ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF HIS LAW PRACTICE UNDER THE NAME

STANLEY T. PADGETT, P.A.

609 E. JACKSON STREET, SUITE 100, TAMPA, FL 33602

PHONE (813) 223-5225 • FAX (813) 229-5979

#### STANLEY T. PADGETT, P.A.

will handle general civil and commercial litigation matters in the areas of construction law and counseling, banking, product liability, personal injury and wrongful death, and disputes between stock brokers and customers.

(Eight Year Bloomingdale Resident)

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

# Take a new look! American Education Week

by Mary Karcher

Throughout the nation Nov. 16-20 marked American Education Week. Bloomingdale area schools joined in the celebration with this year's theme, "American Schools: Take a New Look!" Parents and members of the community got a new look at the schools through a variety of activities. Conversely, the students got a view of careers and hobbies in the "grownup" world.

Schools invited parents to join their children for breakfast, visit media centers, participate in classroom career presentations, and go to book fairs. The "Great American Teach-In" encouraged parents and community members to visit the classrooms and teach children about their career or hobby. Many visitors brought souvenirs of their work, such as booklets, hats, toothbrushes, or balloons.

#### Brooker students celebrate healthy habits

At Brooker Elementary
School, the focus was on
developing healthy bodies
and healthy hobbies.
Guidance counselor Cheryl
Ayscue organized a Health
Fair comprised of 13 booths
staffed by parent volunteers.
Children visited each booth
and participated in an
activity to learn about
healthy habits.

In the "Rainbow of Healthy Food," students cut out pictures of food from a magazine and glued them to a color band on the rainbow depicting the food group to which the food belongs. A child could visit the "nonbored" game area to play a game called "Just Say No." Two booths which always had a line of students waiting to participate were the ringtoss or bean bag games which both targeted healthy habits as opposed to smoking or drinking. Students had to evaluate pictures of activities and decide where to throw

the ring or the bean bag. In the bean bag game the children enjoyed throwing the bad habits into a garbage can and the healthy habits into the mouth of a huge smiling face.

A demonstration which Ms. Ayscue described as very effective was the Smokey Sue doll. The doll actually "smoked" a cigarette and then children were shown the glass test tube inside which had collected a film of brown tar from just one cigarette. The children then discussed the effecta full pack a day would have on a smoker. Considering the result, the children emphatically responded, "EYEECH!"

## Alafia: trains, trucks, and guns

Children are fascinated by the adult version of their toys. This was apparent at Alafia Elementary during the Great American Teach-In. When Michael Allen from CSX Railroad; Captain William Law from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department; and Dave Heckinger from Sun State International Truck Sales visited, the kids were all ears.

Allen created a human train by connecting the engineer-hatted children in Mrs. Stanaland's first grade class with a rope. His daughter, Kierston formed the engine. Allen talked to the children about train safety, punctuating his speech with bursts from a train whistle. The children immediately started coloring train activity booklets which reinforced the safety lessons Allen taught.

Mrs. Cynthia Waller's first grade class found its lesson in the parking lot: a truck which had wheels taller than the average first grader. Dave Heckinger carefully helped each child climb up into the cab of the sparkling gray truck. The children all reached directly for the horn and gave it a yank. Giggling,

they then crawled into the sleeping area and leaped on the bed. The next time a truck passes them on the highway, Mrs. Waller's students will be able to tell their parents all about the driver's rig.

In Mrs. Heidt's second grade class, Marjorie Rapp asked Captain Law, "Do you use your gun often?" "No," Captain Law responded, "What do you think policemen do?" Hands shot up some waving anxiously. "Chase robbers." "Arrest people." "Find bad guys." Yet as the questioning continued students began to list the ways in which policeman help ordinary citizens like lost children or accident victims. Lisa Walker, who patiently waited for her turn to add a job to the list, added. "I know whatelse policemen do; they can save your life." And Michael Quinanes looked Law in the eye and said, "My Grandma lives in a bad neighborhood; I hope you can help her out." Law patiently responded to every question, including one from Tharin Williamson who asked, "Don't policemen drink coffee and eat doughnuts?"

