

Empires of Mystery

The Incas. The Andes. And Lost Civilizations.

High in the South American Andes, an area shrouded in mystery, some of the most intriguing cultures lived, thrived and then vanished.

The Florida International Museum has brought over 300 ceremonial and daily objects of these ancient Peruvians to St. Petersburg for their Empires of Mystery exhibit opening Oct. 23 and running to Spring 1999.

This is the largest exhibit of

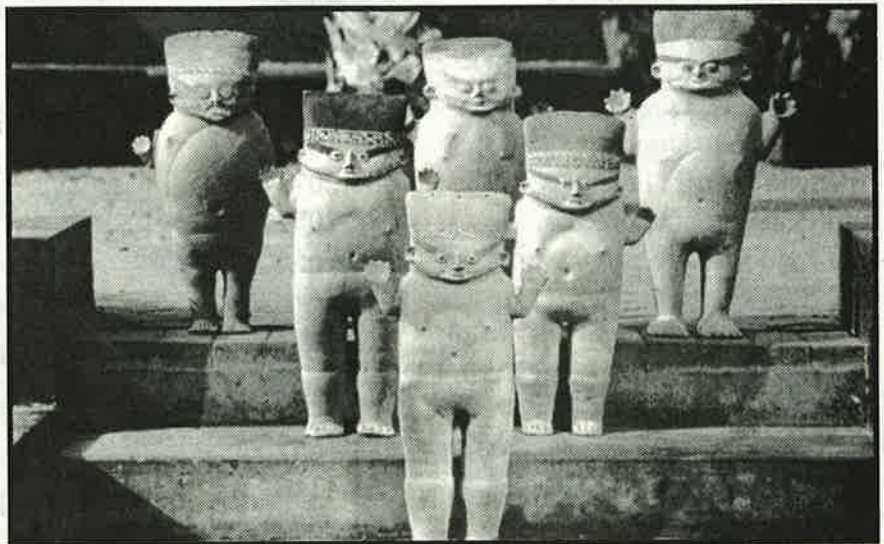


Photo Copyright 1997 WONDERS. By Phillip Scholz Ritterman. Courtesy of the Florida International Museum.

Sculpted bichrome nude female *cuchimilcos* (fat-figures). All with raised hands and one of them with six fingers. Chancay culture.

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Peruvian artifacts ever to travel to the U.S. and includes several thousand years of history. Over 30 civilizations are represented, including one of the most powerful, the Incas.

The ancient Peruvians were expert politicians as well as powerful warriors. They practiced mummification 1,000 years before the Egyptians and built an earthquake proof city hundreds of years before San Francisco was founded.

They also successfully practiced brain surgery 1,500 years before the discovery of penicillin. Evidence of this brain surgery has been found in the form of human skulls missing large sections of bone. The skulls show evidence of

bone regrowth indicating that the patients survived for a reasonable time after the ordeal.

Some of the artifacts on display are three mummies including a 1,500-year-old sorceress wrapped in over eight feet of her own hair. The mummy has never traveled outside of Peru – until now.

Several gold artifacts are also in the collection. Gold was highly symbolic to the Peruvian cultures. Its brilliant color and reflective property mirror the sun, which was worshiped as a deity in ancient Peru. Gold also indicated a person's status. A gold knife used in ceremonies of the Chimu is on

Continued on page 4

Your inside connections

The Bloomingdale Homeowners Association, Inc.

3240 Lithia Pinecrest Road, Suite 103
Valrico, FL 33594

Voice Mail: 681-2051

E-mail: bloomingdale@juno.com

BHA Web Site: <http://members.aol.com/bhainc/>

Randy Wolfe, President	681-2051
Ted Grable, Comptroller	685-7193
Walter Glenn, Secretary	681-2051
Patricia Radel, Director	681-2051
Luana Russell, Director	662-1610
LaWayne Wyatt, Director	685-2072
Ann Underwood, Director	681-2051
Pam Liguori, Director	681-9655

Bloomingdale Special Taxing District 684-6667

Rick Pitrowski, President	684-6667
Tom Mackiewicz, Vice President	653-4145
Joe Liguori, Treasurer	681-9655
T. Szabo, Corresponding Secretary	684-2547
Fred Uphoff, Recording Secretary	685-3013
Tom Snelling, Trustee	681-9186
Sue Meyers, Trustee	689-1514
Alan Devney, Administrator	684-6617

Bloomingdale Mobile Watch Core Committee

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

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District
PO Box 3132
Brandon, FL 33509-3132

Bill Grace, President 685-2817
Fred Englehart, Treasurer 685-3638

Meetings

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

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

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

Bloomingdale Oaks Special Taxing District
Second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
at 3419 Cade Lane, Bloomingdale Oaks

Mobile Watch & Neighborhood Watch meetings are held when special concerns arise

the Bloomingdale gazette
The Official Publication of the Bloomingdale Homeowners Association



Published by USAd, Inc.

