Volume XVII, Number 2

New Sheriff Substation Will Open in Bloomingdale

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Eight Bloomingdale citizens arrived at 4342A Bell Shoals Road on Saturday January 17th in the morning to help Deputy Peter Maurer of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office paint and reconstruct the new Sheriff's substation. The substation is doors down from the old Beef O'Brady's.

Deputy Peter "Pete" Maurer will make the Bloomingdale Sheriff's substation his new office. Maurer will share the suite with Sandy Capitano, a Bloomingdale Community Service Officer. The substation will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Sheriff's Office has designated the area from

Bloomingdale Avenue South to the Alafia River between Lithia Pinecrest Road and John Moore Road to be accounted for by the substation.

The Sheriff's substation is a community based operation. Deputy Maurer holds the titles of Community Resource Deputy and Crime Prevention Practitioner. "Who knows better about the community than the individuals living in the community", states Deputy Maurer. He strives to obtain



Deputy Pete Maurer

open communication with the Bloomingdale residents, "We want to take a pro-active stance in the area." Deputy Maurer believes the substation will address quality of life issues for the Bloomingdale area and provide long-term solutions to problems and obstacles in the community.

Deputy Maurer is a firm believer in Community Oriented Policing, "This is not a new idea. It goes back to the 'cop on the beat' of the past." By creating an open-door policy at the Sheriff's substation, Maurer hopes to enlist the ideas and suggestions of Bloomingdale residents. "A community is only as safe as the people

Your inside connections

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

3240 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 103 Valrico, FL 33594

Voice Mail: 681-2051

E-mail: bloomingdale@juno.com BHA Web Site: http://members.aol.com/bhainc/

Randy Wolfe, President	229-3321
Michael Davis, V.P./Treasurer	684-8881
Ted Grable, Comptroller	685-7193
Walter Glenn, Secretary	681-2051
Patricia Radel, Director	651-0210
Luana Russell, Director	662-1610
LaWayne Wyatt, Director	685-2072
Ann Underwood, Director	621-4293
Pam Liguori, Director	681-9655

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District 684-6667

Rick Pitrowski, President	684-6667
Tom Mackiewicz, Vice President	653-4145
Joe Liguori, Treasurer	681-9655
T. Szabo, Corresponding Secretary	684-2547
Fred Uphoff, Recording Secretary	685-3013
Tom Snelling, Trustee	681-9186
Sue Meyers, Trustee	689-1514
Alan Devney, Administrator	684-6617

Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

Core Committee		
LaWayne Wyatt, Coordinator/Scheduler	685-2072	
Paul Kelmer, Treasurer	681-9701	
Tony Diolosa, Equipment Manager	681-1146	
Steven Heckel, Membership Chairman	654-4266	
David Guy	681-5943	
Paul Warr	685-7883	

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District PO Box 3132

Brandon, FL 33509-3132

Bill Grace, President 685-2817 Fred Englehart, Treasurer 685-3638

Meetings

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

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

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

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District Second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at 3419 Cade Lane, Bloomingdale Oaks

Mobile Watch & Neighborhood Watch meetings are held when special concerns arise



220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102 Brandon, FL 33511

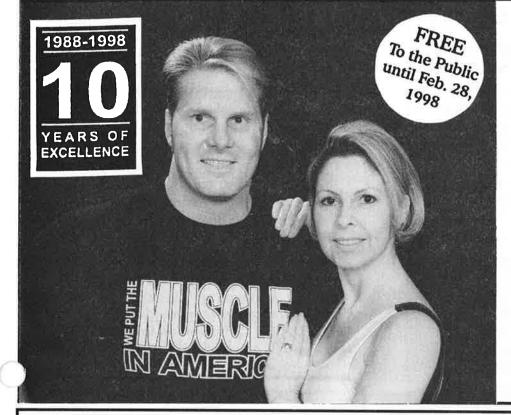
Eric Robinson
Elyse Bekiempis
Suzy Dixon

President & Publisher Managing Editor Production

Phone: (813) 654-1919 Fax: (813) 654-4745

Share your news with the community! Write to Editor, at 220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102, Brandon, FL 33511 or Fax to (813) 654-4745.

