

THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

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SUSAN GREEN

BHA aids library attack survivor

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association raises funds to aid with the continued progress made by the survivor of a brutal attack at the Bloomingdale Regional Public Library.

See page 10.

A well-wisher chats with the Bloomingdale library attack survivor and her sister, center, during a post-tournament dinner at Legends Grill at the Bloomingdale Golfers Club.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“We can never get a re-creation of community and heal our society without giving our citizens a sense of belonging.”

Hunter Campell “Patch” Adams

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SUSAN GREEN

Unusual cars gleam alongside classics at the monthly car show sponsored by Bloomingdale Pizza.

Bloomingdale Pizza carries on car show tradition

By SUSAN GREEN

Miles per gallon wasn't always America's top measure of automotive performance.

Once a month, Bloomingdale Pizza gives a nod to those days when muscle cars ruled the road by inviting owners of automotive classics, fancy sports cars or just unusual chassis on wheels to show their treasures in the restaurant's parking lot at 4334 Bell Shoals Road.

"It's kind of a neighborhood event," said Al Carapella, owner of Bloomingdale Pizza. "We try to get everybody here who has a car and wants to show it off."

The show was started a few years ago by another merchant in the same shopping center as Carapella's business. In 2009, the show was going to be discontinued when Cara-



With hoods up for inspection, classic, sporty and unusual cars go on display in the monthly car show at Bloomingdale Pizza.

pella decided to sponsor it. He recently changed the time to the last Saturday of each month. Cars usually start rolling in about 11 a.m. and remain on display until mid-afternoon.

"I'm a car guy," he said, noting that he often shows his own red Chevy Corvette ZO6. "I enjoy the cars. ... It's a great attraction."

Connie Lay of Brandon,

mother of teenage drag racer Kelsey Lay, recently displayed her Ford 1967 Shelby Mustang GT 500 with a poster from the movie "Gone in 60 Seconds," starring Nicolas Cage. Lay said the same kind of car was featured in the movie.

For information about the show, contact Bloomingdale Pizza at (813) 687-7466.

St. Stephen celebrates another successful Spring Jubilee

By SUSAN GREEN

An estimated 25,000 to 30,000 people took in the sights, sounds and calories of the 11th annual Spring Jubilee staged by St. Stephen Catholic Church at its school grounds on Boyette Road.

The four-day celebration opened April 19 and featured a midway of 32 rides and 15 games, plus plenty of food concessions and live entertainment.

Jubilee director Gene Batronie said about 400 volunteers helped set up and operate the event, and the only damper was a rainy Saturday.

"I got lots of compliments on how organized it was," Batronie

said. "I had really no negative feedback at all."

Every year, the event raises several thousand dollars for charity. This year's beneficiary is Cross International, a Pompano Beach-based Christian organization dedicated to helping disadvantaged families in impoverished countries. Batronie said the church won't know how much was raised for a few weeks.

Debra Nieuwendaal and Christy Roth of Boyette Springs said they watch for the Jubilee signs to go up every year so they can plan to attend. They said they can see how much their sons have grown by the difference in rides they choose com-

pared to when the families first began visiting the event.

"We've been coming to it for five years," said Nieuwendaal, who waited on a bench for her son, Ian, 12.

"We don't miss it," agreed Roth, accompanied by her sons, Joe, 12, and Dan, 9.

"We come every year because it's a family atmosphere. ... It's not too big, and you feel comfortable with them [kids] running around a little bit."

Jennifer Weitz of FishHawk Ranch brought her children, Ethan, 5, and Jillian, 3, for the first time.

"We've seen it before, but the date didn't work for us," she said, adding that she was



SUSAN GREEN

A full midway of rides, games and fried food concessions awaited guests at St. Stephen Catholic Church's 11th annual Spring Jubilee, held at the St. Stephen's school grounds on Boyette Road.

pleased with the number of rides for young children.

The event also featured a large tent with food and merchandise

vendors and a stage for local entertainment, much of it from surrounding schools and performing arts studios.