220 W. Brandon Blvd., Suite 102 Brandon, FL 33511

Eric Robinson President & Publisher
Kathy Tidler Advertising Sales
Anissa Camp Editor
I.B.S. Production

Phone: (813) 654-1919

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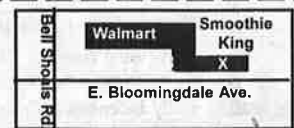
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Empires of Mystery

Continued from page 1

display. The knife, called a tumi, is inset with turquoise and depicts a winged man with an elaborate headdress. In a land where decapitation and human sacrifice were common, what this knife was used for may remain a mystery.

In ancient Peruvian cultures artisans also crafted ceramics where they depicted nearly every aspect of daily life. These ceramics are the primary link between the present and the past because although the ancient Peruvian cultures were powerful, they used no written language.

For this exhibit the museum's galleries have been reconfigured to take you back to ancient Peru. Nazca, a site of enormous intricate designs carved into desert sands 2,000 years ago that can only be understood by viewing them from thousands of feet in the air, and Chan Chan, are both incorporated into the elaborate gallery enhancements.

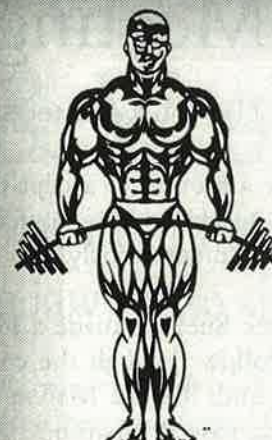
As always, visitors will receive an audio guided tour and view a multi-media movie, however, that is where the similarities with past exhibits end. A long series of corridors that at times will appear more like a maze than anything resembling traditional galleries, will create the illusion to your guests that they have actually traveled to Peru.

The first area guests will encounter on their journey will be a recreation of a rainforest so dense, visitors will barely be able to see very far in front of them. This rainforest section will simulate the Inca Trail which, once a visitor reaches a clearing, they will be able to see Machu Picchu in the distance. From here, through stone portals and into a tomb-like setting, guests will find themselves face-to-face with a number of strange looking tomb guardians. Around another corner they will encounter two eerie mummies, one of which bears a tattoo.

Through another series of corridors visitors will discover the medical mysteries surrounding brain surgery that was practiced thousands of years ago.

The adobe city of Chan Chan will also be included in the travels of the visitors as they explore the nooks and crannies that are filled with interesting artifacts and reminders of these lost civilizations.

The exhibit opens Oct. 23 at the Florida International Museum at 100 Second St. North in St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$13.95 for adults and \$5.95 for students; group rates are available. The museum is open seven days a week, daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the last tour starts at 6 p.m.; Sat. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. with the last tour starting at 8 p.m.



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HS03712

Bloomingtondale Special Taxing District Sept. 1998 Regular Monthly Meeting

Trustees in Attendance: T. Szabo, Rick Pitrowski, Joe Liguori, Tom Mackiewicz, Sue Mallon, Thom Snelling

Public: Leonard Washuleski - A&W, Ron Dickey, Don Cassels

Absent: Fred Uphoff

Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Bloomingtondale Special Taxing District was convened by President, Rick Pitrowski at 7 p.m. There were enough trustees present to establish a quorum.

Re-Appoint Trustees: Trustee Liguori made a motion to re-appoint Trustee Snelling. Trustee Mackiewicz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of August Minutes: Motion: Trustee Mackiewicz moved to accept the August minutes as read. Trustee Szabo seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Correspondence: Trustee Snelling has a question concerning qualifying board members. Trustee Pitrowski stated that no one qualified.

Financial Report: Vince, Ferraro & Co., stated the Total Assets is \$216,600. Nations Bank Investments is \$211,278. Money Market account is \$2,160. Cash on hand is \$50.

