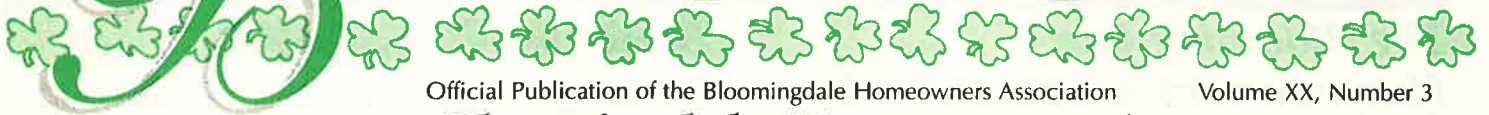


the Bloomingdale gazette



Official Publication of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

Volume XX, Number 3

Bloomingdale Homeowners Association Membership Drive 2000 in full swing

By Laura Frazier, Editor

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) has announced the start of the year 2000 membership drive. Notices are scheduled to arrive in residents' mailboxes in April.

Through the collection of voluntary annual dues, the BHA is able to serve the residents of Bloomingdale in many capacities. All monies collected from dues are put back into the community through such established and proven programs as the Bloomingdale Mobile Watch, Neighborhood Involvement Program and Deed Restriction Enforcement Program.

The BHA has the distinction of being the only homeowners association representing all of Bloomingdale's residents. The BHA Board of Directors is composed of non-paid volunteers residing in the community. All Bloomingdale residents are invited to attend the monthly public meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Bloomingdale Community Office at 7:30 pm.

The BHA:

- * Provides a community office for all Bloomingdale residents
- * Owns The Bloomingdale Gazette, now in its' 20th year of publication.
- * Holds monthly public meetings to hear and discuss issues directly affecting our neighborhoods.
- * Maintains a community web site

(www.cybertrails.com/bha/) offering up-to-date news and information, including deed restrictions.

* Provides free e-mail updates to residents on timely community issues (school boundary changes, planning and zoning hearings, etc.)

* Acts as the residents' advocate for new sidewalks, streetlights, road signs and other necessary improvements.

* Provides our community with an official voice that speaks authoritatively to Hillsborough County government officials and developers.

A recent community survey showed that 89.7% of residents who responded felt that the BHA was a valuable asset to our community. The BHA Board of Directors will continue to serve and represent our residents with the continued support of the community.

For more information, please refer to page 2 of this issue ("Your Inside Connections") for BHA telephone, fax, e-mail and address contacts.

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**DEED
RESTRICTIONS
ONLINE! 11**

Students Alive From Education



BSHS Asst. Principal Sara Davis, PTSA President Ted Grable, Tampa Fire Department Lt. Ronnie Garcia and PTSA Safety Committee Chairperson Ellen Gates team up to keep students SAFE (see story on page 6). Photo by Mack Austin.

Calling all Bloomingdale High graduates! See page 10.

Your Inside Connections

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

3509 Bell Shoals Rd. • Valrico, FL 33594
(813) 681-2051 • E-mail: BHA@CyberRails.com

Web site: www.CyberRails.com/BHA/

- President Ted Grable
- Treasurer Pam Liguori
- Directors Patricia Radel
..... LaWayne Wyatt
..... Ann Underwood
..... Rodney Biddle
..... Len Jaszczak
..... Mary Cummings



Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

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



Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District

P.O. Box 3132, Brandon, FL 33509-3132

- President Bill Grace, 685-2817
- Treasurer Fred Englehart
- Meetings .. Second Tuesday each month at 7:30 pm,
3419 Cade Lane, Bloomingdale Oaks



Share your news with the community!

Write to Editor, 3509 Bell Shoals Rd., Valrico, FL 33594
Phone (813) 681-2051
E-mail LauraFrazier@Prodigy.net
Fax (813) 651-1129

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District

- 684-6667
- President, Thom Snelling 681-9186
- Vice President, Tom Mackiewicz 653-4145
- Treasurer, Don Cassels 681-8855
- Corresponding Secretary, R. Dickey 689-2177
- Recording Secretary, Alice Burleson 685-1076
- Trustee, Tim Golden 653-1337
- Trustee, Paul Almeida 661-2018
- Property Manager, DPPI 684-6617



Meetings

All meetings take place at the Community Office at 3509 Bell Shoals Rd. These are monthly public meetings and all Bloomingdale residents are invited.

