

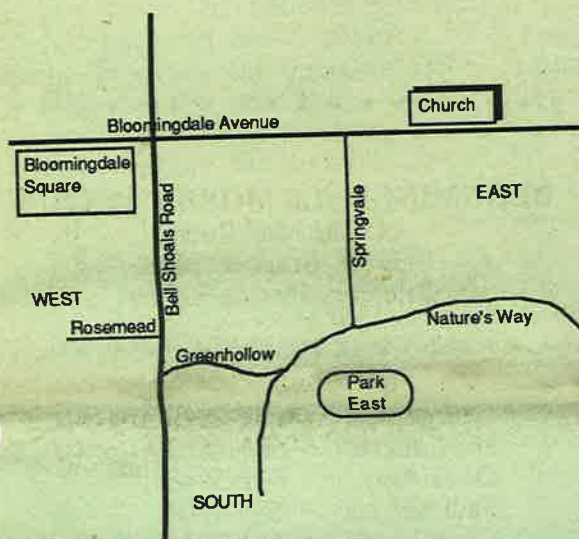
# The Bloomingdale Gazette

Vol. IX No. 5

Published by The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association

MAY 1987

## ATTENTION RESIDENTS NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING



The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District has tentatively established a budget for 1987-88.

The public hearing to make a final decision on the budget and taxes will be held on May 18 at 8:00 p.m., at Bloomingdale Community Church, 1310 E. Bloomingdale Ave., Valrico, Florida.

### May 14 General Membership Meeting

*Parks Director Ed Radice Wants to Hear Bloomingdale*

May 14 will be the date of the next

#### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

and YOU are invited to attend. Whether or not you are a BHA member, your input, questions, opinions, and ideas are always welcome. Yes, you read about everything in the Gazette; yes, it has been a long day and maybe you're tired; yes, the BHA Board is doing a great job; and yes, an element is missing...YOU!

This meeting is especially important because Ed Radice, Director

of the Parks Department and the man in charge of our parks, needs your input on his budget. He's getting ready to put together his 5-year budget for our Parks.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO TELL HIM WHAT YOU WANT IN OUR PARKS, WHAT EQUIPMENT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT THE FIELD HOUSE BUILT, WHAT ACTIVITIES YOU WANT, etc.**

He had originally told us they would be putting a Field House/Center in Park West on the

October 1987 budget. Now we hear it's being pushed back. Come and tell Mr. Radice how you feel about this and what you want done in our parks. So the details are as follows:

**DATE:** Thursday, May 14

**TIME:** 7:30 pm doors open  
8 pm Call to Order

**PLACE:** Bloomingdale  
Community Church  
1310 Bloomingdale Avenue  
(See map in above story)

The Bloomingdale Gazette  
P. O. Box 918  
Brandon, FL 33511



**The Bloomingdale  
Gazette, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 918  
Brandon, Florida 33511  
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Kent Roberts and Ron Evans,  
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**DEADLINE:** the 20th of the month.

**BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS  
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P. O. Box 918 -- Brandon, Florida 33511

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May 23/24	June 13/14
July 11/12	August 8/9
September 12/13	October 10/11
November 7/8	December 12/13

**IMPORTANT MEETINGS**

**SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT PUBLIC MEETING**

The next meeting of the Bloomingdale Special Taxing District will take place on Monday, May 11, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). President Fred Uphoff will call the meeting to order at 8 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend.

**BHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will take place on Tuesday, May 12, at Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). Vice President Jim Weiss will call the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Interested observers are invited to attend.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on May 14 at the Bloomingdale Community Church (1310 Bloomingdale Avenue). The doors will open at 7:30 p.m. for coffee and talk with the call to order by President Henry Brosnaham at 8 p.m. All residents of Bloomingdale are encouraged to attend.

**SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING**

The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District will hold their annual public budget meeting on Monday, May 18, at Bloomingdale Community Church. President Fred Uphoff will call the meeting to order at 8 p.m. All residents of Bloomingdale are encouraged to attend.



## EDITORIAL...

As you can see even before you begin reading this I have a lot to say. But sometimes lots of things need saying.

First, some pats on the back are owed to some special people here in Bloomingdale. Recently I've become the mother to an 8 year old who is playing baseball with the Bloomingdale Little League. As those of you who have done this know, the baseball diamond becomes your second home for about 4-5 months. My first pat on the back goes to Bloomingdale Resident Nick Contos who took over as my son's team coach so that about a dozen little boys and girls wouldn't be disappointed and not be able to play due to the lack of a coach. His patience with the children and his dedication to making this a fun thing for these kids is truly refreshing. Thank you to Nick and all those other coaches like him who care so much.

My second pat on the back goes to our own **STD Board of Trustees**. Not only do I have a cot at the ball field, but I've also become an STD widow lately. As you may or may not know, my husband **Joe** is on this Board. Not only are these meetings long and involved, but the Trustees put in a tremendous amount of hours in background work and research. To get this budget together for May 18, there were meetings every Monday until 11 p.m. and extraordinary amounts of outside research to be accomplished. Hats off to **Fred Uphoff, Chris**

**Deem, Chris Pheils, Joe DeLuca, Tom Calcaterra Russ Thompson, and Errol Whitfield.**

Another accolade should go to the **Parks Department, Ed Radice, Larry Mitchel, Jeff Mauch, and their crews.** The parks were an absolute mess when they took them over. They are now a work of art, beautiful, and very pleasant. Thank you!

Another pat to the kids of **Bloomingdale** who are **NOT** vandalising the Parks, walls, or common property. Good for **YOU!**

\*\*\*\*\*

You know I had a meeting with Commissioner Selvey and other county staff members about widening Bloomingdale Avenue. They gave me a lot of "why it can't yet, but will be in the future" explanations as to what they plan to do with this road. I understood their explanations, was slightly pacified, but still felt that these were really not satisfactory answers. Bloomingdale Avenue is worse than SR60 sometimes, you and I both know that. As Mike Kelly keeps saying "why not do something about the roads and infrastructures now before the growth comes?" The BHA Board will continue to be very vocal on this aspect for all of our sakes. The lack of access on that road affects every one of us, despite what the Zoning Master says. The Board has a lot of ideas to draw

attention to this problem--everything from 10,000 people walking down Bloomingdale Avenue to flying the Commissioners over the street at rush hour. With Tampa being one of the top-10 growth areas in the country and our area being second only to Carrollwood, where does that put us on a national standard of growth.... In Pinellas County the Commissioners halted all building permits in one area until the road network was improved. This is a problem that will not go away and is going to have to be dealt with.

\*\*\*\*\*

And last but not least, that wall on Bell Shoals that was knocked down by Gulf Land Homes.... To refresh your memory, last July Gulf Land Homes knocked down 40 feet of buffer wall which was reported to the county by the BHA. It took the county until September to find Gulf Land Homes and Criterion (who gave them permission to knock down the wall but didn't have the authority to give it) in violation and issue a warning that they had to put it back up. We started calling the Zoning Enforcement offices and talked to Maria about

once per week beginning the end of September. "What is going on?" we said. "Why is that wall still down?" Everytime we called either 1) she couldn't find the file, or 2) her boss was out of the office and she had to talk to him first, or 3) her boss was on vacation, or 4) her boss was out sick, or 5) she had to prepare for a Zoning Board meeting and didn't have time for us, or 6) she didn't return our calls. Finally, at the end of November we started making calls to her boss. Those calls were as interesting as the ones to Maria (and about as fruitful). When we did get hold of him once he said he would "work with us" and get this to the Zoning Enforcement Board ASAP, but not until January or February. It seems they were full and couldn't hear it until at least then. (The Zoning Board meets once per month.) Well, low and behold, they finally met on March 6 and said "Yes, you are in violation--so put the wall up by May 6 or you will be fined \$50 per day." I think the most interesting part about all this, is that **3-4 months ago**, Criterion told the STD that the wall was going back up on or around May 8.

