



A Look Back In Time



Fall Fashion Preview

The Bloomingdale Gazette

Volume XIII, Number 7

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July 1993

Official Allays School Boundary Concerns

by Gwen Szafranski

Kenneth Allen, Director of Pupil Administrative Services for Hillsborough County, addressed the July meeting of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association Board. Discussing school boundaries and pupil assignments, Allen reviewed his department's present plans for the proposed new South Plant City High School scheduled to open in 1995 and to be located at Turkey Creek Road and Summerall.

One of the misconceptions Allen clarified concerned whether the Bloomingdale West students now attending Lithia Springs Elementary School would eventually attend Bloomingdale High School or the new South Plant City High School.

Identifying the situation as "the one anomaly in the Bloomingdale cluster plan," which will be implemented in 1997, Allen stated that the Bloomingdale West students attending Lithia Springs will re-enter the Bloomingdale cluster, joining Alafia, Brooker, Buckhorn, and Kingswood students for middle school (sixth, seventh, and eighth grades) at what is presently Guy O. Burns Junior High and continuing on to Bloomingdale Senior High School. The See *Boundary*, pg 10



Area residents (L to R) Marcy Jeansonne, Amy Temple, Bobby Reyes and Kari Hamada show off their dramatic skills at Center Place. Photo by Tim Golden

Speed Humps May Solve Bloomingfield Drive's Traffic Woes

by Gwen Szafranski

"There will be no more delays," insisted Wayne Kirby, General Manager for Residential Traffic Control Programs, referring to the Bloomingfield Drive traffic circle dilemma which will be decided at an August 12th meeting before the Board of County Commissioners.

"Residents of Bloomingfield Drive have waited long enough," continued Kirby, who commended the efforts of Bloomingfield resident Byron Newcomb and added that County Commissioner Lydia Miller was 100% behind solving the problem.

Kirby responded recently during a phone interview concerning the June 30th hearing on the same issue held at Mango Recreation Center. Bloomingfield residents aired their grievances before Kirby, Hearing Master Jerry Dabkowski, Team Leader Greg Prytyka of Traffic Engineering Technical Design and Support Section, and Paul Libertini, Manager of the Technical Design and support Section.

Kirby indicated that the addition of speed humps would probably be the solution to the heavy traffic and persistent speeding along this residential street linking John Moore to Bell Shoals. Located on property lot lines, humps are marked by white painted stripes and accompanied by pairs of poles with reflectors on either side of the hump.

"We try everything before speed humps, beginning with selective enforcement by the Sheriff's office," Kirby stated, adding that humps installed on Julie Lane in Brandon reduced traffic speeds from the 48 to 49 mph range to 24 to 25 mph.

Humps reduce Julie Lane traffic

Barbara McCollough, a resident of Julie Lane located between John Moore and Bryan Road, commented

that the recently installed speed humps on her street had significantly reduced both traffic flow and speed. Calling the humps the "lesser of two evils," she stated it took Carol Lynch and other neighbors instrumental in the fight four years of organizing and petitioning to get the humps. Before that, McCollough said cars and motorcycles used Julie Lane as a racing strip, many times overrunning neighbors' yards.

McCollough did mention that one gentleman objected to the humps, worrying about the accessibility of emergency vehicles. The county assured the neighborhood that emergency vehicles could handle the graded humps and refrained from placing a hump by that gentleman's property.

Diverse opinions expressed at Mango meeting

At the Mango hearing residents and traffic officials agreed that the present "trial"

traffic circle has been a dismal failure. Traffic humps seem the viable solution and the choice of the majority of the residents. However, among the 50 residents who attended, diverse opinions were expressed to include making either entrance to Bloomingfield a cul-de-sac, installing four-way stop signs at each intersection, petitioning for diverters, and completing the original plan of adding two more traffic circles.

Prytyka explained that stop signs were not appropriate because they are installed where there is a history of severe accidents or where traffic lights might be placed; Libertini nixed cul-de-sacs since roads that serve the general population can't be closed; the majority of residents is firmly against more traffic circles; finally, petitioning for diverters would drag out the

See *TRAFFIC*, pg 10



Photo by Rozel Sciulli

Speed bumps and reflectors on Julie Lane are unsightly but doing the job.

Two Zoning Changes Proposed For East

by Rozel Sciulli

Changes could be in store for 53 acres of land in Bloomingdale East if developers have their way with County Zoning officials at a hearing slated for Aug. 30.

The land in question includes 35 acres at the corner of Bell Shoals and Bloomingdale, dog-legging east to Springvale between Orangepointe and Bloomingdale Woods Apartments. In addition, an 18 acre tract of land on Erindale behind the strip center that faces Lithia-Pinecrest is up for discussion. County zoning signs have been posted and residents or businesses within 250 feet of each area have been notified of the hearing date, according to county sources.

Currently zoned for community commercial use (retail development), 20 acres of the property at Bloomingdale and Bell Shoals could be changed to professional office zoning. The remaining 15 acres could be approved for 150 units of attached housing. What kind of attached housing has not yet been specified by property owners Metropolitan Life, but townhouses are one possibility.

There is currently a natural buffer between the

property on Springvale and the homes on Orangepointe. This property is not being considered for rezoning, according to a county spokesman.

The Erindale parcel is presently zoned for municipal commercial use, which means it could be used to build a library, fire station, or other county service facility. Owners are requesting to have the zoning modified for attached single family housing consisting of 104 units.

Residents who have a concern may be heard at this month's zoning hearing at 6 p.m. in Room 214 B of the Hillsborough County Courthouse.

Zoning officials will take staff recommendations, the request of the property owners, and citizen input to a County Commission meeting on Oct. 12 for a final decision.

According to senior planner Maik Alguire, residents will not be heard on this matter at the Commission meeting unless they are already on the record at the zoning hearing Aug. 30. He added that only those issues brought up at the zoning meeting will be eligible for discussion at the commission meeting in October.

BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY PAGE

Two Zoning Changes Proposed For East

Dear Readers,

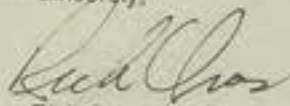
I hope you find *The Bloomingdale Gazette* a great benefit. The aim of the Gazette is to provide you with information you need living in this community.

This newspaper is also designed to answer questions that may arise in the course of living in the Bloomingdale area. I hope that you will turn to *The Gazette* and the Bloomingdale Homeowner's Association if certain sensitive situations arise. Two examples are in the area of deed restrictions and county code violations.

In this issue you will find the Community Page. Within this section you will discover the addition of the Letters to the Editor column and telephone numbers of the current Board of Directors of the BHA and the Board of the Special Taxing District. In fact, throughout the entire newspaper you will find unique and unusual points of interest about your neighbors and community.

You hear so many stories today about people not knowing or understanding community issues. *The Gazette* is your way of staying ahead of the developments that affect our community. That is one of the reasons we provide this resource. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call or write to *The Bloomingdale Gazette*

Sincerely,



Rick Oros
President

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BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
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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 7:30 p.m.

BHA Board of Directors

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

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District

First Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Mobile Watch & Neighborhood Watch

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

Park Survey Update: Resident Requests Fence

Last month's park survey prompted one Bloomingdale East resident to canvas his neighborhood in an effort to determine what improvements residents would like the county to make at Park East.

In a presentation to the BHA at their last meeting, East resident Dick Baker reported that he went door-to-door on Bell Grande and Callista and spoke to homeowners whose backyards border the park. The general consensus was a need for a fence to separate their yards from the park and playground traffic.

