

RONALD McDONALD VISITS TAMPA. New Ronald McDonald house near Tampa General opens

**HOME & GARDEN PAGE** helpful hints for the summer Page 10



#### SPORTS, BABY!...

I know, I know, It's about time we covered athletics. The ONLY place you're going to find out who's who locally In sports is inside on page 4.

# The Bloomingdale Gazette

**VOLUME XII, NUMBER 6** 

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JUNE - 1992

## BLOOMINGDALE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

## Parents Organize

By GWEN SZAFRANSKI

"Educational Cuts Nev-er Heal!" was the warning aimed at motorists traveling past Bloomingdale Senior High School during the month of May; however, the ominous message won't disappear with the warmer weather and school dismissals in June.

In meetings across the county, parents watched a video of Superintendant Walter Sickles and Dr. Michael Bookman discussing the disturbing statistics that Hillsborough County ranks 63 out of 67 in educational funding; that, unless an investment budget is passed, the county faces a funding shortfall of roughly \$56,099,661; that as many as 1,600 teaching positions may be cut; and that the county may have to join Dade County in filing a lawsuit for equal funding. Further cuts may have to be made in academic, athletic and enrichment programs.

"It's like watching a finely tuned race car being taken apart," commented Dr. Michael Bookman, Assistant Superintendant for Business and Research.

Speaking to a crowd of roughly 130 at Brooker Elementary School last May 12, Bookman gave an overview of an educational system whose rapid pupil growth may have outstripped available revenue. (Hillsborough averages 3,000 new students each

Bookman also pointed out the unequal funding formula based on property taxes. For example, Hills-borough County receives \$3,070 per student while Monroe County receives \$3,770 and Broward \$3,620 per student.

Brookman also questioned the Lottery as a means of revenue. Educational funding has dropped from 62% in pre-Lottery days to 52.8% today.

Joining Bookman on a panel of speakers were Rep. Buddy Johnson of the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation and Joe Newsome of the County School Board.

Newsome lauded the local delegation and pledged that the School Board would "protect the class-room." Rep. Johnson felt that there needed to be more communication between the Board, delegates, constituents, and the state government lahassee.

See PARENTS, Page 2

## Two Views on **Educational Budget Cuts**

By GWEN

SZAFRANSKI

Recently, State Representative Chris Corr of the 62nd District and Mr. Charles Harris, principal of Bloomingdale Senior High School, were asked to comment on the proposed budget cuts as well as other issues facing education. The resulting interviews revealed two thoughtful men passionately dedicated to the betterment of education, yet, at times, espousing divergent views on how to reach that goal.

"The battle for education is won or lost out here in the schools," stated Harris. "For example, I feel there should be more guidance counsellors and more school psychologists to handle the needs of students."

Yet, as principal of a school which has already suffered the loss of 20 teachers for next year due to budget cuts, Harris might as well place this statement of need in the "wish" category.

The impact of the losses increases with the litany of those cuts one football coach; two business teachers; three in Home Economics; four in English; Three in Math; two in P.E.; and one each in Driver's Ed., foreign language, and social studies.

This massivehemmorrhage is one reason Harris supports Gov. Chiles' "Fair Share Plan"

tax reform and advocates "Equalization" or equal funding for each county.

Although he was disappointed with the turnout of 35 parents at



Mr. Harris

the budget cuts meeting last May 5th, Harris said both parent and student interest in the issue has increased since then. Senior student leaders held a petition drive forwarding the results to Tallahassee, and the Parent Advisory Board Chairperson, Mary Emmons, has actively represented Bloomingdale Senior High School at S.T.O.P. meetings (Students and Teachers Organized with Parents).

When asked if he thought that Accountability will soothe any of these educational woes by giving control of the schools back to teachers, parents and school administrators, Harris replied that Bloomingdale Senior High School has already demonstrated accountability by its students' consistently high scores on national tests, its less than 1% dropout

rate, and its daily attendance of 94%.

Harris has seen many changes in education since he began at Brandon Senior High School teaching 7th and 8th graders. He cites being principal at Bloomingdale as the highlight of his career for the opportunity to open a new school, hand pick a new faculty, and work with students who really care about education. Little wonder that this dedicated man, so close to retirement, would like to remain at Bloomingdale until these current budget concerns are

"Lack of local control and flexibility is the greatest problem in Florida's educational system," attesis Representative Chris Corr. adding that Hillsborough County should be able to manage itself if educational funding were directed to local school districts and managed by elected school board members --Tallahassee.

When asked if Accountability was a step towards local control, Corr replied "Accountability was political eyewash" and cautioned parents read the writing on the wall- the people that are telling them to spend more money on education are the same people that have doubled the education budget since 1981 with diminishing results.

In a ten year period the budget has jumped from 4.1 billion dollars to 8.1 billion; however, S.A.T. scores have declined while dropout rates have increased.

Corr firmly believes that educational funds can be raised by cutting wasteful spending in Tallahassee and cutting administrators, not

Corr questioned seriously the validity of administrative pay increases of 55% in five years compared to the 18% increase in pay for

In addition, only 40% of funding reaches the local classroom while 60% goes to support services.



Rep. Corr

Corr suggests all of his constituents review the summary of the Republican Priority Budget amended by Corr 37 fellow representatives to see where cuts and gains can

See TWO VIEWS, Page 2

#### A LETTER TO OUR READERS

We hope that you've been injoying The Bloomingdale Gazette's fresh, new look. Keeping in step with our active

family-oriented community is important to 125.

Also important to us is eeping solvent! We try to be self-supporting with lots of help from friends ( our dvertisers and the B.H.A.)! But occasionally we must ask our readers to

help out too. If you enjoy reading your community newspaper to become

familiar with local businesses, school news, sports updates from little leagues and organized sports teams, community concerns (like our special dition this Month) and tips

on healthcare, home-care, and more, please consider a contribution to the Bloomingdale Gazette.

Another way of contributing to our success is mentioning to our advertisers that "You saw them in the

Bloomingdale Gazette 1" That's more important then you realizel?

Please let us know what you like about our paper, what you'd like to see in the future, any interesting events coming up in your family (engagements, weddings, births, etc.) or school or group. We'll try our best to

include your news in your Our address & phone is on page 2-please let us know what you think... and don't forget to mention that ... "I read it in the Gezettel"

#### Students Alon

By EDIE GROSS

When Kris Pierce thinks about what the future holds for him, he gets scared.

I'm worried because I know that I won't be able to get the education I need to make the standard of living want," said the Burns Junior High School ninth -grader. "I won't be able to fulfill all the requirements for college."

"Write to Congress," Pierce said. "Tell them that we are kids that want to have a future."

Pierce and thousands of students like him across the state of Florida are facing a bleak educational future under a system weakened by continued budget cuts.

The Florida State Legislature will decide the fate of these students when it reconvenes in Tallahassee in June to create a budget for the coming school

Until then, Hillsborough County school officials and students are preparing for the worst.

The worst case scenario at Bloomingdale Senior High School would mean losing about 20 teachers while increasing class size; cutting back on vocational classes like shop and drafting; decreasing the number of extracurricular activities and changing from a seven period day to one of only six periods, according to Principal Charley Harris.

"With the new budget cuts, we're going back to six periods which means

the kids can't have an elective," Harris said.
"I know that kids go to

school for academics... but there are other things they are going to miss."

Bloomingdale has already canceled all of its shop and drafting classes for the coming school year and has had to cut down on art, music, physical education and driver's education classes, Harris said.

To make matters worse, the classes that remain may hold as many as 36 students each period due to the loss of teachers and the proposed switch to a six period day, Harris said.

Student Kim Sparks echoed Harris' concern for the loss of teachers, classes and outside activities.

"I know for sure we'll probably see a lot of good teachers leaving because of the budget cuts," Sparks said. "We're not going to have enough money to do the things we did before."

Perhaps the most pressing issue facing Florida high school students right now is the need for 24 credits to graduate, said Bloomingdale Guidance Counselor Juan Saye Har-

If the schedule is shortened to only six periods a day, many students may have problems earning those credits, she said.

The Florida Academic

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## BLOOMINGDALE COMMUNITY PAGE

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#### PARENTS

#### from Page 1

Johnson urged that all join in the fight for local funding control.

The meeting, organized by Principal Milton Love-lace, Diane Mosely and Janice Arnold Jones, also included a question and answer session between panel and audience.

Grace Ippolito, principal Alalia Elementary, seemed encouraged by the turnout of roughly 120 par-ticipants at a similar meeting at her school on May 7

'I felt we had quite a bit of support from parents," commented Ippolito. "We have to continue to work together to solve this prob-

After viewing the Supt. Sickles/Dr. Bookman video and discussing the budget crisis, parents and school personnel signed letters to legislators and suggested ways to defray educational expenses on forms that were collected and sent the next day to the appropriate officials.

audience The termined that personally composed letters would be more eye-catching to state and local officials as well as phone calls to their offices to register comments and

suggestions.
"Of course, we need to work towards equalization so that this type of crisis doesn't occur again," said

When asked what par-

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## MEETINGS

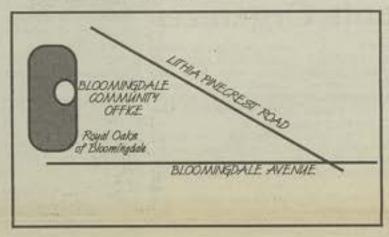
All meetings take place at the Bloomingdale Community Office, located in The Royal Oaks of Bloomingdale Shopping Center. These are public meetings and all Bloomingdale residents are invited.

SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT Monthly meeting: Second Monday of the Month, 7:30 p.m.

BHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS Monthly Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 p.m.

**BLOOMINGDALE OAKS** SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT Monthly meeting: First Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

MEETINGS FOR MOBILE WATCH & NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH are on a per need basis. Watch this listing for dates & times.



#### ents can do in the long run, Ippolito responded that parents can support the system of "Accountability" when it is implemented in the near future, and defined

Accountability as a collaborative team of parents, students, teachers, administrators and business

community members at each school that will com-bine to provide a system of school improvement.

Many parents who at-tended budget crisis meetings throughout the county came away wondering what more they could do besides calling legislators and submitting budget cut suggestions to the school board. In response to the dire news of the meetings, citizens met at Brandon High School on May 9 to create the S.T.O.P. Coalition (Students and Teachers Organized with Parents).

Initially targeting the Hillsborough County Leg-Delegation, islative S.T.O.P. is, however, looking for long-range solutions

to the funding crisis.