### **BHA Attends Commissioner's Budget Workshop**

#### *Director's Represent the Community's Concerns*

On April 20, the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association participated in the County Commissioners's Budget Workshop Input Session. Representing the community of Bloomingdale was President Henry Brosnahan and Director Mike Kelly.

"By preparing for growth and development, you [the County Commissioners] have the opportunity to create a role model for the entire county right here in Brandon," said Henry. Henry expressed a concern that with the amount of growth our area is experiencing the County needs to place the infrastructures first (roads, sewer, etc.) and then allow

building. President Brosnahan pointed out that the new State Comprehensive Planning laws will require exactly this by the year 1989. He recommended that the County comply with the spirit of this new law now and create a model of coordination between growth and infrastructures for the rest of the state.

Increasing the activities of the Sheriff's Department in our area and the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue highlighted the statement made by the BHA. To emphasize the need for Bloomingdale widening, Henry said--"There's a joke in real estate that if you want to sell someone a home in Brandon, you take them to Carrollwood at 5 o'clock first."

This input session is one of a series planned by the County Commissioners to plan and prepare the 1987-1988 county budget.

*Director Mike Kelly was a contributing writer to this story.*

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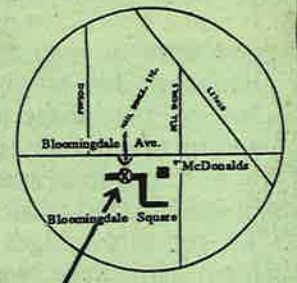
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# A Message From Your Neighborhood Watch

by Jim Weiss  
Co-Chairman

Your support is needed to make the Neighborhood Watch successful.

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- ...Community Pride
- ...Safety of children, homes and residential areas
- ...A more enjoyable and safer place to live

Your involvement time will be very little compared to the benefits that will be received in return.

Want to help? Call Jim Weiss at 689-0254 or Sharon Norwood at 681-6761 for more information.

Remember you and **ONLY** you will make this program work. So be a doer--you can make a difference.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P. O. Box 918 -- Brandon, Florida 33511

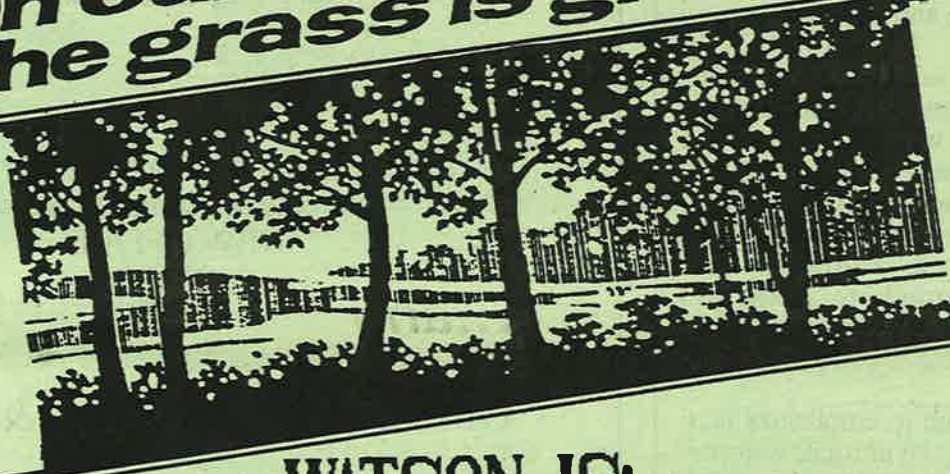
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**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**



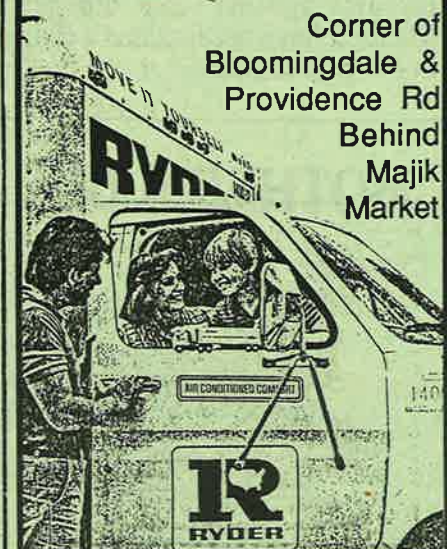
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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT ABOUT DEED RESTRICTIONS

by Christopher Deem  
Vice-President  
Bloomington Special Taxing District

Recently, several concerns have been raised about deed restrictions and the role the Special Taxing District (STD) plays in their enforcement. We believe it is important to answer these concerns.

First, it is crucial to understand that the legal and statutory authority of the STD regarding deed restriction enforcement is non-existent. The county ordinance creating the STD was drafted to enable the STD to maintain the common areas of Bloomington. The ordinance does not address deed restriction enforcement. As well, to date there is no legal authority granted either by state statute or by the courts for a government entity to enforce a deed restriction. As a matter of law, a deed restriction is a covenant between property owners and, therefore, can be enforced only through a lawsuit by at least one property owner against the party in violation.

When the STD began doing business, a little over one year ago, the Board of Trustees decided that, although we have no legal standing in court, we would provide assistance by notifying deed restriction violators. On the whole, people have been fairly cooperative when notified of a deed restriction violation. However, recent occurrences involving profane language and threats against our Property Manager have necessitated a change in our procedures.

Henceforth, the STD will only contact violators by written notification. Those property owners who wish the STD to assist them in notify a deed restriction violator must send their request in writing, to our attention at P.O. Box 902, Brandon, FL 33511, and include the following information:

1. The name and address of the violator
2. The nature and duration of the violator
3. Your name and address

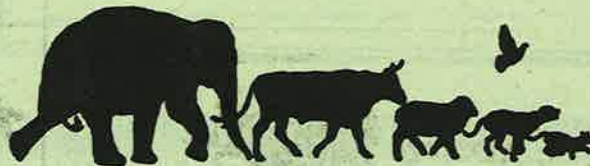
We will not act on either anonymous requests or requests made verbally or in writing to any of the Board members or the Property Manager at their residences. You need to also be aware that those written requests fall under the sunshine laws and must become open to the public.

Again, we wish to emphasize that, unfortunately, the ultimate enforcement against uncooperative violators must be undertaken by individual property owners.