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

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



the Bloomingdale gazette

The official publication of the BHA
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Saturday, March 18th
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Bloomingdale Community Substation Notes

By Deputy Pete Maurer

Special thanks

The Bloomingdale Area Community Council (BACC) was privileged to have a special group of professionals brief its members and guests at last month's meeting. Three members of the Hillsborough County 911 Communications Operations section presented detailed information on the types of calls they handle (see story in this issue). The BACC would like to extend their special thanks to Brad Heron, Elena Arroyo and Mike Widdoes for taking the time from their busy schedule to update our community council on the County's 911 Communications Operations. As a community we would like to extend our appreciation for the outstanding, professional work that they and their coworkers do.

Community Resource

As this title implies I am a Community Resource Officer and Officer Capitano is a Community Service Officer. We both receive a wide variety of calls for assistance. We want the Bloomingdale community to know that we are at the community station to provide assistance in any way we can. One of our main purposes is to serve as a liaison between the residents of our community and the many County resources that are available to provide assistance and sup-

port. We have a large variety of information available with points of contact on numerous subjects ranging from zoning to home security. The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) and Special Taxing District (STD) also have information related to homeowners' issues. Many residents find that they can get the information they need by directly contacting a County department, the BHA or STD. We would be glad to furnish the numbers for these offices. They are also listed on page 2 of every issue ("Your Inside Connections"). One of your greatest resources is the Bloomingdale Area Community Council (BACC). This council is made up of Bloomingdale residents who meet to discuss issues of concern to the community. Anyone with a concern can contact the community station and their concern will be presented to the council. In many cases the BACC may already be working the concern through County resources. Our goal is to help make Bloomingdale a safe community while improving the quality of life for its residents.

Speed Monitor purchased

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) Board of Directors voted at its January meeting to do a dollar for dollar match to bring donations for a radar display unit to the required \$3,000. Over the past year, many businesses and residents brought the contributions up to \$2,700.

Long's Goodyear on Bell Shoals Road donated \$150, which was promptly matched by the BHA. The radar display unit will be used by Deputies patrolling our community to enforce, and discourage, speeding.

Bloomingdale special taxing district, property manager's report, January 2000

Submitted by Al Devney, DPMI Management

Irrigation:

1. Brandon Irrigation repaired a valve on the Golf Manor system, a timer on the Elton system, a leaking main line on the Gotham system, and a pressure switch on the Greenhollow system.

2. I.C.D. Services was contracted to design an irrigation system for Springvale Drive.

3. DPMI hosted a pre-bid meeting for the irrigation contract for the new Callista Drive system.

4. Planscape, Inc. raised 370 sprinkler heads to the correct level on Natures Way between Springvale Drive and Kingsford Place.

5. DPMI replaced 13 heads and 6 rotors, and repaired 2 risers and 3 zone lines.

Landscaping:

1. Natures Designs installed 1900 white, pink and purple Petunias in Bloomingdale East and West.

2. Planscape, Inc. installed Indian Hawthorne bushes around the Palm tree grouping at Glenhaven and Springvale.

3. Neighborhood Pest Control sprayed Bloomingdale East and West with Asulox and Pre-M to kill the crab grass.

Other:

1. ZK construction repaired the damaged entrance at Hickory Ridge.

2. Russell electric repaired the electrical problem at the Kiowa entrance.

3. DPMI mailed second request letters to 8 residents who have not replied to the minor entranceway program.

4. DPMI compiled a list of addresses of residents that will have their walls painted for free in this year's painting program.

5. DPMI ordered six trash baskets that will be installed in various locations on the right of way.

6. DPMI wrote the notices for irrigation pre-bid and plugging contract and updated the letters for the painting contract.

7. In the land of eat, drink and pitch out the window, DPMI picked up 45 bags of trash, 2 socks, a pink stuffed rabbit, a golf ball, a green toilet seat cover and \$.21 cents. The beverages of choice were Pepsi for soft drinks, Bud Light for beer and Smirnoff vodka for distilled spirits.

8. In the lost and found department, two people claimed the black telephone and no one called for the bifocals.

Al Devney can be reached at 684-6617.

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S.A.F.E. program strives to save lives by educating teens

By Mack Austin

We all want our children, especially those who are old enough to drive, to be safe. When we see the traffic that continues to grow in and around Bloomingdale and Brandon, our concerns grow also. Even the most experienced drivers have to be defensive during some of our more congested times.