"We would like to have a see-through fence similar to the wall around Fox Run along Nature's Way," Baker explained, pointing out that residents and non-residents who use the park trespass on homeowners' property that fringes the park.

The residents surveyed by Baker added to their wish list a request for better playground equipment.

Announced in *The Bloomingdale Gazette* last month, the survey is being conducted by the BHA in an effort to determine what improvements can be made to Parks East and West. The financing would come from a special county fund that has been established for recreational facilities.

Residents were asked to cite needs at the area parks and return the survey to the Community Office. The responses thus far indicate certain trends, according to BHA board member Jeff Campbell. The number one priority seems to be more and better playground equipment. Lighted tennis courts came in second with the suggestion that they be coin operated.

Written suggestions included more shade trees throughout the parks. Interestingly, the proposed recreational center was low in priority to those that responded.

Campbell urges residents to voice their opinions by calling him at 623-1527 or writing him c/o 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101, Valrico, FL 33594.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In the near future the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County will meet to recommend a solution to the traffic problems that have plagued Bloomingfield Drive, these being excessive speed and excessive traffic.

My feeling is that speed humps will be installed. There is no magical solution to the problem other than cutting off the street at some point to stop the flow of traffic from outside the subdivision. The traffic circle now in place at the corner of Bloomingfield Drive and Rosedale has proven not to work in its current configuration. To remove the circle is an alternative, but the intersection can not be restored to its original size without the costly relocation of the storm drain and addition of further stress to the oak tree north of the circle. To leave the circle as it is today and simply landscape it does no good and only creates a traffic hazard.

It is my recommendation that the circle be expanded to the 28 feet where it was shown to greatly reduce speed when the stanchions were in place. The circle then should be landscaped and maintained by the Special Taxing District. The STD's concern for liability arising from the landscaping is unfounded as Mr. Fred Karl's letter to me dated April 2nd, 1992, stated that Hillsborough County would not include an indemnification provision in any agreement with the STD. With the circle expanded and speed humps installed, I feel that the problems now being experienced by those living along the affected street will be reduced substantially. The STD was made aware of Mr. Fred Karl's ruling.

Speaking of the maintenance of common areas within the subdivision, I noticed that the entry into Bloomingdale Estates has many areas where the grass is dead, and is in need of trimming. It is not the attractive, eye-catching entry it once was.

Byron Newcomb

Garage Sale Signs Unsightly

Bob Stalker, administrator for the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District, requests that residents conducting garage sales observe the following suggestions to keep trees from harm, fences from deteriorating and neighborhoods from looking shoddy.

1. Remove garage sale signs the day the sale ends;

2. Do not nail signs on trees;
3. Post signs on 5-ft. stakes available at stores like Home Depot;
4. If signs are taped to fences, please remove the signs and tape as soon as possible.

Stalker hopes residents follow these simple suggestions to help maintain the beauty of the Bloomingdale subdivisions.

Correction

We apologize for misspelling Barbara Leugers name of Window Fashions and Decor.

School Times Directory

It won't be long before those school bells are ringing. Hillsborough County public schools open their doors to students on Thursday, Aug. 19, and just so you're not tardy on that first day back, here are some times you should know.

Alafia Elementary		
Lithia Springs Elem.	8:00 a.m.	2:05 p.m.
Progress Village	9:00 a.m.	3:15 p.m.
Booker T. Washington	8:35 a.m.	4:05 p.m.
Burns Junior High	8:45 a.m.	4:05 p.m.

Bloomington High School Times to be announced*
 *BHS administration is expecting a change in school times, but the change had not yet been approved at the time of publication.



Photo by Tim Golden

Brenda Morales will greet children each morning on their way to Alafia.

Smiling Faces : Meet Crossing Guard Brenda Morales

by Gwen Szafranski

A little kindergarten girl starts across the street after school in a steady rain. She passes the crossing guard as she heads for the corner curb, only to spy a large puddle covered with damp, muddy leaves. She hesitates in the street; traffic is backing up. Finally, the little girl looks back at the crossing guard who nods encouragement for her to leap the puddle. She does. The crossing guard grins as do the waiting motorists.

The situation reflects the trust children at Alafia Elementary School place in crossing guard, Brenda Morales, and it also attests to the generally cooperative spirit she finds among motorists.

Morales, whose daily station is the corner of Nature's Way and Culbreath Road, has enjoyed her first year helping the children who walk or ride bikes to school as well as working with the student patrol officers whose job performance it is her duty to observe.

"I personally enjoy working with the children. Standing on the corner, I have a chance to talk with many of them," commented Morales, who also volunteers her time in the Alafia lunchroom.

"I don't have time for hobbies," joked Morales when asked what her other interests are. It's understandable since she keeps busy with her husband and her two sons, who attend Progress Village and Burns Junior High School, respectively. She also enjoys her association with the Tampa Bay Christian Center on Kings Avenue and hosting the home Bible group for both children and adults.

When asked for her tips to parents of walkers and bikers, Morales encourages parents to caution their children to watch the crossing guards on their way to school and not to cross the road until the guards signal. She also reminds motorists to strictly observe the slower speed limits in effect during school crossing hours.

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1993-94 School Registration and Immunization Requirements

by Jerry A. Wishik, M. D.

Whether you plan to enroll your child in a day care or pre-school facility or have children of kindergarten age or older, registering for the new school year can be either a harrowing experience or a relatively simple matter. Before a school registrar or child care facility will accept your child for admission, two very important and unwaivable items must be obtained:

1. A signed and properly completed immunization form (HRS Blue Form #680), and
2. A signed and properly completed physical examination form (HRS Yellow Form #3040).

These official forms can be obtained from your doctor or health department branch. **Make Sure Your Child Is Fully Immunized!**

All of us wish our children to be free from communicable and often deadly infectious diseases. In accordance with that desire, the state of Florida (HRS) issues certain "minimum" immunization guidelines for children enrolled in child care facilities and public schools. These are updated yearly and are listed as follows: age 2 months, DPT#1 (Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus) and OPV#1 (Oral Polio Vaccine); age 4 months, DPT#2 and OPV#2; age 6 months, DPT#3 and optional OPV; age 15 months, MMR#1 (Measles, Mumps, Rubella); age 18 months, DPT#4 and OPV#3; age 4-6 years, DPT#5, OPV#4, and MMR#2 (required to enter kindergarten, but not for any other grade); every 10 years thereafter, Td (Tetanus-Diphtheria).

Although most practicing physicians and certainly most pediatricians abide by more stringent guidelines developed by the AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) and the IPAC (Immunization Practices Advisory Committee), recommending Hib (Hemophilus Influenza Type b), Hepatitis B vaccine and TB (Tuberculosis) Skin Test-

ing, these are not currently required. However, for day care facilities and state-licensed pre-schools, Hib vaccination is required. (Hib schedules vary, depending upon the age at which your child received his or her first Hib vaccine.)

1. Actual immunizations (shots, oral vaccines) can be provided by your doctor or the health department in your area.
2. It is preferable to receive immunizations when no fever or cold symptoms are present.
3. Starting this year, children entering kindergarten will be required to have two MMRs. Next year, first graders will also require two MMRs (and so on, increasing by one grade per year).
4. If your child does not fit the above schedule exactly, the following vaccinations are acceptable: 5 DPTs (any dates), 4 OPVs (any dates), 1 MMR (on or after 12 months of age, 2 MMRs if the child is entering kindergarten). A second vaccination sequence is also acceptable: 4 DPTs, if the last follows the 4th birthday; 3 OPV, the last following the 4th birthday; 1 MMR, 2 if entering kindergarten.
5. Children can be legally exempted from immunizations in the state of Florida if there is evidence of prior significant adverse reaction, or for religious convictions (requires a special "waiver," HRS Form #681).