*(Editor's Note: Please read the BHA reply to the above article on page 23 of this issue. The BHA Board will be meeting with the STD Board at the May 11 public meeting. The enforcement of deed restrictions is the primary reason for this meeting.)*

## MOTHER'S DAY

May 10



**BIRDS, FISH, EXOTICS, SMALL ANIMALS**  
M-F 7-6 SAT 8-12 APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED

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# WATCH LOG

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN DONATED BY THE BHA.  
ALL AD PROCEEDS GO TO THE BLOOMINGDALE MOBILE WATCH.

## VANDALISM

### HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF SOMEONE . . .

Wrote obscene words on your bathroom walls?

Kicked your radio or tape deck and broke it?

Smashed a window in your home?

And then said it was just a joke.

Destroying someone else's property isn't funny. It's vandalism and it's a crime.

### ASK YOURSELF

How many places do you pass daily that have been vandalized in some way, like graffiti on buildings, broken windows, missing traffic signs?

How many times in one day do you see vandalism in your school - obscenities and racial insults scrawled on restroom walls; ripped pages in textbooks; damaged sports equipment; a pay telephone that doesn't work, even in an emergency?

Maybe you've heard that vandalism is just mischief and doesn't really hurt anyone. That's not true.

In one urban school district, a broken classroom window costs around \$315 to replace; a vandalized basketball standard costs around \$500; graffiti removal from doors and walls can run \$3,400 for cleaning and painting! And that means less money - or no money - for new books, band uniforms, sports equipment, and student activities.

A homeowner has to replace the broken window, the torn-out flower beds, or the knocked-down mailbox.

The town and its taxpayers (your parents) have to pay the costs of replacing damaged swings, basketball hoops, and street lights.

Real people - maybe a neighbor, a parent, or a friend - feel angry, sad, and frightened when something of theirs is deliberately destroyed for no apparent reason.

Property that is vandalized makes the neighborhood look bad and encourages more destruction.

Vandalism isn't a joke. It's an outrage.

How many stories have you read in the newspaper or seen on television about vandalism - an elderly person's greenhouse destroyed, swastikas on a synagogue, students breaking into a school and destroying a teacher's classroom?

Because vandalism has become so commonplace, adults in schools and communities sometimes have given up. But this attitude sends a "we don't care and there's nothing we can do" message that allows the destruction to continue.

It doesn't have to be this way. You and your friends can help make places where you live and go to school places to be proud of. Community involvement and community pride are the answers to preventing vandalism.

### TAKE ACTION TODAY! BY YOURSELF.

Don't destroy or deface someone else's property or places that everyone uses. Think how you would feel if you were the victim. Report any acts of vandalism to the school administration or the police. Quick repairs and cleanups discourage further damage.

**LOOK OUT FOR YOURSELF, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR COMMUNITY, AND HELP ME . . .**



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## NEWS OF NOTE

Since our article last month dealing with the need for additional volunteers, especially in the West, to continue patrols 7 nights a week, we have had absolutely NO response. This is also the case with volunteers in Bloomingdale Oaks.

I personally cannot understand why a person living in an area wouldn't be concerned with security in their own neighborhood.

Perhaps there isn't enough crime or vandalism to make people concerned. Perhaps it hasn't happened to them so they are complacent. Perhaps they just walk around with their eyes closed. Whatever the reason, the lack of volunteers will eventually destroy the Watch.

Then, when the crime rate goes up and vandalism runs rampant, your concern will be too late. Keep the Watch going. VOLUNTEER NOW. Call a core member listed on page 2 of the gazette.



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## THE BHA BOARD NEEDS YOU!!

Due to recent vacancies on the Board of Directors of The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc., there are two positions available as Alternate Directors. (Two Board members found their jobs were requiring more and more of their time, thereby, necessitating their departure from the Board.) The Bylaws say that the Board is to appoint individuals to these positions to complete the year.

Rather than just appointing, the Board would like to know who YOU would like to serve as a Director to this dynamic, growing organization.

Call Chairman of the Board Jim Weiss at 689-0254 if you are interested in serving your community or if you would like to place someone else's name before the Board.

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**BLOOMINGDALE SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT  
1987-1988 BUDGET FOR BLOOMINGDALE**

**ANTICIPATED REVENUES**

Assessment based on \$80/homeowner	153200
Interest Earnings	2000
Less 5%	7760
Balance	147440
Carry Over	27200
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>174640</b>

**ANTICIPATED EXPENSES**

		% of Total Revenue
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>		
Secretarial Services	900	.5
Office Supplies	200	.1
Printing & Postage	250	.1
Insurance and Bonds	6150	3.5
Telephone	700	.4
Special Election Costs	500	.3
Property Appraiser & Tax Collector Fees	7760	4.4
Contract Labor	16000	9.2
Utilities	5400	3.1
Professional and Legal Services	5000	2.9
Maintenance		
Landscaping	20000	11.5
Mowing	58000	33.2
Wall Repair	15000	8.6
Misc. Repairs & Supplies	2000	1.1
Auto Allowance	1500	.9
	<b>139260</b>	
Capital Outlay:	500	.3
Capital Reserve for Wall Replacement	15000	8.6
Reserve for Contract Obligations	12200	7.0
Debt Service:		
Principal Payment	0	
Interest Expense	0	
Reserves:		
Reserve for Contingency	7680	4.4
<b>Total Anticipated Expenses</b>	<b>174,640</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**STD Proposes New Budget**

by Jackie Tuckey  
Gazette Staff Reporter

After three meetings to discuss and prepare the new budget for 1987-88, the STD Board unanimously agreed to accept the budget seen here for presentation to Bloomington homeowners at a special meeting on May 18, at 8 p.m.

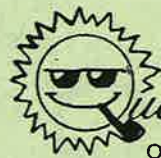
The new budget was prepared based on an \$80 assessment per unit of 1915 units. Units were counted as those dwellings currently having an electric meter hooked up, showing that it is ready for occupancy.

Tom Calcaterra, Board Treasurer, produced cash flow charts showing what money is needed to fill contracts and keep things going to the end of the fiscal year (Sept. 30), and for the rest of the calendar year when taxes will be collected again. The charts also showed the board how much is available as "carry-over" money.

BUDGET, see page 11

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## RESTAURANT REVIEW by Elton Dumont

As a service to our new residents (as well as some of the veterans), we are planning periodically to have our restaurant critic (who shall remain anonymous) review some of the area's restaurants. The basic rating will be in three areas: **FOOD, SERVICE, and ATMOSPHERE.** The highest rating is 4  $\checkmark$ 's.

**Golden Corral Family Steak House**  
509 E. Brandon Blvd.  
Brandon 689-4532

Food:  $\checkmark\checkmark$  1/2  
Service:  $\checkmark\checkmark$   
Atmosphere: 1/2  
Overall:  $\checkmark\checkmark$  1/2

Do you think all food franchises are bad? Do you think that all restaurant franchisees are bad managers? If you can overcome your distaste for franchised steak houses, have we got a surprise for you. We had a delightful meal at the Golden Corral on Hwy 60 in Brandon. We were prepared to be displeased, but were pleasantly surprised instead.

The ambience was typical franchise steak house. A lot of tables too close together and too close to the serving line does make for a fair amount of noise.

The entrees in our party included fried shrimp which was only fair due to the heavy batter. The same held true for the chicken filets. The chopped sirloin with peppers and onions was above average with a tasty flavor. The filet mignon was

tender and prepared as asked.

