

the Bloomingdale gazette

Complimentary

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**Lights,
sidewalks,
action!**

See page 12

Community Meeting

Hillsborough County Commissioner Ronda Storms, shown here with Community Council member Terry Ward and Community Deputy Pete Maurer, will address the concerns of Bloomingdale area residents on March 13, 2001, at 7:30 p.m. at the Culbertson Community Center at Bloomingdale West Park. See story on page 8.



Alltel donates phones and airtime to mobile Watch

Alltel representative and Bloomingdale resident Bob Gaudreau (right) presents Mobile Watch Coordinator Tony Diolosa with one of four wireless phones donated by Alltel under the nationwide COPP program. See story on page 11.



We found Coach Jeff!

Good news for all of the kids at Culbertson Recreation Center. Coach Jeff Kleinotas has not disappeared. He's hard at work at the Kleinotas family's new Bloomingdale business. See story on page 4.



Rezoning defies deed restrictions, See page 15

Your Inside Connections

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

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(813) 681-2051 • E-mail: BHA@CyberRails.com

Web site: www.bha-online.org

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Bloomingdale Mobile Watch



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- Treasurer, Paul Kelmer 681-9701
- Steven Heckel 654-4266
- Brad Scharp 643-5000
- 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 Monday 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 • Fax: (813) 651-1129
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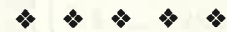


Meetings

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.



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The official publication of the BHA

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Bloomingtondale's Car Wash on the Greens is a family affair

Story and photos by Mack Austin

A new family business recently opened in Bloomingtondale; Car Wash on the Greens, at the corner of Lithia Pinecrest Road and Erindale. and when we say family business, we mean it.

Owner Allen Kleinotas said, "We put the whole family to work, each one part of a great team to make our business a real success." The family includes his wife, two sons, two daughters, one sister-in-law, one brother, and aunts and uncles.

"It's great working together," said Alan. "We're not scattered all over the place at different jobs. We can even ride together and save a lot of driving."

One family member is better known as "Coach Jeff" from the Culbertson Rec Center in Bloomingtondale West. Since he left the rec center to join the family business, Jeff says many of his old players drop by with their parents when they get their cars washed. Some have been known to wave from their school buses as they pass the car wash.

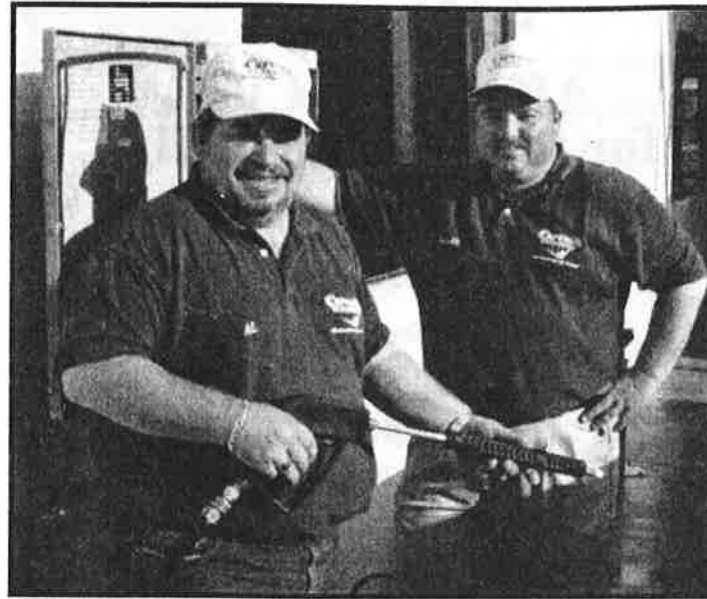
Aiming to be even more than a successful family business, Allen said, "We are a professionally run, customer oriented business that will be very actively involved in the community. We believe in giving back. We've been very blessed over my thirty three years in the car wash business."

Allen has agreed to be a drop-off point for used magazines donated by residents for use in Bloomingtondale High School's Reading Enhancement Program. The Kleinotas will also sponsor a Bloomingtondale Little League team, and are working on other special projects within the community.

Car Wash on the Greens offers full service car washing and detail-

ing along with Mobil oil and lubes. It is open Monday to Saturday, closed on Sundays.

So, head on down, get your car serviced and cleaned. Drop off some magazines for the students at BSHS, and say "hi" to the hard working folks at Bloomingtondale's newest family business.



Mark Kleinotas and his son Scott are committed to providing professional service and community support through their new Bloomingtondale business.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

By Mack Austin

Proposed Publix on Lithia Pinecrest Road

Residents near the proposed site of a new Publix between Bloomingtondale Avenue and Lithia-Pinecrest Road remain opposed to the development. They have valid concerns about possible drainage problems, adequate property use transitions near their homes, and the lack of planning when compared with other neighborhoods. They're



Bloomingtondale homeowners are concerned that a proposed shopping center planned near this major intersection will seriously increase traffic congestion.

