

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

Volume XXX
Number 6

JUNE 2010 • THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1980

The boys of summer

On Senior Night the seniors left behind some tools of the trade, but took with them fond memories of their high school baseball careers. See photos, page 13



On Senior Night, the seniors leave behind some tools of the trade but walk away with memories of the good times of playing baseball in high school.

Photo by Kim Wallace

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The purpose of life is a life of purpose."

Robert Byrne

FREE SEMINARS, CLASSES AND SUPPORT GROUPS



Brandon Regional Hospital

JUNE 2010

Nutrition For Cancer Prevention And Treatment Class

Wednesday, June 9th
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

260 S. Moon Ave., Classroom B, Brandon

Stroke Support Group

Thursday, June 10th
10:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

262 S. Moon Ave., Classroom A, Brandon

Cardiac Support Group

Thursday, June 10th
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

260 S. Moon Ave., Classroom B, Brandon

Lung Cancer: Novel Treatment



PRESENTED BY
Dragos Zanchi, M.D.
Board Certified Internal Medicine
& Pulmonary Disease

Tuesday, June 22nd
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
260 S. Moon Ave.,
Classroom B, Brandon

Her Heart: Women & Cardiovascular Disease



PRESENTED BY
Tehreen Khan, M.D.
Cardiologist*
Board Certified Cardiovascular
Disease

Wednesday, June 23rd
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
260 S. Moon Ave.,
Classroom B, Brandon

Pre-Op Orthopedic Class

Available to patients scheduled for knee or hip replacement surgery. Learn more about your procedure and the recovery process, including an overview of length of procedure, hospital and recovery time, equipment, pain management, physical therapy and discharge planning.

Thursday, June 24th
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

262 S. Moon Ave., Classroom A, Brandon

Surgical Weight Loss SEMINAR & SUPPORT GROUP

Answers your questions about the benefits of gastric banding and bypass surgery.



PRESENTED BY
Alfredo Fernandez, M.D.
Bariatric Surgeon
Board Certified General Surgeon

Thursday, June 24th
6:30 p.m.
Seminar – 260 S. Moon Ave.,
Classroom B, Brandon
Support Group – 262 S. Moon Ave.,
Classroom A, Brandon



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Meetings: first Tuesday in January, March, May, September and November at 7 p.m.

Web site: bloomingtondalegazette.com

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BHA scholarship won for community service efforts

By D'ANN WHITE

While some students struggle to come up with the 75 community service hours needed to qualify for the Bright Futures Scholarship, 18-year-old Bloomingdale High School senior Adam Weinstein effortlessly logged 976 service hours.

He did it by doing what he loves: playing music with senior citizen musicians in the South Shore Concert Band, working with special education students and serving as team captain for Bloomingdale High School's Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society.

His efforts caught the eye of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association Board of Directors and won the praise of former Bloomingdale High

School principal B.J. Stelter, who awarded Weinstein the fifth annual B.J. Stelter Bloomingdale Homeowners Association Scholarship May 4.

The homeowners association started the \$2,000 scholarship and named it in honor of the 12-year Bloomingdale principal upon her retirement to encourage academic excellence and community service by young people.

"I'm so humbled and so honored to be part of this scholarship procedure," said Stelter. "You read about what kids aren't doing or what they're doing wrong these days. But there are a lot of kids like Adam out there doing good things like working with special education students. They're doing it

automatically, behind the scenes, without expecting any recognition. They aren't the minority. They're the silent majority."

"I just felt I owed it to Bloomingdale, which has done so much for me," said Weinstein, who has been actively involved in the band program at Bloomingdale, playing both clarinet and saxophone.

The son of Amy and Dan Weinstein, president of the Preston Woods Homeowners Association, Weinstein plans to attend the University of South Florida to major in music education.

In addition to being a member of the award-winning Bloomingdale band, he's a member of the Music Honor Society



Photo by D'Ann White

Bloomingdale Homeowners Association President Stan Lee and former Bloomingdale High School principal B.J. Stelter, present the B.J. Stelter Bloomingdale Homeowners Association Scholarship to Adam Weinstein.

for exceptional musicians, section leader for the marching band, has played with the Patel Youth Orchestra and is currently a member of the Patel Jazz Combo.