Two phrases that we constantly hear are "buckle up" our seatbelts and "don't mix drinking and driving". Statistics have proven that these safeguards work. But how do you instill these life saving habits into the minds of student drivers? They have limited driving experience and don't generally like to be told what to do. As parents, we can try to get them to make these habits part of their driving practices.

One group of professionals has found a very effective way to reach students through a unique program called "S.A.F.E.", which stands for "Students Alive From Education". S.A.F.E. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to making high school and college students clearly aware of the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, not wearing seatbelts and the real life trauma that comes with these dangers. S.A.F.E.'s primary goal is to give young adults the information they need to make educated and rational decisions that concern their safety and well-being and to reduce injuries and fatalities in this age group.



Lieutenant Ronnie Garcia, Tampa Fire Department paramedic and SWAT Team medic, is an instructor with the S.A.F.E. program. Photo by Mack Austin.

S.A.F.E.'s unique presentations are what make them effective with the high school and college age students. At this age they want clear, direct information about a subject. No bull, just straight talk. According to Lieutenant Ronnie Garcia, a Tampa Fire Department paramedic and SWAT team medic, "Speaking to these students on a conversational level, not at them, is what makes a difference. This subject is too serious to just make suggestions. You have to let them know the consequences can be deadly, literally."

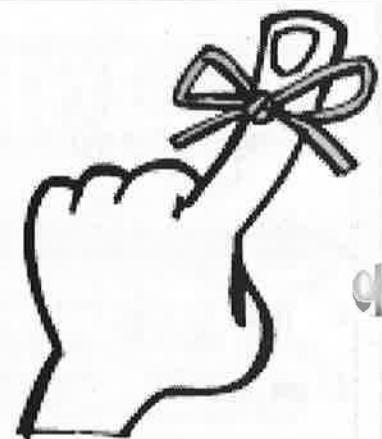
As a paramedic, Ronnie has experienced first hand what it is like to arrive at a "crash scene, not an accident, because if alcohol is involved, it is no accident." He says, "The worst case is when I don't have to do anything, because this means there are fatalities. I would much rather have to bandage up a young driver. This usually means they had their seatbelts on."

Ronnie and other professionals with his background and experience address high school and college students and illustrate, in a graphic and dramatic fashion, the price that is paid by those who won't buckle up and refrain from drinking and driving, both very simple but deadly choices. Presentations have been made at Bloomingdale High and

more will be given as the program grows. As the program grows more lives will be saved. Ronnie recalled one crash where the driver said, "I just wanted to thank you. I remember you from the presentation you made at my school. I lost a friend who didn't use his seatbelts. But after I saw your program I do use mine."

asked to complete a "No Photo Affidavit" at the proper precinct.

The Supervisor of Elections indicates that every effort will be made to encourage all registered voters to cast their ballots. When March 14 rolls around, let's all do our civic duty by exercising the right, and the privilege, to vote.



Don't forget to vote!

Pam Iorio, Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections, has announced the four year 2000 elections for Hillsborough County residents.

Tuesday, March 14 is the Presidential Preference Primary Election. The first and second Primary Elections will be held later in the year, followed by the General Election in November.

Effective this year, each voter will be asked for a photo and signature ID. If no photo ID is available, the voter will be

