

The BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

Hillsborough County's most informative community newspaper

Volume XI, Number 2

Published by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

March 1991



PAM FULLEY

With St. Patrick's Day on the horizon, what better way to celebrate than with Irish Coffee. Above, this 12th century Malahide Castle is north of Dublin and serves great Irish Coffee to the public. See page 10 for this and other Irish goodies.

Citizens' group recommends \$63 million for roads

BY BILL MacKINNON

What capital improvements does Hillsborough County really need?

Who says the county needs them? What will happen if the improvements are not made? How much will they cost? Where will the money come from? What will be the impact on the taxpayers? Once a week, for the past eight months, the Citizens Group on Capital Projects & Funding has met and discussed the issues. Its final recommendations for the County Commissioners should be completed soon.

The group, established at the suggestion of the commissioners and with county

The group, established at the suggestion of the commissioners, is made up of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association plus other organizations.

administrator staff support, consist of volunteers representing 26 organizations and activities within the county.

The members have a

wide diversity in background and perspective. When issues were discussed, there were people to represent both sides of the issue.

Besides Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, other organizations include: Sun City Civic Association, Lutz Civic Association, Riviera Civic & Chamber, League of Women Voters, Weston Alliance, Sierra Club, Crystal Lakes Manors HOA, C.A.S.T., Greater Tampa Association of Realtors, Hillsborough County Bar Association, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, T.H.A.N., Twin Branch Acres HOA and F.E.C.P. Corp., a local business firm.

The group approached the task to validate capital improvement projects seriously. Such items as level of service (standard required for the facility), population growth projections, lease versus ownership, square footage of space utilization, capital and operating costs, legal requirement for the action, what other counties are doing, user fees, and financing available were all challenged by the group.

In its examination of the

county's Five Year Unfinished Capital Improvement Program, the group weighed the pros and cons. It considered risks and benefits and reached a consensus that re-

ROADS, see page 4

Drunken driver hits Mobile Watch patrol vehicle

BY SUSAN L. DELUCA

"We're lucky to be alive," said Larry Rivers. "The impact was so bad I bent the steering wheel with my hands."

Larry and his wife Pat had just finished a coffee break Saturday, March 2, around 9:45 p.m. and were on their way back to the patrol area when their E1-50 conversion van was struck on the left side at Bell Shoals near Bloomingdale Avenue. They were hit by a drunken driver that was later hauled away in handcuffs.

Due to the use of seat belts and the large size of their vehicle, the Rivers suffered only severe bumps and bruises when the van they were driving was pushed off the road and into

Cluster schools and no busing by 1994

BY ART BLEAU

More than 250 parents surprised county board officials Feb. 20 by voicing overwhelming support for a "Cluster School" proposal which would keep youngsters together throughout 12 years of school.

A generous round of applause at the end of the presentation by school staffers was appreciated by the professionals and prompted one to comment "This is the first time we've gotten applause at one of the sessions."

The program explained by the school staff is one that would set up middle schools around the county, basically eliminate busing for racial balance of inner-city schools, and eliminate sixth- and seventh-grade centers by setting up magnet schools to achieve desegregation voluntarily.

Under the plan, which would be implemented by 1994-1995 with a cluster that would incorporate all of

Bloomingdale, children would be given a choice of attending a traditional middle school or one with a specialized curriculum.

The plan would redraw the school boundaries to allow youngsters to keep the same classmates from kindergarten through 12th grade.

Desegregation would be accomplished by youngsters voluntarily signing up to attend Clair-Mel City's Dowdell Junior High which will be set up with specialized curriculum in such areas as mathematics, science, fine arts, English and mass communications.

White students who sign up for Dowdell would be bused there and create a racial balance in the schools which would be acceptable to a federal court, under whose order students are now bused between the predominantly white suburbs and black inner-cities.

The only negative comments expressed by parents attending the meeting were complaints that the plan would take until 1994 to implement.

John Miliziano, administrative assistant to the superintendent of schools, explained that 16 clusters would be set up throughout the county and that Bloomingdale would be one of the cluster schools with the least amount of difficulties to overcome.

Asked why it would take so long to begin if it were the least complex, Miliziano pointed out that some school expansion, teacher training and budget considerations made it necessary to delay the program.

Although the Bloomingdale cluster would include youngsters from Clair-Mel and Palm River, "This is not cross-busing because the

BUSING, see page 4



the ditch with such force that it flattened the seats inside the vehicle.

According to Rivers, who measured the tracks, skid marks of over 105 feet were left at the scene. The accident was witnessed by a

With his bare hands, Larry Rivers bent the steering wheel during impact while trying to control the vehicle.

Sheriff's Deputy who quickly summoned help and notified the Mobile Watch Base Operator on duty (Steve Schneider).

"What worried me the most is that I can replace the van, but I could never replace Patty," said Larry of his wife.

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BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BRANDON, FL
PERMIT NO. 85

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 Bloomingdale Square
 Brandon, FL 33511
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Statement of Operation

The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc., (a for-profit corporation) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc., which is a non-profit 501(c)(4) corporation. The sole purpose of The Bloomingdale Gazette is to serve as a medium of communication for the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association and the residents of the Bloomingdale Community. The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc., is totally self-supporting with its revenues being generated solely by advertising funds and various fundraisers geared specifically for the newspaper.

The Bloomingdale Gazette is published monthly with occasional special editions and is delivered in door-knob bags directly on the door of every residence within the area governed by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc., plus other selected areas at no charge. It is also mailed to approximately 300 recipients including public officials. Circulation varies from 4,600 to 4,800; actual figures are available upon request.

The Bloomingdale Gazette is also available for free at five area newsstands (Little Professor Book Store, Rainbow Food Mart, Kash 'n Kerry, Farm Store in Erindale Plaza, & Publix in Brandon Centre South) and by subscription at the rate of \$14 per year to cover mailing and handling fees.

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Community Telephone Directory

BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

857 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
 Brandon, FL 33511 • 681-2051

- President**
 Russ Lembke 681-2051
- Vice President**
 Bill Povilus 654-4917
- Treasurer**
 Grace Lewis 681-4548
- Secretary**
 Joyce Morris 689-7019
- Directors**
 Susan DeLuca 689-4972
 Carmen Forestier 685-4376
 Dave Fraser unlisted
 Tony Interdonato 681-2051
 David Lees 681-3999
 Bill MacKinnon 684-8524
 Ron Schall 653-2170
 Alternate: Larry Rivers.

BLOOMINGDALE SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT

P. O. Box 902
 Brandon, FL 33509-0902

- President**
 Peter Aluotto 685-0727
- Vice President**
 Joe Liguori 681-9655
- Treasurer**
 Pam Mabe 684-8924
- Recording Secretary**
 Ron Delavan 685-1711
- Corresponding Secretary**
 Wingfield Hughes 685-1946
- Trustee--Errol Whitfield** 681-7462
Trustee--Nancy Beckley 689-2810

PROPERTY MANAGER

Bobby Cole 685-2239

BLOOMINGDALE MOBILE WATCH

857 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
 Brandon, FL 33511

Core Committee

Coordinator/Scheduler
 LaWayne Wyatt 685-2072

Treasurer
 John Britton 681-1553

Equipment Mgr
 Steve Schneider 685-8378

Technical Advisor
 Paul Truesdell 653-1725

Members

- Chuck Walsh 689-9688
 David Guy 681-5943
 Chris Pheils 681-9026
 Paul Kelmer 681-9701
 Rick Borling 684-2022
 Ed Holzman 681-2548

BLOOMINGDALE OAKS SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT

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

President
 Linda Hagan 681-6223

BLOOMINGDALE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

857 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
 Brandon, FL 33511 • 681-2051

DISTRICT II

Position available for a Coordinator
 T. J. Pinta, Deputy
 HC Sheriff's Department
 Crime Prevention Bureau, 247-8115

Location of the Bloomingdale Community Office 857 E. Bloomingdale Bloomingdale Square



Office space donated by the Paragon Group

**The Bloomingdale Community Office is open:
 Monday to Friday
 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 Closed on
 Saturday & Sunday**

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

All meetings take place at the Bloomingdale Community Office (see map on left). These are public meetings and all Bloomingdale Residents are invited.

SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT MEETINGS
 Monthly Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 8 p.m.

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

BHA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 Occur five times per year in September, November (elections), January, March, and May. The next meeting will be in March.

BLOOMINGDALE OAKS SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT MEETING
 Monthly Meeting: First Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Meetings for Mobile Watch and Neighborhood Watch are on a per need basis. Watch this listing for dates and time.

Bloomingdale's "Everything you ever needed" Form

Mail or bring to: Bloomingdale Community Offices
 857 E. Bloomingdale Avenue
 Brandon, FL 33511

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Daytime phone _____

I/We would like:

To become a Participating Member in the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association: Dues \$10/year; Nov. 1 to Oct. 31.

To make a donation to:
 _____ BHA Legal Fund
 _____ BHA Scholarship Fund
 _____ Other: _____

To join _____ Mobile Watch _____ Neighborhood Watch.

To be placed on waiting lists or volunteer lists for:
 _____ BHA Board of Directors
 _____ STD Board of Trustees
 _____ Committees as needed

To report a code violation such as unmowed lots, junk cars, safety hazards, etc. (Your name remains confidential, but MUST be on this form at the top.) Call the office if the problem is not cleared up within 2 weeks of sending in this notice.

Location & nature of suspected violation--

To be contacted regarding advertising in *The Bloomingdale Gazette*.

To make a comment about:

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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2 PIECE DINNER 50% off When you buy 4 piece dinner at regular price  <i>Birdie's Chic-N Express</i> 803 E. Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale Square CARRY-OUT ONLY Expires May 13, 1991 • BG	2 PIECE DINNER OR LUNCH \$2.89 With Potatoes, Gravy, Coleslaw and Roll  <i>Birdie's Chic-N Express</i> 803 E. Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale Square CARRY-OUT ONLY Expires May 13, 1991 • BG	4 PIECE DINNER OR LUNCH \$3.89 With Potatoes, Gravy, Coleslaw and Roll  <i>Birdie's Chic-N Express</i> 803 E. Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale Square CARRY-OUT ONLY Expires May 13, 1991 • BG	16 PIECE BOX \$12.99 Chicken Only  <i>Birdie's Chic-N Express</i> 803 E. Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale Square CARRY-OUT ONLY Expires May 13, 1991 • BG	ICE BOX CAKE FREE With \$10 Purchase  <i>Birdie's Chic-N Express</i> 803 E. Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale Square DELIVERY OR CARRY-OUT Expires May 13, 1991 • BG
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flected a delicate balance between minimum essential needs of the county, the state of the economy, the impact on homeowners and tax payers and the quality of life of Hillsborough County citizens.

The analysis is complete. The following chart reflects the group's recommended Five Year Capital Improvement Program. The county staff has done its homework.

The only facility type that was not immediately supported was a new jail facility. That action was recommended for another review in two years before proceeding.