In the meantime,
S.T.O.P. held a protest rally on May 30 at Chamberlain High School in Tampa. About a dozen county schools were represented at the rally which featured speeches by students and parents, guest speaker Dr. Michael Bookman from the County Board of Education, and musical selections by the Brandon High School Chorus.

The finale featured a mock funeral for education with drama students as mourners and James Warren of Brandon High School giving a eulogy. Parents, students or ed-

ucators wishing to join S.T.O.P. may call

654-6781.

On April 2, 1992, a group of Brandon, Valrico and Dover parents met to discuss issues including school boundaries, class size, funding and Special Needs Children. Currently, the group is focusing attention on the budget crisis. Further information may be obtained by calling 684-8025 or 684-9987.

Excel, an organization that has been in existence for a year, is also focusing attention on the budget issue, although its main thrust is acting as a liason between the schools and parents of gifted and talented children. Since programs for the

Academically Gifted and Talented and Special Needs Children are usually targeted for budget cuts, the group is focusing their attention on protecting these programs. Those interested in joining Excel can call President Colleen Sylvester at 968-1628 or Vice President Janine B. Nickerson at 681-3983.

The Concerned Parents Association is an organization dedicated to the betterment of the education of all children through positive attitude, cincouragement, and creative learning. Alice R. Becker is the founder and can be reached at 684-8664.

#### TWO VIEWS from Page I

be made in the budget. (Request to see copies at the District 62 office in Brandon.)

Although he disagrees with Mr. Harris on the means to raise funds, Corr joins him wholeheartedly in urging parents, teachers, and students to demand equalization. Once this is achieved, Corr believes they should work on equal spending on students and facilities throughout Hillsborough County.

While new schools meet improved standards, older facilities suffer faulty air conditioning, water damage, and, in one case, no fencing around the school.

"We need to keep up with improvements to old schools by retrofitting them to meet the higher standards," stated Corr.

Adopting "education first" budget is another suggestion Corr advocates, commenting that the education budget should be decided on first and kept separate from the state budget.

In summation, Corr suggested parents and teachers should concentrate their efforts to ensure equalization, gain local control of funds, and fight for budget reforms, not new taxation.

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

Brandon is celebrating it's 34th Annual July 4th Celebration on Saturday, July 4th, and we don't want you to miss it!

Madeline Golletz, who or-ganizes the July 4th celebration eve car, was kind enough' provide us with the event schedule so we will pass it on to you. A.M.-10A.M.

FUN, FOOD FIREWORKS!

Brandon Rotary 86 Pancake Breakfast at Picadilly Cafteria. Park & walk to see the parade. Adults \$3.00 Children \$2.00

July 4th Parade sponsored by Presidents Roundtable, Starts at the intersection of Robertson Street and Parsons Avenue, proceeds west on Robertson Street, south on Noand Drive, west on Oakfield Drive and disbands at Oakfield and Morrison Road, Grand Marshals are Christopher Columbus and Queen Isabella (Joe & Jean Testin) keep-ing the theme "Voyage To America". Military Grand Marshal is Colonel Jesse Johnson, Commander Special Operations MacDill Air Force Base. Celebrity Grand Marshal is Kathy Fountain, 11:30 A.M.-10:00 P.M.

The Roundtable and Regency Square will be providing activities/ entertainment & food.

11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M. Flash Band & The Pits
12:00 P.M. All American Karate - Lee Jacobs

12:30 Showsteppers
1:00 Amanda White singing National Anthem
Honorary Mayor's Race
Parade Awards
1:30 Kids In Motion - Shirley's Dance Studio

2:00 Jaycee's Pageant 3:00 Southern Comfort Band

6:30 Jack Sigler - Hit Record "Love Can Make You

Happy"
7:30 Tom Denham & The Restless Natives Band 9:30 Fireworks

The Veterans will be selling barbecue sandwiches to raise soney for the Veterans Memorial. Food will also be available from the Regency Square Food Court. Moon-walk, face painting, & Jumbo the Clown for the Children.

JULY 4TH NEWS!

#### Terrific kids WANTED

If you were a "Terrific Kid" at your school this past school year, you are invited to ride on the Kiwanis Float JULY 4TH in BRANDON. You car wear your school colors and show your pride. Contact Oliver Boody

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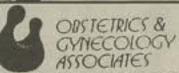


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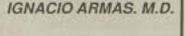
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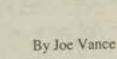
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## SPORTS, SPORTS, & MORE SPORTS PAGE!!

## T-riffic T-Ball!



in a close 27 to 25

The Smashers showed

they understood team-

everyone was there to have fun. The team consisted of 14 up and

Vaughn, Josh Cohen,

work and never lost

sight of the fact that

coming baseball

Devin Fernandez,

C.J.Keating, Kyle

Miller, Amy Kohl-

becker, Joey Kohler,

Michael Wiesenhart,

athan Hiers, Adam

Jared Rodriguez, Jon-

Ritter, Tony Stickeler,

players: Kevin

win.

1992 FLORIDA COCA-COLA CLASSIC RELAYS One of track & fields most prestigious high school events, the Florida Coca-Cola relays, recently took place, pulling high schools statewide together to compete. Probably the closest sampling for High schoolers to Olympic level competition, the F.C-C.C.R brings not only new faces, but awesome talent together to challenge for the trophies, Bloomingdale Senior High had a fantastic showing by their girls track team. In the discus, Natalie Jones took 9th place with a throw of 94' 7". In the 4x200m Relay, Bloomingdale took 7th with a time of 1:50.23. In the 800 Meters, Amber Ling brought home a 9th place finish with a

Coached by Ms, Addie Singfield, the girl track team has really come on strong in the latter half of the season. Not only did Ms. Singfield lead them to the Gamesville Florida Relays (which is an honor to be invited to), she also coached them to a Five A District Championship. She will lose a few of her sensors, but the majority of the team is young and will be returning next year.

time of 2:27.95.



Addie Singfield (BSHS Girls Track Coach) accepts the trophy for 5A District Championship



The "Smashers", from Lefs to Right: Team Manager Carl Stickeler, Kevin Vaughn, C.J.Keating, Michael Wiesenhart, Jared Rodriguez, Amy Kohlbecker, Adam Ritter, Jonathan Hiers. Kyle Miller, Tony Stickeler, Josh Cohen, John Cantrell, Joey Kohler, Kevin Crimi, Devin Fernandez, & Team Cosch Rick Fernandez.

Kevin Crimi, And John Cantrell. Part of the beauty of T-ball is that every kid plays every position in a rotating roster, so there are not set positions, giving everyone a chance to pitch, catch, play first base, and centerfield. By doing this, the kids can experience where they think they'd like to play as well as not feel slighted by someone else.
Bloomingdale Little
League consisted of 8
teams, including the
Smashers and the Pirates; the Sluggers, the
White Sox, the Orioles, the Wildcats, the
Braves, and the Red
Sox.

Congratulations to all the kids and parents who participated in the 1992 Spring Season. Good luck in Winter League!





B.S.H.S. winners at the Coca-Cola Relays in Gaines ville Bottom Row: Nicole King, Amber Ling Top Row: Kasanti Saffore, Tamika Hawkins, Natilie Jones, & Tesnicha Barnes.

#### The Special Dependent District

will hold it a regular monthly meeting at the Bloomingdale Community Office Royal Oaks
Shopping Center 7:30 p.m.
Monday, July 13, 1992

all are invited to attend

## Baseball camp

BY JOE VANCE

There's no better way for an aspiring athelete to improve his game, than by attending a camp. And if your sport is baseball, the camp for you is Charles Perdomo's Baseball camp.

The purpose of the camp is to teach the fundamentals of baseball to various age groups, helping each to better understand the game. Headed by Charles Perdomo,locally known for his help with the Bloomingdale Senior High girls softball team, the camp will consist of a highly qualified staff of local high school and junior college coaches.

the Perdomo camp,in it's fourth summer season, breaks down the game of baseball into it's component parts; hitting, infield play, outfield play, stretching, base running, situation instruction, as well as installing the right attitude in his campers; team work, no drugs, & making good grades. Perdomo's camp also aids further development of skills through individual and multi-player drills, video tapes, and game experience.

The camp caters to three age brackets: 7-9,10-12, & 13-15, and contest prizes are awarded daily in each group for throwing, base running, and bunting.

Four dates have been set for the Perdomo camp: June 15-19 at Plant City Little League, June 22-26, July 6-10, & July 13-17... at South Brandon Little League. For more information on these summer camps contact Charles Perdomo 681-5428.

WE WANT YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSIII

Because we are a small, community newspaper, the birth of a baby is BIG news for us. So don't keep it from us. If you know of some type of har pening, let us know!

pening, let us know! Examples would be...

...local athletes, athletic notices ...Engagements & Weddings with photos

...College-bound students ...Promotions both

military & civilian ...Social affairs such as block parties

card parties, and othe get togethers.

We want to print all

these things under a Community News column, but we can't unless you tell us. Submit your in

formation by mailing to: The Bloomingdal Gazette 3232 Lithi Pinecrest Rd. Valrico





Congratulations to

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and GAVIN CANAN

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contest.

Each won

TWO passes to BUSCH GARDENS! Call us at

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to claim your prize.

Thanks to

all who

entered.



he First Place Trophy

#### **Brandon YMCA Gymnasts** bring home First Place!



I wish when I was 6 or 7 years old I was in 1/10 the physical shape that the girls at Brandon YMCA are in. It is truly unbelievable that 6 year olds could be such finely tuned atheletes, who are not only beautiful, but as graceful and seriously committed to their art as any athelete could be.