## E.L. Bing students: learning beyond the school years

Parents, grandparent and friends took time out of their busy schedules to share their careers and hobbies with the students of E. L. Bing. The focus was on the need to be lifelong learners. Mrs. Perla Bermejo shared her experiences of life in the Philippine Islands with Mrs. Thomas and Spangler's classes. Debbie Murphy wowed students from Ms. Emanuel's homeroom with intriguing information about the joys of scuba diving. Mr. Edward Kessler shared many of his experiences as an investigator for the department of defense with the students of Mrs. Drake,

Mrs. Franklin, and Mrs. Shoe. Mrs. Cleminson's homeroom was visited by Tampa Police QUAD Department's Squad. Corporal Joe Raulerson and Officer Vincent Bush fascinated the with their students experiences as street level narcotics detectives. Mrs. Judy Hart, a representative of Safety Equipment Co. Shared the importance of safety with Mrs. Alley's sixth grade science class. Dr. David Kwasny shared some of the skills and tools a pharmacist uses every day.



Students at Brooker Elementary concentrated on health and hobbies. Abby Korchnak checks her knowledge of smoking.



As a guest speaker American during Education Week at Alafia Elementary, Captain William Law of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department emphasizes that no gun should ever considered "unloaded". Captain Law visited Mrs. Heidt's second graders.

## THE 1992 SANTA AND HIS REINDEER ORNAMENTS

Collect all five. Each finely handcrafted ornament is just \$4.95 each with any \$5 Hallmark purchase. A different ornament is available each week.





Hallmark GOLD CROWN STORE Greg's Hallmark Shoppe Bloomingdale Square 684-3758

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-9, Sun 12-5



Photo by Diane Johnston E.L. Bing students Cory Weinhold, Andy Bermejo and Amber Murphy learn about the Philippines from Mrs. Perla Bermejo.

The Bloomingdale Gazette is looking for ad reps and delivery people. These part -time positions require no experience. Call 681-2051.

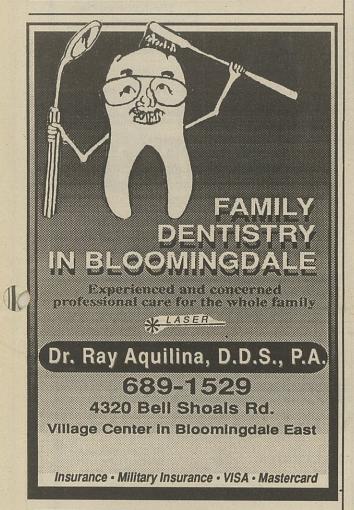
## ATTORNEY AT LAW Richard Weldon

- Personal Injury & Wrongful Death
- Criminal Law, All Courts
- Business & Corporate Law
- Civil & Commercial Litigation
- Marital & Family Law
- Wills & Trusts

14 years experience

Free consultation

791 W. Lumsden Road Brandon 654-8124



## ALTERNATIVE TO SELLING

A POPULAR ALTERNATIVE TO SELLING IN TODAY'S REAL ESTATE MARKET

## PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Consider the fact that you retain ownership of the property, any appreciation, collect income from it, and keep the tax break.

#### FOR INFORMATION CALL:

E.B. (Ed) DICK, GRI BARBARA MCGINNIS, GRI

MARIE POWELL AND ASSOCIATES BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS 910 LITHIA PINECREST ROAD BRANDON, FLORIDA 33511

(813) 685-5633

# Lithia Springs Elementary Walk-a-thon raises money for new school



Photo by Tim Golden

Lithia Springs students who raised \$50 or more in walk-a-thon

by Mary Karcher

Lithia Springs Elementary reports that their first walk-a-thon, held on Oct. 23, was a huge success. While raising much-needed funds for the new school, the walk-a-thon also stressed healthy bodies and minds. The activity was the kick-off event for Red Ribbon week which encouraged students to "Say No to Drugs."