**RECOMMENDED
UNFUNDED
CAPITAL NEEDS
FEB. 1991 - FEB. 1996**

FACILITY TYPE

Transportation,	\$121,912,558
Roadways,	\$63,740,000
Resurfacing,	\$35,646,540
Intersection Improvements,	\$5,435,710
Sidewalks,	\$5,771,251
Landscaping for roads,	\$11,317,057
Fire,	\$2,319,000
Libraries,	\$8,800,000
Parks,	\$24,450,000
Stormwater,	\$36,000,000
Spring Baseball Facility,	\$15,000,000
Correctional Facilities,	none
Courts & Government Buildings,	TBD
TOTAL,	\$207,481,855

At its next meeting, the

group will decide on a recommendation to the commissioners on funding the proposed improvements. Three funding scenarios have been developed:

Sales Tax
General Obligation Bond Issue

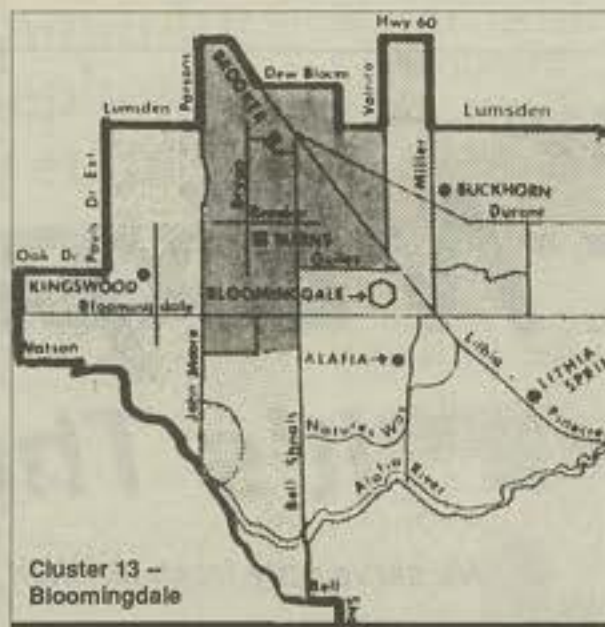
Storm Water Fees (to finance storm water improvements the current proposal calls for a homeowner fee of \$1/month, \$0.50/month for apartments and \$.01-.015/square foot for a commercial facility).

There is a possibility that an additional gasoline tax may be considered to help finance transportation improvements.

Several options considering various combinations of sales tax and general obligation bonds will also be considered.

The estimated annual impact per household for the options ranges from a low of \$244 per year to a high of approximately \$325 per year.

Bill MacKinnon has been a Bloomingdale resident for four years and a member of the BHA Board of Directors for two years. Bill is the Ground Water Remediation Systems Field Manager for International Technology Corp. in Tampa. Prior to that Bill was in residential real estate and served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and has over 16 years of facility planning experience.



entire community of youngsters will be bused to Bloomingdale," Miliziano noted.

Under the proposed Cluster program for Bloomingdale, youngsters from Alafia, Brooker, Buckhorn, Kingswood and Lithia Springs would combine with Bing, Clair-Mel and Palm River to feed the Burns Middle School or voluntarily feed the Dowdell Magnet Middle School. All students would then go on to Bloomingdale High.

School officials predicted that about 300 students from area elementary schools would sign up to attend Dowdell, allowing the required desegregation quota to be met.

Officials also pointed out that if the 300 figure were not reached from the Bloomingdale area, atten-

dance could be opened up to the entire school district, a move that would accomplish the same goal.

Several parents told the audience of great successes for magnet schools in states such as Ohio and New Jersey and expressed confidence that parents will sup-

port such a school here.

School staff also said that surveys of parents taken at Alafia indicated that nearly 60 percent would consider sending their children to such a school.

Beth Shields, assistant superintendent for instruction, told parents that staffers studied similar programs throughout the country and found that "discipline problems, attendance problems tend to disappear" at magnet schools because of their caliber of students and the fact that they are voluntarily attended.

Shields and other staffers emphasized that boundaries depicted in maps displayed at the meeting showed proposed boundaries and some of those might be changed before the final plan is approved.

The staff told parents that if all of the students attended Burns Middle School, it would have a population of 1,670 children, but that

would drop by the expected 300 going to Dowdell.

They also noted that the Bloomingdale Cluster would have 2,366 students when fully implemented.

The staff also assured parents that gifted programs in the individual elementary schools would be maintained.

The staff listed names and phone numbers for parents to contact if they had questions on any of the proposal. For magnet schools, parents should contact Maryellen Elia at 272-4836. Boundaries will be explained by John Miliziano at 272-4053 or Ken Allen at 272-4096. Middle School program: Dr. Marion Romens at 272-4862.

The staff also encouraged parents to attend future meetings on the cluster program as well as county school board meetings to voice their support for the proposal.

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Valrico, Florida 33594
654-8616

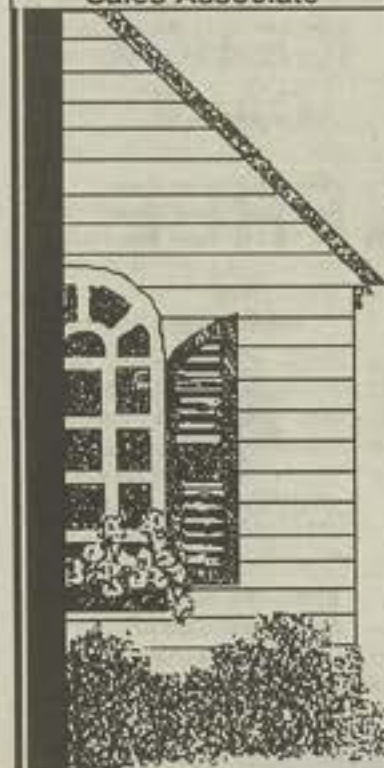
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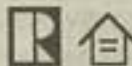
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PEOPLE

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Curtis Hayes' winning essay defends the First Amendment

BY PAM PULLEY

BSHS—A Bloomingdale Senior High school student whose ambition is to become a physician was one of five finalists in an essay competition that attracted 200 entries from 16 counties throughout the state. (See essay "As Conservative As We Wanna Be" below.)

Curtis Hayes, 17 and a senior at BSHS, challenged censorship in the Young Columbus Essay Contest sponsored by Parade magazine and *The Tampa Tribune*.

Hayes, the son of Rosa and John Hayes in Bloomingdale, challenged the jurisdiction of the court system in prosecuting "2 Live Crew" for recording music with questionable lyrics.

"(The case) widened my scope. I am open to new ideas. I have never been told what to read," Hayes said.

His honors English teacher, Dan Barr, described Hayes' writing as "extremely creative."

The husky, dark-haired senior stays busy at school as publicity editor of the annual literary magazine, *Imagine*. He also plans to contribute two or three stories for publication because "there are so many talented people in our school." Hayes enjoys karate, plays guitar and piano and says he hopes his 3.7 (on a scale of 4) grade point average will lead to medical school.

"I plan on majoring in medicine; I plan on being a surgeon," he said.



Curtis Hayes

"As Conservative As We Wanna Be"

BY CURTIS HAYES

I have a dream where everyone has the unquestionable right to print or vocalize any idea or opinion that they wish without the fear of punishment. One might say this is already true here in America, but it is not evident in a Broward County, Florida, Court case. This case is a test of the freedom of speech that has lasted over 175 years. It decides whether the censorship of music is protected under the First Amendment. The answer may well have to come from the U.S. Supreme Court in order to reestablish our freedom.

The central figures in this case, around which this tale of horror revolves, are the members of a Miami-based group called "2 Live Crew." Their album, "As Nasty As They Wanna Be," contains explicit lyrics and amounts of intercourse and sex. It was ruled obscene earlier this year in Dade and Broward counties. The all-black group, led by Luther Campbell, has had previous albums using similar material and, aside from obscenity, have had no legal problems. Also, in conjunction with their new album, released "As Clean As They Wanna Be," a PG rated album for the enjoyment of all ages. The outsourcing of the clean version by the lewd group led to the censorship. In turn, this has led to problems.

On June 8, Charles Freeman was convicted of the first degree misdemeanor charge of selling obscene material. He was arrested June 8 for selling a copy of "As Nasty As They Wanna Be" to an undercover police officer at the small E-C Records store that he owns in northwest Fort Lauderdale. Freeman charged the all-white jury of racism. He will be sentenced on November 2nd and may receive up to a year in jail and fined a thousand dollars. The local merchant has been dragged into the tempest of censorship for earning a living.

The artists themselves go on trial this week for performance of obscene material. The evidence against them is a microcassette recording of their performance recorded from the jacket pocket of an arresting officer. The police have had the recording "digitally enhanced" for their purposes. This evidence is weak and may not lead to a guilty verdict. This case is being closely observed by all in the music industry and members of the opposition of censorship. It will set precedents for the handling of censorship in the courts.

The material in question is no less obscene than some pornographic magazines and video tapes, yet these items are readily available and are widely distributed. These publications graphically present sexual practices,

leaving nothing to the imagination, yet are protected from legal scrutiny and prosecution. Is this not a contradiction?

Our founding fathers, and other great men including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., fought to preserve and extend the scope of these freedoms. The phrase "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" includes all people. The "2 Live Crew" caters to an audience. Be it small or large, old or young, white or black, the music sells. It is the right of the people to decide for themselves what they can or cannot listen to.

The solution entails the return to old ideas. The basic freedom that was stated clearly in our constitution 200 years ago still rings true. Parents who are concerned about what their children listen to should take an active role and screen the music that they listen to. The parent that finds an offensive cassette in their child's room should have been there to stop the purchase and not stop the sale of the product. Music is a reflection of the society it caters to. People can not censor a whole section of the population. People can take care of themselves.

I have a dream that needs to become a reality. A dream that protects the majority from the minority as well as the minority from the majority. That is what freedom

does. Preserve our values and cope with change because that is life. My dream is shared by others who may have more influence in the lawmaking body of this country, and they can make a difference. So can we by voting on the issues. The irony in this tale comes from a widely known communist nation. The same week as "2 Live Crew's" album was ruled obscene, U.S.S.R. passed legislation making free speech a part of their life. Let's not regress.

Bret Henry's rocket took first place

An exhibit linking rocket propulsion with the altitude of the flight won best-of-category honors for Bret Henry, 11, at the annual science fair sponsored by the Academy of the Holy Names in Tampa.

Bret, a fifth-grader, is the son of Sue and Toby Henry of Bayfield Drive in Bloomingdale Estates.

Bret faced other fifth- and sixth-graders in the earth and space category and received a certificate and blue ribbon for his winning efforts.

"He was to determine if the size of the rocket propulsion was changed by the size

Rev. Bob Hahn has a greater purpose in running than just for health

By PAM PULLEY

Rev. Bob Hahn hasn't always been the determined runner who canvasses at least six miles daily in the Bloomingdale area before the morning mist has yet to scorch.

The bearded pastor of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church at Bloomingdale Avenue and Bryan Road was just another also-ran participating in church softball games 15 years ago.