Three years ago, Kathy Edwards and the Brandon YMCA had boys and girls enroll into their pre-school gymnastics program to initially interest them in gymnastics and tumbling, and teach them body awareness. They learn and improve on floor, bar, beam, and basic gymnastic skills. I doubt Kathy realized that in three short years her original class " The Mighty Munchkins" would be bringing home the first place trophy from the 1992 Sunshine League state tournament! Held May 2-3 at Northwest YMCA, the seven "Mighty Munhkins" all had excellent showings. Jennifer Eisle took second allaround in her age division. Bloomingdale East's Julie Cochran took first place in the bar. Maryellen Simonetti took second place on the vault, Theresa Harris took first on the bar, and finished 3rd all-



around. Ashley Hicks, from Bloomingdale West, placed second on the bar and beam, and finished in fourth place All-Around. Alisha Demmi, also from Bloomingdale East, overcame her har routine to score which helped the team win first place. And last, but definitely not least, was Charity Hall who had missed much practice because of a bout with chicken-pox, but was able to compete and just barely missed placing. The Sunshine League is a na-tionwide YMCA organization, and due to these girls determination, teamwork, heart, and not to mention supportive parents, they gave the Brandon YMCA their first First-Place finn-

At the AAU State Championships this past April at Clearwater Central Catholic, the girls showed they were coming on strong when they placed Fifth as a team. Jennifer Eisele took

The First place YMCA team and their coach Colleen Palmer

vision and first in three

and second on the

events (bar, vault, floor)

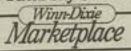
beam. Theresa Harris took

first All-Around in her Di-

third All-Around, Maryellen Simonetti took first in Division B, Alesha Demmi placed fourth in Division C, Ashley Hicks took first All-Around in Division C, by placing first on the bar, second on the vault and beam, and sixth on her floor routine. Julie Cochran unfortunately had the Chicken-pox, and Charity Hall was too young at the time to compete. Terry Hicks, the current co-ordinator and coach of the Brandon YMCA's pre-school program, couldn't say enough about the team. The fact that these girls started out together at a young age and have pro-

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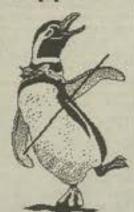
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#### It's Happenin'



gressed so rapidly and

have made mammouth strides in their short time with gymnastics; at the pace they're going they could definitely one day compete at a Collegiate level. To compete na-tionally in the U.S.G.F., (United States Gymnastic Federation) the level at which the Olympics are based on, was not really considered because they have an age requirement of seven years old and up. But now that the girls are almost at the age requirement, the Brandon Y and the girls parents have to decide whether they should join such a competitive league. Missy Voightmann, one of Terry Hicks' instructors and an incredible gymnast, is hop-ing to take her skills as far as possible, shooting for a chance at the Olympics. Missy was the only state qualifier in the advanced optional level of the AAU Competition. Gymnastics offers an option for parents with athletically inclined children. The Brandon YMCA's pre-school program, coached by Terry, teaches such children the fun of tumbling and the skills of gymnastics. They are ofare open to pre-schoolers between the ages of 3-6, with a student/ teacher ratio of 5:1. All parents interested or would like to learn more should call Terry Hicks at 685-5402.

#### **Body Beautiful**

Body building has become well known due to Arnold Schwartzenegger, Cher, and Hans und Franz of SNL fame. Football teams, baseball teams, swimmers are all lifting weight to increase their strength and reduce the risk of injury. Bloomingdale Senior High recently had some Body Builders of their own bring home victory for the Bulls. Jeanette Newcombe won the Hillsborough County Championship and went on to win State. Jill Robinson also won County and took second in State. Mike Smith took second in County and placed third in State, Coached by B.S.H.S. wrestling coach Kelly Williams, these students have shown they take fitness seriously and will he working on keeping their titles. Congratulations to Jeanette, Jill, Mike & coach Williams.

#### LOCAL PROFILE

ROBERT TATE Occupation: Owner Tate's Athletics Hobbies; Golf, Football, work His Wife: Cheryl Children: None yet Interesting Fact about him: His father is the legendary University of Miami Foot-hall Coach, Charlie Tate Favorite Movie/T.V. Show Bonanza, any one of the Rocky movies Favorite Music/artist: Pop/contemporary, Phil Collins a perfect evening would be "Relaxing evening dinner with my wife" Major accomplishments: "My eleven year marriage, and graduating from Col-Best Idea I ever Had: "to open a sporting goods store in Brandon" One thing I could change about the World It would be: "For people to be content with what they have, and to realize that how you act & treat other people is what matters. " Goals in Life: To be remembered as an honest friend' Best Advice I ever Re-ceived: "That I need to lis-

## TENNIS TIP of the MONTH BY PETE STECHER

Hitting against the wall is the fastest way for the beginner to get past the "miss the ball blues", the junior to get past "choking on the close ones", and the club player to "fix that awful backhand forever". The wall never misses and has unlimited patience for a beginners mistakes. The wall is great for junior players in that control is automatically stressed. Even the most hard headed hitter is forced to work on control over power after chasing their mistakes a couple of times when over hitting against a wall. And finally, the wall lets a player work on a weakness for hours until the weakness has become a strength. Hearned the benefit of the wall when I was 15 years old. I couldn't find a prac-tice partner when I decided I would go out for the high school tennis team. I started hitting against the side of our garage a couple hours a day. After two weeks of wall banging I asked a boy in the neighborhood to play who played Wisconsin jun-ior tennis tournaments. I found I had caught up to a player with a couple years of experience in two weeks of hitting against a wall. Andrea Jeager got her start in tennis at an early age against the wall. Andrea's older sister was taking tennis lessons and Andrea wanted to take lessons too. Andrea's father told her "If you hit against the garage door the entire winter I will let you take lessons in the summer," Andrea eventual-ly reached a world ranking of three before injuries ended her career. When working with Hopman at his 42 court facility I remember one young girl about eleven years old who used to constantly use the camp's wall more than any-

Pete Stecher Is the Director of Tennis at Buckhorn Springs Golf & Country Gub. He writes a monthly tennis tips column for the Bloomingdale Cazette.

one. Monica Scles has

come a long way since

ber one in the world.

then. She is presently num-

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## Families find comfort in home away from home

By EDIE GROSS

It was no mistake that Gabriel Davis was born on May 14, the same day 300 people gathered at Tampa General Hospital to dedicate the new Suncoast Ronald McDonald House.

When Gabriel required further care at Tampa General, the baby's parents, Kim and Kent Davis of Valrico, faced the problem of finding a place to stay where they could be close to their son. The new Suncoast Ronald McDonald House provided the an-

"Our baby went into NICU [Neonatal Intensive Care Unit] for extended treatment. [Kim] had to be available every three hours around the clock nursingl," Kent said. Ifor "We were basically in the hall."

The employees of Tampa General then told the Davises about the Suncoast Ronald McDonald House,

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a place where families can stay while their children are treated at the hospital. The Davises spent two nights in a room at the facility within walking distance of Tampa General, and on May 20, they were able to take a healthy Gabriel home to join sons Kent, 9, and Joel, 8.

"One of the nurses called over, and they just set it all up," Kim said.

"It's been a lifesaver," Kent said. "Everybody's been very friendly, very helpful. In fact, I'm going to volunteer to help here. I'm really impressed with what's been done here.'

The Suncoast Ronald

McDonald House, located at 35 Columbia Drive, joins more than 150 houses worldwide, designed to board families of ill children near treatment facilities. More than 300 community members and hospital employees joined

Tampa General President Bussone, Mayor David Sandy Freedman and, of course, Ronald McDonald at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 14.

Special guests Pat and Susan McDuffie told of spending three months at the St. Petersburg Suncoast Ronald McDonald House in 1991 while son

Pat Jr. received treatment for medulloblastoma, a form of brain cancer.

The McDuffie family is actively involved in the fund raising and volunteer efforts at the new Ronald McDonald House, and in an open letter to the crowd expressed their feelings about the support offered by such a facility.

"If you ever have to use one, know that you will never have to go it alone," the McDuffies said.

Measuring 14,000 square feet, the house has 13 bedrooms, each with a private bathroom. There is an efficiency apartment for families anticipating lengthy stays. The two-story house also provides its residents with a living and dining room, a stocked kitchen, laundry facilities, a library, a private phone room and a play room filled with toys, games, stuffed animals and a home entertainment system. A patio and a playground offer families a chance to enjoy the Florida sunshine.

Families are charged \$5 per night to stay at the House. The fee for the efficiency apartment is \$10. If a family cannot afford the nightly charge, the House covers the cost through community donations, said House Manager Sheila Savage.

The House is staffed with volunteers from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. everyday.

Volunteers go through a 6-hour training session be-fore assuming duties which include registering families, giving house tours and linking families to the hospital and community services. The House is currently in need of volunteers for daytime week-

The \$1.5 million project was the brainchild of Gretchen Hall, a former Tampa General Hospital burn unit nurse.

"I remember taking blankets out to families in the hallway," Hall said. "I watched them sleep on chairs, night after night...I wished there was something we could do to provide them comfort, a warm

From left, Ronald McDonald, Pat McDuffie Jr.,

Tampa General President David Bussone, Mayor Sandy Freedman and Gretchen Hall cut the ribbon of paper dolls created by pediatric patients from TGH and All Children's Hospital at the Suncoast Ronald McDonald House grand opening, May 14.

bed and more emotional

support." Eleven years ago, Hall presented her idea to the Board of Directors of the Tampa Junior League, and in 1983 the Sunshine House Board was formed to encourage the community to contribute to the project. After a land grant from the City of Tampa and a \$25,000 donation from the McDonald Corporation, builders broke ground for the House in May of

Although a capital cam-paign, begun in 1991, has raised more than \$775,000 for the project, more funds are needed to cover the rest of the construction costs, to retire the mortgage and to help with operational exestimated \$250,000 per year, Savage

In addition to donating cash, which provides new equipment and supplies for

the House and helps off: the nightly charge for fa ilies who cannot afford the community has donat in-kind items such as fi niture and food for kitchen.

Major national co tributors include DuPo Motorola, and Coca Co Dal tile, My Bedroon and Westshore Glass among the Tampa as contributors to the Hou Numerous families a community organizatio have sponsored the co struction of the room Tampa General Hospi employees, including valets who donated \$7,3 in tips to the project, ha been largely responsil for the capital campaign.

Anyone interested contributing to the House funds or volunteering c call The Suncoast Re McDonald

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## Campers . . . Beware of Stings and Things

By JERRY A. WISHIK, M.D., P.A. Every year thousands of kids from the Tampa Bay area attend some form of camping situation. Camps for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, horseback riding, space exploration, sports and religious venues expose campers to new and sometimes unexpected en-vironmental insults. Although camping remains an all-toonecessary, enjoyable and rewarding experience, certain precautions should be taken. In addition, a modicum of knowledge can be extremely valuable in this regard.

Before your child trots off to camp:

Update his or her immunizations—Often, this simply means a tetamus-diptheria booster shot. A person should have this booster every ten years after the age of 4 or 5 (i.e. if your child are due for theirs as well!

Highly allergic children should be "prepared"—If your child has developed severe reactions (such as shortness of breath, generalized hives) to insect stings or to particular foods in the past, your physician may wish to prescribe a special kit containing Epinephrine (auto-injection) and antifistamines, which your camper can take with him/her should a severe allergic reaction

Make sure the camp has a complete medical history: Food, medication, animal, insect and environmental allergies should be documented in your child's medical records, along with pertinent medical history, such as asthma, previous seizure activity, anemia, previous surgeries.