But he said playing with the South Shore Concert Band was one of the greatest musical ex-

periences of his life. He was the only teenage member of the band when he joined at age 13, and was surrounded by musicians with decades of experience as musicians.

"I learned a lot musically and otherwise," he said.

Valedictorian stresses community service

By D'ANN WHITE

He couldn't think of a better way to celebrate his 18th birthday.

Robert Gordon stood between members of the Buccaneers offensive line, politely serving Thanksgiving dinners to needy families last Nov. 24.

A member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Student Advisory Board, Gordon had a number of opportunities to work side-by-side with Bucs players on community service projects such as Turkey Time, providing Thanksgiving meals for less fortunate families.

"It was a great experience to spend my birthday helping others," said Gordon. "I think youth should take every opportunity to do things to make a difference in their community."

That was the theme of Gordon's speech when he took the stage as valedictorian of the Class of 2010 at Bloomingdale High School.

The son of Marvin and Jeanne

Gordon of Brandon, Gordon graduated with a grade point average of 6.94 and a long list of academic honors.

Hailing from Hinsdale, Ill., where he keeps in touch with his grade-school teachers, Gordon moved to Brandon in 2000.

He was a member of the Geometry Team, which won fifth place in regional competition when he was a freshman; the Algebra II Team; is president of the Spanish Honor Society; vice president of the National Honor Society; secretary of the Science National Honor Society; a member of Rho Kappa social studies honor society; and the Mu Alpha Theta math honor society.

"My strengths are geography, the social sciences and languages," said Gordon, who has taken Latin, French and Spanish.

He's hoping those strengths will serve him well as he heads off to Columbia University in New York City this fall to major in political science with an eye toward a diplomatic career.

"Columbia has a great international government and politics program, and I'm very interested in diplomacy and possibly working at an embassy one day," said Gordon.

For Gordon, success means challenging oneself, not necessarily making the best grades.

"I have a good memory and can do well with minimal studying, but I didn't always make straight A's," he said. "The courses I chose are ones that I found challenging. You don't have to have perfect grades but I'd advise students to apply themselves in school and give themselves the challenges they'll need to succeed in college."

He also advises students to take additional courses through the Florida Virtual School, a home computer-based program available for free to all Florida residents.

"It's a great opportunity to diversify your coursework," he said. "You never know what you're good at until you try it. Plus, you



Photo by D'Ann White

Robert Gordon

need to have good computer skills living in the 21st century."

Above all, he said students need to make community service a part of their lives.

"Do something that makes a difference in your community. Take it beyond the Bright Futures requirement," he said. "You never regret it."

Bloomingdale Walmart manager donates funds to Rotary's Camp Florida

By D'ANN WHITE

Just as summer camps are ready to get underway, Rotary's Camp Florida has added some desperately needed funds to its coffers, thanks to area Walmart stores.

At the suggestion of Bloomingdale Walmart manager Peter Peck, seven area Walmart stores pooled funds to donate \$7,000 to Rotary's Camp Florida in Brandon, an 18-acre camp for children with special needs.

Peck, a member of the Brandon Rotary Club, surprised his fellow members when he presented the check to Rotary's Camp Florida Executive Director James Harmon at the annual Brandon Rotary Club Fireside Chat at the camp Aug. 20.

"It kind of blew us all

away," said Brandon Rotary Club President Chuck Colwill. "Pete is certainly a valued member of this club and the donation couldn't have come at a better time."

"It was such a welcome surprise at a needed time," said Harmon. "It shows how much people do care for others and is a perfect example of what Rotary is all about. Over half of our support comes from local corporations, foundations, individuals and Rotarians. This support affects thousands of children each year."

Peck, the caregiver of a special-needs child, said he fell in love with Rotary's Camp Florida the first time he toured the facility.

"I was a Boy Scout growing up and I realize how important a camping experience is to a child," he said. "This camp is a wonderful place. It's a unique environment in this urban setting."

Peck said it wasn't difficult to get his fellow store managers to go along with the idea of supporting the camp.

"I just proposed the idea and they all thought it was a great way to support the community," he said. "This is one of those causes that just warms the heart because you know you're giving a child a special time."

Rotary's Camp Florida is owned and operated by Rotary District 6890 for children with med-



Photo by D'Ann White

From left, Walmart Bloomingdale manager Peter Peck presents a check for \$7,000 to Brandon Rotary Club President Chuck Colwill and Rotary's Camp Florida Executive Director James Harmon.

ical, physical, mental and emotional challenges.