Vince pointed out these accounts: Special Assessments - budgeted for \$304,000 - collected \$332,000. Interest income - budgeted for \$5,000 - collected \$10,000. Total Expenditures - budgeted for \$397,000 - have spent \$225,000. Capital Outlay - Entryways - budgeted for \$86,000 - have spent \$3,000. Capital Outlay - Signs - budgeted for \$12,000 - have spent \$0. Capital Outlay - Landscaping - budgeted for \$30,000 - have spent \$7,700.

Other Accounts: Office Supplies - budgeted for \$1,250 - have spent \$14,70. Pressure Wash - budgeted for \$5,500 - have spent \$6,605. Wall Painting - budgeted for \$44,000 - have spent \$45,634. Postage - budgeted for \$500 - have spent \$595. Maintenance - Shrubs - budgeted for \$18,000 - have spent \$19,738.

Lawn Maint., Fert, Clean Up - budgeted for \$80,000 have spent \$65,558.

Trustee Snelling made a motion to accept the Financial Report. Trustee Mackiewicz seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business: Trustee Snelling made a motion for Trustee Pitrowski to follow through the contact with Mr. Mikes until the end. Trustee Mallon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

DPMI Contract - Trustee Pitrowski stated that the contract is up on Oct. 31, 1998. Trustee Liguori made a motion to renew DPMI from November 1, 1998 to Oct. 31, 1999. Trustee Szabo seconded the motion. Discussion: Trustee Snelling stated that the board has no idea who the new president will be and how much time they will be willing to give. He stated that he would like to take a look at the current contract to see what the duties include. He stated that more responsibilities may need to be added. Mr. Devney stated that he had the skills to handle administrative responsibilities. Trustee Pitrowski stated that it would be difficult for one person to handle all of these duties. Trustee Pitrowski suggested renewing the contract for a short period of time until the board could go over the contract and see who the new president is going to be. Trustee Pitrowski asked for votes on the motion. Trustee Liguori, Mallon, and Szabo voted yes and Trustee Mackiewicz, Snelling and Pitrowski voted no. Discussion: Trustee Mackiewicz stated that he voted no because he does not have the contract in front of him. He stated that a 3-6 month period would give the new president time to see what is involved with the position.

Trustee Mackiewicz made a motion to extend the DPMI for 6 month effective Nov. 1, 1998. Trustee Szabo seconded the motion. Trustees Pitrowski, Mackiewicz, Snelling and Szabo voted yes and Trustee Mallon and Liguori voted no.

New Business: Survey of Assessed Homes - Trustee Pitrowski stated that he had often wondered with all the rapid growth if some homes were not added to the assessment. He stated that Chris went out and looked at five streets in five different subdivisions and all houses were accounted for. Trustee

Continued on page

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Regular Monthly Meeting

Continued from page 6

Snelling stated that the BSTD had picked up 153 new homes this year.

Landscaping Contract – Trustee Pitrowski stated that the property looks just like it did a couple of months ago. He stated that the weeds are overwhelming. Trustee Pitrowski stated it was in good condition for a period of time but now it is in terrible condition again. Trustee Mackiewicz stated that he is concerned with going out to bid again. Trustee Liguori stated that we do have A&W as the next lowest bidder. Trustee Pitrowski stated that this would be an ideal time to change since mowing will be cutting back to every other week and contractors will need the work. Trustee Snelling stated that since F.L.A. would have more time due to less mowing then they should have time to weed. Trustee Pitrowski stated F.L.A. is supposed to complete the mulching by tomorrow and it is obvious that it will not be completed. Trustee Pitrowski stated that the contract states that the contractor has 5 days to remedy a problem. He stated that if he makes a remedy then the contract is still good. Trustee Snelling stated that we should send a letter. Trustee Pitrowski asked Leonard from A&W if he had the manpower to do the job and could he do the cutting and edging at the current per cut price. Leonard stated yes.

Trustee Liguori made a motion that Trustee Pitrowski will issue a written notice to F.L.A. that the property must conform within 5 days to the existing contract or we will take the appropriate action and he may contact A&W in the event that F.L.A. does not complete contract. Trustee Mackiewicz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Snelling made a motion to proceed with going out to pre-bid if F.L.A. does not complete contract. Trustee Mackiewicz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitation Policy – Trustee Pitrowski stated that he just wanted the board to know that the BSTD put up the “no solicitation” signs. He stated that if anyone gets a solicitor to their door and wants to send a letter just call Chris with the name of the company.