Prior to receiving any vaccination, your doctor should provide you with a "Vaccine Information Pamphlet" which provides important risk/benefit information. This is required by the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program of the Public Health Service Act effective April 15, 1992.

Make Sure Your Child Has a Physical Examination

The physical examination should include a medical history, vision testing, height, weight, blood pressure, ex-

amination of your child's head, eyes, ears, nose, throat, neck, lungs, heart, abdomen, extremities, genitalia, and neurologic testing. Sounds involved? Not really. Most exams require less than 15 minutes to complete. Of course, review of shot records can be time consuming if unclear or indeterminate.

Sports activities usually require a separate physical examination form. Check with your school. Most sports physicals are good from July 1 through June 30. Requirements: junior high, Blue Hills Co. Sch. Board Form #81051; high school, Yellow Hills Co. Sch. Board Form #81001; private schools have their own required forms, so check with the individual school.

Registration Overview

Pre-schoolers and day care: children must be immunized and updated "for age" (HRS Blue Form #680, Part B); TB Tine Tests are recommended but not required; Hib vaccines are required for day-care facilities and state-licensed pre-schools, and recommended for private pre-school programs; physical exam form HRS #3040 is required, and check with individual facility for any additional form requirements.

Kindergarten through high school: HRS Blue Form #680, Part A; HRS Yellow Form #3040. NOTE: Child must be born on or before September 1, 1988, in order to enter this year's kindergarten class. If born after that date, he or she will enter next year's kindergarten class.

Colleges: "college-specific" physical exam forms (obtain forms from college itself); immunization form, often a card requiring proof of two measles and one rubella (preferably 2 MMRs). Other immunization requirements are at the discretion of the college, but an updated tetanus-diphtheria shot is recommended.

DON'T FORGET TO

BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR OR HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Glasses, if worn; all official immunization records to date, with month, date, and year recorded (entries from baby books are not official); any other special forms required by a particular school or facility, especially private schools and child care centers.

... Remember, REGISTER EARLY to avoid long lines and minimize waiting times for you and your child at doctors' offices/clinics and school registration.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SCHOOL YEAR!

Jerry A. Wishik is a Board Certified Internal Medicine physician practicing in the Brandon area as Medical Director of Physician Care Walk-In Clinic.

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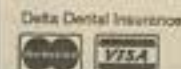
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Bloomingtondale - The Way We Were

This is the first in a series of monthly features on the history of the Bloomingtondale and Brandon areas.

by Rozel Sciulli
Bloomingtondale.

This bustling corner of the county where families move in by the dozens each month. This self-sufficient community where an entire day's business can be conducted without leaving a five-mile radius. This prospering suburban town where...

Not too long ago horses and cows roamed the pastures of vast dairy farms, and a corner market was the gathering spot to

share the events of the day.

The pasture is now the site of Bloomingtondale Square and the corner market has been replaced by a busy convenience store and gas station, but some remnants and residents of the past remain to tell the story of what was once a serene farming community before the bulldozers came and changed a way of life.

Dennis and Kathy Hansen remember growing up in Bloomingtondale, he the son of a feed and general store owner and native "Bloomingtondale-ites."

"The only area that was called Bloomingtondale is right here at this corner,"

recalled Dennis pointing to the busy intersection of Bloomingtondale and Lithia-Pinecrest. "This was it. The center of activity. Farmers would come up from Lithia to buy feed, and teenagers would hang out here after school and on weekends."

There was a hamburger stand by the big oak tree that still shades the shops owned by Dennis's father Elvin. The stores have housed a variety of businesses from general store and feed shop to a barber shop, auto repair shop, and pool hall.

It was here where Dennis and Kathy met. The former Kathy Carpenter, she would ride her horse up to the general store to make purchases, but mostly to see Dennis. Now, Kathy operates Oliver's Station antique store there. The feed store is still run by the elder Hansen and new shops are moving in.

Kathy, an optician by profession, says she loves acquiring the antiques for her shop because of the history that comes along with each piece. "There are still a lot of native, what I call 'Bloomingtondal-ers', around here who come into the shop or whose antiques I will purchase and they all have a story to tell."

The antique lover grew up off Brooker Road and credits her mother with teaching her to have a fine eye for antiques. "She realized the value of older things before other people did," said Kathy, who would someday like the row of shops to be an antique mall, or pay honor to her ancestry by developing a German village.

Although at 30-something, Kathy grew up at a time when fast cars and cruisin' were the popular weekend pastime, she recalls, instead, riding around in a Model A with orange crate seats. She would also ride horseback with her friends through Douglas Pasture, now Bloomingtondale Square.

Dennis says there was a time when only one car an hour would pass by, and the weekend traffic to Lithia Springs was sparse



Photo by Rozel Sciulli

Dennis and Kathy Hansen have watched Bloomingtondale grow.

but expected. People would stop at Hansen's to rent inner tubes to ride the Alafia.

"When I grew up here, this is where I wanted to spend the rest of my life and lead a quiet, simple life," said Dennis, a full-time pharmacist who still helps his dad at the feed store when he gets off work. "I'm not against people moving here - it's just not home anymore."

Now the younger Hansens have moved south with six-year-old son Ryan to enjoy the country quiet and to have enough land for Kathy's Appaloosa. They reminisce over what was with old photographs and with occasional visits from those native "Bloomingtondal-ers" who are still around these parts.

There were no quick trips to the local fast-food drive through then. Even the school bus ride seemed to take forever, recalled Dennis. "We had to go way down Bell Shoals to pick up this one kid who lived down there on a farm. There was nothing around for miles."

The Alafia flooded once in the '60s. Dennis remembers his father rowing a boat down Lithia-Pinecrest to rescue residents who lived across from what is now Riverhills. "I'll bet they don't know how low that land is," he said.

"It's a shame that people new to this area can't appreciate what it was once like around here," Dennis mused.

When the pastures were the children's playgrounds and the palmetto scrubs painted a picture of native Florida.

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The Director's Guide to Picking the Perfect Pre-School

by Gail Bjornson

As a pre-school director for the past six years, I've come to realize in talking to countless parents that there are some very basic guidelines for successfully choosing the place your child will spend a substantial part of his or her waking hours. Some of these tips may strike you as being overly simple, yet in your quest to find the best for your child, they should not be overlooked.

Does it Feel Right?

Have you ever walked into a house or a new apartment and felt immediately that you could live there? This intuitive feeling works for pre-schools too. Whether it's the right combination of pleasing sights, sounds, etc., something about the school makes you feel good as you enter. You can envision your child being happy there. Don't discount feelings in making your decision.

Are the Children Happy?

Look around. Do the majority of children look carefree

and content? Now, this is not to say you should not encounter anyone crying. You may have picked an especially trying time to visit (Mealtime, nap time, any transitional period). If you see an unhappy child, is someone tending to them? Always observe the moods of the children presently attending the school.

Are the Director/Teachers/ Caretakers Enthusiastic?

A simple point, right? However, to be successful in working with children for long hours, adults must have enormous amounts of energy and enthusiasm. If the people you meet on your pre-school tour are not visibly excited about showing you around (not to mention taking on your child), look elsewhere.

If Asked, Can the Director Explain the Philosophy of the School?