"I ran from first base to third base and thought I would have to be carried home," he said. "There was no energy left."

Hahn, 48, gradually built up his stamina and this month expected to finish the 48-mile Bike-A-Thon sponsored by St. Andrew's as a fund-raising venture for the church's 100-member United Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Hahn ran 46 miles in 10 hours two years ago as pastor of the Orange City United Methodist Church.

"The last few miles, there is more walking than running," he said. "This should be a little easier because it is not hilly."

The route—prepared by Hahn himself—was to begin March 2 at 8 a.m. at 3703 Kentfield Place, continue round and about the four-mile loop of Nature's Way, on to Culbreath Road and Erindale Drive, then con-



Rev. Bob Hahn

clude on Peachfield Drive.

The remaining laps would duplicate the original route.

The youngsters were to ride bicycles; several parishioners were expected to run one 6-mile lap, he said.

The idea was to raise money through pledges and donations for youth group projects, but Hahn was not forecasting a windfall of monetary riches.

"It depends on how many pledges they (upwards of 15 youngsters) get in. They could easily make \$1,000 but it depends on how many pledges they get and how many miles they do," he said.

The projects, Hahn added, include possible summer trips to Tampa, Jacksonville or eastern Kentucky for an exercise in mission work.

Hahn, a Michigan native, was graduated from the Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, Ky., then pastored in Leesburg, Daytona Beach and Orange City before manning the pulpit at St. Andrew's nearly two years ago.

A sampling of the church's congregation suggests satisfaction with the auburn-haired Hahn's work.

* He retreats from the pulpit during Sunday services to sing with the choir.

* At Easter and Christmas services, he may dress as a peasant from Biblical days to reinforce his message.

* He plays softball on the church team and maintains strong ties with the youth group.

His message is "down to earth, understandable and relates to the everyday person," said Jewell Muns of Bloomingdale. "He sings in the choir and every once in a while he sings in his delivery. It is a different approach. Some people like it; some people don't. He has brought life into the church."

Muns' husband, Ben, began running about two years ago and often is at Hahn's side during the



Bret Henry

of the engine in the rocket," said Sue Henry. "And that is, indeed, what happened."

Bret, an avid science student, purchased supplies to build the foot-long space shuttle and engine, she said.

"This is his first year there," his mother added. "Obviously, he was tickled."

My Turn

BY SUSAN L. DeLUCA

Paul Moffett still doesn't know whether or not he is going to have a business six months from now or not and that's a shame. Paul (owner of Rainbow Food Mart [formerly known as Convenient Food Mart]) has been fighting an eviction process by Jim Mikes, owner of the Village Center on Bell Shoals, since last year. Mikes is stating that because the retailers bought out the chain of Convenient Food Mart stores and changed it to Rainbow, that it is no longer a "recognized" name and no longer a draw to the center. In court testimony, Mikes has sighted 7-Eleven and Farm Stores as being better options for the center.

Paul runs a clean, tight ship. He is there during the day to oversee, he is pleasant to deal with and he has been a true community asset. On top of all this, his merchandising is good and his prices reasonable. There is no other store in the area like his—they have all gone bankrupt.

Hopefully, Mikes won't win. I don't like walking into the cold harshness of a 7-Eleven. Family stores like Paul's where he knows you by name, walks you to the car, cashes a personal check, and contributes to the community are hard to come by. Maybe Mr. Mikes just needs to hear that from all of us.

Deed Restrictions are quickly becoming the biggest pain in the neck I have ever seen. They are difficult to enforce, create heartache amongst residents, and ultimately get ignored. And yet, we all keep trying to do something about them.

Recently, Bill Povilus and I attended

a General Membership Meeting in Boyette Springs, by invitation of their Board. Topic? Deed Restriction enforcement. For over 30 minutes we addressed a group of around 50 residents asking the same basic question: "Why do the developers do this to us?"

Deed Restrictions have value, but not when their enforcement must come from neighbor against neighbor.

In an extension of networking to two other areas beyond Bloomingdale, the homeowners associations of Boyette Springs and Buckhorn Estates have been invited to join the *Gazette*.

Networking and sharing is important. With the absence of true local government, homeowners associations take on greater roles and expected to do and produce more than just social enhancements. But to work, communications are a must. Utilizing the services of the *Gazette* to communicate to their residents through our newspaper is allowing us all to share and slow down any recreations of the wheel.

And now some serious talk. The advertisers in this area don't always treat us as a serious medium in which to place their advertisements. Unfortunately, it is our own faults. How many times have we walked into a store and said "I saw your advertisement in *The Bloomingdale Gazette*?" Probably never and yet advertising pays for this newspaper 100%. If you don't tell businesses you saw their ad, you stand the risk of losing this newspaper due to lack of revenues.

Give it some thought, won't you?

Letters...

Dear Editor,

I find it disconcerting that the *Gazette* is willing to take the advertising revenue from several CPAs and tax preparer firms whilst promoting (at no charge) the IRS volunteer tax preparation service which is FREE. Many readers might question why they should pay for a professional preparer when such service appears to be free of charge. It seems only fair that you should run an editorial stressing the differences in service, approach and quality. For my part, I can tell you that we compared 5 moderately complex returns from 1988 and 1989 with the same data prepared by ex IRS officials and concluded that in some cases our firm took a more favorable yet legal position with respect to the taxpayer resulting in significant savings.

Although the IRS and their ex employees for the most part do a pretty good job, as measured against their training and resources, well educated and quality minded paid preparers can often find Internal Revenue Code sections, rulings and court cases that allow a more favorable interpretation of facts and circumstances for a taxpayer. This skill and knowledge only comes with years of training and experience.

I think the *Gazette* owes an apology to the advertisers of tax preparation services for failing to alert the readers that their money is NOT wasted when seeking professional paid tax help.

Michael O. Reedy, C.P.A.

Mr. Reedy,

I appreciate your concern regarding the above, but the *Gazette* is not promoting the IRS as you say. The Bloomingdale

Homeowners Association is sponsoring the free tax help in its community office as a community service. Since the *Gazette* serves as the communication vehicle for the BHA and is its primary purpose for existing, how else but through this newspaper would the BHA inform the community of its functions. (Please note in the Heather Lakes Section, that a similar volunteer effort is underway in that community as well.)

Because of these volunteers (some of whom are Bloomingdale Residents) individuals who would not normally have ANY assistance with filing their taxes receive assistance reading English, interpreting the forms (such as where to sign their names) and other simple things we take for granted.

In no way has the *Gazette* or the BHA degraded the value of a professional CPA. The *Gazette* uses the professional services of James Laughlin, CPA, which we could never do without. But on the other hand, the volunteer nature of these IRS preparers is both practical and useful to those in need of their assistance.

- SLD

Dear Editor:

To the staff of the Bloomingdale Gazette, February, 1991.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for your generosity in giving Booker T. Washington Jr. High Publix register receipts.

Your added support has enabled us to purchase more equipment.

Thank you,
B.T. Washington School & PTA

Bloomingdale Business

Birdie's Chic'n Express, a take-out chicken specialty shop that opened last week at 803 E. Bloomingdale Ave. in Bloomingdale, is the first fast-food venture for owner Ray Carapella.

The skinless chicken is fried in 100 percent vegetable oil with a batter recipe that was handed down in his family for three generations, he said.

Other menu specialties include homemade mashed potatoes, roasted chicken, fried shrimp, chicken salad and chicken filet sandwiches, Buffalo wings and an assortment of vegetables.

Free delivery is also available.



On the left, Caleb Rodriguez (Software and More store manager), Earl Grantham, President of Brandon Chamber of Commerce, on the right, selecting the winner.

BIG WINNER

Kevin Simmons of Valrico won an IBM PS/2 at the recent grand opening of Software and More's new store at 827 E. Bloomingdale Ave. The store specializes in a variety of software and books for the Apple, Amiga, Commodore 64, IBM and Macintosh computers.

The company will deliver for purchases exceeding \$50 and provide fax and laser printing services.

Simmons' name was selected in a drawing by Earl Grantham, president of the Brandon Chamber of Commerce.

BUYING, SELLING NCNB Mortgage

Corp. is sponsoring seminars throughout Hillsborough County to acquaint buyers and sellers with state-of-the-art techniques for buying or selling a home. The seminars are entitled "How to Find and Make the Best Buy in Today's Market" and "How to Get Your House Sold in a Buyer's Market."

For March and April times, dates and locations in the Brandon/Valrico/Seffner area, telephone 685-5894.



It's family time. Modeling clothes from Young'Uns and Maternity at Bloomingdale Square are Amanda League, 2, and Dough Harrison, 18 months, who wear coordinating outfits of striped crinkle crepe accented with red. Doug is stylish in a two-piece romper set while Amanda shows girls' bloomers.

Accompanying the children are Cindy Bergevin. The mother-to-be wears a Chambray jumper that features buttons in the back for interest. Showing off the jumper is a white t-shirt accented with red stars.

Bloomingdale Real Estate Report

BY CHUCK FRENZ

Bloomingdale Box Score

January 1 to February 23	1990	2
	1991	12

We're off with a BANG!

Number of homes currently listed in Bloomingdale: 148

Mobile Watch logs 38 events in 21 days



A Mobile Watch Monthly Report

BY LAWAYNE WYATT

Over the past several months we have been reporting that the criminal activity level in Bloomingdale was fairly low. Unfortunately, February was totally different. As of February 21, a total of 38 events had been logged.

They included teens drinking, damage to stop signs and street signs, speeders/reckless driving, mailboxes smashed, cars cruising the area, several egged houses, cars in several wooded areas and a new party site along Culbreath Road.

More significant were six unoccupied cars parked in unusual places, three occurrences of increased activity in the vicinity of The Spot, five events of suspicious activity, four house burglaries and six car breakins.

The burglaries and car breakins ranged through Bloomingdale but the majority were in the western area.

We don't have the details on all of the burglaries but at least one involved items taken from an open garage. The garage door had been accidentally been left open during the night.

We realize that open doors may occasionally be forgotten but all residents need to be extra careful to remove any temptations to burglars.

Patrols often report as many as 50 garage doors open at night.

Many of the garages contain a considerable number of items and only invite a criminal to enter.

Let's all take an extra interest in securing our

homes and eliminating the temptations.

On a more positive note we would like to thank those residents who made a donation to the Mobile Watch when they paid their 1991 BHA dues.

As of February 12th over \$600 has been donated.

We still need more volunteers, especially those who are available during the week. In February and March we were able to schedule at least one patrol every night of the week.

Additional volunteers would allow for more patrols each night and, thus, provide additional eyes to watch for suspicious activity.

Our thanks to Rafael Morales, West, who volunteered in February.

- Possible credit for the Community Reinvestment Act.
 - The pride of knowing you are helping the community in an on-going effort to deter crime.
- If you are interested, contact Susan L. DeLuca, General Manager of The Bloomingdale Gazette, Inc., at 681-2051 for more information.

Would your business be interested in sponsoring the Mobile Watch?

You would receive in return:

- Exclusive advertising rights on this page.
- Your name as sponsor on all Mobile Watch sponsored projects.