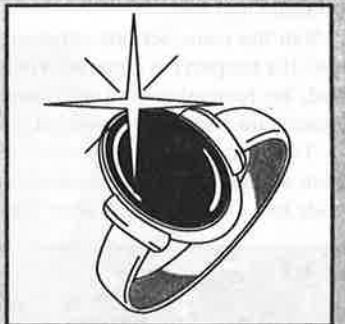
waiting for Zoning Hearing Master Martin Smith's recommendation to the County Commission. The additional concerns center around the increased traffic generated at and near this site.

Proposed Canoe Launch

Residents concerned about the construction of a canoe access point to the Alafia River on the southeast corner of Bell Shoals Road will have their best opportunity to express their opinions at the March Meeting of the BHA. Commissioner Rhonda Storms is scheduled to attend the Tuesday, March 13 meeting at the Culbertson Community Center in Bloomingtondale West. Major concerns center on security and increased traffic near the dangerous intersection of Bell Shoals and Boyette Road/FishHawk Blvd. Concerned residents are urged to attend the March 13 meeting.

Lost ring

A 1977 Charlotte High School ring was lost in the vicinity of the Citgo station on Bell Shoals Road in Bloomingtondale on January 27. The gold ring is set with a yellow stone and is engraved with the initials GMB. Please call Gary at 643-2038.



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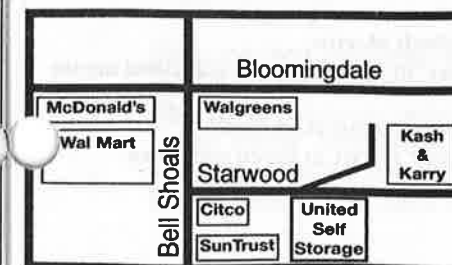
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The Alafia - A river to respect

Story and photos by Mack Austin

Most Bloomingdale residents know there's a river called the Alafia just south of us, but not many of us have the privilege of really knowing the river.

The Alafia is a living, breathing, delicate wonder of nature.

It is a narrow, twisting river that winds its way under huge oaks, tall cypress trees and beautiful cedars. There are birds wading in the shallows, turtles bobbing up and down, opossum and raccoons wondering on the shores, and even an occasional alligator streaming along.

Walt Molkenhtin really knows the Alafia. His family has owned property on the edge of the river since 1942. The Molkenhtins have enjoyed fishing, canoeing and the peaceful setting of the Alafia over the past forty-plus years, during which Walt says the river has seen good times and bad.

Walt has some serious concerns about the Alafia's present and future. His property is close to where a canoe launch is being proposed. He remembers the old canoe launch near his property, and the problems that finally resulted in it being closed down.

"I am very concerned about this proposed canoe launch," he said. "There would be some real security and traffic issues with it. I've already had folks using the river invade our privacy, abuse our docks



Walt Molkenhtin wants to be sure his son and future generations can continue to enjoy the river.



Walt says people using the river have largely ignored these signs he posted.

and trash the river."

"The main thing we want is for everyone to respect our privacy and to respect the river. I've seen people throw cans at the birds wading on the shore. That's not respect at all. The huge hole near our dock is full of all kinds of pure junk."

Walt is also concerned about the pumping of water from the Alafia to other counties. The pump located on the southeast corner is supposed to siphon 51.7 million gallons of water a day to relieve stressed supplies.

"What about our stressed supplies?" said Walt. "The Alafia is already about fifty percent down and we're in one our worst droughts ever. There is no real way to know how much water is being pumped out. We'll know when the river turns into a creek!"

Another critical concern lies upriver. In 1997, 54 million gallons of acidic water were spilled into the Alafia from a gypsum stack at the Mulberry phosphate plant. State regulators estimate that 1.3 million fish died as a result of the spill. The river still has not fully recovered.

The prospect for another environmental hazard looms as Mulberry Corp. struggles to stay in business.

Officials concur that if the company shuts down and the plant is not maintained, acidic ponds could once again flow into the Alafia. It could cost the state, and taxpayers, \$100,000 a week to maintain the plants. As Walt said, "The Alafia River is irreplaceable and demands our protection. It can't protect itself from so many real dangers."

"We must respect this river and those who live along its shores."

Welcome to Bloomingdale!

Hannah Marie Lovering

Born January 11, 2001 to Karin and Don Lovering

Chandler Evan Rumbaugh

Born January 13, 2001 to Michelle and Doug Rumbaugh

Hope Angel Dawn Bowman

Born January 25, 2001 to Amber Bresnahan and Christopher Bowman

Madison Grace White

Born January 26, 2001 to JoJo Ruby-White and Christopher White



Katelyn LaVale Green

Born January 27, 2001 to Mary Beth and Larry Green

Skyler Marie Johnson

Born January 28, 2001 to Michelle and Jason Johnson

Abigail Elizabeth Martin

Born January 30, 2001 to Donna and David martin

Christopher Alan Hackbardt

Born February 1, 2001 to Eileen and Derek Hackbardt

Kaylee Ann Grice

Born February 12, 2001 to Patti and Scott Grice

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BLOOMINGDALE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

By Mack Austin

More business sponsors needed

Attention, Bloomingdale business owners! Linda Weronik, Bloomingdale High School's Reading Program Director, is looking for incentives to motivate students into reading more and learning the true importance of developing a life-long interest in reading. Since all students like good food and a good party, any local businesses who would be 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.