This can let you know immediately if the environment is one where your child will thrive. Does the director pride

herself/himself on the amount of time the pre-schoolers spend at tables doing writing assignments, or is "free play" the main activity of the day? Different children perform well under different conditions, make sure you enroll your child where he or she will receive appropriate education. *Do the pre-school personnel seem anxious to accommodate your child's special needs?*

Every family is different, and every child is unique. Within the framework of the "group care" system, there must be room for individuality. Day care professionals must recognize and cater to each child. One simple way to gauge this on a walk-through would be to ask a few sample questions. For instance, would your child be able to nap with his or her beloved "bear-bear," or drink from his or her own spill-proof sipper cup? If questions like these are met with, "We usually do it another way. . .," then get out! Your child is a number.

Girard-Sarnowski Engagement Announced



Miss Girard -
Mr. Sarnowski

Lt. Col. Ronald E. Girard, Ret. USA, and Mrs. Rose Girard of Brandon announce the engagement of their daughter, Julia, to Mr.

Philip Sarnowski, son of Raymond E. Sarnowski and the late Janice Sarnowski. Girard, who has been a Brandon resident for six years and was among the first graduating class of Bloomingdale Senior High School in 1989, attends The University of South Florida and is majoring in special education. She is currently participating in a practicum that has included working at the Moffitt Cancer Center school and Seven Springs Elementary in

Pasco County. She will graduate in the spring of 1994.

Sarnowski, who graduated from Bloomingdale Senior High School in 1990, received his A.A. degree from Hillsborough Community College. He is attending the University of South Florida and is majoring in Business Management with plans to graduate in the spring of 1995. Sarnowski is currently employed by Publix Super Markets.

Their wedding is planned for June 24, 1995.

PALMS, from pg. 6

European Fan Palm (*Chamaerops Humilis*) is a cluster palm that became popular after the freeze of '89 as a replacement for the pygmy date palm. It is not as graceful, however, it is totally cold hardy and grows into a beautiful specimen. Control the number of canes by pruning back new shoots. A slow grower, it reaches a max. height of 10'. Fairly salt tolerant.

Chinese Fan Palm (*Livistonia Chinensis*) is very similar in appearance to the Washingtonia Palm. It is a moderate grower and

is fairly salt tolerant.

Queen Palm (*Syagrus Romanzoffianum*) is probably one of the most favorite palms in our area. Very graceful in appearance, it can attain a maximum height of 50' with a spread of 15'. This palm freezes at about 20 degrees. It is fast growing and not very salt tolerant.

Pygmy Date Palm (*Phoenix Roebellii*) is a very graceful dwarf cluster palm, usually planted as a cluster, which seldom exceeds 10' in height. It needs to be protected if temperatures fall below 28 degrees.

Senegal Date Palm (*Phoenix Reclinata*) matures into a ma-

gestic cluster palm with a maximum height of 35' and width of 50'. It can have as many as 20 canes. A fast growing palm, it freezes at about 24 degrees and is fairly salt tolerant. It will usually come back after a hard freeze.

Paurotis Palm (*Acoclorrhapha Wrightii*) is much more delicate in appearance than the reclinata palm. It grows to a height of 30' and width of 12'. The number of canes can be controlled by pruning back new shoots. It freezes at about 20 degrees and is fairly salt tolerant.

All these palms grow and flourish in our area. Happy palmscaping!

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Right up through closing you were working in our interest. Please feel free to call upon us anytime should someone need a reference attesting to your integrity and professional abilities.

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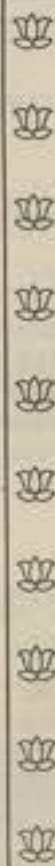
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Send your social news to *The Bloomingdale Gazette*, 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 101, Valrico, FL 33594, or stop by our office in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza. Please be sure to include a phone number. Photographs are also welcomed.



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Primary Prep, a nursery, pre-school, and day care for children six weeks to 10 years, continues to serve the Brandon area at 3720 Canoga Park Drive in Bloomingdale West.

The school is owned by Christine Terrell and directed by her daughter Gail Bjornson, both Bloomingdale residents. Primary Prep has been in operation at this location for six years, and prides itself on flexible scheduling to fit busy lifestyles.

Call 654-1942 for more information or stop by Primary Prep to register your child for a learning experience to build a lifetime on.

Mail Boxes, Etc.
Mail Boxes, Etc. is the largest franchise chain of its type in the world offering packing, shipping, postal, and communication services. Locally, Mail Boxes, Etc., located in Bloomingdale Square Shopping Center, is owned and operated by Sue and Jim Harbridge and was recognized recently for reaching the top 10 percent nationally. As a result, Mail Boxes, Etc. is planning a month long celebration in October called Customer Appreciation Month during which customers will be offered large savings on its most popular services - copies, faxes, and shipping services. Mail Boxes, Etc., adheres to the motto, "Big or small, we ship it all."



Brandon Academy Private School
Brandon Academy has been providing quality education to the area for over 20 years. Located just north of Hwy. 60, the school sits among 10 acres of beautifully wooded property.

Its mission is to educate young people in an environment of respect coupled with a commitment to quality education in a challenging program for average to above average ability students. Children in K through 8th enjoy a stimulating academic curriculum. Full school enrichment includes Spanish, computer, art and physical education. Middle school students choose electives from both the full school enrichment and several specially designed curricula. Classroom experiences are supplemented with field trips, clubs and guest speakers. Students work in both small and large group situations and are provided opportunity for the development of positive social skills.

Admission to Brandon Academy is selective. Qualified applicants are accepted regardless of race, sex, color, ethnic or national origin.

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"Training Tomorrow's Leaders Today" is the credo Richard Miller of FUTUREKIDS adheres to in teaching computer skills and proficiency at both his Brandon and Plant City locations. Studies show that adults as well as children learn best when learning is fun. Mastering the great powers of a modern computer is naturally fun, therefore learning also comes naturally. Learning computer skills at FUTUREKIDS boosts self-confidence and generates a significant competitive edge. Little wonder that educators have acclaimed FUTUREKIDS' methods and results.

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Call the Brandon location at 684-3543 for enrollment information. Afternoon and evening classes are available.

Sylvan Learning Center
The Sylvan Learning Center of Brandon has been serving the community for seven years and is one of over 500 centers established in the Continental United States and Canada. We teach students from age four through... focusing on remedial academic skills as well as enrichment for the gifted.

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There are programs in readiness, reading, phonics, writing, math, algebra, study skills, and P.S.A.T., S.A.T. and A.C.T. prep.

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Dr. Maria Montessori believed that no human being is educated by another person. He must do it himself or it will never be done. A truly educated individual continues learning long after the hours and years he spends in the classroom because he is motivated from within by a natural curiosity and love for knowledge. Dr. Montessori felt therefore that the goal of early childhood education should not be to fill the child with facts from a pre-selected course of study, but rather to cultivate his own natural desire to learn.

Children from two years of age through the third grade are accepted. Parents should call 689-7409 for enrollment information.

Montessori Learning Center

Juliette and Tim Johnson, are eager to move their Montessori Learning Center to its new location on Boyette Road west of Bell Shoals. Formerly Heritage Learning Center, the school will soon be known as Llamas and Learning, as the Johnsons make room for 90 students and eight pet llamas plus other farmyard animals that the children will be caring for.

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Kinder Care Learning Center, Inc.

Kinder Care Learning Center, Inc., 4304 Bell Shoals Rd. in Bloomingdale East, has been serving our community for the past six years.

Kinder Care accepts children from six weeks to 12 years, offers breakfast, lunch and snacks, full educational programs for all ages and regularly scheduled field trips for fours and older. It is open from 6:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and is noted for its fine reputation throughout the country. The staff is fully trained in each age-appropriate program.

The Klubmates (5-12 years old) attend area elementary schools and are transported to and from Kinder Care by van.