Make sure your child has a recent physical exam. A history and physical exam is recommended to look for such things as significant heart murmurs, hernias, lung disease, sinusitis, diabetes or high blood pressure. Most camps require this type of ex-amination and documentation.

What to be on the "look-out" for:

Swimmer's ear-otherwise known as "External Otitis," this painful ear canal infection occurs frequently after pro Elonged exposure to water (swimming, showering). Apparently, the normal skin lining breaks down, allowing bacteria to penetrate and start an infection. A solution of rubbing alcohol (90%) plus white vinegar (10%) flushed into the ear canal after swimming or showering will usually prevent the infection altogether. However, once an infection is active, antibiotics are required.

Tick bites/Lyme Disease-In 1975, a condition known as "Lyme Disease" was recognized (in Lyme, Conn.) as a potentially severe three-stage disorder transmitted to humans via ticks, usually transferred by white-tailed deer, white-footed mice or birds. These ticks harbor a syphillis-like organism known as Borrelia Burgdorferi. The good news is that a tick usually has to be present for some time on your body to transmit the disease. The bad news is that the condition may be on the rise, is underreported and may progress to stage three disease:

Stage One - a rash occurs in 75% of cases within 3 to 20 days

after a tick bite. It is characterized by a red, raised area which spreads out from the bite site. The center of this rash may clear. Fever (up to 103 degrees), chills, malaise, stiff neck, headache

and backache may occur as well.

Slage Two - After one week to four months, one or more joints may become painful and inflamed (arthritis). Knees, shoulders, elbows, ankles and wrists may be involved. Heart, central nervous system (brain), muscles and lymph system may also be in-

Stage Three - If symptoms last greater than one year, this is considered Stage Three disease.

The most effective treatment for this disease is early antibiotic therapy. The most effective <u>prevention</u> is wearing protective clothing which covers all extremities, tick insecticides, looking for ticks on the skin and removing the tick in entirety as soon as

Fish Stings-Jelly Fish, Portuguese Man-of-War and sea anemones (dead or alive) possess "toxin-containing" barbs on tentacles which may be ejected into the skin upon contact with a human. Scuba Diving, walking on the shore, or snorkeling may predispose a camper to these stings. Treatment should include removal of tentacles with a gloved hand only. Do not rub area, as more toxin may be released. Vinegar may inactivate the

Lionfish, Scorpion fish, and Stingrays have spines which cause local intense pain, but this can be controlled with non-scalding hot water (for 30-90 minutes), effectively inactivating a "heatlabile" toxin. Professional medical attention should be sought as

Spider Bites-Although many species of spiders exist, only two

Brown Recluse - distinguished by brown, fuzzy body hair and a violin or pearshape on the back of its body. A bite by this spider usually causes local pain and skin destruction over a one or two day period. Fever, chills and nausea may occur two or three days after the initial bite. Seek medical attention as soon

2. Black Widow Spider - commonly characterized by shiny black body and a red hourglass shaped marking on its abdomen. The Black Widow is found around houses in dry, direly-lit places. A bite by this spider may feel like a pin prick, but within one hour, abdominal pain and muscular rigidity may occur, as well as fever, chills, nausea, vomiting, sweats and respiratory depression. Seek immediate medical attention.

Snake Bites-There are more than 8,000 snake bites annually in the U.S. Of these, appearing stalls 12 the U.S. Of these, approximately 12 people die each year, making snake bites a medical emergency. The venemous snakes can be divided into Pit Vipers (massasaugos, rattlesnakes, cottonmouths, copperheads and pigmy rattlesnakes) and Coral

1. Pit Vipers - Soon after a Pit Viper bite, local pain and swelling develops, followed by muscle fasciculations, tingling, numbness around mouth with a metallic, minty or rubbery taste. Weakness, fainting, vomiting, chills, sweats and occasionally bleeding may occur.

Immediate treatment includes placing a broad constricting band (not a tight, thin tourniquet) proximal to the bite and splinting to immobilize the affected body part. Because identification of the snake is important, bring the dead snake (if able to safely capture) to an emergency facility. Anti-snake venom may be given

2. Coral Snakes - Bites by Coral Snakes may cause abrupt symptoms but sometimes findings will be noticeable 10 hours later. Locally, pain may occur, and more generalized complaints such as drowsiness, shortness of breath, muscle incoordination, twisching, salivation, swallowing problems and occasional sei-zures may occur. Medical attention should be sought as soon as

Wild Animal Bites—Human and domesticated animal bites can be problematic in terms of infection control and pain, but "wild" animal bites epitomizes fear of the unknown, especially if the animal is unable to be captured for observation or analysis

Human Rabies, a disease often characterized by irritability. breathing problems, disorientation, seizures and death, is prob-ably the most dreaded complication of a wild animal bite. However, only 0-5 documented human rabies cases occur per year in the U.S. In fact, on a local level, the last case of human

rabies in Hillsborough County was 1948.

The following wild animals are to be considered rabid until proven otherwise: bats, raccoons, skunks, coyotes, bobcats and other carnivores

These may be rabid and should be reviewed on a case-by-case

These animals are not usually considered capable of transmitting rabies: squirrels, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils, chip-

munks, rats, mice, other rodents, rabbits, hares, livestock.

If treatment is needed for rabies, post-exposure vaccination consists of five injections (spaced over 28 days) given in the arm

Make sure your child is aware of potentially rabid animals!

Contact Dermititis—Many campers will be exposed to Poison Oak. Poison Ivy, Poison Sumac or similar "contact allergen". This itchy, blistering, allergic reaction is usually easy to diagnose and treat. Characteristically, these exposures show "linearity" (or blisters in a line), due to skin "brushing" against an offending leaf. Cortisone-like creams and antihistamines are the usual treatment options, but shots or pills are sometimes required in extensive

Hopefully, the information provided in the preceding paragraphs will assist campers and their parents in having a safe as well as a

(Jerry A. Wishik, M.D., P.A. is a Florida-licensed and Board Certified Internist, practicing in the Brandon area as Medical Director of Physician Care Walk-In Clinic.)

## Mobile Watch

By LAWAYNE WYATT

Despite the fact we had 33 incidents reported during May, it was a quiet month. The log included six reports of cars in the parks after closing, two suspicious cars, five speeders/reckless driving, three illegal dumpings, a report of burglary suspects in the area, one home burglary, two abandoned vehicles, a broken lift station gate lock, one report of teens playing a car radio excessively loud, a teen party involving alcohol, several reports of a runaway girl, an unsecured rifle, a group of teens parked in the middle of the street, and four reports of activity at The

In at least two of the cases at The Spot, several people were given trespassing warnings by Deputies. For those who do not know it yet, the wooded area around The Spot is private property. It has been posted and the Sheriff's Office has increased patrols in the area. They are writing tickets for trespassing for anyone caught

We have also seen two pickup trucks enter this area with a full load of brush and exit a short time later with an empty bed. When caught, these individuals will be cited for trespassing and illegal dumping.

Last month, I reported a suspicious activity which two females were seen videotaping a home. Another resident also reported a similar event. It all turned out to be very harmless. The Sheriff's Office traced the car tag and discovered the "sus-pects" were two Bloopects" were two Bloo-mingdale Senior High School girls working on a class report. Their assignment was to photograph community life activities in and around Bloomingdale. They readily admitted they had taken pictures in several areas, all of which corwith reported related events. We're glad it was harmless, although it would have been better if the girls had stopped and explained what they were

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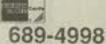
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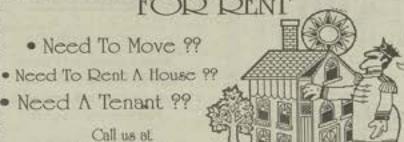


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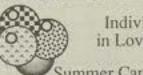
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Primary Prep is ready to breeze into summer offering classes ranging from cooking and dance to karate and YMCA instructed swimming. Primary Prep will provide computer camps during the weeks of June 22-26 and August 3-7. Fun filled trips are planned throughout the summer, too!

Primary Prep, a nursery and pre-school for children 6 weeks to 8 years, continues to serve the Brandon area at 3720 Canoga Park Drive (at the corner of Canoga and Rosemead in Bloomingdale West).

The school is owned by Christine Terrell, a Bloomingdale resident, and has been in operation for five years at this location. Primary Prep offers two distinetly different educational programs yearround. The first is the Rolf Learning System, an individualized, hands-on program imported from Holland. The other program is HighReach Learning, a curriculum focusing on basic skills and concepts, along with nursery rhymes and fairy tales.

Call 654-1942 for more information or stop by Primary Prep to register your child for a summer of fun!

#### Brandon TackwonDo

Brandon Tackwondo offers separate classes for PeeWees (ags 3-5), Juniors (ages 6-14), and Adults ( ages 14 & up) in a traditonal martial art taught with traditional American values. The class schedule is divided not only by age but also by experience or rank. Each of your 45 minute classes improves perobic conditioning, increases flexibility, dovelops concentration, and builds self-esteem while creating the self confidence to live freely by learning one of the most popular and practical forms of self-defense. The school owner and

chief instructor, Jack Gunter (a registered Pharmacist), has been training for 12 years and is a 3rd degree Black Belt and Certified Instructor of the I.T.F. (International TacKwonDo Federation) TacKwonDo system. The assistant instructor, Ray Brunkow, is a 2nd degree Black Belt with 7 years training and 2 years teach-ing experience.

Classes are offered mornings and evenings, Monday thru Saturday. Take advantage of the FREE TRIAL CLASS and feel the difference. For more information Call 689-2255.

Kid Kountry has grown over the winter to two centers to be able to provide the Bloomingdale/ Brandon area the quality child care your child needs and deserves.

The summer at Kid Kountry are busy, exciting and fun filled. Each day your child is able to see a little more of the surrounding areas of our beautiful world on a special field trip. Swimming, parks, golf, skating, theme parks, are just a few of the places the older children

will be a part of. Our qualified teachers specialize in the individual needs of your child and re-alize each child is unique to them. The days for the younger children are exciting and fun filled with different activities to keep them busy and happy.

Please stop by and see us at either of our centers. Parents are welcome any-

#### BLOOMINGDALE ACADEMY

BLOOMINGDALE ACADEMY is a privately owned Pre-school with an extended day program for children 2 years to 5 years. We offer an after care program for children 5 years to 10 years who are at-tending local schools. We also offer a complete sum-

mer progrm. We at BLOOMING-DALE ACADEMY would like to offer your child the individualized attention that is necessary for a positive growth experience. Children learn through

direct experience. Each child will be treated as an individual and given the opportunity to learn and think for themselves. Children are encouraged to have freedom of choice and to have responsibilities.