Bloomingdale's stability does not attract severe crime

BY PAM PULLEY

The crime rate edged up in the Bloomingdale neighborhoods last year, but an official with the county Sheriff's Office claims the area's stable population and absence of overdevelopment stems soaring growth in misdemeanor and felony activities.

Sheriff's research supervisor Jim Hargan said the violent crime rate in Bloomingdale is traditionally low.

He speculated that the area's stable population "with little or no housing for transients or short-term rentals and cheap furnished apartments" does not attract severe criminal behavior.

Sheriff's Det. Richard Walker, meanwhile, suggested that the stability of middle-class and upper-middle class Bloomingdale invites crime.

"There is more than one entrance, both parents work, the kids are in school..." he said. "Most don't have security systems. They are busy buying (orthodontic) braces and keeping the cars running."

Crime is thwarted in luxury communities by security guards at gates, elaborate security systems and wives who remain at home.

Statistics supplied by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for 1990 reveal the rate is nudging upwards in an area bounded by Bloomingdale Avenue on the north, U.S. Highway 301 on the west, Alafia River and Boyette Road on the south and Lithia-Pinecrest Road on the east.

The standard street-crime figures, initially funneled by the county sheriff's office to the FDLE, are as follows:

Murders: Bloomingdale area, 0; unincorporated county, 2

Forced sex offenses: 11; 524

Robbery (armed and muggings): 11; 1,104

Aggravated assault: 32; 2,945

Burglaries of structures: 218; 8,923

Larceny theft (misdemeanors and grand theft): 442; 20,080

Motor vehicle thefts: 38; 3,925

The Bloomingdale offenses totaled 752, while unincorporated county figures reached 37,538 for the seven categories.

Hargan said burglaries and larceny thefts increased last year.

"(The latter) could be due to an increase in commercial development," he added. "There is more shoplifting and gas drive-offs."

The expected ratio is 69 crimes per 1,000 residents, Hargan said. The Bloomingdale-area figures suggested 39 crimes for the same population—nearly 50 percent below average.

"Generally, having a stable residential population helps a lot," he said. "Why this is lower than in other stable populations, I don't know."

The figures for the first 10 months of last year were projected proportionately for the entire year after a state budget cut forced a reduction in data entry personnel before they had completed the November and December processing, the

researcher said. Also absent are figures for the first two months of 1991.

"I won't have any more for three months," he added.

Walker said preliminary figures in the same boundaries for January of this year revealed two burglaries of residences, two of vehicles and none of businesses; two grand thefts and three auto thefts.

December of 1990 showed six burglaries of residences, three of vehicles and three of businesses; four grand thefts and four automobile thefts.

All are felonies.

Most misdemeanor residential burglaries occur weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3

p.m. when such items as bicycles and tools are removed from the garages of home-owners, Walker said.

"Since the middle of January, most are concentrated in Bloomingdale," he added. "Primary theft items have been bicycles which make one think juveniles are involved rather than (someone) living in the area."

Walker offers hints to reduce residential crimes:

* Park cars in garages. "Cars left on the street will be burglarized," he said.

* Install audible alarm systems. "(Residential) crime would be cut in half if people would do that—maybe more," he said. "People—cops, too—tend not to act until something happens to them."

Bloomingdale's crime rates are nearly 50% below average.

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A water main split Feb. 22 at the intersection of Rosemead Lane and Canoga Park Drive in Bloomingdale, sending underground water onto the north, south and western roadways. Jack Dempsey, utility maintenance supervisor of Hillsborough County's Public Utilities Dept., said moisture and a shifting terrain were responsible for the damage. The incident was unrelated to a storm drain split that occurred two days earlier two blocks away, Dempsey said.

Be prepared to pay \$10 for emissions testing

Beginning April 1, 1991, the state of Florida will conduct emissions inspection testing in six counties.

Hillsborough, Pinellas, Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Duval are the six counties that will be required to annually inspect all registered motor vehicles subject to test through the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program (MVIP).

All motorists with registered vehicles will be required to have their vehicles tested within 90 days prior to registration expiration. A reminder notice will be sent

with their registration renewal.

The testing comes as the result of a 1987 edict from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which declared the six Florida counties to be ozone "nonattainment" areas.

The Motor Vehicle Emissions Study Commission recommended the tests after determining how best to bring the state into compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act. The tests were mandated by the 1988 legislature.

Only vehicles under

10,000 pounds G.V.W. (gross vehicle weight)—model years 1975 and newer—are required to be tested. According to studies, 70 percent of Florida's air pollution comes from motor vehicles.

The inspection tests will be administered at inspection stations, which will be constructed and operated by contractors hired by the state through a competitive bid process.

Louisville-based Gordon-Darby, Inc. is responsible for implementing the emissions testing program

in Hillsborough, Pinellas and Broward counties. Hillsborough and Pinellas counties will have 10 inspection stations with 44 total lanes while Broward will have six inspection stations utilizing 33 lanes.

Cost for the inspection will be \$10. Those vehicles failing the test will receive one free reinspection from either an inspection station or a certified reinspection center following appropriate repairs to the vehicle.

Although a safety test will be available on a voluntary basis for motorists,

pastor's 7:30 a.m. outings. "It has brought the two closer together, sooner," Jewell Muns said.

Carl Pulvermacher, also of Bloomingdale, applauds Hahn's linkage of the past with the present.

"He tends to be concerned. He brings contemporary issues into the sermon without being political," Pulvermacher said. "He is able to cite Biblical bases for what's happening today in contemporary society."

There is also Hahn's secular nature. Absent is moralizing. Saved for the pulpit are Biblical quotations. The sense of humor percolates.

"He is not hearth, fire and brimstone," Pulvermacher said. "If you did not know, you would not know he's a minister."

And no, Pulvermacher does not run with Hahn.

"I'm about as athletic as a wet mop," he said, laughing.

The pastor's growing athletic stamina has led him to participate in several road

races and marathons.

Last year, Hahn said, he ran the 26.2 miles of a marathon at MacDill Air Force Base in four hours and 15 minutes. Most recently he completed the 9.3 miles of the Gasparilla Road Race in Tampa in one hour and 18 minutes.

Hahn claims no victory. "In all races, I finish," he quipped.

Dogs have become companions on his daily runs—except for Sunday—that range in length from six to 15 miles on an assortment of routes in the Bloomingdale area.

"I always have dogs following me and sometimes they forget where they came from and I have to run them back home," Hahn said. "One dog followed me for six months. Then I guess he lost interest."

The outings allow Hahn to ruminate on the people and the sermon that greet him each Sunday at St. Andrew's.

"I do a lot of praying when I am running, I think about the sermon for Sunday and think about the ideas I want to present," Hahn said. "As I pass by parishioners, I pray for them in their neighborhoods."

Hahn appears to be the only athlete in his family. Wife Carol and four adult children "stay away from strenuous exercising," he said. "Eventually, I want to do a 50-mile marathon. My wife likes it that I am involved in running."

emissions will be the only requires element of the test.

Estimated test time will be 2-3 minutes, with an average wait time of approximately 3-5 minutes, except during peak times near the end of the month when the wait will be longer.

For further information, contact Fordon-Darby, Inc. at 4025 Tampa Road, Suite 1118-1119, Oldsmar, FL 34677; phone 854-3916.



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Stray cats send residents howling for relief

By PAM PULLEY



Bloomingtondale residents may tackle the problem of stray cats roaming the community by renting cages from Hillsborough County's Animal Services Department. ASD spokeswoman Mary Ayers said "cat traps" designed to attract the felines are available for \$10 for up to 10 days of use and

a refundable \$15 deposit. An open can of sardines supplied by the homeowner and a pedal in the flooring that closes the cage door when triggered are keys to imprisoning a cat that has joined others in a parade through the yards and garages and under the cars of Bloomingtondale residents. "You punch holes in a can of sardines and let the liquid spill onto aluminum foil or wax paper. Cats come in quickly," Ayers said. "Also try to anchor a con-

tainer of water and a bowl of regular cat food from a can." The ASD offices and kennels are at 310 Falkenburg Road in Brandon. Homeowners may transfer the cat—or cats—to the kennels or call 272-6620 for a free pickup by ASD between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays, Ayers said. There are no pickups on weekends. "Some people will catch two, three or four per day," she said. "There is only one cat in a cage at a time. Some people put them in a holding cage until having them

picked up." Garages or sheds may also be used as holding cells. Unleashed dogs roaming at large without leashes may be picked up at will. The absence of a county leash law for cats makes their capture more detailed, Ayers said. But Bloomingtondale is not alone in attracting unwanted animals. Barbara Bailey, ASD records custodian, said 7,436 animal pickups were made throughout Hillsborough County in fiscal Oct. 1, 1989 to Sept. 1, 1990.

ASD's zone four, which encompasses Brandon, Bloomingtondale, Valrico and Dover, recorded pickups of 256 cats and 499 dogs. Bailey said pickups have decreased in the last two years. "It's down slightly," she said. "I hope it's because we are trying to educate the public better."

If not wearing vaccination tags, dogs are held for seven days before they are put up for adoption or put to sleep, Bailey said. The time period reaches two weeks when tags are worn. The same policy extends to cats, although they are not required to show proof of vaccination, Bailey said.

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It's spring yard clean up time

By ASTRID DAVIES



Now that winter is behind us, it is time to clean up the yard, plant and fertilize for rich spring growth. The shoots of azaleas that are finished blooming should be trimmed as needed. Given that azaleas, gardenias and camellias prefer acid soil, an acid-type fertilizer promotes health and growth. Tuberos or bulb plants such as dahlias, amaryllis, callas, gladiolas, cannas and crinum should be planted as soon as possible in a soil enriched with bone meal.

- Other pointers for planting poinsettias:
- * Cut and pinch back poinsettias three times between now and August once the blooming is finished.
 - * Select a spot in the yard where poinsettias will get 12 hours of uninterrupted darkness each night if they are to bloom by November.
 - * Fertilize every six to eight weeks and check regularly for white flies.
 - Spring is the ideal time to cut back all leggy plants and hedges to induce low-branched growth.
 - Hibiscus especially needs pruning now to assume compact shape and prolific blooming.
 - Be sure the pruning shears are sharp.
 - Large trees and shrubs should be moved to other locations if their present sites are prohibiting growth.
 - Following are some replanting hints:
 - * Dig a decent-sized root ball with a heavy concentration of root soil.
 - * Wrap the root ball with burlap or an old bed sheet to retain most of the soil around the roots.
 - * When transplanting or planting new shrubs or trees, frequent watering is important.
 - March is the ideal month for fertilizing lawns with about four pounds of special lawn fertilizer per 100 square feet. Or, check the instructions on the fertilizer bag.
 - Weeds should be sprayed before warm weather interferes with the result.
 - And, don't forget to fertilize rose bushes. In addition to the regular fertilizer, sprinkle one cup of bone meal around each plant.

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Guest columnist Astrid Davies is an owner of Pat & Mike's Nursery and a Bloomingtondale Resident.