BSTD set to launch major entryway project

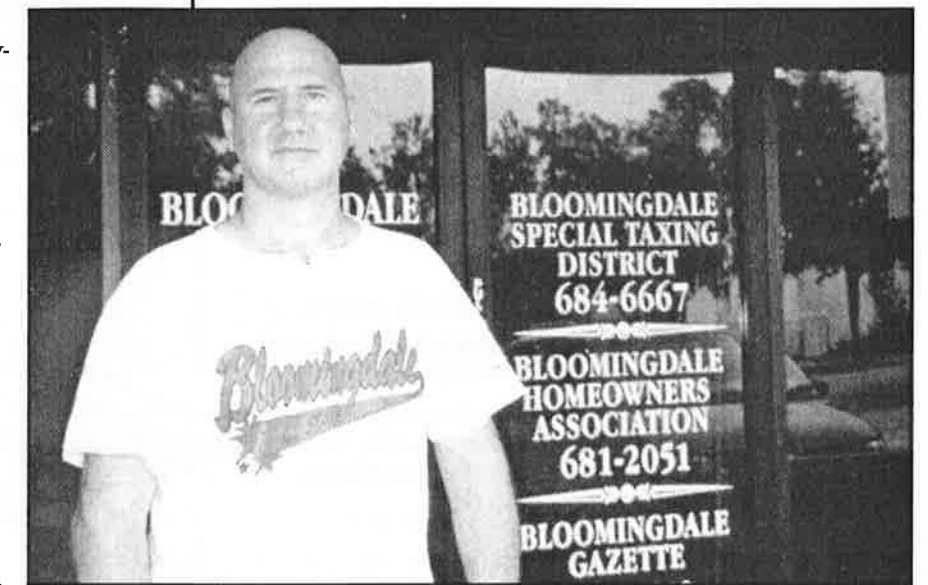
By Laura Frazier, Editor

Members of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District (BSTD) met with several local banking institutions in February to determine the best source of financial service for the major entryway project. The BSTD Board will select an institution in March and immediately thereafter select landscape architectural firms and general contractors to begin the design, survey and specification work for all 8 major Bloomingdale entranceways. The BSTD is aiming for an August groundbreaking, with project completion estimated 12 - 18 months thereafter.

The BSTD's minor (interior section) entranceway project was bid on in February. The plan calls for significant landscape improvements to approximately 20 minor entranceways over an 18-month time frame. BSTD President Thom Snelling said, "We are hoping to provide the entire community with a beautiful face lift that will reflect our standing as one of the premier residential

neighborhoods in eastern Hillsborough County."

Details and plans for both entryway projects will be published in the Gazette as they become available. For more information, please refer to the BSTD contact information on page 2 of this issue ("Your Inside Connections").



BSTD President Thom Snelling



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North Grove Plaza
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Welcome to Bloomingdale

The Bloomingdale Gazette and Brandon Regional Hospital are pleased to announce the following new arrivals to our community:

Kyle Henry Almskog

Born January 7, 2000 to Tecca Kilmer - Almskog and John Almskog

Ethan Trace Smith

Born January 18, 2000 to Lisa and Michael Smith

Alyssa Marie DeLones

Born January 25, 2000 to Angel and Kenneth DeLones

Jason David Kaelin

Born January 26, 2000 to Tracie and Bryan Kaelin

Gabriella Ann Livingston

Born February 4, 2000 to Debra Ann and Philip Lawrence Livingston

Congratulations from the staff and friends of the Bloomingdale Gazette!

Do you know of a "new addition" to our community? Please contact the Gazette as listed on page 2 "Your Inside Connections." We would be pleased to publish your birth announcement!



Bloomingdale Rec Center posts track, other fun classes

The Bloomingdale Rec Center is located at Bloomingdale Community Park, Canoga Park Drive, in Bloomingdale West. For more information, call Recreation Director Donna Clouse at 744-5907 weekdays 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

Daisy Fun Shoot

Description: BB gun safety and target practice

Instructor: Deputy Pete Maurer, Bloomingdale Community Resource Officer

Session: 8 weeks

Day/time: Thursday, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Ages: 9 to 12 year olds

Cost: \$10 per session

Track

Day/time: Wednesdays 5:00 - 6:00 pm

Ages: 9 and up

Cost: free

Note: Wear comfortable running clothes and shoes

Photography for Everyone

Description: Photography techniques with any type of camera including video.

Instructor: Tim Golden, 653-1337

Day/time: 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month, please call instructor for times

Cost: free (students are responsible for providing and developing their own film)



Beginners Golf

Description: Lessons with a pro instructor at Ace Range Golf Center, 820 Kings Ave. (next to LaViva Plaza)

Day/time: Monday 3/27 at 7:00 pm, Wednesday 3/29 at 7:00 pm and Saturday 4/1 at 9:00 am. PRE-REGISTRATION is required. Call 754-5085.

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Bloomingtondale Senior High School welcomes new Assistant Principal, counselor

By Mack Austin

Signs of the Times

Lots of activities are taking place at Bloomingtondale High School. Seniors have ordered their caps and gowns and are planning for Grad Night. Track practices have begun. FCAT tests have been completed and many are anxiously awaiting the results. A lot of hard work by administrators, faculty, students and volunteers went into this annual hurdle and everyone involved is to be congratulated for the great team effort.