Kinder Care offers several extra-curricular activities in addition to field trips. Weekly there is dance, tumbling, karate, computers, and Sports Fun.

Tuition rates are competitive with discounts available for families with more than one child and for current families referring new ones. Stop by and visit or call Sue Verzillo, Director, or Mercy Ontengco, Assistant, at 654-0572.

Providence Christian School

The mission and purpose of Providence Christian School is to assist the Christian home in providing a sound education for its children, both academically and spiritually, in a Christ-honoring and caring atmosphere.

The school offers a traditional, Christian curriculum in grades K-4 through 12th with a strong emphasis on the basics of education and Godly, separated living.

Reading begins in kindergarten and there is a strong emphasis on phonics in the elementary grades. As part of the school's high academic standards, choir and band programs and a widely-respected athletic program round out the curriculum.

Providence Christian School offers before and after-school care.

The school is still accepting students in many grades for the fall term. Please call 689-7127 for enrollment information.

Huntington Learning Center

The Huntington Learning Center works with students of all ages to build basic skills and rekindle enthusiasm for learning. Certified teachers give individualized instruction in reading, math, study skills, S.A.T. preparation, and other areas in which students often meet academic roadblocks.

Huntington believes that teaching a student who lacks basic skills is similar to building the second floor of a home on top of a basement in disrepair. The Huntington Learning Center strengthens the individual's educational foundation by building skills, self-confidence, and motivation.

The program begins with a private testing appointment. Achievement exams are given in order to determine the level at which the student is currently functioning. Diagnostic tests tell why the student is functioning at that particular level.

Huntington Learning Center and its director Anne Kileline have served Brandon since 1986. The center is located across from the Kash N Karry shopping center on Lithia Pinecrest.



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Crimson Dolls Ready To Dance

by Erin Mule'

School hasn't even started and already the Bloomingdale Crimson Dolls have begun dancing their way into a busy year. The squad, chosen last spring, began their activities during the summer. They participated in a walk-a-thon fundraiser, attended dance camp, and marched in the Brandon Fourth of July parade. In August, they will also attend band camp.

These busy Crimson Dolls are lead by captain Lisa Marshburn and co-captains Dana Collella and Tony Criswell. The 1993-94 members are Erin Andrews, Amy Arado, Melanie Bartz, Latisha Benoit, Natalie Cacciatore, Keri Cathart, Charity Ciroti, Charity Erwin, Alana Falkner, Nicki Foster, Crystal Freeman, Melissa Gabell, Megan Gillis, Amanda Hooper, Arnetta Isom, Kim Jameson, Jessica Jiosne, Melissa Kitman, Jennifer Kniess, Karmyn Laverghetta, Christina Morales, Annie Morris, Laura Nichols, Andrea Penley, Valerie Hope, Cherisse Towns, Meri Rogers, Lashay Sanchez, Christa Simmons, Heidi Slovacek, Kim Wallace, March Willman, Katie Weaver, Vicki Wolf, Stefanie Wuckevich, and Natalie Vindorf.

Hard work and a busy schedule are nothing new for these girls; most have an extensive dance background. They go through two weeks of tryouts which consist of

dance and flag routines. They are also taught a surprise routine two days before tryouts to see how quickly they learn. The tryout routines and all the dances performed by the Crimson Dolls are created by choreographer Rick Schuhr.

The Crimson Dolls are sponsored by Ted Hope who is also the Bloomingdale band director. They perform with the band and participate in both band and dance activities. Besides dancing at football games and pep rallies, the girls also attend many other events. This year's calendar includes the District Marching Festival, the Brandon Band Competition, and the Indoor Guard Competition in Pensacola.

The District Dance Competition is one of the highlights of the season. Last year the Crimson Dolls received a superior rating and went onto the state competition. They

are hoping to do the same this year. These talented girls work long and hard and it pays off with top-notch performances.



Young ladies will represent BSBS as this year's Crimson Dolls.

TRAFFIC, from pg. 1

solution to a problem that needs to be resolved immediately.

The major conflict is whether to widen the circle, reinforce the curbing on the south side and add speed humps to the rest of the street or to remove the traffic circle and install speed humps the

entire length of the street.

Members of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District have raised questions of liability over landscaping, maintenance, and future safety hazards of an extended traffic circle. Kirby has stated that the county would landscape the

circle if it remains and that the county is liable for any accidents.

Interested residents are urged to attend the hearing August 12 when recommendations will be presented to the County Commissioners and a final decision will be made.

BOUNDRY, from pg. 1

remainder of the Lithia Springs attendance area from the area south of Bloomingdale East to include students from River Hills and Mason Oaks may eventually join the new south area high school cluster.

"The concept behind the cluster plan," explained Allen, "is an attempt to get away from the current system of K through fifth grades, separate sixth and seventh grades, eighth and ninth grades together, and senior high defined as tenth through twelfth grades."

Another concern of area residents is that students south of Bloomingdale Avenue, east of Bell Shoals and west of Lithia Pinecrest Road would be channelled to the new South Plant City High School. Allen assured Board members that this was indeed a misconception and that Bloomingdale East and Bloomingdale Oaks would indeed remain in the Bloomingdale cluster.

Indicating that population numbers, maps, natural boundaries such as rivers and highways, and court ordered desegregation are all determining factors for school boundaries, Allen commented that bound-

ary decisions sometimes seem to be made in isolation of the people in respective communities. He cited the recent situation concerning the students from Bloomingdale West who were originally slated to go to Boyette Springs Elementary to alleviate overcrowding at Alafia. Parents strongly voiced their preference for Lithia Springs Elementary as "the lesser of two evils" over busing to Boyette Springs.

Allen stated that his department, while following boundary requirements, attempts to make every effort to be responsive to the needs of the respective communities. He outlined the procedure established for planning pupil assignments to new schools to include the initial proposal to the School Board, followed by publicly advertised meetings with the involved communities as well as letters to the parents advising them of the changes.

The Homeowners Association appreciated Allen's clarifications and the opportunity for Bloomingdale East and West to be viewed as a whole community. Reciprocally, Allen commented that he was impressed with the positive attitude of the Board and the community they represent.



Ashley Hicks and her teacher Linda Lanier show off an example of Summer Art Camp projects.

Photo by Rozel Scull

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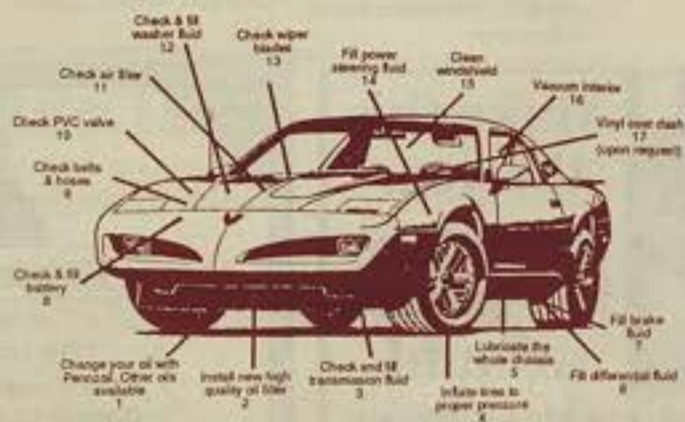
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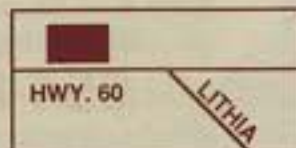
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Comfort Is The Fashion Word For Fall

by Rozel Sculli

Fall colors on a summer wardrobe suit the Florida climate while making back to school fashions look like, well, back to school fashions. The word this year is comfort in plenty of denim and a new look for girls that's very familiar to the 40-something crowd. For young men it's the outdoors look, while the young ladies return to the relaxed style of 60's era fashion.