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free to Bloomingdale
residents on the first
Saturday of each month.

Preschool transforms into global village

By SUSAN GREEN

If the Village Early Learning Center is any indicator, Bloomingdale is a hotbed of diversity, attracting residents who started life in faraway places around the globe.

Susan Miller, who co-owns the center with her husband, Joe, said she counted at least 27 different countries represented among the preschool's enrolled children and their parents and staff members and their relatives.

She said the center decided to host an International Festival at the end of March to celebrate its variety of heritages.

Children spent a week studying other countries. They learned about the weather in Norway, a preference for humus and pita bread in Israel, the techniques of snake charmers in India, and customs and flags from various countries in Central and South Amer-

ica.

The weeklong celebration culminated in a series of exhibits that spilled out of the center's classrooms and into the parking lot. Children made passports and collected stickers for each exhibit they visited.

Parents like Mary Galin, who hails from the Ukraine, once part of the Soviet Union, put together exhibits and stood by to explain the significance of items displayed during the festival.

"I came here in high school in 1989," said Galin, whose son, Michael, 3, attends classes at the Village. "I never thought the Soviet Union would break up."

Her display included a set of hand-painted wooden matroska, or nesting dolls, native to her homeland, along with hand-decorated Easter eggs, Ukrainian-style cookies and children's books in her native tongue that she reads to her son.

VILLAGE, Page 5



Mary Galin, parent of a student at the Village Early Learning Center, shows a children's book from her native Ukraine, part of her display at the preschool's recent International Festival.



SUSAN GREEN

Maria Romero, a teacher at the Village Early Learning Center, discusses a display about Norway during the preschool's recent International Festival.



Students at the Village Early Learning Center staged a line dance to celebrate American culture during the preschool's International Festival. From left to right, clockwise, are Amani Dhillon, Sam Le Jeune, Lauren Tapscott, Natalie Broadhurst and Ashton Castleberry.



Students at the Village Early Learning Center in Bloomingdale West finish a line dance to "Cotton-eyed Joe" at the preschool's International Festival on March 31.

VILLAGE

From Page 4

had on display the rain-gear that most children wear when attending school.

"In Norway, because it rains almost every day, they have to wear special attire," Romero said. She added that the country is known as the "Land of the Midnight Sun" because in the summertime, the sun never sets.

Favorite stories from

Norway include "The Billy Goats Gruff."

To celebrate their American heritage, students from the center learned and performed a line dance to the song "Cotton-eyed Joe," followed by a guest performance by the Bay Area Twirlers square dance team.

Miller said parents took on a big role in planning and staging the festival. Parent involvement has grown since the preschool gave up its longtime franchise association with Tutor Time last year and changed its name, she said.

"Our parents are very involved," Miller said. "Forty parents took off work for a week to help in the classroom. ... That helps students see that education is important."

The school at 3741 Canoga Park Drive has more than 240 children enrolled in preschool and after-school programs. For information, call (813) 651-0779 or visit www.villageelc.com.

"I want him to know his heritage," Galin said.

Inside the center, Maria Romero, who teaches 2-year-olds, said she hails from Colombia but wanted to represent Norway in honor of a relative from that country. She wore a Norwegian costume and



This matryoshka, or set of nesting dolls, was among examples of Ukrainian culture and customs on display at the Village Early Learning Center's recent International Festival.



Displays representing more than two dozen countries helped celebrate the multicultural staff and students at the Village Early Learning Center during the preschool's recent International Festival.

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Relay for Life raises more than \$100,000

By SUSAN GREEN

They did it by running laps, recruiting sponsors and selling everything from edible sweets to pies thrown in the face.

Volunteers raised \$103,000 last month for the American Cancer Society at the community's annual cancer-fighting campout dubbed Relay for Life. Tents of all colors, many decorated, dotted the grassy area inside the track behind Bloomingdale High School, where many spent the night April 13.