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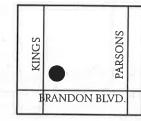
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Plan Now for Tax Day 1999

The sweating brows, the contorted faces, the disheveled hair, and the quick tempers of the people racing in and out of the library will remind me what day it is. April 15th – Income Tax Day! Each year we procrastinate till the last minute for something that had to be done all along. We all dread this day because we did not prepare for the inevitable.

Here are some reminders that could make April 15, 1999 less fearful and perhaps keep more money in your pocket.

Plan ahead. For most of us it is too late for 1997, but you can begin implementing strategies to lower your taxes for 1998.

·Keep organized records. Organization will shorten preparation time on your tax return, lower the cost of professional services, and prevent overlooked or unsupported tax deductions.

Contribute to a tax-deferred, tax-deductible retirement plan. An employer provided qualified retirement plan 401(k), 403(b) is still one of the best tax tools available, yet 34% of eligible workers do not participate. It allows you to lower your immediate tax bill and helps enlarge your retirement nest egg. Those who do not have employer provided plans should consider an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

Do not withhold too much. Every year, many taxpayers receive refunds exceeding \$1000. Some see this as a forced savings plan, but really it is an interest free loan to Uncle Sam. Consider reducing your withholding and investing the take home dollars into something that pays a higher return than dear old Uncle Sam pays.

Cost basis. If you sold any of your shares in a mutual fund, you may have to pay capital gains taxes. Remember to include the reinvested dividends and capital gains already reported to increase the cost basis and therefore reduce the tax liability. This applies to automatic reinvestment of dividends in stocks as well.

·Charitable deduction. We all know to deduct donations of property and cash, but what about mileage, postage, and long-distance phone calls associated with doing charitable work? These can usually be deducted as well.

·Carry- over of previous years' deductions. Some unused deductions (i.e. charitable deductions, capital losses, passive losses, and alternative minimum tax credits) may be carried over from last year and claimed this year.

Home purchase. Interest, points, and taxes on a home purchase may be deducted. A portion of refinancing points can also be deducted.

Never assume. Always recheck your records, your math, and the tax table. Be sure to sign the return.

Finally, do not wait until the last minute to visit your local CPA or tax advisor. They need their sleep too!

This article is provided courtesy of Salvatore R. Graziano, ChFC, LUTCF of OMNI Financial Services, 710 Oakfield Drive Suite 159, Brandon Fl 33511, 813-651-2359.

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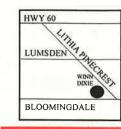
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Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

Regular Monthly Meeting • December 8, 1997 3240 Lithia Pinecrest, #103 Valrico, Florida 33594

Trustees in Attendance:

Public:

Fred Uphoff A. Szabo

Sue Mallon

Rick Pitroski Thom Snelling

Joe Liguori

T. Mackiewicz / Absent

Tim Golden 514 Wynnwood Drive

William Webb

Florida Landscape Authority

Leonard Washuleski A & W Landscaping

Call To Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District was convened by President Rick Pitroski at 7:00 p.m. There were enough trustees present to establish a quorum.

Approval of November Minutes

Motion: Trustee Mallon moved to accept the November minutes as read. Trustee Uphoff seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Financial Report

Michael Hayes, Ferraro & Co., presented the FY 97 year-end audit. He had no management findings. Vince Ferraro stated that everything looked fine.

Vince stated that the Emerald account balance is \$88,687.58. The money market account at Barnett Bank has \$64,154.78 Total Assets are \$156,002. Total Revenues are budgeted for \$280,000 and have received \$65,888.62.

Trustee Liguori made a motion to accept the Financial Report. Trustee Snelling seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business

Landscape Contract - Trustee Pitrowski stated that he checked the references for Florida Landscape Authority and while most of the properties are not up to Bloomingdale standards (due to contract limitations), the one property that is, Tampa Palms, gave an excellent reference.