Important dates to remember

- Strawberry Festival day for East HillsboroughMarch 5
- Early release dayMarch 16
- End of third grading periodMarch 16
- Conference nightTBA
- Spring holidaysMarch 19 - 23
- Students return to schoolMarch 26

"Is it time to shut up and listen?"

This will be the question being answered at the special health and safety program being sponsored by the Bloomingdale PTSA on Tuesday, April 3, 2001 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The theme is "Improving Communication."

There will be three concurrent group sessions with experienced

moderators discussing family communication, peer-to-peer communication and school to family communication. Great information from all three!

Health and safety resource information booths will be on display and the new state of the art Mendez Foundation driving simulator will challenge your driving skills.

See you there!

Community Meeting on March 13, 2001

Hillsborough County Commissioner Ronda Storms will address the concerns of Bloomingdale area residents at a community meeting on March 13, 2001, 7:30 p.m. at the Culbertson Community Center at Bloomingdale West Park.

Residents who are unable to attend are invited to send their comments and questions to the BHA by e-mail to bha@cyberrails.com or by fax to (813) 651-1129. The BHA Board of Directors will present the residents' concerns to Commissioner Storms for her comments.



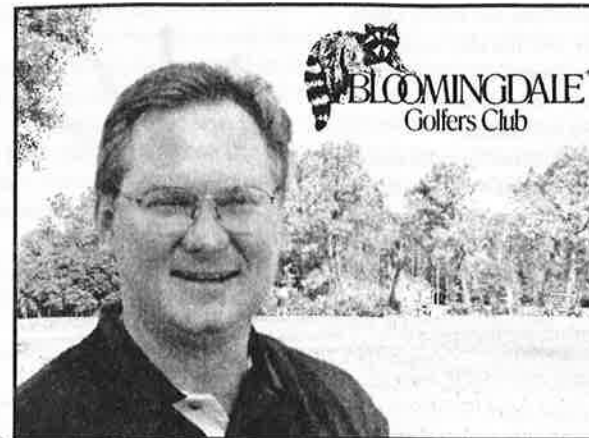
County Commissioner Ronda Storms

Bloomingdale Golfers Club goes public

The formerly semi-private Bloomingdale Golfers Club is now open to the public seven days a week, with tee times booked five days in advance.

Rates of play through April 15 vary according to days and times, and range from \$22.50 + tax from 2 p.m. until closing Monday through Thursday, to \$45.00 + tax from opening until 11 a.m. on weekends and holidays. Rates include 18 holes of golf with a cart.

For information and tee times, call (813) 655-4653. Tee times may also be reserved online at bgcgolf.com.



Bloomingdale Golfers Club Head Golf Pro Alan Hiers

BHA-Online goes wireless

By Rodney Biddle, BHA-Online Webmaster



Though wireless communication is often thought of as being used with cellular phone or mobile internet service, it also refers to computing performed in a portable manner.

We have just released a scaled down version of our website designed for portable handheld computers. This smaller site provides recent articles and upcoming events to users of handheld computers through the Avantgo website, and is available to anyone with a handheld computer.

This new site was developed to demonstrate the functionality of a hand-held web site. The site links directly to the live BHA-Online databases. Information provided on our main site is immediately available through the handheld site without any special work; two sites in one.

The Avantgo network allows your handheld device to download a copy of this or numerous other publications for review later. Information is not live, but rather portable in this manner.

Additional publications available through the Avantgo network include The Wall Street Journal headlines, Fox News, CNN, and hundreds of others.

For more information, follow the Avantgo link found on our homepage at http://BHA-Online.org. In addition, feel free to contact Rodney Biddle with questions or ideas about the handheld site at rbiddle@cyberrails.com.

Please visit bha-online.org for Bloomingdale news and events, deed restriction documents, and to register for free Bloomingdale Homeowners Association e-mail updates.

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Brandon Montessori School at River Hills to open this fall

By Laura Frazier



Robini Rustogi, Owner and Director of the new Brandon Montessori School at River Hills, opening this fall.

Dr. and Mrs. Hemant Rustogi of River Hills say they will watch their dreams unfold when they open the doors of their new Montessori school this fall.

Construction of the 4,200 square foot state-of-the-art school is underway on a 1-acre site and ecological preserve adjacent to Lithia Springs Elementary School in River Hills. The school is expected to open for the 2001-2002 school year.

"When I arrived in this country from New Delhi, India, 15 years ago," said Dr. Rustogi, "I had two suitcases to my name. To watch our vision take shape is just amazing for both of us."

The credentials and experience the school's founding team brings to

the table are equally amazing.

Mrs. Rustogi will serve as the school's director. She is a certified Montessori teacher with eight years teaching experience in the Montessori method, a Masters Degree in Economics and a Bachelors in English and Geography.

Dr. Rustogi, chairman of The University of Tampa's Marketing Department, is an Associate Professor of Marketing and coordinator of

the International Business program. He holds an MBA and a Doctorate in Business Administration.

Partner Marty Eshleman holds a marketing degree, with over 15 years of management, sales and administrative experience in retail and production operations. Professor Rustogi and Mr. Eshleman will serve the school in a consultative capacity.

