

The Bloomingdale Gazette

Vol. IX No. 2

Published by The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

February 1987

COUNTY TO BUILD 2ND WASTEWATER PLANT IN BLOOMINGDALE!

By Susan L. DeLuca

It started with an anonymous telephone call, worked its way through the County Commission, and is likely to end in Governor Martinez office in Tallahassee.

On January 17 the caller said: "Were you aware that the County is building another interim waste water treatment plant in Bloomingdale at the corner of Nature's Way and Culbreath Rd.? That land clearing had begun? And, that the bids have gone out to private contractors in the area?" "No, we were not aware of this," I replied.

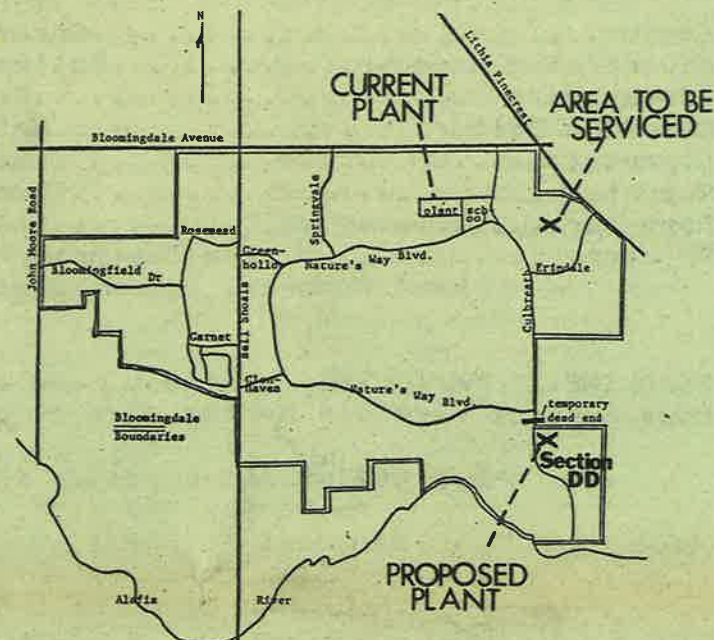
I contacted Assistant Utilities Director Eric Bush on January 22. He stated that this infor-

mation was correct. The County intends to put a 75,000 gallon interim waste water treatment plant in Section DD of Bloomingdale Subdivision (see map). The agreement signed with NILIC states that it can be expanded up to 500,000 gallons as needed.

Why are they doing this? Currently a Consent Order from the Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) is stopping any hookups to the current plant already here in Bloomingdale. This plant has a 1 million gallon capacity and is only utilizing approximately 600,000 of the total available. Permits have been granted to other builders in the area to make up the

400,000 gallon difference. (The DER works on how many permits have been granted, not on how much is actually flowing into the plant, to decide if it has reached capacity. The builders who have these extra permits may not actually be hooking

See SEWER, Page 5



Neighborhood Watch Comes Alive!



Just as the Phoenix sprang from the ashes in mythological lore, so too shall the Neighborhood Watch rise once again to protect the residents of Bloomingdale. Helping the program to stand again are volunteer Co-Chairpersons Sharon Norwood and Jim Weiss.

Bloomingdale was about to lose its Neighborhood Watch Program according to Corporal Earl D'Avignon of the

Sheriff's Department. To keep it, we have to either rekindle this one or be faced with starting over. If we try to start over, we would be required to have meetings in which 70% of Bloomingdale must attend. Because we are re-juvenating a current Neighborhood Watch, the 70% attendance requirement is waived.

BUT...

See PHOENIX, Page 6

INSIDE -

BHA LAUNCHES MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR NEW EQUIPMENT FOR THE GAZETTE..... PG 9

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P. O. Box 918
Brandon, FL 33511

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DEADLINE: Articles, letters, and advertising
copy must be received by the 20th of the month.

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE, INC.
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Brandon, FL 33511

TELEPHONE 681-2051

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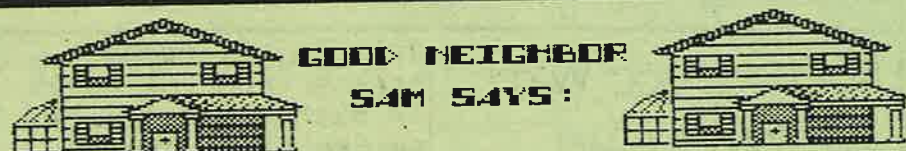
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September 12/13	October 10/11	November 7/8
December 12/13		



- A good neighborhood is not something you can eat; a bad one, however, is one that you may have to.
- One neighbor's music is another neighbor's noise.
- Two neighbor's music makes *MUSIC*.
- Selling your home for top dollar depends on your neighbors' view.
- Empty garbage cans left out front for days invite indoor garbage pickers.
- Whether or not a child turns out to be a good kid or a bad kid often depends upon what kind of neighborhood his friends live in.
- Cutting your grass at 6 AM makes up the living.
- Garbage cans seen from the street are a sight for more eyes.
- Your dog's scat on your lawn is fertilizer; on my lawn it's still *YOUR* fertilizer. Thanks, but no thanks.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

It has come to my attention that many of my constituents do not understand what transpired during last year's Legislative Session regarding sales tax exemptions. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify what actually happened.

A broad sales tax reform bill (CS/HB 1307) was adopted. Some sales tax exemptions were repealed effective July 1, 1986. Those included: pool chlorine, candy, laundry and dry cleaning services. The sales tax exemptions on professional services (physicians', accountants' and many more) will be repealed July 1, 1987, unless the Legislature takes

action to retain these exemptions. A committee has been chosen to review the exemptions for professional and personal services and for the sales of newspapers and magazines. The committee must report to the legislature prior to the 1987 Session with its findings.

My office has received the most calls and letters about the repeal of sales tax exemption on medical services. I would like my constituents to know that this exemption still exists and I believe it stands an excellent chance of remaining intact.

During the Legislative Session I will try my utmost to keep my constituents informed as to the progress of this issue. I urge them to call or write

to me if they have a question on this or other issues.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to clarify a small part of this complex issue.

S.L. "Spud" Clements, Jr
Representative,
District 62

Dear Editor:

I just want to offer my congratulations to everyone involved in the recent "Bloomingdale Marathon." So many people worked so hard to make it happen and I thought it was simply a terrific sight to behold. I hadn't seen a marathon finish before, and to watch so many people complete 26 long miles non-stop was awesome! Some of the runners were in their 60's and 70's and the

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE
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wheelchair participants were simply amazing.

The exposure to our Bloomingdale community was great. Several people that I spoke with didn't realize how nice this area really is.

The Brandon Running Association put on, in my opinion, another well-organized event. I salute them and the many volunteers from Bloomingdale (including the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch) for helping produce an event that hundreds of people enjoyed. Also, to those late sleepers who were probably awakened a little earlier than normal, THANKS.

Henry Brosnahan
BHA President

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Let's see if I have this perfectly straight. NILIC, who says no pressure is being put on, is telling the county they are going to sue if the county doesn't provide hookups according to a 1977 agreement. The county says "we don't want to build this plant," but have turned around and volunteered to spend \$200,000 to do it.

NILIC has their legal rights, but it seems to me the county should take the \$200,000 they plan to spend and hire a good lawyer to get NILIC to back off temporarily. At the very least, they could stall the whole thing long enough to get the Consent Order lifted off this plant so NILIC can have their hookups and the county can have

EDITORIAL...

their connection fees.