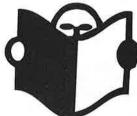
Trustee Uphoff made a motion to accept and award the landscape contract to Florida Landscape Authority. Trustee Mallon seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Trustee Pitrowski asked the representative from Curry & Associates to complete the landscaping contract with Florida Landscape Authority and return as soon as possible for our review.

continued on page 12

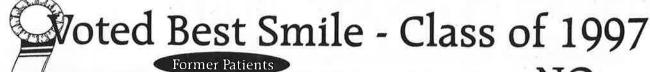


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Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

Minutes - December 9, 1997 Meeting of the Board of Directors

DIRECTORS

Randy Wolfe

Patricia Radel

Pam Liguori

Ann Underwood

LaWaynne Wyatt Ted Grable

Walter Glenn Michael Davis

GUESTS

Tim Golden

Joe Liguori

Meeting called to order at 7:38 pm.

Mobile Watch:

LaWaynne Wyatt brought to the board's attention that the Sheriff's sub-station for Bloomingdale has been approved.

NIP Report:

New volunteers are doing a good job.

Treasurer's Report:

A. Wyatt made a motion that the bank statement should match the treasurer's report. P. Liguori seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

President's Report:

Randy Wolfe passed out the 1998 voicemail message retrieval and disposition list.

Guests:

Tim Golden discussed entrance way improvements and the communities' knowledge of the Special Taxing District's future plans for entry improvements.

Open Discussion:

Ted Grable made a motion to have a reporter write articles for the gazette and be paid by the B.H.A. at a future date. W. Glenn seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Pay to come from the 1998 dues drive. Ted Grable talked about school boundary issues under further consideration by the school board. Viewed the B.H.A website put together by Ted Grable.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.



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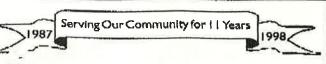
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Authority Board Approves Modification of January 1992 Settlement Agreement

The West Coast Regional Water Supply Authority approved a modification to a 1992 water use agreement in order to give the authority to ability to use three Brandon wells that had been scheduled to be either abandoned or turned into monitor wells.

The 1992 agreement was between Hillsborough County (which supplies water to Brandon residents), the Florida Strawberry Growers Association, the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Authority regarding northeast Brandon Water Use Permit No. 209870.00. At that time, the County and the Authority agreed to forego water use permitting in the intensive strawberry growing area. In addition, five northeast Brandon wells were required to be either converted to monitor wells or discontinued when the agreement expires (January 1998).

As a part of the general permit, the Florida Strawberry Growers Association agreed that if needed, the Authority and Hillsborough County can use three wells that do not impact the local agricultural area. The three wells are being considered as a source of small quantities of water, under 100,000 gallons per day for Hillsborough County, to ensure that Brandon residents can get water during periodic electrical interruptions at the county's Lithia-Pinecrest water treatment facility. The wells will be operated for short periods of time to prevent interruptions in Brandon's water supply when the primary system experiences pressure drops. In addition to this small general permit, the three wells could also be considered for use in the Brandon Urban Dispersed Wells project, which is part of the Authority's Master Water Plan.

The Authority intends to submit a water use permit application for the Brandon Urban Dispersed Wells project in spring 1998. If the Southwest Florida Water Management District approves the application, the Authority and the County will agree to continue to forego water use permitting in the intensive agricultural area. That area is bounded to the west

and east by Valrico Road and the Hillsborough/Polk county line, and to the north and south by Knights-Griffin Road (C.R. 582) and S.R. 60 respectively.

"We were more than pleased to provide assistance in coming up with water resources that would have minimal impact on the Florida aquifer, and upon our ability to remain a viable agricultural resource" said Dr. Chip Hinton, executive director of the Florida Strawberry Growers Association. "We we won't be in direct competition with public water supply for the duration of this permit."

Hinton said that the process involved "accommodation and consensus building, rather than confrontation, which showed us that the Authority is truly considering the needs of all stakeholders. I was impressed that we seemed to be more in tune with trying to meet the needs of all legal rural water users, not just those directly under public supply."