Students received pledges from friends and family members for each lap they walked. Gayle Turner, walk-a-thon chairperson, congratulated 36 students for collecting \$50 or more. The top three classes were Mrs. Chandler, kindergarten; Mrs. Summers, first grade; and Mrs. Carman, fourth grade

Lithia Springs hopes to use the money to purchase equipment for the media center, music classes, and physical education. Turner describes the pride the students gained from participating in the walk: "They love being able to tell someone that they really did

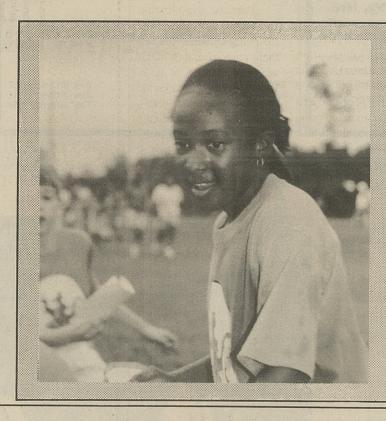
something to make a difference in their school."

#### Book Fair: a new twist on a common idea

Book fairs abound at this time of year, but at Lithia Springs Elementary there is a new twist. Instead of buying new books, students recycled used books at their Dec. 4 Book Exchange Extravaganza.

PTA president Kathie Hurner exclaimed, "This book exchange extravaganza has many worthwhile objectives." Instead of having fund-raising as a major objective, the PTA wanted to encourage recycling and sharing.

Students donated used books during a 3-day period. On the fourth day, the total book tally was divided by the total student participants. Consequently, all children received the same number of books. Remaining books were donated to charity in the spirit of holiday giftgiving.



LaToya Neal gets a quick drink at the Nov. 6 Alafia Elementary walk-a-thon. The PTA sponsored activity raised money for music equipment, computers, and text-books.



What does everyone want for Christmas? A CLEAN HOME!

Do it for yourself or someone you care about Housecleaning · with a **Touch of Class** 

677-7937

677-0680

Discounts & Gift Certificates Available

LAWN & GARDEN SERVICE, INC. P.O. BOX 1731 • VALRICO, FLORIDA 33594-1731

**SHAMROCK** 

684-7682

OWNER - BOB POYNTON



SUN COVE REALTY, INC.

DONNA MACGIFFERT

Mulli Million Dollar Roducer

829 E. Bloomingdale Ave. Brandon, Florida 33511 Fax: (813) 685-1839 24 Hours (813) 681-0313

GRACE C. LEWIS, CPA

Tax & Accounting Services

3905 Kristin Place Valrico, FL 33594

(813) 681-4548 Fax: 684-1608



Debi Duemia

106 East Bloomingdale Brandon, FL 33511

684-3099



Ph. 689-8610 501 West M.L.K. Blvd. Seffner, FL 33584

Ph. 654-3433 Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale

## elîte physique

personal fitness training

Kelly Williams Jennifer Morley

- · Certified/Degreed Trainers
- · Weight Loss/Weight Gain Body Sculpting/Body-Building
- Contest Preparation
- · Nutritional Counseling

527 Emberwood Dr. Brandon, FL 33511

(813) 653-4052

Free Estimates

Experienced/ Reliable

BLOOMINGDALE PAINTING Interior/Exterior • Pressure Washing

(813) 654-5646

TOD HOWARD Bloomingdale Resident



John R. Sims, Sr., C.H.C.M.

- Bloomingdale Resident Alarm Contractor I #EF 0000137
- Burglar and Fire Alarm Systems
   Access Control Systems
   Central Vaccuming Systems
   Closed Circuit Television Systems
   Hazardous Materials Reporting Services
- 3706 Kalewood Place P.O. Box 389 Valrico, Florida 33594 813 681-1822
- Computer Cabling Systems
   Consulting Services
   Intercom Systems
   Safety Consulting Services
   Telephone Systems

Landscape Materials

Gravel

Cement Products Sands

Brandon Rock Landscape Supplies (813) 681-8961

**PLANTS** 

2506 S.R. 60 East Valrico, FL 33594 - 3829

SOD



3720 Canoga Park Drive Brandon, Florida 33511

Christine Terrell Owner/Operator (813) 654-1942



Bloomingdale Resident ROGER RIVARD ' General Manager

(813) 620-3933 CLEARWATER (813) 441-9666 9740 ADAMO DR., TAMPA, FL

#### **Ken Hope** Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.

Ken & Mardi Hope

FREE 2nd **OPINIONS** 

P.O. Box 2239 Riverview, FL 33569-2239 Tel. & Fax (813) 671-2107 State Cert. #CACO43887

INTERNATIONAL WATER TREATMENT, INC.