The evening started with 2012 American Idol contestant Jeremy Rosado

of Valrico singing the national anthem.

Then the many students in the crowd heard from one of their own touched by cancer: Bloomingdale freshman Anthony Alvarez. He was a junior varsity linebacker who began suffering extreme fatigue near the end of football season last year. Testing landed him in St. Joseph's All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg.

"I was told I had cancer," recalled Alvarez, who was 14 at the time of diagnosis. "My world was shattered. ... It felt like everything was crumbling."

Alvarez said the diagno-



KIM WALLACE

Relay For Life at Bloomingdale starts the night off right with a survivor walk lead by the Bloomingdale drum line. Front line leads are Trevin Reese, Blake Cagale, Ryan Marshall, Kiernan Farmer and Donald Gills.

sis of Hodgkin's lymphoma came Nov. 10. He started 12 weeks of chemotherapy the next day.

"It was very tough on

me," he recalled. "I remember lying in the hospital bed, not wanting to eat, not wanting to do anything."

Less than a month before the relay event, he finished six weeks of radiation. Alvarez said he missed a lot of schoolwork, but he was determined to make it up and stay positive.

"Be aware of how blessed you are and live every day as if it is your last because you never know - it very well may be," he told the crowd.

Kim Uchimura, pastor at The Well United Methodist House Church Community, also addressed the crowd, telling how her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1989. Not only were family members worried for the patient, but relatives were concerned about the genetic implications for themselves and their children, Uchimura said.

"That's why we gather here," she said. "It's for hope. ... So that for every tomorrow, there will be no more families that will have to think about what the impact of cancer will be on themselves or their



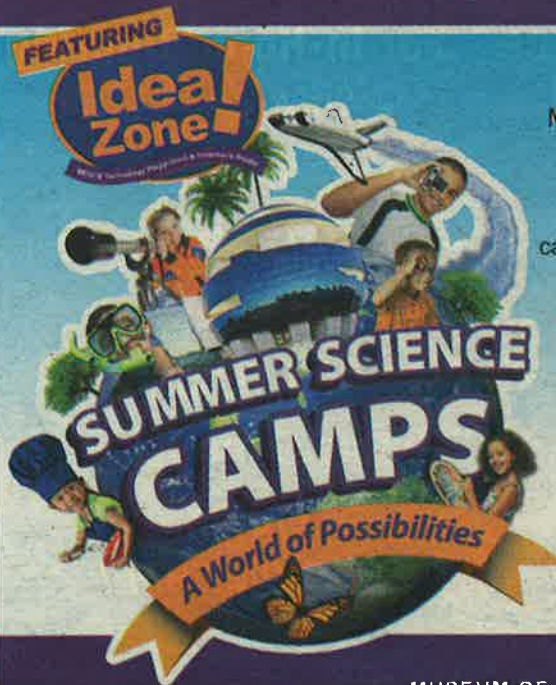
During the luminary ceremony, John Baxter, survivor of five years, is embraced by his children Hannah and Daniel Baxter.

children."

Candice Remmert, a Bloomingdale High teacher, relay co-chairwoman and herself a cancer survivor, said most of the 53 teams that signed up to

participate were made up of students. The school's ROTC color guard, orchestra, and Rajun Bulls drum line also took part in the

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Breena Keeler walks with a proud smile on her face with her mother Shannon Keeler who is a three month survivor.



Middle to right, Andrew Scannell and Missy Ouellette raising money in memory of Andrew's mother and Missy's father. Their friends Ryan Woodard and Alex Nauert join them in support.

RELAY

From Page 6

event.

Sara Vinzant, the American Cancer Society's representative for the Brandon area, said that kind of student participation

makes the Bloomingdale event stand out from many others held around the same time in the area.

"One of the things that Bloomingdale has done is that the drum line leads the survivors' lap," Vinzant said, referring to a procession of people of all ages

who are battling or have beaten the disease.

"Everyone can't help but stop to look at them. It's nice."