PTSA Welcomes New Members and Administrators

The PTSA Board would like to extend a special welcome to its newest member, Gail Bloxham, Chairperson for the Arts and Education Committee. One of her activities will be the "Reflections" competition that involves Bloomingtondale students competing in a nationwide art contest.

The Board would also like to welcome two new administrators, Todd Bowden and Jason Hicks. Todd is Bloomingtondale High's newest Assistant Principal. He will be directly involved in producing the school's newsletter. Jason is a counselor with DACCO who provides counseling every Friday. He is a former BSHS graduate. We wish them well and thank them in advance for their time and support.

Alumni profile: Amy Schoeffel, BSHS Class of '92

By Mason Meehan

Amy came to BSHS from Burns Middle School, and was one of the first graduates to spend all three years in BSHS. A few of her many activities included tennis, yearbook, Leo Club and the math team. She was a member of the National Honor Society. In her spare time, she was a movie critic for the St. Petersburg Times and even managed to hold a part time job at the Brandon Library.



Amy Schoeffel

Amy entered Marquette University in Milwaukee right after graduating from high school. Her first thoughts about a career centered on being a Lobbyist and activist for children's and seniors affairs. She spent a summer in Washington DC, clerking for Congressman Charles Canady. It was during this time that she realized that a successful lobbyist should have a legal background. Upon graduating from Marquette, she enrolled at Boston University Law School. Her summers in undergraduate school were spent working for a Public Relations firm in Tampa.

Amy graduated from BU in 1999 and returned to Milwaukee, accepting a position with one of the larger firms

There are still some important committee positions available. Call 744-8018 ext. 263 to join this essential part of Bloomingtondale's school programs.

Magazines needed

Thanks to the many supporters of the Reading Program. Many great magazines have been donated, but more for male students are needed, especially car and sports magazines. Magazines can be dropped off at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Community Station on Bell Shoals. One special note, please remove any mailing labels. Also, volunteers are needed to listen to and assist students with their reading each week on M/W/Th during second period (8:30-9:30am) and fifth period (12:50-1:50 pm). Every Tuesday volunteers are in the school cafeteria to exchange candy for magazines. Call 744-8018, ext. 563 to be a Reading Program volunteer. You will make a difference.

Business sponsors needed

Linda Weronik, Bloomingtondale High School's Reading Program Director, is looking for incentives to motivate students into reading more and learning the importance of developing a life-long interest in reading. Since all students like good food and a good party, any local businesses willing to sponsor a Pizza Party or Ice Cream Party for those classes she identifies as being the "most active participants in the reading program," can contact her at 744-8018, ext. 563.

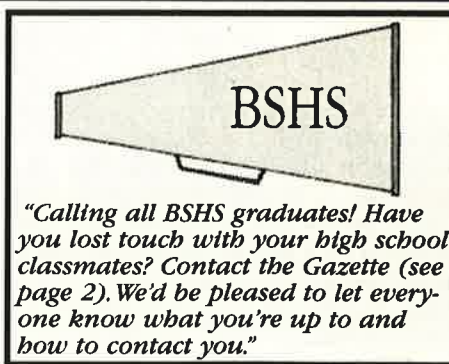
Future programs

Two important new programs are in the planning stage. Gail Butler is directing "Violence Prevention Week". A "Peer Counseling Program" is being researched and could be put in place next year. For more information call 744-8018 EXT 263.

in Milwaukee. Her law specialty is estate planning. She says that helping people who have lost a loved one is a positive aspect of her career. She has taken the big picture in helping her clients contact social services, search for lost relatives and getting these folks in touch with a religious leader if they desire.

She returned to Milwaukee to work for her current employer and because of her positive experiences at Marquette. She says that it makes her visits back to Florida to visit family much more special. Her hobbies include traveling (she has been to Italy recently) and reading. She is also a new paddleball aficionado.

If you would like to reach Amy, contact her in care of her firm, Reinhart, Boerner, Van Deuren, Norris and Rieselbach, 1000 N. Water St., P.O. Box 514000, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203-3400, or via e-mail at aschoeff@reinhartlaw.com. Congratulations and good luck to Amy Schoeffel, Class of '92.



Deed Restrictions online www.cyberrails.com/bha/

By Laura Frazier, Editor

Many Bloomingtondale homeowners have requested information about deed restrictions and enforcement procedures from the Bloomingtondale Homeowners Association (BHA). Although the restrictions are included with each homeowner's closing documents, deed restriction information stands out as the most frequent request received by the BHA.