However, the camp is

especially near and dear to the hearts of members of the Brandon Rotary Club, which first proposed purchasing the camp, a former United Methodist camp, in 1991.



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Bloomingtondale Groomer Gets New Digs

By D'ANN WHITE

Whether it's simply a shampoo or a brush-out or something more elaborate like a hot-oil or hydrotherapy treatment, all of Dena Craig's clients get the VIP treatment at her new salon.

And the typical tip for this special care?

Craig expects no less than a sloppy, wet kiss.

That's because her clients are all the four-legged variety. Craig is the owner of Adorable Pets by Dena pet salon, which recently relocated to Royal Oaks Shopping Center, 3212

Lithia-Pinecrest Road, after being located inside the Bloomingtondale Veterinary Clinic for 15-years.

The move allowed Craig to double her space to 1,400 square feet and offer her thriving clientele additional services.

A lifelong animal lover, Craig grew up hosting dog shows for the neighborhood children and grooming her own pets. She went to grooming school and became a professional groomer 27 years ago and has owned her own busi-

See GROOMER, Page 7 »



Photo by D'Ann White

A Persian cat enjoys the combing by groomer Retta Black, who specializes in grooming cats.



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GROOMER

Continued From Page 6

ness since.

A mother of three and owner of two dogs, two cats, two horses and a bird, Craig oversees a staff of eight at her salon including her son, Randy Baker.

Together, the staff at Adorable Pets by Dena offers a host of pet-care services and have been called on to groom everything from llamas to guinea pigs.

Groomer Retta Black specializes in grooming cats and has quite a few regular clients who come in for shampoos, trims and brush-outs.

"We also offer treatments for skin problems, flea treatments, hydro and massage treatments and use all-natural products,"



Photo by DAnn White

Adorable Pets by Dena owner Dena Craig clips a regular customer.

said Craig. "We accept all kinds of dogs - big ones, little ones."

One regular client is a

Briard, one of the largest breeds of dogs, weighing about 200 pounds.

Adorable Pets by Dena

is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information, call (813) 684-5693.



Photo by DAnn White

Groomer Jenna White gets a hug from a client in return for a grooming.

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Tutor Time celebrates a decade in Bloomingdale

By D'ANN WHITE

Limbo contests, dancing to a disc jockey, a dunk tank, balloon animals, burgers on the grill and two giant birthday cakes were in store for families who turned out for Tutor Time Child Care and Learning Center's 10th anniversary celebration May 15.

The facility at 3741 Canoga Park Drive officially opened its doors in October 2000. In the years since, hundreds of children from preschoolers and older have enjoyed the benefits of Tutor Time's family atmosphere, secured premises and fun, structured learning environment overseen by owners Susan and Joe Miller.

When Bloomingdale

was first designed in the late 1970s as the first major Development of Regional Impact in the Brandon area, planners decided to include a number of lots zoned to attract day-care uses for the convenience of families moving into the new community.

As a result, Bloomingdale East and West attracted a wealth of day-care facilities including Tutor Time; its neighbor, Primary Prep; La Petite Academy on Green Hollow Lane; and Kinder Care Learning Center on Bell Shoals Road at Glenhaven Drive.

Susan Miller said it's hard for her to believe that 10 years have gone by since she and her husband first opened the doors to Tutor Time. Then she realizes just how many years

she's been in business when she sees a teen-ager walk into her reception area and realizes it's one of her former pre-kindergarten students stopping by for a visit.

"They grow up so fast," she said. "Some of our kids have been with us for years and I've been able to watch them grow up."

Stephanie Allen claims to be one of Tutor Time's biggest fans. She enrolled her youngest daughter in the Tutor Time Adventure Club and was so impressed with the program she became a teacher for the VPK 4 Program six years ago. Now her granddaughters, 7-year-old twins Savannah and

See TUTOR TIME, Page 10 »



Photo by DAnn White

Harleigh White, 10, a longtime student at Tutor Time, helps owner Susan Miller cut the 10th anniversary cake.

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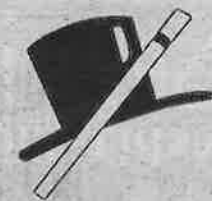
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TUTOR TIME

Continued From Page 8

Cheyenne, attend Tutor Time.