The service was good for the first five minutes, but fell off for the remaining 15. The servers did try very hard to keep the tea glasses full and that was very well received by our party. They were a little slow in removing used plates from the table and that made it a tad cramped.

OK then -- if the place was a little cramped, the food average to above average and the service standard why will we go back? **THE SALAD BAR.** It was exceptional. A great amount and variety of selections made it a joy to taste some of the offerings. It included hot items as well such as fried squash, fried okra, lima beans, and potato skins. We were partial to the lima beans. Also were 3 fresh fruits, 2 cheese bricks, and delicious pepperoni slices. Added to that was a potato bar for the baked potatoes that included melted cheddar, cheddar with broccoli, chili, diced ham and bacon bits. Also two soups on the soup bar with consistently warm and fresh rolls.

This franchisee is someone who does care about their customers, is a good manager, and does show a sincere interest in whether you enjoyed the experience.

Our bill for 4 with soft drinks only was \$27.85. If you go, go hungry.

*Elton Dumont is a fictitious name. Mr. Dumont visits eating establishments anonymously for this column. His opinions are his own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Bloomingdale Gazette or its staff.*

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### BUDGET, from page 9

While it was pointed out how difficult it is to project expenditures for next year when there is still no full year's records for spending to refer to, many items from the 1986-87 budget were estimated to remain the same or were reduced. The Board was in total agreement to use this year's excess funds to complete or continue work on the deferred maintenance needed in the Bloomingdale area. These excess funds came from contract bids lower than estimated projections when last year's budget was prepared.

The top priority will now be to increase the number of walls painted under the contract (which

will be awarded at the May 11 meeting) to include everything in the West and East except the newest section along Nature's Way near Fairway Manors. It is expected that the contract to finish all painting will run about \$30,000. Therefore, the budget for wall repair was reduced to \$15,000 for next year.

The next priority is to begin landscaping the entrances. This will include planting, seeding and sodding, and sprinkler systems. A motion was passed to get two landscape plans drawn up for the John Moore entrance to be reviewed by the Board at the May meeting. If the Board approves one of those plans, landscaping will begin and plans will be drawn for successive entrances.

The Board also included in the new budget a line item for capital outlay for wall repair of \$15,000. This fund will be allowed to grow yearly until the time comes when wall sections need to be replaced.

Contract labor includes the property manager's salary plus extra funds that could be used to hire additional or temporary help for certain projects.

Professional fees and services covers attorney's fees, fees for a monthly bookkeeping service, and possibly an accountant's fee for a yearly audit.



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## BHA to Attend County Commission Meeting

### *The Widening of Bloomingdale Avenue is the Familiar Topic*

On May 12, at 9:30 a.m., the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association will be present at the County Commissioner's meeting for the Public Hearing on the rezoning of the Arvida lands. The purpose of this will be to inform the Commissioners that the BHA does not agree with the recommendations stated by the Zoning Hearing Master from that meeting on March 26. Specifically, Hearing Master Peter L. Speronis statement was "I further find that if the request is approved, it would not adversely affect the transportation network or environ-

ment." The BHA does not agree with this and, in fact, feels very strongly that the transportation network WILL be adversely affected by the addition of 2,000+ vehicles on Bloomingdale Avenue.

Any resident wishing to support this viewpoint is invited to attend this meeting on May 12. More information can be obtained from any of the Board members.

[An interesting aside...while preparing to be on the agenda for this commission meeting, we ran into a bit of a sour note. To be

able to speak, we had to file a "Petition for Oral Argument" with the County by April 30 (which we did). Upon filing this petition, we were then handed a list of 56 names and told to send a copy of our petition to everyone on the list. Upon more investigation, we found that anyone that wants to speak before the County Commissioners regarding a matter such as this must send a copy to everyone that lives or owns property within 150 feet of the

development that is to be rezoned. Computation of stamps, photocopying, envelopes, and secretarial help brings a total monetary output of \$38.26. In other words, it will cost us almost \$40 to speak to the County Commissioners. A County employee told us we were lucky because there were only 56 names--sometimes there are hundreds! I don't think I'll be speaking at their meetings--I need to feed my kids first.]

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## Report from the Commissioner's Desk



Selvey, Bob Buschman (Director of Public Works), and Joe Kubicki (Assistant Director of the City-County Planning Commission). The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the widening of Bloomingdale Avenue and methods to short-cut the process so that it could be done on a more timely basis. Several points were clarified by the county staff members regarding the planning of the widening plus steps that are currently being taken to ease the congestion.

### • BLOOMINGDALE AVENUE WIDENING

On April 9, Susan DeLuca of the BHA Board, met with Commissioner

First...The widening of Bloomingdale Avenue is a multi-faceted project. To simply say "widen it" is not the answer. Many say it needs to be

widened further than to John Moore from 301. In actuality that may happen. The County Commissioners have allocated funds for the widening up to John Moore based on educated guesses as to how much will be needed. But until the project planners finish (approximately 14 months from now--which is the norm) the actual cost will not be known. These planners have to account for every tree, pole, building, easement, and square inch of right of way from 301 to John Moore to be able to come up with the cost. They may find that because some land has been dedicated and didn't require eminent domain procedures, that those monies can now be used to widen Bloomingdale just that much further. A point in fact is that the new Family Mart at the southeast corner of John Moore and Bloomingdale is donating their land and are also doing the improvements at the intersection for better traffic flow. Another hoped for source of revenue is the changes in the transportation laws and the monies this will generate. The county is hoping funds will filter down to their level and can be put into improvements such as Bloomingdale Avenue.

Third...The county has almost finished a road just south of the Alafia River which connects with Bell Shoals Road. Many people aren't even aware that this road exists. This road is a straight shot to the Interstate with a minimum of traffic or lights. Anyone living south of Bloomingdale will be more likely to want to use this thoroughfare (to be completed very shortly) than to come up Bell Shoals to crowded Bloomingdale Avenue.

Commissioner Selvey, Mr. Buschman, and Mr. Kubicki have promised to keep in touch with us regarding this widening issue.

### • BLOOMINGDALE INTERIM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The County has prepared a tentative schedule for the completion of the new Valrico Wastewater Treatment System (VWWTS) and the phasing out of the Bloomingdale Plant. According to HC Project Manager Pedro Hernandez, P.E., "the Bloomingdale Interim WWTP must be taken off-line by a certain date. This date is being negotiated with DER and we anticipate to be October 31, 1989."

The following is the proposed schedule for the VWWTS: Procure designer--June 1, 1987; Application to DER for Construction Permits--November, 1987; Design--December 1, 1987; Advertise/Award--April 1, 1988; Construction--October 31, 1989.

Second...They can't start the widening process from Lithia Pincrest to 301 or even start at John Moore and go to 301. If they did that, they would create a funnel effect that would cause traffic jams. Traffic would flow smoothly on 4-lanes, jam into 2 lanes, and then go back to 4. Things would end up worse than they are now.