Library & Center Place dedication March 10

The new Brandon Regional Library and the Center Place Fine Arts and Civic Association will be formally dedicated on Sunday, March 10, at 2:00 p.m. The joint facility is located at 619 Vonderburg Dr., just off of South Parsons Ave. Speaking at the dedication will be Board of County Commissioners Chairperson Phyllis Busansky, Library Board Chairperson Alice Storms and Center Place Board President Gene Bishop. A reception will be provided, courtesy of the Friends of the Library and Center Place Fine Arts and Civic Assoc. For more information, call the Library Community Relations Office at 223-8944.

Frish Coffee, Frish Stew and other St. Patrick's Day traditions



BY PAM PULLEY

It's a top o' the morn to the Irish.

And, on March 17, the entire world can strum their shillelaghs and wear assorted shades of green in a tribute to St. Patrick, the priest who began spreading Christianity in the fifth-century land of Eire.

Far across the Atlantic is the land of an enchantment that strolls through emerald green valleys and climbs to mountain peaks under the halo of an unpolluted skyline.

St. Patrick's Day is the day of the Irish, and those who wish to be. Shops are darkened. Economic woes are shuttled aside. Not even rain dampens the outlook as parades and pubs and horse races—and, ay, yes, the beckoning of cathedral bells—rev up a national spirit that only begins to deflate well past midnight.

Dining is meat to the celebration. Following are recipes that the Irish use not only on St. Patrick's Day, but throughout the year.

Let's start off with Irish Coffee, originally made at the old Shannon Airport in the late 1940s to pacify disgruntled—and delayed—travelers at Europe's first stop-off point. (Recipes are from Real Irish Cookery, published by Robert Hale Limited in London, England.)

Frish Coffee

1 teaspoon brown sugar
1 ounce Irish whiskey, or to taste
Hot coffee
Freshly whipped cream, not too stiff

In 6-ounce Irish Coffee glass or mug, add sugar, whiskey and coffee. Stir. Drop whipped cream from back of spoon onto mixture. Sprinkle with cinnamon or chocolate shavings, if desired. Do not stir; drink through whipped cream.

Easter Sunday is March 31.

Turnip and Bacon Soup

1/4 pound streaky bacon, rinds removed
1/4 pound chopped onions
1/4 pound chopped potatoes
1/4 pound chopped turnips
2 pints stock
Salt and pepper to taste
Fat for frying

Chop and fry bacon and onions. Add potatoes, turnips and stock. Cook gently until vegetables are soft. Adjust seasoning and serve.

Baked Salmon

Ireland's legendary Finn MacCool is said to have 'gained the wisdom of the

ages when he but licked a thumb that had burst a blister on the roasting 'Salmon of Knowledge.'" It is doubtful that this is the reason for the immense popularity of the "King of Fish," but the Irish, who relish the eating of it, are certainly no fools.

1 5-7 pound salmon
2 ounces butter
1/2 lemon, juiced
2 tablespoons water
Salt and pepper

Season washed and gutted salmon with salt and pepper. Place in an oven-proof dish, add water and lemon juice and dot with butter. Cover with tin foil. Bake for 1-1/2 hours (12 minutes per pound) at 400 degrees F. Remove skin and serve either hot or cold.

Frish Stew

1 pound lean mutton pieces
1 pound onions
1 pound carrots
1 pound potatoes
Salt and pepper
Pinch of thyme

Place mutton with thyme in saucepan and add cold water to cover. Bring slowly to the boil and simmer for 1 hour. Add onions, carrots and potatoes, all peeled and roughly chopped. Season. Continue cooking until vegetables are tender. Adjust seasoning. May be served alone or with green cabbage or sprouts.

Dressed Turnip

2 pounds turnips
Salt and pepper
Bacon fat for frying

Peel turnips thickly to remove outer layers of skin. Chop into one-inch cubes. Cook in lightly salted boiling water until tender. Strain and roughly mash. Heat bacon fat in frying pan and gently fry turnip for 2-3 minutes. Cold turnips may also be used, frying until heated through.

Soda Bread

12 ounces plain flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon bread soda (bicarbonate)
1/2 teaspoon cream of tar-

tar
1/2 pint buttermilk

Mix dry ingredients together and sieve twice—to incorporate plenty of air. Make a well in the center of the flour and add enough buttermilk to get an easy-to-handle, soft but not wet dough. Knead very lightly, form into a round and mark with a cross. Bake in a hot oven, 450 degrees F, for 20 minutes. Reduce heat to 400 degrees, for 20 more minutes.

The mark of the cross on the cake of bread is said to have been the Sign of the Cross and was to bring the blessing of Father, Son and Holy Spirit on the bread so that none would be wasted.

The bread was made when butter was scarce, as it is complete in itself.

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GINNY WONG BARBARA LING
Alafia School News by Norma Marsh

Alafia goes for a win for the 4th year

ALAFIA—The fourth annual Red Cross enrollment drive—themed "We Care from the Heart"—is ongoing at Alafia Elementary School, with an emphasis on patriotism. Alafia has been the county's most successful public school in raising funds through membership for the past three years. This year, the fund-raising goal is \$1,500. The campaign's theme is being promoted in puppet shows, skits and announcements on WAOK, the school's closed-circuit television morning newscast.



Corey Howard

"This Land..." celebration set for March 22

ALAFIA—Students at Alafia Elementary School will enjoy a dose of history March 22 when friends and family gather in the classrooms for their "This Land is Your Land" celebration. Featured will be folk dances, skits, displays and a "character land" in the media center where life-sized literary characters and book jackets will bask in the spotlight. Each class has been working since January with literature, history and folk legends to dramatize the awakening of states from Florida to Maine to California.

The public celebration will be preceded March 21 when the student body gathers around a large U.S. map puzzle, sings patriotic tunes and indulges in a food-tasting program featuring dishes from the chosen states.

Karen Willis named Teacher of the Year

ALAFIA—Karen Willis was recently selected by the Alafia Elementary faculty as Alafia's Teacher-of-the-Year 1991-1992. Mrs. Willis teaches second grade and is the second grade team leader. She is a charter member of Alafia having taught there since its opening four years ago. Prior to coming to Alafia, Karen taught at Wimauma Elementary and Ashford Elementary School in Connecticut. Mrs. Willis says she is "proud to be in the teaching profession" and she feels confident that her role is one of the most important in our society.

8,000 cans collected

BROOKER—Brooker Elementary School students have been collecting aluminum cans to be recycled that have averaged almost 8,000 cans each collection. The students wash them, smash them, and bag them every two weeks and pile them high in the school parking lot to be collected. Next month the students will nominate environmental projects they wish to adopt, and then vote for one that will receive the proceeds. Mrs. Katie Traylor's kindergarten class contributed the most.

Young Authors Conference at USF

ALAFIA—Students at Alafia have been very busy writing for the Young Authors Conference to be held at the University of South Florida. Many delightful stories and poems were written for the event. Each student's writings was read and evaluated by a committee of Alafia teachers. Two students were chosen to represent Alafia at the conference: Christine Armstrong and Beth Miller. Christine, of Mrs. Willis' second grade class will be representing primary grade students and Beth, of Mrs. B.G. Baker's fifth grade, will be representing intermediate grade students. In addition to their own stories, Christine will be taking along one by class-

mate Matthew Marchant and selected poems by Mrs. Heidt's second grade students. Beth will be bringing stories by Michael Augello, Jason Lambert and selected poems by Mrs. Williamson's fifth grade students.

Three win at State Poetry Contest



Left, Tracy Hooker, Abigail Dean, Christine Cook.

BROOKER—Three Brooker Elementary School students were winners in the Florida State Poetry Contest sponsored by the Florida State Poets Association Inc. In a field of 199 second-graders from Marathon to Tallahassee, the Brooker standouts were: * Tracy Hooker, third place, for her 12-line poem entitled, "The Sun and the Moon." Her teacher is Michelle Gates.

* Abigail Dean, honorable mention, for her poem, "Dancing on Your Toes." Her teacher is Sharon Thompson. * Christine Cook, also a student in Thompson's applied language arts class, honorable mention for her entry, "I Wonder." The 1990-91 competition attracted some 900 first-, second- and third-grade entries which were judged by 12 out-of-state jurors.

\$6,000+ Tapes donated to schools by Bloomingdale

Although the completed totals are not yet in, the Bloomingdale Community Office has donated over \$6,000 worth of register tapes to area schools. Collected since Fall of last year, these yellow tapes were evenly divided amongst all of the public schools that serve Bloomingdale's children. These register tapes are then used to purchase Apple computer products for the schools. The schools were extremely appreciative of the contributions of the many residents who dropped off their tapes at the office. (See Letters to the Editor.)

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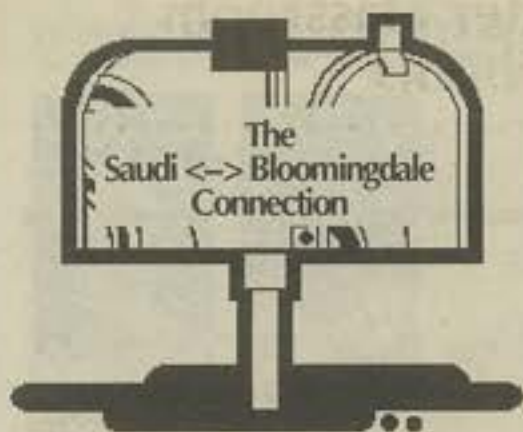
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Progress Village's students ran that extra mile

By PAM PULLEY



Brooker's Soldiers

BROOKER—In continued recognition of soldiers and service people serving in the Persian Gulf region, Brooker Elementary School students and staff have placed 45 names on a designated tree in the media center.

Each name recognizes a relative who is not forgotten. Kindergarten teacher Kay Pradera is sister to two brothers stationed in Saudi Arabia. School principal Milton Lovelace is uncle to a married niece and nephew serving in Desert Storm.

Their names accompany the names of 41 others who were assigned to the Mid-East.

An angel of mercy ornament sits atop the tree. In another patriotic activity, Lovelace and his staff have displayed a colorful map of the Mid-East and surrounding countries on the bulletin board in the main office. A clock is set Saudi Arabia time.

Alafia's Pen Pals

ALAFIA—Mrs. Julian's fourth grade class has been corresponding with Mrs. Julia's nephew and cousin, Eric Tefenthaler and Mike Massaro, both of whom are stationed in the Middle East.

Through Mike and Eric the students have become pen pals with the Captain and crew of the U.S.S. Princeton and the MP battalion from Tampa.

BSHS's good intentions

BSHS—Efforts by students at Bloomingdale Senior High School to honor American troops stationed in the Persian Gulf region ended in disappointment when vandals tore down red, white and blue ribbons the group had placed on 17 campus trees.

The 175-member Homemakers of America Leadership Club celebrated National FHA/Hero Week Feb. 12 by sponsoring a patriotic show and attaching the ribbons to trees fronting the Bloomingdale school, said the group's co-sponsor, teacher Joyce Simpkins.