Trustee Openings – Two residents showed interest: Ron Dickey and Don Cassels.

Property Managers Report: Mr. Devney gave the report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Sue Mallon, Recording Secretary and Rick Pitrowski, President.

Bloomingtondale Special Taxing District Property Manager's Report (Condensed) Sept. 1998

Irrigation

During monthly maintenance inspection, the following items were corrected: 14 spray heads, 5 rotors, 1 solenoid, 1 valve box, 6 light bulbs, 3 broken zone lines and 1 riser were repaired.

All 18 irrigation systems were turned off due to hurricane threat and then turned back on.

Continued “location project” started in July. The STD has 185 valves of which I have located 143. The reminder will be located with electronic equipment.

Landscaping

We installed 60 deep purple Crepe Myrtle trees on Canoga Park.

We installed 400 flowers on Bloomingtondale and Canoga Park.

We installed 334 Creeping Fig plants on Erindale from Culbreath to Wrencrest.

We used 24-5-11 fertilizer on the grass and 12-2-14 on the beds, bushes, trees and creeping fig for this time of year.

We surveyed the area for large overhanging trees that are obstructing cars and trucks and identified 21 locations for the Board to discuss.

Miscellaneous

We approved installation of 10 electrical boxes in various entryways for Christmas lights.

We received 32 cartons of Christmas bows to be put up during the holidays.

Eat, Drink and Pitch – Picked up 36 bags of trash, 13 political signs, 2 pair of sunglasses, 34 signs, 2 hubcaps, 2 tires, 5 socks, 1 traffic cone, 1 lamp shade, large piece of plywood, 4 gloves, 1 shirt, 1 deer head (that's right, a deer head) and 29 cents.

Future Projects (have received board approval)

Install poinsettias in the entryways for the Holidays.

Repair well at River Crossing.

Install irrigation on Rosemead and Nature's Way.

Submitted by Devney Property Management

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The Value and Virtue of Pets

By Diana Converse, M.S.

Many of life's best lessons can not be taught at school, at camp, or on the street corner. They can not be taught by the world's greatest teachers or the neighborhood's finest parents. They are taught by pets - furry pets, scaly pets, caged pets and wild "pets". Nothing can teach a child about give and take, work and play, kindness and caring, and responsibility and rewards better than a family pet. Children (and some adults) can learn valuable lessons about birth, life, death and yes - even sex from animals.

Pets also have a remarkable way of teaching us how to be resilient and forgiving. My children recently learned a valuable lesson about resiliency after witnessing a dog attacking our beloved ferret. We then watched her good-naturedly recover and adapt instead of give up and die - a lesson no parent could have taught as well. Pets also have a wonderful ability to foster responsible action in a child while giving out free wet-nose kisses and warm, wiggly cuddles. Responsibility is a virtue all children should develop - a little at a time, the sooner the better.

If you think a family pet could offer some of life's best lessons to your child, be sure your child is ready to take on the responsibility. The work will feel like punishment to both you and your child if your child isn't ready to care for a pet. Does your child help around the house now? Does he or she do chores without being reminded over and over? Take into account your child's maturity and dependability, not just age. The Humane Society cautions against parents assuming that children under 10 can take total responsibility for a pet.