"It just feels like family here," said Allen. "It's a great atmosphere. We take care of the children like they were our own."

Tutor Time Learning Center of Brandon has scored the highest VPK Readiness Rate in South-eastern Hillsborough County for the last four consecutive years. The Voluntary Prekindergarten program is a legislatively mandated program designed to prepare every 4-year-old in Florida for kindergarten and build the foundation for his or her educational success. It gives each child an opportunity to perform better in school with quality programs that include high literacy standards, accountability, appropriate



Photo by DAnn White

Two-year-old Camya Toombs samples some cotton candy at the Tutor Time 10th anniversary celebration.

curricula, substantial instruction periods, manageable class sizes and qualified instructors. Tutor Time currently serves 243 children and 177 families. For more information, contact Angela Johnson, director, at (813) 651-0779.

Still time to plan for county parks' Sizzlin' Summer Program

Kids can spend a fun-filled summer at the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department's (PRC) Sizzlin' Summer Program that begins June 14 at 42 recreation sites throughout Hillsborough County. Registration is still being accepted where camps are not yet full.

The Sizzlin' Summer Program is open to children ages 5-15. Registration times are 6 to 8 p.m. at the center you would like to attend.

The 10-week program is offered June 14 through Aug. 20. For the first time parents have a choice to register for half


sessions that are scheduled June 14 to July 16 or July 19 to Aug. 20. Sizzlin' Summer Program hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All sites are child care licensed and activities include playground games, sports, arts and crafts, field trips, game room plus other special activities and events. Prices range from \$50 to \$480 depending on length of session and available income-based discounts.

Contact PRC at (813) 635-3500 or visit www.hillsboroughcounty.org for additional information.

Basketball camp

Bloomington High head coach Joe Willis, former Durant High head coach Jeff Shotwell and the Bloomington high school players will direct basketball camps for children of all skill levels July 12-15 and July 19-22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for grades 4-6 and 1 to 5 p.m. for grades 7-9. The focus of the camp will be basketball skills and sportsmanship. The cost is \$75 includes instruction, a T-shirt and a certificate. Discounts available for multiple family members. For information, contact Joe Willis at (813) 298-3448 or via e-mail at joseph.willis@sdhc.k12.fl.us.



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Cimino Elementary kindergarten classes host a Mother's Day breakfast



Photo by Kim Wallace

Sherill Farrell enjoyed being with her son Barrett Farrell for Mothers Day breakfast.



Photo by Kim Wallace

Tiffany Trevino with daughter Lena Wigfall are enjoying breakfast together at school!

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Contact Info - To receive more information on the programs offered and registration, please visit www.johnescochranegolfschools.com or email info@johnescochranegolfschools.com

Advanced- Half Day Classes: Level 2

June 14, 2010 through August 16, 2010
Monday to Friday: 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm

June 14, 2010 through August 16, 2010
Monday to Friday: 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm

The Camp is designed for juniors who are at the Advanced Level or have previously attended our **Full Swing Camp** and **Short Game Camp**. Each day with our experienced and qualified P.G.A. Professionals will consist of video analysis of each student's swing and then off to the tee line for ball striking (Day 1 and Day 3). Days 2 and 4 will consist of short game and on course training. Day 5 is Championship Day. They will also learn rules, courtesy, etiquette, and sportsmanship. There are lots of games and prizes to be won. **The next step Level 3: The Junior Elite Golf Camp.**

Elite- (Full Day) Classes: Level 3

July 26, 2010 through August 16, 2010
Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

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It is important for the juniors to learn these areas of the game as it will help them progress at a faster rate. When the juniors finish the camp, they will be at the next level and will feel comfortable playing golf with all ages including adults. There are lots of games and prizes to be won.

(The Elite Classes will take place at River Hills Golf and Country Club). The next step Level 4: Private lessons

Community turns out for first Running with the Bulls

The Bloomingdale Bulls football team hosted their first annual 5K run entitled Running with the Bulls 2010. Monies raised from this event will benefit the renovation of the existing locker room and purchase supplies and equipment for the team. Head Coach Booth commented, "the community, players and parent volunteers all worked very hard to make this event a success.

Booth sends his special thanks to Cimino Elementary for allowing the Bulls to host this event at their facility.

"Bloomingdale Bulls Football looks forward to hosting this event again," he said.