Simpkins said the ribbons were ripped off either the evening of Feb. 14 or the morning of Feb. 15.

Signs were left at the school protesting the war, she said. A yellow ribbon remained on a tree in the fountain fronting the school, she said. "I guess they didn't want to go out there to get it," she added. "They didn't understand what we were trying to do. We don't want war, but we want to support our troops in the Gulf region."

Several of the chapter's members have relatives serving in Operation Desert Storm. Some 85 of the school's 2,000 students have family members stationed in the Gulf region. Simpson said no legal action was planned.

Booker T. has a pageant

BOOKER—Students, faculty, staff, administration and parents showed their support for American troops stationed in the Mid-East with a colorful decor and spirit for the symbolism of the American flag Feb. 21 at Booker T. Washington Junior High School.

The program featured a presentation of the colors by the Tampa Police Explorers and an upbeat report on the role American soldiers are playing in Saudi Arabia by Capt. Debra Watrous of the United States Air Force Central Command public affairs office at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa.

"Her speech was a morale-builder," said a school spokesman.

The Booker T. Washington band, conducted by Steve Pfaffman, played patriotic songs while student Amanda White sang the Star Spangled Banner. The school's back lawn was festive with banners, ribbons, the American flag and the state of Florida flag.

The program featured Susan Hammontree, mistress of ceremonies; PTA president Dorothy Brodeur and principal Barbara Harvey. Event sponsors were the school's student council, sponsored by Sam Currey and Daniel Grachek and the Quality Time (Teacher-Advisors Program), coordinated by Frank Watson. Watson and another teacher, Diane Fernandez, organized the festivities.

Assisting Brodeur as president of the PTA this year are Carol Trelease, vice president; Ann Hicks, treasurer; and Marikou Rulli, secretary.

Mayor Sandy Freedman of Tampa was a special guest.



PTA members stamp lap completion forms for students to be able to collect pledge monies.

PROGRESS VIL-LAGE—Young Chris Denmon of Brandon recently found that giving the extra effort gave him the strength for the extra mile.

And, the winner of Progress Village Elementary School's Walk-A-Thon is talking of not only physical stamina, but financial savvy as well.

Chris, 11, beat out 1,100 classmates in winning the school's first Walk-A-Thon designed to raise funds for improving the school's media center.

A haughty seasonal wind met students who ran the two 1/8-mile tracks set up for the event on the Progress Village athletic field. Members of the school's PTA monitored each completed lap.

Chris, 11, completed 20 laps—or 2-1/2 miles—in the 25 minutes allotted each student during the day.

Chris concedes he ran the block surrounding his family's Providence Lakes home for about five days in preparation for the competition.

The \$171.06 he collected in pledges and donations topped the field.

"I got around 55 or 56 people to make pledges and donations," he said, "mostly \$2 and \$3 donors."

Chris is the son of Lina and Richard Denmon.

The school's PTA awarded Chris a hand-held, Nintendo Gameboy for his efforts.

Chris now has the incentive to run in additional walkathons held for chari-

table causes in the Brandon area.

"I am sure I will sometime in the future," he said.

Jan Allmond, president of the sixth-grade center's PTA, would not divulge the amount of money raised.

Allmond said Progress Village's first-ever Walk-A-Thon replaced such traditional fund-raisers as selling, candies, wrapping paper and sausages.

She found the enthusiasm satisfying.

"I felt the kids were excited about it because they got to do something for the school," she said. "I felt people were inundated with buying products from schools and organizations."

Faculty from the school's physical education department began training students

for the competition last autumn.

Coach Wayne Granda stood on the sidelines monitoring the event and offering encouragement.

"We usually had a jogging and stretching workout...most of the year," he said. "And they learned to do aerobic walking, with the involvement of moving their arms."

Coach Charlie Green said motivation was the key factor as four classes of straight-faced students ran—not walked—the makeshift tracks.

"A change of pace helps to motivate them. It works well with the physical education program," he said. "They run 1/4 of a mile every day."

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BY SUSAN L. DeLUCA

Red Carpet award to Booker T. Washington

BOOKER—Booker T. Washington Junior High School was one of 46 public schools in Hillsborough County to be awarded Red Carpet status in a program established two years ago by State Education Commissioner Betty Castor.

The 46 for 1991 brought the percentage of public schools enjoying the honor to 100 percent in two years.

"Hillsborough County is the only large district in the state that has 100 percent," said Donna M. Reed, public information specialist with the school system.

Red Carpet status is awarded to schools demonstrating achievement in maintaining a friendly relationship with family and parents, helpful staff, wel-

coming attitude and parent-education programs, Reed said.

The assessments are made after several of 35 parents, volunteers and PTA members make unannounced visits to the schools, Reed said. The teams do not visit schools in their residential areas.

The parent who nominated the school as a Red Carpet candidate accompanies the school principal to an awards ceremony where they are given a certificate of achievement and a 4-foot by 6-foot red carpet emblazoned with the words, "Families Welcome."

The idea was to involve families more strongly with the education of their children.

Lois Bowers, new principal at Progress Village

PROGRESS VILLAGE—A former school teacher has returned to her professional roots, but at a much higher position.

Lois Bowers, former principal of Gibsonton Elementary School, was named principal of Progress Village Elementary School March 4.

Bowers was employed with Hillsborough County Public Schools Aug. 16, 1966, as a teacher at Progress Village Elementary School. She went on professional leave from Aug. 20, 1970, to June 30, 1971.

On her return, she was appointed dean of girls at Blake Junior High School and remained in that position until July 1, 1976, when she was named principal of Just.

Bowers received her bachelor of arts degree at Dillard University and her master's degree at the University of South Florida.

Education Celebration at Brooker

BROOKER—An "Education Celebration" to showcase student accomplishments was held at Brooker Elementary School.

Displays and exhibits covering the gamut from the history of Brooker to native American scenes and artists in resident for students and parents was on display at the campus.

Contributing to the celebration with displays, supplies and financial backing were local businesses. Special treats were clowns, balloons and popcorn.



Education Coordinator, Sandra Phillips, instructs students in the foreground, while Paula Fry, Director of Operations, helps children in the rear aboard the Computers in Motion mobile classroom bus.

Computers at home, computers in school, and computers at business—but on a bus? This innovative idea called *Computers in Motion* brings a mobile classroom of Apple and Apple compatible computers to preschools in the area.

Owned by a Tallahassee corporation, Computer Learning Caravan, this bus with 8-10 computers gives half hour lessons four times per month for \$6.25 per lesson. Taught

by Sandra Phillips, who holds a Masters Degree in Education, children learn basic computer skills while reinforcing basic educational skills such as numbers, shapes, and colors.

Currently the only Bloomingdale stop is at Primary Prep, but they also go to other schools such as Children's Academy and Annsworth Academy.

The BULLS Corner

BY BARBARA LING

BSHS—February was a month of valentines, remembrances and roses mingled with concern for American troops stationed in the Persian Gulf region for students at Bloomingdale Senior High School.

A special day was set aside for wearing red, white and blue in support of the

troops. To show its concern, the Student Advisory Council has held weekly meetings for pupils who have loved ones serving in the Mid-East.

Principal Charles Harris hosted a Desert Storm Valentine Breakfast for those students and their families. Speakers were student

Kirsten Sopko and Capt. Patricia Inglehart from the U.S. Central Command public affairs office at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa.

Entertainment was provided by the Ambassadors under direction of choir director Steve Fessler and the Jazz Band under the guidance of band director Ted Hope.

AWARDS GALORE

Academically, students are on the move.

The BSHS mathematics teams competed at the second regional Mu Alpha Theta (math honorary) competition of the year Feb. 9 at Robinson High School in Tampa. The school ranked third overall in the region.

The algebra 1 team placed second with Sara

Grossman placing seventh and Brett Kellner placing fifth in the individual competition.

The geometry team placed third with Steve Fornash placing sixth and David Wadkins placing first in the individual competition.

The algebra II team finished first in the region. Individual winners included Scott Suttles, third; Janet Castle, ninth; and Steve Kuhlman, 10th.

The precalculus group ranked fifth with Joel Cameron winning ninth-place honors in the individual competition.

The competitions attracted 400 students.

The combined Burns Junior High and BSHS math

— BULLS, see pg 14

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Do you have a will?

BY TOM PETERSON

A proper will would:
1) Be drafted in your state of residency by a competent attorney.

2) Name a resident of that same state as executor (or "personal representative").

3) Provide for realistic guardianship arrangements for children (in the event they are orphaned).

4) Be reviewed at least every two years and more frequently following a significant change in family status or tax law.

Most families would also be well-advised to consider the establishment of some form of trust arrangement for post-death asset management—especially when minor children may be involved. The guidelines of such a trust may be as flexible, or as rigid, as you desire.

You need to be aware that:

1) Without a will, most states will require that your assets be divided between spouse and children. Depending on the form of ownership, the provision may prevent your spouse from disposing of property (including your personal residence).

In a best-case scenario, she/he may need court ap-

proval to sell. Part of the proceeds will be under the jurisdiction of the probate court until the children reach "majority."

2) Children can't inherit monies from your estate or from insurance proceeds. By naming your children as beneficiaries of either, you have (passively) decided that you want the probate court system to manage all distributions.

A trust, created by your will, can solve the problem. (Special note for those who have custody of children from previous marriages: Monies left to your minor children may easily end up under the control of your former spouse).

3) Guardianship designations must be in writing. If the decision regarding guardianship is left to the probate court, the consideration will be almost exclusively financial.

It would not be unusual to see orphan children split up to avoid a financial inconvenience for any one guardian.

And, the court-appointed guardian would be subjected to strict scrutiny (and limitations) in the financial maintenance of your children.

Again, a properly drawn

trust document can avoid these problems.

It is very important that your named guardians agree to the potential "honor" of rearing your children. It is equally important that you assure them that you have removed their financial risk through proper trust documentation and life-insurance planning.

Some people believe that they have avoided some risks by naming the intended guardian as beneficiary of their will and/or life-insurance proceeds.

That is a major mistake. Once received, the proceeds become their property, subject to the claims of their creditors and heirs.

For example: Suppose that you have designated your brother (the intended guardian of your children) as contingent beneficiary of your life insurance.

In the event both you and your spouse die, he would receive the monies—and per your informal plan—manage the monies for your children.

But, suppose that brother is involved in a car accident (in his car) which kills you, your spouse and the driver of another car. Several days later, that brother also dies from injuries sustained in

that accident.

Who gets the monies from your policies?

If your brother had insufficient auto-insurance coverage, the heirs of the deceased driver of the other car would probably be first in line.

They could be followed by any other creditors (your brother's) and then by his wife and his children.

The odds that your children would benefit from the money is remote.

No one saves money by letting their heirs and the courts sort out those matters after death. The adage of "pay me now" or "pay me (a lot more) later" is an absolute in estate planning.

Even more important is the fact that it may be your children who pay, and not just in dollars.

The writer of this article is not an attorney. The only

member of your financial-planning team who can properly advise you is a practicing attorney.