Affection and respect will be demonstrated to all the children so that they may develop a healthy self concept. We encourage open communication with parents. Parents are always welcome.

We welcome you and your child to visit us and see the open classroom and country porch and shaded playground that make time spent at BLOOMING-DALE ACADEMY a funfilled experience. Call 685-7671 for more in-

# The Blooming of Kid Kountry has grown e winter to two cenbe able to provide coningdale/ Bran-SUMM



"What you teach at your home is more important then what is happening in the White House!" First Lady Barbara Bush has declared, and Alice Becker, author of Help Your Child to Read: A Manual for Parents heartily agrees. Her manual employs a "Common Sense Method" with phonics that guarantees results.

What better way to spend the slower paced hours of summer than to begin teaching your child to read. The 50 lessons clearly and creatively utilize resources that are at every parent's fingertips. Magazines, poems, newspapers, cookie recipes, and calendars are just a few household items that inter-play with the child's and parent's imaginations to provide hours of genuine bonding and INSTANT SUCCESS with the true adventure of reading.

Mrs. Becker, organizer of the Concerned Parents Association and educator for over 25 years, believes that, "When you help your child to read, you are giv-ing the gift of knowledge and it lasts a lifetime. The first half of the manual reflects the philosophy of Concerned Parents and offers parents suggestions on securing a good public ed-ucation for their children. "the ability to read helps to place your child in control of his or her education, declares Mrs. Becker who adds, "Reading Is Easy --Even A Child Can Do

#### The Sylvan Learning Center

The Sylvan Learning Center of Brandon has been serving the Brandon Community for the past 7 years. This center is one of over 500 centers established in the Continental United States and Canada. We teach students from age 4 through Adult, focusing on remediation of academic skills as well as enrich-ment skills for the gifted.

We begin with a precise diagnostic evaluation to access strengths and weaknesses. Then an individualized prescriptive program is written based on these results. The students normally attend two, one-hour sessions per week. The length of time needed depends on the number of skills needing enrichment and the completion of the parent and student goals which are es tablished following the diagnostic testing.

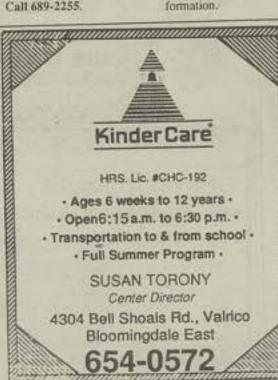
There aer programs in Readiness, Reading, Phonics, Writing, Math, Algebra, Study Skills, and P.S.A.T., S.A.T., and

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The Staff at the Sylvan Learning Center,







# 'ale Gazette's

KinderCare Learning Center, Inc.

Circle M Danch Summer funnin' Sum-mer sunnin'! It's a time to kick back, take a break fro.a school and make some memories of a funfilled summer. Circle M Ranch Summer Camp of-

orable break! Circle M Ranch is licensed for children ages 3 2 and offers different cograms for each age

fers all the right amenities

needed to make a mem-

The pre-school cur-riculum includes 30 min. swimming lessons Monday through Friday and free swim every afternoon. Arts-n- crafts play a major part in thedaily activities as well as weekly field trips and skating.

The after-schoolers (7-12) curriculum includes one hour swimming lessons with afternoon free swim, competitive sports, arts-n-crafts, bowling, ice skating, roller skating as well as field trips to such places as the beach, Adventure Island and Busch

Lunch is served for the pre-school age children and morning and afternoon snacks are provided for all

three groups. At Circle M Ranch friendships are developed and memories are created. We are open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., so come d see for yourself what n summer can be!

Kindercare Learning Center, Inc., located at 4304 Bell Shoals Rd. in Bloomingdale East, has been serving our community for the past five

Kindercare accepts children from six weeks to 12 years, runs year-round, 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, Many of the teachers have been with the company for

several years. The Klubmates (5-12 year olds) attend area elementary schools and are transported to and from KinderCare by van. The summer program is al-ways a lot of fun, well-planned with great trips three times a week. KinderCare offers sev-

eral extra-curricular activities in addition to field trips. Weekly there is dance/ tumbling, music, gymnastics, karate, and computers.

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

#### Shirley's Dance Studio

Under the direction of Shirley Cuscaden, offers a complete dance curriculum ranging in courses for the pre-school through the advanced and professional levels. Students are encouraged to reach their highest level of skills through individualized attention by qualified teach-

DANCE SUP-PLIES...may be purchased from DANCIN' STUFF, which is located in the reception area of the Studio. There is a REQUIRED Uniform Dress Code for all Ballet classe

KIDS IN MOTION & APPLAUSE DANCE COMPANY... Invitations to audition for the performing company are extended to students who have had at least 3 years of dance training and have reached the Intermediate level. The company performs throughout the year at various community and private functions. Kids In Motion & students of Shirley's Dance Studio attended Showstoppers National Dance Competition and received many 1st & 2nd place trophy awards. Kids In Motion...ages 4-

Applause...ages 13-up. Curriculum...classes are offered in all phases of the dance from beginner through the professional

ANNUAL DANCE RE-CITAL...this performance is part of the student's dance education. As part of their participation in the show, the students learn cooperation, stage presence and directions, to overcome shyness and to project and express their individual personalities. Students are presented in a professional setting which affords them the opportunity of performing on a stage. This years annual dance recital will be presented at Bloomingdale Sr. High School June 13th. Matinee 3:00, evening performance 7:30.

#### FUTURE KIDS of BRANDON

Our goal is to brighten the horizons of the children in the Brandon/ Bloomingdale Community by giving them a step into their future. Computers are no longer the wave of the future, but instead the concerns of the present.

At FUTUREKIDS, our classes are designed not only to make children "computer friendly", but over time completely computer literate. FU-TUREKIDS offers two different programs to ac-

complish these goals: 1. With our outreach program, we bring our computer systems to day care centers, pre-schools, and private schools and instruct the students on the premises. Through this method, parents are given the choice to enroll their child as an extracumicular activity.

2. For those children who are not fortunate enough to attend a school which hosts the FUTURE KIDS program, we have a learning center located at 333 E.Robertson Street in Brandon.

For more information call Richard or Rosemarie at 684-3543.

#### Brendon Swim & Tennis Club, Rainbow Sports Camp

For Boys & Girls 6-14 years the camp is avail-able Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is to non-members as well as members of the facility. The following ac-tivities are part of the every day camp program, swimming, diving, tennis, gymnastics, basketball, ball games, field days as well as a fully supervised craft room which provides a chance for campers to develop and learn new

All Activities are supervised by camp counselors all experienced with working with children, with support provided by professional coaches in the sports area's.

These programs com-mence June 8th going straight through to the last week starting Aug 17th. For prices and available places please contact the

Brandon Swim and Tennis Club also offers an afterschool program in the fall with pick-up from most local schools.

## Help Your Child to Read:

A Home Manual for Parents



by Alice R. Becker

- 15 20 Minutes a day
- Teaching experience not needed
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#### BLOOMINGDALE ACADEMY

11418 Bloomingdale Ave. Riverview, FL. 33569 685-7671 Lic# C-HC-059

HOURS: M-F, 6:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- · PRESCHOOL AGES: 2 to 5 years
  - AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM:

Kingswood, Alafia Mintz, Nativity SUMMER PROGRAM

BLOOMINGDALE AVE

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- Specializing in individual care
- DeeDee Gibbs Owner



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Your Childs Future is HERE!



FUTUREKIDS is a fun-filled learning adventure for ages 3 thru teens. We guarantee your child will not only become computer friendly, but over time completely computer literate.

Summer Camp and Outreach Programs Available

## **FUTUREKIDS**

333 E. Robertson Street 684-3543 Brandon, FL 33511



OPEN -Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Ages 3 to 12 years

OOK at our EXCITING SUMMER PROGRAM...

1202 Bloomingdale Ave. 681-4301

lic. no. CHC-099

Swimming pool on premises: Swimming lessons in the morning, free swim in the afternoon. Outdoor games, arts-n-crafts. Bowling on Wednesday, skating on Thursdays. Field trips every Friday. Once a month special trips to Busch Gardens, Wet-n-Wild, Adventure Island, etc.

- · Planned academic & physical program
- · Hot lunch (for preschoolers) Large playground



Learning Center

WE TUTOR ALL SUBJECTS & **SOLVE THE TUTORING NEEDS** 

AGES 4 - Adult; LD - Gifted Certified Teachers

#### INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS

· Readiness · Phonics · Reading · Math · Study Skills · Algebra · Writing · PSAT · SAT & Lots More

precise Diagnostic Testing - full range of Teaching Aids builds Self-Esteem & Motivation

Call about our program 684-2400

## Bloomingdale Homes and Gardens...

#### Watch Out!... **Curbs Ahead**

BY JEFF DANIELS

In spite of our best intentions, we rarely live in any one house for more than five years. Whether it be for personal or pro-fessional reasons, we all eventually face the need to sell our home.

The decision to sell is only the first of many more to come. Such as are you going to try and sell it yourself or hire a professional? at price? what terms? and in what time frame?' to name

Next, you will need to review your homes "curb appeal". That first impression will often determine how long it will take to sell and for how much. A good way to do this is to take a look at neighboring houses for sale and builders models. From the street is the paint fresh or faded? is the driveway clean or stained? is the

CRAFT SHOW

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Junior Woman's Club is

Annual Craft and Collect-

Clubhouse Park on Sep-tember 19th, The show is

Water Company. For

addressed envelope to

TTJWC, P.O.Box 16206, Temple Terrace, FL

landscaping green and lush, or half dead? These questions may seem trivial, but a buyer will often take them as signs that the rest of the house is uninteresting or is not well cared for.

Now take a good look at your house using the same prospective. Does it give a good first impression?, or better yet, would you buy it? If not you will need to take some steps to correct the areas in need of attention. Money spent on improvements, whether it be a few dollars spent on cleaners or hundreds spent on professional landscaping, it is money well spent if it separates your house from the rest. In todays flooded housing market it is more important than ever to give a good first impression!