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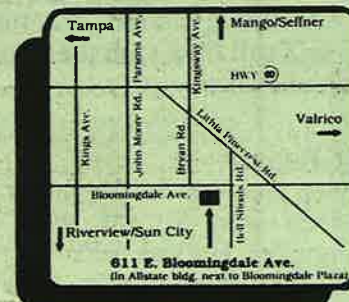
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## Where Does All The Money Go? A Special Taxing District Monthly Report

by Jackie Tuckey  
Gazette Staff Reporter

The Bloomingdale Special Taxing District Board of Trustees met on April 13 at the Bloomingdale Community Church for the monthly public meeting. Attending were Fred Uphoff, Chris Deem, Russ Thompson, Chris Pheils, Joe DeLuca, and Errol Whitfield. The following items were on the agenda:

### Wall Painting

13 bids were opened and two found to be incomplete (no specifications information submitted). The bids ranged from \$.18/square foot to \$.67/square foot. The paint samples were then sent to a lab for scrub tests to determine durability. The contract is expected to be awarded by the May meeting.

### Speeding Drivers

Lt. Fred Wheeler of the County Sheriffs' Department attended the meeting. The Board asked what could be done to deter speeding. He advised them to ask the County Traffic Engineer to post speed limit signs and warning signs along bad curves. He felt that guard rails or other barriers along curves probably would not be allowed because of liability problems. Three instances of car/wall accidents have been between 10 p.m. and midnight on Saturdays caused by teens who were DUI and not Bloomingdale residents.

### Corporate Landscape

The Board reached Home America about maintenance of the corner wall at Rose Mead and Bell Shoals. The company did not know it was a shared structure. They will call Fred with their plans for maintenance.

### Wall Repair

A letter was sent to the father of the teen who hit the wall on Springvale. He was asked to pay \$750 for that repair. The contractor reduced his price because he was able to do another repair at the same time.

### Grass Edging

No new bid has been received from Quality Mowing for edging to exclude undeveloped areas.

### Property Manager

Lynn Wagner had a couple of confrontations while answering calls on deed restrictions. The Board voted unanimously to send

the offender a letter asking for compliance only after a written complaint is filed with the board.

### Bills

There was a little confusion about the method of billing by the mowing contractor for February and March. He is to be paid per mowing, not per month. This allows for light mowings in winter and extra in summer. The Board will pay him according to the contract and clarify that with the contractor.

### Budget

Each member presented his research on assigned areas of the

budget and recommended dollar amounts for the 1987-88 budget. A total assessment of \$145,540 is expected if each unit (home, apartment, etc.) is taxed \$80. Workshop sessions between now and the May 18 meeting will generate discussion on each element of the budget. It is expected that the following items will receive particular attention: fees for professional services of an attorney and accountant, landscaping, wall painting and repair, and reserves for contingency (investing some money to increase capital for future use).

STD, see page 20

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# FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

*A Chance for  
Bloomingtondale Students  
to Travel*

Jackie Tuckey  
Gazette Staff Reporter

The Sealy's are area representatives working to place more foreign students in Brandon-area homes and will also represent American students going overseas. The Sealy's are associated with the Educational Foundation for Foreign Study (EFFS), one of many organizations in the U.S. working for the exchange of students. "My husband heard something on the radio about exchange students and a teacher at school talked about it," Kitty said. "We talked it over with the children, applied as a host family, and here we are."

Kitty explained that the procedure involves filing an application and an in-home interview with the entire family. Host families choose a male or female, the country they are from, and even the particular student they feel would best fit in with their family. An exchange student must have his own bed, but may share a room. (The

EXCHANGE, see page 27

Bloomingtondale Residents Kitty and Jan Sealy have four children, David, Nicki, Kara, and Kristie. They also have had many foster children, children in for baby-sitting, and a few that just needed another place to live for whatever reason. For the past three years they have also been the host family for foreign exchange students from four European countries. Their latest, Mattias, of Sweden, is finishing his year at Brandon High.

## And it was Bloomingtondale's own "Run for the Gold"...uh, Egg



On Saturday, April 18, over 150 delighted Bloomingtondale youngsters raced for their own specially filled Easter Eggs as Chairman Janet Holzman watched them enjoy the culmination of many weeks of planning. Easter Bunny, Ed Holzman, was an absolute delight in the hand-made bunny costume made and donated by Bloomingtondale Resident Helena Cornette. Each of the children were invited to hunt for eggs by

age groups and have their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny (provided as a courtesy to the parents by the BHA and photographer Joe Liguori).

Also on hand to help with the hunt were: Pam Liguori, Bill and Bryan Armstrong, Michele and Nick Alvarado, Meredith Wagner, Damen Wagner, and Patricia Holzman.

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## UNDERSTANDING PENSION PLANS

by Jim Wysolmierski, CLU  
Bloomington Resident

In the last 12 years, there have been over eight major pieces of legislation, changing the ways small and large companies provide pension plans for their employees. As a result of all the changes, some people do not understand the different types of plans, or the one their company provides. Hopefully, this article will give some understanding to a complicated subject.

### What Is a Pension Plan?

A pension plan is a financial arrangement set up by an employer to provide employees with retirement income. There is no legal requirement for a company to provide a pension plan. However, once a company decides to adopt one, all full-time employees over

the age of 21 must participate in the plan.

### Why Do Employers Provide Pension Plans?

Many employers believe they have a financial obligation to their employees to provide them with additional income at retirement. There are also other benefits to the plan. If the owners of the business want a plan for themselves, they have to include the employees. In addition, contributions are deductible and interest earned on the funds is tax deferred. Offering employees a benefit, such as retirement income, is a good way to attract and retain good people.

### What is a Profit Sharing Plan?

A profit sharing plan is a retirement plan, in which the employer contribution is based on profits for a fiscal year. The plan allows company contributions to be flexible; if the employer has a good year, up to 15% of payroll can be

contributed. If losses are realized, plan contributions can be waived.

### What is a 401(k) Plan?

A 401(k) plan is usually a contributory pension plan. Employees usually make tax deductible contributions to the plan, as a salary savings program. The employer will sometimes match the contributions made by each employee up to a percentage of payroll, such as 2 or 3%.

### What is a Money Purchase Plan?

A money purchase plan is a non-contributory program, in which contributions are fixed as a percentage of payroll. The maximum contribution is 25% of payroll, although most plans provide smaller contributions. This plan differs from a profit sharing plan in two ways. First, the maximum contribution is higher and second, the plan is not based on profits. The employer must make the contribution regardless of profits.

*PENSION, see page 18*

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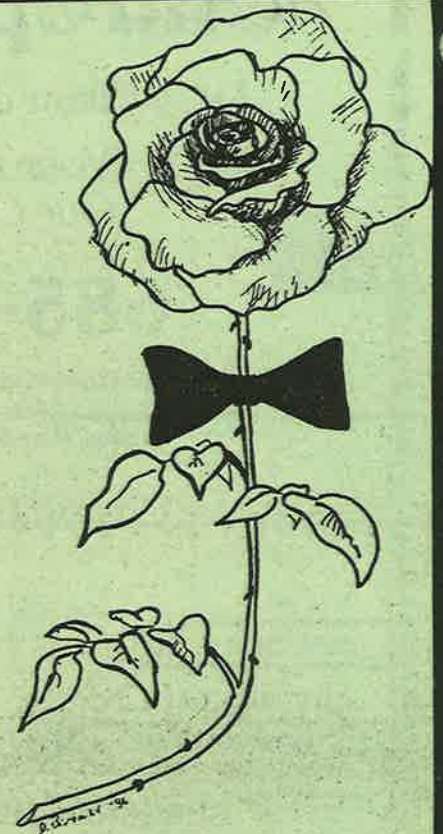
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can register them early at the school. There is a construction trailer on the property from which the administrative activities of the school are currently being handled and houses her office. The hours for this pre-registration are 8-11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday.