Or...maybe they should spend the \$200,000 to get the Valrico Regional Plant off the ground faster and the DER off their backs. \$200,000 isn't enough to solve their woes? Maybe not. But to spend \$200,000 to build a duplicate plant and then walk away from it is senseless. It makes even less sense to build a second plant within 2 miles of the first when the first is only using half of its capacity.

Another small point. The section the new plant is going to service is within 1/2 mile of the existing plant. But the county, in it's unending fight for truth, justice, and the American way, is going to ship the stuff

to the new plant 1 1/2 miles away at taxpayers expense. Such a deal.

So now...on a clear day you'll be able to smell the toxic hydrogen sulfide from the north AND from the south. Isn't that an exciting idea?

Another little goody. The land they are putting this on is zoned residential. In three years they are going to tear it down and probably build houses. Would you want to buy a house there? You would probably have the greenest grass in town.

Frankly, I think the county government may be selling its soul to the highest bidder for short-term monetary gain but with no long-term fix. -SLD

T H E V E R Y B E S T

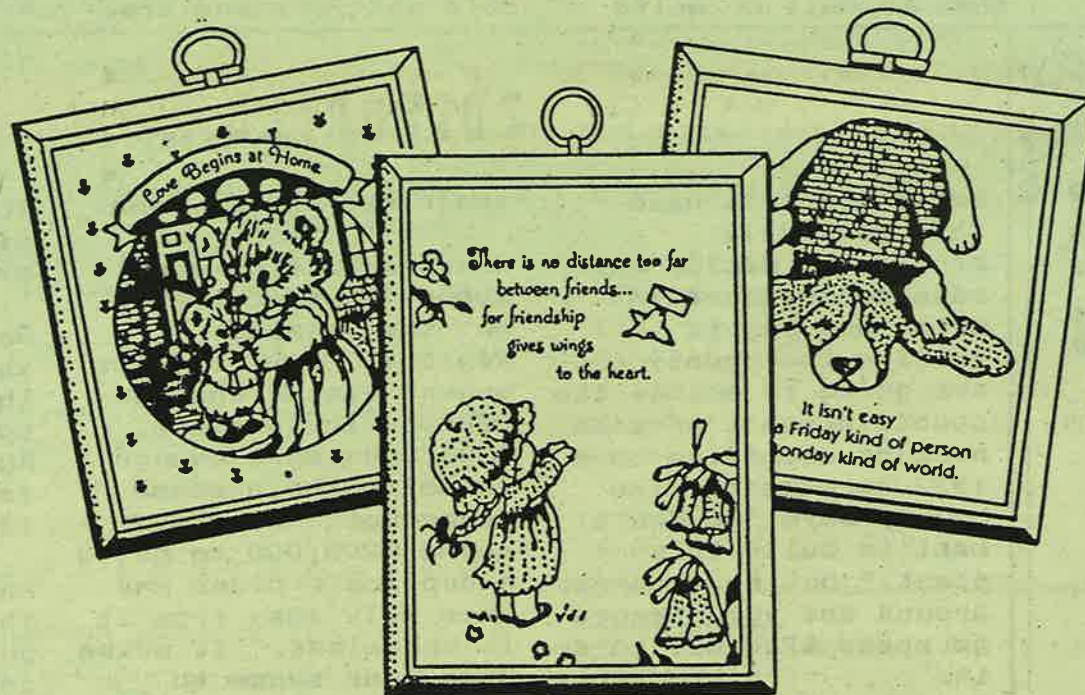
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into the system until a future date.) But NILIC, who still has lands/lots to sell in Bloomingdale, is not amongst those holding permits; and they do not have priority for future hookups. Without the ability to hookup into the sewer system, they can't expect to sell these lands to builders.

NILIC/Criterion doesn't want to wait on the DER to allow hookups--they want them now. The Brewer Corp. signed an agreement with the County in 1977 that the County would provide sewer hookups for this area. This agreement was passed on to NIPIC (with Criterion as their property manager) and then to NILIC. Originally, the plant was to have been built by Criterion/NILIC. But if the County builds it, they can charge connection/hookup fees. (These are different than impact fees. The County will collect the impact fees when the new Valrico Regional Plant is opened. At that time, the current Bloomingdale plant will be torn down and replaced with a lift station. This is scheduled for June of 1988.) The County is faced with providing these hookups or facing legal difficulties from NILIC/Criterion. Therefore, the County is building this second plant to comply with the agreement with NILIC.

Eric Bush stated that the County is currently trying to convince the DER that this 75,000 gallon package plant is "not needed." "We don't want the plant out there," he said in an interview. He is hoping that the County

can correct the problems at the current plant in Bloomingdale so that the DER will lift the Consent Order and allow the hookups as needed and therefore eliminate the need for this second plant. To fix the situation, the DER is requesting that the new Valrico Regional plant be underway and that effluent not be discharged into the wetlands. Mr. Bush stated that an agreement is pending with Buckhorn Golf Course that they will accept 800,000 gallons of effluent. This will satisfy one of the DER's requirements. The County Commission has been working on the other--the building of the new Regional Plant.

But the County is planning on building this new plant in Section DD of Bloomingdale anyway at a cost of approximately \$200,000 to satisfy their legal requirements with NILIC. According to Mr. Bush, there is the possibility that though it will be built, that it may never be used. Mr. Bush stated that the County should be able to recover approximately \$100,000; and if it isn't used, it can be picked up and moved.

Mr. Juan J. Lopez, PE, Central Area Planner for the Hillsborough County Water and Waste-water Department, said the type of system they are planning to use will filter out any harmful viruses so that they cannot get into the drinking water. He also stated that the plant is expected to be completed by March 31, 1987, and that it will service the northeast areas of Bloomingdale with lines running down to the southeast area where the plant will be located.

In an interview with Bob Appleyard of Criterion, he stated that at the end of three years, or before if possible, the plant will be removed and the land returned to its current condition. The plant will be built on land owned by the developer with the mechanism for its use being provided by a County Lease Agreement for three years.

On January 27, I had a conference call with Utilities Director Mike McWeeney and County Commissioner Jim Selvey. I asked Mr. McWeeney why monies were being taken to build a plant that may never be opened. He stated that if the county doesn't build the plant, they can't collect the hook up fees. He also stated that NILIC (who received their DER permit for the plant on August 19, 1986) would build the plant anyway. He also stated that they hoped to never open the plant. Commissioner Selvey replied "This is a prime example of money being wasted." When asked where the monies were coming from, Commissioner Selvey felt that funds may have been allocated at the time of the original contract in 1977.

How come Bloomingdale is just finding this out now? It slid by, according to Selvey and McWeeney. The paperwork was worded in such a way that it was not recognized for what it was. Since the company that applied for the DER permit was Criterion, and they are a private company/developer, there was no reason for the county to become involved at that time.

Can Bloomingdale stop it? Probably not, according to legal counsel John Holsonback. If the permitting is in order, our time for recourse may be over. Should we stop it? Yes and no. According to McWeeney, they are building a plant 2 miles from the other one to fulfill a legal obligation with a Developer and may never open it. On the other hand, the County needs the funds that will be garnered from the hookups at this new plant.

Commissioner Selvey feels there are several things he might be able to do. 1) He is going to contact the DER and see if instead of building a new plant, we can pump into the new one until the Valrico one is ready in June 1988. 2) He is going to vote against the awarding of the construction contract on February 4. But he is only one of seven. 3) He is going to write to Governor Martinez that this is a prime example of taxpayer's monies being wasted.