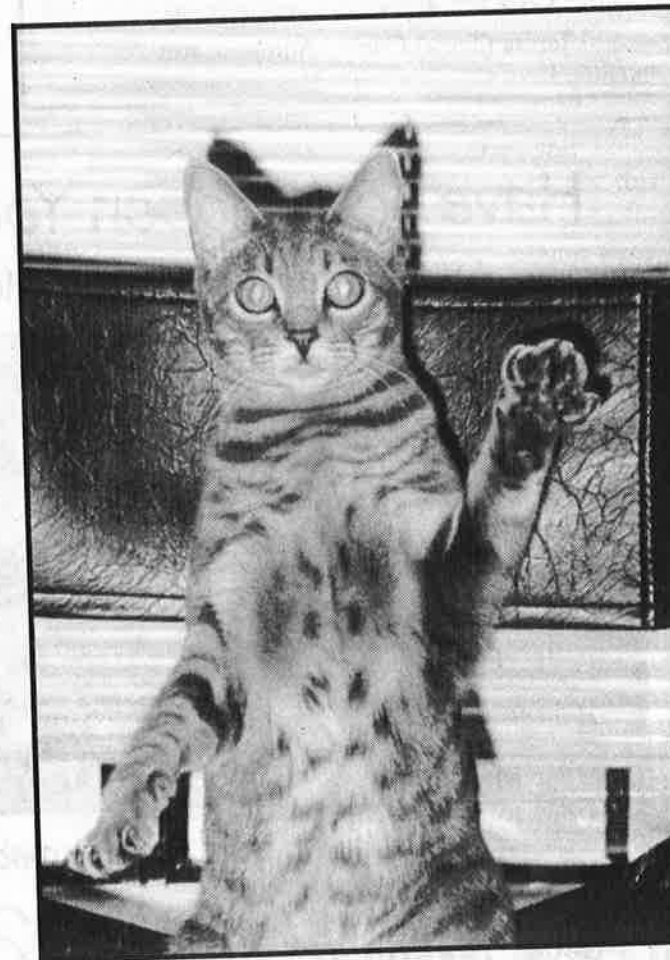
If you are willing to assume most of the work until your child is old enough to take responsibility, a pet has a way of offering unconditional love and companionship. Day to day duties such as caring for a pet, are simply part of the giving which must be expected of each member of the family. No other job gives as many rewards to a child than caring for a pet's needs. Pets also instill a sense of kindness and generosity in a child. Giving food and water, as well as affection, to an animal softens even an adolescent's heart. A well-tended animal helps a child feel loved and wanted. Everyone needs this, especially children.

If you do decide to get a pet, let your child do a little research first as to the care it will require. Go to the library to find a book and to a pet shop to ask

questions. If you are considering a more unique pet, such as a ferret, an iguana, a snake, or a hedgehog talk to families who own one of these pets to get the real story about its needs and peculiarities (all pets have them). Find out what type of animal will fit your family best. A puppy will need lots of space, time and attention even after he is housebroken. Fish in a tank will not need to be housebroken, but they do have daily needs that will help teach responsibility to a less mature child. Also, lay the ground rules in writing with your child as to what care you expect your child to do. Post the list of responsibilities on the refrigerator or near the food and water dishes.

If your household just can not keep a pet because of lease rules or lack of time, there are other options for your child. Adopt wild birds, using books and binoculars to identify them. Set up a bird feeder and a birdbath for your child to fill each day. Encourage bird

Continued on page



Pets such as Evinrude here, who was a stray as a kitten, can become cherished members of the family.

Brandon Newcomers Club

The Brandon Newcomers Club is a non-profit social/service organization. Our aim is to promote friendliness, to help people adjust to their new home and community, to extend the hand of friendship and to contribute annually to charity from one of our fundraisers.

We meet the third Wednesday of each month from Sept. to May at 10 a.m. at CenterPlace. We offer the following activities to our members. Bunco, bridge, Euchre, Bowling, Rummikub, Opinionated Ladies, Gourmet Club, Out & About, Crafts and Out to Lunch. We have four fund-raisers a year that we open to the public.

Come try us. We are sure you will enjoy it. At our monthly meetings we have a variety of speakers that are entertaining and enlightening.

If you have any questions please call our Member-Chairperson, Rose Dellarose, at 684-6641.

The Value and Virtue of Pets

Continued from page 10

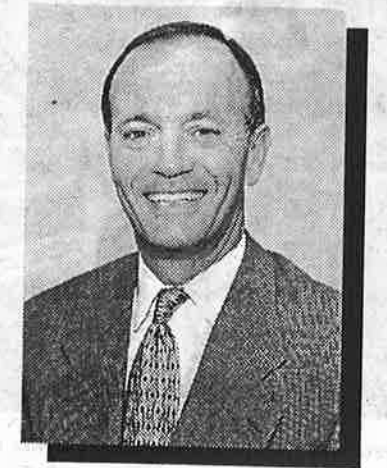
nest in your trees by making nesting bases and filling them into the branches. Save bread crumbs for the ducks you can easily find in neighborhood ponds and lakes. Offer to "check-in" on your friend's pets while they are out of town. Catch tadpoles and watch them change into toads or frogs before turning them loose at the water's edge.