By Kim Wallace



Photo by Kim Wallace

Erik Fischer one of 100 runners was excited about the event. Fischer started at Bloomingdale when it opened in 1987 and was Bloomingdale's first equipment manager for the football team.

Bloomingdale Football Team and Cimino Elementary join together to host the 1st Annual 5K Running with the Bulls.



Photo by Kim Wallace



Photo by Kim Wallace

Runners get ready to start their run.

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Bloomingtondale Baseball honors seniors, families at last home game of the season

Stevie Burnham, Sam Morgan, Alex Caballero, Sal Giardina, Joe Campoamor and Nick Nahas are getting ready for the last baseball game of season. On Senior Night, flowers were given by the players to their parents to thank them for their support.



Photo by Kim Wallace



Photo by Kim Wallace

The Nahas, Morgans, Giardinas, Campoamors, Caballos, Burnhams, Coach Lefler, Coach Mason, Coach Thomas and Head Coach Wilken say farewell to the senior baseball players after the last game of the season.

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Lyrics For Life student/faculty basketball game

Bloomington High School teacher and coach Joe Willis organized this year's Student/Faculty Basketball Game to raise money for "Lyrics For Life," sponsored by Beef O'Brady's. With 12 teachers (two which served as cheerleaders), they took on 18 students in a game that went into two overtimes. The teachers were leading until the last few seconds of the game when the students came back and won 71-64. Together they raised \$1,300 for children with cancer, the cause for "Lyrics for Life." Coach Willis commented that this was a fun and enjoyable game for a great cause, and he was glad that the students could keep up with the teachers. He looks forward to next year's game, because the teachers are going to "bring it on!"



Photo by Kim Wallace

The Bloomington Faculty and Students after a hard game with 2 overtimes are excited about raising \$1,300.00



Photo by Kim Wallace

Teachers taking a break during half time. Back row: Mrs. Applebee, Coach Peet, Coach Kiser, Coach Booth and Coach Willis. Middle row: Ms. Proly, Mr. Peek, Coach Booth, Ms. Honahan and Kris Wilken. Front row: Mr. Cummings and Ms. Mack

By Kim Wallace

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6: July 19-23; 7: July 26-30; 8: August 2-6;
9: August 9-13; 10: August 16-20

visit our web site at : SaladinoBaseballAcademy.com to Register



Bloomingtondale holds spring Red & White football game



Photo by Kim Wallace

Senior players for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year Christian Kerr, number 57, Young Kim, number 93 and Jake Smith, number 68 lead their team on the field for the Spring Red & White Game.



Photo by Kim Wallace

As the game got under way, the team got to show their potential for the upcoming year!

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[station notes] Stay alert for crime this summer

The March Sheriff's Bloomingdale Area Community Council (BACC), my first formal meeting, was very informative and productive. We were honored to have Cpl. Steve Billor, our HCSO supervisor at the meeting. He said he is very excited about the active involvement of the BACC members working with the Sheriff's Office in improving security and safety for our residents. He would like to see many more representatives from the many homeowners' associations in the area come to the BACC meetings and get actively involved.

Intelligence led policing program works

Cpl. Billor and I, along with several other deputies, have been very busy arresting several burglars in our area, 15 total with six at one site. Two of these burglars will spend many long years in prison. The burglaries included early morning home break-ins, construction sites and vehicles. On some, we received out-

standing assistance from concerned residents calling the Sheriff's Dispatch at (813) 247-8200.

Cpl. Billor stated that, "the more active participation we receive from area residents, the better we can work to solve crimes in the Bloomingdale area. The Bloomingdale area Sheriff's Citizen's Patrol is also helping through their many activities." These are perfect examples of how the sheriff's "Intelligence led policing programs are working to decrease crime and put the bad guys in jail!"

Speaking of intelligence, please lock up your vehicles. One recent auto burglar bragged that he had broken into more than 60 vehicles in the Bloomingdale area. All of them were easy because they were wide open.

Also, keep an eye out if you have vacant homes in your neighborhood. These are favorite areas for burglars and other criminals to hide out. During one recent incident on Sweet Leaf Drive, a criminal was apprehended who provid-



Curtis Warren

ed info on the recent graffiti found in several locations in Bloomingdale.