Our community web site, "BHA Online," provides general information about deed restrictions, county codes and procedures for enforcement through our neighborhood Involvement Program. Through the efforts of BHA President Ted Grable and Director Rodney Biddle, a complete version of Bloomingtondale's deed restrictions is now available on the site.

BHA President Ted Grable says, "One of the BHA's most exciting projects this year has been publishing the deed restrictions for all of the Bloomingtondale sections on our web site. There are 40 neighborhoods, each with a different set of restrictions."

Mr. Grable reports that the number one issue in the community is compliance with deed restrictions and county codes. "We find that a few homeowners and landlords do not respect the common rules that we all agreed to when we purchased our homes. The BHA, through our web site and through the Gazette, is working to inform the community on these issues. We would like everyone to see their deed restrictions as a feature of the community, just like green space and street lighting, rather than an obstacle to overcome."

The BHA has also approved a plan to test a new program wherein the BHA would sponsor forums on deed restrictions on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis. The program will focus on neighborhoods that are 10 to 15 years old without deeded master associations. Residents that would like to nominate their neighborhood for a deed restriction forum should contact the BHA. Please refer to page 2 of this issue ("Your Inside Connections") for BHA contact information.

School Board approves new boundaries; Bloomingtondale West students return to Burns

The Hillsborough County School Board, at a January 18 meeting, approved new attendance boundaries designed primarily to accommodate the fall 2000 openings of FishHawk's new Bevis Elementary and Randall Middle Schools. The changes are also expected to provide relief to critically overcrowded Burns and Rodgers Middle and Lithia Springs and Boyette Elementary schools.



Under the new plan, 188 students residing in Bloomingtondale West (now attending Rodgers Middle in Riverview) will attend Burns Middle School. The Bloomingtondale Homeowners Association (BHA) actively supported the new plan. BHA President Ted Grable said, "Many Bloomingtondale residents are pleased that their middle school students will once again be attending Burns along with their Bloomingtondale East neighbors." Effective for the 2000 - 2001 school year, Bloomingtondale West students will attend the Lithia Springs - Burns - Bloomingtondale cluster. Bloomingtondale East students will continue to attend the Alafia - Burns - Bloomingtondale cluster.

Bloomingtondale students were not affected by the boundary changes for Bevis Elementary School. For more information, call the Hillsborough County School Board at (813) 272-4000.

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Parent's school involvement makes a difference

By Mack Austin

A recent Countywide "Parent Involvement Forum" hosted by the Hillsborough County School's Department of Human Relations was attended by more than sixty-five parents with students in Hillsborough County's Middle and High schools. Representing Bloomingdale High School were Addie Singfield, BHS Human Relations Specialist; Jestine Cox, Assistant Principal for Student Affairs; Ellen Gates, BHS PTSA Safety Committee Chairperson; and Valarie Faison, a concerned parent.

Activities at the forum included mini-workshops on setting benchmarks, school safety, improving discipline, character building -how to get it and keep it, how to dream, how to succeed with a computer, how to prepare for and pass the FCAT and many, many more.

According to Addie Singfield, "One issue that was discussed over and over was the forum title itself - Parent Involvement. Many of the attendees addressed the issue of why some parents get very involved in their students school activities and some don't get involved at all." Ellen Gates pointed out that, "In some cases the students don't want the parents involved. They want to handle everything themselves." Valarie Faison said, "Every little bit (of involvement) can make a difference, even if it's just checking their homework."

(continued on page 13)

(continued from page 12)

All of the attendees recognized that many parents' schedules are very busy. But in the future, when you look back, I can personally say that it is a great feeling knowing that you were actively involved in making your student's school a better place to learn and grow up. It is some of the best time you'll ever spend.

There will be some follow-up surveys and programs offering opportunities for parents to get involved in the lives of their students. Call 744-8018 to find out how you can make a difference.

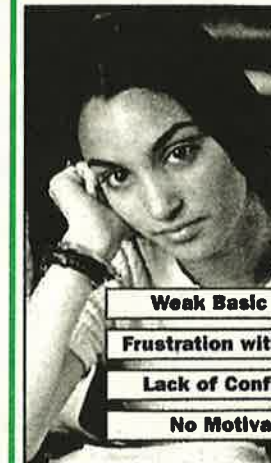
MOMS Club of Bloomingdale

The MOMS Club of Bloomingdale (Moms Offering Moms Support), will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 21 at 10:00 am at the Bloomingdale Community Center in Bloomingdale West.