Information and opportunities to support this year's fundraising efforts remain available at www.relayforlife.org.



RAY CHADDERTON

Taking the lead

Ryan Chadderton out in front as the Bloomingdale Senior High School Boys ran in the 4A Regional 4-by-800 event April 25.



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Phil Leblanc as the Easter bunny stalls children eager to search for eggs at an Easter event sponsored by The Crossing Church at Bloomingdale West Park.

Hundreds choose Bloomingdale West for mega-egg hunt

By SUSAN GREEN

You might think 25,000 eggs would keep young eyes and hands busy for a while, but the fields at Bloomingdale West Park were picked clean in less than five minutes when members and visitors of The Crossing Church of Brandon held a holiday hunt there shortly before Easter.

About 450 parents and children converged on the

park, enjoying food, games, entertainment, balloon art and face-painting before heading for fields dotted with thousands of candy-filled plastic eggs on March 31.

Greg Dumas, the church's lead pastor, said Bloomingdale was one of four communities chosen by the church for an Easter outreach. Others were Clair Mel City, Ruskin and the Celebration community near Kissimmee.

All totaled, the events attracted about 2,000 people, said Norris Brown, missions pastor at The Crossing. He said this was the first year the church hosted such an event in Bloomingdale. He and Dumas said the park was selected after consultation with the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, with a goal of targeting a neighborhood with a lot of active home Bible



SUSAN GREEN

Nathaniel Tidwell of Lithia, 8 months old, doesn't worry about cracking open the eggs his mother, Patty, collected for him at his first Easter egg hunt, celebrated with The Crossing Church at Bloomingdale West Park.

study groups.

"We were trying to do an outreach in as many regions as we have life groups," Brown said, noting that the church has about 50 small groups that meet in southeast Hillsborough.

He said the church also

is trying to forge a relationship with Hillsborough County that will foster cooperative community improvement efforts in the future.

"We're trying to bridge the gap between the church and the government," Brown said.

Dumas said the church likely will host the Easter event again next year.

Information about The Crossing Church is available at www.crossingonline.org.

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Hundreds of parents and children set out for fields holding about 25,000 eggs during an Easter hunt sponsored by The Crossing Church at Bloomingdale West Park.

Teen talent impresses judges, audience

By SUSAN GREEN

Two teenagers who took first-place prizes in the annual Teen Talent competition at Bloomingdale Regional Public Library in March went on to place at the countywide competition in Tampa last month.

Darrienne Bartsh of Bloomingdale, an eighth-grader at Progress Village Middle Magnet School of the Arts, took first place in the local and county competitions in the middle school division by singing a song she wrote, titled "Escape." She accompanied herself on the guitar.

She collected \$100 for the first place local prize and another \$200 for winning at the county level.

Philip Reynolds, 17, of Brandon, who is homeschooled, impressed local judges enough to secure first place among high school competitors with

his soulful rendition of a song by artist Tom Waits, "Down There by the Train." He also accompanied himself on the guitar and went on to place second in the county competition.

Darrienne said she wrote the music and much of the lyrics for her prize-winning song, getting a little help with the words from family members.

"I like the way you put your personality into your song and your music," said Brenda Osborne, one of three judges at the Bloomingdale show. Osborne also represented the Bloomingdale Friends of the Library, which sponsored the local event.

"It just blows me away that you wrote the music and most of the lyrics."

Judge Erica Colon, a library assistant at Bloomingdale and veteran of the

University of Florida's a cappella singing group, praised Reynolds for his vocal dynamics.

Asked by judges what he thought the song was about, Reynolds said, "Wherever you are in life, no matter what your situation is, you can always find redemption."

Said Osborne: "All I can say is, 'Wow.' You just pulled us all in with your feelings and emotion."

Placing second in the local competition's middle school division was Reynolds' brother, Nicolas Reynolds, who played a blues song on his electric guitar. Judge Rose Ostrander of the South Shore Arts Council said she was impressed that he kept his composure and continued performing even though one of the guitar strings broke near the end of his act.