Bloomingdale Residents are encouraged to express their opinions by calling:

Utilities Director
Mike McWeeney
272-6664

County Commissioner
Jim Selvey
272-5740

Thank you to Sherry Hardin, Gazette Staff Reporter, for her contributions to this article.

PHOENIX, From Page 1

There will be a meeting for all of Bloomingdale (Estates, West, East, South, and Oaks):

Tuesday, February 17

7:30 p.m.

Bloomingdale Community Church
1310 Bloomingdale Ave.

Sharon and Jim will be discussing what a Neighborhood Watch Program is, how we are

going to update ours, setting up sections of

homes, and asking for volunteers.



Sharon Norwood



Jim Weiss

THE HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

Contributed by Sally Brosnaham

One legend has it that St. Valentine was a young Roman cleric who was imprisoned by the emperor and who sent a note of gratitude—a Valentine—to his jailer's daughter for being kind to him.

Another story claims St. Valentine was executed for performing marriage ceremonies for Roman soldiers in defiance of the law, the emperor preferring bachelors in his army.

Still a third legend claims that St. Valentine was an imprisoned Christian who wanted to get word to his family that he was still alive. Violets were growing outside his cell window and he managed to pick the leaves and pierce them with the words, "Remember your Valentine." The leaves, goes the story, then were delivered by a dove. This may explain why flowers are a traditional Valentine's Day gift.

There also are a couple of stories about why Valentine's Day is celebrated on Feb. 14. Some say it's the date St. Valentine was martyred. Others believe it was selected because Feb. 14 is the day when birds choose their mates for the year.



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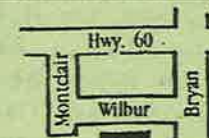
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WATCH LOG

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WE DID IT!! The Mobile Watch is now observing our community 7 nights a week. This was one of our goals when we started 6 1/2 years ago. However, we have not been able to reach another of our goals - that of having 200 volunteers on our roster.

We currently have about 150 volunteers serving once a month for 3 hours. We will eventually be expanding to 3 cars per night (currently we have 2 cars per night) as our community keeps on growing. To do this we need many more of you to volunteer 3 hours of your time once a month. We are especially in need of volunteers from the newest sections of the community. Call any one of the core committee members listed on page 2 to volunteer. We can and will work around your schedule.

NEWS OF NOTE

On Jan. 19th one of our 15 year old residents was riding his bike with friends in the Buckhorn Creek area. He got separated from the others and was held up at gunpoint by 3 youths on bikes. His attackers were 13-17 year old black males. Although this didn't happen in Bloomingdale, our young people should always be aware of dangers that exist. Be alert for any suspicious individuals.

On Jan. 21st, about 4:30 pm, two young males, in their early 20's, one white, one black, were observed walking down Briarlake intently looking at every home, especially where garage doors were open. An open garage door is an invitation to theft. Our Watch cars report seeing an average of 20-25 open garage doors every night. It would be in your best interest to keep your garage doors closed.

LOST!! Mobile Watch Signs.....
On Jan. 16th two signs were stolen off of one of our cars in front of the Convenient Mart and on Jan. 22nd one sign was lost when it fell off of a car while on patrol. If anyone finds these signs or has information about them, please call any core member. Replacing signs costs money!!!

This is the first issue of the WATCH LOG in the Gazette. We will be providing information and news to you every month on this page. We thank our advertisers for supporting us and the B.H.A. for giving us the page in the Gazette.

Until next month - don't forget our mascot, the wise, old owl. Keep your eyes open for suspicious actions.

To place an advertisement in support of the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch -----
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CLEMENTS ASKS BLOOMINGDALE FOR THEIR OPINIONS

In the March issue of the Bloomingdale Gazette there will be an "Issues Survey" from State Representative S.L. "Spud" Clements, Jr. Bloomingdale residents are asked to fill out and return the survey to Clements so he can use it as a guide on how he should vote various issues throughout the Session of the Florida House of Representatives.

Representative Clements stated that "Bloomingdale is one of the fastest growing parts of my district. I certainly want to know what the Bloomingdale

residents' priorities are for 1987." By tabulating the results of the 'Issues Survey' "I have the numbers right at my fingertips. I can, and do, refer to these results so I know how my people feel about certain issues."

Have any questions or comments you would like to make to the Representative? He has an office here in Brandon at 205 West Morgan Street. Or you can call him at 272-6646.

We'll publish the results of his survey in a future issue of the Gazette.



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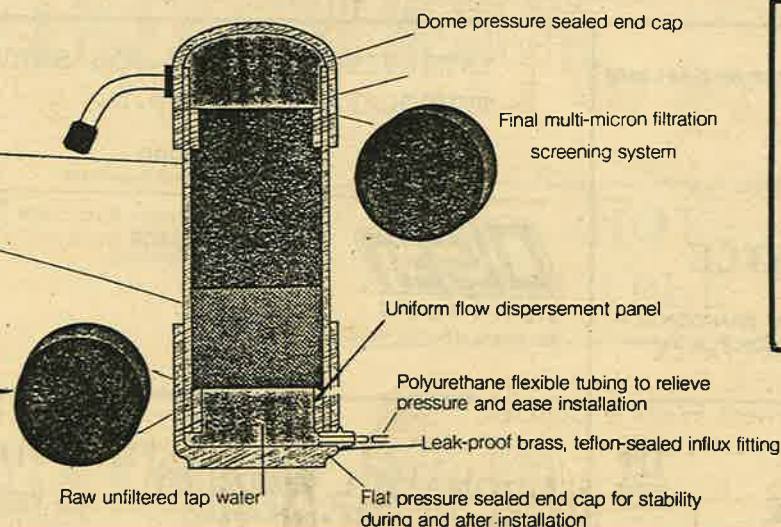
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THE GAZETTE NEEDS YOUR DONATION

By Ron Thompson
BHA Director

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will be launching a major fund-raising drive to upgrade the computer equipment of The Bloomingdale Gazette. This drive will involve adult volunteers from our

community who will be going door to door asking for donations beginning Sunday, February 8, through Saturday, February 14.

Even though the Gazette is its own corporation, its stock is totally owned by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association; and therefore, the members of the BHA are actually its owners. The monies that come into the

Gazette go straight into operating costs. Any remaining profits are used as escrows against equipment repair, printing escrows, and BHA functions (such as the Fire & Disaster Fund). Almost no funds remain for major equipment upgrades. As the circulation of the Gazette is only at 2,100, it is not feasible to raise advertising rates to compensate for equipment needs. So we are asking for donations.

The Gazette would like to purchase either an IBM PC compatible with an excellent printer, or a Macintosh with a laser printer. Every penny that is collected in donations will be put into the equipment. Should we be unable to get enough in donations, NCNB Bank has agreed to lend the Gazette the difference.

Why change systems? It's simple--efficiency and quality. One year ago we purchased a Commodore 64 that has served us well. But in one year's time, the Gazette's circulation has increased from 1,400 to over 2,100; the number of adver-

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tisers have increased from 60 to over 140; the size of the paper has gone to 32 pages upon occasion; and the BHA and the Neighborhood Watch use the equipment also. With this has come the increased need for a better quality printer and a more efficient system. With the purchase of a highly upgraded system, we are not only improving on what we have now, but are also preparing for the future.