Bonnie Tekampe brings eleven years of public relations and sales experience to the position of coordinator of admissions for the new school.

The school will feature a variety of child-sized learning centers outfitted with special Montessori hands-on learning materials designed to encourage independent exploration of themes including math, science, language, sensorial, geography, life skills, Spanish and computers. The school will have an outdoor patio, playground and a butterfly garden.

Reservations are being taken for half-day and full day sessions for children between the ages of three and six, and after school care for children through age twelve. Enrollment is limited to 60 students for the preschool program and 30 students for the after school care program. For more information, please call (813) 654-4622 or visit www.brandmontessori.com.



The Brandon Montessori School
AT RIVER HILLS

Alltel donates cell phones, airtime to Mobile Watch

By Laura Frazier

Bloomington Mobile Watch has gone cellular, thanks to coordination by the Bloomington Homeowners Association and local representatives of Alltel Corporation.

Alltel, an international, leading-edge communications and information service provider, donated four cellular phones and free local airtime to Bloomington Mobile Watch in January.

"We wish to thank Alltel for their interest in keeping Bloomington a safe community," said Mobile Watch Coordinator Tony Diolosa. "Their generous contribution will enable our patrols to communicate much more effectively."

Alltel Vice President and General Manager Terry Beeler said, "We're always happy to be involved in the communities we live and work in, and to support local law enforcement in any way we can."

Free local airtime will boost communications between patrols and the base station operator. The Mobile Watch team has used a CB radio system since the 1980's. Volunteers frequently lost contact with the base station during patrols.

"Alltel's community spirit and generosity will help us to increase the effectiveness of our Mobile Watch program," said BHA President Ted Drable.

Alltel is a supporting member of the national Wireless Foundation's Communities on Phone Patrol (COPP) program. Over 12,000 neighborhood patrols nationwide have been supplied with wireless phones and airtime under the program.



Alltel representative and Bloomington resident Bob Gaudreau helped coordinate the company's generous donation to Bloomington Mobile Watch.

Mobile Watch volunteers needed

Bloomington Mobile Watch volunteers conduct nightly patrols of our neighborhoods in an effort to deter crime. Patrol members observe and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office.

The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department has recom-

mended Bloomington Mobile Watch as a model for other communities establishing new neighborhood watch programs of their own.

Volunteers are currently needed in several areas to expand the patrol schedule. For more information, please call Tony Diolosa at (813) 681-1146.

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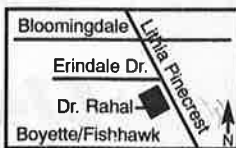
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Lights, sidewalks, action!

By Laura Frazier

A lack of streetlights and sidewalks has led homeowners in the newest section of Bloomingdale East to turn to the County for help.

Bloomingdale Homeowners Association (BHA) Vice President Len Jaszczak can attest to the precarious safety conditions in the vicinity of the southern intersection of Culbreath Road and Natures Way.

The Jaszczaks live in Bristol Green, off Culbreath Road, just north of the intersection.

"Unlike the rest of Bloomingdale, this area has absolutely no lighting," said Jaszczak. "In the morning there are children waiting for school buses in the dark. This is unsatisfactory for a development of this size and the large number of children living here."

Incomplete sidewalks along Culbreath Road are also a safety concern for area residents.

"There is a critical need for complete sidewalks on both sides of Culbreath Road before the new school opens, before there are hundreds of children and cars negotiating that intersection twice a day," said Jaszczak.

The BHA sent a letter regarding the lack of lights and sidewalks to three Hillsborough County Commissioners on January 12, 2001.

Hillsborough County Director of Public Works Bernardo Garcia responded in a February 1, 2001 letter.

Garcia indicates that, pending a satisfactory review by the County's Traffic Engineering Section, streetlights will be recommended for installation.

But don't put your flashlights away yet.

The county review process generally takes about six months to complete, and there's no guarantee that it will be approved. Sidewalks don't appear to be on the horizon any time soon either.



Streets lacking sidewalks on both sides have priority over those that already have walks on one side, as on Culbreath Road.

According to County policy, unless traffic or accident data supports an immediate need for the sidewalks, they won't be put on the agenda.

Residents who wish to support the BHA's efforts to expedite the installation of streetlights and sidewalks are asked to write to Bernardo Garcia, Director of Public Works, P.O. Box 1110, Tampa, FL 33601, phone 272-5912 or fax 276-2258.

Where to get the Gazette

If you are a Bloomingdale resident and do not receive the Gazette by mail, please call the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association at (813) 681-2051. Copies are available at the Bloomingdale Square Publix, the Village Center Radiant Food Mart and the Citgo station on Bell Shoals Road. Look for the Gazette in newsstand boxes at the Royal Oaks Plaza Winn Dixie and the Winn Dixie Marketplace on Bloomingdale Avenue and Bell Shoals Road.

Bloomingdale Square fundraiser enefits Alafia Elementary

Regency Realty's second "It's Elementary" school benefit program is in progress.

Last school semester, student families, educators and neighbors of Brooker, Kingswood, Alafia and Buckhorn Elementary Schools shopped at Bloomingdale Square and dropped their receipts in "It's Elementary" drop boxes stationed at the shopping center and the schools.