Jeff Daniels is a Bloomingdale resident and local realtor with Sun Cove Realty, member of Na-tional Association of Re-

10th ANNIVERSARY FATHER'S DAY FISHING TOURNAMENT

Gulfwind Marine supports now accepting applications the Tampa Bay Wildlife Federation 10th Anfor exhibitors for their 4th niversary Fishing Tournaable Show to be held under ment by paying the fee for the oaks at the Woodmont captains of Sea Ray entries into this Father's Day event, June 20, 1992. being sponsored by W101 -FM Radio and Crystal This 10th Anniversary Tournament features fifty tagged catfish released into more information call Faye Tampa Bay. The lucky an-Reichert at 985-2356. For gler who catches one of an application send a selfthese fish will win a prize, one of which may be the \$10,000 grand prize. Owners of Sea Ray boats purchased at Gulfwind Marine need only call Sherri at (813) 536-9489 to register. Entry reimbursement is limited

Gulfwind Marine is the world's largest Sea Ray Dealership with locations in Clearwater Sarasota, Bra-denton, and Fort Myers.

# A SPRINKLE

BY BOB POYNTON

Bloomingdale residents have many options to make and keep their lawns and gardens looking Many homeowners choose to do the yard work themselves as this kind of work is very rewarding. The problem is how best to do all the work needed.

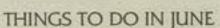
This monthly column will help the "Do It-Yourself gardener schedule and complete some of the work items necessary for a good looking lawn and gar-

As water is a necessary element for lush lawns and shrubs, a properly calibrated sprinkler system is important. (A sprinkler system itself may or may not

be needed, but if you have one and use it, you should have it properly calibrated) Take 7 or 8 empty tuna cans (any flat bottom, wide-mouth can will do) and put them randomly in one of your sprinkler zones. Run the zone for ex-actly 15 minutes. Add the water collected together and divide by the number of cans used; then multiply by 4 to determine the average amount of water your system puts down in one hour. On average, you should put down 3/4" per watering.

Next month, we will look at options for your sprinkler system that can save you money, especially during the summer rainy

season.



· Summer flowers to plant-celosia coleus, impatiens, marigolds, salvia, periwinkleand zinnias.

· Apply mulches to continue summer weed control

 Look for mole crickets in bahia grass, and chinch bugs in St. Augustine grass.

· Pinch back tips of new shrub growth to develop bushier plants.

Bob Poynton is owner of Shanrock Lawn & Garden, and is certified by the American Lawn Maintenance Association. Your questions and comments are welcome. Send them to "Hey Bob!.." 3232 Lithia Pinecrest Rd. Valrico, FL.

AD REP WANTED 681-2824







Allison Jordan picks her salad.

# Teach your kids to Grow a Pizza!

BY MARY COLLISTER

Gardening is one of the most rewarding hobbies you can teach children. It is an activity they can participate in throughout their lives. Gardening allows children to witness the miracle of growth and development. Just remember not to tell your child that the gardening experience is actually educational!

When getting your child initially interested. start small and think about those plants that will be easily successful. In Florida, now is the opportune time to get the entire family out in the

Make the first gardening experience fun and easy and watch them come back for more! Ask your kids if they are ready to "grow" a pizza and be prepared for the funny looks on their faces. Have the kids make a list of their favorite pizza toppings. Now the cheese and

meat products you will still buy at the store, but if they like the sauce ( tomatoes), peppers or onions you can grow these in your garden. You can also grow the herbs; garlic and basil, for the sauce.

One tomato plant will give you plenty of fruit for enough sauce for a number of pizzas. Pick a sauce variety for the best results. Let the kids pick out the plant from the nursery. Start with a strong healthy seedling. Plant in a sunny area in you r garden or grow in a container. Give the kids instructions on how to take care of the plant and then leave them on their own. Keep the soil moist. Help mix liquid fertilizer and use this every two weeks.

Whether you grow bell or hot peppers they are cultivated the same way as the tomato. Once again, just get one plant so your young gardener is not overwelmed. Teach your kids to keep an eye out for insects. With just one or two plants most pests will be easy to the from the plant by hand from the plant by hand from the hose to wash them away.

Onions are most easily grown from sets. Look at your nursery. A hand full will take little space and provide abundant amounts. As with the tomato and pepper plants, you don't have to prepare a separate vegtable garden. You can tuck your pizza ingredients here or there in your landscape. Garlic is grown from bulbs also.

Look for herbs at a full service nursery. Herbs will continue to grow and produce for you even after you have finished your pizza project. Keep well watered throughout the summer.

See PIZZA, Page 11





( corner of Lithia & Robertson)

#### Students Honored urns

Burns Junior High School's National Junior Honor ciety (NJHS) inducted 60 new members on Thursday, ril 23. Faculty members judged students on olarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. inductees have attended Burns for at least one semester I have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75. New HS members are as follows:

chael J. Allegretti ark A. Austerman :lissa Ann Bader anna S. Benitez. zanne M. Berg chard J. Boettger omas L. Bomstad mielle D. Bougere ran O. Carlock ristopher L. Conklin ura K. Coyle nnifer S. Cripe na M. Delgado igela M. Downing ne C. Drennan miel P. Dufford tristopher C. Dunlop nnifer E. Empric ian R. Evans ndsay B. Fatta ira M. Freeman ndsay A. Groover itrick W. Hassler, Jr. eri A. Hernandez obert L. Herzog rian M. Horton nily S. Janss nnifer D. Jones ori M. Kensel

Kathryn Kerr Jill C. LaFountaine Matthew R. Lawson Michael L. Layne Kimberly J. Madison Morgan E. McCabe Kevin M. Mcredith Nathan A. Meredith Christopher J. Milan Robert B. Mitchell Annie L. Morris Jennifer L. Pergola Skye R. Perry Rachel R. Peterson Katherine M. Prinzbach Jeffrey D. Prugh Ashley M. Raincy Allison M. Rehmeyer Natalie L. Sigl Laura J. Spangler Adam B. Sterritt Mark B. Streufert Erica L. Strutz Keri D. Sutterfield Mclanie A. Taylor Sean M. Taylor Dionne F. Thornton Matthew R. Umbarger Heather A. Unisko Scott T. Zabka

## School News

BLOOMINGDALE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The National Hispanic Scholar Awards Program has awarded Bloomingdale senior Sylvia L. Mal-donado a \$1,500 scholarship and senior Mark W. Gibson an Honorable Mention Award of \$100. The students were selected from among 3,200 semi-finalists.

Bloomingdale Senior High School teacher Peggy Senior Barr received this year's Hillsborough Vocational Association's Outstanding Teacher Award.

Bloomingdale Senior High School students ap-pearing in Who's Who Among American High School Students honored their favorite teachers this year by voting them into Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

#### The following teachers **Business Notes** were selected:

Clyde Trathowen, history; Ron Yoder, geometry and computer science; Bonnie Herzog, social studies; Dan Barr, English and journalism; Dilia Fernandez, Spanish; Barbara Ramsey, advanced placement American History; Linda Peters, English; Karen Chernoff, advanced world history.

This year's keynote speak-er at Bloomingdale Senior High School's calaureate on Sunday, May 31st, delivered a special message to 1992 graduates. Dilia Maria Fernandez, the 1989 BSHS val-edictorian and a recent Harvard graduate, encour-aged students to strive for their goals in life,

"One must always take advantage of every opportunity that comes along," Fernandez said. that comes "Opportunity is created."



Sue Harbridge, owner of Mail Boxes Etc., is pictured with Bloomingdale graduate Eric Zwygart, winner

of the second annual MBE scholarship.

BURNS JUNIOR

Burns Junior High

ninth graders displayed a

healthy outlook on life at

the third annual school

health fair on May 14.

Students showed videos,

hung posters and designed

booths to represent the

American Cancer Society,

S.A.D.D./M.A.D.D., body fat testing, The

American Heart Assoc.,

stress management, CPR,

AIDS, and blood pressure

screening. Health teacher

Gail Butler sponsored the

See NEWS

page 12

## Let The Games Begin



Science Olympians: Back row, 1 to r, K. Sutterfield, C. Vanderburg, D. Watkins, P. McLane, J. Berninger, M. Gilchrest; 2nd row, 1 to r, J. Faust, J. Taylor, M. Ellis, D. Secret, G. Irizarry; 1rst row, 1 to r, C. Cowan, L. Rivers, F. Lin, R. Stafford and Marian Marley, sponsor.

#### TANYA SZAFRANSKI with FRANCES LIN

On May 14-17, 1992, fteen students from Hoomingdale Senior High chool attended the 1992 cience Olympiad at tubum University in Ala-ama. The Science Dlympiad is a national ion-profit organization

These students served s Florida's representatives abs, Bridge Building, and the nation--and had fun exchanging knowledge and ideas."

Although the county had no money to offer the science team, area businesses contributed more than \$2,000, enabling the team to travel to Alabama.

Mrs. Marley acknowledged, "We'd like to thank our supporters who invested in the futures of these students,"

Among the supporters were: Red's Sporting Goods, Lang Engineering, Morehouse Financial Services, Love Creations Gift Shop, Tina's Jewelry, United Safety and Abatement Supplies, The President's Roundtable, Oliver and Company P.A., Primrose and Oliver, and Bear Auto.

pleted the meal!

MARY COLLISTER is the au-

Floral Designs of Bloomingdale, Don Bua Allstate, Mail Boxes Etc., Tate's Athletics, Pat's Place, Video Fair, Parent Advisory Board, Cassidy's, Nelson One-hour Martinizing, MacRiley Homes, GTE Tampa South, Cargill Fertilizer, Winn Dixie, Brandon Academy, Graybar Electric, First Union Southern Hospitality Wholesale and Retail, Brandon Chrysler-Plymouth, Field's Art and Framing, Baskin Robbins Flavors, and

Other contributors

included The Brandon

Homemakers Club, The

Brandon Chamber of

Commerce, Drapeman

Textile Outlet, Distinctive

za. What about adding a salad? Just throw in some lettuce and a few carrots and you've com-

appropriately enough,

Teacher's Helper.

ther of "Minigreenthumbs: A Collection of Horticultural Activities for Children." To order send \$8.95 to Gropevine Com-munications, 2830 Timber Knoll Dr., Valrico, IT 33594 or call 684-1050. Mrs. Collister will be teaching children's gardening classes at Center Place in Brandon starting june 30, Call 685-8888 for Info.

Roger and Kimberly Rivard with children, from left, Emily, Connor and Cade.

#### JAMES PONTIAC

Roger and Kimberly Rivard, along with their 3 children, Emily, Cade and Connor, are one of Bloo-mingdale's newest families. The Rivards, fresh from the Motor City, are the new owners of James Pontiac/GMC Truck, Inc.

Roger is a CPA and former general manager for the largest Pontiac/GMC dealership in the world, Causley Pontiac in St. Clemens, MI, and honored to be a member of the Brandon business community.

Kimberly, a former teacher and state chamcheerleading coach in Michigan, not only loves raising her children in the Sunshine State, but is overwhelmed by the kindness and helpfulness of her new friends and neighbors.