Want to help out by going door to door for the Gazette? Call me, Ron Thompson at 685-5028, and leave your name and phone number on my answering machine.

If you wish to make a donation, please make your checks out to:

BHA Computer Fund

Volunteers collecting donations for the computer fund can be recognized by their white and green Gazette identification cards.

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**SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT
PUBLIC MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District will take place on Monday, February 9, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). President Fred Uphoff will call the meeting to order at 8 p.m.

BHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will take place on Tuesday, February 10, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). Vice President and Chairman of the Board, Jim Weiss, will call the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:

The first meeting of the Bloomingdale Neighborhood Watch will be on Thursday, February 17, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). The meeting will be called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Co-Chairpersons Jim Weiss and Sharon Norwood.



**CALL AND ASK FOR
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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On January 13, 1987, the BHA Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting. In attendance were the following Directors: Henry Brosnahan, Jim Weiss, Janet Holzman, Susan DeLuca, Steve Briggs, Shelly Oakes, Errol Whitfield, Daryce Moore, Joe Liguori, Bill Armstrong, and Mike Kelly. The following is a brief synopsis of the pertinent points of this meeting.

1. A conference call was made on January 9 with the IRS, Errol Whitfield, and Susan DeLuca to facilitate our tax return and non-profit status.

2. The Board announced it had nominated Susan DeLuca for the Alice Tompkins Community Service Award.

3. Jim Weiss will be attending the President's Roundtable on January 14. After that, each Board member will rotate.

4. A letter from Director Jerry Underwood was approved to request lowering of the speed limits on Bell Shoals and a pedestrian crosswalk from East to West.

5. A question as to the Alafia School attendance area will be investigated by Shelly Oakes.

6. A letter from President Brosnahan will be drafted to be sent to the County Commissioners, the newspapers, and other County officials. This letter will state that the BHA backs Commissioner Selvey's efforts to get Bloomingdale Avenue widened in a timely manner. Susan DeLuca will be the Committee

Chairman for the efforts to widen Bloomingdale.

7. The BHA still needs a storage area.

8. The Budget Committee of Janet Holzman, George Ball, Errol Whitfield, and Susan DeLuca presented the 1987 Budget for Board approval. It was approved and will go before the General Membership on January 15.

9. The County has allowed Gulf Land Homes to go too long without requiring the wall to be re-built. They and Criterion were cited on September 9; but the County, for some unexplainable reason, has chosen not to enforce their own notice of violation. Daryce Moore will be following this up. Susan DeLuca will get in touch with Commissioner Selvey.

10. Mike Kelly will be contacting the County's Consumer Advocate regarding our rights and Criterion's deferred maintenance.

11. The agenda for the January 15 meeting was drawn up.

12. Henry Brosnahan would like to see a reward fund set up for information leading to the arrest of individuals vandalising Bloomingdale.

13. Errol Whitfield was told that he had been elected to the STD Board, of which he was unaware. He will let the BHA Board know by January 31 if he wishes to remain on both Boards.

14. The Board is finding that the amount of business it must handle and the length of meetings is growing. So that the Board does not have to meet twice per month and in an effort to make the Board more efficient, it will be going to a committee system. Board members will serve as committee chairpersons with volunteers from the community serving on these committees. The legwork will be done in the committees then a report with their recommendations will be given to the Board for a decision. (Current committees and sign-up information appears elsewhere in this issue.)



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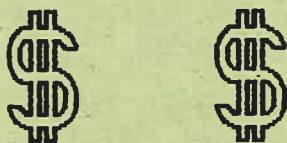
BHA SETS UP COLLEGE FUND

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association has set up a College Scholarship Fund effective May, 1987. BHA Director George Ball will be the committee chairman to set up the criteria for this fund.

The first scholarship, in the amount of \$250, will be awarded in May of this year. It will be given to a college-bound senior who is a resident of Bloomingdale. Eventually, the scholarship will be coordinated with Bloomingdale High School.

The suggested guidelines to date are that the individual chosen be selected according to grades, leadership

WHERE DO YOU WANT IT SPENT?



The BHA Operating Budget has the sum of \$933 allocated for

abilities, and community involvement. The exact criteria will be established by the Scholarship Committee.

Anyone wishing to serve on this important committee, should contact George Ball at 689-8913.



"Community Improvements." The BHA Board has no particular ideas as to where it should be spent. Therefore, they are asking for your input. Please

call any one of the BHA Directors listed on Page 2 of this paper and tell them where YOU would like to have it spent within the community.

KEEP YOUR SMILE BRIGHT

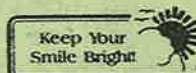
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**1987 BUDGET
APPROVED**

At the General Membership Meeting on January 15, 1987, the following Operating Budget for the 1987 calendar year was approved for The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association:

THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
Operating Budget
January 1 to December 31, 1987

INCOME

Cash on hand as of 1/1/87		\$ 2,930
Income from functions:		
Fun Run, 200 runners @ \$5 each	\$ 1,000	
Newcomers Picnic	600	
Teen Dance, entrance fee	250	
Total function income		1,850
Expected membership income		750
Fire & Disaster Fund, Gazette		400
Corporate membership dues, Gazette		250
Interest from checking and savings		170
Total Income		\$ 6,350

EXPENSES

Newcomers Picnic		1,200
Fun Run		
T-Shirts, Awards, Flyers		1,000
Community Improvements		933
Membership Drive (2,500 homes)		
Print cards	37	
Print envelopes	75	
Print flyer	65	
Distribution for statements	100	
1500 14c stamps	210	
Total for Membership Drive		487
Fire and Disaster Fund		400
Liability Insurance		350
Bank Fees		
Checks printed	75	
Endorsement stamp	10	
Checking fees	170	
Total bank fees		255
Bloomingdale Little League		250
College scholarship fund		250
Youth activities and/or equipment		250
Teen dance		250
Santa party		150
Easter egg hunt		100
President's activities		100
Miscellaneous operating expenses		100
Paragon plaque and frame		75
Copying		60
Office supplies		60
Stamps		50
Filing fee		30
Total Expenses		\$ 6,350



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THIS IS WHERE THE ACTION IS!

The BHA Board of Directors is getting some of the work off its back and is delegating it out to you, the residents of Bloomingdale. The Board is going to a committee system. These committees will meet, analyze the problem they are assigned, do the research, and then make their recommendations back to the Board for action.

OR...

The committee will be in charge of a function, such as the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt.

Some committees have already been formed with chairpersons. Some need to meet now, some not until their function comes into play.

The following is a list of the formed committees, its reason for structure, chairperson (if one has been appointed), and meeting dates if applicable.

Individuals who have already signed up for committees will be notified of meeting dates.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairperson:

George Ball
689-8913

Function: To establish the criteria for the awarding of a \$250 college scholarship.

WIDENING OF BLOOMINGDALE

Chairperson:

Susan DeLuca
681-2051

Meeting date:
February 19, 7:30 pm

Bloomingdale Community Church
RSVP -- 681-2051
Function: To analyze and make recommendations for a course of action to the BHA Board.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Co-Chairpersons:

Sharon Norwood
Jim Weiss
689-0254

Meeting date:

February 17, 7:30 pm
Bloomingdale Community Church

Function: To re-establish and re-organize the current program.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Chairperson:

Not yet established
Call 681-2051 to be on this committee

Function: To set up and run a children's social event.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Chairperson:

Janet Holzman
681-2548

Function: To identify health and safety hazards in Bloomingdale and set up self-help programs such as CPR and First Aid.