"Jeans, jeans, jeans," said Jack Wurzbacher, divisional vice president and merchandise manager for Bealls Department Store. "Cotton pants and the prep look are out. The outdoors look is in." And when Wurzbacher says outdoors, he means exactly that. Flannel checked shirt, anyone? Or how about a fisherman's vest and back pack?

"Denim anything; that's what the girls will be wearing," said Debbie Harvey, divisional merchandise manager for Bealls. "They'll be complemented by a variety of open weave tops and vests or woven shirts."

Look for the young ladies to don form fitting knit tops, textured ribs, and V-necked T's in atypical Florida colors of forest green, hunter green or burgandy. For these tops, a crocheted or denim

vest makes a cool and classy ensemble. Pieced vintage silk blouses in deep fall colors or woven shirts in white cotton or loose-fitting muslin will dress up denim jeans or shorts.

Twill or denim floral prints present young buyers with a variety of options for their fall wardrobe. But they shouldn't look for those soft pastels any longer, according to Harvey. The spaced floral prints will be vibrant, rich hues which seem to be gaining popularity.

If the young ladies fancy a dressier style for school, dresses and skirts will be at "midi" or mid-calf length in dark floral prints with scooped necklines and capped or puffed sleeves. A crocheted midi vest adds texture to the form fitting dress fabric.

The properly accessorized teen will carry a crocheted shoulder bag and her outfits will be accented by ribbon, leather, or crocheted chokers adorned with a variety of charms from hearts to peace symbols.

Harvey explained that teens can expect a complete shorts outfit to run under \$40, while longer pants and tops may run around \$50.

"Young girls are looking for status names when they buy jeans," she said, citing that the local Bloomingdale store will feature Bongo and Paris Blues this season.

Levi's will give men that rough outdoors look or what Wurzbacher calls the "distressed" look, in other words, used or well-worn. The "housing" fad is definitely out, he said. "The jeans will fit comfortably this year."

Long jeans or shorts will be topped by a variety of shirts that run the gamut from Levi knit shirts to silk prints or solids. "All of our shirts will be jean-friendly," said Wurzbacher.

Whether wearing a hooded flannel shirt or sporty college T, the young men can't go wrong this fall. A classier look will outfit teens in a printed rayon vest over a solid shirt of the same fabric. Wurzbacher predicts that novelty screen prints, "especially those with Looney Tunes characters" will be hot items this school year.

Completing the look will be vests of all kinds, the sportier the better, high-top leather sneakers, and camp-style backpacks.

Comfort without forsaking style, that's what the young men and women on the high school scene will be decked out in this year.

Then again, it may be time for those "groovy" moms and dads who grew up in the 60's to dust off their peace necklaces, iron out their Nehru jackets, and give their daughter a flower to put in her hair.



Photo by Rozel Sculli
Jason Griggs, a BSJS junior, shows that guys will be comfortable this year in anything denim.



Photo by Rozel Sculli
Shawna Nation (left) and Sam Szafranski show that what was old is new.



Photo by Rozel Sculli
Shorts in denim or twill prints with fitted tops will be popular this year.



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Tax Saving Tips in 1993

by Robert J. Morris, CPA, CTP

It definitely looks like tax rates are going up which makes tax planning more important today than in past years. Readers may find a number of tax savers for 1993 among the following tips.

If you have a company 401K plan, consider your options of increasing contributions on a pre-tax basis. You pay no income tax on the dollars you contribute until they are withdrawn. The growth accumulates tax deferred adding to the growth on a compound basis. If you don't withdraw any funds until retirement you will most likely have a lower tax bracket or even possibly no tax at all.

Money put into an IRA may or may not be deductible depending on your level of income and if you are covered by a qualified plan at work. However, you can still contribute up to \$2,000 a year such that the growth will be tax deferred. You must keep records on your nondeducted portions of IRA contributions and report it each year to the IRS, but you must consider this as one of your tax deferred options.

Almost everyone knows by now that personal loan interest and credit card interest is not deductible. Interest on up to \$100,000 of home equity borrowing is deductible no matter how it is spent. Consider setting up a home

equity account and pay off the nondeductible revolving credit loans.

Interest on US Savings Bonds is also tax deferred and currently yield a higher rate than most CD's or savings accounts. You don't pay tax on the interest until you cash in the bond. These also are not subject to Florida's Intangible Tax. Current yields are approximately 6% if held for five years.

Your reimbursed company expenses are not taxed if you submit fully documented expense reports to your employer who has an accountable reimbursement plan. Be sure to properly submit the necessary documentation to your employer.

If you are a sole proprietor, consider hiring your children for certain services. A child can earn up to \$3,700 in wages tax free and up to \$5,700 if the additional \$2,000 is put into the child's IRA account. Also, if the child is under the age of 18, there are no Social Security tax or unemployment taxes due to be paid. This could result in a tax savings of up to \$2,800 per child per year.

If these tax concepts seem to fit your scenario, then consult with your tax advisor about your particular situation.

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Window Fashions Store Celebrates Opening

by Gwen Szafranski

On August 14th the staff of Window Fashions and Decor joined owner, Zisimos Markopulos, in greeting Terri Dickelman, Brandon Chamber of Commerce Vice President, and a Chamber delegation for a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the official opening of the Valrico store. Among the delegation were Hilda Hampton, Brandon's Honorary Mayor, Ambassador Dennis Osborn, Chairman of Membership Jim Mixon, and Account Executive Keith Singleton.

Located at the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale on Lithia Pinecrest Road, Window Fashions and Decor is the newest of Markopulos's three stores. The Tampa entrepreneur's

stores have served the Bay area for nine years, offering such well known brands in window treatments as Levolor, Graber, Kirsch, and Hunter Douglas.

Sandra Hines, who has been with Window Fashions for four years is the showroom Manager of the Brandon Crossings store, which serves as the main showroom and manufacturing facility. Among the staff members present at the ceremony were Hines, Gladys Hayes, also of the Brandon store, and Barbara Leugers and Diane Cates, who will assist customers at the Valrico location.



Photo by Tim Golden

Brandon Chamber dignitaries join Zisimos Markopulos in officially opening his newest Window Fashions and Decor in Valrico.

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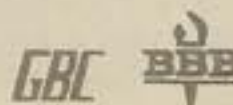
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Business Notes

Cassidy's Re-Grand Opening

What better way to improve on a popular neighborhood sports pub and eatery than to expand it, and that's just what has happened at Cassidy's located in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale plaza. To celebrate their new additions, Cassidy's will hold a Grand Opening on Sunday, Aug. 15, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Photo by Tim Golden

Area residents are invited to attend and enjoy the live entertainment and many give-aways. The Bud Girls will be present, and according to owners Steve Cassidy and Bill Cook, there will be a food buffet, two-for-one well drinks and 50-cent drafts.

Cassidy's expansion adds 1400 square feet to the restaurant and means seating for approximately 40 more customers. A larger game area features pool tables, foosball, and electronic dart boards, and increased seating area around the bar.

Bill Cook and Steve Cassidy look forward to the grand re-opening of their restaurant.

Gourmet Coffees and Other Delights

Attention gourmet coffee lovers, the pot at the end of the rainbow is filled with the brew of your choice at the Whistle Stop which officially opened its doors in mid-July. Located at 110 N. Montclair Avenue in Brandon, the Whistle Stop features 82 varieties of coffee and 78 kinds of decaf. In addition, patrons will love sipping ice coffees, ice cappuccino, and original summer coolers. Owners Dan Belli and Jerry Lofstrom know that great coffee has to have scrumptious desserts as a complement, and guests may choose from a variety of cheesecakes, cookies and special treats.