The MOMS Club, a national nonprofit organization, is specially designed for at-home mothers. The club philosophy is to support the mother's decision to stay home with her children, and to provide opportunities to share activities with other at-home mothers and their children.

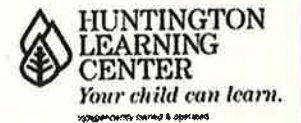
Members are encouraged to bring their children with them to all meetings and activities. The speaker at the March 21 meeting will be a Dental Hygienist. For more information, please call Valerie at (813) 653-3307 or write to MOMS Club of Bloomingdale, P.O. box 2205, Valrico, FL 33595.

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"911, What is your emergency?"

By Mack Austin

Many of you reading this article have heard these words when you made the call, perhaps for a family emergency or for a neighbor. It is the fastest, most professional source of emergency assistance that has ever been developed.

Many people envision a 911 communications operations center handling one emergency call after another, 24 hours a day. They do handle thousands of calls, but just how many are real emergencies?

As residents, homeowners, family members, drivers and business owners we need to know just what a real emergency is because, of the thousands of calls handled, the majority are not real emergencies. An emergency situation, according to Elena Arroyo, a County 911 Emergency Communications operator, "should fall into one of the following categories - crimes in progress, domestic violence/problems, burglaries, missing young children, isolated elderly, property vandalism, medical emergencies, traffic accidents, pets or children in locked vehicles, fires and other situations in which harm to a person or property is involved." These situations require immediate professional attention to be dispatched.

Brad Heron of the 911 Emergency Communications Operations Center explains how the situation is further complicated when a dispatch is not to an emergency situation. Non-emergency situations should be directed to the

(continued on page 15)



Emergency personnel from Hillsborough County Fire Department's Station #7 and Hillsborough County Sheriff's Deputies Stephanie Violette and Mike Newell respond to an emergency call in Bloomingdale. Photo by Mack Austin.

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Keeping in Touch Bloomingdale residents in the Military

The Gazette is proud to recognize our residents serving in the Armed forces at military stations around the globe. We would like to let our residents know who and where they are, perhaps opening an opportunity to renew old friendships. Please send the following information to the Gazette address, fax or e-mail on page 2 of this issue. Photos are welcome. Information: Name, Branch, Unit, Specialty, contact information, brief bio.

Name: Kevin Sutterfield, BSHS Class of '93
Branch: U S Air Force
Unit: 54th Fighter Squadron
Specialty: Fighter Pilot, F-15C

After high school, Kevin attended the Air Force Academy and graduated in 1997. He attended USAF Pilot Training at Vance AFB, Oklahoma and F-15 Fighter Training at Tyndall AFB, Florida. Kevin and his wife, Kamdon, are stationed in Anchorage, Alaska, but Kevin is presently on temporary duty in Saudi Arabia flying combat air patrol missions over southern Iraq. He would like to hear from his high school classmates via e-mail. Until mid-March, he can be reached at 363F15C.OPS30@psab.aorcentaf.af.mil(363F15C/OPS30). After mid-March he will ferry an F-15 around the world through Singapore to Alaska, and can be reached at KevinF15C@aol.com.

(continued from page 14)

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office dispatch for non-emergencies at 247-8200. Brad states that "the types of situations the Sheriff's Office handles include vehicle theft, alarms, repetitive runaway teenagers, information questions, harassing phone calls and nuisance animals -barking dogs, raccoons, snakes." Deputies are on patrol to handle these types of calls.

"Many calls," according to Mike Widdoes of the 911 Communications Operations Center, "could be handled by a community service officer. These include harassing phone calls, a lost or stolen tag, someone driving off without paying for gas, illegal purchases of alcoholic beverages, a lost ID or credit card or vandalism." Community Resource Deputies and Community Service Officers are a great source of direct contact with a community and know the residents and the area.

Our county's 911 Emergency Communications Operations Center is a great asset to our community. They dispatch to unincorporated areas of Hillsborough County with over 613,000 residents. There are two situations where we can readily help them help us. If you own a cell phone that activates 911 when the batteries are low, check it frequently to prevent such a call. If you do call 911, don't panic and hang up. The computer tracking system has identified our number and a dispatch will be made. Stay on line and let the operator know what is happening. By providing our assistance to the 911 center, we free them up to provide real emergency assistance to others.