JULY 4 FUN RUN

Chairperson:

Not yet established
Call 681-2051 to be on this committee

Function: To plan and execute the 5k Fun Run.

SEPTEMBER PICNIC

Chairperson:

Jim Weiss
689-0254

Meeting: To be announced.

Function: To plan and execute the Newcomers and Oldtimers Picnic in September.

TEEN DANCE

Chairperson:

To be established
Teens and adults are encouraged to volunteer for this committee-- call 681-2051.

Function: To plan and execute a function for the teenagers of Bloomingdale.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE

Chairperson:

Mary Odum
689-8613

Function: To telephone residents to work at functions.

MEN'S BASKETBALL, HANDBALL, & TENNIS

Coordinator:

Ray House
681-9678

Function: To set up leagues within Bloomingdale.

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MAY I INTRODUCE...

By Sherry Hardin
Gazette Staff Reporter

As new businesses open here in Bloomingdale, the Gazette will be presenting stories and interviews to be able to get to know them better (as we have done in the past). These are not meant to be advertisements, but rather an introduction to the people that call Bloomingdale home, whether as business owners or as residents.

So, may I introduce...

GREG'S HALLMARK SHOP

If you are like me and wait until the last minute to buy your cards, gifts and wrapping paper, you'll be glad to know that Greg's Hallmark Shop has come to Bloomingdale. Located between Eckerd's and Publix, the shop opened its doors December 11.

The store is owned and operated by Greg Manning, John and Annamae Manning (his parents), and George Marshall (his uncle and a Bloomingdale Resident). It is not a

franchise although they have signed an agreement with Hallmark to maintain the facility in a manner to uphold the standards and reputation of Hallmark.

After graduating from the University of Florida, Greg opened his first Greg's Hallmark Shop in October 1985 in Lakeland. Things have gone so well that the next logical step was to expand--and as we all know--Bloomingdale is definitely the place to be. Greg divides his time between the two stores, but you'll be able to see your neighbor, George Marshall, most of the time when you go into the store.

Along with one of the largest card selections in the area and a great selection of gifts, Greg's has a few unique

features. The most noticeable and mouth watering is the selection of candies in the center checkout area. The chocolates, which look so tempting, are handmade in Texas. In the back corner of the store are several pieces of furniture made in Michigan. Coming soon will be balloons for all occasions.

If you haven't had an opportunity to stop by and browse, you may do so seven days a week. Hours are 10 to 8, Monday through Saturday, and Sunday 12 to 5. Also...be sure to stop in for the grand opening celebration to be held February 9th to the 14th.



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DUCKS LEAVE

The poor ducks are in the news, again. This time a lot of them from the Bell Shoals Rd. pond were hauled off. Bruce Robetor of Bloomingdale East called the Gazette on January 9 and said someone is

catching ducks and putting them in cages. He wanted to know if we knew what was going on. Since we didn't, he obliged by going and asking the gentleman what he was doing with our ducks.

The man was a duck relocater, hired by the County. He catches ducks, puts them in cages, and relocates

them to a farm (or so he says). He said-- "Lots of complaints from residents prompted action." He didn't take all of them, just enough to thin out the population a little.

(Someday, if you see this herd of ducks waddling their way down Bloomingdale Avenue, you'll know they found their way back.)



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**GAZETTE EDITOR
NOMINATED
FOR AWARD**

By Sherry Hardin
Gazette Staff Reporter

Susan DeLuca has been nominated by the BHA Board of Directors for the Alice Tompkins Community Service Award given by the President's Roundtable of Brandon. The purpose of this award is to honor a person who gives outstanding service to the community in which they live. The award was named after Alice Tompkins who spent much of her life doing things for her community and working as Editor for the Brandon News.

The selection of the recipient is to be made the week of March 2 with the winner announced on March 13 at the

Sabal Holiday Inn. The winner will receive an engraved plaque with the other nominees receiving certificates of appreciation.

The selection of Susan as a nominee from Bloomingdale is due to the many hours of time given to our community. Susan has been a member of the BHA Board for two years and is the Secretary for a second term. She established the Special Taxing District as Chairperson of the STD Committee. She asked and received sidewalks from Paragon, has acted as liaison between the BHA Board and Commissioner Selvey, dealt with the county on many levels for the betterment of Bloomingdale, and has worked on numerous committees and functions.

Susan now holds the very important position

as Editor of The Bloomingdale Gazette. In this capacity she keeps the residents informed of the issues affecting them--often going out on a limb to ensure that our interests are being met in the best way. In the time she has been Editor, she has taken the Gazette from a small neighborhood newsletter to a recognized newspaper in Hillsborough County. It is read not only by the residents, but also by the County Commissioners and State House and Senate representatives from our area. The Gazette also funds the Fire and Disaster Fund for the BHA.

It is a curious thing to me why a woman with the intelligence, ambition, and abilities of a Susan DeLuca would devote the many hours of work to this community when she has been offered several very

lucrative and challenging positions. When I asked Susan this question, she said the answer was very simple--kids. There are very few, if any, paid positions which allow you to be at home with your children yet do the type of challenging work which is done in community service.

The DeLuca's have three young children, ages 7, 2, and 1. The work she does for the community is done with the complete support of her husband, Joe. Although someday Susan plans to work in a paid capacity, she feels good about what she does in the community and gets a real feeling of accomplishment. That feeling is well deserved and we in the community are most fortunate to have someone willing to do so much to protect our interests.

CONGRATULATIONS

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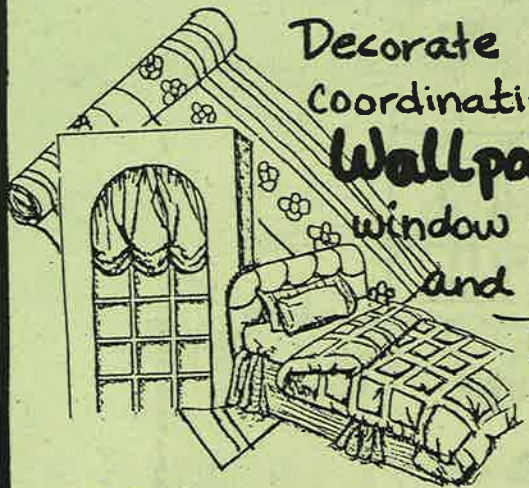
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AVOIDING THE NEW KIDDIE TAX

By Jim Wysolmierski, CLU
Bloomingtondale Resident

Prior to the new tax bill, many parents opened up saving and investment accounts in the names of children. These accounts were usually set up as education funds. Income earned on the accounts were taxed to the children in their tax bracket. Most children were in lower tax brackets than their parents, so tax savings were realized.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 eliminated most of this type of planning. Starting in 1987 income earned by a savings or investment account in a child's name will be taxed to the child in the parent's top tax bracket. A child is defined as a son or

daughter under 14 years of age.

The new law also applies to 10-year trusts or "Clifford Trusts." These trusts were popular ways for a parent or grandparent to deposit income producing property into a trust, which paid income to a child for at least 10 years. The child reported the income in his or her bracket and the grantor received the property back after 10 years. The new law applies to all 10-year trusts created after March 1, 1986.

Despite the new kiddie tax, parents are still encouraged to plan for the costs of education. To avoid the marginally high tax brackets of parents, several options are available, such as:

--US Savings Bonds: EE bonds can be purchased which will defer income until the bond is cashed in. The maturity date should be when the child reaches age 14.