Patrons may enjoy the "al fresco" setting as the last stop of an evening out, or the indoor garden room, which is also available for small parties. In addition, 50 charter members may join the Whistle Stop's Coffee Club. For \$25, members will receive a T-shirt, and a special place will be reserved for each member's personal coffee mug to use whenever they visit.

The Whistle Stop is open weekday evenings and on Saturdays and Sundays, and is located one block north of S.R. 60 and one block west of Kingsway Avenue.



Photo by Rozel Sciulli

Whistle Stop co-owner Dan Belli gives Bloomingdale residents Kathy Giddens and daughter Tiffany a sample of the aroma of one of his many kinds of gourmet coffee.

Alterations Plus By Maria Adds New Employees

Maria Tesmer, owner of Alterations Plus by Maria located at 3662 Lithia Pinecrest Road, is pleased to welcome Mary Pugliesi Troncalli and Heidi Schmedeman as her new employees. Troncalli, a Brandon resident and a recently remarried grandmother of five, has extensive experience in alterations and has worked for Scogin's in Brandon and Jacobson's in Hyde Park. Schmedeman, who loves dressmaking and learned her skills in Germany, resides with her husband in Brandon and is the mother of four college age children.

The ladies join Karen Hoover, who has been with Tesmer since the business opened six months ago, and Kristin Fox, who works in the afternoon. Tesmer, who learned her sewing skills in her native Italy, is certain customers will enjoy working with the new members of her staff.

Nature's Medicine Chest

"This is not just an herbs and vitamin store," promises Kathie Mitchell, owner of Nature's Medicine Chest at 3322 Lithia Pinecrest Road. And the store's Grand Opening Aug. 16 promises to be more than just another first day touting prizes such as a hot air balloon ride over Orlando and dinners at Adam's Mart Caribbean for three other lucky drawing winners.

Customers are welcome to fill out a card for prizes while browsing amidst vitamin and herb products, motivational tapes, relaxing CDs, and framed, inspirational calligraphy art. This holistic approach to health by treating body, mind and spirit is underscored by the soft blue, white, and yellow decor of the store. Mitchell adds that special "stress release" gift baskets featuring examples of these items will be another unique feature of the store.

Bloomingdale Residential Box Score

June - July 1992 14 sales
June - July 1993 25 sales
37 contracts pending

While these figures are believed to be accurate, they are not guaranteed by Prudential Florida Realty, the Greater Tampa Association of Realtors or The Bloomingdale Office and do not necessarily include listings not published at the request of the seller, listing of brokers who are not members of the GTAR or MLS, unlisted properties, new construction or rental properties. This information is considered for the streets of Bloomingdale.

Courtesy of Chuck Frenz.



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Could This Be The Year Of The Bulls

by Rozel Sciulli

Bloomingtondale High School has a lot to prove when it comes to football, but like that once-elusive "year of the Gator" which finally came to pass, perhaps this will be that championship year all fans in Bull-dom have been waiting for.

Coach Terry Long is optimistic, and why shouldn't he be - he's starting his second season at the helm, his team is part of a new district alignment, and he has plenty of proven talent coming up from last year's undefeated jayvee squad. So could this be...do we dare print it...the year of the Bull?

"We're taking a positive approach," said Long. "This team needs to learn how to win. They need to start feeling like winners in order to win."

The coach's optimism stems from what he calls an excellent spring. And although the team has not yet started it's summer two-a-days, they have progressed in the summer-long weight program at the school's gym.

Long said that continuity is the key to any program, and Bloomingtondale has had a hard time establishing a stable program. Long is the third head coach in the school's brief, six-year history.

"I'm pleased with the overall progress of the players and the desire and intensity these young men are showing," Long stated.

While the team is young, especially on defense, Long said he sees his athletes already working together as a team.

Competition at the quarterback position will be stiff between returning senior Trevor Scott and junior Mike Davis, who commanded last year's jayvee team. While Scott did see some playing time last year as a junior, Davis

brings with him the confidence built during that undefeated season.

The team has some strengths at other positions which should be bright spots for the '93 Bulls. College scouts are already showing an interest in senior runningback C.J. Ward, offensive lineman Ryan Roose, and defensive end Donnie Smith. Although Ward was plagued by injuries last season, Long says

he has worked

hard and he will be an exciting player to watch this season.

District re-alignment keeps Bloomingtondale in District 7 with the addition of East Bay. Crosstown rival Brandon and longtime nemesis Bradenton-Manatee have been eliminated from the District. The other teams in District 7 are Plant City, Winter Haven, Lakeland, and Lake Gibson.

The Bulls open their season at Gaither on Sept. 3. Their first home game is against King on Sept. 17.

Long is joined by assistant coaches Scott Tipton, Dean Eychner, Steve Sims, Don Fields, Larry Perry, and Billy Howell. Together they hope to begin a winning tradition of football at Bloomingtondale, and this year could be...well...it just might be...

BULLS' 93 SCHEDULE

Sept. 3	at Gaither
Sept. 10	at Plant City
Sept. 17	King
Sept. 24	at Winter Haven
Oct. 1	Leto
Oct. 8	Lakeland
Oct. 14	at Chamberlain
Oct. 22*	Lake Gibson
Oct. 5	at East Bay
Oct. 12	Brandon

*Homecoming

Hats Off . . .



Local Gymnast Wins National Title

Three cheers and a few flips for Bloomingtondale gym kid **Matthew Frenz** who is the new YMCA National Champion in the vault. Matthew, the son of Chuck and Denise Frenz, recently competed with teammates from the Brandon Y in the National YMCA Gymnastics Competition held last month at



Matthew Frenz, National Champion

the Tampa Convention Center.

Matthew, a third grader, competed in six events and finished 7th overall, but his score in the vault topped all other competitors in the eight-nine-year-old age group. Hundreds of gymnasts from across the country attended the three-day event, which was complete with opening and closing ceremonies and some guest demonstrations.

Eric Fulcomer, a respected international judge, coaches the Brandon YMCA gymnastics team, which sent boys and girls to this year's nationals. All of the team's competitors walked away with medals in one of the top 10 places.

Matthew has been a gymnastics student for three years, and he has competed for two years. According to his dad, a local realtor, gymnastics builds self-discipline, balance and coordination, making it a stepping stone to any sport.

Congratulations to BSHS graduates **Brian Tierney, Chad Hermida, and Eric Hutchinson** who leave for college this month with football scholarships in hand.

Tierney, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Tierney, will put his offensive lineman skills to use on the fields of Annapolis. The Naval Academy was not only interested in his playing ability but also his leadership skills. According to Bulls' coach Terry Long, Tierney was a role model and team leader. "The younger kids were able to see in him that hard work does pay off."

Hermida and Hutchinson will remain teammates as both head to Culver-Stockton University in Missouri. Hermida, an All-County honorable mention athlete, quarterbacked the Bulls the last two years. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hermida. Hutchinson, a Bulls defensive back, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Hutchinson. Coach Long credited Hutchinson with being a dedicated player with "tremendous heart and effort."

Bloomingtondale High School was well-represented at the National Softball Association (NSA) National competition in St. Louis last month. The 18 and under Explosion team coached by Mike Clamon won six games including the National Championship against the host St. Louis team. Team members included Ellen Bailey, Lauren McClendon, Amber Wright, Julie Becker, and Betsy Holler, all members of the Bulls' state champion softball team.