Emily is in kindergarten at Nativity School, and enjoys horseback riding and gymnastics. Cade and Connor are loving the Florida sunshine.

The Rivards look forward to lots of community involvement and to building many lasting friend-

ships in the Brandon area.

#### THE GREAT BAY TRADING COMPANY

This unique emporium has recently relocated to the Bloomingdale Square Mall and is open 7 days a week. It features a complete line of Fuller Brush Products, and Personal Care Items from around the world, including a complete line of Caswell Massey Apothecary and personal products, plus Pinaud from France. A wide range of professional kitchen accessories for the dis-criminating cook is also available from around the world...even gournet foods, such as Vermont maple syrup and sharp cheddar cheese from a 40 lb, wheel.

The Great Bay Trading Company was formerly lo-cated near Rooster's, and if you haven't been in to see their wide array of products you're really missing out! Linda Mason and Mary Vaughan, the company managers, invite you to bring in this article and receive a 10% discount on your total purchase! Stop

#### LOVE CREATIONS-

A new country crafts and collectibles shop has collectibles shop has opened in Bloomingdale Square offering residents charming handerafted items in a cozy setting.

The name of this delightful store is Love Creations, and that is exactly what customers will find inside. Owners Teresa and Vincent Harwood go out of their way to find unique accessories and gifts, in-cluding some home-made

by family members!

The merchandise is made up of handcrafted items as well as collectible bears, porcelain dolls, baby and wedding gifts, gournet gift baskets and more.

Love Creations is open Monday thru Saturday, 10 am to 8 pm, and Sundays noon to 5 pm.



levoted to boosting the juality of science eduation and increasing tudent interest through competition. n the 48 state Olympiad.

They competed in events such as the BioProcess, Physics and Chemistry Science Bowl. Participant Frances Lin called the Olympiad "an opportunity to explore. We also met other people-the best of

PIZZA rom Page 10

Herbs don't require much fertilizer and are fairly resistant to insects. Many herbs have attractive flowers and foilage and can also add interesting scents to your landscape.

Keep the garden small and the chores at a minimum and you will quickly cultivate a gardener. Encourage the children to weed and water the garden when needed but don't push. Be prepared to assist. When it comes time to harvest and prepare their pizza the kid's interest will once again

peak. Now, wasn't that easy. In fact you may want to grow a side dish to accompany your piz-



Kelly Reeves and Erln Dobrzanski celebrate the Festival of States at Alafia Elementary on May 21.

#### NEWS from page 11

The Burns math team competed in the county championships at King High School on April 28. The algebra team won first place while student Leonard Jacobson finished third as an individual. The geometry team earned third place, while Sean Taylor placed first and Mark Streufert placed tenth individually,

An understanding of American economics paid off for Christine Nickerson and Ryan Hrvatin, Burns ninth graders. Christine won a \$200 savings bond and first place in an essay contest sponsored by the University of South Florida and the Florida Council on Economic Education, Ryan placed second 1.0 the contest about the American free enterprise system.

#### ALAFIA ELEMENTARY

Sixteen of Alafia Elementary's 33 entrants in the 1991-92 cultural arts Reflections Program moved on to the state competition.

Congratulations to Ronda J. Norman for her Honorable Mention award in the Literature Prose category on the state level,

#### PROGRESS VILLAGE

Congratulations to Jaime Melton who received third place in the Reflections Literature Poetry category on the district level.

More than 500 students attended the Progress Village Annual Folk Festival on May 29. This year's event featured performing students and the wellknown Medieval Society.

> See NEWS page 14

#### Travel Back in time:

## Visit St. Augustine

Looking for a family vacation or a weekend away for just the two of you? Just 3-1/2 hours away via 1-95, US1 and Hwy A1A is the crown jewel of "Flor-ida's First Coast"...St. Augustine

St. Augustine was found-ed Sept. 8, 1565, 42 years before the English colonized Jamestown and 55 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. Founded by Spanish sea captain Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles, the city was the first continuously inhabited European settlement in the U.S.

St. Augustine's history and resort attractions draw over one million visitors per year! That's because there are so many things to see and do here.
As the nation's oldest city.

this is where some of America's oldest buildings can be found. The Oldest House, a National Historic

Landmark, dates back to at least 1727. The Oldest Wooden Schoolhouse was built during the first Spanish occupation before the American Revolution, and now houses related period artifacts as well as copies of books from which the pupils studied. A varied collection of more than 100,000 momentos of yesteryear can be seen at The Oldest Store Museum.

St. Augustine is the home of more than five muscums, including the el-egant Lightner Museum, the former Hotel Alcazar, which houses one of the largest collections of American Brilliant Period cut crystal as well as exhibits of natural history and American, European and Oriental art.

The children will enjoy life-like replicas of more than 170 history-making people at Potter's Wax Museum, the first wax museum founded in the U.S. The museum has been recognized worldwide for authenticity and unique costuming.

recreation, choose from some of the finest golf courses on the east coast, as well as the oldest course in Florida (designed in 1916 by Donald Ross, the Ponce de Leon Golf and Conference Center).

twenty two municipal courts which offer lighted evening play and give the visitor a good chance at court time.

offers great fresh-water fishing. The Camachee Is-land Open Fishing Tourna-ment August 14-15 at Ca-machee Cove Yacht Harbor gives fishing enthusiasts a chance to hook a winner! Sailing charters and boat rentals are readily available.

Boat owners are invited to help enlighten Matanzas Bay in early December during St. Augustine's an-nual Holiday Regatta of Lights, a bright seasonal

Or...just relax and enjoy St. Augustine Beach, situated on Anastasia Island, separating the mainland from the Atlantic Ocean. This barrier island comprises a major portion of St. Johns County's 43 miles of oceanfront.

Very reasonably priced sightseeing tours walking, by train, by boat, by trolley, by carriage. Attractions include the historic area, dolphin shows, the Lighthouse Museum, Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum, the historic Spanish Quarter, the Cross and Sword (a play which is presented by the city from June through Au-

Historic St. George Street in St. Augustine's gust depicting the origins of the city), Zorayda Castle

adults to this last attraction

is only \$4, much less than

a visit to the cosmetics

Satisfy your appetite for

atmosphere at some of the

many fine eating establish-

ments in and around the

historic areas and beaches.

When it comes to am-

biance, these restaurants rate five stars! Along a

cobblestone street you will

happen by a place called

Monk's Vineyard, where a

monk may serve you lunch. Or enjoy a Spanish

serenade, dine in an el-egant turn of the century

home or feed the fish while

you wait for your meal...lots of fun, inter-

esting and delicious places

No matter what your bud-

get or lifestyle, visiting St. Augustine offers many op-

tions for sweet dreams. In

the heart of the old city,

bed and breakfast inns of-

fer old-fashioned warmth

and the personal touch known in days gone by.

There's something special

about sleeping where his-

Accomodations vary from

campgrounds (where you may bring your own RV to beautiful, scenic parks) to The Marriott at Sawgrass

Resort (the home of the

tory was made.

counter and lots more fun!

Tennis buffs are offered

There is always something to "catch" in St. Johns County, and St. Augustine

restored area where living history is recreated. second largest golf cours in the U.S. and which is and, of course, the Foun-tain of Youth!...a ticket for bordered by 2-1/2 miles of

shell-white beach). Visits to St. Augustine or any of scores of other wonderful Florida locations can be enhanced by staying at a small and historic lodging rather than a standard motel. The costs are comparable to chain motels and hotels in a given area, but what you generally gain is a lot of personality, personalized service and an ambience that would make it worth twice the price.

An excellent reference for anyone who likes weekend getaways is Herbert Hiller's Guide to Small the and Historic Lodgings of Florida, Third Edition.

Make your plans and reservations soon for the most delightful vacation ever-Contact your travel ageigfor more details, and "get away from it all" in beautiful, historic St. Augustine.

(Special thanks to Brenda Roth of St. Augustine/St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce for materials and photos. More information is available to you at the Bloo-mingdale Community Office.)



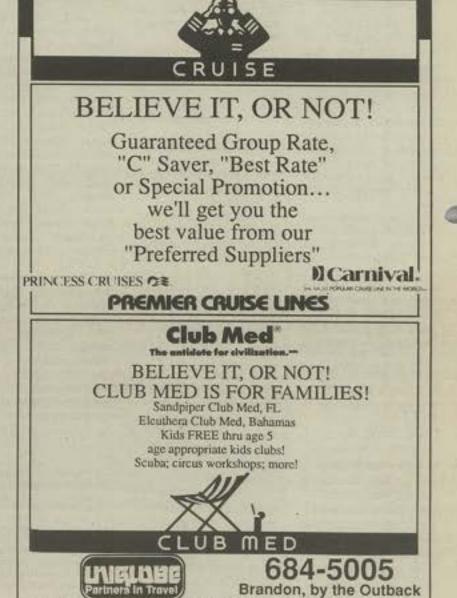
The Gonzalez- Alverez House, known as "the oldest house", was built in the early 1700's with alterations during the Spanish & English colonial periods.



114 W.Bloomingdale

(1/2 Block West of John Moore on Bloomingdale)





#### TUDENTS rom Page 1

cholars are currently reaired to earn 26 credits at raduation. If this reairement remains, these udents would have to atnd summer school to earn e extra credits not offered aring the regular school ear, Mrs. Harris said. In ldition, other students ould have to work harder

ist to graduate at all.
"The kids who are not rong academic students, bey're worried because if sey fail anything, they're oking at summer school r night school," she said. Although she has a hile until she graduates, ums eighth grader Messa Merkle is already incerned about how she ill get all the classes she

eds in time.
"I think it would burn e if I had to work harder r my credits," she said. More immediately af-cted are Bloomingdale niors Michael Mitchell d Kevin Kelly.

"I don't have my full 19 ademic credits," Mitchell id. "If they cut it (schedc) down a class, then I on't make it."

"I'll have to go to sum-mer school, so I'll graduate late," Kelly said.

students and Many teachers have questioned how the education budget could be in such bad shape when the Florida lottery was supposed to help fund education.

Principal Harris admitted that while the lottery does give a portion of its profits to the school system, the amount is not enough to keep the state's education at an acceptable level.

"It's not funding educa-tion the way it was in-tended," he said.

"It just seems that the money the lottery generates should be used for what it was originally earmarked. It needs to be enrichment. It needs to be additional funding," said Juan Saye

Mrs. Harris believes that one way to improve the situation in Florida's schools is for students, parents, and teachers to let congress know how angry they are about the cuts in education.