--Growth Stocks: Many stocks are purchased for long-term growth. These stocks usually pay little dividends so current income may be insignificant. Profit is realized when the stock is sold, which should be done when the child is over 14.

--Deep Discount Bonds: Deep discount municipal bonds produce tax-free income during ownership. When the bond matures, the discount (face value less cost) is taxed to the child.

--Life Insurance: Single premium life, whole life, and universal life insurance products provide very competitive rates of return. Interest earn-

ed in the policy is tax deferred. The ability to surrender or borrow against the policy at anytime makes the investment flexible to meet the needs of a family.

--Earned Income: If a parent owns a business, a child can work part-time for reasonable wages. Legitimate earnings of a child are not subject to the new law.

Most parents saving for education will be in a 28% tax bracket. The ability to defer income, to avoid current income tax on interest, will mean significant savings. Of course, any investor buying stocks, bonds, insurance, or mutual funds should consider the risk of the investment - hidden expenses, such as load fees or penalties, and ability to access your money.



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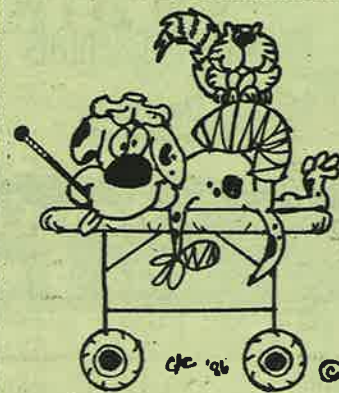
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NATIVITY OFFERS "JOB HOTLINE"

By Cynthia Toner
Bloomington Resident

Nativity Catholic Church has a powerful inter-denominational "Job Hotline." This project is sponsored by its Social Issues Committee in which the Hotline tries to match potential employees with employers.

This gratis service was formed in early December in response to the needs of the unemployed in our community.

Any churches interested in assisting in this ministry are invited to call the numbers listed below. Those with job openings or those seeking full-time or part-time work, are encouraged to call, also. We are in need of a greater variety of job positions.

For further information call: Elsie Pope, 689-1886; George Frazer, 685-7591; or Violet, 689-8846.

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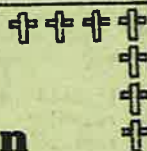
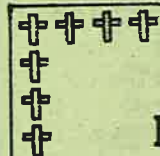
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CHURCH SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 AM
9:15 AM — at — (with child care)

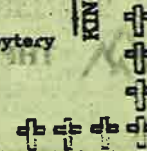
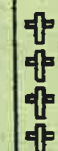
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Corporate Officer

**EXCERPTS
FROM
THE
EXPERTS**



A good start
can save you
lots of bumps

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are properly prepared, you
make your own luck."—Red
Blair

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property insurance checkup. Call us ... today.

Our Best Wishes to **JERRY & SANDRA TIPPEN**

By Chris Pheils
STD Trustee

Hello again from your STD. Since we talked last, we have put into place our Property Manager (you all met him in last month's Gazette) Mr. Lynn Wagner. We shall soon have in place a published phone number for him, in the meantime please direct any input or suggestions towards any member of the STD Board of Director, NOT the BHA board. We will have a (one) designated contact person from the Board to pass on items to the property manager. This, we hope, will lessen any conflicts in directions. After all we don't want to scare off Mr. Wagner or overwhelm him too soon.

We also need to announce that Mr. Errol Whitfield has joined

the STD Board. He is taking the place of Mr. Robert Knott; who, due to his work conflicts, has had to leave the Board. Mr Knott has been an active participant in this community for many years and we are hopeful that he will continue to find time to help in the future. We will miss his expertise on the Board.

Mr. Whitfield is currently also serving on the BHA Board of Directors and is active in your community Mobile Watch. He has been very active in our community since almost the day he arrived. Many of us have worked with Errol in the past and are looking forward to working with him again.

The contract for lawn mowing, that we had a lawyer write up, did not meet our approval and is back for re-write. Fortunately, the grass is growing

REAL slow. This should be ready before the February meeting.

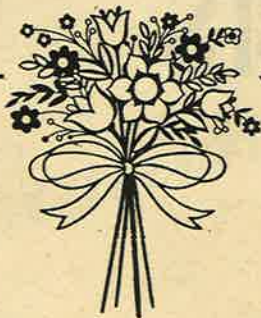
We have advertised for bids for the wall painting. Just after the deadline we will meet with the bidders and show them what we want. Then within a month or two we should sign that contract. We are specifically asking for painting of the walls at John Moore Rd., Canoga Park Dr., Rosemead Ln., Garnet Dr., and Bell Shoals Rd. from Garnet to Rosemead, in that order. We are also asking for the rate to be good for an extended time in case we are under budget and want to do more later.

We have been looking into the possibility of placing additional street lighting at the entrance ways and along the sidewalk leading up to the plaza, at STD expense--which means at all our expense. We have the prices and have put the project on

hold pending, 1) determination if that sort of thing is in our charter and 2) if any of you want us to do it. We are checking with the County on the possibility of them putting some of the lights in. So far it doesn't look favorable, they light dangerous intersections and crosswalks but not until they are proven dangerous!

We shall soon start the landscaping plans. Here we need your help. We need some input on what will work and look good at the different entranceways. We also want your input on what should be done first, second, etc.... The first vote has been cast for the John Moore - Bloomingfield corner. What do you think?

The next order of business is to do the budget again. This year should be easier as we now have one year "experience." Now is the time to come forward and let us know what you want us to include for next year. Without your input you are in fact telling us to do what the seven of us want to do. There are almost 2000 homes here, surely someone has some input for us. If you can't come to the meeting then take the time to drop us a card. Our address and meeting times are always printed in the front of this paper. It would be best to write down your request and suggestions so that there will be no chance of change as it is passed on through the Board. We promise to consider EVERY suggestion, large and small. When space and time allows we will print replies in this article.



BRANDON FLORIST
813-681-4831
744 W. Brandon Blvd.
Brandon, FL 33511
SALLY BROSNAHAM



TIPS ON SHOPPING FOR VALENTINE'S WEEK FLOWERS

For those who plan to send flowers for Valentine's Week, Feb. 9-14, here are some tips from Sally Brosnaham of Brandon Florist, 744 W. Brandon Blvd. in Brandon:

- Order Valentine's Week flower gifts as far in advance as you can. The demand for flowers is great and bad weather can affect supplies, shipments and local deliveries.
- You don't have to buy a dozen. A bouquet, a few flowers or even a single bloom can express your feelings. Florists have a wide variety of floral gifts, to suit everyone's budget. It's the thought that counts.
- Red flowers are very popular at Valentine's Week but most people, according to studies by Florists' Transworld Delivery (FTD), the florist delivery service, indicate people like mixed bouquets just as well.
- Men as well as women like to receive Valentine flowers. There's even been a book published titled, "Real Women Send Flowers."
- Roses may be expensive because they're hard to grow—it takes up to 57 days—and require special care and handling. But then who can put a price on love?