Teaching children to be responsible, to give unconditional love, and to be cooperative family members are valuable lessons that family pets can teach. With thoughtful planning and a little reminding from parents, the bond that develops between a child and his pet is unmatched.

Diana Converse is a Family Life Educator for the University of Florida Extension Service in Hillsborough County. For more information call her at 744-5519.

Ed Rahal, DMD

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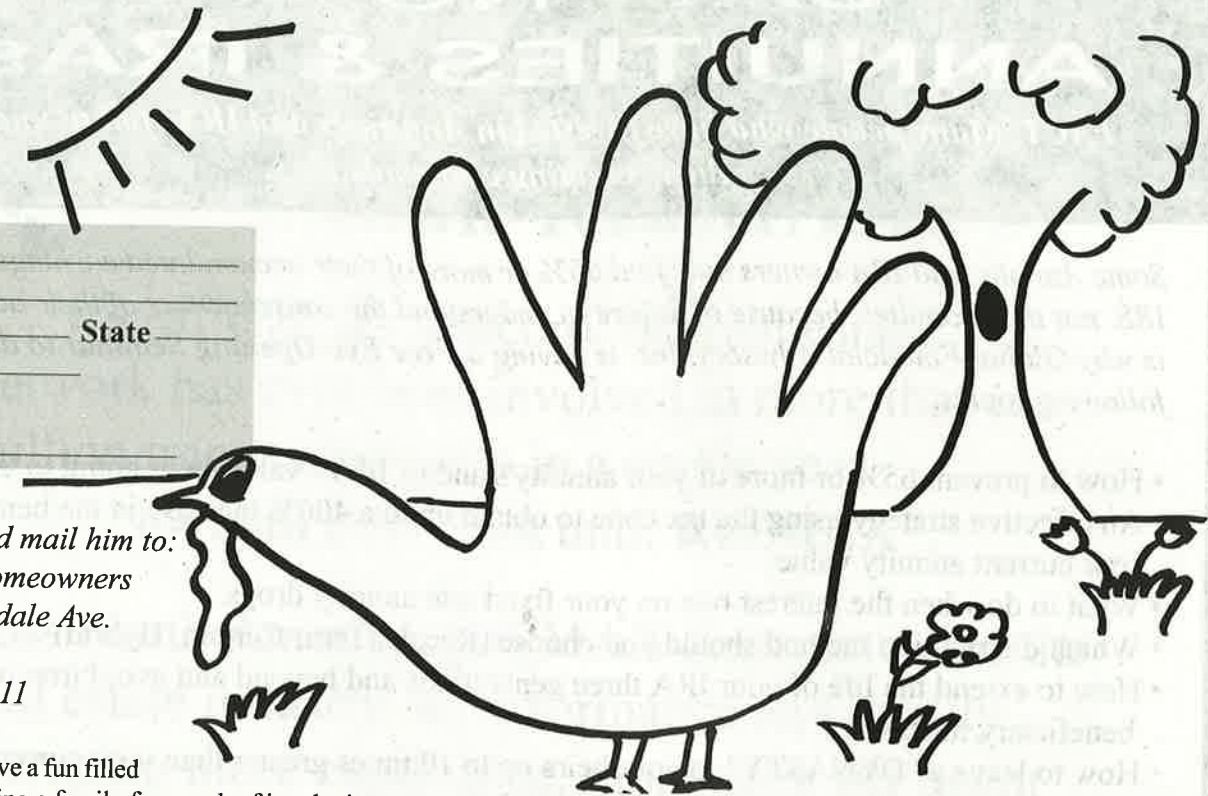
This 1-year old male German Shepard mix is currently available for adoption at Hillsborough County Animal Services on Falkenburg Road. Adoption of this sterilized pup costs \$15. There are also many other dogs waiting for adoption. For more information on adopting an animal call Animal Services at 744-5660 or visit them on the internet where they have information and pictured animals at www.Hillsboroughcounty.org/animsvcs/home.html.



This young domestic medium haired kitty is currently available for adoption at Hillsborough County Animal Services on Falkenburg Rd. Adoption of this sterilized kitty costs \$9. There are also many other lovable kitty cats waiting for adoption. For more information about adopting this cat or another one call Animal Services at 744-5660 or visit them on the internet where they have information and pictured animals at www.Hillsboroughcounty.org/animsvcs/home.html.

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