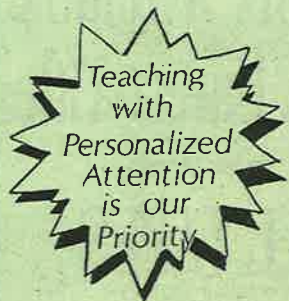
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**It's Baseball Season  
in Bloomingdale!**

The Bloomingdale Men's Softball League is off and running (and hitting and sliding and...). According to softball coordinator **Ray House**, they have four teams and have already started their Sunday afternoon games in Park West. "We have only two slots open to allow additional players," he said. "Once these are filled, a waiting list will be kept. As players drop out of the league, the waiting list will be used to fill the teams." The men's teams are made up of adult-aged men who are Bloomingdale Residents only. The BHA Board allocated \$100 from the Community Improvement Fund for baseball equipment for this BHA sanctioned event. The BHA is hoping to add to this equipment for the community on a yearly basis. (The Parks Department doesn't lend out equipment when the function is not open to the public, therefore the necessity of furnishing our own equipment which will become the permanent

property of Bloomingdale.) There is also a \$5 per player registration fee which goes toward equipment repair, soft drinks, and other team expenses.

The following is the schedule of games to be played in Park West:

	2 pm	3 pm
May 17	A-B	C-D
May 24	C-A	D-B
June 7	A-D	B-C
June 14	B-A	D-C
June 28	A-C	B-D
July 12	D-A	C-B
July 19	A-B	C-D

The team on the left is the Home team and the one on the right is the Visitor's team.

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PENSION, from page 16

### What is a Defined Benefit Plan?

A defined benefit plan is one where the retirement benefit is known in advance. For example, a plan may provide that an employee will retire on 25% of his salary earned during the year prior to retirement, as long as he has been employed with the company for at least ten years. When an employee enters the plan, the employer will actuarially compute the amount of funds needed today to pay future benefits.

### Which Pension Plan is Better?

The most attractive pension plan for employees depends on many factors, such as salary, age, vesting, years of service, interest, inflation, and goals of the employer. As a general rule, profit sharing, money purchase, and 401(k) plans are attractive for younger employees. This is

because there is so much time to accumulate money in the pension plan. Often, the projected pension benefit will equal a large percentage of salary.

Older employees are generally better off in a defined benefit plan. If there isn't too much time to accumulate money for retirement, the employer has to make large contributions to fund the benefit.

### How Does an Employee Get His Money at Retirement?

The pension plan will generally provide an employee with several "pay-out" options. These options may include, 1) lump sum; 2) life annuity; 3) joint-life, and 4) ten-year certain. Each pay-out is different and has important and legal financial ramifications. Normally, you don't have to elect a pay-out until retirement. As you approach a retirement age, you should carefully consider each option with a competent advisor.

### Can an Employee Get His Money Before Retirement?

If an employee is terminated from employment, he is entitled to his "vested" amount. Vesting refers to the percentage of company contribution the employee is entitled after a number of years of service. Depending on the plan, the money may be paid out or kept by the plan until the terminated employee reaches retirement age. Regardless of the reason for termination, an employer cannot deny an employee his vested and accrued benefit.

If an employee is not terminated, he may be able to borrow a portion of his pension. The plan would have to allow this procedure.

### Conclusion

This report is just a summary of major provisions of pension plans. The reader, as an employer or employee, should seek a personal advisor for help with a given set of facts. Readers can also address questions to the writer, through the paper.

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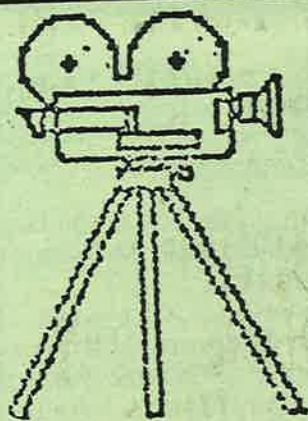
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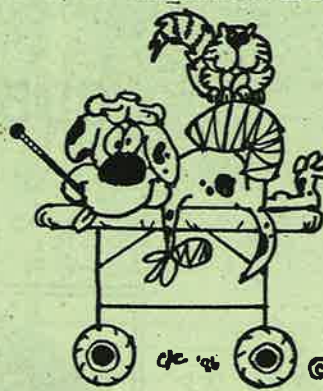
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STD, from page 14

**Public Comment**

Joe Dvorak of Peachfield Dr. asked for help to get the Pulte developer's wooden fence replaced with a concrete wall like the rest of Bloomingdale. The Board advised him to survey all 39 homeowners involved about their feelings. They also asked him to discuss options with his neighbors, such as paying for part of the wall themselves. He agreed to do so by the May meeting.

The STD Board will be losing one of its members at the end of May. Anyone interested in this volunteer position is asked to call Fred Uphoff at 685-3013 or Chris Deem at 684-2491 as soon as possible.

**IN NEXT MONTH'S GAZETTE...**

Elections are coming for the Special Taxing District

Dirt Bikes and Motorcycles-- What Does the Law Say?

ALSO-- In future issues of the GAZETTE:

What the incorporation of Brandon could mean to Bloomingdale.

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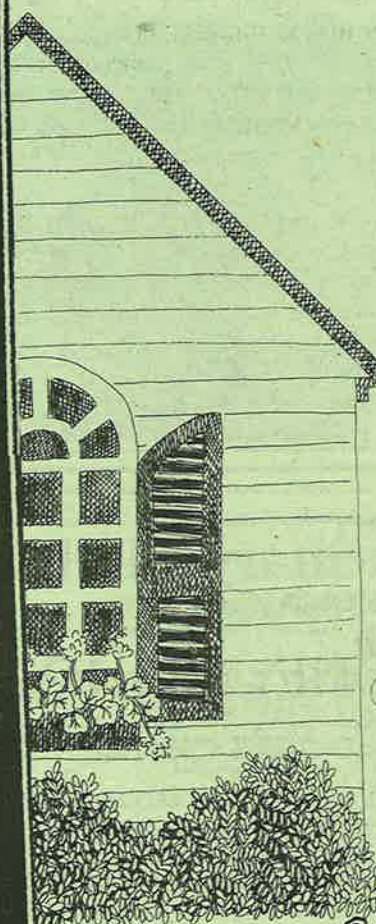
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## A Deed Restriction Is...

by Henry A. Brosnaham  
BHA President

*deed re•stric•tion* - limitations on the use of property placed in the conveying deed by the grantor, which binds all future owners.

Most people become aware of various restrictions prior to moving into a new home. After the home is sold, the next owners may not be aware of the restrictions. Nonetheless, the restrictions still apply. As an area transitions from new to 2-3 years old, the turn over in new residents increase and so does the un-awareness of the new residents.

Someone leaves an old broken car out front, the bass boat gets parked beside the house, and things start to gradually deteriorate as fences become worn out and broken, concrete driveways soiled, paint faded, etc. Little by little the neighborhood starts to look bad, and some residents want to upgrade to a nicer area. The re-sale of those homes start to lose value, some residents wanting to get out take a loss and the trend is started. Almost invariably this continues to the ultimate demise of the original, nice neighborhood, where people took pride in their home and area.