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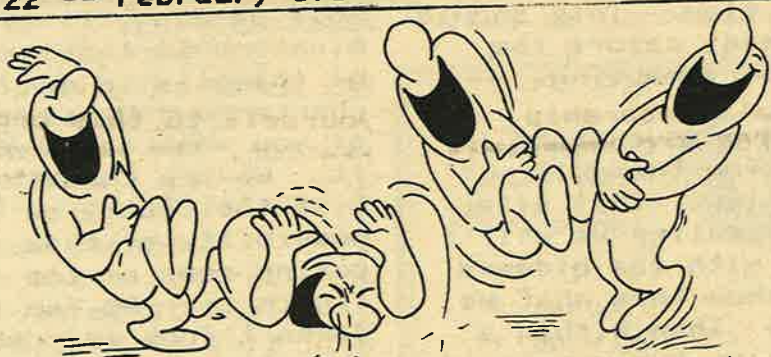
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You may have received a blue card on your door saying someone was going to come and paint your house numbers on the curb. It then goes on to say that if you DON'T want this service, you have to tape the card to the curb.

It also says the service is worth \$5 and donations are accepted.

This is a sales gimmick by an individual trying to make a living. No--you do not have to tape it to the curb if you don't want it. No--you do not have to give a donation if he does it anyway. If you want to pay him, it's up to you, but you are not obligated to do so under any circumstances.

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Bloomingdale Resident

**ATTENTION:
RESIDENTS OF
BLOOMINGDALE OAKS**

What does this mean? That you have all the voting privileges and rights of any member of the BHA--provided you pay your dues of \$5 per year. Everytime this paper says "Bloomingdale Resident(s)" it means you, too. Every decision of the Board, every suggestion from you, every meeting, and you as volunteers are considered on an equal footing with the rest of Bloomingdale. In

the same respect, if you have concerns, you are encouraged to call one of the BHA Board members to discuss it. General Membership meetings are especially important to air your views.

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE
February 1987 -- Page 23
Resident."

The more you give of yourself to this organization, the more you will receive in return.

So take a moment now and fill out the application below and mail it with your \$5 dues. Your membership card will be mailed to you in return.

On January 15, 1987, per your request (the residents of Bloomingdale Oaks), your area was voted into the Bylaws and Charter of The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

You will receive The Bloomingdale Gazette everytime it is delivered. Advertisers that live in the Oaks will have their ads labeled "Bloomingdale

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VALRICO, FLORIDA 33594

CHARLES F. ANKNEY, PASTOR

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Name.....

Address.....

City.....

Phone.....

Annual Membership \$ 5.00

Mail to: B.H.A.
P.O. Box 918
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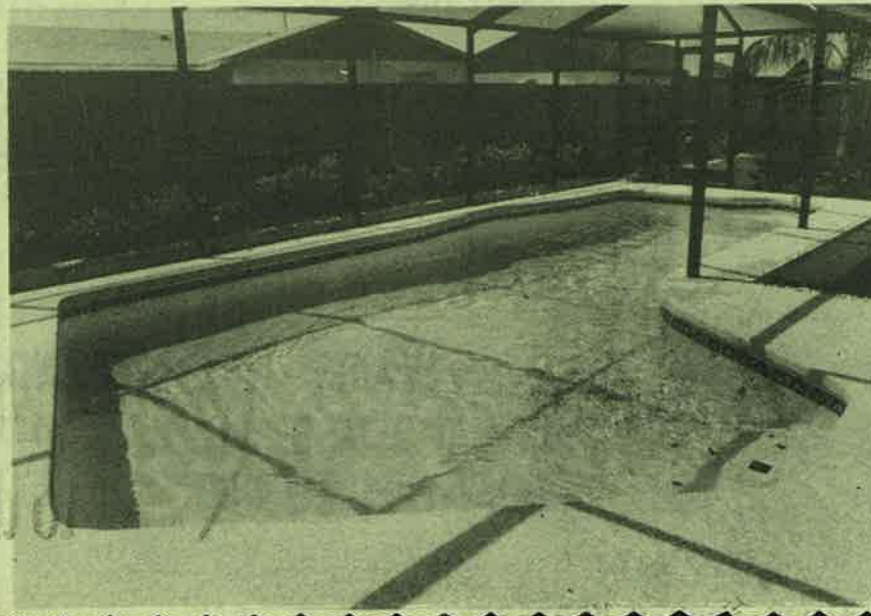
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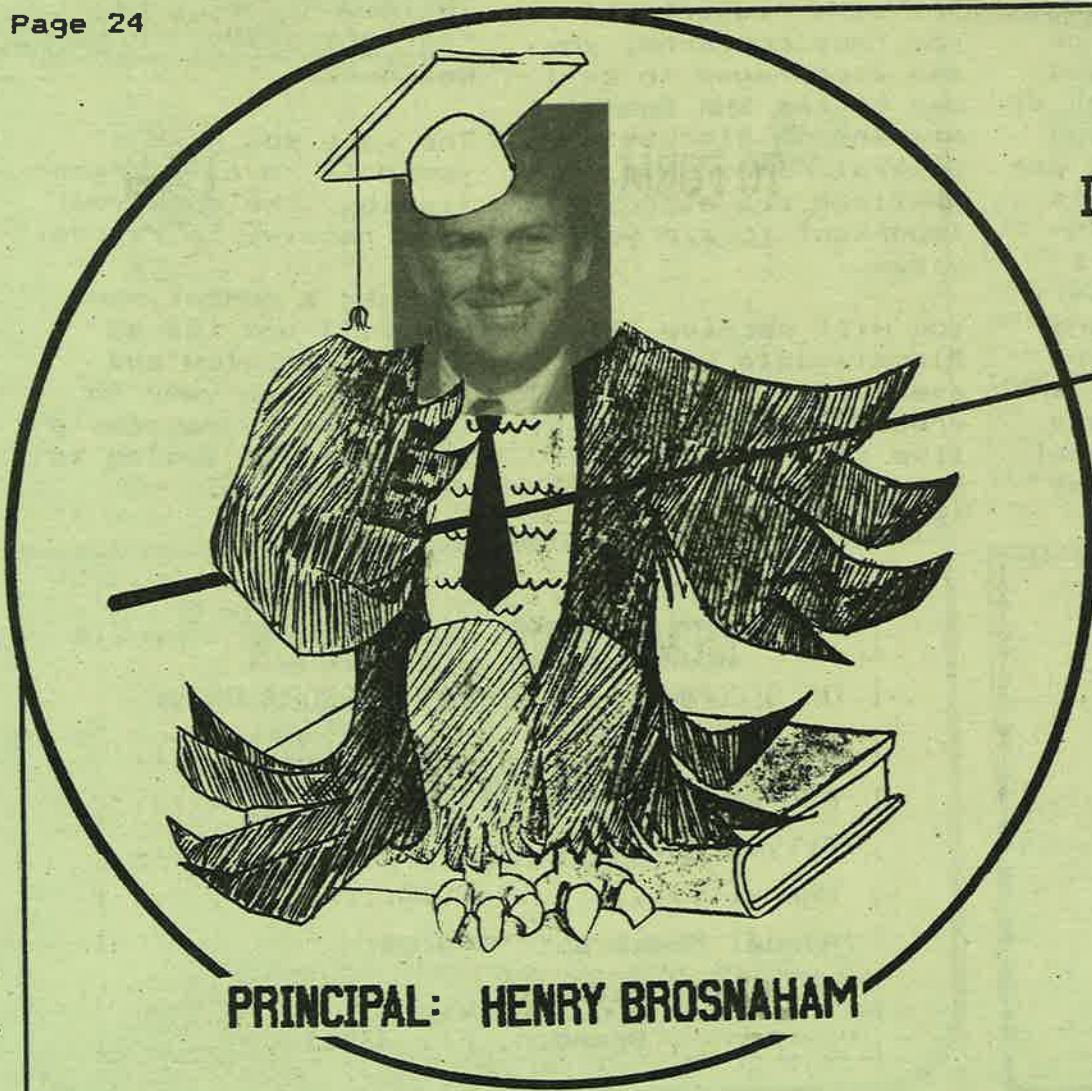
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PRINCIPAL: HENRY BROSNAHAM

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A+	Pending/Sold	\$1,143,000
A	Average Days On Market Until Contract	27 Days
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684-MAIL

MEN'S LEAGUES TO FORM

By Ray House
Bloomington Resident



During recent conversations with my neighbors, I realized the Bloomington area seems to be lacking in organized activities. I would like to propose (or test the water) to find out if there is any interest in the formation of a Men's basketball and softball league. I feel the size of the Bloomington area could provide



enough participants to form a competitive league amongst itself.