Time to talk trash, folks

Representatives from the Hillsborough County Solid Waste Department, Barney Taylor, Community Codes Investigator II, and Danielle Perilla, Community Codes Investigator were at the BACC meeting to "talk trash." They briefed BACC members on the numerous programs that Solid Waste offers including investigating illegal dumping of waste materials, coordinating area clean-ups, littering, chemical collecting and residential trash pickup. Barney Taylor noted that, "area residents spotting illegal dumping can provide assistance by calling the Sheriff's dispatch at (813) 247-8200 and noting license numbers, vehicle descriptions and criminal descriptions. This kind of

See CRIME, Page 17 »

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CRIME

Continued From Page 16

support has helped solve many illegal dumping incidents and help preserve the open areas in your community." He also advised residents, "do not confront the criminals." They asked that residents use the County Chemical Collection sites and to also call the Solid Waste Customer Service number, (813) 272-5680, to report improper service by the commercial trash collection agencies.

Kids skipping school

Yes, parents, some of your kids are skipping school. It is just too close to the end of the school year for them to get in trouble and mess up their records. One favorite meeting place for students from Bloomingdale Senior High School is the profes-

sional center just west of the school. Deputies are patrolling this area and will pick up the students, return them to school and have their parents called, also disrupting their parent's at work.

Deputies are working very closely with Bloomingdale High's School Resource Officer, Scott Davis, in reducing the number of students skipping school. Students, don't mess up your school by skipping. SRO Davis will soon be working with the BACC and possibly have students actively involved on the BACC.

Speaking of school being out for the summer, June is the magic month. Parents, please sit down with your kids and talk to them about staying safe and out of trouble this summer.

Red lights, cameras and radar guns

A lot of discussion is

going on about the use of cameras at red lights. Some folks say they cause more accidents, some say it is just to raise money, but many more say that they reduce accidents and save lives. It is a sad state when we have to use cameras just to get drivers to obey traffic laws.

Also, be aware that the Tampa Police Department has put special radar guns into use that can determine if a driver is following too close. Citations are being written and the fines are expensive, so just "back off."

Remember

If you notice any suspicious activity or a crime being committed, get all the information you can - descriptions of individuals, descriptions of vehicles and license numbers - and immediately call the Sheriff's Dispatch at (813) 247-8200. Time is very critical.



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Bringing TV to life

Bloomington High School Teacher Mr. Anteau is becoming popular in the Bloomington area, thanks to his TV production class. In the class, Mr. Anteau teaches students how to film, produce and edit features. He started several years ago with Dance Party Friday, which airs on the school's morning show Fridays. Dance Party Friday is a feature which allows students to go out during their class period and get students and teachers to dance; the class comes back, puts all the dances on computer and combines them to make a video. His class also does lip-dub. You can check them out on YouTube.com by searching for "Bloomington High School Dance Party Friday" and see how talented his students are becoming.



Photo by Kim Wallace

Jacob Campoamor and Rachel Harris are filming Wriley White and Michael Ramoska for a clip on the morning show.



Photo by Kim Wallace

Rachel Harris and Jacob Campoamor prepare to film the morning show.



Photo by Kim Wallace

The Fourth Period TV Production Class at Bloomington High is just one of five classes that Mr. Anteau teaches. Top row: Rachel Harris, William Schoonmaker, Constantine Tedrick, Michael Ramoska and Tony Buckley. Middle row: Carley Wolfe, Wriley White, Austin White, Jordan Lowe and Jessica Mazurek. Front row: Aaron Major, Brian Berland, Jacob Campoamor, Bethany Wallace, Cristina Vincas and Mr. Anteau

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Beauty and the Bull



Rily Scaife and Kyle Wilkinson are this year's 2010 Bloomingdale Beauty and The Bull winners! Each contestant competed in talent, evening wear and answering a question from a judge.

Photo by Kim Wallace

[on real estate] Little steps up to the leap

As you've already read here, conditions are ripe to become a homeowner, and it's time to determine if you're ready to make the leap. While the price of the home is the largest factor, don't forget about loan fees and closing costs, which add to your total financed amount.

Since banks are stricter in their lending, step one is to polish up your credit report. A higher score gives you more power when it comes to negotiating terms and interest rates.

Similarly, a larger down payment will positively affect your mortgage terms and reduce the amount you have to

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In addition to newer fees being assessed on loans to less than stellar applicants, there are standard closing costs associated with the pur-



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