Tom Peterson is a resident of South Oak and president of First Financial Capital Planning Corp., a financial-planning agency.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and should not be considered an endorsement by the *Bloomington Gazette* or the *Bloomington Homeowners Association*.

Tax Rates

ROBERT J. MORRIS, CPA

The new top tax rate, as of Jan. 1, 1991, remains constant at 31 percent and there is no roller-coaster bubble tax as in the past.

Individuals with adjusted gross incomes (AGI) of less than \$100,000 will not have to worry about losing a percentage of their itemized deductions.

And, more individuals with less than \$150,000 of AGI will not have to worry about losing any percentage of their exemptions.

The 1990 tax act puts a cap of 28 percent on the capital gains tax. In all actuality the tax-effective rate can be much higher than 28 percent.

The gains increase your AGI which may cause an AGI in excess of \$100,000.

The effect would be a 3 percent reduction of the taxes on itemized expenses. Also, it may increase some filers to an AGI exceeding \$150,000, which begins to reduce personal exemptions.

Host families wanted for students

International Student Exchange (ISE), a non-profit organization, needs host families to sponsor English-speaking foreign students from South America, North America, Africa, Asia and Europe.

The program helps children of host families to understand more about the fast-shrinking world and to form relationships with students from other cultures. With no obligation, and for more information on sponsoring please call the local director, Fran Haring, 681-8853 today, or write 814 So. Regent Circle, Brandon FL 33511.

BULLS, from pg 13

teams competed at the regional math competition held at Riverdale High School in Fort Myers. The two schools ranked third overall in the region.

The algebra 1 team placed third with Ben Boehm picking up a fifth-place individual finish.

The geometry team ranked first in the region. Individual winners included Steve Fornash, eighth; Andy Brogdon, fourth; and David Wadkins, third.

The algebra 11 team placed second in the region. Individual winners were Charles Boettger, sixth; Chris Laduca, fifth; and Scott Suttles, third.

Precalculus individual winners included Joel Cameron, 15th, and Brandon Kellner, 10th.

Danny Grossman ranked first in the precalculus individual competition.

Two-dimensional drawings and paintings by students in art 1, art 2 and advanced art were on display recently at the Hillsborough County School Board offices.

BSHS claimed three winners in the statewide Scholastic Art Awards com-

petition sponsored by the Tampa Museum of Art and Burdines in February. The three were Bo Rice, Marzena Duszak and Jason Maron; they are now eligible for national competition.

HIGH DRAMA

The drama department, under the direction of M.E. Duclos-Balliet and assistant director Allissa Lamb has produced the play, *Blindspot*, by Nancy Gilsenan.

If you missed the first annual dance show in December, prepare to attend the upcoming "Rock and Roll Through the Decades" May 2 at 7 p.m. Tickets will be \$2 at the door on campus.

EXERCISE SHIFT

Florida Education Commissioner Betty Castor declared March 1 "Fit to Achieve Day," with most Hillsborough County schools pledging participation.

BSHS students, teachers and administrators planned to participate in one four activities including jogging, race walking, jump roping and aerobics at the school's


football stadium on that day.

Seven BSHS students took first-place honors in the regional Junior Engineering Technical Society annual competition at the University of South Florida.

Public and private schools competed in testing that explored biology, chemistry, computer systems, English, math and physics. BSHS representatives were Daniel Grossman, Sean Berg, Markus Herrig, Ann Pham, Mike Roberts, Nathan Scherdin and Song Ko. Team sponsor is chemistry teacher Marian Marley.

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Las Brisas and Random Oaks

EDITORIAL

Presidential Perspective

BY LAUREN POWERS
President
Las Brisas Civic Association

I hope by now everyone has noticed our new street light at the corner of Bloomingdale Avenue and Las Brisas.

It certainly makes a big difference on those dark nights and early mornings.

A special thanks to Jodi Preito for all of her efforts in getting the light for us.

I am hopeful that with neighbors like this, there will be many new features in our neighborhood.

At our last meeting, there were several topics discussed.

Our main one was a Neighborhood Watch pro-

gram, and we will need at least 50 percent or 50 residents from our neighborhood to attend the next meeting in order for our sheriff's office to come out and talk with us.

I hope we will get this type of participation; there is no doubt we need such a program in our neighborhood.

We will get further details on when and where the meeting will be held.

There will be people to take your names and an answer as to whether you will be there. Please try!

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Donna and David Jenkins work hard to be a part of the community

BY JULI MCGILL

LAS BRISAS— When you spot two automobiles brimming with youngsters any Wednesday evening in Las Brisas, the careful drivers are likely to be Donna and David Jenkins.

The Jenkinsons, residents of Las Brisas for nine years, are leaders in the AWANAS group at Christ Community Church. AWANAS, an anachronism for Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed from the book of Timothy in the Holy Bible, attracts elementary-school age children who enjoy learning Bible verses and supervised game time.

The program revved up three years ago and also welcomes children from other churches.

Donna and David Jenkins are enthusiastic supporters of the Las Brisas subdivision.

Donna says she "loves the street and the smallness" and the friendliness of her family's neighbors.

David says he "would like to see more involvement of all the neighbors in Las

Brisas."

The couple, with daughter Abby, is actively involved with the Las Brisas Civic Association. The current goal of implementing a Neighborhood Watch program—and soon—is a priority for the Jenkins family.

David Jenkins graduated from the University of West Virginia with a bachelor of science degree in business administration and has worked 17 years as an area supervisor for Continental Communications. His wife, meanwhile, majored in general business practices at the University of Indiana and now is employed as a retail sales representative for the Trigg Co., a manufacturer.

Daughter Abby, a third-grader at Kingswood Elementary School, participates in AWANAS and gymnastics. She and her mother, enjoying togetherness, are attending a crafts class that teaches students to make "wearable art"—clothes with hand-crafted designs.

EDITORIAL

Heather Lakes Hotline

BY TOM LEAVITT
HLCA President

Last month we advertised for an editor of the Heather Lakes pages of the Bloomingdale Gazette. Bob Smith, who was director and editor for the past eight months, has announced his resignation.

Bob stayed on to help us produce the January news and find a new editor.

We want to extend our thanks as his efforts provided the information that was available to you in the past.

The new Heather Lakes correspondent is Kathy Dotson.

Like Bob, Kathy is a

Heather Lakes resident and, therefore, has a personal interest in the quality of information brought to you. Kathy is well-qualified and has full support from the board of directors.

If you moved here within the past year, you may be unaware that the Gazette is also new to us. It hasn't always been our means of passing along information and articles.

Long-timers in Heather Lakes may remember when we published an 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch sheet of paper and distributed it by hand.

It wasn't much to look at, but it did the "trick." Even so, it sometimes became a full-time job getting it developed and distributed.

The board then sought a more professional publication to enhance our image and reduce our costs.

U.S. Homes subsidized and developed a publication for Heather Lakes residents until Kathy Dotson made the initial contact with the Bloomingdale Gazette.

We found it gave us a chance to speak freely, provide an interest to our readers and, importantly, it was

affordable.

The Gazette staff has been very helpful and cooperative and has made us a part of what appears to be a major community publication.

That is why Heather Lakes residents receive the Gazette each month.

With the efforts of Kathy and the Heather Lakes Board of Directors, we know that you will find the Gazette interesting, informative and entertaining.

If you know of news in our community, let us hear from you. We want the Gazette to be your newspaper.

The maintenance of Heather Lakes via an STD

By MARK FREEMAN
Heather Lakes
Community Service Director

One of the goals set by the Heather Lakes Community Association Board of Directors is the formation of a dependent Special Taxing District (STD) for the subdivision.

This long-term goal would assure a stable future for Heather Lakes after the development is complete and the only home market is the resale of property.

By creating a dependent STD, property values can remain high through maintaining a high-quality image within the area.

An STD, approved by the county, generates revenue for use within the defined boundaries.

Budgets are made and implemented by a board of trustees comprised of residents. The budget is approved by both the county and the residents.

And, the county is responsible for collecting and dispensing the funds and the board of trustees is responsible for directing the expenditures.

As part of HLCA's goal, the groundwork necessary to form an STD is in the hands of a local attorney with extensive experience in real estate law and STDs.

The plan involves creating a two-phase approach to the objective: managing legal costs and having the developer cover these costs.

The HLCA board has assigned the responsibility of coordinating the formation of the STD—and other property-management issues—to the community service director.

During the months ahead, be in touch with the

progress through the Bloomingdale Gazette—the only source of regular progress statements to this key project.

If there are questions or comments, please direct them to HLCA, P.O. Box 1256, Brandon, FL 34299-1256. Attn: Mark Freeman, community service director.



BEING OWLISH

Two ground owls are living comfortably in the field area directly behind the playground. Please be on the lookout for their safety in crossing the field.

Free tax help

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is providing free tax preparation at the AmeriFirst Bank in Clayton Plaza (corner of State Road 60 and Kings Avenue). The assistance will be available on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Kathy Dotson—Heather Lakes new News Editor

By KATHY DOTSON

As the newly selected news editor of the Bloomingdale Gazette's Heather Lakes pages, I would first like to thank members of the Heather Lakes Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to assist them in delivering their message to our community.

As a six-year resident of Heather Lakes, I share my life with my husband, Joe, our son, Jared, 1, and our loyal dog, Sable.

I am presently a full-time mother who squeezes in part-time activities on the side.

The activities include volunteer work (such as in this position) and public relations freelancing for private corporations and non-profit organizations.

I graduated from the University of South Florida with a bachelor of arts degree in mass communications.

Being a 25-year resident

of Florida, I think I qualify for "native" status.

As news editor, I will inform all Heather Lakes residents of the developments in the community.

Bob Smith did a fine job, and I plan to follow in his footsteps.

To do my job effectively, I need help from the residents of Heather Lakes.

I would like for you to share with me what you see and what you hear within our neighborhoods.

If you have a concern or even some praise, just pick up the phone and give me a call at 685-4962. I can assure you that all the infor-



mation will be directed to your board.

You will probably see me in your neighborhoods from time to time, so please feel free to stop and tell me what is on your mind. I am here for you.

Supporting the advertisers, supports the communications tool of your homeowners association.

Heather Lakes Mobile Watch continues to protect

By JANICE and WALTER PARKER

Many thanks to the faithful Heather Lakes Mobile Watch members who help keep our community safe. We bid a hearty welcome and thank-you to our newest members.

They are: Phyllis Cassidy, Herbert Doval, Karen and David Every, Magdi Mahfovz, Joe Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rhodes and Marlene Wennrick.



Walter Parker, Mobile Watch Coordinator

Suspicious acts should be reported to the county Sheriff's Office in Brandon and all Heather Lakes residents should be on the alert for the well-being of their neighbors.

Mobile Watch needs more involvement from the community. It will only take three to four hours a month of donated time. Participation will foster the spread of friendship among neighbors

and help maintain the safety of Heather Lakes.

If you would like to volunteer your time to Mobile Watch, contact Walter Parker, Mobile Watch coordinator, at 684-0094.

HLCA -- Who are we?