Another area that can be explored is the formation of tennis and handball teams.

If anyone is interested in pursuing this matter, I would be glad to discuss it further. I can be reached at 681-9678 after 6 p.m.

THE NEW VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSON

By Cheryl Ledford
Gazette Staff Reporter



Mary Odum

Mary Odum, well-known Bloomington Resident for over three years, has recently volunteered to assist the BHA as Telephone Volunteer Chairperson.

Mary and her family moved to Florida in 1965 and to Brandon in 1983. Originally, Mary was from England. She is working as a Realtor/Associate at

Coldwell Bankers in Brandon.

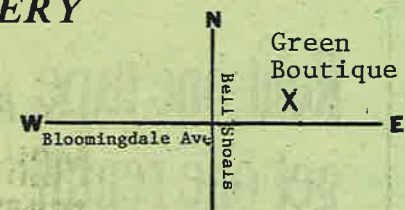
Mary asks others who wish to help with telephoning to please contact her by leaving a message on her answering machine at 689-8613.

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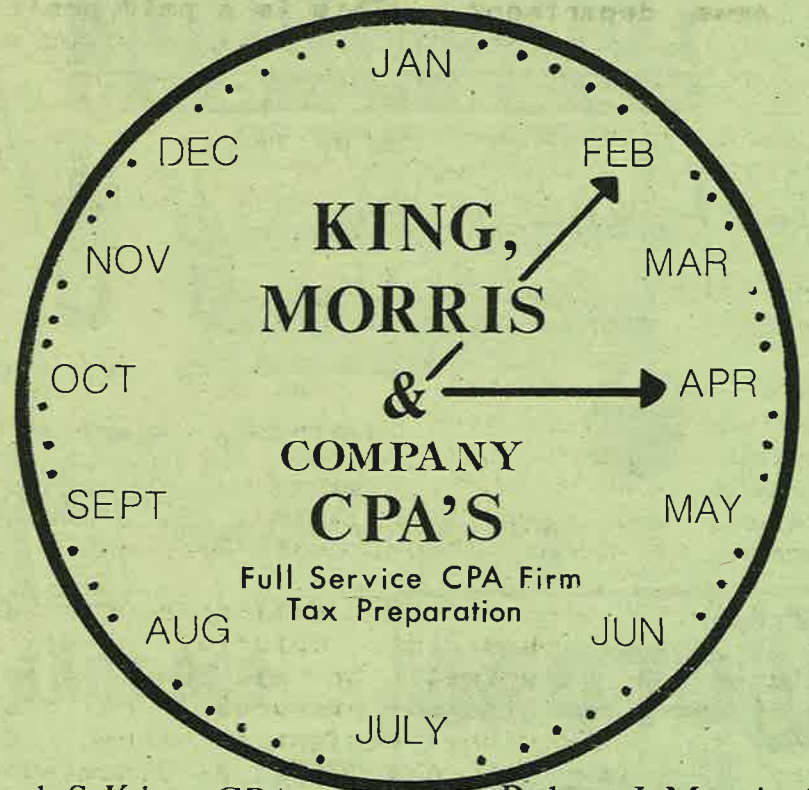


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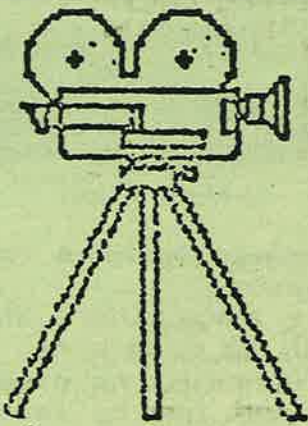


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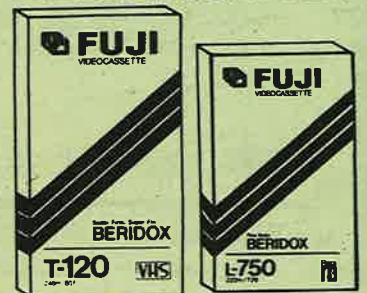
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THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE
February 1987 -- Page 27

NEWS MANAGER WANTED: This newspaper is looking for a Bloomingdale Resident who has newspaper experience and/or a degree in journalism to run our news department. This is a paid position with VERY flexible hours. The person hired must be self-motivated and responsible with the ability to follow through without supervision. If you are interested, please submit your resume with salary requirements to THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE, INC., Attention: Susan DeLuca, Editor -- P. O. Box 918, Brandon 33511.

FOR SALE: Early American bunk beds with mattresses, \$50. 681-5819.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! Gentlemen, give the sweetheart in your life a gift certificate for a complete image consultation including color analysis, skin care, make-up instructions, fashion, and style information. Call Claudine Boucher, 684-3546. Bloomingdale Resident.

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TYPING AND MORE: Resumes, word processing, custom typing, mail lists and labels. Call Simplified Services at 684-4897.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE GREATER BRANDON AREA? "Welcome Neighbor" welcomes newcomers with a valuable packet full of local information, gifts & coupons. Call us today for your FREE visit (we don't sell anything). Phone Pam at 681-6853 or 645-3153. "Welcome Neighbor" is a member of the Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce.

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HELP WANTED: Key punch operator for accounting firm. Start-up position, requires basic knowledge in bookkeeping and demonstrate computer input skills. Call Joe or Bob at 681-4164.

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FOR SALE: Sears electric typewriter, \$75. Call 684-3433.

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Brandi Vinson, 11 681-4885
Heather Wood, 13 Michelle Wood, 12 681-1884
Cathy Young, 10 1/2 684-0540

Brian Brundage, 15
Stacy Brundage, 12 681-8887
Krista Butler, 13 681-5367
Julie Cook, 15 681-5465
Peter Cunningham, 13 685-5255
Jennifer Curry, 12 681-4746
Katie Fannin, 12 685-5290
Kathy Handlin, 15 681-4915
Heather Harker, 13 681-4743
Donna Jacobson, 15 684-5206
Michelle Jernigan, 15 685-4150
Jennifer Kelley, 18 684-5711
Lisa Moore, 18 685-3605

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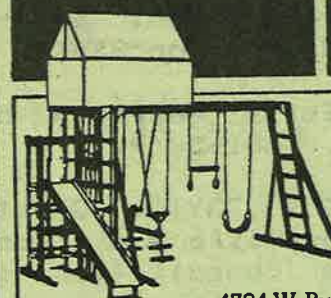
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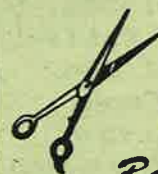
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