"Educators need to have membership in their professional organizations for representation. Parents and students need to voice their concerns to school board



Students mourn the loss of education funds at a mock funeral at Chamberlain High School on May 30.

members and legislators,' she said. "This state and this country...need to be more focused on education...and [they are] not."

Cuts in available classes, teachers, and extracurricular activities have left Burns Junior High School Guidance Coun-selor David Cone not knowing what to expect next year.

"This is something entirely new in my [30 years] experience. I haven't seen things this bad before," Cone said.

"You get to a point where it's extremely difficult to provide effective

Cone encouraged community members to attack the budget problem by writing their legislators.

"I think the most important thing is to let the members of the state legislature know how they feel," he said.

Bloomingdale soph-omore Robin Stafford agreed that students should voice their opinions about the budget crisis, and she also encouraged parents to get involved in their children's education.

"I think we definitely need for the parents to speak out more. The school board has no idea what we want unless we tell them," Stafford said. "The school board needs to re-evaluate its priorities. Education comes first!'

## Keep Children Safe At Play

y DR. JOHN OKUN Part One of Three)

chool vacation is almost on us. Many children ill spend their summer at mps, day care centers, aygrounds or on neighrhood swing sets. With few simple precautions, any playground related cidents and injuries can avoided.

1990, over 250,000 ildren under the age of were treated at emerncy rooms and other faities throughout the untry for injuries susned at a playground. lly 72% of these injuries solved some type of fall an playground equipnt either landing on the ound or striking a piece equipment.

ills are by far the most mmon type of play-and accident. Theret, to insure a healthy and summer and to make playgrounds safer all year round, certain simple precautions can be made to help prevent falls and lesson the severity of any in-

Of course, whatever precautions we as parents may take children will continue to slip, lose their grip and lose their balance while playing on monkey bars, merry-go-rounds, swings, seesaws, tree houses, forts, trampolines and many other types of recreational equipment. Often the injury is caused not so much by the fall to the ground but by striking a piece of playground equipment on the way down.

In choosing a safe play area for your child, one must look at three major factors...playground surface, playground design most importantly, equipment installation and maintenance

In this article, we will consider playground sur-

The type of surface of a playground is probably the most important factor in determining the incidence and severity of injuries to children.

It is obvious that hard surfaces such as asphalt, concrete or gravel will result in much more severe injuries to a falling child. These are obviously not suitable as a playground surface.

The best materials to reduce injuries are soft surfaces such as wood, mulch or chips, shredded tires, rubber tile or sand.

In most instances, soil, packed dirt, grass or astro turf are less advisable, Their shock absorbing ability can be greatly affected weather conditions, compaction of the material and general wear and tear.

These precautions as well as proper playground design and maintenance will certainly not stop children from falling from play-ground equipment. They will, however, lessen the severity of any injury and hopefully prevent the majority of trips to emergency rooms and to the doctor.

Certainly, any self re-specting five year old can defeat almost any safety device or circumvent any safety rules at a play-ground. Our goal as purents, physicians and playground directors is to minimize the damage that these children will do to themselves while just having a good time.

Dr. John Okun is a physician in private practice in Brandon, specializing in Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Surgery.

## **School Districts** Clarified

By GWEN

SZAFRANSKI

The Bloomingdale Gazette received several inquiries from parents of Brooker Elementary students reassigned to the new Lithia Springs Elementary concerning the students' progression sequence in the future. As residents of Bloomingdale West, they expressed concern that their children would be bused out of the Bloomingdale area to the south Plant City area for middle school and high

According to Sheron Beauchamp, Attendance Area Specialist, those students who reside south of Bloomingdale, west of Bell Shoals and east of John Moore will continue on to Progress Village. Booker T. Washington, Burns Junior High and Bloomingdale Senior High schools. There is no plan to send these students to the new South Plant City High School when it is

At present, the county is slowly working towards the Cluster Plan that would have sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from Bloomingdale West

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sent to Burns Junior High School and ninth graders channeled to Bloomingdale Senior High 'School; however, this plan will not be realized for at least six years.

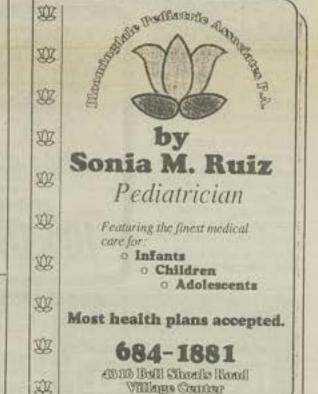
Although continual increases in area student populations are a variable, Beauchamp stated that changes to this plan are

"...very, very slim."

Confusion to area parents may be caused by the fact that Lithia Elementary students residing in Mason Oaks, Lithia Ridge, Riverhills, And Tevalo Hills are scheduled for the progression to the south Plant City area.

Beauchamp commented that property for the new school had recently been purchased, and it would be three full years before construction is completed for the 1996 - 1997 school year. Even then, the school may open under capacity and may not affect the Bloomingdale cluster area at all, she added.

Beauchamp was pleased to announce the site of the new school, which will be located by the proposed Bloomingdale Avenue extension close to Valrico.



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#### NEWS from page 12 E.L. BING ELEMENTARY

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B. C. Giordano and Lisa Kirkpatrick invite you to visit Taka-way Gourmet at 528 Oakfield Drive in Brandon.

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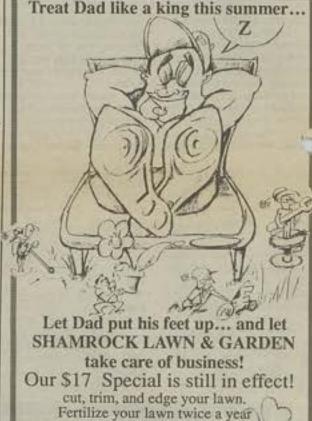
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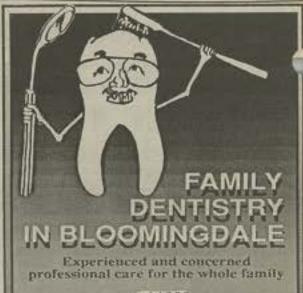
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**Bell Shoals Baptist** Church 2102 Bell Shoals Road, Bran-

689-4229 Pastor: Dr. Bob Reccord Sunday Schedule: Worship 9:30 am, 11:00 am., Bible Study: 9:30 am, 11:00

Bell Shoals Church of Christ 2908 Bell Shoals, Brandon.

Bloomingdale Brothren Church 1310 E Bloomingdale Ave. Valrico 681-2790

Pastor: David L. Stone Sunday Schedule: Worship 10:30 am; Sunday School 9:15 am, Brandon Christian

Church (Disciples of Christ) 910 S. Bryan Road, Brandon 689-4021 Rev. Larry L. Chambers Sunday Schedule:

Worship 10:45 am; Sunday School 9:30 am. **Christ Community** Church

1310 John Moore Road, Brandon 685-6786 Pastor Steve Minter The times for our services

9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Evening Service 7:00 pm AWANA
7:15 pm Teens
7:15 pm Prayer and Praise
Church of the Nativity

705 E Brandon Blvd., Brandon 681-4608 Pastor: Rev. James Lara Sat. Vigil Mass: 5:30 pm Sunday Schedule: 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am, 12 noon Spanish Mass, 6 pm evening Mass.

Crosswalk Christian Community

1603 E. Bloomingdale, Val-rico 653-2224 Pastor: Jeff Hagel Services: Sunday 10 am; Nursery and Childrens Ministry at that time also; Youth Service Fri. 7 pm; Home Groups throughout the

First Christian Church of Brandon 207 New Hope Rd., Brandon 689-1457

Minister: Don Thomas Youth Minister: Jeff Mize Sunday Schedule: Worship 9:30 am & 6 pm. Sunday School 9:30 am. First Pentecostal

Church 2207 Lithia-Pincerest Rd., Brandon 685-4827 Pastor: F. E. Goldsberry Sunday Worship 10 am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 Holy Innocents Epis-

copal Church Valrico Road at Front St., 689-3130 Pastor: Stephen L. Rudacille Sunday Worship 8 am and 10:30 am; Christian Ed Class 9 am; Nursery available all morning

Wednesday Eve 7:15 pm Harvest Time Memorial Church 1511 US Hwy 301 S., Next to Crosstown Express-

Pastor: R.B. Newberry Morning Worship 10:30 am. Sunday School 9:45 am, Youth Wednesday 7:00 pm. Immanuel Lutheran Church

2913 South John Moore Road Brandon 689-1787 Pastors: Roger Robinson and Gregory Seltz; School Principal: Jonathan Guelzow, 685-1978. Worship services are at 8:30 am and 11:00 am each Sunday with Sunday School at 9:45 am. A nursery is available

Saturday eve. service 6 pm. Presbyterian Church of Bloomingdale 710 East Bloomingdale Ave., 654-3699

Pastor: Alan Pickering; Sunday Schedule: Worship: 10:30 am. Church School: 9:15 am. **Providence Baptist** Church

5416 Providence Road Riverview 689-7127 Pastor: Dr. J. Michael Bates Sunday Schedule: Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 10:55 am Evening Worship 6:30 pm Mid-week Service:

Wednesday evening 7:30 pm Resurrection Community Church 3225 Bell Shoals Road,

Brandon 685-6377 Pastor: Wayne Radd Sunday Schedule: Worship 10:30 am & 7 pm, Childrens Church & Nursery: 10:30 am

St. Andrews United **Methodist Church** 

3315 Bryan Rd. at Bloomingdale Ave., Brandon 689-6849; Preschool 689-1207; Pastor: Robert A. Hahn Sunday Schedule: Worship 8:30 & 11 am. Sunday School 9:40 am; Youth Service 5:15 pm. St. Mark United

Church, United Church of Christ 2914 Lithia-Pinecrest Road,

685-0998 Pastor: Garry A. Scheuer, Jr. Sunday Schedule: Worship 10:30 am; Church School 10:30 am;

Adult Educ, 9 am St. Stephen's Catholic 5049 Bell Shoals Road,

Valrico 689-4900 Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm. Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am

Weekdays Mon.-Sat. 8 am. South Brandon Baptist Church

4929 Bell Shoals Road 681-1045 Pastor: Al Browder Sunday Schedule: Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Wednesday Evenings: Service at 7:15 pm 8 pm - Youth Program, Adult Bible Study, Childrens Pro-

South Brandon Community Church Office: 3221 S. Bryan Road, Pastor: Ed Ross, 653-2417 Sunday Schedule:

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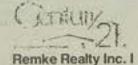
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