Jerry L. Maxwell, "The Authority has been obtaining safe, cost effective and environmentally friendly. The public input on all the Master Water Plan projects for agreement is also intended to reduce the costly well over a year. The public participation process works - and it continues to help us craft more effective and responsive projects."

seeks to redevelop existing wells and well sites where new water sources online by the year 2007. feasible, and if necessary to site new production wells reduce pumping at 11 wellfields in the Tampa Bay in Brandon. Public involvement activities have included several public meetings in Brandon, civic group presentations and meetings with civic and homeowner association leaders.

The Authority is the largest wholesale water supplier in Florida. Its member governments of Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties and the cities of Tampa, St. Petersburg and New Port Richey S provide high-quality drinking water to more than 1.8 esponsibilities throughout all or part of 16 counties in million residents.

Strides Made Towards Resolving Water Issues

In a meeting that was standing room only, the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the West Coast Regional Water Supply Authority made historical strides for mutually solving the region's water problems.

"We are extremely pleased. We appear to be well on our way to reaching an agreement", said E.D. Sonny Vergara, Executive Director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

The agreement is contingent upon West Coast's were particularly excited that this solution assures that reorganization by its members (known as governance). The reorganization would enable the Authority to function more effectively as a regional utility and resolve differences between its member governments.

The Authority's Board of Directors as well as member government administrators and utility lirectors will meet to continue governance regulations said Authority General Manager Jerry L. Maxwell.

The Partnership Plan is designed to reduce pumping at Authority wellfields where the environment has been impacted and to develop new According to the Authority's general manager, alternative water supply sources in a manner that is litigation that has been ongoing between the agencies for years.

Specifically, the Partnership Plan will: The Brandon Urban Dispersed Wells project bring 85 million gallons of water per day (mgd) of region to 121 mgd by the end of 2002 and 90 mgd by the end of 2007.

provide \$183 million to develop alternative water supplies and an additional \$90 million over 10 years to implement conservation programs.

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Special Taxing District cont.

Entryways - Trustee Pitroski stated that he had just received the specs for Garnet today. Trustee Uphoff stated that he would take over the writing of the specs to send out for bid on the entryways. Trustee Pitrowski asked when we could expect the completion of the specs for bidding, Trustee Uphoff said that they would be ready at the end of January.

New Business

Sunshine Manual - Trustee Pitrowski stated that the Florida Sunshine Manual had been received and that it is available for review by any trustee or the public.

Property Managers

Mr. Devney gave his report. No comments from the public. Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Substation, cont from page 1

perceive it to be," Deputy Maurer aims to create an atmosphere conducive to open communication at the substation. Bloomingdale residents and business owners are encouraged to visit.

The substation will provide a variety of services. Maurer works closely with the Crime Prevention Unit to provide information and resources to the community in an effort to curtail crime by prevention. Information on forming neighborhood watch organizations will be available in the substation. In addition to furnishing Resource Directories that provide of information about services arranged by local, state, and federal agencies, the substation will hold Community Council meetings in the office once a month. These meetings are casual open forum discussions about the Bloomingdale area.

For information on Community Council meetings, the Crime Prevention Unit, and Community Oriented Policing, Deputy Peter Maurer can be reached by pager at 336-0461 or stop by the new office. Maurer anticipates the opening of the Sheriff's substation to be on or close to January 26, 1998.

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President Clinton Clears the Way for Federal Disaster Aid In Central Florida

WASHINGTON—President Clinton has signed a disaster declaration to assist areas of Central Florida ravaged by severe storms beginning on Christmas Day.

The President's action makes federal money available to supplement state and local recovery efforts in Hillsborough, Hernando, Polk and Osceola counties. These counties suffered significant damage as a result of severe storms, high winds, tornadoes and flooding which began on December 25, 1997.

"I am pleased that the federal government has responded to Gov. Chiles request so quickly to assist the folks hit hardest by these storms," said Congressman Davis.

Assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency can include disaster housing, grants, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.

Residents and business owners who suffered loses in these four counties can apply for assistance by calling 1-800-462-9029 or 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll- free telephone numbers will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.



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