By JOE DOTSON
HLCA Vice President

The HLCA Board of Directors has a membership elected by other members of the community association.

Current officers are: Tom Leavitt, president; Joe Dotson, vice president; Janice Parker, recording secretary; Tony DellaSalle, treasurer; Joanne Buechner, corresponding/financial secretary; Pat Dwinell, sergeant-at-arms; Mark Freeman, community service director; Joanne Pirolozzi and Jean Brook, directors.

Community concerns receiving concentrated attention from the board of directors include membership, social events, crime/neighborhood watch and financial and prop-

erty management.

To best serve HLCA residents, a committee has been set up in each area. Generally, we feel becoming a Special Tax District, while maintaining a strong crime-watch program and providing a social event, should be our focal point for 1991.

We urge all members of the community association to attend the board's meetings held at Rivergate Industrial Park on U.S. Highway 301 the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The board needs your input. Then we can do what is best for the community.

We also encourage any community association member who would like to become involved on the board to contact Tom Leavitt at 681-9470 or Joe Dotson at 685-4962.

You have probably met or spoken on the telephone with several members of the board of directors in regards to renewing your membership dues to the Heather Lakes Community Association.

If you have not submitted your \$10 annual dues, please take the time to fill out the form below. The HLCA wishes to thank residents who have renewed their memberships.

**Heather Lakes
Community Association**
P. O. Box 1256
Brandon, FL
34299-1256

HLCA 1991 Board of Directors

President:

Tom Leavitt...681-9470

Vice President:

Joseph Dotson...685-4962

Treasurer:

Anthony DellaSalle...685-7149

Recording Secretary:

Janice Parker...684-0094

Corresponding/Financial Secretary:

Joanne Buechner...689-9582

Sgt-At-Arms:

Pat Dwinell...684-1834

Community Service:

Mark Freeman...685-5946

Directors:

Robert Smith...684-5758

Joann Pirolozzi...684-0890

Jean Brook...684-2989

Randy Cardwell...681-8215

Linda Boyce...684-0128

Heather Lakes Association
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator
Pat Dwinell...684-1834
Heather Lakes Association Mobile
Watch Coordinator
Wally Parker...684-0094

Heather Lakes' "Everything you ever needed" Form

Mail to: Heather Lakes Community Association
P. O. Box 1256
Brandon, FL 33509-1256

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Daytime phone _____

What we would like:

To become a Participating Member in the Heather Lakes Community Association: Dues \$10/year; Nov. 1 to Oct. 31.

To join:
_____ Mobile Watch
_____ Neighborhood Watch

To be placed on waiting lists or volunteer lists for:
_____ HCLA Board of Directors
_____ Community Reporters
_____ Committees as needed

To make a comment or ask a question about:

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Ellen & Teresa Sands
677-5492

Prices are born here and raised elsewhere!



Heather Lakes resident Lois Hiers enjoys a morning walk at the park with her daughter, Lacey, and next-door neighbor, Jared Dotson, age 1. According to Hiers, the park's central location makes errands an easy task.

Heather Lakes Short Takes

We are interested in knowing what is happening in the lives of our Heather Lakes residents. If you are a new neighbor, newly married, recently promoted or honored, enjoying a new baby—let us know. Submit your information to HLCA, Community News, P.O. Box 1256, Brandon, FL 34299-

1256. Please include your phone number.

SOCIAL EVENT

Mark your calendars for the Arts & Crafts Fair to be held May 18 at Heather Lakes Park. The event will be combined with a community garage sale that invites the participation of all residents. More information will

be made available in the April issue of the Gazette.

TROOP PRIDE

Hats are off to Heather Lakes residents who have showed their support for U.S. troops stationed in the Persian Gulf region by displaying yellow ribbons and the American flag.



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Las Brisas and Random Oaks Tidbits

By JULI McGill and LAUREN POWERS

Do you have news? Having a garage sale? Open house? Juli McGill may help you get the information into the Gazette. Call her at 654-5684.

BUNNY HOP

Plans for a visit by the Easter bunny and a neighborhood egg hunt are being made for March 30. The 25 to 30 children who participated in a similar event during the Christmas holidays can expect a visit from the Easter bunny.

BIBLE STUDY

Neighborhood evening Bible study classes will be offered in the Spring by Clive and Verlene St. Lawrence. Call 654-1857 for details.

YARDS OF THE MONTH

Keep an eye on this column or attend meetings of the Las Brisas Civic Association for plans to honor homeowners who have been proficient in maintaining their lawns. Such categories as "best yard," "most improved" and "most flowers" are being drawn up.

PETS, NEIGHBORS

Birds and cats mix like oil and water. If birds aren't attacking felines, then our feline friends are attacking birds. Keep your cats safe—and at home. While the topic is domesticated animals, dogs that give in to nature's call are soiling yards in Las Brisas. Unhappy neighbors urge dog owners to let their leashed pets yield to the urge in open fields, not on their lawns.

CRIME WATCH

Homeowners attending the next Las Brisas Civic Association meeting will be among the 50 (or 50 percent, whichever comes first) required by law to organize a community Crime Watch program. Please telephone Lauren Powers or Juli McGill at 654-5684 for further information.

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Heather Lakes

WANTED

Three (3) innovative volunteers whose objectives are to see that Heather Lakes remains a safe, friendly community where families are reared; to help maintain the quality of homes and lifestyles within our neighborhood; and, to provide creative ideas that will unite all residents in festivity.

If we are talking about you, please submit your request to: HLCA, P.O. Box 1256, Brandon, FL 34299-1256.

CLASSIFIEDS

Homes for Sale or Rent

GOVERNMENT HOMES AVAILABLE in Bloomingdale and Brandon. Only \$6,000 down - Call Tony 681-8853 - First Brokers, Inc. (Nov)

VACATION IN THE MOUNTAINS at Maggie Valley, North Carolina. Completely furnished home sleeps six. \$297-\$351 weekly. Call 685-1235 (Aug.)

FOR RENT: INDIAN ROCKS CONDO. On the water. 2 bedrooms/2 baths, pool, jacuzzi, dock. \$1,100 by the month. 654-3055. (Apr)

HOUSE FOR SALE: Bloom. E./Fox Run (2 yrs.) Brick, 4BR, 3.5 bath, pool/spa. 2805 sq. ft./fp-lag, lot, sprinklers \$190's. 689-3450. (Mar.)

BLOOMINGDALE RENTER wants to lease purchase 4 bedroom home in area or assume non-qualifying mortgage with low down payment 684-3005

Housecleaning

\$25 FIRST TIME CUSTOMER SPECIAL. I'm so confident you'll appreciate my services that I will clean your home for \$25 the very first time. Call Melinda at 685-9057 today for an appointment. (Jan)

RESIDENTIAL CLEANING SERVICE: Small Office/residential cleaning. Individual estimates. Available Sat., evenings or Bldg. Res. call *Have Broom Will Travel* 681-1682. (May)

MOTHER AND I CLEAN. We try harder to clean better. Call for an honest cleaning. (Mother) Mary 681-9049. (I) Debbie 689-6181 (after 3 p.m. please). (dec)

Job Opportunities

HELP WANTED: Postal and government jobs \$12.03/hr. now open - no exp. or H.S. needed. Will train. For current list and application 980-0686.

\$40,000/yr! READ BOOKS and TV Scripts. Fill out simple "like/don't like" form. EASY! Fun, relaxing at home, beach, vacations. Guaranteed paycheck. **FREE 24 Hour Recording** 801-379-292 Ext. Fe213B (May)

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Recession resistant business. No investment. 698-0913. (Mar)

COORDINATOR EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM Duties finding 15-20 host families, teaching class, activities, person needs community contacts, be enthusiastic 757-0112

Lawn and Garden

LAWNMOWER BLADES SHARPENED: A sharper blade means a healthier lawn and easier mowing job. Ted Fliegel, (East) 689-5116 (ps)

APOLLO LAWN & POOL CARE: Lawn Maintenance \$55 per month, Pool Maintenance \$58 per month including chemicals and weekly service. Call 689-5197 (Mar)

YARD SPECIAL: Bushes Trimmed, flowerbeds weeded, yard clean-ups free estimates, reasonable rates. Bloomingdale resident. 681-1682. (mar)

Lost and Found

FOUND: I have your stolen lawn ornament and security sign. Call to identify. 684-5104.

Maintenance, Repairs, Home Improvements

BICYCLE REPAIRS & SALES: Beat the high cost of Bike shops. Professional mechanic. Pick-up & delivery. Bldg. Resident. 653-1530. (Mar)

ECONO PRESSURE CLEANING: Home Exteriors: Driveways, patios, walkways, decks and roofs. Free estimates. Call 681-3656, day or evening - 7 days. Vince Sidoti. (Dec)

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING: 10% Bloomingdale Resident Discount. Discover our proven root extraction method. Most carpets dry in 2 hours. Teflon stain guard available. Call now for Appt. 653-1176. Las Brisas Resident. (Nov)

STAINED GLASS: 5 years experience stained & beveled glass windows and panels custom made for your home. Call Tom or Tim at 685-0661 (Feb)

PAINTING: Interior/Exterior. Bldg. Resident. Free estimates - reasonable rates. 20 years' experience, references upon request. 689-9192 (May)

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Miscellaneous Services

UNWANTED APPLIANCE? Pick up - fast - free - same day service. 623-1033. (Mar)

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HAVE AN UNFORGETTABLE BIRTHDAY for your child at Pandy's Playhouse. Many themes to choose from! Call 654-8223 for more information. Open 7 days a week. (Mar)

"YARN IT ALL!": Yarn and Accessories. Sales, Instruction, and Networking Services. 3016 Wister Circle Valrico, FL. 33594-5639. Call Marie at 685-2084. (Jan)

Membership benefit #3. \$100 in grocery coupons (you pick) for \$10. 689-0913 (Mar)

ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA: Tui Aloha (H) 653-3782 (W) 968-2028. (Mar)

HELLO DOLLY!! Porcelain Doll making. Want to learn how to make Porcelain Dolls? Now you can! Lessons are free, pay only for supplies and firing. Call Carol Ann at 684-8524 for details. (June)

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Main Street Alliance Representative. Tom Greene. 689-0913 (Mar)

Petsitting

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AVON REPRESENTATIVES: Ruth Calandro 689-0212 Delaine Heyman 681-9407 Colleen Rose 651-0879

DISCOVERY TOYS: Midge Walsh 684-7011

LONGABERGER BASKETS Beth Jones-Schall 653-2170/681-7787

MARY KAY COSMETICS: Candy Cary 654-1695 Jan Ellis 654-1126 Rosemary Rhodes 684-7058

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TUPPERWARE DEALERS: Sandra Roberts 684-6361 Colleen Rose 651-0879

WORLD BOOK/ CHILDCRAFT EARLY WORLD OF LEARNING: Joe Malnic 685-9318

BABYSITTERS

Kelly Pheils, 16 681-9026 (dec)

Angela Reiser, 15 684-6006 (mar)

L.J. Walker, 13 681-2354 (nov)

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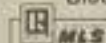


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