FOOTBALL SIGN-UPS

High-school aged boys who will be attending Bloomingtondale in the fall are eligible to participate in this year's football season. According to Coach Terry Long, those young men interested in working out before practices begin may attend weight lifting sessions at 6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the school gymnasium. Participation forms for football may be picked on these evenings.



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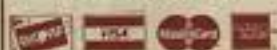
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Summer Fun !!!



Photo by Rozel Sciulli

Bloomington kids stayed busy this summer with a bevy of activities from acting classes to horseback riding lessons. But it wouldn't be summer without baseball. Eric Silverstein thought Charles Perdomo's baseball camp was a hit.



Monthly Homeowners Meeting

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 10, at the Community Office in the Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale Plaza, Suite 101, at 7:30 p.m.

Bloomington Traffic Hearing Set for Bloomington Drive

Hillsborough County Commissioners will hold a public hearing to discuss solutions to traffic problems on Bloomington Drive on Thurs., Aug. 12, in Room 214-B of the Hillsborough County Courthouse, 419 Pierce St. in Tampa at 6 p.m. For more information, please call Wayne Kirby, Traffic Engineering Section, at 272-5912, ext. 3485.

Zoning Hearing for Change in East

A meeting to discuss proposed changes in zoning for two parcels of land in Bloomingdale East will be held Monday, Aug. 30, at 6 p.m. in Room 214 B of the Hillsborough County Courthouse. See related story this issue. Residents who have questions or concerns are invited to attend.

Fall Sports Teams Meeting

Parents of students who will be attending Bloomingdale Senior High School and who are interested in participating on one of the fall athletic teams are invited to attend a meeting Tuesday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium. Coaches from the football, volleyball, cross country, and swim teams will be present to discuss their respective program's activities and answer parents' questions.

Ragin' Bulls Marching Band Camp

All incoming sophomores and transfer band students planning to attend Bloomingdale High School this year are required to attend a three day marching camp. The camp will run August 11 to 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For more information call 654-3271.

Nativity Arts and Crafts Festival

Exhibitors are wanted for the Brandon/Nativity Church

Twilight Arts and Crafts Festival. The event will be held Aug. 20-21, 1993 from 10: a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Applications are being accepted from crafters in all mediums. For further information call 962-0388.

Donation pickup for Battered Women's Shelter

The First Presbyterian Church of Brandon, located at 121 Carver Street, will accept donations of clothing, furniture, and household goods from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. People may contact the church by calling 689-4597 for further information. All donations are used to provide battered women and their children a chance to start over. Donations may also be made to La Thrift Shop at 3020 West Kennedy or 4816 North Armenia. Anyone wishing to volunteer their time may call Jan Witmer at 247-7233.

MLK Scholarship Applications Available

Applications are now available for the Hillsborough County Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Fund, launched in 1988 by County employees, offers financial assistance to Hillsborough County residents for achievement of their educational needs. Scholarships are to be awarded on Jan. 17, 1994, and their amount will be determined by the total contributions received prior to Dec. 31. Students of any race, age, creed, or gender may apply, and applications may be obtained at the following locations: Hillsborough County public senior high school offices; Hillsborough County Courthouse, room 209; public libraries; Tampa Branch, NAACP; vocational rehabilitation centers; blind services office; deaf services center; and local colleges and universities. Applications must be returned to Hillsborough County Human Resources Department, 412 Madison St., Suite 1003, Tampa, FL 33602. The application deadline is Nov. 1, 1993.



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Alafia Plans "Sneak Preview" For Students

Alafia Elementary School plans a "Sneak Preview" for August 18th between one and two p.m. to familiarize parents and students with the classroom layout and introduce them to their teachers for the coming school year. The "preview" is informal.

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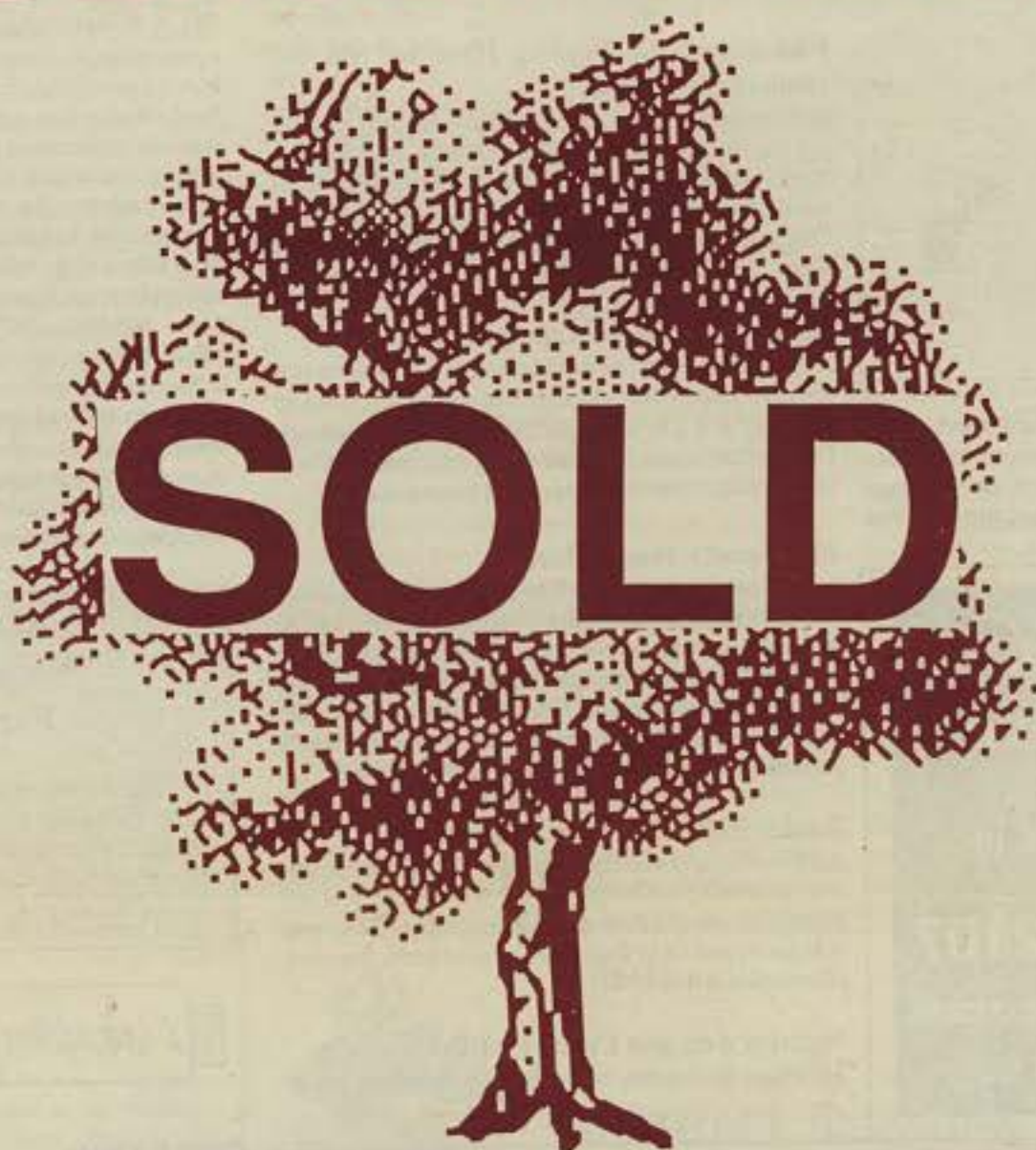
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