The first phase of the program generated over \$43,000 in sales for the shopping center, and \$2,200 in awards for Alafia, Buckhorn, Brooker and Kingswood Elementary Schools.

Alafia Elementary earned \$400.

"Most of the school fundraisers wind up being paid for by parents and other family members," said LaVonna Paradise, Manager of Center Marketing for shopping center owner Regency Realty.

"This program reaches the entire community and makes residents feel good about doing their shopping locally, because it supports the schools in their neighborhoods," Paradise said.

Residents shopping at the Bloomingdale Square Publix, Wal-Mart or any of the center's 33 specialty stores and restaurants may deposit their receipts in the drop box located by the clock tower in front of Cherry's Restaurant and the Dollar Tree.

Each of the four schools has a designated slot in the drop box. The school collecting the highest dollar amount in receipts will be awarded \$1,000, second place receives \$600, third place nets \$400 and fourth place receives \$200.

For more information, call LaVonna Paradise at (904) 598-7679.



Bloomingdale Square is located at the corner of Bloomingdale Avenue and Bell Shoals Road.

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Casserole Contest

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Send your favorite casserole recipe (entrée, side dish or dessert) to:
BHA, Gazette Casserole Contest
 3509 Bell Shoals Road, Valrico, FL 33594,
 e-mail to frazier1@tampabay.rr.com or fax to 813-651-1129.

Entries will be judged by a panel of tasters including the Gazette's own semi-famous gastronome, Elton Dumont!

The winner will receive Pampered Chef's Oval Baker, an 8-cup capacity white ceramic glazed baking dish, designed to take entrees, side dishes and desserts from the oven to the table.



Win a Pampered Chef Baking Dish!

BLFA hosts watercolor workshop Rezoning request defies deed restrictions

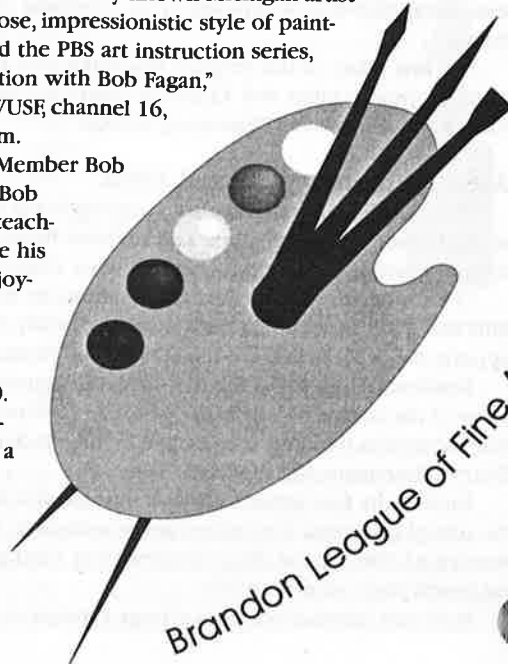
The Brandon League of Fine Arts (BLFA) is hosting a three-day watercolor workshop, from Friday March 9 through Sunday March 11, with noted watercolorist Bob Fagan.

The event will be held at Artists Unlimited, 223 N. 12th St. in Tampa, at the corner of Kennedy Boulevard and Channelside Drive near the Ice Palace.

Bob Fagan is a nationally known Michigan artist who teaches a loose, impressionistic style of painting. He has hosted the PBS art instruction series, "Painting on location with Bob Fagan," aired locally on WUSF, channel 16, Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

BLFA Board Member Bob McAnespie said, "Bob Fagan's informal teaching methods make his workshops an enjoyable learning experience."

Cost of the workshop is \$180. For more information or to reserve a spot, call Bob McAnespie at (813) 685-1317 or e-mail slobob@att.net.



by John Yake,
 Bloomingdale East resident

The owner of 11+ acres of land off Springvale Avenue in Bloomingdale East purchased the property last year with full knowledge of standing deed restrictions that clearly prohibit modifications to the drainage easements and usage of the property. The land is zoned for conservation and recreational use.

The original deed restriction documents state that the restrictions shall remain in effect for a period of 30 years, after which time a ten-year extension will continue, unless at that time the affected property owners agree to change the restrictions.

We purchased our property accepting these restrictions and expect new property owners to respect and abide by the same restrictions.

The owner is asking the County to vacate the drainage easement on the site, a prerequisite action required for the rezoning of the property. Once the County vacates the easements, the owner intends to seek RES-4 zoning, which allows the construction of four single-family homes per acre.

A previously scheduled February 27 hearing has been continued. The applicant is coordinating with the County Real Estate to determine when the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will hear the easement request.

According to County Project Manager Brian Grady, the date of the zoning change hearing will be on or after the easement request hearing date. The new hearing date should be determined in the next two weeks. A request to post the proper "Notice of Public Hearing" sign on

the site, showing the new hearing date, has been sent to Brian Grady.

Bloomingdale residents who object to the rezoning request are strongly urged to contact our county commissioners to voice their opinions. Please reference PRS 00-1248 in all correspondence.