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Bloomingdale High Senior scores full scholarship

Bloomingdale High School senior Christa Duncan has been selected by Birmingham Southern College in Birmingham, AL to receive a full scholarship. Birmingham Southern recruiters tracked Christa's impressive performance on the volleyball court and in the classroom throughout her high school career.



The Duncan family (l-r) Bruce, Jamie, Christa, Linda and Bo in front.

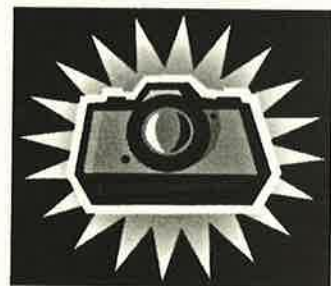
"We are equally as proud of Christa's academic accolades as we are of her athletic accomplishments," says Christa's father, Bruce Duncan. "The universities look for academic achievement, dedication and character in addition to athletic ability, and they found it all in Christa."

Christa has been honored as the Bloomingdale Bull's volleyball team MVP in her junior and senior seasons, is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and was recently selected as a member of the Bloomingdale High School Honor Court. She currently plays for the Jr. Olympic Team Big Dawg Volleyball Club.

Tutor Time Child Care Learning Center breaks ground

Tutor Time Child Care Learning Center in Bloomingdale West held a groundbreaking ceremony on February 7, 2000. The 10,000 square foot center, located at 3729 Canoga Park Drive, will accommodate children from 6 weeks to 5 years old during the day, and provide after school care and tutoring for older children. Owners Susan and Joseph Miller of Riverview expect to open in late July. Tutor Time is a national franchise offering state of the art childcare and has approximately 400 centers across the U.S. For more information, call (813) 651-0779.

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REAL ESTATE UPDATE

By Luana Russell

Don't Feel Guilty

QUESTION: I am a homeowner and my friend rents an apartment. We both earn the same amount of money, but I pay considerably less taxes. I feel a little guilty?

ANSWER: Don't feel guilty. The difference in taxes will always favor the homeowner. For starters, most of the monthly mortgage payment for a home is tax-deductible interest. This runs over 90% in the early years of the loan.

On top of that, there is a big tax bonus when you sell. Couples filing a joint tax return can exclude up to \$500,000 of the profit on the sale of a principal residence. Single filers can exclude up to \$250,000. If it will help your guilt, tell your friend to buy a house.

Inheriting Real Estate

QUESTION: My uncle just died and left a large parcel of land to me. What are the tax rules if I inherit real estate from a relative?

ANSWER: The general rule is that a person inheriting property receives it at its fair market value on the date of the decedent's death. All untaxed capital gains are forgotten.

Suppose the land you mention is worth \$100,000 and your uncle paid only \$10,000 for it years ago. That potential capital gain is forgotten upon death. If you sell the inherited property for \$100,000, you own no tax on the profit since your basis is the \$100,000 fair market value on the day the decedent died.

Luana
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the Bloomingdale gazette 17

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YMCA construction progresses



The first phase of the Campo Family YMCA, the construction of a new senior baseball field next to the new facility, is in its final steps. The lights are up, the clay is down, the fence is being installed, and the parking lot is ready for paving. It won't be long before the real sounds and signs of spring are in the air. The new field will be tremendously welcomed by the many players at Bloomingdale Little League. Photo by Mack Austin.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church plans new worship center

Bloomington resident Pastor Craig Swartz of Redeemer Presbyterian Church has announced plans to construct a new church and worship center on a 35-acre site on Boyette Road in Riverview. Sunday services (9:30 am) are currently held at the Bloomingdale Community Center on Canoga Park Drive in Bloomingdale West.



Pastor Craig Swartz

Members hope to erect a temporary meeting facility on the property by the end of May. Construction of a permanent facility is expected to begin by the end of this year.

Pastor Swartz invites members of the Bloomingdale Community to contact or visit the church. "We are a family driven church, with lots of young families and lots of kids. We strive to keep the traditional roots of the Presbyterian Church, presented in a contemporary fashion."

For more information, contact Pastor Swartz at (813) 655-3802.

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