RONALD J. DELAVAN CONSULTANT

3908 Santee Way Suite 100 Valrico, FL 33594

Bus. (813) 653-1957 Res. (813) 685-1711 Fax. (813) 653-1957



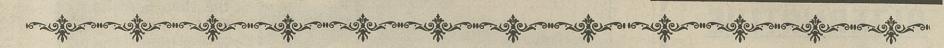
### SUN COVE REALTY, INC.

**BILL CARTER** 



Multi Million Dollar Producer

829 E. Bloomingdale Ave. Brandon, Florida 33511 Bus.: (813) 684-3144 Eves: (813) 689-7209 Fax: (813) 685-1839



#### Bloomingdale Senior High School **Spanish National Honor Society** inducts new members

by Erika Perez

On Nov. 17, fifty-seven members of the Spanish honor classes were inducted into the Spanish National Honor Society. This society was founded by the Spanish and Portuguese teachers of the United States, with the intention of promoting the study of the language and the Hispanic culture. To be a member of this group, the students have to be enrolled in Spanish 3 and have an overall grade point average of

The president-elect is William Vincent and his officers are Hector Melendez, Andres Diaz, Glorimi Melendez, and Erika Perez. The sponsor of this society is Mrs. Dilia Fernandez. This year, the group's membership totals more than 100 members. Congratulations to all of them.



Photo by Steve Allen

Bloomingdale students awaiting induction into the Spanish National Honor Society hold lit candles representing the flame of inspiration.

## Classified

## Stuff the stockings with great gifts from ...

We have:

**Teacher Gifts** Rubber Stamps **Embossing Supplies** Children's Books Records & Tapes Games Card Sets

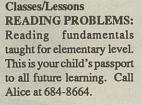
Geosafari Electronic

eography Game

TEACHERS' HELPER, INC. PARENT/TEACHER STORE

109 S. Margaret Street Brandon, Florida 33511 684-0688

Gift Certificates Available Any Amount



For Sale

CARS: Cheap! FBI/US Seized. '89 MERCEDES -\$200; '86 VW - \$50; '87 MERCEDES - \$100; '65 MUSTANG \$50. Choose from thousands starting at

\$25. FREE Information 24 Hour Hotline Call (801) 379-2929. Copyright #FL30MJC GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT: "Where There's a Will, There's An A" - VHS Tapes, high school & college editions, new, \$35 each. Call 681-6617

Help Wanted

\$200 - \$500 Weekly: Assemble products at home. Easy! No selling. You're paid directly. Fully guaranteed. FREE Information - 24 hour Hotline (801) 379-2900. Copyright # FL30MDH

Maintenance and Home **Improvements** 

BURGLAR & FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS: Complete Safety Services, Inc. 20 years experience. Home or office. State License #EF0000137. Current Member Alarm Association of Florida Bloomingdale Resident. Call 681-1822.

**ECONO PRESSURE CLEANING:** Home

Exteriors: Driveways, walkways, patios, decks, and roofs. Free estimates. Call 681-3656, day or evening 7 days. Vince Sidoti. PRESSURE CLEAN AND **RESURFACING: River** 

Reasonable rates. Call Kevin at 685-4419. "QUALITY SOLAR **SYSTEMS": 100%** financing available. No money down. 819 East Bloomingdale Ave. Clean & Clear Pool Supply. Call 685-4419. Licenses #RX0056046 & #RP0060692 RANDAL HARRELL'S

LAWN SERVICE: Screen repairs, River rock refinishing and miscellaneous home repairs Free estimates. Reason-able prices. Bloomingdale resident. Call 681-1038.

. . . . . . . .