For each of us our homes represent one of the largest investments we are likely to make in our lifetime. Because of this, we care about the way our subdivision looks because of the effect it has on the value of our investment. To help us protect our property and way of life, deed


restrictions come into play. Deed restrictions aren't there to annoy us, take away our rights, or to dictate to us. But rather they are there to set up guidelines that we can all live with. In some cases, they are there for safety and health reasons, too. No one likes to be told what to do, but in the interest of our major property investments, peace with our neighbors, and fairplay, we need to allow these deed restrictions to do just that--tell us what to do and how to do it.

It is the intent of the BHA to provide notice to those who are in violation of the deed restrictions relative to Bloomingdale, and further to proceed to litigation with those individuals who choose to ignore (after proper notification) the few restrictions which are designed to enhance the overall value of the neighborhood, not to mention the pride of living in a nice neighborhood.

If you are in violation of the deed restrictions and were not aware, then that is understandable. However, if you fail to correct any violations after you have been properly notified, then it's you against the community.

Take a minute, look at your own deed restrictions. (With over 15 different sets of restrictions for Bloomingdale there is a possibility that yours may be different from your neighbor's.) Are YOU in violation of a deed restriction and didn't even realize it?

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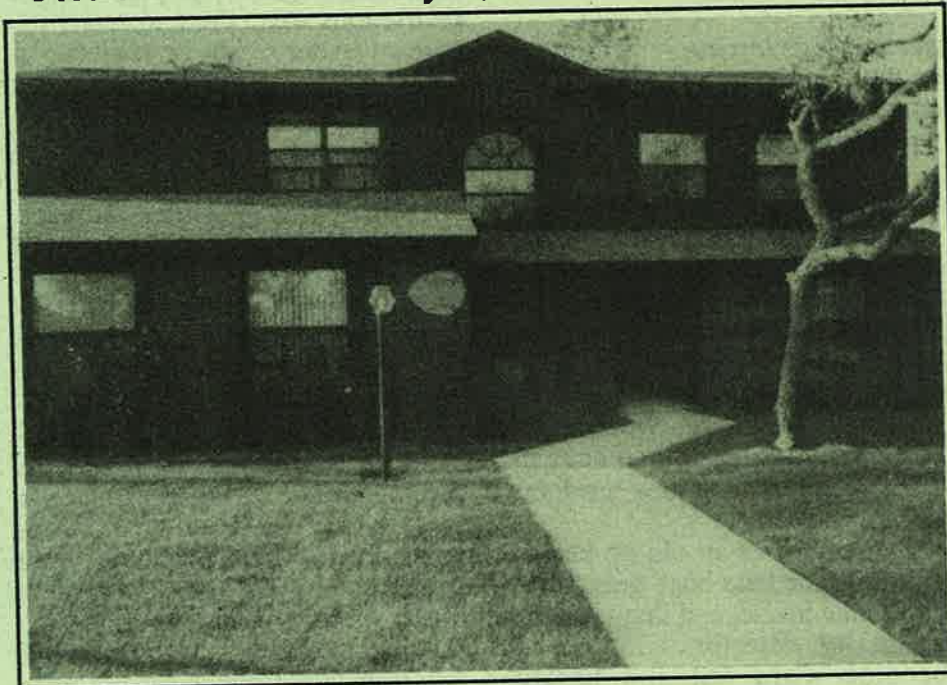
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## Ready, Camera... ACTION!!

by Jackie Tuckey  
Gazette Staff Reporter

Bloomington Resident Neil Norton wants to bring his expertise to the people. And he's going to start with his Bloomington neighbors.

Neal's expertise is behind a camera

-- videotape or TV film camera, that is. He is beginning classes for people with video or Super-8 movie cameras who would like to make more of their home movies than simply moving snapshots.

"Most people use their cameras to produce archives--how their children looked when. I want to give them some knowledge of the camera, film, and lighting so they can make a nice piece of art that even people outside their family would like to watch," he said.

As a recent Director/Producer for Channel 8 (WXFL) Neal didn't start out in broadcasting. He was a pre-med major at the University of Florida until he found out the math courses involved were more than he bargained for. The college catalogue turned up broadcast journalism as the course of study with the least amount of math.

He worked at a TV station in

Gainesville until graduation, then moved on to Daytona and Orlando. He was a camera operator for specials, parades, commercials, and public service announcements. After moving to Tampa, Neal became a director/producer for commercial production at Channel 8, WXFL. His awards include a Florida Emmy for Achievement as Director of a public service  
*NORTON, see page 26*

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## TIPS FOR THE POOL OWNER

by Annette Fracasso  
Land O' Lakes Pool Supply

Air bubbles at the return inlets in the swimming pool, indicate a problem on the suction side of the pump. This can cause a costly repair if not remedied. The most common causes of air in the system, are automatic chlorinators, such as EZ Clor, Guardex, Rainbow, and other brands. Check

all hoses, clamps, and fittings that are on the suction side of the pump.

Other causes of air in the system are the o' rings or gaskets on the hair and lint pot. These should be clean and lightly lubricated with a non-petroleum based lubricant. Too much lubricant is as bad as none at all.

Pump housing gaskets are another source of air in the system. A bad gasket will usually leak water when the pump is turned off.

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NORTON, from page 25

announcement for the Sunshine State Games.

Since leaving Channel 8, Neal has worked as a freelance cameraman and director for production companies in Tampa and St. Petersburg. He has started his own production company filming commercials for the most part and corporate media communications. Recent pieces include news promotions for Channel 8, the Hyatt Regency West Shore, Scotty's, and the Jim Walter Corporation.



One of the highlights of his career so far came in Orlando. Neal explains, "We did a four hour live telethon for the Orlando Children's Hospital with Michael J. Fox and Nancy McKeon (from "Facts of Life"). He was just electric to work with, extremely talented. Michael did everything asked of him and then some, which isn't always the case between big stars and local directors."

He is planning his session of classes in four 60 to 90 minute sessions. The first will be on the technology of camera and film: how film works, lenses, and lighting effects. A film project will be assigned. These will be viewed at the next class, followed by discussion of some tricks of the trade, including the use of wide, medium, and close-up shots to tell a story. Then a more specific assignment will be given. Basic cinematography will be the third class, centered on light, color

temperatures of light, and lighting for interiors. The final class will include use of camera movement; sound flow of message with beginning, middle, and end; and exterior lighting ("the brutality of sunlight," according to Neal). A wrap party to view everyone's final project will cap off the session.

Neal will limit class size to four or so students. He feels that there may be enough interest once people get started to go into some film editing and maybe start an art film club. As he says, "After all, the ultimate pay-off is having an audience see your work."

Those interested in the class should call Neal and Dolly Norton at 685-6771.



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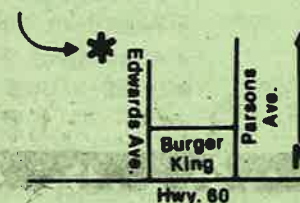
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EXCHANGE, from page 15

Sealy's have always chosen a male student so he can share a room with their only son, David, who is 12.) A family with children is preferred, but not mandatory. The family receives a thorough host-family orientation conducted by the area representatives.