E-mail letters can be broadcast to all five Commissioners at <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/mail/email.html>. Individual phone numbers are as follows: Stacey Easterling 272-5470, Jim Norman 272-5452, Thomas Scott 272-5720, Ronda Storms 272-5740, Chris Hart 272-5725, Jan Platt 272-5730, Pat Frank 272-5735.

MacDill Family Resource Center March programs

The MacDill Family Resource Center is located at 710 Oakfield Drive in Brandon. Center staff and volunteers work in partnership with the greater Brandon community to provide support for families of active duty and retired military members of all branches of the service.

The following classes and programs are offered for the month of March.

The kid's playgroup meetings Mondays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Center. No registration is required.

A brief covering Space Available travel, costs and availability will be presented on Wednesday, March 7 from 1400 to 1500.

A smoking cessation class will be given in March. Call for days and times.

A loan locker is available at the center. You can check out household goods such as pots and pans, coffee pots, kids items such as cribs, high chairs and strollers.

For more information, or to volunteer at the Center, call James Warren at (813) 655-9281.

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SUBSTATION NOTES

By Deputy Pete Maurer



The Bloomingdale Community Substation is located at the corner of Bell Shoals Road and Glenhaven Drive, in the Village Center plaza. Station hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Deputy Maurer can be reached at (813) 635-8040.

Car seat checks available

Deputy Pete Maurer Hillsborough County Sheriff's Deputies and Community Service Officers have recently received special training in the inspection of child car seat installation.

Bloomingdale Community Service Officer Sandy Capitano said, "During previous checks working with TPD officers, we found over ninety per cent of the seats were improperly installed. This presents a very dangerous threat to the safety of children in these seats."

Officer Capitano invites Bloomingdale area residents to stop by the community substation for a car seat installation check (see address and hours above).

Free car seat checks are offered this month at the following locations: March 5 at the Bloomingdale Square Wal-Mart from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 6 at Bloomingdale West Park with times to be announced, March 8 at Paul Sanders Park (corner of Bloomingdale and Kings) from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., and March 22 at Brandon Regional Hospital from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.



Additional traffic patrols are on the lookout for drivers running red lights and falling to yield. Photo by Mack Austin.

Special Traffic Patrols

Some drivers still refuse to respect the safety of others and decide to break the law. Special units have been directed to increasing patrols at major intersections such as Bell Shoals Road and Bloomingdale Avenue. Drivers found running red lights and not properly yielding the right of way will be ticketed. Seatbelts will also be checked. The average ticket for motorists violating these laws would be around \$180.

Continued on page 1

No soliciting

It is unlawful for any person to deliver, distribute or place handbills on private property upon which is posted a reasonably conspicuous sign reading "no advertising" or "no solicitation". Bloomingdale is "no soliciting" community. Any resident noticing violations of this rule should contact the station at 635-8040.

Help needed for magazine program

The reading program at Bloomingdale High School continues to be a real success. Thousand of magazines have been dropped off at the Community Station for delivery to the school. Help is needed in getting the magazines delivered to the school. Anyone willing to assist in this project, please call the Community Station at 635-8040 for details. It is a great program and we want to continue participating.

Community meetings with State Representative Johnnie Byrd

Special satellite meetings are being held at the Bloomingdale Community Station with State Representative Johnnie Byrd, offering residents an opportunity to meet one-on-one with Representative Byrd and his staff. He is very interested in hearing our concerns, and says, "Citizen involvement is essential. No one knows their community and its concerns better."

At the last meeting, a variety of subjects were addressed including education, the need for more schools, lack of planning with the tremendous growth, fair representation for unincorporated areas, gun laws, and a cleaner environment. Information on future meetings will be available at the Community Station.

PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT

January 2001

Submitted by Al Devney, President Devney Property Management, Inc. Phone: (813) 684-6617

Irrigation - Planscape installed 14 sprinkler heads in the Gotham system. Brandon Irrigation replaced a broken valve on Glenhaven and one on Natures Way, replaced a defective pressure switch at Kendal and a defective timer at Elton, located and repaired a severed common line on Erindale and repaired a broken zone line on Natures Way. DPMI installed three bubblers for transplanted Magnolias. Replaced items included 45 sprinkler heads, 10 rotors, two valve boxes, 11 lights and one light receptacle. Eight risers and five zone lines were repaired.

Landscaping - Detail Landscaping installed new landscaping at the Kendal and Big Pine entrances. Planscape installed 2000 pansies and transplanted three Magnolias to Erindale.

Other - Gulf Coast Trees trimmed 85 trees along the right of way in Bloomingdale East and West. Russell Electric repaired the lights at Kendal and Treeline and rebuilt the lighting at Big Pine Drive. DPMI repainted the damaged walls on Glenhaven, Natures Way and Springvale.

Eat, drink and pitch out the window - DPMI picked up 26 bags of trash, half of a tire, three hubcaps, six gloves, a timing belt, numerous for sale and for rent signs and not one blasted cent. The beverages of choice were Diet Coke for soft drinks, Bud Light for beer and Knobs Creek for distilled spirits.