#### Residents Who Are

Avon Rep: Ruth Calandro, 689-0212 Belinda Oliver, 689-5218

**Discovery Toys:** Midge Walsh, 654-7011

Amway Rep: Beverly Plant, 852-8718



first place in the men's division at the Nov. 7 power lifting competition held at Bloomingdale HighSchool. competition also featured Amanda Lee, first place in the women's division; Jenney Newcomb, first place in the poundfor-pound competition; and Keith Ruggs, with his record-



Mike Smith's record-breaking 500 pound squat earned him breaking benchpress of 290 pounds



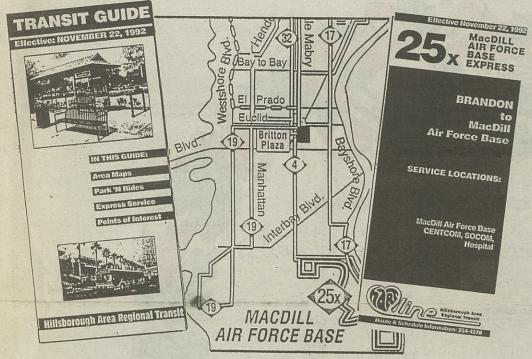
## Grable 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE Plumbing Co. FAST-SERVICE 7-DAY - 24 HOUR New Toilets, S.S. Sinks Garbage Disposals, Faucets

#### PLUMBING SERVICE NEVER A SERVICE CHARGE We Service All Makes and Brands • Main Sewers Replaced Sump Pumps, Septic Problems Underground Leaks • Repipe Specialists ULTRASONIC LEAK DETECTION Using the most advanced ultrasonic equipment we locate underslab leaks with pinpoint accuracy. NON DESTRUCTIVE LOCATING One Day Service \$5 OFF DRAINS OPENED with this

coupon

FAST RADIO DISPATCHED 685-3636

**Hey Brandon!** 



## Get there in a HART-beat!

√ Service from Brandon to MacDill Air Force Base!

√ Departures:

 Bell Shoals at Glen Haven 6:55 a.m. • St. Andrew's Park 'n Ride 7:00 a.m. • Handley Park 'n Ride 7:05 a.m.

√ MacDill Air Force Base Arrivals:

 CENTCOM 7:45 a.m. • SOCOM 7:50 a.m. Base Hospital 8:00 a.m.

## Schedules available at:

Billetina

Passenger Terminal

SATO Travel (BX)

Hillsborough Area Regional Transit For transit information: 254-4278



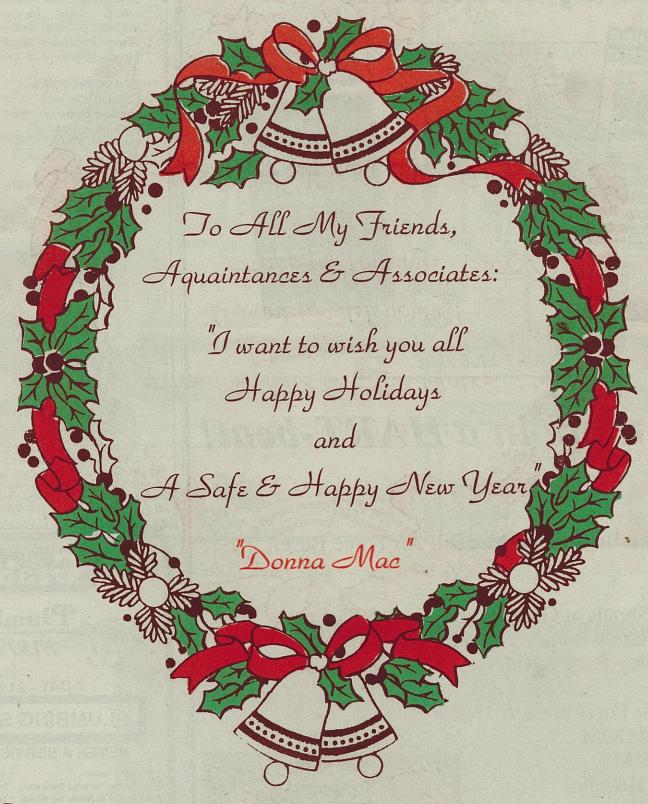
I've Sold 169 Resales in Bloomingdale!!! •Most Homes in Bloomingdale





In Bloomingdale Square, convenient & close to you.

## **Donna Mac Giffert**





681-0313

ask for

## "Donna Mac"

Call Your Bloomingdale Specialist **Donna Mac Giffert** 681-0313 24 Hours



3923 Turnberry 4123 Tyndale 1607 Shady Leaf 1723 Shady Leaf 1427 Clarion 1423 Clarion 4402 Oak River

116 Bessemer 513 Sandy Creek 613 Oakmoss 3809 Northridge 3910 Northridge

112 Bessemer