Third place in the middle school division went to singer Shaylen Santiago, an eighth-grader at Mulrennan Middle School.

Second place among high school competitors in the local contest went to Jasmine Fulton, a Bloomingdale High School junior who demonstrated her dog training skills with Foxy Love, a Shih Tzu-Pomeranian-poodle mix. She said she would like to start a rescue organization for mutts.

Denys Klimyetyev, a 10th-grader at Riverview High School, collected the third-place prize for playing a song he wrote on the electric guitar.

"I started playing the guitar three years ago, and I couldn't stop," he told the judges. "This is what I do with my life."



SUSAN GREEN

Above, Darrienne Bartsh of Bloomingdale secures first place in the middle school division by singing and playing a song she wrote for judges at the Bloomingdale Regional Public Library's annual Teen Talent Show. At right, Phillip Reynolds of Brandon croons a soulful song to win first place in the high school division.



BLOOMINGDALE BUZ

What does Memorial Day mean to you?

By SUSAN GREEN

Along with the rest of the nation, Bloomingdale will celebrate Memorial Day on May 28. This month's question was posed to three dads keeping an eye on their children at Bloomingdale East Park. All said they had family members who were serving or had served in the military.

What does Memorial Day mean to you?

Tim Everhart of Bloomingdale:

"Memorial Day is a time to appreciate what others have sacrificed for us."

Terrance Harvey, Army veteran, of Bloomingdale:

"Memorial Day is about respecting the sacrifices



SUSAN GREEN

Tim Everhart, Terrance Harvey, Randy Bagby

that soldiers made before us and that they continue to do. It's about enjoying family and all the things this country is famous for ... because of those sacrifices."

Randy Bagby of Brandon:

"It's not just stopping but taking time out of our busy lives to understand and reflect on what our military and everyone serving has done for us, especially when democracy and freedom is under attack all over the world."

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Golf tournament raises funds to help library attack survivor

By SUSAN GREEN

If any doubted the progress of a young woman who survived a brutal attack four years ago at the Bloomingdale Regional Public Library, those doubts were put to rest last month when she rolled into Legends Grill, alert and smiling.

Still in a wheelchair, the young woman from Riverview, whose name is being withheld because of the nature of the attack, responded by moving her head when people spoke to her. She and her sister, Anna, mingled with participants in a golf tournament organized by the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, which raised about \$4,500 to help with the young woman's continued rehabilitation.

"We're still waiting for her to spit a word out," Anna told well-wishers who stopped to speak to her sister at a post-tournament dinner. She turned to her sister.

"No pressure."

The attacker in the case, Kendrick Morris, was recently sentenced to 65 years in prison after being convicted of rape and aggravated battery in

the April 2008 case and an earlier attack on a day care worker in Clair Mel City.

Jane Lee, an association director who helped organize the tournament with friend and Bloomingdale resident Heather Michael, said Bloomingdale Homeowners had wanted to host a charity event for the Bloomingdale Library Survivor at the Bloomingdale Golfers Club for some time. She was very pleased with the turnout.

"We hope to do it again sometime in the future," Lee said.

Anna said her family has been overwhelmed by support from communities from Tampa to Ruskin. Because the attack occurred in Bloomingdale, the local fundraiser seemed particularly appropriate, she said.

"Anything helps," she said. "The goodness of the community coming together just fills us up and makes us want to keep going. ... When the [Bloomingdale] Homeowners Association wanted to do this, that really hit home."

Neuroscientist William Lambos and his wife, Diane, of Tampa, were among those playing in the tournament. Event organizers said Lambos, who has worked with the attack survivor at his practice, Cognitive Neuro Sciences, contributed



Keith Curran of Seffner talks to the Bloomingdale library attack survivor during a post-tournament dinner at Legends Grill at Bloomingdale Golfers Club.

SUSAN GREEN

more than \$1,000 to the fundraising effort.

