

## THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

#### A PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

STD UPDATE
BY GLENDA HEWITT

During July I was appointed by Susan DeLuca to headup the task force in charge of the Special Taxing District issue. Since then, I have obtained the following information:

- 1. Criterion Corporation (via Susan Meitz, spokesperson) has put the Master Homeowner's Association documents on a "back burner" for the time being. I hope to be meeting with them in person during the month of August to ascertain their future plans and goals regarding Bloomingdale and the MHA. Currently, they have agreed to send me their operating and maintenance budget and costs for our area.
- 2. Amelia Brown is an assistant in Elizabeth L. Eddy's office. (Ms. Eddy is the Assistant County Attorney.) Unfortunately, even though Ms. Brown said her office would handle the instituting of a STD, she didn't seem very knowledgeable about the subject. Ms. Brown stated a 51% signature petition would be sufficient. Research showed it to be more complicated than just a simple petition.
- 3. Howard Duncan of Robin Krivanek's office (she is Supervisor of Elections) stated that petitions would be subject to a homeowner's verification through the tax assessor's office. The cost would be 10¢ per name and there are currently approximately 3,000 registered voters in Bloomingdale. Mr. Duncan said we can set up a polling booth within Bloomingdale to get a referendum but the petition would still be necessary anyway.

As this Gazette goes to press, I am working on the following:

POISONOUS SNAKES IN BLOOMINGDALE by Susan L. DeLuca

We live in the country and with it comes the problem of snakes. Unfortunately, especially in East, there are poisonous Water Moccasins (Cotton Mouths) whose nests are being disturbed by construction. With this, they are taking flight to inhabited homes and yards. These snakes are chocolate brown or olive with black transverse markings, have an average length of 4 feet, and are aggressive—meaning they will turn and chase you (or your children and pets) at a fairly rapid pace.

Keeping your grass cut short is one way to make sure they stay out of your yard. Also keeping garage and household doors closed will help. Inform your children of the dangers of these snakes and not to pick-up "sticks." With construction going on and fields still around many homes, this may not be the place to allow children to play or to explore.

Should you or a family member be biten, do the following:

- 1. Don't let the victim panic or run. They should stop and stay until the paramedics arrive. Movement increases the spread of the venom through the blood system.
- 2. Keep the bite area lower than the heart.
- 3. Feel the victim's skin. If it's cool and /or clammy, cover them. Give them nothing to drink or eat.
- 4. <u>Don't</u> do the following: suck or cut the wound; use ice on the area; or apply any type of constricting band or tourniquet.

SNAKES...Continued on page 7

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#### THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

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Editor.....Chris Pheils 681-9026 Advertising Manager. Maureen Pheils 681-9026 Staff/Layout.....Susan DeLuca 681-2051 Printer......Dave Cutting 988-8977

Articles, Letters, and Advertising Copy should be received by the 20th of each month

> The Bloomingdale Gazette P. O. Box 918 Brandon, FL 33511

#### HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY:

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#### MOBILE WATCH LENDS A HELPING HAND by Maureen Pheils

Recently one of the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch base stations was called upon during an emergency situation in our neighborhood. The person operating our base station received a faint call from a gentleman who was rushing a 2-year-old child (who had accidently drank some lamp oil) to the Brandon Community Hospital. This gentleman had been sitting in the Clover Store parking waiting for a shopper when the boy's father drove in the lot with a flat tire he devloped enroute to the hospital. They transferred the boy to the other car then headed for the hospital. They called the base station who then notified the hospital emergency room via the telephone of the incoming evergency. The child was taken care of promptly, and was in good condition when the gentleman later called the base station to thank him for his help.

It is situations like this and others, that really bring out the good in all of us. The Mobile Watch is there for everyone. If you would like to volunteer a few hours a month to the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch, or would like more information, please call Hal Labkon, 681-6853. You don't need a C.B. equipped car to volunteer—equipment will be provided.

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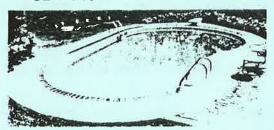
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## LETTERS

I am writing to you to express the dissatisfaction many of us (Bloomingdale residents) have regarding Pulte and it's remodeling and completion of the model center on Greenstone Place.

Most importantly many of us have investments in Pulte homes in this area in the range of \$80-\$90K. Over the years Pulte has reaped the benefit of this and are now converting the model center into a cracker box; (a) two-bedroom, single-car-garage hut on probably the largest and nicest lot in the area.

Secondly, even if the house plans were of acceptable size and design to add to the neighborhood, it is amazing how long this conversion is taking. The lawn is continually in need of maintenance and cutting. The house has become an open playhouse for children. However, the delay is probably associated with the fact that Pulte is in no hurry, since conceivably no one will want to purchase such a small house anyway.

We can see it now --- rental property for an investor. Please pass this along for what it's worth.

> Ken Fearn 3616 Greenstone Place

Editor's note: We too have noted that all is not well with the building of this new home and have also questioned that perhaps some of the deed restrictions in the area have been violated. The Gazette has passed on a copy of both Mr. Fearn's letter and this paper to Pulte and also Criterion Corp. We look forward to printing any replies that may be received from either party.

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WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW GAZETTE DELIVERY PERSONS:

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Kelly Pheils

Christine Gulli

Erica Hewitt

Mark Whitfield

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We are still looking for delivery persons for the East. Interested? Call Maureen Pheils for more details at 681-9026.

THEFT IN THE NEW SUAREZ SECTION IN BLOOMINGDALE EAST

Sometime during the evening of Saturday, August 3, a resident in the new Suarez housing section lost a Sears, red lawnmower. It was stolen from their garage while the occupants were home. The incident was reported to the Sheriff's Department and to the Mobile Watch.

Anyone finding a lawnmower matching its description are asked to call Hal Labkon of the Mobile Watch at 681-6853.

STD... Continued from page 1

- 1. Setting up a meeting with Criterion.
- 2. Talking to Jim Selvey (County Commissioner) to have someone from his office assigned to us that is knowledgeable and able to work with us.
- 3. Attempting to arrance an all Blooming-dale residents meeting in the Brandon High School gym for the end of October. At that time, hopefully all the paperwork necessary for an STD will be completed and ready to present to all of you. At the meeting I am hoping to have the builders, Criterion, Mr. Selvey, and anyone else pertinent to the situation.

Right now most of what I'm doing is fact finding, but it will soom become a working committee in need of many hands. Even though the BHA is backing our efforts for an STD, it is the residents who must pursue it and make it happen.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who wishes to volunteer now or in the future.

Also, if you have any special knowledge about current or past STD's or skills that we can put to use, I would like to hear fr you. I may be reached at 681-5823.

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by David Labkon

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#### BALLOON RALLY UPDATE by Maureen Pheils

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will be sponsoring a Coke Wagon at the Brandon Balloon Chase on September 1 and 2. As this event is the best fund raiser for our neighborhood, we need your help and support. If you can volunteer a few hours that weekend to sell Coke, plus enjoy all the activities planned, please call Maureen Pheils, 681-9026. If you are unable to volunteer some time, but still plan to attend the Balloon Chase, please stop by the BHA Coke Wagon to enjoy a Coke and a Smile.

SNAKES...Continued from page 1
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ATTORNEY WANTED: Volunteer needed to assist with STD effort. Glenda Hewitt 681-5823.

#### TO PLACE AN AD

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#### BHA MEETING

As of press time, we have been unable to secure our meeting place. We will announce the meeting in the September Gazette.

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A Note To Our Advertisers...

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