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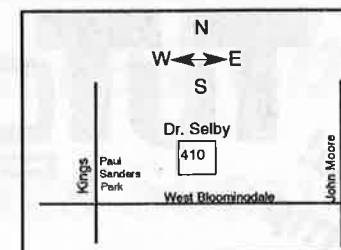
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654-0037



Why are my teeth sensitive?

If you have teeth like Rambo and they never bother you, you are in a small select group of people. Of course, nothing bothers Rambo, so maybe that's a bad example. Most people don't think much about their teeth as teenagers, but as we get older we find they can give us all kinds of sensations. Just why do our teeth feel the way they do?

This is not as simple a question as it would initially seem. Obviously, if you have a hole in your tooth, if your tooth is very loose; your gums are sore and bleed just by touching them; or many other signs; you have dental problems that need attention now! But what about the other weird things we feel sometimes when we eat or drink things. You must remember these are real generalizations at best, but this is what I usually see when someone has a certain feeling that they're concerned about. **Sweet sensitivity** almost always means there is new decay or old leaking dentistry. Hot sensitivity is not a good sign for the nerve in your tooth. Go to your dentist now. Occasional pain on firm biting - possible fracture in the tooth - may be serious or not. **Cold sensitivity** is caused by too many things to discuss here and is not always bad. **Brushing sensitivity** - exposed root surfaces on teeth. These are the top five problems seen in my practice.

All of these should be evaluated by your dentist when they occur with any regularity.

Bloomington Little League progress in motion

Story and photos by Mack Austin

Anyone who has been involved in Little League baseball and softball at the Bloomingdale Little League Park has seen a lot of progress over the past six years.

The real progress began when Allan Trovillion became involved, helped reorganize and plan improvements and finally initiated the steps to work directly with the County. The progress Allan began now continues under a new League president, Tim Malloy.

Tim served on the Board of Directors for two years with Allan and is finishing his first year as president. He is able to use his organizational skills as an attorney to work with the Board and help make all of the operations and maintenance activities at the Park go smoothly.

Things have definitely progressed from the old days of depending on volunteer dads to mow and maintain the park.

The Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Maintenance Unit on Natures Way provides professional services, such as electrical and plumbing, to keep the park facilities safe and clean. A large portion of the budget goes to major maintenance requirements such as mowing.

Changes in the layouts of some fields have been made to accommodate the growth of some teams like Minor Softball, which has doubled in size. There is the new Senior baseball field by the new YMCA, a new Major field, a new softball field and new parking areas, which became a major concern when the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue started cutting off parking spaces. Many fields have had new clay installed, new fence erected and even a new concession stand built. Plans are underway to have all new lights installed. Also, a play

area for the younger kids is being planned.

Even with all of these great changes, Tim said, "There are still specific needs we have as a League. Some of them include parent volunteers with computer skills, maintenance skills and organizational skills to help with fundraisers and "Fun Day". A very big need is for Umpires! The majority of umpires are volunteers. They play a very critical role in making sure the games go smoothly and safely."

For any parent ready and willing to become apart of this great sport and make a positive difference in the lives of these young athletes, call 684-8422 or visit the website at blhomeplate.org. I can tell you from twenty-two seasons of experience coaching, managing and helping maintain the Park; it is the greatest experience you'll ever have.



Softball player Chelsey Pachoud prepares to pitch during the Spring season tryouts.

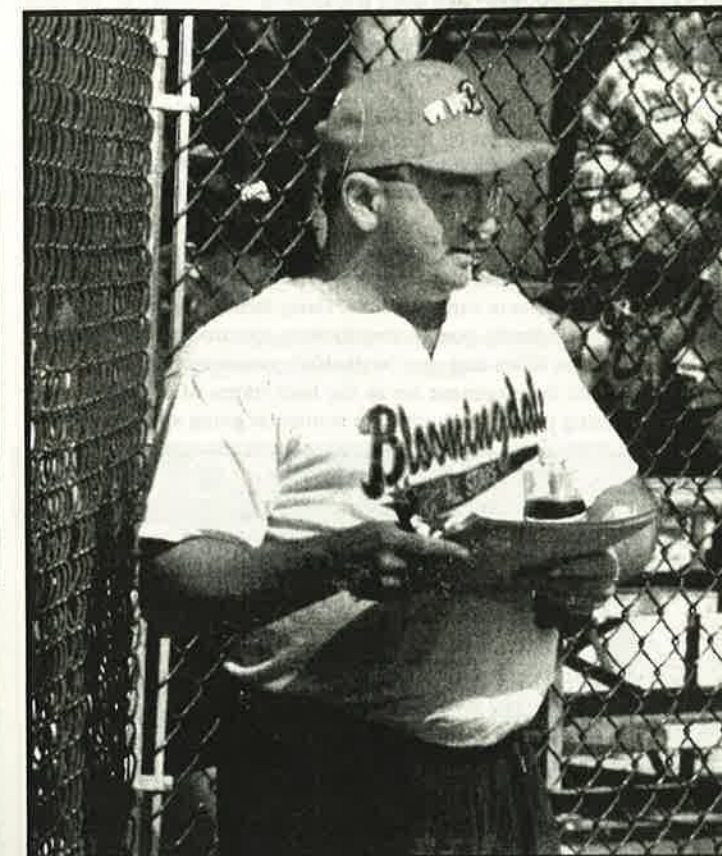
One major safety project has not been completed; the construction and installation of crosswalks between the Park and the new



These softball players do their best to be patient while waiting during tryouts.