Lambos said he wanted to participate in the effort because he was impressed by the spirit of the young woman and her family when he saw her in his practice.

He said he did not have to work with her for long before realizing the young woman was drawing on a rich, inner world in her mind, even though her outward means of communicating has been limited.

"I was very heart-struck by it and by her wonderful personality," Lambos said. "It leaves an impression on you that you don't forget."

Other than Dr. Lambos, golf sponsors, included The Bloomingdale Golfers Club, Walden Lake Golf Course, Summerfield Golf Course, The Tampa Tribune, Tijuana Flats, Joel's Pizza Palace, Carrabba's, Hit the Trails,

Winn-Dixie, Hair by Nydia, Dallas 1 Corp., Hayward Baker Geotechnical Construction, Abdoney Pediatric Dentist, Brilliant Nights, Revolution Cycle & Fitness, EDG Technologies, Brilliant Nights Landscape Lighting, Hit the Trails Running, Southeastern Construction, Dallas 1 Corporation, Hayward Baker, Inner Circle of Golf, Angella Foley @ Salon Jennifer, Heather Michael @ Salon Jennifer, Body Works, Professional Displays, James Chastain, Kathy Tenney, Cardinal Roofing, Home Designs, Edwin Watts, Como Prof, O'Brien's, Publix, Debbie Hueber with Pampered chef, and the wonderful Heather Michael as the BHA's Master of Ceremonies.

East Bay High School's Student Government Association will host the first 5K4Q Run and Fun Run at E.G. Simmons



A well-wisher chats with the Bloomingdale library attack survivor and her sister, center, during a post-tournament dinner at Legends Grill at the Bloomingdale Golfers Club.

Park, 2401 19th Ave. NW in Ruskin, Saturday, May 19, at 8 a.m., to raise funds for the young woman's continued care. For details, check www.active.com/running/ruskin-fl/5k4q-and-fun-run-for-bloomingdale-library-survivor-2012.

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Bloomingtondale Community Station Notes

Update on crime – good news/bad news

At the April meeting of the Sheriff's Bloomingtondale Area Community Council (BACC), members were briefed on recent crime activity in our area. The good news is that in



Curtis Warren

comparison to crime activity during this same period in 2011, crime has decreased by 30 percent. The bad news is that crime has not stopped and it never will. As long as there are those who intentionally take property belonging to others, there will be criminals.

The other good news is that when residents take the time to get better at

protecting their valuables and possessions, crime goes down. When you take away a criminals' opportunity to commit a crime, you do your part to help fight crime. Please continue to lock your vehicles, lock your homes, close your garage doors and secure the valuables in your home. Also, immediately report any burglaries or thefts in your area so that detectives can work to solve these crimes. We'll never eliminate crime but we can sure kick it in the butt.

NO MORE WARNINGS

The Sheriff's Office is very concerned about the safety of all of our residents and especially our children. Therefore, there

will "be no more warnings" given to any business owners who sell any type of illegal bath salts or other items disguised as incense. These drugs have proven to be very dangerous! The most recent arrest was made at a Riverview store. The penalties and the fines will be extreme for anyone dealing these illegal drugs.

OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET

The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office will be providing area residents an opportunity to properly dispose of any outdated, unused and unwanted prescription drugs and other