Exchange students pay their own way. Kitty said it averages \$3,000 to \$4,000 for round trip airfare, registration fees, tests, and application forms. The host family takes care of room and board; and may pay for some extras, such as trips, if they can afford it.

Otherwise, the student is responsible for all his own expenses. The family is not paid in any way, but may deduct \$50 per month from their taxes under charitable deductions.

The students coming to our country from abroad usually speak very good English and some spend a few weeks in England before coming to the U.S. Their year of school in the States does not count toward graduation in their home country.

American students who travel from the U.S. to another country need to

know a foreign language but not necessarily that of the country they choose. The Americans attend a four week language camp with cultural influences for that country before they leave the U.S. as an exchange student. No one from the area is going overseas as of now, but there is a half year program available for second semester.

"We hope that with the new school opening we can get more students. Brandon High has 10 this year, not all through EFFF, and a couple are here privately," Kitty explained.

The Sealy's feel their entire family has seen benefits from being a host family. David gets an older brother, they all learn extra give and take; and of course, new customs, recipes, and words of a different language. They have had students from Sweden, Norway, Germany and France, and have already selected a boy from Finland for next year. Kitty feels that the students they have hosted have been more mature than American teens. They are used to having good public transportation to get around more easily than here but they also learn to operate American appliances and pick up the slang quickly. "It seems that many students from overseas think America is like what they see on TV over there and that's mostly "Dallas", "Dynasty" shows. It's an adjustment for them when the reality hits," Kitty said.

"But they also go home and tell about the real America from first-hand experience and that's good for us. Mattias says Americans are such giving people, not necessarily with money, but from the heart," Kitty said smiling.

"I know it's a little scary for people to take in a foreign student. They don't know much about the person and it's a big responsibility," said Kitty. The student signs an agreement to abide by the family's house rules, no drinking, no drugs, and to maintain a C average at school. Or they may be sent home for not complying.

The Sealy's have learned and taught so much in these exchanges and want others to experience it, too. For more information call them at 681-1830.

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by Sherry Hardin  
Gazette Staff Reporter

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When you enter It's Kasual Outdoor Furniture located in Bloomingdale Square you may be greeted by a pleasant man eager to show you his product and explain its benefits. The man is Frank Manies, owner of the recently opened store.

Originally from Philadelphia, Frank was working for the Loomis Armored Co. in the Orlando area when a friend told him about PVC pipe outdoor furniture. After some investigation they opened a business which prospered and grew. The next step was to expand. A survey found that Brandon not only was growing, but also that Bloomingdale in particular would provide the clientele necessary for business. Besides that, Frank felt this would be a great place to raise his 11 year old daughter and 9 year old son.

It's Kasual carries a wide range of

outdoor furniture options. Frank operates his own factory called It's Kasual Products so a lot of variety is available in size, color, and style. A new concept he has developed is the all-pipe chair versus the fabric sling which is standard. He has also designed chairs with bent arms to offer more style. Currently on the drawing board is a PVC high chair so baby can join you outside for dinner. Besides PVC furniture he also offers lightweight fiberglass dining sets.

Hours are 10-7 Monday through Saturday and 12-6 Sunday. When you stop in, ask him about the Philadelphia Flyers. He is sure they are going to win the Stanley Cup this year.

\* \* \* \* \*

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Reputable solar companies still exist and are doing a steady

business. One such company is Quality Solar Systems located at 4340 Bell Shoals in the Village Center Shopping Center.

In business for five years, the company moved to its present Bloomingdale location in December of 1986. The company is owned by the Kalinowski family, Gene and Carol and their son Kevin.

Originally from Chicago where Gene was a policeman, they have lived here for 9 years. Kevin is a graduate of Brandon High School.

Quality Solar offers solar heating for hot water heaters, pools and spas as well as solar blankets. They also repair and service existing systems. The main goal of the Kalinowski family is to give solar the good name it deserves.

Recently, for their Grand Opening Celebration on April 25 and 26 they and Sparkle Pool Supplies and Service had a drawing for prizes. "The lucky Grand Prize winner is Bloomingdale Resident Troy Brown of Bloomingdale South," said Gene. Other prize winners were: Martin Schreiber, Frank Seldy, Sharon Fisher, Peggy Simpson, and Liz Fox. Congratulations to all the winners!



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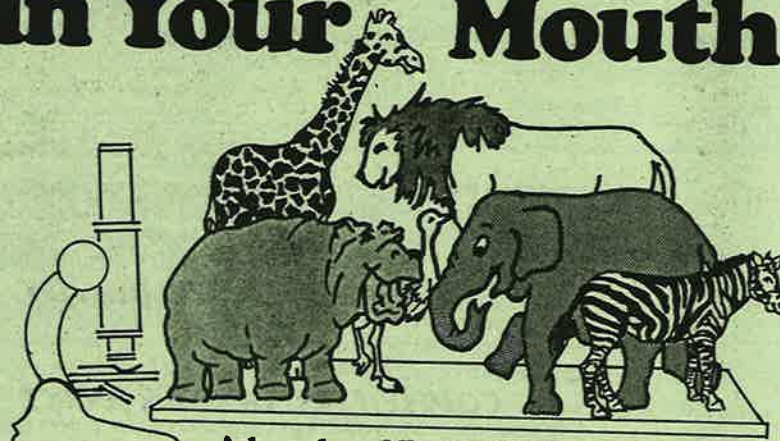
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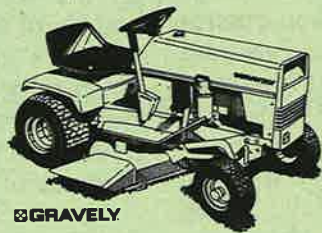
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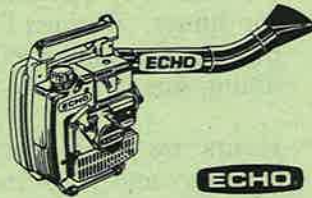


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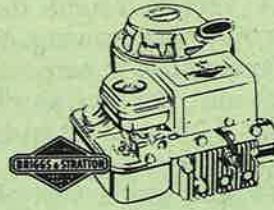
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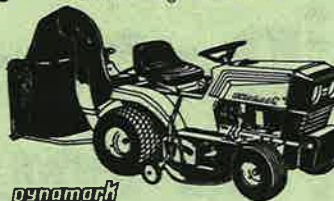
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**FOR SALE:** Bedroom set-double dresser with two mirrors, double bed headboard, bed frame, and nightstand. Asking \$350. Call 681-2051.

**FOR SALE:** Dinette set with 4 chairs, \$150. Boys 16" BMX bike with training wheels \$25. 681-4751.

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Katie Fannin, 12  
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681-4915  
Heather Harker, 14  
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684-5206  
Michelle Jernigan, 15  
685-4150  
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Lisa Moore, 18  
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Kelly Pheils, 12  
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Brandi Vinson, 11  
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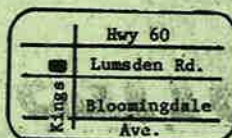
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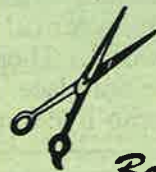


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