YMCA. Contact with County engineers has revealed that this project is pending the completion of the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue, which is currently estimated for May 2001. In the meantime, parents - watch your kids and players carefully. There is a lot of fast traffic in this area, especially at night!

As far as future plans, Tim says, "Our ultimate goal is complete renovation. We want to make our Park the model park for others to copy." In the meantime, come on out and enjoy a game of the greatest sport ever - baseball!



Bloomington Little League President Tim Malloy prepares for a new season.



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Winthrop dream takes shape for Brandon couple

By Laura Frazier

Brandon residents John and Kay Beckett Sullivan will watch their dreams take shape this year at the corner of Bloomingdale Avenue and Providence Road.

The Sullivans are the developers and town founders of Winthrop, a traditional neighborhood development (TND) being planned for construction on the 148-acre former Hobbs Dairy farm in Brandon. A TND incorporates single-family homes, townhomes, apartments, retail units and community facilities into one "walkable" community.

Plans for the development are in the final stages of a lengthy multiple-use rezoning process, which John reports is going smoothly. "We



Artist's rendering of Winthrop development

anticipate announcing a groundbreaking date this spring," he said.

Construction will begin with a retail center on the northwest corner of the site. The developers say that building the retail center on the outskirts of the development will allow shops to establish consumer support from outside the community while the new village is being built, and for years to come.

Plans call for a total of 690 residential units, including 220 single-family homes plus townhomes and apartments. "There will be a wide spread of price ranges, with affordable options for a large segment of homebuyers," said Kay Beckett Sullivan. Home prices have not yet been set.

By the time the first residential units are completed, a new school will already be in place. Symmes Elementary School, currently under construction just outside Winthrop off Watson Road, is scheduled to open for the 2001 - 2002 school year.

Andres Duany, the world-renowned architect best known locally as the designer of the communities of Celebration in Orlando and Seaside in the Florida panhandle, is Winthrop's town planner. Dr. James Moore, USF Professor of Architecture and local proponent of traditional and neo-traditional architecture, is the town architect.

John and Kay will be among the first residents of Winthrop. "That's where our townhome will be," John says, pointing to a hypothetical homesite in what is, for now, a wide open field with a couple of old cow barns. But, like the quote headlining the Winthrop billboard, "Nothing happens, unless first a dream."



Winthrop co-founder John Sullivan.

Free classified ads in the Gazette and BHA-Online

Classified ads for personal items priced under \$300 are free to Bloomingdale residents. To place a classified ad in the Bloomingdale Gazette, call Arlene Jacobs at 662-1306. To place an ad on our community web site, BHA-Online, call Rodney Biddle at 681-2051.



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New collection site for household chemicals

The Hillsborough County Solid Waste Management Department will accept household chemicals for disposal on Saturday, March 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at a new South County collection location, 13000 Highway 41 south in Gibsonton.

Materials accepted include paints and solvents, automotive products, household cleaners, pool chemicals, lawn and garden supplies.

Materials not accepted include explosives, flares bio-medical material.

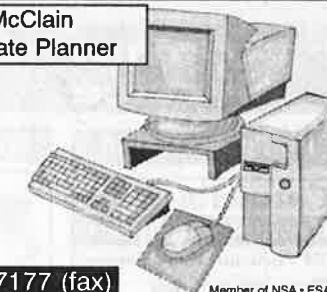
Absolutely no commercial waste will be accepted. For additional information call 272-5680.

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Who let the dogs out?

By Laura Frazier

A pack of stray dogs has some Bloomingdale homeowners looking nervously over their shoulders when they're out for an evening stroll.

No one has been bitten yet, but the animals have reportedly exhibited aggressive behavior, including giving chase to at least one resident out walking his dogs.

Over the past several years, stray dogs have frequently been seen roving the banks of the Alafia River and the future elementary school site, a 22-acre vacant parcel situated between Culbreath Road and Lithia Pinecrest Road.

Residents are concerned that the impending new school construction will drive the dogs even closer to homes situated on the area's wooded conservation sites and the river bank.

Hillsborough County Animal Services records indicate a number of unrelated calls about stray dogs have been responded to along Culbreath Road.

Dennis McCullough, Animal Services' Communications Supervisor, says a more concentrated effort is required to resolve the problem, and

he'd like to help.

"We are here to serve the community, and would like to help resolve this problem," said McCullough. "We will need a homeowner willing to give our catch crew access to their property to set up traps and to help us monitor them."

McCullough said the crew would not set traps in remote areas unless an emergency situation exists. Limited manpower combined with a demanding county-wide work load could result in an animal being trapped for up to 15 hours, a situation McCullough says is cruel and unnecessary in all but the most extreme circumstances.

Once the animals are trapped, they are taken to Animal Services, scanned for microchips and held for seven days before being evaluated for adoption potential.

Homeowners who wish to support the BHA's efforts to have the animals removed or are willing to provide the County's catch crew with access to their property, are asked to call Dennis McCullough at (813) 744-5660, extension 221.



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