NOTES, Page 12

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DAY	NAME OF LEAGUE	TYPE OF LEAGUE	MEETING DAY/TIME	START DAY/TIME
MONDAY	MONDAY NITE MADNESS	MIXED	May 7 6:00 PM	May 7 7:00 PM
TUESDAY	MORNING GLORIES	LADIES	May 8 9:00 AM	May 8 9:30 AM
TUESDAY	TUESDAY NITE DREAMERS	MIXED	May 1 7:00 PM	May 15 6:45 PM
WEDNESDAY	OAKFIELD YOUTH/ADULT	YOUTH/ADULT	June 6 7:00 PM	June 13 6:45 PM
WEDNESDAY	SENIOR FUN BOWL	MIXED	May 23 12:30 PM	May 23 1:00 PM
THURSDAY	SPLITS AND MISSES	LADIES	May 31 8:45 AM	May 31 9:30 AM
THURSDAY	THURSDAY NITE OPEN	OPEN	May 31 6:00 PM	May 31 7:00 PM
FRIDAY	BALL & CHAIN	MIXED	May 18 7:00 PM	May 25 6:35 PM
SATURDAY	YOUTH LEAGUES	YOUTH	June 16 8:45 AM	June 16 9:30 AM
SUNDAY	SUNDAY FUN	MIXED	June 3 6:00 PM	June 3 6:45 PM

0003166158-01



Congratulations

On April 25, 2012, the Bloomingtondale High School Boys won the 4A Region 2 4 x 800 Track Championship and set a new school record with a time of 8:08.

They will run in the State Finals May 5th in Jacksonville.



As pictured (left to right): Andrew LeBlanc, Matt LeBlanc, Coach Steve Littleton, Ryan Chadderton and Kevin Heron.

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NOTES

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medicines while also protecting our fragile environment.

This special event will be held: Monday, May 21, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Superior Residences
1819 Providence Ridge Blvd.
(north of Bloomingdale Avenue)
Collect your old drugs and drop them off. It only takes a couple of minutes, and you'll make your home safer while also protecting our environment.

ARE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY READY?

Hurricane season is less than a month away. Even before it gets here we have seen heavy storms and tornadoes. Are you and your family ready? When the power goes out, will you be prepared? Now is the time to take the time to ensure your families, homes and businesses are ready as well as your workplace.

As part of their annual preparation for hurricane season Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa emergency management personnel are holding the 2012 Hurricane Expo at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), 4801 E. Fowler Ave. in Tampa, June 2, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There will be lots of current information, disaster experts on hand to answer your questions and also the many other activities offered by MOSI. Take your family to MOSI for this special event and get them involved in getting ready. It only takes one dangerous storm to change thousands of lives for years to come. Take the time now to get ready!

HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES

The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, at Sheriff Gee's direction, has created a memorial on the Sheriff's Office's website to honor our fallen heroes. Sheriff Gee had the new website feature created to "remind everyone of the sacrifices

our troops make around the world." You can access the memorial page through the Sheriff's Office website at www.hscotampa.fl.us.

IS YOUR HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTED?

The Sheriff's Bloomingdale Area Community Council (BACC) is made up of concerned residents from homeowners associations and neighborhoods in our community. They work directly with me and our Community Service Officer Sandy Capitano and other local government representatives to coordinate plans and actions on community issues and items of concerns that will help improve the quality of life in our community. The BACC meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Community Station on Erindale Drive. Your BACC needs your support and involvement. Come to the next meeting and discuss your concerns!

Brandon Skate Park to open

Hillsborough County - 10 p.m. invites the community to drop-in to the new Brandon Skate Park for a Grand Opening Ceremony to be held on Saturday, May 12 at 1 p.m. This 11,000 square-foot "obstacle street and bowl" skate park is located at 5720 Providence Road.

The Brandon Skate Park is Hillsborough County government's first skate park. Local skateboarders supported and worked with Hillsborough County during the planning process to provide input on the design. Entry is free to skate throughout the summer; however, all skaters must wear helmets and complete a waiver.

Hours of Operation

Monday: CLOSED
Tuesday-Friday: 2 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. is under 12 skate only
Sunday: 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The park will feature an intermediate/professional bowl with all rounded walls, two hips and two general depths. The shallow end is 6 feet deep and just under-vert, and the deep end is more than 9 feet deep with 1 and a half feet of vert. There is also an Obstacle Street Section which has two main levels. The lower section has a few street plaza elements. The lower section is connected to the upper section with a series of banks, including a step up that connects to an escalating-transition hip.

COMPLIMENTARY ORTHODONTIC CONSULTATION



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